

DR. ROBINSON SPEAKS ON IMPORTANCE OF HISTORY

Dr. James Harvey Robinson, noted lecturer, scientist, thinker and writer of text books, in his address before the closing session of the State Literary and Historical associations on the evening of December 6 outlined the true importance of the study of history.

He introduced his subject with a definition of what history really is. History, he says, is nothing more than an extension of memory. The memory is but a strange sense of recalling things which will guide our conduct in the future. To the materialist history is a process of memory as a process of mere living. History as a background is essential to all great thinkers and adventurers of thought, because without it man would be helpless in analyzing human thought. It is through memory that one is able to know what has been done in the past. This Dr. Robinson calls the genetic approach, i. e., how things came about. This angle which explains how everything came about influences a person's viewpoint on questions. This is called the historical attitude and is the first importance of the study of history upon human individuals.

The second importance of the study and value of history and one which is far more grave and alarming at the present time is the value which comes from the study of history by which one gains a degree of freedom which enables one to adequately give some just criticism. This, the speaker thinks is one of the outstanding needs of the present thought. Criticism is the direct opposite of prejudice. Prejudice is seen in one's direct, hasty and domatic impression of whether a thing is absolutely right or wrong. A prejudiced person never deliberates, but hastily wants things settled on a purely animal basis. In a world as changing as ours, it is necessary to deliberate, to use the thinking power, to make a selection and this involves criticism in the true sense of the word. It is the claim of some that history should be treated from an entirely impartial and objective viewpoint. With this Dr. Robinson disagrees, for he says that objective history is history without an objective, the historian always has a choice of what he is going to relate. A historian is forced to make a selection of material and when he does so he unconsciously writes a subjective book. No book makes itself, but a book, like an art, must have a master mind behind it, consequently an objective book is of little value.

Dr. Robinson then pointed out the extent to which this unjust criticism which is brought about through lack of deliberation influences the public at large. The value of a book in certain communities depends upon the prejudice of the community which read it. The contention used to be between Catholics and Protestants, but in this contemporary age the struggle is waged between the forces of evolution and fundamentalism. Critics are the type which generally see in all histories some attack on insidious propaganda and who for the most part do not know any more history than the slight reminiscences of the text books they used in their early school days. Most critics are of this prej-

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CHRISTMAS CUSTOMS BROUGHT OUT IN CHAPEL

SAMARCAND CHRISTMAS STOCKINGS AND Y. W. C. A. BAZAAR EXPLAINED IN CHAPEL WEDNESDAY

The chapel service last Wednesday morning was in charge of the college Y. W. C. A. The purpose of this service was to bring to the minds of the Meredith girls two Christmas customs that were long ago established by the organization here.

One of these customs is that of sending each girl at Samarcan Manor a Christmas stocking filled with fruit, small gifts, many good wishes and much Christmas cheer. Dr. Dixon Carroll gave a very interesting talk on Samarcan. She gave some idea of the wonderful work being done by this institution and some idea too, of the life of the girls there. They are well cared for, given many opportunities and many of them are happier than ever before in their lives. They need no help from us but the little bit of the outside world that comes with the Christmas stockings is indeed welcome and Dr. Dixon Carroll commended the spirit in the girls of the college that makes them want to share with others.

The Durham Hosiery Mills always gives the hose. We are expecting the names of the girls and the hose in a few days and the help and co-operation of each girl is asked.

The second Christmas custom in the Y. W. C. A. is the bazaar. The proceeds of this bazaar go to pay the expenses of the officers of the organization to Blue Ridge in the Spring. The girls donate the gifts and they are sold in the "Y" room. The bazaar is to be held on Wednesday afternoon, December 17. Again the co-operation of each girl is asked. This will be a great occasion and our delegation at Blue Ridge will be larger than ever before.

ASTRO'S GIVE UNIQUE PROGRAM

Quite an innovation in the way of programs was the one planned by the Literary groups of the Astrotekton Literary Society for the meeting Satur-

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NELL BATTLE LEWIS GIVES TALK IN CLUB

THE NEWSPAPER COLUMN THEME OF MISS LEWIS'S TALK BEFORE ENGLISH CLUB

On Thursday night at the regular meeting hour the Colton English Club enjoyed a rare treat in the form of a talk by Miss Nell Battle Lewis. She chose for her subject "The Newspaper Column," a subject with which she is thoroughly familiar, being the author of the very successful column of the *News and Observer*, "Incidentally." Though she protested that hers was not to be a speech, as she had had no time to prepare one, her discourse showed an understanding and wealth of knowledge that no amount of immediate preparation could have given it.

The newspaper column—that column of vivacity, wit and personality which is an important innovation in modern newspapers—she said, is growing in popularity and interest. It has arisen as a result of the standardization and growing impersonality in the newspapers of the day. The previous generation was blessed with a system of newspaper writing that allowed a powerful editor to stamp his own personality into his paper, but today such a case is the rare exception. While the new system has many advantages there is a need for the expression of personality and the columnist answers this need.

