

THE OBSERVER

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OUTDOOR SPORTS AND WOMEN'S
DRESS.

J. Nilsen Laurvik writes an article on "American Girls Out of Doors," in the August Woman's Home Companion. The article reports a great development of outdoor sports in women's colleges and boarding schools. This development, according to Mr. Laurvik, has close relation to women's dress. He goes on to say:

"This wide interest in sports has had a decided influence upon woman's dress. The divided skirt, the shirt-waist, and the short walking skirt, as well as bloomers and the sweater, are the direct results of this interest in out-of-door life which has made for beauty as well as good common sense in woman's attire. The germ-laden train on street dresses, once so popular, is now banished forever with the heavy, cumbersome, ugly cloaks; and the drab gray costumes of a generation ago have been replaced by airy, colorful concoctions that make possible free and easy movements that are as charming as they are healthful. All has tended to a more sensible mode of living—tennis and golf do not tolerate the constricted corset and the French heel—that has had its influence in every walk of life; the working girl as well as the business woman and the society had have benefited by this changed attitude in regard to dress.

"This change in dress has only been symptomatic of the general improvement in hygiene brought about by athletics. Few girls, before entering upon the course of physical culture now prescribed by all women's colleges and boarding-schools, know anything about the care of their bodies. They eat everything and anything they like whenever they like, and to the girl who aspires to a place on the school team the regular hours, abstemious diet and hard, steady work required is an experience that makes for a finer character as well as firmer muscles, better circulation and a more equable temper.

AUTOMOBILES FOR SHEEP-HERDERS

Common belief pictures the sheep-herder of the great west as a lonely individual, maintaining a solitary existence far from his fellowman, and linked to civilization only by a retentive memory and a semi-annual pack train. This view is now open to revision, according to C. H. Owen, a Godd, Cal., real estate man, who just finished a trans-continental trip in an automobile. Mr. Owen says that the sheep-herder of today scoots about the range in a motor car.

"Away out on the plains of Idaho I saw a peculiar sight," says Mr. Owen. "At first it looked like a prairie schooner mounted on an automobile chassis. As it drew near, I recognized a car like my own, except for the body which was of a detachable tonneau type. The schooner effect was made by the load, an immense pile of sample wool that the owner of the car was taking into Laramie.

"I struck up a talk with the man who owned the car and found that the car was one of a pair in daily use about the ranch. The car I saw was used for hauling all sorts of supplies to the outlying parts of the ranch, and to town. Its longest trip had been to Denver, and it brought back a 900 lb. gasoline engine on its return.

"The other car is of the touring type, and is used to whisk shepherds and other help, about the ranch.

"The owner of the place told me that these two cars had enabled him to dispense with the services of 46 horses as well as greatly lengthening the working day of his help who lose but little time in their trips from one part of the farm to another. Though the cars have been in use for a long time, they have developed no mechanical trouble, and are cared for by herders who have had no prior motoring experience whatever."

BURNS URGED IRRIGATION EDUCATION.

Wm. Hanley of Burns has written Governor West of this state, advising the appointment of an advisory committee of five or more to represent Oregon in connection with the work of the national irrigation congress, which holds its annual session in Salt Lake, Sept. 30 to Oct. 3. Mr. Hanley writes, "I think there is wisdom in appointing this committee, as there can not be too much done in our state to make better use of the water supply for irrigation purposes. There is much depending upon organization and advertising to bring about a condition of working up sentiment to educate people to the necessity of irrigation, as well as working out true principles of financing."

Governor West has been requested by the National Irrigation congress to appoint his advisory committee and will announce his appointments soon. The request of Mr. Hanley for appointment of the committee read in part as follows:

"The annual session of the National Irrigation congress meets in Salt Lake City, Sept. 30 to Oct. 3. Its deliberations and conclusions in connection with irrigation, drainage, control of floods, navigation, forestry, and home building will be of national interest and importance. The officers of the congress desire to co-operate with the citizens of your state in making this meeting of the greatest benefit to Oregon."

The Chicago pie manufacturers are claiming that people have stopped eating pie, but it seems as though the politicians all line up at the pie-counter as of yore.

An eastern woman offers to marry the man who will write the best obituary of her first husband. Unfortunately all of the humorists are now married.

A Little Rock man dies because by mistake he drank carbolic acid instead of Arkansas whiskey. But he probably didn't know the difference until he reached the shining shore.

