

NEW YORK to TRAIN GIRLS for MARRIAGE



In the New Washington Irving, the World's Largest Noncoeducational High School, the Scheme of Instruction Aims Primarily to Fit Girls for Matrimony—Many Useful Occupations Taught



Table Setting, Decoration and Serving

riages, so prolific a cause for divorce and separation, and which often renders the words "family" and "home" meaningless and void.

New York city, always so prominently forward in educational matters, is in course of constructing, now, the most perfect school of matrimony and occupations that has yet been built anywhere in the world.

Utility will be the keynote of its endeavor. Its prime object will be so to train the five thousand girls, for whom it has capacity, that on leaving the school they will be fitted, not only to face the world alone, if need be, but to take up intelligently, with economy of time and labor, and with enthusiasm, the cares, responsibilities and joys of matrimony.

It is safe to say that those graduated from the Washington Irving High School for Girls will not regard the matrimonial venture as a means toward possible affluence. For every graduate will have been taught how to keep house and how to care for her husband's clothes, how to nurse him when he is sick and how to feed him when he is well; how to do the family washing; everything, in short, that a modern wife should know, according to the sociologists, except the art of delving through his unmentionables for his weekly wages, leaving him only enough for carfare.

Studying General Housekeeping.

The department of matrimonial education will occupy the fourth floor of the Washington Irving High School for Girls. Here there will be twenty-four rooms devoted largely to general housekeeping, cooking and such sciences. On this floor, too, will be a large dining hall, where the pupils will be expected to be courageous enough to eat the experimental cooking of the other pupils, from the adjoining kitchen. It is plain that here the young cooks will experience the joy of pleasing others, or learn to bear trembling and complaints with a philosophy that may



The Washington Irving High School for Girls in New York

stead them well when they have embarked later on the matrimonial sea. At the storeroom on this floor the girls will be taught to receive the various articles coming in, to weigh them, check

The laundry will be on the fourth floor also, and here the prospective candidates for married life will be taught how hubby's shirt should be washed, wrung out, dried, starched, ironed, its bosom fluted and care taken that the collar buttonhole in the rear is not glued down so tightly as to evoke profanity. Collars and even the despised and outcast detached cuffs will be laundered; socks and underwear must be mended and missed buttons sewed on. Owing to the dearth of male teachers, in a girls' school it is probable that masculine garments will have to be purchased for experimental purposes—washed and re-washed, unended and then mended again.

Taught to Clean House.

Another department on this floor will contain a complete assortment of vacuum

tem of education and training that the city decided to build at least two great high schools, the Erasmus, a co-educational institution at Flushing, for Brooklyn, and the Washington Irving for Manhattan. A girl is bound to emerge from either one of these big schools well equipped to become a wife and the head of a household or to take a position in an office, which is an answer to those ardent sociologists who have demanded a local matrimonial school on a par with that of Los Angeles, which, by the way, won't be a circumstance to the new Washington Irving School.

The new school, whose outer shell is completed, is eight stories in height, with a cellar basement. In addition to fronting on three streets it has an open court above the third floor.

Naturally ten thousand square feet of space is lost to each of the second and third floors by reason of the theatre, but the rest of these floors are taken up by rooms for the teaching of commercial languages and a large sewing machine operating room, a five sewing rooms, a machine repairing room and a room where gowns, lingerie, &c., will be designed.

The fifth floor will be given up entirely to various branches of natural history, having thirty-four rooms devoted to biology, zoology, &c. Here, too, are the lunch rooms of the teachers, who, it is presumed, will not be obliged to eat the cooking of their pupils unless they wish.

How to Draw Checks.

The sixth floor will have thirty-eight rooms devoted to all kinds of endeavor. There will be two big physical labor-

In School of Matrimony.

In fitting girls to become good wives and heads of happy homes the Washington Irving High School for Girls in New York city will teach them—

How to wash and mend hubby's clothes.

How to iron his shirts so that the rear buttonhole in the neckband won't be stuck down tight, so that he loses his temper.

How to nurse him when he is ill.

How to cook for him when he is well.

How to buy provisions for the household.

How to clean house.

How to do everything a wife should do except how to hunt through her husband's unmentionables for his loose change.

Thus New York expects to make new wives along old-fashioned lines!



Little Housekeepers

basement lies the biggest of four gymnasiums, big enough to allow many pupils to exercise at once. Back of this hall is the big room for heaters, blowers and air compressors, elevator motors and other motors for various purposes. A mezzanine over part of the basement forms the completion of the gymnasium and contains the office of the physical director of the school, the bath and the shower

School to Have a Theatre.

For the first time in New York's school history there is to be a theatre as part of the school, not a mere hall or auditorium, but a regularly appointed and equipped theatre, as complete in all its details as any Broadway playhouse. The theatre is three stories of the school in height, has an area of 10,000 square feet and has a balcony and a gallery. The big stage has back of it a big pipe organ costing probably \$12,500, with console in the orchestra. The lighting effects are precisely those of any first class theatre, and the stage is thoroughly equipped with scenery for the presentation of plays by the pupils, and possibly, at times, by players from the outside.

