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The Social Side of Life Local Affairs of the week

By the Observer

Mrs. Joseph E. Schoeninger was hostess on Saturday evening at a dancing party at her home in Ravinia. There were twenty guests who enjoyed dancing.

Miss Caroline Shields was hostess at a luncheon for eight on Wednesday in compliment to Mesdames Ryther and Mann, guests of Mrs. Thomas Troxell. Miss Shields was hostess again on Friday at a luncheon for eight guests complimentary to Mrs. Williams who is a guest at the Moraine Hotel.

Mr. Lionel Robertson, who is keeping house in Highland Park for the summer, entertained a party of thirty or more artist friends at a buffet supper on Saturday night. It was intended to be a lawn party, but because of the storm it was turned into a porch party. Some of the women guests gave impersonations and classic dances accompanied by very pretty music.

Mrs. Herbert Strang of Highwood entertained Campbell Chapter Guild at her home on Tuesday afternoon.

The heavy showers of Saturday evening did not keep the opera-goers from Ravinia Park, as a full house witnessed the performance of "The Secret of Suzanne" and "The Jewels of the Madonna." "The Secret" was well received and the umbrella "take off" on the weather was highly amusing. Those singing roles in the first part of the program were: Beatrice La Palme, Countess Gil, Louis Kreidler, Count Gil, Phil Fein, Sante, Josef, Pasternack led the orchestra. Those in the second part were: Beatrice La Palme, Malieila, Morgan Kingston, Gennaro, Louis Kreidler, Rafaele, and Cordelia Latham, Carmela, with Ernest Knock conducting.

Mrs. Mather Smith was hostess Saturday evening at Exmoor Country Club for twelve guests at a dinner-dance. The affair was complimentary to Mrs. F. Ward Wood who is a guest at the Mather Smith residence, and Mrs. Joseph E. Long who was a guest at the John Greenville Mott residence.

Mrs. Samuel Hastings and Mrs. Roland Hastings will be hostesses tomorrow at luncheon and bridge for sixty guests. The decorations will be garden flowers.

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Johnson of Irving Park, Chicago, announced the engagement of their daughter Grace to Mr. Henry Kelso Coale Jr., son of Mr. Henry K. Coale of this city.

Mrs. Raymond Carmen of Rogers Park opened her home on Friday afternoon for a musicale for the benefit of the Ravinia Club. Mrs. W. A. Alexander of this city, sang a group of soprano solos.

Over one hundred children from Glencoe appeared in a playette "Cinderella in Flowerland," on Thursday afternoon at Ravinia Park. A full pavilion of excited little folks witnessed the play which was indeed a fantasy of song and lively acting. The gay color of the costumes combined with the sweet songs and pretty sentiment of the lines given by the children, made a charming setting for the otherwise dull day.

Fort Sheridan

The shooting tryout is completed, and a team of fifteen men who have been chosen, will leave the fort the end of September to compete in the national matches at Jacksonville, Fla. Sargeant Adams is in command of the team. On Friday evening the officers club gave a very pretty hop complimentary to the rifle team.

Mrs. W. C. Rogers was hostess on Friday evening to fourteen guests at a dinner party, preceding the officers hop.

Mrs. Young has as her guest this week Miss Smith of Chicago.

Mrs. F. E. Davis has as her guest this week Captain and Mrs. Albert King from Fort Yellowstone who are enroute to Philadelphia.

Mrs. J. A. Emery of Bloomfield Ind. is the guest of her son Lieutenant Emery.

Much commotion is being caused at the fort at the present time, because of the change which the 7th infantry is about to make. On the 26th of Aug. the infantry will sail from Galveston Texas and go by way of the Panama canal to the Philippines where they will remain for two years. It has been rumored that the 13th infantry will come to the fort, but no official word has been received.