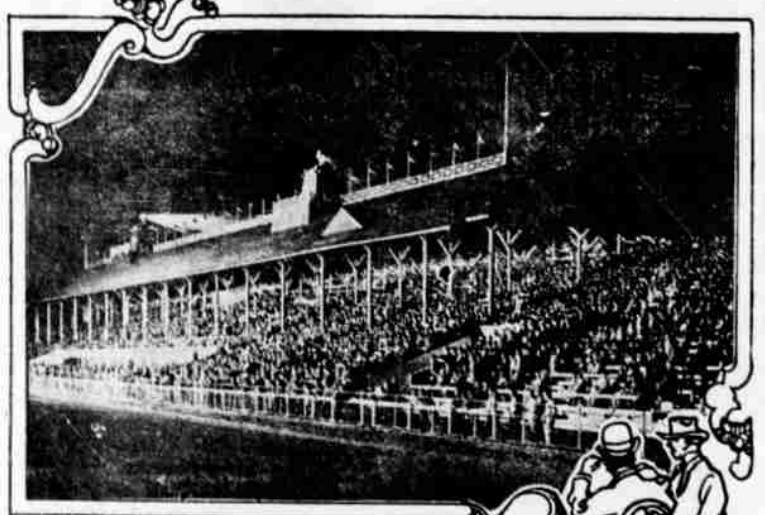
We suggest that hereafter Senator LaFollette publish his comments on the Bull Moose movement on asbestos paper.

People eat too much, as John D. says. If they were not so ravenous, they would have money to put into gasoline.

A NIGHT VIEW OF THE SPOKANE INTERSTATE FAIR GRAND STAND.

In all the world's history there is no episode more thrilling than Cortes' conquest of Mexico. Prescott's history of this invasion is more fascinating than fiction, and it seems incredible that this little band of Spanish adventurers could invade a populous civilized country, inhabited by men as brave and courageous as the ancient Aztecs, and by strategem and pure nerve overthrow the Emperor Montezuma and assume the reins of government themselves. What could make a more gorgeous pageant than a reproduction of this invasion with the Spanish knights in armor, the Aztec Caciques in their gaudy feather costumes and as a background the beautiful capital city of Tenochtitlan, with the volcano Iztaccihuatl overshadowing the weird temples of Mexitli and Huitzilapochtli, where gruesome sacrifices were offered to propitiate these grim deities.

The Spokane Fair has taken this subject for the night spectacle to be given every night during the week of Sept. 30, and it promises to eclipse all



previous efforts in this line, even though the night show of 1911, "Pioneer Days in the Palouse," drew almost as large an attendance as did the day races. Four hundred performers will take part in this pageant, and it will be staged with absolute accuracy in every historical detail.

The climax of the play, when the Spaniards have finally repulsed the Aztecs and burn the city, is said to be intensely thrilling and is followed by a marvelous display of fireworks, \$1,500 worth of glittering pyrotechnics being burned each night.

Other night attractions include band concerts, vaudeville program and three new contests—viz, the log chopping contest, the firemen's tournament and the miners rock drilling contest, in all of which preliminary entries insure keen competition. The night admission to the fair is only 25 cents and the same at the grand stand, and nowhere else will four bits buy as much amusement.

Lawn note: The best style for grass this season is a la mowed.

Baking in a hot oven for a few minutes will add to the life of sachet powders.

How She Managed It.
"How can you manage to dress so well on a salary of \$9 a week?" asked the woman who was always prying into the business of other people.

"Well," replied the pretty girl at the ribbon counter, assuming a mysterious air, "if you will promise not to tell anybody I will let you into the secret."
"Speak out freely. You may trust me." Confession is good for the soul, you know.

"Yes, I have heard so. Well, you see, I make quite a nice sum of money aside from my regular salary every week."

"And how?"
"I keep a list of the questions that foolish people ask me and sell them to a literary man who works them into his humorous articles. You have no idea how much material I manage to pick up." Chicago Record-Herald.

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DAY GUIDES FOR MARINERS.

The Simple Code That Governs These Valuable Aids to Navigation—How the Whistling Buoy and Bell Buoy Fog Signals Are Operated.

As everybody knows, there are black buoys and red buoys, buoys with horizontal black and red stripes, buoys with black and white vertical stripes, not to speak of bell buoys and the much larger buoys that lie well out at sea and are called "mammoth buoys."

Each of these aids to navigation has, of course, its own particular meaning. The place that each occupies is carefully chosen for it, and its arrangement is governed by a careful system.

Buoys are called "day marks," in contradistinction to the "night marks"—the lights and beacons.

For the purposes of the lighthouse board the coasts of the United States, including the lakes and navigable rivers, are divided into various districts, each district being under the charge of an officer who sees that all buoys in his district are properly cared for.

