

SOCIETY NEWS

MRS. RENN DRUM, Editor.

Telephone The Star No. 4-J Each Morning 8 To 12 O'clock.
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Any Spring.

"Rough winds do shake the darling buds of May—
So Shakespeare's garden was like mine that day:
He saw wet lilac plumes strewn on his walks,
And tulips broken on their sea-green stalks,
And maple tassels somersaulting by,
And little elm leaves clutching at the sky.

"Rough winds do shake the darling buds of May—
O warm and wild, O billowing blue day,
So will they always, every spring there'll be
Blossoms shaken from an apple tree,
And birds and pollen blowing through the air,
And people walking there—
Dorothy Aldis, in Poetry.

Brown-Glover Announcement.

Mr. and Mrs. Jno. R. Glover announce the marriage of their daughter, Pearl Mae, to Mr. Ernest Wilbert Brown at Gaffney, S. C. Wednesday afternoon, Dec. 24, 1930. The young couple will make their home for the present with the groom's parents at Grover.

Stat Dinner Friday Evening.

Mr. Jack Dover was host on Friday evening at a dinner party at his home, entertaining a small group of his friends. An attractive centerpiece of poinsettias and evergreens occupied the center of the table, and a delicious three-course dinner was served.

Covers were laid for Mr. Dover, Mr. Earl Hamrick, Mr. Aaron Quinn, Mr. J. R. Dover, Mr. D. W. Royster, Mr. Willis McMurtry, Mr. DeWitt Quinn, and Dr. Ben Gold.

D. A. R. To Meet On Tuesday.

A regular meeting of the Daughters of the American Revolution will be held at the club room on Tuesday afternoon at 3:30 with Mesdames Frank Hoev. T. W. Ebeltoft, J. H. Quinn and G. P. Hamrick acting as hostesses.

A full attendance of members is urged as officers for the next year are to be elected, and delegates will be elected to both the state convention and the national convention in Washington.

Club Meetings For Thursday.

The evening division of the Woman's club will meet on Thursday evening at 8 o'clock at the club room with Miss Mayme Cabanis and Miss Elizabeth Roberts as hostesses.

The second afternoon division of the Woman's club will hold its regular meeting on Thursday afternoon at 3:30 at the club room with Mesdames A. D. Brabble, Wilbur Eaber and Jap Suckle as joint hostesses.

Mrs. Penninger Gives Family Dinner.

Mrs. M. C. Penninger gave a dinner for all of her children and grandchildren on Sunday, December 28, at the home of Mrs. Julian Thompson. All of the children were present being Mr. and Mrs. F. H. Penninger and little daughter, Elaine, of Marion, Mr. and Mrs. G. F. Penninger, of Gastonia, Mr. and Mrs. Jas. D. Penninger and little son, David, of Orangeburg, S. C., Miss Mary Fay Penninger and Mr. and Mrs. Julian Thompson and little daughter, Betty.

Dinner And Theatre Party.

Miss Amye Sue Tillman was hostess at a dinner party on Friday evening at her home at Lawndale when she graciously entertained a few of her friends. A delicious five-course dinner was served. Covers were laid for Misses Kathleen Boggs, Madeline Porter, Dorothy, Irene and Rosemary Peeler, and Martha Falls. After dinner the party was joined by Messrs. Luther Houser, Broncius and Carroll Beam, Clyde Brown, Russell Sain, R. F. Tillman and J. D. A. Aury, and the entire group enjoyed a theatre party during the rest of the evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Hoey Bridge Club Hosts.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Hoey were hosts to the members of the Fortnight bridge club on Friday evening at the home of Mr. and Mrs. C. R. Hoey. Four tables were arranged for bridge and at the close of the evening when scores were added Mrs. W. L. McCord had scored high for ladies and received a small hand vacuum sweeper. Mr. Joe Nash was the lucky winner of a pretty tie given as gentlemen's high score prize.

During the evening the cards were laid aside and a salad course with Russian tea and fruit cake was served.

Class Meeting.

The Dorcas S. S. class of the Second Baptist church will meet with Mrs. L. J. Jessup Tuesday evening at 7:15 o'clock.

