

The Charlotte News

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SUNDAY MORNING, JAN. 22, 1911.

EVENTS AT HOME.

I'm sitting in my easy chair before the fireside's cheerful glare. All modern comforts are at hand; electric lights and music canned; the triumphs that great men have wrought are gathered in my cozy cot.

WALT MASON.

Platonic friendship is sometimes the best way for concealing an engagement.

Any sound minded community should think twice before it bonds future generations.

We are confidently expecting to be regaled at the Winston meeting by listening to Dr. Phillip's ode to pie.

The naval program provides several new dreadnaughts, submarine and other naval paraphernalia for the perpetuation of sweet peace.

They are now claiming that the safety pin is 2,000 years old. Even then, it is outclassed by the hairpin which was holding up the universe long before the necessity for fastening things was felt.

A million dollars in bonds for a new state building. A half million in bonds for state colleges. A million dollars in bonds for municipal improvements.

Since Editor Clark, of the Raleigh Times, has proven himself to be both a resourceful and clever sleuth in his bookworm investigations, we name him as a committee of one to pass upon the color of hair effected by Editors Cowan and Witchard.

What streets will be improved? In what direction will sewer mains be extended? Which schoolhouses will be improved? And what will each of the various and sundry "pressing needs" cost?

Greenville will not get a new count of its people by the government. This information is contained in letters received by Mr. W. C. Cottrhan from Congressmen Johnson and Lever.

Oh, well! Life is full of disappointments. Let your 17,000 gather and form themselves into a mutual consolation society.

UNSAVORY PLAYS.

We hear that the "Nigger" has decided to curtail its Southern tour and return home. Egged off by an interest taken in the play, elsewhere, by reason of its dramatic strength, in other sections where the "problem" treated was not real and tangible, the "Nigger" sauntered hopefully forth on a tour of the South.

Baltimore barred "The Nigger." Every Southern city should have done this, but in too many places the importance of protecting society against contamination of this sort has not been appreciated by officialdom.

There is nothing more ennobling than a good show. Dozens of them come to the academy during the season which are regular sermons in themselves. And while this is true there is nothing more degrading than a bad show.

There was a time when such cheap sensationalism as that offered by Thomas Dixon, and human uplifts of his ilk, would have been ill received by the public.

By way of defending his plays, Thomas Dixon bellows forth: "Dare to meet facts face to face," and a lot of little human ninnies feel that to be real brave they must see his stuff.

Greensboro is delighted over the prospect of a closer association with the Queen City.

His "Morals" Came High. "The Sins of the Fathers" company is visiting all the towns that are able to pay the price.

Evidence of Narrow Mind. When the new governor of South Carolina was making his inaugural address and declaring with such vehemence that he was opposed to tax money paid by white people to educate negroes he was serving notice on the rest of the world that the Palmetto state had a very narrow-minded man for governor.

Burned out in Atlanta losing \$1,000 worth of furniture, just money enough to pay railroad fare to Charlotte, on their way to friends in Salisbury, and begging to get money enough to go on was the story of a stout young man and his wife in the Associated Charities office.

Why must men who really have talent, such as Tom Dixon, and the author of the "Nigger" ransack the back alleys, highways and hedges of Southern history for some particularly glaring bit of degradation, to offer to the world as samples of the social problem? But so long as the public will feast upon literary filth there will always be a ready pander to the taste if the remuneration is sufficient.

In Tom Dixon's play the revolting scenes portrayed would not be discussed in the parlor. And when any name goes forth Brother Dixon immediately issues statements—(he keeps them on tap)—defending his

medley of immorality, and taunting the public because it dare not "face the issue."

The "Nigger" goes a little further in the direction of utter indecency. The first act—well played—pictures a lynching bee. It is realistic. It sends thrills chasing down the spine. The vision of a real lynching would do the same. Men feel the quailmy thrill when their eyes gaze upon any horrible sight—when they see men murdered or maimed. And one sentiment is about the same as the other. The moral to the first act is that the law is insufficient. Even the women in the play condone the lynching. The second act brings the elevating picture of a negro man in love with a white woman. And to cap the climax the author causes his negro character to become the exponent of the moral issue involved in their love match.

And when an individual or newspaper protests against the brand of Dioxonesque entertainment, and criticizes such nauseous novels as many that are circulated today, a lot of hair brained idiots cry "Fool reformer."

After all, these things rest with the people who patronize the shows and the bookstores. As we have said, there will always be "reformers" bent upon treating the public to filth, if the box office receipts smile upon their reforms.

Here's hoping for the dissolution of the dissolute Standard Oil.—Wilmington Dispatch.

Hold, friends! Treat this "infant industry" not thus harshly.

Some of the critics of the proposition to build a home for old ladies of the Confederacy say that after a few years they will all be dead, and the home will not be needed.

From Other Sanctums

His "Morals" Came High.

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Shameless Salaries Paid 18000 Railway Postal Clerks

Editor The News:

Believing that you are alive to the best interest of all the people, no matter who they are, I wish to impose upon your time long enough to lodge a complaint in the interest of all of the people, you as well as the rest. To begin with, I had just as well tell you that I belong to the important class of men known as the Railway Postal Clerks, a body consisting of eighteen thousand (18000) men. I entered the service under Mr. Cleveland's last administration as a demagogue and am still one (what is not Archibald) and hope to die one that my children may never be ashamed of the father who reared them.

When congress voted to increase their salaries 50 per cent, ours was raised only 10 per cent, the first increase in over twenty-five years, and a year after theirs. We were thankful of course for that much but have continued to ask the P. O. Department to give us another raise or to pay our expenses while we are on the road.

