

WOMEN OF ARMY AND THE PRESIDENT'S WIFE

Wives of Generals Bell and Edwards Chief Among Social Leaders at White House.

GOLD LACE HAS GREAT HEYDAY

Presidential Affairs Made Gay Through Presence of Land and Sea Fighters of Nation.

Washington correspondence: When Mrs. Taft, in her official role as first lady of the land, surrounded herself with a coterie of the cleverest and brightest officers of the twin branches of the service, everybody in Washington society recognized that the era of the army and navy set had arrived. In brave array the military men form a moving background at Mrs. Taft's at homes, and in their immaculate dress the officers of the land and sea forces are a splendid attribute at Mrs. Taft's fascinating garden parties.

At the White House entertainments scarcely has the line of guests passed until Mrs. Taft is surrounded by a group of officers and their wives, daughters and sweethearts, whose persiflage and laughter instantly dissipate any indication of an oppressive or a "military" perfunctoriness.

Replacing Col. Bromwell, who with Mrs. Bromwell were dominant factors in the social life of the capital in the last administration, is Col. Spencer Cosby, whose career has been marked with distinction. Col. Cosby is the first of the administration bachelors to announce his engagement, and in the fall Miss Yvonne Shepard, daughter of Mrs. Charles R. Shepard of New York and Washington, will fall heir to the position vacated by the withdrawal of Mrs. Bromwell.

Miss Shepard is tall and svelte, her well-carried head is graced with quantities of silky, fair-brown hair, and her pretty complexion is set off by the taste Miss Shepard displays in the selection of the color of her gowns. She wears large hats, flower trimmed, and long, sweeping gowns, which accentuate the graceful slenderness of her figure.

As the wife of the President's aid and constant attendant, Miss Shepard will be thrown constantly in association with the White House family, and her adroitness and social graces will be put to a severe test in the carrying of a role not less influential than difficult.

Gen. Bell's Wife a Power.

As wife of the chief of staff, Mrs. J. Franklin Bell will have a high position in the full tide of the official season.

Not content with standing at the head of the serried ranks of armydom, Mrs. Bell is no less popular with the diplomatic as well as the congressional and president set. As a great friend of Mrs. Edson Bradley of New York, she is in touch with the smart life of the little coterie of the rich and important who come to Washington each winter to enjoy its season.

Gen. and Mrs. Bell last winter took possession of a commodious home at Fort Myer and there throughout the season Mrs. Bell challenged the admiration of society by the conduct of a series of delightful entertainments, her guests including the grizzled veterans who surround the chief of staff, the young officers eager for an opportunity to display their mettle, the debutantes, the foreign "guests" of the nation and the general everyday-man and woman who goes in for Washington's social good times.

Associated with Mrs. Bell in the so-

WOMEN WHO LEAD IN MRS. TAFT'S SOCIAL LIFE.



MRS. J. FRANKLIN BELL



MRS. CLARENCE EDWARDS

cial life of the army set is Mrs. Wotherspoon, the attractive wife of Gen. Bell's first assistant. Mrs. Bell's sister, Mrs. Ernest Garlington, wife of Gen. Garlington, is another army matron whose power in society has to be reckoned with. Mrs. Garlington is a pretty, fair-haired woman, endowed with a liberal share of the good fellowship and good humor Mrs. Bell displays in such a marked degree.

In the childless home of the chief of staff Miss Sally Garlington, Mrs. Bell's jolly, good-natured and good-looking young niece, has a large and important role to carry. Miss Sally is a dancer who has won acclaim at the amateur dramatic productions which have been features of Washington's smart life for the last few years, while her skill as a horsewoman gives her a forward place in the gay little company of "paperchasers" who gallop over the hills two or three times a week.

Mrs. Aleshire, wife of Gen. Aleshire, is one of the army matrons whose wit and poise count in the proper equipment of an army officer's wife. She is large and nice-looking, noticeable chiefly for the sweetness of her expression and her general air of extreme good breeding. She is the moth-

er of a debutante daughter, who has the distinction of being one of Miss Helen Taft's best chums.

Mrs. Edwards Wins Laurels.

One of the handsome homes of the army set established in Washington is presided over by Mrs. Clarence Edwards, wife of Gen. Clarence Edwards, chum to the President and general good fellow. Gen. Edwards, who is one of the most generally liked officers of the service, has his honors to look to when it comes to a discussion of his wife's popularity. Everybody likes Mrs. Edwards and her place in the favor of the community waxes as the years increase.

In girlhood, as pretty and vivacious Bessie Porter, she made her first appearance in Washington, coming over to visit her great-aunt, Mrs. Saunders Irving, widow of Washington Irving's nephew. Mrs. Irving maintained a menage second only to the White House in point of social importance, its gentle mistress, who was an invalid, being one of the few women upon whom the wives of the Presidents felt it incumbent to leave cards.

