

WOMEN WHO HOLD FAMOUS ORDERS



Princess Anna of Stolberg-Wernigerode, Holder of Two Orders

Baroness von Griesinger, Twice Decorated for Services to Humanity

Princess Anna of Stolberg-Wernigerode, Holder of the Prussian Cross of Service

Madame Pauline Ulrich, Decorated with Nine Orders

RECENT dispatches from the German court state that the young wife of Prince Eitel, who was married last winter, has been decorated with the insignia of the Order of Louise.

Many soldiers and statesmen of Europe wear the glittering jewels and handsome ribbons of various orders upon their breasts, but the number of decorated women is not nearly so large. As a rule, women are honored for distinction in works of benevolence, usefulness or charity; sometimes for prominence in the arts or sciences, and, again, simply in token of royal favor.

In several of the European countries there are orders designed especially for women, like that to which the Princess Eitel has been admitted. Others, as in the case of the French Legion of Honor, may be conferred upon both sexes, although more generally seen upon the breasts of men.

IN TRACING the custom of decorating women with orders, one goes back to the twelfth century and to sunny Spain. There Raimon Berenguer, the last Count of Barcelona, established the Order of the Ladies of the Axe.

This order was established in commemoration of heroic deeds performed by the women of Tortosa, a city of Tarragona, when it was besieged by the Moors. Its insignia was an axe embroidered upon the bosom of the dress.

Long extinct has been the Order of the Axe, as well as another, founded in Spain in 1175 and called the Order of Santiago. So well was the idea regarded, however, that later sovereigns of other countries designed decorations for women who proved themselves worthy of high honor.

The oldest of these are rather exclusive, being confined, in some cases, to the women of princely houses. One of the most notable is the Austrian Order of the Star and Cross. Holders of this decoration must show four generations of noble ancestry on the mother's side and eight on the father's.

Dating from 1668, the Star and Cross arose from a fire which destroyed the Hofburg, or imperial palace, in Vienna. Four days after the fire, from under the ruins was dug a little chest belonging to Eleanor, queen-mother of the Emperor Leopold I.

RELIC WAS PRESERVED

This box was of crystal, and was not injured by the flames which destroyed the Hofburg, or imperial palace. It contained a splinter of the true cross. In honor of this miraculous preservation the order was founded, and its decoration is now held by 260 women of royal and princely birth. Its present patroness, succeeding the murdered Empress of Austria, is the Archduchess Maria Josepha, sister of the King of Saxony.

In 1814 the Order of Louise, to which Princess Eitel has just been admitted, was founded by King Frederick William III of Prussia. William IV renewed it. The insignia of the first class is a gold cross, enamelled black, with a blue centre, where seven stars surround the letter "L." The second-class insignia is in silver, the ribbon of both being white, with three black stripes.

Founded in 1827, the Bavarian Order of Theresa was originally confined to twelve women of the nobility, who received stipends with the decoration. It has since been extended to other lands, and the honor has been awarded with a more liberal hand than formerly.

In addition to the women of the Bavarian royal house,

this decoration now belongs to the Empress of Germany, the Dowager Queen Marie Christina of Spain, the Queen of Wurtemberg and the Princess of Piess. The latter is also holder of the Prussian Red Cross Medal. Princess Anna of Stolberg-Wernigerode possesses the Red Cross, in addition to the Prussian Cross of Service and the cross of the first class, second section, of the Order of Louise.

Distinguished services in the cause of humanity brought the Red Cross Medal and the Wurtemberg Order of Light to the Baroness von Griesinger, similar activity caused Lady Stiven, wife of the German Minister of Education, to be given the Red Cross and the Order of Louise.

No less conspicuous among humanitarian workers, Lady Ingeborg von Bronsart has received the gold medal of Altonburg for Art and Science, the Anhalt Order of Service for Art and Science, the Bavarian Ludwig Medal for Science, Art and Industry, the Saxe-Coburg Great Silver Medal of Art and Science, the Oldenburg Great Golden Medal for Science and Art and the first-class decoration of the Saxon Golden Grand Ducal Order for Science and Art.

Stars of the dramatic and operatic stage have been liberally rewarded with somewhat similar honors at the hands of royalty. One of the most richly endowed is the famous tragedienne of the Dresden Court Theatre, Pauline Ulrich, who, now in her 71st year, is rounding out a career full of notable histrionic achievements.

ACTRESS HAS NINE DECORATIONS

No fewer than nine different orders and medals have fallen to the lot of this actress. Once she gave a performance of "Narcissus," when King Louis II of Bavaria composed the entire audience. After the performance the actress posed for a photograph, which pleased the King so much that, after a single print had been made for him, the plates were destroyed by his order.

Another member of the same company—Charlotte Bastian—has conferred upon her the Saxe-Coburg-Gotha Golden Medal of Service, the Oldenburg Medal for Art and Science and the Royal Saxon Great Golden Medal with the Ribbon of the Order of Albert.

Upon the Dresden court stage is still another decorated actress—Erika Wedekind. Her treasures include the Saxon-Altenburg Medal for Art and Science, the Saxon-Meiningen Cross of Service, the Anhalt Order of Science and Art and the Saxon Grand Ducal Medal for Art and Science.

