

Highland Park News-Letter

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A Letter From Home.

Before leaving home for your summer vacation, do not forget to subscribe for The News-Letter. We will forward it to any address in the United States without extra cost. This will be a weekly letter from home.

Our Serial Story.

Referring to our announcement of "BOB HAMPTON OF PLACER" we will commence the serial next week, giving a larger space to first chapters than we were able to give this week.

Lake Forest Floral Event.

The Horticultural exhibit which opens to-day at Lake Forest is more than a social event. The public is indebted to the ladies who are promoting that most interesting flower and fruit show which commences at 10 a. m. today in the Art Institute of that town.

Not only will there be flowers and small fruits on exhibit, but palms, shrubs and evergreens and vegetables will be in abundance. The entries are confined to growers residing on the north shore, so that the local pride in horticulture will receive a distinct recognition and encouragement.

As Another Editor Sees It.

Say, do you know what it costs in work, skill and time to conduct the paper that comes to your home every week. Some people evidently have not the faintest appreciation of the editor and his task. They expect to find all the news written up in classic English, printed in perfect style, with never a slip in good taste or temper and they accept all this as a matter of course, like the daily sunshine and fresh air. As for subscribing for the paper and promptly paying for it. That never occurs to them. —Harvey (Ill.) Herald.

A Great Singer Gone.

The death is announced of another of the men who made the Gospel songs of modern times.

Quite a new form of hymn-writing was begun when Philip Phillips, in 1860, published his first volume of "Early Blossoms" and sang himself and his hymns into fame. P. P. Bliss also, in almost as early a date entered the field, and his best hymns were sung by Ira D. Sankey with powerful effect. Since then there has been many Gospel hymns written, and one of the best of the writers was James Granahan, who died July 8. At his funeral, yesterday, some of his own hymns were sung.

It must be admitted that many of the modern hymns are neither poetical or musical. There is a jingle in them that captures for a short while and then they die out. But most of Granahan's hymns possess the poetic spirit and the music that answers to the heart. There is a ring of confidence and hope in them as when he puts into music the Apostle Paul's song of faith:

"I know whom I have believed
And am persuaded that He is able
To keep that which I've committed
Unto Him against that day."

And that hymn which has answered the queries and mystic doubts of thousands:

"Not now, but in the coming years,
It may be in the better land
We'll read the meaning of our tears,
And then, sometime, we'll understand.

And as the Chicago Evening Post, so well says:

Even in slum missions, where the dregs of humanity are swept up and sifted in the chance that some grain of pure gold might be among them, many a poor fellow or a woman in drab has been cheered up by the message, "Christ Receiveth Sinful Men."

Sing it o'er and o'er again,
Christ receiveth sinful men;
Make the message clear and plain
Christ receiveth sinful men.

The Coming Fourth.

Perhaps the most fitting time to prepare for a sane birthday anniversary of the Nation in 1908 is now. The doleful record of the scores of slain and the thousands injured by our hit-or-miss policy of celebrating is so fresh upon us that we ought now to resolve that there shall be no more such days of insane demonstration for us.

Merely deploring the facts that

are past will not save us from a repetition, or worse, in the future. Nothing short of a deliberate and well-devised plan of action will meet the case. And every city and every corporate town and village must make its own plans.

From the mayor down to the small boy there must be a common purpose to celebrate—so that we cannot mistake the day and yet preserve our sanity and good sense.

Let this town take prompt and early measures to have a right royal day of celebration next July 4th. Why should not the mayor of this city initiate the movement. Or say the G. A. R. and the D. A. R. undertake the responsibility of organizing a celebration in which old and young may participate, and all be proud of.

Let a committee be appointed to make plans early, so that the full and hearty co-operation of all citizens may be secured. Let the hundreds of dollars that are wasted in the indiscriminate fire of crackers and explosives be diverted into a common fund. Let there be a great platform rally on the morning of the Fourth, with the greatest speaker that can be secured, and a band of music. Let the declaration of independence be read under the floating of the flag. Let the afternoon be spent in sports, such as shall delight the best athletes of the town and also the children; and then let there be a display of fireworks at night that shall do credit to good sense and send the little ones to bed, dreaming of the splendor of the glorious Fourth.

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T. E. PIERSON

Our New Serial Story begins next week.