In many respects the Washington Irving High School for Girls will be unique. In the first place it will not look like a school. The outer walls of it are practically complete, and were it not for the letters over the main entrance in Irving place the passer-by would assume that the building was only one of the miles of commercial skyscrapers characteristic of the locality and all along Fourth avenue.

That the need of rushing the new school along to completion is shown by the fact that 4,112 of the pupils and 155 of the teachers are at present housed in six different old buildings, scattered over an area of twelve square miles, between Grand and Eighty-eighth streets. As the school grew in numbers and usefulness girls and their teachers were pitched into any old building that could be obtained for them, causing considerable concern to the Board of Education.

It was to establish a more perfect system of education and training that the city decided to build at least two great high schools, the Erasmus, a co-educational institution at Flushing, for Brooklyn, and the Washington Irving for Manhattan. A girl is bound to emerge from either one of these big schools well equipped to become a wife and the head of a household or to take a position in an office, which is an answer to those ardent sociologists who have demanded a local matrimonial school on a par with that of Los Angeles, which, by the way, won't be a circumstance to the new Washington Irving School.

The value of this school theatre as a means of driving home what is to be taught can hardly be overestimated. Thomas A. Edison says that the moving picture is yet to teach the child what he is desired to learn and so impress it on the memory that the child will not have to learn it twice.

For instance, where apples are used in a nature class it has been found that often the child loses the force of the lesson in his desire to eat the apple, his appetite robbing him of the power of listening intelligently. The moving pictures merely show the picture of the apple in process of being quartered to show how two and two make four, &c. So this theatre is to be really a demonstration hall.

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THE communique of Florence was heard beyond Leghorn, about fifty-six miles off; that of Genoa 100 miles off. In 1762 the cannon of Mayence were heard at Timbeck, a village 148 miles off. When the English landed in Egypt the firing was distinctly heard 130 miles away. In 1800 the booming of the cannon in Heligoland reached Hanover, which is 157 miles distant. But the greatest distance at which artificially produced sounds are known to have been heard was when, on December 4, 1852, the cannon of Antwerp were heard in the Erzgebirge Mountains, 370 miles distant. The noises produced by an eruption of Mount Cotopaxi, in South America, in 1744, are said to have been heard at a distance of 600 miles.

EXPERIMENTS have been made with frogs which tend to show that those animals rapidly absorb water through the pores of the skin. Embryos is laid by certain authorities upon the fact that frogs never take water by the

mouth. On being exposed for several hours to dry air, some frogs experimented with lost fourteen per cent of their weight, but this was nearly all regained within twenty-four hours when they were placed in a dish containing water only one centimetre in depth.

LEPHANTS are said to make use of a great variety of sounds in communicating with each other and in expressing their wants and feelings. Some are uttered by the trunk, some by the throat. The conjunctures, in which either means of expression is employed cannot be strictly classified, as fear, pleasure, want and other emotions are sometimes indicated by the trunk, sometimes by the throat. An elephant rubbing upon an assitant trumpet shrill with fury.

Fear is similarly expressed in a shrill, brassy trumpet, or by a roar from the lungs. Pleasure by a continued low squeaking through the trunk or an almost inaudible purring sound from the throat. Want—as a calf calling its mother—is chiefly expressed by the throat. A peculiar sound is made use of by elephants to express dislike or apprehension, and at the same time to intimidate, as when the cause of some alarm has not been clearly ascertained and the animals wish to deter an intruder. It is produced by rapping the end of the trunk smartly on the ground, a current of air hitherto retained being sharply emitted through the trunk, as from a valve, at the moment of impact. The sound made resembles that of a large sheet of tin rapidly doubled. It has been erroneously ascribed by some writers to the animal beating their sides with their trunks.

Tales Told by Noted Story Tellers.

SPEAKER CHAMP CLARK enjoys telling of an incident that occurred in a circuit court of Missouri during a "horse case," in which a horseman well known throughout the State for his expert knowledge was called as a witness. "You saw this horse?" asked counsel for the defendant. "Yes, sir."

"What did you do?" "I opened his mouth in order to ascertain how old he was, and I said to him, I said, 'Old fellow, I guess you're a good horse yet.'"

MARTIN W. LITTLETON tells of an interesting observation on the part of a young woman in a subway train which he chanced to overhear one morning.

"She was discussing with a friend a much talked of divorce suit when she suddenly burst forth with— 'And, my dear, it must certainly be a very easy case. Why, a lawyer friend of mine tells me that the testimony is so salubrious that the Judge will have to hear it in cameo!'"

JOHN MONTGOMERY WARD tells of a friend, the father of a number of interesting youngsters, who has recently warned them not to approach a certain of his library that contains many rare and costly books, for the reason that the boys have always shown a disposition to treat all books alike.

One evening the old man chanced to enter the library just as his hopefuls were pulling down volume after volume of his cherished treasures from their shelves. "Here! here!" shouted the father "what are you doing?" "Looking up something in the history of the United States," answered one of the lads.