Guests From Lincolnton.

Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Lackey were hosts at an informal dinner on Friday evening at their home on W. Warren street in honor of their visitors from Lincolnton. A delicious four course dinner was served. Those present were members of the family, Mrs. John Irvin, and out of town guests, who were Mrs. S. R. Warlick, Mrs. David Warlick and Misses Mabel and Linda Warlick, all of Lincolnton.

Club Meeting On Thursday.

On Thursday afternoon at the club room Mesdames D. R. Yates, Fields Young and Guy Roberts were hostesses to the members of the first afternoon division of the Woman's club in an interesting meeting. The subject for the afternoon was "Our Natural Resources" the roll call was answered by "Wild Flowers of North Carolina" and Mrs. Earle Hamrick was leader for the afternoon. Mrs. C. S. Young read a paper on "The Land Resources of North Carolina," Mrs. C. M. Stroup contributed another paper on "The Mountain Regions of the State," and Mr. Boyce Wakefield sang two selections, "Trees" and "The Barefoot Trail." He was accompanied by Mrs. H. S. Plaster. Mrs. B. A. Lefler concluded the program with an interesting paper on "Flora and Fauna Resources of North Carolina."

At the close of the program the hostesses served sandwiches, coffee and sweets.

Hosts To Bridge Party.

Mr. and Mrs. D. E. Honeycutt were gracious hosts on New Year's eve at a large bridge party in compliment to their three daughters, Mrs. Frank Reavis, Mrs. Carlos Grigg and Mrs. John Honeycutt. Decorations suggestive of the holiday season were used; twelve tables were arranged for bridge and instead of numbering the tables each table was given the name of a month of the year and the guests progressed from one month to the next. At the close of the evening when scores were added Mrs. Yates McSwain was given a bottle of "Evening in Paris" perfume as ladies high score and Mrs. John Lovelace received a silhouette as second high award for ladies. The men's high score, an attractive cigarette case, went to Mr. Robert Agnew, and Mr. Sam Geult won a set of silver ash trays as second high score prize for men.

When the cards were laid aside Mrs. Honeycutt was assisted by Mrs. John Honeycutt, Mrs. Carlos Grigg, Miss Margaret Crowder, Mrs. Ray Allen and Mrs. R. M. Laughridge in serving pretty plates with sandwiches, cherry tarts, coffee and potato chips.

Christmas Party For House Guests.

Mrs. C. M. Moore, of Blacksburg, was hostess at a pretty party recently when she entertained her bridge club in honor of the several attractive visitors in town, they being Mrs. Julian Albergotti, of Charlotte, and Mrs. W. M. Albergotti, of Greer, guests of Mrs. Sam C. Lattimore; Mrs. Clarence Newberry, of Fayetteville, guest of Miss Mary Whisonant; and Miss Ethel Morgan, of Greer, S. C., guest of Miss Genevieve Scott.

The rooms where the tables were arranged for play were decorated with Christmas evergreens, red geraniums and cyclamens. Tall lighted red tapers were used among the decorations and small red candles encircled with mistletoe, formed a centerpiece for each table.

At the close of the afternoon when scores were added Mrs. Julian Albergotti was the fortunate winner of the high score award, while the consolation fell to Miss Catherine Caldwell. Each of the honorees received a pretty gift.

This Cigar Box A Valuable One

Lansing, Mich., Jan. 1.—When Fred W. Green retired Thursday as Governor of Michigan, a cigar box on the gubernatorial desk was relieved of its treasure, the State will be \$20,000 poorer, and the daughter, the only child of the Governor is \$20,000 richer.

The governor, who has never cashed a pay check during his four years as state executive, revealed that he will turn the checks over to Mrs. Norvall Tyrell, the daughter. The checks have been kept in a cigar box on the governor's desk.

At The Theaters

Carolina, today and Tuesday—The Princess and the Plumber, with Charles Farrell and Maureen O'Sullivan. Unusual and pleasing type of romance, but fitting for Charles Farrell. Also comedies.

