

THINKS GRAIL STORY STARTED IN IRELAND

IS PROFESSOR'S OPINION

Dr. Brown of Northwestern Has Made Study of Ancient and Modern Tales on This Subject

From old manuscripts in the original Gaelic in the libraries of Dublin, Dr. A. C. L. Brown, professor of English in Northwestern university, has collected evidence which tends to show that the story of the Holy Grail was based on ancient Celtic folk lore talents and was not of Christian origin. Dr. Brown has just returned from a six months' leave of absence granted him by the university to make a study in the libraries of Dublin, Edinburgh, London and Paris of the origin of the legend of the Grail.

Numerous attempts have been made to construct a theory of the origin of the Grail story. Some scholars have been of the opinion that the Grail was from the first a purely Christian vessel which had accidentally and in a way never explained fully acquired certain folk lore characteristics; others have held that the story was based on Celtic folk lore and that its Christian development was a late feature.

From Malory's Tales

The story of the Holy Grail is known mainly to English readers through Malory's retelling of the French romances, where it is the cup or chalice of the Last Supper in which the blood from the wounds of the crucified Savior has been miraculously preserved. But in the original romances there is an extraordinary diversity of statement as to the nature and origin of the Grail.

"In the libraries of Dublin, Edinburgh, Paris and London, I examined manuscripts containing the oldest forms of the Grail story," said Dr. Brown. "The oldest known form of the legend appeared in France in 1170, took the world of letters by storm, and has continued to grow and prosper in all European countries. But the question where the legend came from previous to its appearance in France almost eight hundred years ago is one of the great problems of literature."

"Scholars, particularly in France, Italian and German universities, have been working on this problem for more than fifty years, but they have not discovered much that is certain. I believe I have found in the libraries of Ireland, England and France material which will enable me to go farther, and which throws new light on the Grail legend and tends to show that it was based on stories of ancient Ireland."

No Irish Grail

"There were no Grail stories in Irish. My theory is that the legend was based on Irish stories of a different character, but which gave rise to the French stories of the Holy Grail. The French stories grew out of these old Celtic myths."

"Most writers of the Grail have been chiefly familiar with versions of the story like those told by Wagner in 'Parsifal,' and Tennyson in 'Idylls of the King.' Many English poets besides Tennyson, among them Hawker and William Morris, have told the legend of the Holy Grail, and American poets have not escaped its charm. The vitality of the legend is astonishing. It is one of the most interesting themes in literature."

"In all of these versions, however, it is undeniably a Christian legend. Most books, therefore, convey the idea that the Grail story was from the beginning fashioned by the church. On the other hand, an old tradition tells that the Grail was originally a heathen story and came from Celtic lands. My study of old Gaelic manuscripts confirms the idea that this tradition is correct and that the story of the Holy Grail was of heathen and not Christian origin."

Irish Best Story Tellers

"A thousand years ago the Irish were the best story tellers in the world, and they possessed a literature which was superior to the literature of England and even view with that of France. The Irish had a language of their own, rich in synonyms and peculiarly adapted to poetry."

"The material I have gathered is not yet arranged. I went from library to library in Dublin, Edinburgh, London and Paris making notes on the various Grail stories. It will take me some time to assemble this mass of material and present my findings in a logical way. I have devoted a lifetime to this work, and I hope I have found in the old Gaelic manuscripts some new light on the hidden sources of the Grail. Some of the manuscripts are untranslated. In reading some of these untranslated manuscripts I met with the generous assistance of Irish scholars."

While in Ireland, Professor Brown also made a study of modern Irish, and purchased for the Newberry library in Chicago many books in modern Irish and Gaelic.

PUDDING ORGIES

Over steamed pudding doesn't ruin a stomach any more than one bluebird indicates spring. But a diet of steamed puddings would probably insure work for the doctor as sure as a succession of northbound bluebirds beams the millinery trade.—Women's Home Companion.

HUMANE METHOD OF DISPATCHING CATS

American Humane Society Gives Suggestions Regarding Extermination

At the close of the vacation season many cats and dogs are found abandoned around all the summer resort colonies. The poor creatures starve to death or become wild and a menace to themselves and the community if left uncared for.

In those communities where there is a humane society it is a comparatively easy matter for the permanent residents to dispose of them by catching them and then notifying the humane society to call, but where there is no humane society the cats may be chloroformed and saved a great deal of suffering. The following suggestions will be helpful for those who are obliged to destroy cats or kittens.

Kittens may be humanely drowned by placing them in a partially filled pail of luke warm water in which another pail may be fitted to hold the kittens under water.