Mrs. Edwards is a slender, delicate-looking woman, whose chief beauty lies in her sweetness of expression, her well-bred air and her lovable manners. She looks at life through two jolly, twinkling eyes and she has sympathy with everybody and with everything that lives, without regard to place or position. Her servants adore her and pay her the sovereign compliment of remaining in her service two decades or more.

A very great-great-granddaughter of the first white man that settled in the western part of New York, Mrs. Edwards' family, the Porters of Niagara, N. Y., held the original grant of the immense tract of land which included the falls until the taking over of the property by the State government.

Gen. Peter B. Porter, Mrs. Edwards' great-grandfather, served as secretary of war in the cabinet of President John Quincy Adams.

Gen. and Mrs. Edwards' daughter Bessie is a pretty little woman of 10 years, who is a chum of her father and the boon companion of her mother. The Edwards home is a reflex of the character of its owners. Beginning with the general's office on the first floor photographs of familiar friends—men, women and small children—run riot and overflow into the attractive drawing room on the second floor, gay in its dress of summy English chintz and filled with fine old mahogany and interesting things picked up in the out of the way corners of the army officers' world.

The Edwardses keep open house in and out of season and aside from dispensing a hospitality as smart as the smartest, Gen. and Mrs. Edwards delight in having friends to lunch or dine en famille.

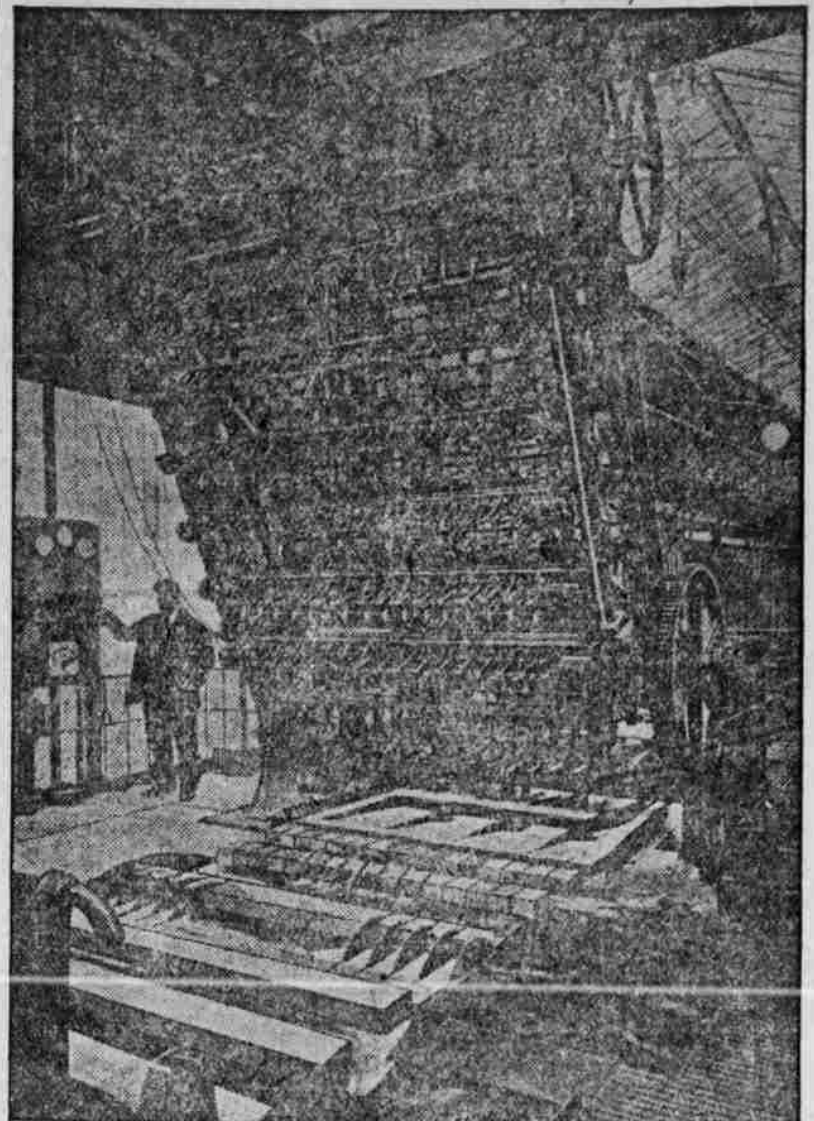
Cynical Interpretation.

She (sentimentally)—It means a great deal to a girl of Emma's nature to marry a man like Dick.

He (brutally)—Naturally. He is a man of means.—Baltimore American.

Before a woman has returned from her wedding trip she has all her plans laid for freezing out his kin, and making a home for her own.

CUTTING WOODEN PAVING BLOCKS.



