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**SOCIAL ACTIVITY**

Announcement is made of the marriage of Mrs. Janet Swanson and Mr. David E. Johnson, which took place Wednesday, November 16th. Mr. and Mrs. Johnson are residing at 314 N. Green Bay road.

Miss Florence Clow was hostess to the Jolly Girls' club at her home last Thursday evening.

Miss Edith Muench was hostess to the Sewing club last evening.

Mrs. Martin C. Hart of Central avenue, entertained several friends at a card party last Thursday afternoon. Mrs. Sewald T. Rebling and Mrs. Geo. Bowden were the prize winners. A very enjoyable afternoon was spent by all present.

Field Clerk and Mrs. M. D. Appleman announce the marriage of their daughter, Mildred, to Oliver B. Colgate of Cleves, Ohio, which took place Wednesday, Nov. 16. The ceremony was performed by Chaplain Griffis of Fort Sheridan.

Mrs. Earl Fritsch entertained the Sewing circle of the Philatheas class of the U. E. church on Monday evening.

Mrs. Ward W. Willits entertained forty-seven guests at tea from 4 to 7 Tuesday to meet her daughters, the Misses Helen and Caroline Willits. On December 17th she will give a tea dance at the Webster hotel, Chicago, for her daughters.

Little Billie Decker entertained in honor of his fifth birthday anniversary at a dinner Sunday evening.

Several dinner parties will be given this evening (Thursday) preceding the Thanksgiving dance at the Highland Park club. Among those entertaining are Mrs. H. H. Doty and Mrs. H. A. Parkip.

**OSSOLI CLUB HEARS MRS. REGINALD OWEN**

AT MEETING TUESDAY

Daughter of William Jennings Bryan Speaks on "Cairo" or "The Arabian Nights"

Mrs. Reginald Owen, the daughter of William Jennings Bryan, was the speaker at the Ossoli Club meeting Tuesday afternoon. Her subject was "Cairo — or the Modern Arabian Nights". Mrs. Owen has visited Cairo on many occasions and for three years lived in that ancient city.

In her childhood days in Nebraska she used to lie face downward on the floor in front of the fire place, reading the Arabian Nights, becoming so absorbed, she failed to hear, or at least to respond, to her mother's call to help with the household duties. Later when she was a resident of Cairo, the Arabian Nights were a present reality and the Arabs, their streets, their bazaars and their coffee houses were far more interesting to her than the European life on the veranda at Sheppard's or the afternoon teas at the country club.

Residing there for such a long period, they established a residence and set up housekeeping, maintaining a butler, an assistant butler, a male cook, an assistant cook and a gardener, paying this rather large retinue the sum of \$40.00 per month.

One of the interesting phases of Arabic city life, is the professional letter-writers, with which one side of the bazaar street is lined, these writers conduct the correspondence of the natives, and owing to the limited knowledge of the English language, many comical errors are made.

When Mrs. Owen's butler wished to communicate with her, instead of asking for an interview, he employed a letter-writer, and she was always receiving these written messages. One was addressed to "Honored Lady", the intention being "Honored Lady". A servant failing to appear for his work, sent Mrs. Owen a note, saying "My wife has run

away with a man. My God! I'm alone."

Servants are employed by the wealthy, not only to work, but to sit in idleness around the entrance gate, thereby giving an air of opulence to the place. This is especially true at the embassies where they are so gorgeously arrayed that they have been dubbed the "Lion Tamers".

She tells of one such Arab escorting her through the crowded streets, preceding her, swaying his body as he walked, so that his baggy trousers rhythmically swung from side to side, as he waved his scimitar to disperse the people.

Her favorite shop was where the perfume was sold, and as she and her friends sat at coffee, the proprietor would touch them with a drop of each of the various perfumes, and then on top of their coffee place a drop of Ambergris. This latter perfume is a product of the whale, of diseased whales it is said, very rare and very valuable, so that a drop in the coffee was the extreme of courtousness.

The Arabs are slow to adopt modern methods — cannot see why time-saving machinery is used, why save time? Save it for what? They cannot understand why one goes to a horse-race; they say "We know one horse can run faster than the other, so why go to see it?"

Shopping there is not the simple matter it is with us. Hours are consumed, sometimes days, in the purchase of an article. One goes into a bazaar, meets the proprietor, who asks for the health of his visitor, formalities are exchanged, they have coffee together, then he quotes — say a table-cloth. It belonged to his father, therefore highly prized, but he will sell cheap because he so much admires his customer, yes, he will let it go for the paltry sum of thirty dollars. The visitor leaves, and the price is greatly reduced, for him only, finally an offer of seventy-five cents secures the cloth, and even then one may be cheated.