Grown cats may be chloroformed. Feed the cat to keep it quiet. While cat is eating place box over it in which a piece of cotton, sponge or cloth, saturated about six inches above the floor. Weight box to prevent overturning. Leave for an hour, then place head of animal in pail of water.

Animals should not be killed in the presence of children.

IOWA EDITOR DOUBTS "POOR FARMER" TALK

Dante Pierce, of Iowa, editor, agriculturist and publicist, who in his day has grown red in the face over farm conditions, has begun to wonder, and does it to the extent of a half column in the Iowa Homestead, as to whether Iowa farmers are not a little weary of hearing a gospel "based on the idea that they are hopelessly insolvent and headed for peasantry."

In a recent issue of the Homestead, Dante wrote that "when more than 400,000 persons, most of them farmers and their wives, are able to visit the Iowa state fair in ten days' time, there is reason to believe that conditions are far from desperate." Mr. Pierce was also aroused by the fact that while not more than 500 attended the free address on farm relief legislation which was being given on the fair grounds by Congressman Charles Brand of Ohio, some fifteen thousand paid from fifty cents to a dollar to watch the horse races and hear Sousa's band.

HUNTING SEASON OPENED OCTOBER 1

FEDERAL PROCLAMATION

Extension of Closed Season Is Provided for by This Means and Hunters are Warned in All States

Proclamation warning hunters that the opening of the shooting season for migratory birds, ducks, geese, brant, coots and snipe is October 1, instead of September 16, was issued here today by William J. Stratton, director of the State Department of Conservation.

While the Illinois Game Code gives the open season for taking migratory birds as September 16 to December 31, it also provides that the Illinois law must comply with the federal regulations.

Change in Date

This change of the opening date of the season from September 16 to October 1 was made by proclamation by the federal government. No action was taken by the Illinois legislature or the Director of Conservation in making this change of dates.

Wood ducks are not protected by the Illinois Game Code. However, the Federal Migratory Bird law provides that wood ducks shall not be killed at any time. Director Stratton, in compliance with these regulations, has issued orders to all wardens to insist upon strict observance of this protection of wood ducks.

Issues Warning

Director Stratton, in his warning, states that the greatest possible publicity was being given these changes, so that none of the 300,000 hunters licensed by the state would violate these regulations through lack of information. State, as well as federal wardens, have received instructions to insist upon strict observance of open season dates as well as other restrictions.

The high points covering the hunting of these birds are: Open season October 1 to January 15. Daily bag limit, ducks 15, geese 8, brant 8, coots 15.

Shooting before sunrise or after sunset or from a blind beyond line of natural cover, or from a power or sail boat is unlawful. The use of rifle or swivel gun, net or trap, sneak boat or sink boat, is also prohibited.

NO WONDER

It all depends on the point of view. Doubtless parrots marvel at the way humans imitate their speech.—Farm & Fireside.

NOTICE OF LETTING CONTRACT
ASSESSMENT NO. 282
BOARD OF LOCAL IMPROVEMENTS OF THE CITY OF HIGHLAND PARK
 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that bids will be received for the construction of a concrete system of water mains in Winthrop Road, Devonshire Road and Devonshire Court, all in the City of Highland Park, County of Lake and State of Illinois, in a whole in accordance with the ordinance therefor.

Said bids will be received by the Board of Local Improvements at its office in the City Hall, Highland Park, Illinois, until 5:15 o'clock P.M. on the 24th day of October, 1927, at which time and place they will be publicly opened and read.

The specifications and blank proposals will be furnished at the office of the Board of Local Improvements in the City Hall of said City.

The contractor will be paid in bonds, which bonds will draw interest at the rate of six (6) per cent per annum.

The successful bidder for the construction of said improvement will be required to enter into bond, in sum equal to one-third of the amount of his or their bid with sureties to be approved by the President of the Board of Local Improvements when entering into the contract for the construction of said improvement.

All proposals or bids must be accompanied by a certified check payable to the President of the Board of Local Improvements of the City of Highland Park for the sum of not less than ten (10) per cent of the aggregate of the proposal.

Said proposal must be delivered to the President of the Board of Local Improvements in open session of said Board at the time and place fixed herein for the opening of the same.

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No proposal or bid will be considered unless accompanied by check herein provided. The Board of Local Improvements reserves the right to reject any or all bids if they deem it best for the public good.
 DEJAMER F. LEWIS,
 WM. J. BROWN,
 LYLE GOUBLEY,
 JULIUS ZIMMER,
 Board of Local Improvements,
 City of Highland Park. 22-25

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