

THE DOWNERS GROVE PUBLIC LIBRARY

AN APPRECIATION

This "appreciation" was read by Miss Krum at the meeting of the "Home and Education Department" of the Woman's Club, on Library Day April 6th.

Somewhere Emerson has said in substance that whatsoever we appreciate and enjoy we possess. I have enjoyed the library privileges many times requesting and receiving some desired book but never have I appreciated the wealth of its stores till a week or so ago.

Before starting on the "gallery tour," however, I dropped down at one of the reading tables by a friend who had just discovered the highly colored magazine of the Orient, Asia—and had no interest in me. I leaned back, gave myself up to enjoying the spacious, pleasant room and lost all interest in her.

My eyes wandered to the border of pictures: Rembrandt's portrait of himself, the several dignified glimpses of old Rome, the appropriate Readings of Homer by Alma Tadema, thence to the bust of Schopenhauer. Now who was Schopenhauer? The Americana Encyclopedia in the opposite corner read, "Schopenhauer, chief expounder of pessimism."

I found practically the entire west wall devoted to children's reading, an appropriate apportionment as, the librarian told me, from sixty to seventy per cent of the library patrons are the children. On the top shelf of this wall were adult books, on Education and Child Study, (including the inspiring book for parents of boys, What is it to be Educated) Religion, Philosophy, Law, Economics—and Citizenship, particularly in connection with woman's new sphere.

On the north wall were shelves of biography from Plutarch's Lives to Roosevelt, including lives of Cromwell, Gladstone, Helen Keller, Frances Willard, and Alice Freeman Palmer. There were books on trees, birds, the fern, soil, silos—and even the potato. Suitably near the latter stood Fannie Farmer's Boston Cooking School Cook Book.

I was glad to find among the histories, H. G. Well's New Outline History of the World, which deals with this old world in a sweeping sort of way, not too detailed, taking us up and along "from the time we were polly wops" as some one said, to the recent war.

I was tempted to linger over the books of travel and was unable to decide whether to go with Nansen to the Farthest North, have Wild Life on the Rockies in Enos Mill's party, visit the Yosemite under John Muir's intelligent guidance, wander in Venice or Paris with Lucas, or simply visit Chicago or our own unique Dunes.

The poets also were on this north wall, near the drama, which latter included John Drinkwater's Lincoln, and Mackaye's Washington. Four new green volumes attracted my eye, and proved to be Thoreau's refreshing nature journal, of Spring, Summer, Autumn, Winter.

The east wall was entirely adult fiction, (a recent acquisition to which is the Gadsby Edition of Dickens, with the original Cruikshank illustrations) making—a grand total of volumes at our daily disposal of 4,495.

How has the Library Board managed to collect such a wealth of material? I simply know that they are devoted to the work, recognize its value, and serve us faithfully, cheerfully—and generously.

The children are flocking in from our school. Some begin to come up from the weekly Story-Hour held downstairs. I watch them at the shelves, which are most fortunately open ones where books may be as freely looked at as at home. They consult in whispers as to "what is good."

I want so much to at least glance at the periodicals, which number thirty-five and are of every type, but the tall clock warns me musically of the passage of time. As I bid goodbye to the capable, consecrated librarian, the sun is illuming the colorful picture of larkspurs on the opposite wall.

Dominican Republic. The Dominican Republic is located in the eastern portion of the island of Haiti, one of the largest of the West Indies, lying between a latitude of 17°36'40 and 19°28'20 north, and a longitude of 68°18 and 74°51 west of Greenwich. Its boundaries are the Atlantic ocean on the north, the Mona channel on the east, the Caribbean sea on the south and the Republic of Haiti on the west.

HOSPITAL DAY ENDORSED BY GEN. PERSHING

Army Leader O. K.'s Idea Originated By Matthew O. Foley, of Downers Grove.

