

JUST WHY THERE ARE SO MANY UNMARRIED MEN AND WOMEN IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK

NO PLACE TO SPOON EXCEPT ON KITCHEN RANGE, SAYS REV. GEO. R. VAN DE WATER.

(From Our New York Correspondent)

HERE are 450,000 unmarried men and 300,000 unmarried women in New York city. Most of these don't seem to intend to get married, according to the Rev. Dr. George R. Van De Water, who considers this a most unfortunate state of affairs. In a sermon which he preached recently in St. Andrew's Episcopal Church he declared that the lack of opportunity for members of the opposite sex to meet one another socially is largely responsible for this condition of things, and he suggested that since social centers are not otherwise provided in a sufficient number to bring young persons together and set them on the road to matrimony, it might be to the advantage of future generations to provide centers where, under proper supervision, young men and young women who are eligible for marriage might meet.

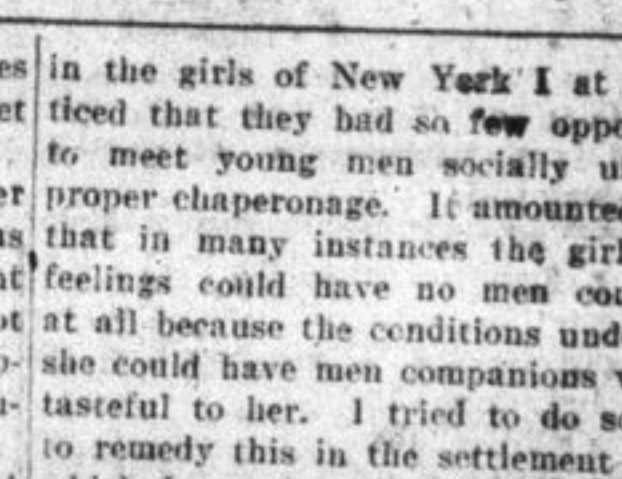
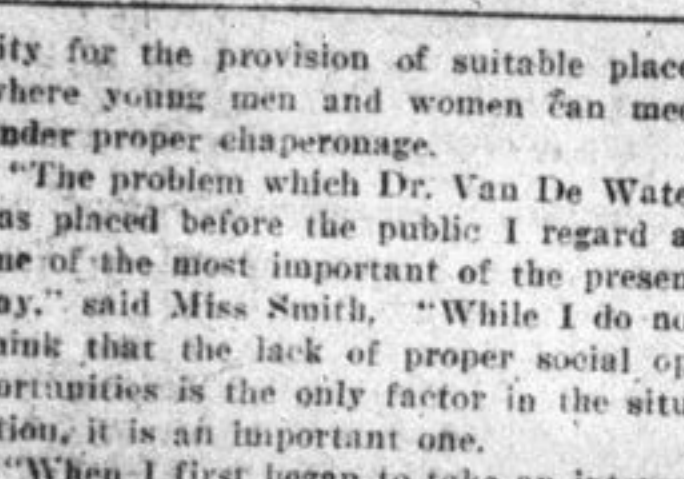
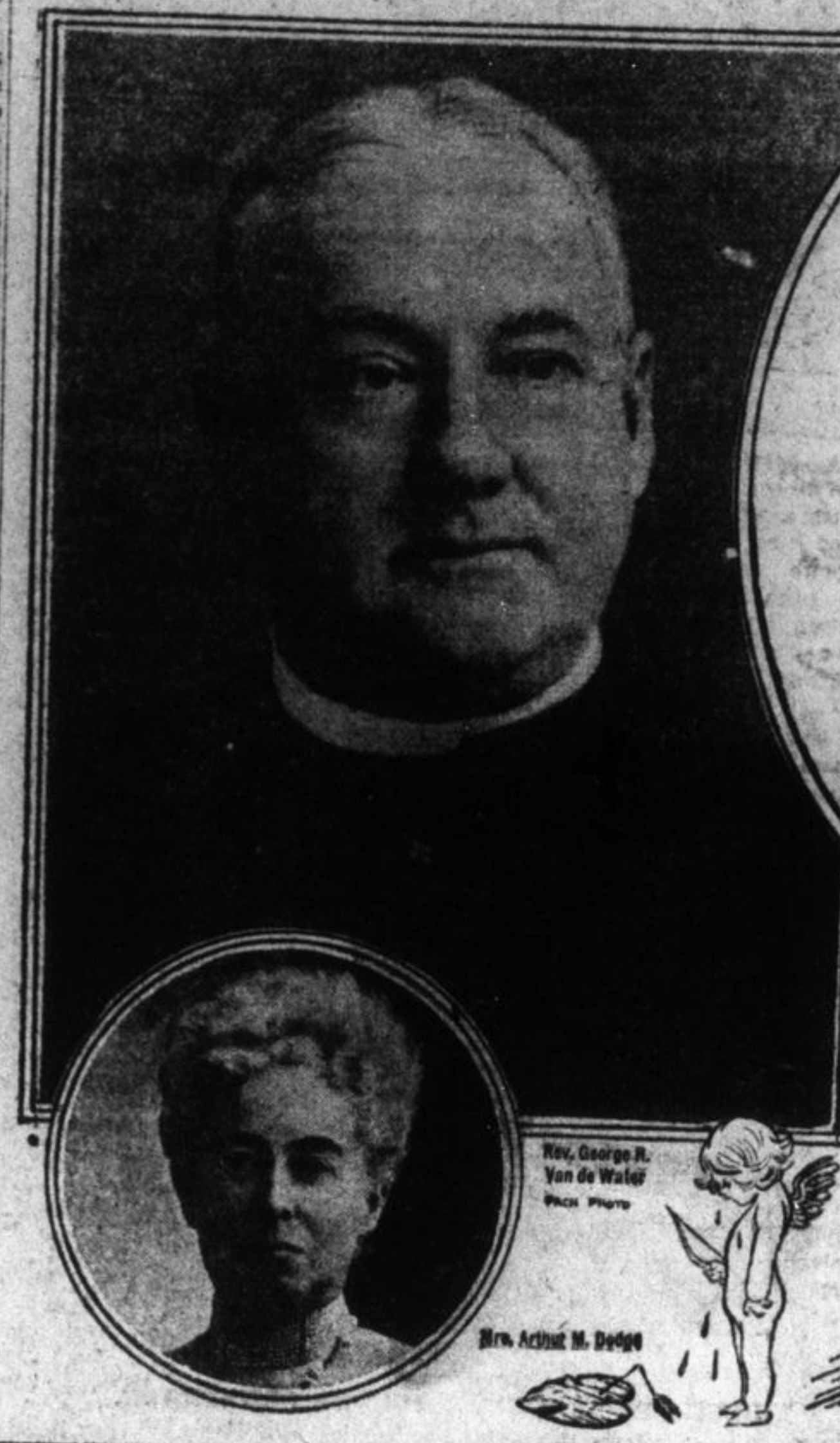
Dr. Van De Water enlarged upon the necessity of greater opportunities for courtship in New York city when the writer called upon him in his home. His general views on the subject were indorsed by a number of women of social prominence who have observed the conditions which exist in various parts of New York city.