Not for her work upon the stage, but in recognition of her efforts in behalf of humanity, Wilhelmine Seebach, sister of the late celebrated actress of the name, wears the insignia of the Order of Louise, the Prussian Cross of Service and Meiningen and Saxon Grand Ducal Medals of Art and Science.

The Berlin stage has also been honored by such recognition. Amalia Landner, one of the favorite actresses of the Berlin Royal Theatre Company, wears the Meiningen, Saxon and Altenburg Gold Medals for Arts and Sciences and the Gold Cross of Service for Arts and Sciences.

Of the same company, Anna Schramm possesses the Red Cross, the Anhalt Order of Service and the Oldenburg decoration. Henrietta Mottl, the sweet-voiced Berlin singer, has been honored by Saxony and Coburg; she possesses of the Swedish Gold Medal and the Baden Grand Ducal Wedding Jubilee Medal.

Most peculiar of all decorations for women is that of the Order of the Swan. This decoration is held by but one person—the Empress of Germany—and she never wears the insignia.

The Order of the Swan was founded by the "Iron" Frederick after his return from the Holy Land, and was bestowed on the consort of the ruler.

The decoration is worthy of such a recipient. It consists of a chain of rubies and diamonds, holding a picture of the Madonna and a swan, symbolizing purity. This jewel is kept among the German crown treasures.

In recent years the French decoration of the Legion of Honor has been bestowed upon several women, one of whom is Madame von Rosthorn, wife of an Austrian officer.

During the troubles in Pekin some years ago her husband was a military attaché of the Austrian Legation. She was within the French Embassy when it was attacked, and she fought valiantly in its defense, being severely wounded by a bullet.

It was in 1792 that the first woman received this decoration for military valor. Marie Jeanne Schellack enlisted as a volunteer in the Second Belgian Regiment and took part in a number of battles, being promoted for bravery until she attained the rank of lieutenant.

At Jemappes she was in the thick of conflict, receiving six sabre wounds. These were not sufficient to deter her from making four more campaigns—twelve being the total number in which she took part. Altogether, she sustained eight wounds.

After having fought conspicuously at the battle of Austerlitz, she withdrew from the service, and received the cross and ribbon of the Legion of Honor from the hand of Napoleon himself.

Taking the Place of Men—Women who Actually Toil at their Sacred Occupations



Gussie Lahn, Ready for the Cattle Range



Miss Winnonah Von Ohi, Girl Broncho Buster



Louise Lahn, California Girl Rancher, with a Load of Sheep



Women Miners Pushing a Loaded Wagon of Coal

TIME was when certain vocations were regarded as being exclusively for men; but that time has passed. Women now engage in farming—not as supervisors merely, but as actual laborers in the fields. One enterprising New Jersey girl makes a comfortable livelihood breaking and training horses. Two California sisters operate a large ranch with success, not only herding the sheep and cattle in person, but protecting them from the attacks of wild animals. In France and Belgium women are to be seen toiling in the coal mines as persistently as their husbands, fathers and brothers; Denmark, Norway and Finland boast of feminine sailors, who are skilled in the ways of the sea. Kentucky has a blacksmith and horse-shoer—one of the best in the State—who, despite numerous offers of marriage, still prefers to have "Miss" written before her name. And all these women, it is affirmed, do the masculine work that falls to their hands as well as could any man.

I CAN scarcely explain why I took up horse training, except that I love animals and seem to know how to break, without ruling them," remarked Miss Winnonah Von Ohi, of Willow Lake Ranch, New Jersey, when asked regarding her singular choice of a vocation.

This strong, athletic girl, with pleasant smile and sunny gray eyes, seems entirely at home with horses. The wildest most vicious specimen presents no terror to her. On the Western plains she has conquered and broken bronchos that the most hardy cowboy had given up as hopeless.

Take her into a dry goods store or millinery shop and she is "bored to death," Miss Von Ohi frankly acknowledges; but investigating the contents of a harness shop, she holds first place in her affections.

For some years after she was 15 Miss Von Ohi lived upon a ranch in South Dakota. At first the cowboys were afraid to allow her to venture among the wild horses and the cattle, but they soon discovered that not only was she capable of taking care of herself, but of helping them as well.

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She adopts a different method, however. She ropes a wild horse by the forefeet, so that it falls upon its shoulders without being injured. She never blindfolds a horse; when she gets a halter on it, she lets it up. If it pulls away, she gives plenty of rope—it in resistance that worries a green horse. Then she begins talking, gradually approaching until she can stroke the frightened animal. This usually restores confidence, and the rest is easy.

Since returning to New Jersey, Miss Von Ohi has broken and trained a number of horses. It is a business she likes, she says; it means a good income and is congenial and satisfactory work.

When the father of the six Scott sisters, of Ellensburg, England, died a year or two ago, they decided to carry on the farm themselves, rather than to separate and engage in other business. Today Brockwell Farm is famous among the farmers "throughout that region roundabout."