During the past week newspapers throughout the United States carried the news of the endorsement of National Hospital Day, May 12th, by General John J. Pershing, in the form of the following letter to Matthew O. Foley, a resident of Downers Grove and executive secretary of the National Hospital Day Committee which is directing the general observance of the day by the 8,000 hospitals of North America:

My dear Mr. Foley: I hope that many of our citizens will avail themselves of the opportunity on May 12th to visit the hospitals throughout the country and learn for themselves how the disabled veterans of the World War are being cared for. Much has been said regarding the hospital service offered these men; Congressional action of some sort concerning this service is expected shortly; and National Hospital Day is the time for the citizens, generally, to inform themselves as to the actual facts in the case, that they may intelligently support their representatives in Congress.

Very sincerely yours, John J. Pershing. Mr. Foley is managing editor of Hospital Management, a leading publication dealing with the administrative problems of hospitals, and is the originator of National Hospital Day which is for the purpose of making the public better acquainted with the scope of hospital service.

Hospitals in every state and every Canadian province are to participate in the first "day" on May 12th, the anniversary of the birth of Florence Nightingale, pioneer in modern hospital and nursing methods. Institutions conducted by religious denominations, state, city, county and federal hospitals, in fact, all kinds and all sizes will participate in the first observance.

A feature of the participation by the 67 government hospitals in which 26,000 disabled veterans are undergoing treatment, is that those soldier patients in hospitals near league ball parks will be the guests of the clubs on May 12th. This was arranged by Mr. Foley through Ban Johnson of the American League who not only urged that American League parks be thrown open, but also passed the idea along to all the other league presidents.

NOTES OF THE LOCAL SCHOOLS

The members of the Year Book staff are very busy these days finishing up the work of editing the book. Pictures of the various athletic teams and class organizations were taken this week. Those in charge of the enterprise are very anxious to make the book of this year the best ever and the prospects are encouraging indeed.

Principal Vernon attended a meeting of the County Principals' Association, in the city, Monday evening. It was decided to throw out all of the papers recently entered in the inter-school County Contest. This action was caused by complaints from some schools that others had not given the examinations in a uniform fashion.

High School will not be in session Friday of this week. The teachers will attend the Conference of Affiliated High Schools at the University of Chicago.

The May Pageant which was to have been held Thursday of this week was postponed in the hope that summer would eventually come.

Race of Red-Heads. The possibility of red-headed people being "a separate race" was mentioned at a recent meeting of the Royal Anthropological Institute in London. According to F. G. Parsons, the average number of red-headed people is, roughly, four in each 100, and it is quite an aristocratic color. In London 5.1 per cent of the upper classes have red hair, as compared with 4.3 per cent in the lower classes. There is, says Prof. Parsons, an abnormal amount of red hair among the beauties of the southwest of Ireland.

Quality of Foods. Hard foods are a necessary part of a hygienic diet. The teeth need exercise, it must be remembered. Therefore, one way of keeping teeth in good condition is to eat hard foods, such as breadcrusts, toast, hard fruits, nuts and fibrous vegetables. Hard food causes the saliva and gastric juice to flow. If in addition to being hard the food is dry, the greater the flow of the saliva and gastric juice.

CITIZENS INTERESTED IN DRIVE FOR FUNDS

The Firemen wish to thank the Community Committee for the musical series; Mrs. C. H. Staats and Mrs. C. H. Dicke for the bakery sale; the Vesta Juniors for the play. This vote of thanks is extended to all who helped in any way to make these events successes and to all who patronized them. They have all worked for a cause which will put Downers Grove on the map.

The amounts realized will be published in next week's Reporter with other private contributions. Two other benefits are to be open to the public during the coming few days. The Ladies Aid of the Methodist Church will serve supper on Thursday evening, May 12th, at the church. Let everyone in town eat at the M. E. Church next Thursday; all the firemen will be there.

Miss Ruth Edison has personally trained fifty little tots who wish to do their bit toward the fire truck. They will entertain at the Dicke Theatre, Tuesday and Wednesday, May 17th and 18th. The children wished to do their bit toward the truck and through the kindness and training of Miss Edison will be able to do more than the average. She has spent a great deal of time with them during the past few months and its your turn to help the children now—no, its not a cheap sort of entertainment, but will be the best show you ever saw for fifty cents. There is only one more week in which to get chances on the Ford. If the boys don't see you send your money for chances to H. C. Dicke—tickets will be sent you. Who's next with some help—plan it early.

