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MISS HELEN KELLER. HER INTELLECTUAL DEVELOPMENT IS MARVELOUS.

Blind, Deaf and Dumb, She Has Been Taught to Speak and Is Now Acquiring a Fine Collegiate Education.

Another marvelous achievement by Helen Keller has again brought her name prominently before the public and reawakens interest in the career of this remarkable girl, who is undoubtedly the greatest intellectual phenomenon the world has ever known. At Radcliffe College, Cambridge, where she is now a student, this girl, who in childhood was deaf, dumb and blind, made a speech to her fellow students upon being elected an officer of her class. Every word she uttered was clear and distinct and was heard in every part of the room.

Helen Keller was born in Alabama on June 27, 1880. Her father was a former Confederate officer and later a United States marshal. When she was 19 months old, as the result of sickness, she was deprived of all her senses except that of feeling. Until she was 7



HELEN KELLER.

years old no attempt was made to teach the child anything. Her mind at that time was entirely blank and the life to come hopeless. Then the attention of the parents was directed to the case of Laura Bridgman, who, similarly afflicted, was taught to read, sew, play on musical instruments and do many other seemingly impossible things, at the Perkins school in Boston. The Keller girl was thereupon taken to this school and placed in the hands of Miss Sullivan, one of the teachers, who was to see what she could do with the little one. From that day to this Miss Sullivan has devoted her whole time to the education of the girl and her success stamps her as a prodigy of patience, an act of Miss Keller makes her a martyr in mental development. Miss Keller is now as highly accomplished as any other young woman of 20, in spite of her early impediments.

When Miss Sullivan undertook the task of teaching Helen, the child had only the sense of touch. It took many, many weary days to teach the child, first that certain signs with her teacher's fingers meant certain things and then that the same signs with her own fingers meant the same thing. In time the child could make her wants known in an intelligent sign language, crude and without much scope, but a start had been made and the little mind had begun to store up knowledge. In three years she could talk in the sign language very intelligently. One day in 1890 she said to Miss Sullivan, spelling the words out with her fingers in her teacher's hand, "Why cannot I speak? I would like to learn to speak."

Conquering Dumbness. Miss Sullivan went to Miss Fuller, in Newton Lower Falls, near Boston, from whom she learned the method of lip reading and speaking for the dumb. Then the training of Miss Keller began. First she was taught the entire anatomy of the mouth and vocal parts of the throat. She comprehended these things by putting her fingers in Miss Sullivan's mouth and feeling of the condition and position of the tongue, teeth and lips when certain sounds were made. The vocal organs in the throat were carefully explained to her, with their location and operation. Next she was told to put her fingers in her own mouth and note the position of her tongue, teeth and lips when she made certain sounds, as, for instance, "T," "D" and "O." Very strange were her first attempts to make definite sounds with her own vocal organs, but a surgeon had said there was no physical reason why she could not speak, and again Miss Sullivan's patience and perseverance conquered, aided this time by the child's own anxiety to learn. Slowly she was taught to make definite sounds, until she had acquired some facility in doing so. No attempt was yet made to teach her to speak, for first of all the vocal organs must be brought into full use and control.

When Helen could make sounds resembling "R," "S" and "P" and many others, Miss Sullivan started at the beginning of the English alphabet and taught her to say her letters. Doing this was somewhat slow, but it gave her excellent practice and was a fine thing for the vocal organs. When she had learned her letters the rest was easy. From saying her letters so that one could recognize them to saying whole words was only a step.

Learning to Listen. But now she must learn to "listen." This was another hard task, depending more on the child than her teacher. Placing Helen's forefinger across her (Miss Sullivan's) lips and the thumb under the chin, the little girl learned to interpret first simple sounds and then whole words, by noting the movements of the lips and chin only. Practice made

perfect, and to-day Helen Keller can carry on an intelligent conversation with anyone by placing her finger and thumb on the speaker's lips and chin, her own speech being entirely plain and in an ordinary tone.

After learning to speak and to "listen" Helen's educational advancement was phenomenally rapid. It was now possible to converse with her with as much ease as with a person fully developed. She has an entirely normal and very active brain, a very retentive memory and is of a very inquiring disposition. Anything she does not understand she inquires about, and Miss Sullivan has become so skillful in explaining that she seldom fails to make the girl comprehend.

For instance, the word mercury occurred in one of her books—she reads books for the blind with the greatest ease. She did not know what mercury was. Miss Sullivan took her into the school laboratory and poured some mercury into her hand, explaining at the same time that the metal is sometimes called quicksilver. This was clear to Helen, for she knew what silver was. After feeling of the mercury and trying to pick it up in her fingers the girl perfectly understood the nature of the substance.

In all their reading and conversation Miss Sullivan carefully makes clear every new word or term they come across, with actual illustrations when possible, and in this way the girl has come to know quite as much as others of her age.

