

Highland Park News-Letter

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Our New Serial

WE take unusual pleasure in announcing that we have arranged with Mrs Laura Dayton Fessenden of Highland Park for the serial rights on her historical novel entitled "Dorothy Lee." It is a thrilling story of love and heroism centering around a loyal daughter of the colonies and a British spy. There is material here for a stirring story and Mrs. Fessenden has taken advantage of it. The first installment will appear in the issue for January 28. This would be a good time to begin your subscription if you are not already a regular reader of the NEWS-LETTER.

Ravinia Park

THE C. & M. Electric Railway has done a distinct service in establishing at Ravinia a new park and theater. If the enterprise is properly conducted Ravinia Park should form the social and entertainment center for the North Shore suburbs from Evanston to Lake Forest. The objection which has been offered to suburban life is the lack of social activity. In a sense the criticism was well taken. Ravinia Park, however, with its varied entertainment features promises to provide for the North Shore a new social life.

The fear that the character of entertainment offered might not meet with the approval of all has thus far been groundless. The Burton Holmes lectures, which drew crowded houses, demonstrated that the people of the North Shore would patronize entertainments of the highest order if opportunity offered.

In addition to the theater attraction, a fine skating rink and toboggan slide have been recently opened and are being generously patronized by the young people of the North Shore towns.

The coming summer season will find Ravinia Park fully equipped, and will demonstrate not only the quality of the attractions which will be offered but the financial success which the enterprise is to attain.

The World's Prayer

THOMAS CARLYLE once wrote what he called The World's Prayer, and it read as follows:

"Help us, thou great Lord of shoddy, adulteration and misfeasance, to do our work with a maximum of slimness, swiftness, profit and mendacity, for the Devil's sake. Amen."

There are certain pessimists who claim that the world is still praying Carlyle's prayer. To one whose eyes are looking forward, however, and whose ears have caught the first echo of the world's hopes and desires at the beginning of the twentieth century, this prayer breathes of the past rather than of the present.

It is true that a large part of the world is still seeking "to do its work with a maximum of slim-

ness, swiftness, profit and mendacity." This has been and is still the great difficulty in business—the desire of the employee to do as little as possible and to get as much as possible. It has been, and is still, true that this is one of the moving forces of many men and women—the desire to appear something that they are not.

There is in progress, however, a world movement not only toward simpler living but toward honesty of living; a movement that makes for righteousness and justice whether the employer or the employee is considered, the individual or the corporation. It is in reality a moral revival, a renewed belief in the reality, the excellence and the immortality of things. This movement is quite apart from any religious revival and it may be well that it is so. Morality is not a question of religious creed or denominational allegiance. Morality is an expression of individual life. It is this that determines a man's face value in the eyes of the infinite.

The world's movement toward better homes, better houses, better furniture, better clothes on our backs, better shoes on our feet; the seemingly spontaneous desire of the world to do its work better and to find joy in the working, is all a part of this moral revival. Such a movement as this, of necessity, can never come near the surface. If it does it becomes artificial and loses its virtue. The fact that it all but eludes our observation indicates how deeply it is working and how broad is its significance in the life of the people.

Ralph Waldo Emerson has wisely said that "the secret of human progress lies not in our being dissatisfied, but in our being unsatisfied." The revival of morality in life and art which is going on throughout America and the world is not so much an expression of dissatisfaction as an acknowledgment that humanity is still unsatisfied. It confirms Browning's magnificent phrase, "Ah! but a man's reach should exceed his grasp, or what's a Heaven for?"

If we have been praying Carlyle's prayer we should change our point of view or we may be left behind in the spiritual progress of the world.

The Rebuilding of Manila

PLANS have been perfected and the work begun of rebuilding Manila and making it the beautiful city of the Orient, says a writer in "The World's Work." It will not only be clean and healthful, with wide streets and attractive plazas, but it will be a capital of art as well. It is seldom that such an opportunity has presented itself in the Orient to make a model city, and the insular government, with the active cooperation of the United States government, is taking every advantage of it.

For example, for years open ditches throughout the city have been used for sewerage purposes, so that the public health has been put in jeopardy. These ditches will be made into clean canals, spanned by numerous bridges. Pleasure boats will ply on them. A complete sanitary sewerage system will replace the present ditches.

But the most interesting feature of the reconstruction of the city is the preservation of the famous Walled City, which was erected 300 years ago to repel the Spanish and Dutch invaders. This Walled City has a distinctly historical as well as a picturesque value.

The work of filling in 155 acres adjoining Malaco will give Manila an ideal pleasure-ground for all the people. This drive is a favorite resort, and the view is said to be one of the most beautiful in all the Philippine Islands. Band stands will be erected for popular concerts. Another important step is the construction of a complete waterworks system, for which there has been a bond issue of \$4,000,000. The water will be piped from the Mariquina valley, fifteen miles away.

A summer capital will be established in the mountains 100 miles from the city. This project is in charge of Mr. H. Phelps Whitmarsh, the adventurous Englishman who was governor of one of the provinces after the American occupation. He expects to see in the successful consummation of this plan an ideal summer community, which shall be the center of official life and which will mean to the Philippines what Simla means to East India. The work of rebuilding Manila will be after plans furnished by many experts, chief among them Mr. Daniel H. Burnham, a Chicago architect, who is now at Manila and who will have the cooperation of the island engineers attached to the insular service. Thus Manila, hundreds of years old, once a scene of Spanish splendor, will be made into a model city.

A Grammatical Resolve

RESOLVED, to live in the active voice, intent on what I can do, rather than what happens to me in consequence; in the indicative mood, concerned with what is rather than what might be more to my liking; in the present tense, with concentration on immediate duty, rather than regret for the past or anxiety for the future; in the first person, criticising myself, rather than condemning others; in the singular number, obeying my own conscience, rather than the demands of the many.

WILLIAM DEWITT HYDE.

How Togo's Nerves Were Steadied

ADMIRAL TOGO, commander-in-chief of the Japanese navy, whose prowess as a fighting man has won world-wide praise of late, comes from an old school of Nippon warriors. His naval education is of the best, and he has been trained in every way to be a fearless, calm, and tireless fighter.

In his youth, he and his fellow students at the Japanese naval academy were accustomed to attend an annual banquet. They sat at a circular table around a slowly revolving cannon loaded with a ball and trained to the level of their heads. The trigger was so arranged that it could be touched from a hidden source outside of the banquet hall. That at some time during the banquet the cannon would be fired everyone at the table knew; but just when, or in what direction it would be pointing was a mystery. Of course, there was a possibility that the ball might crash harmlessly between the heads of two banqueters, but it was equally probable that it might carry off the head of some student. Yet no one flinched. The chances were equal to all.

The picturesque object of destruction revolving during the jovial hours of the banquet, pointing from student to student, and ready at a given moment to blow any one of them to pieces, was considered in Japan admirable training to steady the nerves of a fighting man.

An Epitaph

MANY admirers of Mark Twain believe he has never written anything more beautiful than the little verse he had cut in the modest block of marble which marks the resting place of his wife in Woodlawn cemetery, Elmira, New York:

Warm summer sun
Shine kindly here;
Warm southern wind
Blow softly here;
Green sod above
Lie light, lie light.
Good night, dear heart,
Good night, good night.