"What do you want to know?" "A fellow just told Tom and me that Christy Mathewson once pitched for a team in Norfolk, and we wanted to find out if it was true."

HARRY LEHR'S favorite story has to do with a couple of ambitious applicants for admission into the exclusive social set of Chicago.

They were wealthy, a circumstance, it seemed to the young wife, that should make their progress a smooth one; but there was one obstacle to their success that gave her no little uneasiness, and that was the utter lack of confidence displayed by her husband in his ability to "play the game."

When on one occasion they were talking things over and she had offered various suggestions as to his future line of conduct, the unhappy husband interrupted to offer this observation— "It's no use in me trying, Marie. I'm not qualified for this game at all. When I talk I have to stop eating; and when I eat I have to stop talking. I was never cut out for a society man!"

WILLIAM COLLIER, the player, talks of a street faker who was eloquently holding forth to a crowd

with regard to the virtues of his cement. He was demonstrating by actual experiment the wonders it might perform. He took up a plate, broke it in halves, cemented the two pieces and then suspended from the mended plate a ten-pound weight.

"As strong as steel, gents," bellowed the faker, "and always ready. To this plate I have hung a ten-pound weight. I will now substitute therefor a twenty-five-pound weight. The cement you observe holds firm. I now increase the weight to thirty-pounds and—"

"At this point in his discourse the plate broke and there was a crash, whereat the crowd smiled broadly.

"The faker, however, refused to be cast down by this mishap. "And now, gents," he continued, "you will further observe that the plate now breaks with ease, thus affording an opportunity to cement the pieces more carefully and firmly together whenever it is desirable to do so."

WAS walking up Sixth avenue, in New York," says Captain E. J. Archibald, "accompanied by James Neilson, of Sweden, who was over here on a visit. There is a big Swedish employment agency up there about Fortieth street, and the sign is spelled in Swedish fashion— 'Help! wanted!'"

"I asked Neilson what in the world that extra 'j' was doing at the end of the word, especially as, even in Swedish, it is not pronounced. "Oh, it is just there, I suppose," said Neilson. "The letter you don't people drop it

register them. On this same floor there will be a sick ward, where nursing will be taught, the patients being taken from the indisposed pupils and perhaps an occasional tired teacher.

SENATOR John Sharp Williams tells the following as illustrating the simplicity of the oldtime darky in the South.

Mr. Williams was once proceeding along a road near a Mississippi town when he met an aged negro hauling driftwood into his farmyard. There the Senator saw a pile of wood already stacked to such an extent that he was moved to say:— "Uncle, you've gathered a big lot of firewood, haven't you?"

"I shore has!" chuckled the old man, "an' what you sees ain't half what I've picked up jis season."

"What do you do with the rest of it?" "No, sah. I totes it up to Mr. Perkins place, 'bout a mile from here. Me an' him is partners, an' he lets me have half of all de wood I picks up."

ARKSEY OLDFIELD, the racer, in company with a Washington friend was driving a big car along a road in the interior of Virginia when they met an old-fashioned high carriage in which was an old-fashioned couple. The frightened country people jumped to the ground and the motor car came to a halt.

Observing the consternation of the startled couple, Oldfield left his car and stepped toward them. "If you will let me," said he, "I'll lead your horse past our machine." "Never mind the horse, stranger," said the countryman; "you lead my old woman past that thing and I'll get the horse by all-right."

Good Natured Nature Stories.

Seldom does the sale of a mountain occur that when such is even contemplated it is worthy of record.

The Communal Council of Veitvaux, in Switzerland, has had under consideration for some time a proposal for the purchase of a mountain in the neighborhood.

This mountain is valued at about 275,000 francs (\$55,000). It is difficult of access, so it has been proposed to construct one of those wonderful railways to be seen at Pilatus or the Rigi and to establish hotels at the top. Inasmuch as the commune is not wealthy, it is thought that the money received for the mountain would be a veritable windfall.

WILE an earthquake is a phenomenon of a nature not likely to be repeated with respect, still less indignantly, an Englishman nevertheless tried, twenty-four hours after his arrival in India, to kick one.

He was writing at a table one afternoon when he became aware of an annoying unsteadiness in the furniture. Thinking that this was due to the rubbing of a dog against the leg of the table, the Briton kicked at the beast several times, and it was only when he looked under the still shaking table and saw nothing there that he realized his inability to stop terrestrial commotions.

An American woman who resided for some years in Mexico also had an encounter with an earthquake. She was the mother of two lively small sons. One day they had been especially obstreperous and did not grow quieter as the time for her siesta and theirs approached. After rousing her from her

nap two or three times by their antics, she gave them fair warning that if there was any further commotion severe punishment would result.

Again she dropped off into sleep. Suddenly she found herself awake and on her feet, with sounds of banging still in her ears and the room quivering as if from the fall of a heavy piece of furniture. The boys, scared and guilty looking, were in the doorway. She seized the nearer, rebuffed him and had him half spanked before the excited protests of his brother penetrated to her brain through his anguished howls. Then she became aware that she was spanking him for an earthquake.

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