

BAREFOOT DANCES POPULAR.

Makes Fat Ladies Thin and Sylph-Like, Says Teacher.

Debutantes dancing in the dew! Dainty debutantes whirling over the grass on bare, pinktoed feet and waving white arms gracefully to the rhythm of their fluttering Greek draperies!

That is what will happen if New Orleans society girls take up the outdoor dancing fad which Miss Margaret Rafferty has started in New York, Washington and other cities.

New Orleans is a big country place, with a wonderful garden to it. There on the thick, damp grass, the wood nymphs, tree fairies and bacchantes will dance this spring—maybe. Chopin and Greig melodies will set the measure for the dance.

In Washington Miss Rafferty taught the ladies of the embassies how to be fairies. Some of them were not ideal material at first, but their vigorous barefoot tripping soon made some of them almost thin, says Miss Rafferty.

"This dancing becomes very popular for the reason that it furnishes the right kind of outdoor exercise, besides teaching grace of movement and encouraging the interpretive faculty," explained Miss Rafferty Tuesday. "The loose Greek draperies, sleeveless and reaching to the knee or ankle give the body plenty of freedom and a chance to become graceful. As early as the weather permits the dances are taught in the open."

Wounds in This War.

Wounds inflicted in the present war are far more serious than in any previous modern war, declares Sir Anthony Bowlby, the king's surgeon, who treated King George after his recent accident in France, and nothing is more astonishing than the damage done by very small fragments of high-explosive shells.

Lecturing to the Royal College of Surgeons, Sir Anthony Bowlby showed how a bomb barely as big as a baseball exploded into hundreds of pieces ranging from large fragments to a kind of thick dust. He illustrated this by film, showing the number of fragments from a British bomb exploded under water to preserve the pieces.

Thirty thousand of these bombs, said Sir Anthony, were used by the British in the attack on the Hohenzollern redoubt, and each of them cost \$1 to manufacture.

Wounds inflicted by modern projectiles, he said, could in no way be compared with those of the Boer war. The bullets of the South African battles produced much less smashing and rending wounds than the pointed bullets of today. Wounds from shellfire, not very frequent in South Africa, were not as numerous as those inflicted by bullets. The injuries seen in the Boer war were infinitely less severe and the complications due to them far fewer and less serious than those of the past year in France.

In dealing with the effects of shell-fire wounds, the royal surgeon said the wounds were such as he had never seen in the worst machinery accidents of civil life. He had seen gaping wounds as large as a clenched fist caused by quite small fragments, which evidently owed their power of destruction to the extraordinary velocity with which they traveled and to their ragged edges.

This rending asunder was the special characteristic of all typical gunshot wounds, and it had been shown that the injury caused by the bullet was wholly due to the wave of compressed air which the bullet drove in front of it and which expanded within the tissues.

"I think," said Sir Anthony, "that the thing that would strike most forcibly any observant person brought into a room filled with a large number of wounded men just brought down from a big fight is that nearly all of them are asleep in spite of wounds which one would think would cause such suffering as to render sleep impossible."

An extraordinary operation has just been performed on a wounded British soldier at Sunderland hospital. When at the front a piece of shrapnel struck him on the head and dislodged a piece of bone. The Sunderland surgeons took strips of bone from the patients skin and filled them into the skull cavity, which was 3 inches by 4 inches. The new bone knitted with that of the skull and the patient rapidly recovered. He is now walking about, with no sign of his injury except for the scar on his head.

His Sense of Humor.

"Every time the baby looks into my face he smiles," said Mr. Meekins.

"Well," answered his wife, "it may not be exactly polite, but it shows he has a sense of humor."

MAKING POWDER.

Before War 60 to 66 Cents a Pound, Since About \$1 to \$1.25.

It is understood that the volume of war orders booked by Du Pont has reached an aggregate of \$400,000,000. A goodly portion of this enormous business was, of course, filled in the fiscal year to December 31 last, and was the potent factor in the production of the \$57,840,758 of net profits to which the company confessed in the late year.

While in years past Du Pont's net has regularly formed about 20 per cent. of gross it is unsafe to assume that this ratio prevailed during the late year. It was undoubtedly higher because of the high prices which powder commanded. The highest price at which powder sold before the war was 66 cents a pound, and the customary range of prices was slightly under 60 cents. It is understood, however, that in 1915 the company actually delivered its powder under its war contracts for prices running between \$1.00 and \$1.25 a pound.

