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## OBSERVATIONS.

Dr. Winnett's candidacy for the mayoralty is growing in strength daily. All sorts and conditions of men approve it. For many years, in common with many good physicians, Dr. Winnett has given a large share of his time to poor patients whom a strictly commercial doctor would have dismissed with scant attention. These patients have a vote if they have not money and will remember their debt on election day. Dr. Winnett's record in the council has secured for him the approbation of all citizens who care enough about city business to inform themselves as to the share of his time which each councilman gives to city affairs and the integrity and intelligence which have guided his vote and deliberations. Dr. Winnett is also a taxpayer and appreciates the burdens of the taxpayers. He is not a member of any corporation, but he is a man of property and can be depended upon to treat a corporation with what fairness an individual would receive. For a long time the city has needed a man of conscience and ability as its chief executive. The nomination of Dr. Winnett would not be in the way of an experiment. His experience in the council has familiarized him with city business and with the citizens. It is so long that the ring has been in control that this opportunity of defeating them and nominating an experienced and reliable man should be improved.

One of the clubs in this city discussed the occupation of women the other day. The question upon which all seemed to have a different opinion

was the expediency of women earning their own living at all. It is deplorable that the competition of women has lowered the price of wages in many callings, but it is inevitable. The entry into any market of a new set of laborers has a tendency to reduce the price of labor. For the last one hundred years the number of women who earn their own living and that of others has been increasing and the number is increased by the very effects on the market of their competitive labor. Prices for male labor have been depressed in direct proportion to the increase. On the other hand, no one labors for the fun of it. There are no women in the wide circle of my acquaintance who work by the day unless there is a necessity for it. But according to the arguments of the opponents to female competition, the widow and the spinster without means, either with or without those dependant upon her, should beg or go to the poor house, where they will not be in competition with male labor. Such a declaration is absurd but it is the ultimate result of the denial of an open market to women. The socialists who demand protection from women insist that man is the stronger, yet they want the weaker handicapped still further, which is as unsportsmanlike as it is illogical.

The anxiety shown in regard to the illness of Rudyard Kipling by almost everybody who knows how to read is an indication of how large an influence he has had upon life as well as literature. Long ago he entered the large circle surrounding the small circle of literary men. His influence upon literary composition is not to be computed now, but it is already appreciated by those who keep watch of the development of English verse and the novel. Not Wordsworth nor Sir Walter Scott, nor Byron, Keats or Shelley had greater influence upon literature and the habit and style of thought than has Rudyard Kipling upon late nineteenth century writing. His books are as eagerly read by the patrons of a public library as by those few lovers of books who make a collection of their own. The consciousness of his importance to his generation and to the history of literature—which is more truly the history of life than history itself can make—has interpenetrated the people as well as the literateurs. His death now would be a calamity which all of us dread and appreciate the magnitude of.

The soldier, sleeping on marshy ground in the neighborhood of Manila, bitten by whatever is the Manilaese for fleas and mosquitos, fed on less palatable food than he has ever eaten in his life, and subjected to the strict discipline of an army in time of war, remembers with disgust the time he played soldier with the militia. When he stood guard then under the stars, his imagination helped him through

the night. As he strode up and down with the white tents gleaming in the moonlight, for the militia always went into annual encampment at the full of the moon and in the spring time, he scared the white rabbits hopping about on the prairie by his realistic military bearing. Then he felt all the stimulation and glow of a stage soldier, of war in the abstract, a sort of historical suffusion of feeling, all that which remains of Coeur de Lion, of Anadis of Gaul, and of Alexander. But in Manila the ground is wet at night, home is very far away, there are so many other soldiers, one man is as an ant among ants. In Manila lies death and oblivion perhaps, in America there is at least one family who make him an isolated hero, who, on his return, will feast him according to his deserts. No wonder the boys want to come home and that the discipline seems too severe. They have played the soldier long enough to be tired and not long enough to have grown indifferent to the hard things in a soldier's life and enamoured of the open air, the comradery, and the freedom from a competitive system of living.

When the war is over the term of enlistment for many of the soldiers now in Manila will have expired. In order to fill their places the government will have to send out enlisting officers and probably will be obliged to offer a bounty to every soldier who will enlist. The raw recruits must be drilled for months before they are of much account as soldiers. The Manila soldiers are acclimated. The new comers must pass through the disagreeable and dangerous process of getting accustomed to the climate and the foods of a tropical country, a process which decimates an army faster and with greater regularity than bullets and fighting. It has been suggested that the government offer a bounty of five hundred dollars to each Manila soldier who will reenlist at the expiration of his term. The government would save money by such a bargain, counting the passage money of those it must send home and of those who go to take their places, of the increased hospital cost after each arrival of recruits, and of their inefficiency while being drilled into shape and the months of residence it requires to defy the climate. The troops at Manila have learned how to be comfortable though in camp and reasonably happy. Discipline has lost its sharpest edge. Dulled by custom the peremptory commands of the officers and their oversight of what an American considers nobody's business but his own, no longer cause a rebellion of the spirit harder to calmly endure than poor fare, heat, cold and a bed on the ground. Old soldiers rather like to be ordered around, to have their clothing inspected, and to sleep in the open, but about rations they always grumble—that is one of the

privileges of being a soldier. And the young and old soldier grumbles in concert at Uncle Sam's menage.

The five hundred dollar bounty, besides being a saving in the way I have pointed out would have a tendency to diffuse throughout the army a spirit of content, as conducive to the health and effectiveness of troops as favorable sanitary conditions and good rations.

Wherever the Anglo-Saxon has conquered a primitive people and settled among them, the process of civilization has not been effected without acts of aggression on the part of the soldiery. The complaints of the Philipinos against the occasional insults of the American soldiers are doubtless just. Among them are many who joined the army not from patriotism but from a love of adventure and they mean to have it. Such men as these will cheat and betray simple natives and bring discredit upon the very civilization the nation is seeking to introduce. The strict discipline enforced at Manila is as much to protect the natives against designing soldiers as it is for offensive purposes. The American Indian has been subjected to centuries of what the bad white man considers "smartness." Warned by the injustice done the natives on this side the ocean it would be pleasing to the really civilized people to learn that the natives in the Philipines were being protected against the sharpers in the army by the most stringent retaliatory measures against such offenders.

Brigadier General Leonard Wood, according to an article by Mr. Henry Lewis in the current number of McClure's, has by incessant supervision and the exercise of autocratic power, rescued the Cuban population from starvation, cleaned the city and begun to pave it, and by so doing reduced the average daily death rate from two hundred to ten, has reformed the custom house service, reduced municipal expenses, has corrected abuses in jails and hospitals, has liberated many prisoners held on trivial or no charges, reformed the courts, maintained law and order, established the freedom of the press, and finally restored business confidence and stimulated trade and commerce. This revolution has been wrought by a man who is at once a soldier, a statesman, a physician and a man of affairs. It may be difficult to find another General Wood for Manila, but from all accounts of the sewage of the place just such an all around master of trades is needed.

The session of the Daughters of the American Revolution in Washington last week was stormy. The ruling of Speaker Reed, who had been appealed to to decide a parliamentary question, was rejected, and the man who has heretofore had everything his own way, was somewhat miffed at the Daughters and said such conduct was "lamentable," that "Mrs. Reed warned