Now, sir, if we were permitted to go to congress as the constitution of our great country declares we would not bother you but make the fight ourselves, but since there is an order issued by the great Theodore Roosevelt when president, to the effect that whoever disregarded this order shall be dismissed summarily, without being given a chance to explain, we prefer to appeal to a generous public and let them know what is going on in a republican form of government like ours.

Officers Elected For Coming Year

The newly elected Board of directors of the Young Men's Christian Association met at 5 o'clock Friday afternoon and organized for the coming year's work. The following officers were elected for the year: President, Mr. Robert Glasgow; vice-president, Mr. J. A. Durham; recording secretary, Mr. J. H. Ross; treasurer, Mr. F. C. Abbott.

More Of Nat Goodwin's Troubles

New York, Jan. 21.—Nat C. Goodwin today abandoned his contest of the rights of his current wife, known as Edna Goodrich, to share and share alike in the revenue from the \$1,700,000 securities which he made over to her while he was still the husband of Maxine Elliott.

Popular Speaker This Afternoon

The Rev. Mr. Harris Mallinckrodt, of St. Peter's Episcopal church, will be the speaker at the meeting for men at the Young Men's Christian Association this afternoon at 5 o'clock. Mr. Mallinckrodt is one of the most pleasing and popular speakers in the city and his address especially to men at the Young Men's Christian Association will doubtless be heard by a large number.

Shippers Signing Duke Contract

The work of getting the signature of the shippers of the city to the contract for the interurban car line progressed rapidly yesterday afternoon. Judging by the rapidity with which the blanks are being called for at the Greater Charlotte Club there is every reason to believe that the required signatures will have been secured by Monday afternoon at 5 o'clock.

Pythian Trustees Meet this Week

Rev. Dr. Law, who is a member of the board of trustees of the Pythian Orphanage, at Clayton, and Mr. E. A. McCausland, grand chancellor of this domain, will go to Clayton this week to attend a meeting of the trustees.

Book Review Department

THE LADY OF THE SPUR.

(By David Potter. Published by Lippincott & Co. Price \$1.50.)

The story of the adventures of a supposed outlaw is here told in most interesting fashion. The hero of the tale makes his appearance in a little town, to find himself advertised as a dangerous thief in a far distant hunting lodge, in company with a faithful Indian ally, he is honored by a visit from a mysterious lady, heavily veiled, whom he dubs "The Lady of the Spur." She warns him to leave at once. The visit was occasioned by his casual assumption of the name of an old friend—a friend long dead, but who was heir to a valuable fortune, instead of harkening to the counsel offered he suddenly decides to play the role of his dead friend, and takes charge of the ancestral estate. His experiences there after are exciting in the extreme. Force to battle single handed with a gang of conspirators, lead on by relatives of his dead friend, he manages to come out of numerous encounters successfully. But the spell of the mysterious "Lady of the Spur" is not easily removed. At each encounter with her he becomes more in love and her apparent hatred for him is equally stimulated. The conspirators are finally vanquished in an exciting battle, and the father of the "Lady of the Spur" turns out to be the prime mover. His suicide, and the apprehension of the plotters paves the way for the union of the two, but just at the time when the vows were about to be spoken, the revelation of his supposed criminality is made, and in most sensational manner his innocence is proven. The story ends with two hearts joined as all good stories should end.

THE HERITAGE OF THE DESERT.

(By Robert Hitchins. Publishers, Harper Bros., New York. Price \$1.50.)

Here is a story of desert life without the usual dryness. It is one in which a joyous oasis is discovered in each chapter. The author in this story has outstripped his other excellent efforts, and it is impossible to follow the trail of the story—at times through weird valleys—and not be deeply interested. Picked up in half dead condition, the hero of the tale finds himself among sturdy Mormons. Thereafter, becoming a part and parcel of the tribe, in every-thing he fights with them the battles are not mere face against marauders and crooks, who abound in that section. His love for the dark-eyed half-breed girl is a passion altogether beautiful to read about, and the strength of her love is beautiful. Their long experience of the parching desert—their exciting adventures—their final union in spite of their final union in spite of almost insurmountable obstacles from every-where with every feature of interest and adventure. The love of the author for horses is infectious, and the reader unconsciously admires, with him, the beautiful "Silver Mane" and other members of the animal kingdom. The "Heritage of the Desert" is worth while.

Social Hour Boys' Department

The social hour Friday night at the boys' department of the Young Men's Christian Association proved to be the most popular of the series yet held. An even one hundred boys were on hand to see Prof. Fool M. Easy and his trope of mystifiers go through their performance of what would seem to be impossible stunts.

Dr. McGeachy to Make Addresses

Rev. Dr. A. A. McGeachy, pastor of the Second Presbyterian church, will address the city council for boys at the Young Men's Christian Association this evening at 5 o'clock. Dr. McGeachy is a forceful speaker, and is sure to have an interesting address for boys. Every boy in the city 12 years of age is not only welcome but urged to be present. The musical program, as usual, will be a pleasing feature of the meeting, which will be announced in due time.

Signs of Early Spring

Signs of an early spring in Maryland. The Baltimore Sun notes that the Mint July Association is in a flourishing condition.—Constitution. The final clearance sale of all winter garments at PURCELL'S, 111 E. Baltimore at 9:30 o'clock. See Sun's ad in News. Goodness does not consist in greatness, but greatness in goodness.—Athenaeus.