On the other hand, it must not be forgotten that the price of the essential ingredients entering into the production of powder advanced very sharply. Sulphuric acid, of which the company is a tremendous consumer, advanced last year from less than \$10 per ton to \$25 and even \$28, while for higher grade concentrated acid fancy prices as high as \$45 a ton were paid. Likewise potash, which is an essential feature of powder, was steadily climbing to sensational levels. A normal grade of potash salts is today obtainable only in small lots at \$480 to \$500 a ton.

The same story is true of alcohol, which Du Pont buys in huge quantities from Distillers Securities and Industrial Alcohol. The usual price for this alcohol is under 30 cents a gallon (wine measure). Today prices are around 65 cents and during the last half of 1915 it ruled over 50 cents a gallon.

It must also be borne in mind that the powder manufacturers in 1915 were making a remarkable plant expansion.

To fill its huge war orders, Du Pont had to grow, and grow quickly. This meant that at the high point as many as 20,000 men were engaged in new construction at different plant centres. And, of course, this new construction was charged to receipts and formed part of the cost of filling war orders. These are some of the facts which make calculation of gross based on a normal ratio of net to gross extremely impractical.—Wall Street Journal.

Ten-Year-Old Marvel.

In the March American Magazine is an account of Raymond Ray, of Los Angeles, California, the ten-year-old marvel who at his present pace will have his Ph. D. at the age of 16, outstripping in actual learning the German wonder of the last century, Karl Witte. While his contemporaries are locating the Atlantic ocean he is engrossed in advanced Spanish and chemistry.

"As soon as Raymond began to take notice of the world about him, his mother taught him to distinguish colors, the most striking ones like white, black, red, and blue being taken first. She always talked to him as she would to an adult, scolding, baby talk, as degrading to his intelligence. Pictures were used a great deal. Before he was ten months old he learned to call the presidents of the United States by their right names. His progress in reading was just as remarkable. At the age of a year and a half he knew his alphabet, at three he could read and write, and at five he read 'Hiawatha' in public.

"The boy is well developed physically; strong, athletic and keenly alive to his finger tips. He has a natural talent for music and dramatic art and has repeatedly appeared in public. His mother claims that he is not a prodigy and that any normal boy could accomplish as much with proper training."

To the Mocking Bird.

Oh sweetest of songsters! The South's best loved bird; When 'mid sunshine and flowers Your dear notes are heard; And in lone silent watches 'Neath the moon's clear pale light, Pour pure notes and fond trillings Make vocal the night.

But than all else far dearer, In the wake of the storm With the gray sky still lowering; Chilled spirits to warm, You fill the tense stillness With carols so gay, All is changed in a moment By lilt of your lay.

So we love you, fair songster, You lover so true, 'Tis heart throbbings you're pouring When her you'd sue. More varied than nightingale Or linnet or lark Your music unceasing In daylight or dark. —Elizabeth G. Legare.

WARNING AGAINST CHAMOIS.

The Deadly Combination of Electricity and Gasoline Pointed Out.

Garage men, beware! Autoists, attention! There is death in the chamois strainer. Whenever you filter gasoline through chamois you are playing hide and seek with one of the deadliest combinations known to man—electricity and gasoline.

If your tank is under the seat, be careful when you fill it, says the Timken Magazine. If you are not you will be as foolish as the man who looks for a gas leak with a lighted candle.

Never strain gasoline through a chamois. Now we'll tell you why it is dangerous.

Gasoline and chamois do not get along. They are "incompatibles."

Let us assume that you are about to fill your tank. The funnel is in the nozzle. A chamois strainer is in the funnel. The gasoline is turned on and as it pours through the chamois it generates static electricity. Static electricity may be defined as electricity that is at rest. It is an agent neither of construction nor destruction, so long as nothing is done to unleash it. Unleash it, knowingly or unknowingly, by brushing a clumsy finger against a natural law, and you have to deal with the most diabolical physical agent known, a force that destroys with the quickness of lightning.

Static electricity, as we have said, is now in the funnel. The funnel is charged with it. So long as the funnel fits securely into the mouth of the tank, thus creating a "ground," you are safe.

Now, for the sake of excitement, let us assume that you did not allow the funnel to rest inside the nozzle of your tank, as the gasoline seeped through the chamois skin. Either yourself or someone else held the funnel in midair, or it rested free of the sides of the tank. No "ground" was formed.

We have seen that gasoline, a volatile substance, passing through chamois forms static electricity, which charges the funnel. When the amount of electricity is sufficient to produce a jump spark, that spark, following the inevitable law of electricity attraction, jumps to the nearest "ground," which is your tank. In doing so it must pass across the opening between the end of the funnel and the edge of the tank through which gasoline vapor is rising. Suddenly there is a violent discharge, like that of lightning, which is, after all, a gigantic jump spark. All those in close relation are, as it were, struck by lightning.