"The apartments in which most families live in New York city," said Dr. Van De Water, "are so small that there is absolutely no place for the young members of the family to do their courting unless they sit on the kitchen range. Now that they are introducing skyscrapers instead of kitchens into the apartments, not even the range will be left. The apartments are going up in greater and greater numbers and, on the other hand, there were less than a hundred houses built in New York last year. This means that there is less and less opportunity for social life in the home. Young women cannot entertain in their homes, there is no place for social life, no place to receive their callers apart from the rest of the family.

struggle leaves them neither time nor strength to travel toward this goal. There are also in the city of New York great numbers of young men and women who come here as strangers, with no means of meeting attractive young persons of the opposite sex in the right environment and where there is proper supervision. Because we have chosen to disregard the fact that to bring these young persons together so that they will marry is of basic importance to the state we have made no provision for affording them any social life, at least the provision has been altogether inadequate. In short, everything in New York is combining against the happy married life which is absolutely necessary if happy and healthy children are to be brought into the world. The children are fewer and fewer, which means that the very foundation of the state is attacked.

"The churches of course should give all possible opportunity for young men and women to have the pleasure of one another's society. Where is a better place to fall in love than the house of God? I would like to see every room in my church filled every night with young persons happily enjoying one another's companionship, falling in love, getting engaged and preparing for the happy homes of the future.

"If we could get at the inner workings of the minds of some of our best young men we would find them misanthropes over present conditions, social and economic, which keep them from founding happy homes for themselves. Many young women also are depressed and discouraged at the outlook which offers no promise for the fulfillment of their natural desires. I do not say that the lack of opportunity for social intercourse between the sexes is the only reason why there are fewer marriages. Other economic conditions are of course an important feature in this problem. But if young men and women could meet more frequently under proper supervision it would do much to promote marriage. The churches can scarcely hope to serve this need entirely, and therefore I have made the suggestion that the city should provide gathering places where young persons can be properly introduced by responsible chaperones."



young men and women would have the opportunity to become friends and perhaps to come to love for each other. In the summer time when young persons are thrown together in this way in the country, provided there is proper supervision, a very pleasant opportunity is afforded for falling in love, or, in any event, for the natural companionship which both the girls and the men find pleasant.

"We very quickly came to realize that we ought to have a place in the city where girls could get their men friends, where they could have some social life in which both men and girls should figure and where it would be possible for the girls to invite their friends to dine or take luncheon with them. This want is now being met in this house, and I believe it is the only place in the United States which is carried on in exactly this way.

"I regard the supervision of all such places as of the greatest importance," she said. "I believe that it is extremely desirable that young persons of all classes should meet in circumstances which insure their really knowing each other well before they marry. If they could have more of an opportunity to know each other well, while at the same time they were properly chaperoned, it would mean fewer unhappy marriages, which is quite as important as that there should be more happy ones. The opportunity to know many members of the opposite sex and so to select a companion for life who is really suitable should be afforded to every young man and young girl. I am not ready now to say that I think the city should provide social centers, as I think it is a subject requiring prolonged consideration.

Mrs. George Draper, who is the treasurer of the Women's Auxiliary of Lenox Hill House, a neighborhood settlement in East Seventy-second street, said that she was in accord with Dr. Van De Water's statement that there is a great need entirely in New York city for places where young men and women may meet for social purposes under proper supervision. "I might say that this work is being tried at the present time through social centers," said Mrs. Draper, "and no doubt this partially fills the need of the various neighborhoods, but for reasons difficult of explanation it seems to me that something in addition to the school centre must be provided for these young men and women, many of whom do not seem to find in the school centre exactly what they are seeking. There are various settlements in the city which are offering to the young men and women of the neighborhoods just what is needed. The Lenox Hill settlement in East Seventy-second street is meeting the situation in such a way as to merit the support of the residents of the neighborhood. Freed from all institutional atmosphere, it gives to these young men and women a common meeting ground, and it is only from lack of the proper facilities that cannot cope with the entire situation in that particularly crowded district. A new building has been planned with rooms for social activities, a dance hall and a gymnasium. To show how truly the neighborhood believe in the settlement they have themselves raised \$3,500 toward a new building.

A Word to Women Who Work.

ONCE upon a time every mother dreamed of a great career for her son. She saw him as some wise and world-famous statesman or perhaps the President of the United States, at any rate a soldier, a hero and a fortune teller.

For the girls of the family, she visioned only happy and successful marriages, the kind which brought comfortable and secured incomes, with good social positions and all the advantages of happy wifehood and motherhood.

For the boy there was college or as good an education as his parents could manage. No sacrifice was too great to make for his future, and nothing was withheld which could clear his path to success.

But for the girl there was only the "common government," who could teach a smattering of so many things and nothing much of anything. Then perhaps a year at boarding school, and she was "finished." Her career was a husband, and if he was not forthcoming, then she was assigned to the rather unenviable role of old maid, sister, auntie, and so on. Times it so happened that she had to try to earn her own living unacquainted for the struggle.

