

THE STORY OF RESCUE OF A LITERATURE

(By John Witherspoon Du Bose in Birmingham Age-Herald.)

Author: "Life and Times of Yancey", "Life and Times of Governor Sanford", "General Joseph Wheeler and The Army of Tennessee."

Twenty years ago there was no parallel to this story. While the genius of commercialism seems enthroned over the mind and heart of the generation and socialism rises to claim for itself the part and function and remedy, a pure and genuine literature is brought forward to try conclusions. Whatever letters may be worth to the consciousness of organized society, the literature here discussed, recent as is its discovery, must be allowed an essential factor in the estimate.

It is proposed because of well known anxiety of students of history, for expansion of resources of that cult, to tell of a personal attainment which, thus early in its place, has ripened into an intellectual and moral affinity, north and south, of pronounced adaptation.

The mere fact that a young Southern born man, bred on a farm, should go to the great Northern city, without friends there, without money, yet prosper, even exceedingly, may not be in itself worthy of this place on the printed page. But when that young man rises to the situation, sees the pending sacrifice of the spirit and substance of his native land on the altar of Moloch, and pledges a way of rescue, at his own hands, he becomes the hero, born in time.

Within the last score of years, Walter Neale, a Virginian, hardly yet in the prime of life, has published in New York, more standard works of Southern history than all the other publishers of the world combined. He has written, with his own hand historical works of the class of text books. Captains of industry, commanders of armed men, on land and on sea, statesmen, philosophers, poets and inventors we justly demand knowledge of by the printed volume of their lives. It is meet and proper that we shall know somewhat of him

who educates the civilized world in knowledge of the South as none before him has dared to do.

Southern literature must be correlated to the ascertained character of the South. The compact of 1787 is less a fact of compromise, entered into by sovereign States—"nations," Mr. Neale denominates them—to promote the general welfare, than between the Puritan section and the Cavalier. The surviving principle of State sovereignty in the Federal government, has been asserted alternately, from the beginning, as the weapon to protect the Puritan section and the Cavalier, each from ascendancy over the other. The Cavalier ideals were broader, the Cavalier spirit more virile. In normal competition the Cavalier section prevailed. The South governed the Union.

Time passed, European immigration of different character from the earlier settlers of American soil, came to it by scores and millions. The sword and the purse of the government united, and millions of unlettered Africans, without a native tongue, were brought forward to pronounce upon the most beautiful and complex form of government ever wrought out by the brain of man.

Vespasian drove in triumph through the thronged and shouting streets of Rome, followed by noble Jews in chains. Even at that hour the great school of Jabne reopened its doors in the conquered city of Jehovah. Jewish youths began to learn anew the history of Jewry. From the school came "penmen" to publish the story abroad. After the school had done its work, the Jews made their most glorious defense of Jerusalem against Rome.

We may not forecast the full effect of the inspiration of the Virginian lad who consecrated himself to the task of setting up, in the waste places of American history, a successor to the school of Jabne! The act has been

accomplished. The eternal years of truth await the fruit. I am not writing in advertisement of trade. I am pointing joyfully to the silver thread upon which hangs the noblest motive of endeavor now, in this generation, which appears competent to vindicate the South. Walter Neale has made secure the future influence of the South in the United States—by challenging the whole world to look upon us.

Walter Neale was born in northern Virginia in the year 1873. He was born to an early ambition and to the consciousness of power. He is a man with the traditional grandfather. Two centuries before the Norman conqueror put foot on English soil his ancestors were noble there. His natural blood is of the Bowdoin line of French nobility. For one of these Bowdoin colleges is named. Bowdoin was the maiden name of Mr. Neale's Virginian grandmother. Francis Hopkinson, one of his ancestors, signed the Declaration of Independence; Joseph Hopkinson, of the same blood, was the author of "Hail Columbia!" Through the long strain of this blood individuals have been devotees of the fine arts, music and literature.

The family of Mr. Neale has been active in the social and political life of the part of Virginia in which they lived from the early Colonial period. He was at college at the age of 17, when his father died suddenly. There seemed to be no bank account left by him. But he owed no man. The family that was left to the college student for support and advice comprised an invalid mother, six sisters and a brother much younger than himself. The studies of the school were not abandoned, but the management of the farm was taken up by him.