Many have been burned and scarred for life through ignorance of this fiend of electricity. Many more, it is sad to relate, have been measured out on their last cool bed. No one was able to tell just why they died.

The moral to be derived from this article is this: Do not put gasoline through chamois skin. But if you will insist on taking chances, be sure that you have a "ground" on it, by seeing that the funnel touches the opening of the tank. Be doubly sure that you take this precaution.

Fire department statistics of many cities show that an overwhelming per cent. of auto fires are caused by using chamois with gasoline—a fatal combination.

We are indebted to Francis R. and Fred C. Henderson, truck manufacturers of North Cambridge, Mass., who have furnished us with the information that prompts this article. Bitter experience has recently been theirs—an experience that nearly deprived them of son and nephew. Bound to learn the reason of this casualty, as well as of four fatalities in the city of Boston during the past year, from an identical cause, the two brothers searched for a clue that might lead to the overthrow of this weird genie of destruction, by dragging him into the light where men could see, know and evade him. After diligent study and almost constant thought they pried up the truth, which we have related here.

It might not be out of place in this article to state that thousands of people do not know that the vapor rising from gasoline, when mixed with the atmosphere in proper proportion, is one of the most dangerous explosives.

What He Would Do.

As the subject for their weekly essay the schoolmaster asked his pupils to say what they would do if they had \$500,000.

At once all heads were bent save one, and pens scratched busily. The one exception was little Willie. He calmly sat doing nothing, twiddling his fingers and watching the flies on the ceiling.

At the end of the time the master collected the papers and Willie handed over a blank sheet.

"How's this, Willie?" asked the master. "Is this your essay? Why, all the others have written at least two sheets, while you do nothing?"

"Well," replied Willie, "that's what I would do if I were a millionaire!"—Philadelphia Record.

SEARCHING THE BOTTOM.

Wire Drag Parties That Secure Accurate Surveys.

The old method of sounding with lead lines gave very incomplete surveys of coasts and wire drags have recently revolutionized hydrographic surveying. The report of the secretary of commerce shows that the four wire drag parties maintained last year by the United States at a total cost of \$80,000—two parties in Alaska and two on the Atlantic coast—achieved great and even startling results. Submerged dangers were detected even in the oft surveyed waters of Massachusetts bay, near so old and important a port as Boston. One rock with 25 feet of water over it was found where 51 feet had been charted; another with 21 feet over it where 41 feet had been recorded; and a 15 foot boulder was made known near Scituate, where the least depths previously indicated were 26 and 28 1-2 feet. Similarly, dangerous unknown rocks were revealed near New York city in the channel leading from the East river into Long Island sound. In Alaska, a short season of three months brought to notice 21 dangerous submerged rocks in 42 miles of channel, and one pinnacle surpassing the Washington monument in height, was found to rise to within 17 feet of the surface in water charted from the soundings as 654 feet deep. In the middle of Whale passage, a vessel lately struck an uncharted rock with but 15 feet of water over it.

Fighting Drug Use in Prisons.

Apparently so long as prisoners, drug victims, desire "dope" and have access to money or friends with money to spend for it, it is difficult to prevent some keeper from acting as go-between, says the New York Tribune. Every little while an official of the Tombs or the penitentiary is discovered to be peddling drugs or carrying them to the prisoners to whom he has access. It is a risky trade, and obviously the wages are high—higher far than the city's pay for honest service, which accounts for the ease with which the prisoners find somebody to smuggle in the drugs. According to a scale of payments disclosed by the arrest of a penitentiary keeper yesterday for this underground traffic, it cost \$25 for a single trip of the go-between to Manhattan or the Bronx to obtain drugs and deliver them. A special rate of \$17 a trip, though, could be obtained on a six months' contract.

It is evident from the frequency with which these smuggling cases are brought to light that the authorities are vigilant. No great detective skill is required to know that drugs are being used by inmates of the penitentiary, for instance; but much ingenuity and patience are needed to run down the guilty drug handlers. More than circumstantial evidence must be obtained. These are cases where to make a mistake would be a terrible handicap to the authorities in future. Miss Davis and her aids have determined to stamp out the drug habit among prisoners—at least while they are prisoners. It is gratifying that they are, on the whole, succeeding so well.

SCHOOL ELECTION NOTICE.

Notice is hereby given that upon the written petition of more than one-third of the resident electors, and a like proportion of the resident free-holders of Hunter's Chapel School District No. 16, of Bamberg county, S. C., at the age of 21 years, an election will be held at the Hunter's Chapel school house on Tuesday, April 11, 1916, for the purpose of levying a special school tax of 4 mills on all real and personal property in Hunter's Chapel School District No. 16. Only such electors as return real or personal property for taxation, are residents of Hunter's Chapel School District No. 16, and exhibit their tax receipts and registration certificates as required in general elections, shall be allowed to vote.