Her Higher Education. As she learned more and more English Helen was taught German, French and Latin, and in 1896 she had so far advanced that her parents and teacher decided she should have a full college education. That fall she entered the Cambridge school for girls as a candidate for entrance to Radcliffe College. She passed the entrance examinations of the school so highly and did so well that first year that, as a test, she took the entrance examinations for Harvard in the summer of 1897. After two years in the Cambridge school Helen went to a school in New York for a time, and in September last entered Radcliffe as a freshman, where she is taking the regular course, Miss Sullivan, like a fellow student, going through with her. These two are inseparable. They live together in Cambridge like any other students, work, sleep and eat together, and enjoy their little recreations together.

THE NEW CUP DEFENDER.

Thomas W. Lawson, One of Boston's Remarkable Men.

Thomas W. Lawson, Boston's "copper king" and turfman and owner of the \$30,000 Mrs. Lawson mansion, has declared his intention of building a yacht the cost of which will be between \$150,000 and \$200,000, which is to defend America's reputation in boating circles. Lawson is 41 years old and is a Cambridge man by birth, with a remarkable record. When he was 12 years old he left home and went to work for a Boston banker at \$3 a week. He worked just one day when his parents put him back to school. Five days later he returned to the bank, only to be recovered again after one day by his parents. In ten days he was back at the bank, and this time the banker persuaded the parents to let the boy work. Three hours every day he devoted to study, and in time became a well-educated man. While still in his teens he began to write for the newspapers, became a financial writer and achieved a



marked success in this field. Mr. Lawson before he was 20 years old was worth \$60,000, but lost it. Before he was 30 he had made and lost several fortunes, and it is commonly reported on the street that ten years ago he couldn't have raised \$100. To-day he can "buy and sell" most of the brokers in Boston.

Blaine Helped the Newspapers.

One interesting fact about Government reports is that they are generally published on Monday mornings, and the reason for this is that the newspapers on that day are not so crowded, and thus more space is secured. James G. Blaine, who was an editor before he became a statesman, was the first to appreciate the opportunity of the Monday morning newspaper, and when he had an important announcement to make or a report to submit it was always sent out the last of the week, so as to secure the best possible treatment on Monday morning. His example has become a precedent in Washington officialdom.

Making War on Billboards.

Destruction of a number of billboards in a Western city by the fire department was ordered recently. The reason given is that the billboards were regular and active disease-germ incubators, a menace to health and a nuisance generally.

Of course women are not babyish, but a slaskin coat will square almost anything.

Some people speak only to deceive and listen only to betray.

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A. M.—7:15, 7:30, 7:45, 8:15, 9:15, 10:00, 10:45, 11:30. P. M.—12:15, 1:00, 1:45, 2:30, 3:15, 4:00, 4:45, 5:30, 6:15, 10:45, 11:30. (Leave First and Jefferson streets, 4 minutes earlier.) Ferry leaves Vancouver to connect with cars as follows: A. M.—7:15, 7:30, 8:15, 9:00, 9:45, 10:30, 11:15, 12:00 M. P. M.—12:45, 1:30, 2:15, 3:00, 3:45, 4:30, 5:15, 6:00, 6:45, 11:15.

Cars leave corner First and Washington streets for Woodlawn as follows: A. M.—7:15, 7:30, 7:45, 8:15, 9:15, 10:00, 10:45, 11:30. P. M.—12:15, 12:30, 12:45, 1:00, 1:15, 1:30, 1:45, 2:00, 2:15, 2:30, 2:45, 3:00, 3:15, 3:30, 3:45, 4:00, 4:15, 4:30, 4:45, 5:00, 5:15, 5:30, 5:45, 6:00, 6:15, 6:30, 6:45, 7:00, 7:15, 7:30, 7:45, 8:00, 8:15, 8:30, 8:45, 9:00, 9:15, 9:30, 9:45, 10:00, 10:15, 10:30, 11:30.

Woodlawn 30 Minutes. Cars leave Woodlawn for First and Washington streets as follows: A. M.—5:45, 6:00, 6:15, 6:30, 6:45, 7:00, 7:15, 7:30, 8:00, 8:15, 8:30, 8:45, 9:00, 9:15, 9:30, 9:45, 10:00, 10:15, 10:30, 10:45, 11:00, 11:15, 11:30, 11:45, 12:00 M. P. M.—12:15, 12:30, 12:45, 1:00, 1:15, 1:30, 1:45, 2:00, 2:15, 2:30, 2:45, 3:00, 3:15, 3:30, 3:45, 4:00, 4:15, 4:30, 4:45, 5:00, 5:15, 5:30, 5:45, 6:00, 6:15, 6:30, 6:45, 7:00, 7:15, 7:30, 7:45, 8:00, 8:15, 8:30, 8:45, 9:00, 9:15, 9:30, 9:45, 10:00, 10:15, 10:30, 11:30.

*Daily, except Sundays. **Daily, except Wednesdays and Saturdays. ***Wednesdays and Saturdays only.

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