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The Social Side of Life Local Affairs of the week

By the Observer

Applause was quite the order of the evening Tuesday when grand opera had its first performance in the pavilion under the able direction of Josef Pasternack. "Aida" was the chosen opera, and with its beautiful scenery and exquisite music, the triumphal and ballet music, won the enthusiastic support of the audience.

The Euchre club met Monday evening at the home of Miss Kittle Nolan of W. Central Ave.

Mr. and Mrs. Carlos Sebastian, who have completed a successful engagement as host and hostess at the open-air ball room at Ravinia Park, left last week. Their place is being filled at present by Miss Josephine Harriman and Mr. William Reardon who have danced at various well known restaurants all over the country.

At the fourth student artist day, Tuesday afternoon at Ravinia Park, Miss Ruth Miller, a seventeen-year old violinist will play. Miss Miller has studied with Hugo Kortschak in Europe where she has gained hearings with well known critics. Miss Miller will play the Faust Fantasia by Wieniawski, with Mr. James Whittaker as accompanist.

Mrs. W. M. Wright of Half Day will entertain at her home, "Wright Lodge" tomorrow afternoon at four tables of bridge. A number of Highland Park people will attend.

Mrs. W. J. Fyffe will entertain the presidents and officers of the Federation of Womens Clubs of the Tenth District, at a luncheon on Wednesday. Thirty-five guests will be present.

Mrs. Martin Inaull will entertain the drama reading class at her home on Sheridan Rd. tomorrow morning.

Mr. and Mrs. W. Salyards entertained the Five Hundred club at their home on W. Laurel Ave. Saturday evening. Sixteen guests were present. The successful prize winners being Mrs. Salyards, Mrs. W. H. Thomas, Mr. Fred Tucker, and Mr. S. T. Rebling.

Mrs. John Sheahan of W. Central Ave., entertained eighteen guests on Sunday evening in compliment to her nieces, the Misses Catherine and Helen Gorman of Ravenswood.

Mrs. G. V. Dickinson will entertain eight guests at dinner at her home Friday evening preceding the dance at Exmoor Club.

Mrs. J. W. Prindiville of Laurel Ave., entertained Mr. and Mrs. Letts, Mr. and Mrs. Uhllein, all of Lake Forest, and Mr. and Mrs. Dickinson of this city at dinner on Sunday at Exmoor. The party made up a mixed foursome played in the afternoon; in the evening the guests enjoyed the concert at Ravinia Park.

Mrs. W. C. McKenzie of La Harpe, Kan., formerly of Highland Park, announces the marriage of her daughter, Catherine Coe Van Duya to Mr. Percy E. Sheurd on March 1, 1915.

Mrs. J. W. Prindiville entertained seven guests at luncheon on Friday.

On Friday evening Mr. and Mrs. William Yowell of McGovern St., entertained thirty guests, the occasion celebrating their eleventh wedding anniversary. They received many beautiful as well as useful gifts. The out-of-town guests were Mr. and Mrs. Meyers, Mr. and Mrs. Jahnke of Chicago.

Edith Fyffe will entertain thirty-five friends at a picnic supper on the beach Friday evening.

Mrs. Robert F. Carhart entertained twelve guests at luncheon followed by bridge on Wednesday of last week in compliment to her guest, Miss Marie Bricker of Oak Park.

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Headquarters for Arrow Collars.

Different committees and sections of the Arden Shore Association held a very successful general basket picnic on Monday at Arden Shore. There were over forty friends present and twenty people of the family. The "family" is made up of young men and women who care for the guests. After reports of various committees were read and approved and the wants of the association made known, a complete inspection of the grounds was made. The new building erected by Mr. and Mrs. George R. Thorne of Lake Forest very much interested the visitors.

Mr. and Mrs. Richard J. Street of Coronado, Cal., formerly of this city, announce the engagement of their daughter, Margot Essington, to Mr. Theodore C. Macaulay of Red Hook, N. Y. The wedding will take place in Toronto, Can. in the early autumn. Mr. Macaulay is a member of the aviation corps of the Canadian army.