The history of the column as Miss Lewis gave it was very interesting. Among its forerunners she named that illustrious product of the seventeenth century, the "Spectator" which also gave rise to the informal essay. Among the earliest and most famous columnists was the beloved poet of childhood, Eugene Field who used this as one medium of expression for his versatile genius. She also mentioned other notable columnists such as George Ade and Bert Taylor.

Miss Lewis's discussion of five great modern columnists was most interesting. These she discussed with a familiarity that showed a thorough knowledge of their various styles and personalities as writers. The interest evinced by her hearers at this point indicates that the *New York World* will soon have several new subscribers.

After her talk on the column and its contributors she turned her attention to

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CONCERT BY TRINITY MUSIC CLUBS GIVEN AT MEREDITH SATURDAY

PHILARETIANS PRESENT CLEVER ONE ACT PLAY

UNSUSPECTED HISTORIC ABILITY DISCOVERED IN PHI SOCIETY

To say that the Philaretians were well entertained Saturday night by the dramatic group would express it only mildly. The program was indeed a success. They presented a one act play, "It Ain't My Fault." The characters were:

Madam DeKalb, Principal of the DeKalb School—*Mary Misenheimer*.

Elsie Morton, pupil at the DeKalb School—*Emily Check*.

Nettie Smith, the new pupil—*Margaret Helms*.

Tom Chester, Nettie's fiance—*Odessia Arnette*.

Jimmie Blake, the reporter—*Helen Thompson*.

Noah Lott, country boy who just "does things"—*Alberta Harris*.

Jimmie Blake, a reporter from *The Enquirer*, tries to get an interview at the DeKalb School with Elsie Morton, daughter of a Wall Stree celebrity, who has apparently disappeared. Jimmie is at a loss as to how to meet Miss Morton; he speaks to Noah, who is on his way to meet the new pupil, Nettie Smith, but is late as usual. Nettie arrives accompanied by her fiance, Tom, who convinces her that she will be happier as his wife than in school. Jimmie overhears their discussion and also discovers that Nettie's bag and his are similar, and he exchanges them. Tom's description of his bungalow finally wins Nettie and she agrees to elope; they immediately go for the marriage license. Later Jimmie appears wearing Nettie's garments and posing as the new pupil, thus gaining an interview with Elsie, who tells him where her father is. A general mixup follows when Nettie and Tom return and discover the mistake made in the bags. Jimmie then appears in his own clothes and straightens out matters. To win Elsie's friendship he destroys his report to *The Enquirer*, and the result is two weddings instead of just one.

The parts were all well acted, the players showing ability which did

The Trinity Musical clubs, consisting of Glee Club, Symphony Orchestra, Syncopating Seven, String Quintette and Saxophone Quartette, gave a most interesting concert in the college auditorium Saturday night, December 6, under the auspices of the Senior Class. The program was very artistically arranged, having quite a variety of selections from the various organizations included in the Musical Club. Selections from the great composers, Bach, Rachmaninoff, Grieg and Bela were of special delight. The overtures by the Symphony Orchestra were especially good. The chorale "Grant Us to do with Zeal" and "On the Sea," both by Bach, were very artistically and delightfully sung by the Glee Club.

Of a more modern character and of a lighter character were the numbers by the Saxophone Quartette, String Quintette and Syncopating Seven. Mr. Frank Warner, one of the Syncopating Seven, syncopated in a very entertaining and unusual manner on the tenor banjo. Again the audience was delighted and entertained by Mr. Warner in the String Quintette. Here he did wonders with the banjo uke played as an accompaniment to his charming songs. The audience showed its approval by a continuance of encores for Mr. Warner until he was forced to render "Good By Forever" in self defense.

The soloists, W. B. Brown, baritone; Richard Salsbury, piano; J. S. Bell, flute, were exceedingly entertaining. Mr. Salsbury's number, "C Sharp Prelude," by Rachmaninoff, showed very good interpretation as well as good technique on part of the performer. Equally as well did he render one of Chopin's waltzes as an encore.

The club was very zealous with encores and really seemed to derive real pleasure in giving their program to such an appreciative audience. "Trinity," the closing song, was sung by the entire club with a manifestation of college spirit that was indeed admirable. This was followed with one of the Trinity yells ending with "Meredith! Meredith! Meredith!" and thus a most delightful program came to a close.

After the performance the boys were invited to the parlors for an informal reception given by the Senior Class. It was very informal and naturally it did not take long for the girls and boys to become acquainted. Ice cream and cake was served and when the bus whistle blew and the time came to leave none of the visitors seemed anxious to go. We all voted that the evening had been a grand success and hoped that the Trinity Musical clubs would come to Meredith again.

The following program was given:
Overture—*Suppe*—Symphony Orchestra.

Chorale—"Grant Us to Do With Zeal," *Bach*—Glee Club.

Piano Solo—Prelude in C Sharp Minor—*Rachmaninoff*—Mr. Salsbury.

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credit, not only to Philaretia, but also to themselves. Certainly no one would doubt the effectiveness of this program had they been in the vicinity of Meredith during the time it was being presented. Philaretia does not lack a sense of humor nor the ability to arouse that priceless characteristic.



The Art Education Girl Prepares for Christmas