Electors favoring the levy of 4 mills special tax will cast a ballot containing the word "YES" printed or written thereon, and electors opposed will cast a ballot containing the word "NO" printed or written thereon.

The polls will be opened at 7 a. m. and closed at 4 p. m. J. H. FENDER, D. O. HUNTER and D. O. STEEDLEY are appointed managers to conduct said election.

R. W. D. ROWELL, S. G. MAYFIELD, J. H. A. CARTER, County Board of Education. Bamberg, S. C., March 21, 1916.

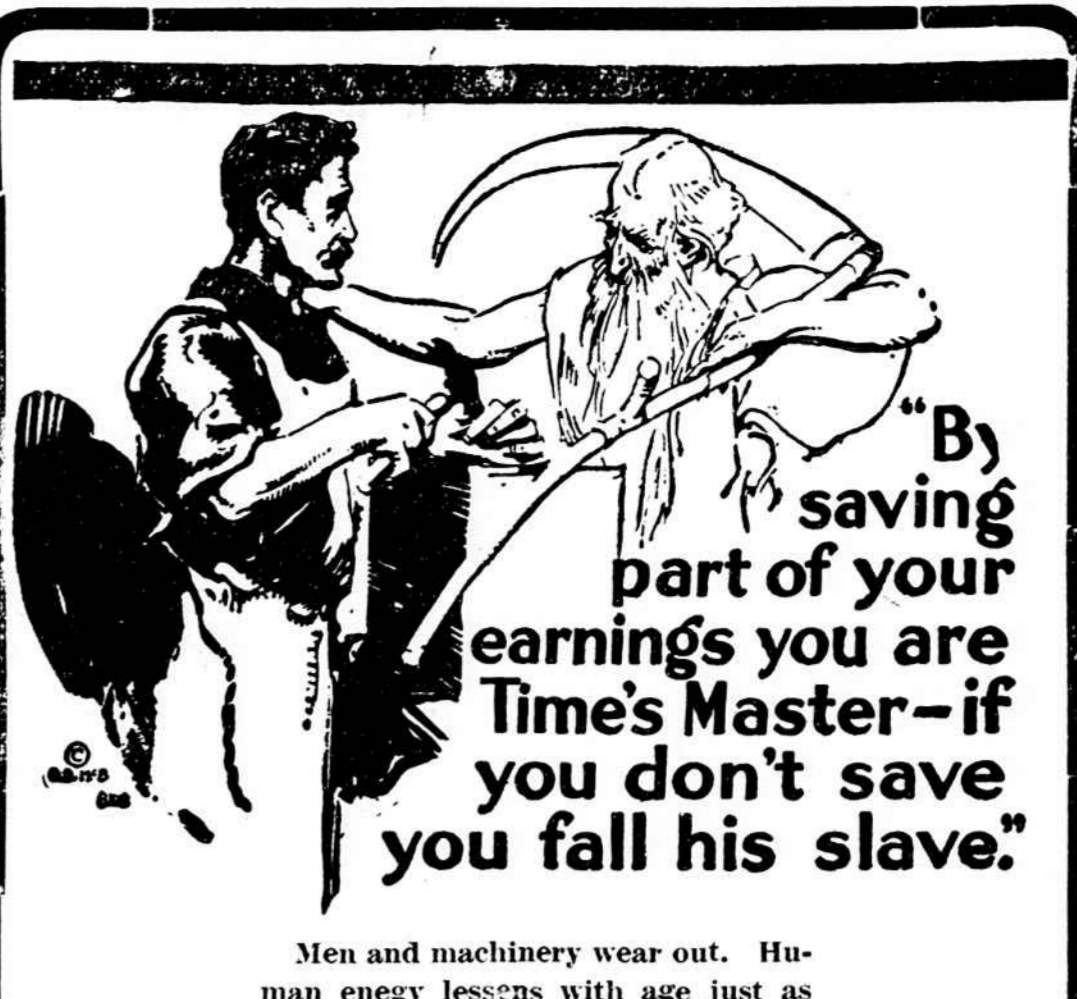
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Men and machinery wear out. Human energy lessens with age just as a machine wears out with use.

Money will replace the machine but money will not replace life. Therefore, it is the duty of every man to put in the Bank a part of the money he earns to offset his loss in energy, so he will have comfort when his pace slackens. Start to save with \$1.

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I sincerely appreciate the splendid patronage given me by the good people of Bamberg and surrounding country in the past, and hope to continue to merit the same.

Your inquiries will receive my prompt attention.

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