When one goes shopping, guides spring up from everywhere and from nowhere, to point out the shopping places, to suggest the most desirable booths, etc., and continue to accompany one, even when told their services are not needed. Then, if anything is purchased the guide later receives a commission from the merchant. Mrs. Owen took a friend to a shop and after a purchase had been made, tried the experiment of demand

ing a commission by saying "Now I want my bakshick." The store-keeper was quick to see the point and offered her a purse which she refused, saying it was not sufficient to compensate her for her service in bringing him such a good customer, whereupon he added other articles, one by one, until she eventually left with something of real value.

Beggars abound everywhere and are persistent in their demands. If one is able to say in Arabic what is equivalent to "May Allah give you alms for I am not able to do so," the beggar turns courteously away. However the exclamation "Imshi," meaning "get out" has the same effect of disposing of him, but not so courteously.

The funeral parades are of interest to the tourist; there are led by blind men, chanting as they walk, then come bearers carrying what rest to the tourist; these are led by a syrup jug. Mrs. Owen could never find out the significance of these, though she made many inquiries. The body of the deceased is carried in a rough box, wrapped in a woolen shawl; this is the custom even among the aristocracy, the body of the Pasha's sister being carried in the same way. Hired mourners riding in wagons, their hands dyed blue and wearing blue neck scarfs, wail and weep; they may stop long enough for coffee and cigarettes, and then once more take up their weeping and mourning.

Wedding processions are likewise interesting, but also pathetic, the custom being for the bride to put her household belongings, furniture, bedding, etc., on a wagon, and with a band of music in front, escort her possessions through the streets to her future home. She rides in a closed carriage, peeping out to watch the safety of her belongings. The groom celebrates by giving a bachelor party to his friends; in a tent of brilliant patchwork, he receives; the band plays, dancing girls entertain, coffee and cigarettes are served, there is much gaiety, much good natured badinage and the celebration is a joyful occasion.

While one may live in Cairo, it is not possible to know the inner lives of the natives; one knows them only in the street, the bazaars and the coffee houses, but cannot penetrate the homes.

One of the strongest impressions of her life there, Mrs. Owen says, is a visit to the top of a minaret on an old mosque at sunset. The winding stairs are on the outside of the tower and each turn in the stairs gives one a different view of the city. There is a fascination, a lure, that is indescribable and indefinable; she had often felt it herself and had noticed the same effect upon others, so she used to invite her friends in a casual manner, to climb the minaret with her at sunset, just to see if they too would fall under the spell, and it never failed. A sour Scotchman would soften and grow imaginative, a jolly rollicking nature become subdued; stern soldiers grow wistful, and one of these latter, going up with her

during the war, looked out over the scene below and said "And men can fight and kill each other." The quadrangle in which the mosque stands was empty, a hush was over all things, the housetops standing out far below, to the right the Nile, like a sinuous serpent lazily winding its way to the seas, in the distance the Pyramids, ruins of centuries, the silent Sphinx, one by one the lights appearing in the houses, one by one, the stars showing forth, and always the aloofness—the detachment from material things, and the indefinable lure—the minaret at sundown.

**PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

The church school will begin at 9 o'clock next Sunday morning.

Morning service at 11 o'clock. Miss Marion Moseley, who has just returned from her second summer with the Grenfell mission, will speak at the Young People's society meeting on "The Needs of Labrador."

There will be a preparatory service in the lecture room next Wednesday evening at 8 o'clock.

The Camp Fire girls will meet in the parish house at 11 o'clock Saturday morning.

**UNITED EVANGELICAL**

Rev. J. H. Keagle, pastor.

The members of this church are urged to attend the union service at the Presbyterian church at 10:00 a. m. Thanksgiving day, at which the Rev. Bihler of the Episcopal church will deliver the sermon.

On Friday evening the choir will meet at the church to begin practice on the cantata for Christmas.

The Sunday school will convene at the regular hour, 9:30 a. m., November 27th, and will study "Paul's Voyage and Shipwreck." At 10:45 the pastor will preach the regular morning sermon, and there will be special music by the choir.

In the afternoon a group of young people in charge of Miss Edna Schulz, will visit and sing for a number of shut-ins. Miss Schulz will appreciate being notified of any who would like to have the group call on them.

As usual there will be a fifteen-minute prayer service immediately preceding the Christian Endeavor service at 6:45 p. m. The Missionary committee will have charge of the meeting and will discuss "Christian Progress Among the Immigrants."

The regular evening service of song and sermon will begin at 7:30 p. m. The public is most cordially invited to attend all the services in this church.

Next week the teachers' training class will meet at the church on Tuesday evening; the regular prayer-meeting will be at 7:45 p. m. Wednesday, and the choir will practice on Thursday evening at 8:00.

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