For obvious reasons similar buoys in all districts mean the same thing. In other words, a buoy of a particular distinguishing color off the coast of Maine carries the same significance that a buoy of that same color has off the coast of Florida. So the mariner who enters the New England port is guided and directed in precisely the same way as the mariner who enters a southern port, and the same is true of all other parts of the country.

The government publishes coast charts showing the colors and positions of the buoys. The lighthouse board publishes, in addition, a yearly list, distributed gratis for the benefit of navigation, in which each one of the thousands of buoys is located and described.

The passenger standing at the rail of the liner coming in from sea will probably first notice a "mammoth buoy." These buoys are used only in special cases—as, for example, to mark the approaches to channels over bars or shoals that lie some distance from the coast.

Red and black buoys designate the channel. They lie on either side. The red buoys, which have even numbers, must be left on the starboard or right hand in passing in from sea. The black buoys, always with odd numbers, must be left on the port hand.

When there are two or more channels these are distinguished by a difference either in the size or in the shape of the buoys.

An isolated rock, wreck or any obstruction that has a channel on either side of it is shown by a buoy with red and black horizontal stripes.

Buoys showing white and black perpendicular stripes and lying in mid channel indicate that they must be passed close to avoid danger.

As an indication that there is a turning point in the channel we see buoys surmounted by triangles, cages, etc.

There are buoys which are also fog signals, such as the bell buoy and the whistling buoy. The latter is used off

the coast to show dangerous outlying shoals or other obstructions. It is surmounted by a locomotive whistle made to sound by the rushing through it of air admitted and compressed by the rising and falling motion of the buoy itself. It has been found that these buoys are particularly adapted to turbulent waters, inasmuch as the more violent the sea is the louder the sound given out by the buoy. The whistling buoy, a most unpleasant neighbor, may be heard at a distance of about ten miles. Under very favorable conditions it has been heard fifteen miles.

The bell buoy consists of the bottom section of a buoy floating in the water on which is mounted a framework bearing a bell which, instead of the ordinary tongue and clapper, shows a small cannon ball supported on a platform just beneath the bell's mouth. This ball rolls to and fro with every motion of the sea.

Bell buoys are employed in harbors and rivers where the water is smoother than in the roadsteads and where it is not necessary that their sound shall be heard a great distance.

The ordinary buoy, not of the whistling or bell variety, is made either of wood or of iron. Those of iron are hollow with air tight compartments and are of three shapes, called respectively nun, can and ice buoys. The nun buoy is almost conical in shape, the can buoy approaches the cylindrical form, and the ice buoy is very long and narrow, somewhat resembling the spar buoy in form.

The wooden or spar buoys are sticks ranging in length from twelve to sixty feet and painted according to the uses to which they are to be put. The lower end is fitted for a mooring chain. Buoys have many vicissitudes and are exposed to many dangers. Passing steamers run down the iron buoys and rip them open or cut off big pieces of spar buoys with their sharp propeller blades. As the iron buoys are made in compartments, they are seldom sunk by such collisions, but their line of flotation is often so lowered that they have to be replaced.—Harper's Weekly.

Didn't See It.
"Now," said the lawyer, "please tell us how the altercation began."

"I didn't see any altercation," replied the witness. "I was too busy watching the fight."—Chicago Record-Herald.

The First Touch.
Ladd—There's your old friend De Broke coming across the street.

Dadd—Eh! That's right. Oh, yes, he sees me. I'll run ahead and meet him. I want to borrow a dollar. Back in a moment.

He hurries forward and greets the coming man. Presently he returns.

Ladd—Why should you ask De Broke for a dollar?

"Because I knew he was going to ask me for ten."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

A Soft Answer.

"You seem to be an able-bodied man. You ought to be strong enough to work." "I know, mum. And you seem to be beautiful enough to go on the stage, but evidently you prefer the simple life." After that speech he got a square meal and no reference to the wood pile.—Detroit Free Press.

A simple broiler invented by an Englishman is a tent shaped wire frame in which pieces of meat are hung over a stove opening.

The Husband's Choice.
"George, before we were married you used to bring me flowers nearly every day."
"Well, I can bring you flowers to-day, for that matter, but if I do I'll have to cut out that new asparagus."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

Evading an Issue.
"What is your name?"
"Ephraim Ebenezer," replied the small colored boy.
"How do you spell it?"
"Tain't no use to worry 'bout dat 'jes' suit yobself. I ain't particular."—Washington Star.

Slow Game.
Remo—When did they start the game of chess in this country?
Greeno—In 1832, I think.
"Well, they're through by now, are they not?"—Yonkers Statesman.

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