Mr. and Mrs. E. E. Andrews, Mr. and Mrs. Robert F. Carr, and Mr. and Mrs. Marshall E. Sampsell have issued invitations for a dance Friday evening, July 10, at Exmoor Club. The dance will be given on the new out door platform, which by evening, with the colored lights on the dancers, is certainly very pretty. Between two hundred and two hundred and fifty guests are expected to be present at the affair. Mr. and Mrs. George Carr of Chicago are to give a dinner party for twenty guests preceding the dance.

Mr. and Mrs. Marshall E. Sampsell and Mr. and Mrs. Charles F. Boynton were hosts and hostesses at dinner parties for ten guests, each in the open air pavilion at Ravinia Park on Thursday evening.

Mrs. Otto E. Otholf was hostess on Saturday for eighteen guests at luncheon at the Exmoor Club.

The Children's day program at Ravinia Park today, is to be of a different nature than on previous occasions. Professor Henry Roethig, who is a great novelty and comedy artist, will appear in a mystifying program of slight of hand performances. The program will begin promptly at two o'clock in place of two fifteen, the usual hour.

On Friday evening "The Morning Glory Club", which is really a sewing club, met at the home of Mrs. O. L. Olesen of Moraine Rd., minus their thimbles, for a dancing party. Refreshments were served and a general good time enjoyed. Thirty-one guests were present.

Mr. Frank Lincoln Wean has been hostess at a series of luncheons and bridges, four of which have been given at Exmoor Club and at her home; two more will be given.

Mrs. W. J. Louderback of Moraine Rd., entertained the Embroidery club at her home at a luncheon yesterday.

BRYANT'S POETIC CAREER.

Two Facts About His Greatest Work, "Thanatopsis."

Bryant was nearly twenty-three years old when "Thanatopsis" was first printed in the North American Review. So much has been said about the astounding precocity of this poet and so many errors have accumulated around the publication of his masterpiece that it may be well to state the facts.

We know just two facts about this work. First, it was published when Bryant was almost twenty-three—not young for a poetic genius; second, that in its original published form in the North American Review it is not a remarkable poem.

It was in the 1821 edition of Bryant's poems, when the author was twenty-six of twenty-seven, that the work first appeared in its universally known form. Only a few minor changes were made after that date. This disposes of the generally accepted statement that "Thanatopsis" is a juvenile masterpiece.

Bryant was, however, a precocious poet, although his precocity is not displayed in his greatest work. One of the most extraordinary facts about his poetical career is that he actually published verse during the administration of Thomas Jefferson and during the administration of Rutherford B. Hayes. So long a period and so slender an output speak well for his fastidious taste.—North American Review.

ARMS OF ANTWERP.

They Recall the Queer Custom That Gave the City Its Name.

Historians relate that Antwerp takes its name from a castle which in Frankish times marked the site of the city. This castle was built to protect the entrance to the Scheldt and to prevent foreign traders introducing goods into the country without paying toll to the sovereign lord.

The penalty for theft and smuggling was in those days the cutting off of a hand, and, as in this case the severed members were thrown into the Scheldt, the castle came to be known as Antwerp—*or*, in Flemish, Antwerpen—"the place of hand throwing." The castle and two severed hands appear on the city arms to this day.

Antwerp cathedral's tapering spire was once compared by Charles V. to the minaret of the towers of the old Steen castle, the fortress palace of the former counts of Antwerp, break the center of the line of docks and look as stolid and formidable as in the days when the castle was necessary to guard the shipping. Here were held those great fairs which during the middle ages served to attract merchants from all parts of the civilized world.—London Standard.

BIG TREE MAIL STATION.

Renowned as the Oldest Postoffice Building in America.