Webb today and Tuesday—Girl of the Golden West, with Ann Harding; from David Belasco's sensational stage play. A love story that shines through the muck of pay dirt days, revealing mighty adventures of the glamorous days of '49.

Lyric today, Tuesday, Wednesday—Free Love, with Conrad Nagel and Genevieve Tobin, ZaSu Pitts and Slim Summerville, from the stage play, "Half Gods," by Sidney Howard. A play stuffed with exciting situations and brilliant wit.

Recent Bride



MRS. ROLAND E. DAVIS

Mrs. Roland E. Davis whose marriage was recently announced. Mrs. Davis before marriage was Miss Merle Abernethy, daughter of Rev. and Mrs. G. P. Abernethy of Shelby. She is now living in Washington, D. C., where her husband holds a position with the People's Drug store.

Death Of Editor In Sing Sing Recalls How He Fired Reporters And Created Colorful News Items

Was "Simon Legree" To Newspaper Workers. Killed His Wife Out Of Sympathy.

New York.—When the news came that Charles E. Chapin, whose career as city editor of the New York Evening World ended in 1919 when he was sentenced to Sing Sing for the murder of his wife, had died in prison on December 13 it recalled to newspaper men here innumerable anecdotes of the man who gave to American journalism the tradition of the "Simon Legree" type of city editor. Although Chapin worked on other newspapers, most of these tales dealt with his erratic conduct on the city desk of the Evening World, his ingenious plans for firing reporters, his displays of temperance, and his tracibility with clubs.

Heywood Brown, told some of these stories in his column in the New York Telegram and other Scripps-Howard newspapers. Among them was one he considered the most famous of all, one which created a phrase now used whenever the opportunity is presented.

"Irvin Cobb," Brown recalled, "was informed that his city editor, Chapin, was ill. 'Nothing trivial, I hope,' was his comment."

"Couldn't 'Intimidate Him.'" Another of the more famous Chapin anecdotes recalled by Brown (which the comment that it probably was invented) was the one concerning the reporter who telephoned the desk to say he had tried to get a statement from a certain man but had been picked up by the staff of the neck and thrown down stairs with the threat that if he ever came back he'd have his jaw broken.

To which Chapin is supposed to have replied, "You go back and tell the big bum he can't intimidate me."

Then there was the story of Shep Friedman who showed up late for work one day. He knew it was no use to plead delay on the subway. Such flimsy excuses never got by Chapin. And so, summoning his inventive powers, Friedman concocted a story about the funeral of a poor neighbor for which the undertaker could not find enough pallbearers. Friedman consented to become one, he told his city editor, thinking that, under the circumstances, it would not matter if he were late. Chapin said it was all right. Then half an hour later he called Friedman to his desk and said that the story of the involuntary pallbearer would make a good human interest feature. He ordered him to write it.

Friedman was in a hole. He had no facts to base his story on, but he had to write it anyway. He turned out a yarn along the lines of the one he had offered as an excuse and then asked the make-up man to hold it out. Chapin meanwhile had given an identical order. He had no intention of printing such an outright invention of a reporter's imagination, but after every edition he would storm around the city room and shout, "What's become of that story of the involuntary pallbearers? I want that for page one."

When the day was done he dropped his hazing of Friedman.

Brown also told the story of the reporter who went to work one day before the regular pay week began. On pay day he told Chapin his check was only for six days instead of seven.

"That'll be all right," Chapin replied. "I'll keep it in mind. When I fire you, I'll fire you one day early."

A Good Phrase Gone Wrong. The New York Herald Tribune, too, contributed to the Chapin anecdotes. Chapin was reading a story one day, the Herald Tribune related, when he cried out, "A good phrase, a good phrase." The city staff eventually found out the phrase was "the melancholy waters." The "melancholy waters" of the East river had given up a body. From that time on the waters of every river that gave up a body or received the body of a suicide or a murder victim were melancholy.

Chapin finally became tired of his pet phrase and announced that the next man who used it would be fired. One unfortunate reporter was absent when the announcement was made and, in a misguided moment, used the phrase in a suicide story. Chapin roared at him.