This machine, which can cut 240,000 wooden blocks in ten hours, consists of a series of circular saws fed with wooden battens. These are kept in the right direction by the frame, which in the picture is raised in order to show the sawing apparatus. The battens move up an inclined plane towards the saws and the finished blocks are delivered down a similar plane at the other end. The motive power is electricity.



Through an official act of the Church of the Brethren in Pennsylvania members of the sect who wear gold rimmed spectacles and eyeglasses are virtually called heretics.

The Brethren, or Dunkards, as they are commonly called, have always been opposed to all forms of ostentatious display. In the rural districts the members of the church adhere faithfully to the old-time regulations, eschewing all ornate features of dress or architecture.

Those who go to the cities and establish churches there have discontinued many of these customs. The men wear neckties and watch chains, which the older rural members regarded as abominations. The city churches have organs and stained glass windows, which are not tolerated in the rural churches.

In matters touching the conduct of the members the Dunkards are not governed by set rules, but merely by the general sentiment of the church expressed from time to time in its conferences. The only authorized creed of the church is the Bible, and upon the literal interpretation of various passages of Scripture are based the various customs of the church, such as the baptism of adults in a running stream, the opposition to warfare and litigation, the wearing of the plain



COSTUMES OF THE DUNKARDS.

garb, the love feasts, the foot-washing ceremony and the kiss of charity exchanged by members at church services.

Sometimes the district conferences attempt to enforce stringent rules of conduct under pain of excommunication. The Ohio conference has decided that all members shall be expelled unless they agree that the "wearing of hats by sisters, the mustache alone by brethren, all fashionable dressing,

wearing of jewelry, gold and unnecessary ornamentation be discontinued and that the sisters wear the prayer cap during religious services."

The question of a paid ministry has been a source of much perplexity to the church. Originally ministers were chosen from the membership of the congregation and served without pay, continuing their previous employment. The city churches found such methods impracticable and to maintain their work were forced to pay their pastors. Officially this is termed a supported



WASHING THE FEET.

ministry and under that designation has been tacitly permitted.

America's Cocoa Consumption.

The imports of crude cocoa into the United States in the calendar year 1908 amounted to 27,419,700 pounds, valued at \$12,999,836. The imports the year previous were 21,147 pounds less, but the total value was \$2,155,743 greater. In other words the market value of the cocoa imports dropped from 17½ cents per pound in 1907 to 13-13 cents in 1908. The United States is the largest consumer of cocoa, the world output of which is about 340,000,000 pounds. The leading countries supplying the American markets are the British West Indies, which sent 27,945,871 pounds in 1908, while 17,026,116 pounds came from elsewhere in the West Indies and Bermuda; Brazil furnished 15,301,524 pounds, while 18,773,986 pounds came from elsewhere in South America. Crude cocoa ranks as twenty-fifth in importance of merchandise into the United States.

Should Be Carried Out.

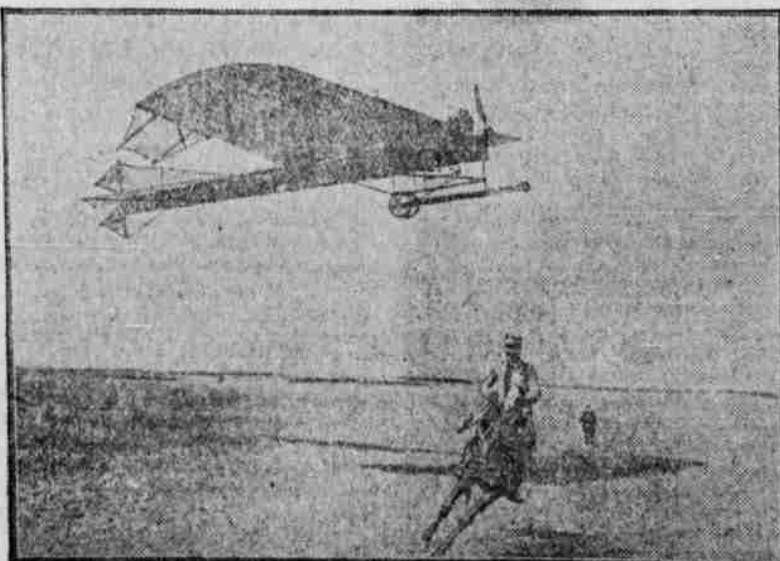
"I wish you wouldn't be cross to that dear little dog of mine," said the wife. "The little fellow is just filled with good intentions."

"Well," replied the husband, grabbing the pup, "I just like to carry out good intentions!"—Yonkers Statesman.

Bluffing is one common trait which distinguishes all living things. All kinds of animals have their ways of bluffing. A snake is nine-tenths bluff.

Young people and old men like greens, but it always falls to the old women to gather them.

ARMIES AND THE AEROPLANE.



Remarkable Photograph Showing a Cavalry Horse Shying at the Approach of a Monoplane.