The pioneers of the northwest often made use of huge trees hollowed out by fire or decay. Some of these "tree houses" they occupied as temporary residences. Others they used as shelters for stock or as primitive barns. Only one, however, ever had the distinction of being a United States post-office. That stump is in Clallam county, in the state of Washington.

In early days the settlers were widely scattered, and it was a long journey over rough trails to the postoffice. Carriers could do no more than leave mail at some central point. The big cedar stump, twelve feet in diameter and reduced to a shell by fire, was a base from which a number of trails radiated.

By common consent it became the postoffice for a wide region. The settlers put on a roof of cedar shakes and nailed boxes around its interior, which they regarded as marked with their names. There was a larger box for the outgoing mail. There were no locks, but the mails were never tampered with.

This primitive postoffice was used for more than a year. It has been carefully preserved and is annually visited by hundreds of interested sight-seers. The stump is believed to be over 2,000 years old, which clearly establishes its right to the distinction of being the oldest postoffice building in America.—Youth's Companion.

GRANDEES OF SPAIN.

Etiquette of the Hat That Differentiates the Three Ranks.

A grandee of Spain enjoys the privilege, granted him many hundreds of years ago, of remaining "covered" in the presence of his sovereign. This custom dates from the period when, according to the theory then held, the king was "the first among equals."

The ancient formula always at the coronation of the kings of old Spain was: "We, your equals, choose you to reign over us." And the king assented in this declaration of his nobles.

There was a time when all grandees of Spain wore their hats in the presence of the king, but in time the idea of caste began to prevail, even among the grandees, with the result that they were eventually divided into three classes, and these classes were distinguished by the hat etiquette.

The first class entered the royal presence covered; the second class entered uncovered, and after an advance of a few steps, put on their hats, unbidden by the king, and the third class also entered uncovered, but did not "cover" until requested to do so by the king. Then, according to the etiquette, "all were equal."

There have been grandees who were not Spaniards—notably the Duke of Wellington, upon whom the cortes conferred the honor in recognition of his services to the state.—Exchange.

Safety First.

It was a children's matinee of "Alice in Wonderland." Parties of small fry conveyed by guardian adults had been pouring in a steady stream down the aisles to settle in their seats with much flutter of short skirts and bobbing of heads and tossing back of curls.

One group consisted of mother and nurse, a gay little maid of eight or so, and a solemn little boy somewhat younger. Each child clutched a program, and on their faces was a look of rapt expectancy. As they were being into their seats the little girl pulled at her mother's sleeve and said in a loud stage whisper:

"Mother, don't you think you and Marie had better sit at the two ends to keep away the germs, you know?"—New York Post.

The Caesarina.

"Do try and get the empress to smile, Eulalia," said one of the grand duchesses to me at some court function.

But that was sooner said than done. There is not a trace of artificiality in the empress' character. She seemed unable to pretend she was enjoying herself when, in point of fact, she was fatigued and bored. Moving as the central figure of a splendid pageant, I think she was always wishing the ceremony to be at an end and to find herself free to be with her children again.—H. R. H. the Infanta Eulalia in Century.

Alphabetical.

Willis—Won't you dine with me? Gills—Thank you, I just dined. I was home and had my regular meal of apples, apricots and asparagus. Willis—Isn't that a rather odd combination? Gills—Well, you see, my wife went to a domestic science school and had to leave after the first week.—Life.

Not Guilty.

It was 4 a. m., and Bilkins crept softly into the house and removed his shoes; but as he tiptoed up the stairs one of the treads gave a loud creak.

"Is that you, John?" demanded Mrs. Bilkins from above.

"No, my love," replied Bilkins; "it's the stairs."—Illustrated Bits.

Learning About Women.

"The only way for a man to learn all about a woman is to get married."

"And study the ways of his wife, eh?"

"No! Listen to what she tells him about other women."—Boston Transcript.

Two of a Kind.

"My dear Mrs. Gadsby, I'm so glad to see you. What is the latest gossip?"

"My dear, that is just what I called to find out."—St. Louis Post-Dispatch.



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