To-day this is all changed; girls are not to be disposed of in such summary fashion. The twentieth century maiden has ideas and dreams of her own, and they are not always bounded by marriage. "Possibly a career," she will tell you, "but certainly a career," and the fond mother has to include both sons and daughters in her schemes of what is to be done for the young souls who insist upon carrying out their own fortunes, upon perfecting themselves in some line of work, and being self-supporting.

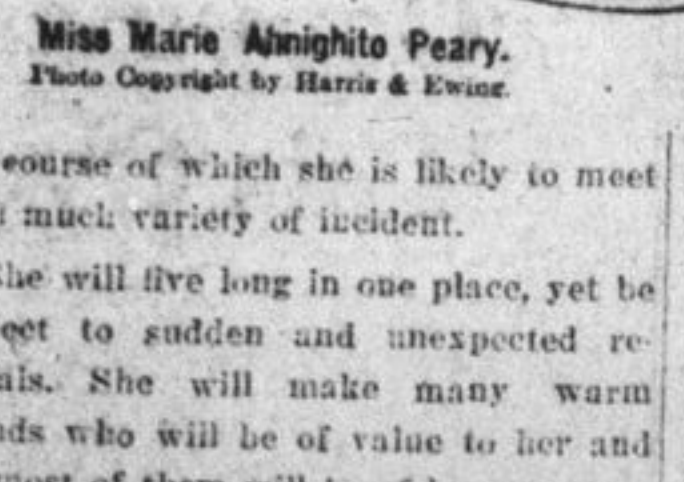
They must be given every chance, every possible advantage. Let them perfect themselves in anything for which they show an inclination, let them choose a career, and help them toward it. Women and girls have to enter the labor market to-day, so let them be well equipped. Then if marriage does come it will be the best kind of marriage; for the woman will enter into it, not as a means of support or a means of justifying her existence, but as the man she loves and whom she is willing to give up her career for, his, or possibly to keep on with her work, but in the position of a wife.

Horoscope of Miss Marie Peary, the Arctic Explorer's "Snow Baby"

WITH her formal entrance into society this winter Miss Marie Ahnighito Peary, daughter of Rear Admiral and Mrs. Peary, of Washington, D. C., enters upon another phase of the experiences shown in the horoscope cast for her by an astrologer and published at the time of her birth. According to his prophecy she is in for a good time in this her first season, for her social qualities are of a high order. This was the testimony of the heavenly bodies as interpreted by the astrologer.

Miss Peary was born September 12, 1893, in north latitude 77 degrees and 44 minutes and west longitude 76 degrees. That made it a little difficult for the astrologer to prognosticate her future, as the computations employed in astrology for placing the zodiac signs in their proper places extended only to 56 degrees north latitude, while this infant was born 21 degrees further north. However, the horoscope was cast with all the cunning and accuracy possible and the result was extremely interesting, and, what is still more significant, the prophecies have up to this time for the most part come true.

"This young lady," run the words of the astrologer, "was born with the last degree of the zodiac sign Pisces on the cusp of the ascendant and Aries rising. She is accordingly governed by Jupiter and Mars, and as Jupiter was slowly coming up to the horizon at the time of her birth and was in the second, or house of fortune, she had a very good start, so far as her worldly success was concerned. Neptune was not far behind Jupiter, but all the other planets were setting. She will grow to be rather tall, slender, with brown hair, sanguine complexion, round face and probably gray or hazel eyes. She has no evil aspects except that she has something of the Mars temperament—Mars governing her ascendant—and will have a tendency toward irritability. But her general disposition will be kindly and courteous.



Horoscope of Miss Marie Ahnighito Peary.

the course of which she is likely to meet with much variety of incident. "She will live long in one place, yet be subject to sudden and unexpected removals. She will make many warm friends who will be of value to her and the most of them will be of her own sex. She will achieve success in life and will probably gain wealth and her closing years will doubtless be passed amid congenial surroundings and complete independence.