MY ODD UNCLE

By DWIGHT NORWOOD

My uncle's life had been blighted by an ill assorted marriage. In every other respect he was to be envied or would have been had it not been for his marriage. He was prosperous in business affairs and accumulated a fortune. But no children were born to him during the brief period of his marriage, and after his separation from his wife he never entered upon a second matrimonial adventure.

I was his only male relative, and after hesitating for some time between leaving his property in trust for a philanthropic work and leaving it to me he finally came to the conclusion to allow it to accumulate through my lifetime. I to establish the foundation that he intended. But this plan was contingent on my agreeing not to marry.

His proposition to me: If accepted, would give me every comfort and luxury so long as I lived, but would deprive me of wife and children. I did not agree with my uncle on the subject of matrimony because I knew that, though a splendid man, he must be a very hard man to get on with. He seemed to be fond of me, and if I wanted anything I had only to ask him for it. Yet I dared not oppose him in any of his prejudices. The difference between me and the wife from whom he separated was that I understood him and had the tact to manage him, while she failed in both these respects. My aunt was much younger than my uncle—she was but little my senior—and, being conscious of her inability to get on with him, came to rely on me to help her manage him when a deadlock came between them. I was born old and never given to acting upon impulse, while she was sensitive and had no faculty for going around a stone wall instead of over it.

My uncle's proposition—which ignored my aunt—placed me in the position of taking what belonged rightfully to her. In making my decision I was influenced far more by what was my duty to her than to carry out my uncle's intentions.

I accepted the condition, and my uncle made his will, leaving his property in trust to me. I to have so much of the income as I chose to appropriate to myself, but in consideration of this I gave my word to him that I would never marry, and the will stipulated that in case I did marry the property was to pass out of my hands and the foundation was to be established. Under this condition it would be practically impossible for me to marry, one of the reasons being that I would be obliged to drop from allance to poverty, a very unpleasant fall.

Before acceding to my uncle's wishes I asked my aunt if she would disapprove of my doing so, and she told me that since she could not benefit by her husband's property she preferred that I should do so. However, before accepting the proposition I made bold to tell him plainly that his separation from his wife was principally his own fault and that he was doing her a great injustice to leave her property, or rather, its income, to me instead of to her. I expected that this would alter his determination, but was surprised that it had no effect whatever to deter him from his purpose. In fact, it seemed to confirm him in it.

I did not promise not to turn over a part of the income from his estate to his wife. My privilege to do so would have satisfied me with the position I assumed had it not been that I was pledged to celibacy. Moreover, there was a woman whom I wished to marry. When the papers had been signed I informed my uncle of this fact, though I did not tell him who that woman was. He merely said, "You should thank me, my boy, for saving you from a life of misery."

Upon the completion of the agreement my uncle gave me the position of his right hand man that I might be prepared to manage his estate after his death. He was certainly a very queer man, and no one could tell what he would do. Two years after our compact he was taken suddenly ill. He called for me and said:

"I have been told by my doctor that I have but a few days at most to live. The approach of death has made a change in my feelings. It is a part of a new plan I have made that you should marry."

I looked at him in astonishment. When I had recovered from my surprise I said to him:

"If I marry there is but one woman in the world I will make my wife."

"You will marry the woman I intend you shall marry or I will make a new will, leaving you out in the cold."

He was very weak, and I knew there was no time to waste.

"Whom do you require that I shall marry?" I asked.

"The woman whose life I have made miserable."

My heart came up into my throat, but I controlled my expression of my emotion.

"Have you obtained her consent?"

"Yes."

"Very well, I will not stand in the way of your doing this last act of justice."

I have always been balanced between two opinions as to the prime motive of my uncle's act. Either he was so perverse that he wished to marry me to a woman I did not love, thus separating me from one I did love, or he had observed the love that had sprung up between me and the woman he had put away. But to do him justice I believe he was repentant toward her.

"HONOR" CONVICTS DECAMP

Three, One of Them Murderer, Escape Illinois Penitentiary.