Neale had matured a purpose aforesaid, and this was to become a great publisher and a great writer. In the year 1892, at 19, he went to Washington City to begin life's work. With him went the whole family—a resolute, confident family, each able and ready to take a share in the venture.

The young man's path was straight. The first year of his labor as a writer brought some \$5,000 to him. The family maintained a comfortable home. He held before him, without shadow of turning, the two goals, early fixed—the fortune of a great publisher and the fame of letters. He labored and studied assiduously. He took up the elemental law books and learned enough to qualify him for admission to the bar. He read of science and philosophy deeply. Studying Spencer, he even entered the dissect-

he might study Spencer more thoroughly. At the age of 24 years Mr. Neale married Miss Margaret Ellen Stuart, two years younger than he. In the young wife was blended the blood of four eminent families of South Carolina, the Stuarts, the Rhettts, the Barnwells and the Thomsons. Thereafter he maintained two houses, that of his mother, as before, and his own.



WALTER NEALE

When he was 25 years old The Neale Publishing Company was organized in Washington, Walter Neale, president and controlling spirit.

Subscriptions to the stock, by charter members, reached only a small sum. There was but one manager and he the president. If the house should survive it must excite a competition, and competitors in most cases were operating with half a million ready capital, or more, with a full staff of

editors and business agents on high salaries.

The task was to create a publishing house. None was behind the project, with matured purpose, save this young man, without capital sufficient to pay operating expenses for a single month. At once the truth loomed up that \$1,500 must be paid for the month's expenses. Upon further accounting it was seen that necessary advertising and traveling expenses would swell the sum to \$2,000. Housings in competition, as old as the government itself, stood by. The fight with fortune was won. But it was hard drawn out.

It is far from a thing unimportant to trace the struggle of this high resolve, to rescue Southern literature. Mr. Neale weighed all conditions, then fixed his course, irrevocably. He planned with deliberation to become a sensible, active factor of the enlightened world about him, that all men who should find in him a business partner. Annually, at a predetermined season, he boarded the cars and traveled in remote places. He traveled with leisure, never in haste. He heard with attention and saw with profit. All kinds of men were companions to him. Sir Walter Scott never talked with one so humble and so uninteresting to the average man that he failed to learn something. So with this embryo publisher.

The welcome news spread rapidly that Southern writers had found a publisher. The publisher went among them and sought them out and discovered them. Still in pursuit of a fixed purpose Mr. Neale made himself a recognized factor in the society where he lived. He published some books, without compensation that he knew would not sell; he published articles relating to public affairs without compensation; he gave valuable works of art to public institutions. The publisher's obligations to society, perhaps, has not been more seriously considered than by him.

In all this time examples were not wanting to prove the uncertainty of the project to publish the literature of the South of literature favorable to the truth of Southern conditions. The English historian, Percy Grey, wrote a history of the United States of admirable literary interest. The plan included a philosophical and generally correct account of the genesis and the life of the Southern Confederacy. Gen. Wade Hampton wrote for it introductory pages, congratulating the South and the cause of the South. An epitome of the book might well be used as text in public schools, but very few

individuals ever heard of it. The book needed the publisher's facilities of marketing.

The Neale Publishing Company evidently stands toward the book publishing business in the world at large, in the attitude of an independent. To illustrate, Mr. Neale's house knows neither race nor creed. A distinguished author carried his manuscript to numerous houses in Europe and in America, without success. The manuscript criticized publishing houses and their authors. The Neale house published it. An eminent Russian diplomat selects the house of Neale to produce his intimate account of Japan at the time that books of the kind were not popular in this country. Even a negro found that he could present his side of the race question through the house that was devoted to the production of books by the leading men and women of the South.