Almost the only parts of this fine prediction that have not come true are the unpleasant ones. The long troubles and the irritability that were threatened possibilities have been stayed, perhaps by the overmastering influences of more powerful and favoring planets. As was foretold, she has grown tall and well proportioned. And when they were caught in the ice and frozen up for fifteen months she was as happy playing about with the young Eskimos as if she had been in the midst of American home comforts. She looked so much like the might, but she has shown decided lit-

erary abilities. When she was only ten years old she wrote a book which was published under the title, "Children of the Arctic." When she was fifteen years old, a pupil at the Georgetown convent, near Washington, she showed such decided literary talent that one of her poems was printed in the convent annual—

hour ordinarily accorded only to alumnae and members of the senior class. In these verses she thus expressed her fealty to the Arctic land where she was born—
"O Spirit of Spring,
Soft, furling and sweet,
In thy sunbeam chariot,
Golden and fleet,
Thou comest to bring
Violets purple to tussle at my feet;
This land of enchantment is all thine own.
I love thee and bow before thy throne.
O Spirit of the North
Reposing on light
Of Anhora flushes,
So cold and white,
Thou callest forth
The great white silence of Arctic night.
On pinnaled icebergs thy foot doth rest—
Thou didst rock my cradle; I love thee best."
It was at the old convent here that Miss Peary fulfilled that part of the prophecy about her making many friends, especially those of her own sex. But for that matter, she has always been the kind of girl who has had hosts of friends wherever she has been.

"She will live long in one place, yet be subject to sudden and unexpected removals." Marie Ahnighito Peary has lived long in Washington and at their island home in Maine, yet frequently she has started suddenly on long and adventurous trips, three of these having been to the remote region of her birth. "She will achieve success in life," was another statement made by the astrologer. She has certainly made a good start, both in her literary and in her social career, toward the goal of success.

Several times last autumn it was reported that Miss Peary was engaged to be married, but it was promptly denied that she has so far run so true to the effect that she will not marry young. She is to have a pleasant and successful social life first, but she will marry and live happily ever after in the position of the fairytale, and the romance of her Snow Baby's life reads like a fairy tale. Miss Peary does not like to be called the "Snow Baby" any more, but the American people will always think of the baby born within the Arctic circle with that affectionate term, and that is the meaning of her pretty Eskimo name, Ahnighito.

Puzzling Points of Etiquette.

THE woman who has earned the reputation of being a successful dinner hostess may be proud of the appellation, for to give a dinner successfully requires real art. As very few women have mastered the intricacies of this social problem, perhaps a few words on the subject may not prove amiss.

In the first place, unless you have large means at your command, do not attempt to give an elaborate dinner. Invite only as many guests as you can comfortably entertain. If your dining room is small, the capacity of your kitchen limited, or your china service not large, then do not tax them by inviting too many guests at one time, for if you do your dinner is sure to be a failure. It is better to entertain perfectly two or three guests than to proffer an indifferent dinner to a greater number. Take your accommodations into consideration and then invite your guests accordingly. This does not mean, however, that you must limit your entertaining. Three or four simple dinners to which two or three guests are invited, will be very much more enjoyed by all than an elaborate one badly given.

The real secret of success, perhaps, in the giving of a dinner lies in gathering together congenial guests. So many hostesses have the habit of inviting all sorts of men and women to partake of the same "meal" never taking into consideration whether or not they may happen to be congenial, and then the hostess is at a loss to know why her entertainment was a failure. She forgets that unless two persons have a great deal in common they find it a bore to sit next to each other, especially if the dinner happens to be a small one. She fails to remember that sworn enemies may find it unpleasant to sit at the same board, even though they may be separated from each other by several pleasant persons. In the same way another man is apt to have a stupid time if placed next to a debutante, and as for the debutante, she will be very much more pleased if she finds a young man as her dinner companion. Place together at your table only those who are apt to have congenial talks, the same outlook on life or a similar hobby which they can discuss at length.

The question of guests settled satisfactorily, let us turn next to the dinner proper. Do not make the mistake of attempting unusual features unless you have wealth at your command, and do not, at the same time, try to imitate the ways of a hostess whose worldly goods are greater than your own. Make your dinner typical of yourself and it will give more pleasure than a poor imitation of some other woman's entertainment.