Joliet, Ill., Aug. 10.—Three men, one of them a murderer sentenced for life, escaped from the honor farm at the state penitentiary late in the evening. Their absence was not noted for about an hour, when an alarm was sent out and guards immediately took up the trail. The men are: David Anderson, sentenced for life for murder of Patrick Callahan, a Chicago policeman; Harry Patterson, Vandalia, indeterminate sentence up to twenty years; C. E. Barlow, Bloomington, indeterminate sentence, one to ten years.

Guards in charge of the farm of the Joliet penitentiary when three "honor" convicts escaped, were ordered suspended by Gov. Dunne, who wired Acting Warden Lawrence Ryan to put reliable men in charge of the farm immediately.

BRITISH BUY MORE HORSES

Resume Purchases in East St. Louis of War Animals.

East St. Louis, Ill., Aug. 10.—Agents of the British war department resumed the purchase of war horses at the National stock yards here.

The daily purchase of 200 horses were stopped about a week ago, because of the lack of sufficient transports at Newport News for conveying the animals to England.

BELLES ARE KIDNAPED FROM INSANE ASYLUM

Police Seek Two Women Taken Away in Automobile.

Kankakee, Ill., Aug. 10.—Authorities in all the counties adjoining Kankakee and also in Cook and Coles counties are searching for an automobile, believed to contain the two prettiest female patients at the Kankakee state hospital, and their male companions, who are alleged to have kidnaped them from the institution.

The patients are: Edith House, 21 years old, committed from Mattoon, Coles county in 1914, and Dorothea Reese, 24 years, committed from Champaign, Kankakee county in 1913. The latter originally hailed from Cook county and prior to her commitment to the local institution, was a bareback rider with a circus.

The girls were not classed as insane patients, according to Dr. Cohn, assistant superintendent of the institution, but rather, were classed as feeble-minded persons and were allowed liberties which other patients would not be permitted.

DUNNE OUSTS DENTAL MEN

Case of Drs. Cox and Smith Transmitted to Prosecutor.

Springfield, Ill., Aug. 10.—Dr. N. W. Cox of Cairo and Dr. B. A. Smith of Champaign were removed from the state board of dental examiners by Gov. Dunne, and face prosecution on charges of bribery in Cook county. A report of the alleged irregularities of the dentists which caused the governor to act was transmitted to the attorney general, who in turn will request State's Attorney Hyne to act on a charge involving Chicagoans.

Gov. Dunne in removing Drs. Cox and Smith made the following statement: "In the answer filed by Drs. Cox and Smith, denial is made of all the charges of bribery and corruption. In their answer, however, they virtually admit the charge of intoxication and other serious indiscretions. These admissions alone, if there were nothing else, justifies their removal from office."

BOTH SHOT BY SAME PISTOL

Wounded Man Turns Pistol on Assailant—Both May Die.

Herrin, Ill., Aug. 10.—John Semos and James Fels were probably mortally wounded here in a pistol duel in the confectionery store of Gus Matatas on one of the principal streets of Herrin.

The shooting took place over Semos' estranged wife. Semos entered the store alone, and found Fels and Mrs. Semos seated at a table eating ice cream. Semos immediately drew an automatic pistol from his pocket and shot Fels four times. Fels, though dangerously wounded, struggled with his assailant, knocked him to the floor, wrested the weapon from him and fired two bullets into Semos' body. Both men will probably die.

No Ban on Illinois Cattle

Springfield, Ill., Aug. 10.—The Illinois commission to the Panama-Pacific exposition in San Francisco circulated a bulletin to the live stock interests of the state declaring erroneous the bulletin issued July 28, withdrawing the prize offered for Illinois cattle at the fair.

Isaac A. Buckingham Dies

Decatur, Ill., Aug. 10.—Isaac A. Buckingham, 75, one of the best known Illinois demagogue and former state and city attorney, died suddenly of heart failure.



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