My own reading of the books from the Neale house has been ample enough to suggest, that selections may be made from the list to cover more of the history of the Southern Confederacy than is practicable otherwise. To mention briefly a few of these books, letting their titles and their authors suggest their importance: "Morgan's Cavalry," by Gen. Basil Duke; "Hood's Texas Brigade," by Judge J. B. Polley; "Three Years in the Confederate Horse Artillery," by George M. Neese, of Chew's battery; "Confederate Operations in Canada and New York," by Capt. John W. Headley; "Cleburne and His Command" by Irving A. Buck, his adjutant general; "Mosby's Men," by John H. Alexander, of Mosby's command; "Recollections of a Naval Life," by Capt. John McIntosh Kell, executive officer of the Sumter and the Alabama; "A True Story of Andersonville Prison," by Lieut. Page, a Union officer confined there, who shows that Wirz was a hero, not a subject for the hangman's noose; "Recollections of a Confederate Staff Officer," by Gen. Moxley Sorrel; "Four Years Under Marshe Robert," by Maj. Robert Stiles, of the Richmond Howitzers; "The Life and Services of John Newland Maffitt," by his wife, a thoroughly adequate biography of this distinguished naval officer. I might continue the list over the scores of books equally as important that constitute a great history of the Confederacy. One other deserves a place—the "Life of John M. Mason, United States Senator from Virginia and Confederate Diplomat in Europe."

It is not the purpose of this paper (Continued on Page Twelve)

AFTER THE SUGAR MONOPOLY

Hardwick Resolution Stirs Up a Sensation in Congress—Democrats Speak on Impending Fight to Destroy Combination

(Special Star Correspondence.) Washington, May 20.—Representative Hardwick, of Georgia, has introduced and had passed a resolution to investigate the sugar trust. Nine members of the House will serve on a committee of investigation. It is the purpose of Mr. Hardwick, chairman of the committee, to take a look into the records of the giant corporation organized by the Havemeyer group.

Many people are interested in this proposition. Every man, woman and child in this country is taxed about \$1.50 a year for sugar. The present tariff brings in about \$52,000,000 in revenues.

"It shall be the duty of the committee to inquire whether the organization and operations of the American Sugar Refining Company and other persons or corporations having relations with it, and all other persons or corporations engaged in manufacturing or refining sugar and their relations with each other, have caused or had a tendency to cause any of the following results," says the resolution: "First. The restriction or destruction of competition among manufacturers or refiners of sugars.

"Second. An increase in price of refined sugar to the consumer or decrease in price of sugar or sugar beets to the producer thereof."

Representative Pou, a member of the sub-committee of the House Committee on Rules, which reported out the Hardwick resolution, with a recommendation that it pass, stated the case clearly from the standpoint of the investigators.

"Twenty-one years ago this corporation—the sugar trust—came into existence," said he, "and since it has grown and spread in its operations, absorbing competitors. There is a common belief among the people of the United States that it is every-day violating the law. Now, the purpose (Continued on Page Ten.)"

Dr. McKanna 3-Day Liquor Cure \$100.00 Treatment for \$12.50

Dr. McKanna is placing his famous Three-Day Liquor Cure in the hands of the public—treating those addicted to the liquor habit in their own homes at a cost within the reach of all. Read Dr. McKanna's Message to the World.

Message to the World

To the general public, I wish to state that I have willingly done more than my share of charity and the philanthropic work. In Richmond, Virginia, I cured one hundred patients of the liquor habit free of charge. In Wilmington, N. C., I treated free a large class sent to me by the ministers. I have treated free large classes in Salisbury, N. C., Reidsville, N. C., Charlotte, N. C., and many other cities. In Columbia, S. C., I treated one hundred patients free. In Wilmington, N. C., I took a lot of men out of jail, clothed, fed and treated them free; also, in this same city, with the help of the ministers, I treated one hundred and twenty men in the First Baptist Church. I have done this kind of charity work in many cities from the Atlantic to the Pacific.

Dozens of lodges to which I belong have passed resolutions endorsing me and my treatment, and thank me for the work I am doing.

Judges in many cities have sentenced men to the penitentiary, then paroled them, and asked me to treat them free, which I have done willingly. I have done all the charity work I possibly could, but one man cannot do it all. Where people are able to pay, I have always charged \$100.00 for my treatment.

I am getting old, and feel that it is my duty in the last years of my life to place my treatment in the hands of the poor, as well as the rich. For 27 years it has been my life's work to save my brother man from a drunkard's grave. I am the originator and have the only genuine three-day liquor cure. I believe that I owe a duty to mankind, and that as many people as possible, no matter of what race or nationality, nor where located, should be benefitted by my life's work. On that account, I have reduced my charges, so they are within the reach of all.

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