Maggie, second of the family, is the "plowman," and turns a furrow as expertly as any veteran farmer in Buckinghamshire. She has taught her younger sisters, so that the frequent absence of her father is no hindrance to the additional revenue resulting from her shrewd bargaining.

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supervise the shearing, market the wool and other products.

Plowing, harrowing, sowing and harvesting are in the list of their agricultural employments. Trailing, trapping and shooting game are practiced for amusement and for the protection of their flocks.

These girls are able to lasso a wild steer or unbroken horse with unerring success. They round up and bring home the sheep and cattle. When some of these are missing in the count at night, the girls jump astride their horses and set out in quest of the wanderers, often pursuing the search until midnight.

Their home is a rough shack. Day after day they may be seen ranging the hills and valleys, each with her rifle strapped behind her. These rides have been potent means of protecting the flocks from the depredations of robbers, as may be seen from the number of panther, lynx, coyote and bear skins at their home.

When called for work, the sisters wear a costume differing little from that of the cowboys. Trousers, boots, shirts, jumpers, high boots and soft, round men's hats make up their outfit. Thus attired, mounted upon their wiry horses and with their rifles slung over their shoulders, they present an appearance of being strictly upon business.

Such are some of the picturesque sides of the feminine invasion of masculine fields. At the coal mines of northern France and Belgium one views the dreary, pathetic side.

There thousands of women, bent and worn from toil and anemic from insufficient nourishment, may be seen laboring wearily, but continually, in the coal mines. Marie makes a living by law, to go into the lower levels and dig the coal, but they drag the cars through the upper passages and the surface yards, emptying them, shoveling the coal into heaps and performing other tasks that seem beyond their strength.

These women have been termed: "Modern slaves, chained to their tasks, and more to be pitied than the galley slaves of ancient Rome." They receive no other prospect, no other opportunity. They rear their children only for the black throats of the mines to swallow, for the boys begin their labors underground when little more than 5 years of age.

All day long, year by year, except when interrupted by a strike, the women toil in and about the mines. Most of them resent the temporary respite afforded by a strike, as it cuts off a revenue, scanty at best, which they can ill lose.

Excellent miners are recruited from the ranks of women in Denmark, Norway and Finland. In Denmark women are employed as pilots. They go out to meet incoming ships, climb nimbly over the sides from small boats and conduct the vessels safely into harbor. Women also act as pilots at the Finnish ports.

Thirteen-year-old Pearl McDade, of Eastabrook, Ala., supports a family of seven by her own earnings. She carries a mail bag from that place to McFall, a mile and a half away. Too poor to own a horse, the girl makes a perilous trip—two, and sometimes three, a day—on foot, carrying the heavy mail bags on her shoulders. All the other members of the family but one are blind, and she is the only one who is not at home.

At a recent gathering in Chicago, Miss E. M. Nichols, secretary of the Women's Trades Union League, stated that there were in that city 155,000 women wage-earners, who had received no special training for their work. Woman suffrage, she asserted, would change that.

Perhaps it was in view of this seeming adaptability of women to the most arduous work performed by men that was responsible for the recent agitation, in Bayonne, N. J., for female policemen.

In any event, femininity in that town has begun to disappear, and the advisability of organizing a Board of Trade composed exclusively of women. The idea is that many municipal improvements could be brought about by such a body.

Eggs That Bring Big Prices

IT MAY be somewhat startling to housewives to learn that an ordinary crack in the shell of an egg, recently, reduced the estimated value of that particular egg \$300.

This was not an ordinary egg, however, but a specimen of that of the great auk. It constituted one of the chief treasures of the Scarborough Museum, in England, and was valued at something like \$1200.

Eggs of the great auk, a bird plentiful enough a century ago, but now extinct, are worth small fortunes. Only about eighty of the eggs are known to be in existence. The British Museum possesses twelve, representing a value not far short of \$5,000.

It is related that in 1879 a shrewd Scotchman picked up two of these eggs at an auction sale. As their value was not realized by those making the sale he secured the great auk, too, and now estimates the eggs at about twelve inches in length, and the number known to be in existence can be counted upon the fingers.

There is one specimen preserved in the British Museum which was obtained in quite a romantic manner. It was picked up in 1897, floating in a bay off Madagascar. Its value is incalculable, since it constitutes one of the most extraordinary relics of its type. It is impossible to estimate its marketable price, for the simple reason that an egg of this bird has not been put up for auction within recent years.

Eggs of the white booby are also highly prized by collectors. This bird was originally found on Funafuti, in the West Indies, which was also the home of the great auk, too, and now estimates the eggs at about twelve inches in length, and the number known to be in existence can be counted upon the fingers.

Although the condor in limited numbers still lives among remote crags of the Andes, the species is rapidly passing away, and it has been some time since any have been gathered.

In a few years, too, the eggs of the kiwi of New Zealand will become as prized as many of those now highly valued. That bird, it is believed, has been bred in New York, that extinction is bound to be averted. Although the remaining members of this bird are under government protection, it seems impossible for eggs to be gathered.

They breed the young cattle, mark the sheep,