GIRLS AND THE DAY

By The Rev. Eneas H. Goodwin

On Mothers Day, May 8th, the Catholic Women's League, of which Mrs. M. D. Bradley is president, will inaugurate a movement for home reading among the girls and young ladies of the village.

Boys, young men, and old men, too, are holding every one's attention now. One would think they had been neglected and the world had suddenly become conscious of its negligence. As a fact, men, old and young have never been neglected. From the time when Adam meandered through the glens of Eden to the present when boy scouts parade on Main street, Man, with a capital M, has been supreme on the earth and has been very conscious of his supremacy. Perhaps he should be.

Women have been neglected. They are more neglected in this century of their civic triumphs than ever before. Formerly men thought it a duty to support them. Now women are left to shift for themselves. Huddled by themselves on the morning train they go from home to work, and back they all come together in the evening, tired, peevish, really dependent, although wage earners, forlorn, thoroughly feminine and therefore dissatisfied with it all.

There is nothing so good for the tired body and discontented mind as mental change. It is difficult to believe that women were created for the hard, drab routine of office or factory work. But they are doing the work and are wondering why they are miserable, nervous and some times mean.

They need the revivifying that comes from mental change. The Catholic Women's League will outline a program for home reading. A book a week will be advocated. And a book provocative of thought. Nearly all the members of the League have daughters and they will pledge themselves to encourage the girls in their reading.

This will bring mother and daughter closer together. It is the great Book that has brought all men together in one mighty family and certainly a little book, little because the human is so small in comparison with the divine, a little book read side by side will bring mother and daughter very close together. There will be something in common to discuss, criticize, admire or reject. And, perhaps if the book be rightly chosen, there may come from it an idea that will be like a ray of warm sunshine in the grayness of the office and in the tired heart.

Galosh Not Modern Footwear. The modern galosh is but the grandchild of a long line of strong, sturdy ancestors from the boots of Captain Kidd down. The boot wearing fever got so bad in England once that parliament had to be petitioned to restrict the making of boots. "The merchant and mechanic walk in boots," so read the complaint, and "many of our clergy in shoes and galoshes. University scholars maintain the fashion likewise. Attorneys, lawyers, clerks, serving men all delight in this wasteful wantonness."

MASONS MEET AT HALL SUNDAY TO ATTEND CHURCH

Trinity Commandry of LaGrange and Local Lodges to Observe Ascension Sunday, May 8th.

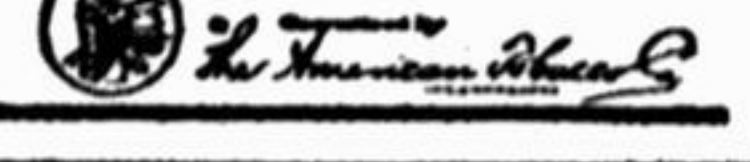
It is expected that the capacity of the Methodist-Episcopal Church will be taxed next Sunday afternoon when members of three Masonic Lodges and their families meet there for divine worship. The three bodies are Trinity Commandry, of LaGrange, and Grove Lodge, A. F. & A. M., and Grove Chapter, R. A. M., of the village.

They are attending the service in response to the invitation of the Rev. Gilbert H. Newland, pastor of the church, who will speak on "The On-



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ward March of Brotherhood." The Methodist choir will render appropriate music. Members of the local lodges will meet at the lodge room at three o'clock and will march to the church in a body. Subscribe for The Reporter—Only \$2.00 per year.

English Language Gaining. To the observing student of the times, one of the wonders of this age is the spread of the English language. At the present time it is spoken by nearly 200,000,000 people. Each year adds a long list to the English-speaking world. Not many know that in the Philippines today more people speak the English language than spoke Spanish after 300 years under Spanish dominion.

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