"This is terrible. You're fired! How could the waters of the Hudson river be melancholy?"

"Perhaps, Mr. Chapin," the reporter replied, "it may be because they flow past Yonkers."

Chapin lived in Yonkers at the time.

Chapin was famous for the ingenious ways in which he fired reporters. He spent a vast amount of time thinking up new methods of informing men they were through. The Herald Tribune told the following story in this connection:

A reporter was late in telephoning a story. The city editor was indignant.

"Your name is Smith, is it?" he inquired angrily. "You say you're for the Evening World, do you? You're a liar! Smith stopped working for the Evening World an hour ago."

Another reporter, who was not at

all convinced of the safety of his job, overheard this. The Herald Tribune called him Simpson. Well, Simpson called up Chapin the next day and said:

"Have you a man working for you named Simpson? What's that? You say you have. You're a liar! Simpson quit working for the Evening World an hour ago."

Another reporter missed the Staten Island ferry one morning on his way to work at the Criminal Courts building in Manhattan. He phoned Chapin from the ferry house and reported himself on duty.

"Cover the flood," ordered Chapin. "What flood," asked the reporter. "There must be a terrible flood in the Criminal Courts building," the city editor said. "I can hear the boats whistling."

Chapin once let a man work for a week after coming in one day 10 minutes late. The man's excuse was a badly scalded foot, but no one could understand why he wasn't fired immediately in accordance with the city editor's vindictive attitude toward tardiness. The blow finally fell, however, and Chapin explained to the reporter:

"I would have fired you a week ago, but I wanted to see how long you could keep on faking that limp."

Actor and Newspaper Man.

Chapin was born in Watertown, N. Y. October 19, 1858. His first job was that of telegraph messenger. Later he became a reporter on the World. When he was twenty he had a breakdown in health and went on a barnstorming tour with a theatrical company as a change from newspaper work. During this tour he met Nellie Beebe, an actress and a grand niece of Mrs. Russell Sage. They were married in 1879.

Chapin returned to newspaper work on the Chicago Herald as city editor. He held this position from 1887 to 1889 and then returned to the World. In 1894 he went to the St. Louis Post-Dispatch as city

editor and in 1898 returned to New York to become city editor of the Evening World.

His marriage ended in the most famous tragedy when the editor, brooding over financial troubles, conceived a plan for killing his wife and himself. Mrs. Chapin had inherited \$50,000 from her grand aunt, Mrs. Sage, and this had been gradually dissipated. Chapin had also spent \$7,000 left in trust with him for a ward. He finally carried out one-half of his plan by shooting his wife with a revolver presented to him by Police Commissioner Waldo as she lay asleep in their suite in the Hotel Cumberland. Then, instead of taking his life as he had planned, he left the hotel and spent the day wandering about the city. He read accounts of his deed in the papers, and while sitting in Prospect park, Brooklyn, made an attempt to shoot himself.

As he raised the revolver to his temple, however, he saw a policeman approaching and quickly hid the weapon. After that, he said he did not have the nerve for suicide.

Finally, on the verge of madness, he gave himself up to the police. He was allowed to plead guilty to second degree murder and was sentenced to 20 years.

Edited Prison Paper. In the prison Chapin was considered a model prisoner by Warden Lawes. He became editor of the prison paper, the Star of Hope, later the Bulletin. Under his direction the paper became lively and aggressive, so much so that it was suspended by the authorities. Bereft of his editorship Chapin was placed in charge of the prison garden. He developed a deep interest in horticulture and cultivated the prison flowers with great success until his illness. His exemplary conduct would have made him eligible for parole in three more years.

Among the stories he wrote for the Bulletin was one describing the spiritual peace he had found while in prison, and when a group of friends were working for a pardon for him, he told them he would rather stay in Sing Sing and would not accept a pardon.

Chapin maintained his interest in writing throughout his prison term and completed his autobiography in

Sing Sing. His intense interest in newspaper work was shown during his trial when he launched hot criticisms against reporters covering it for errors in facts and for missing dramatic possibilities.

To Wed Heir to the DuPont Millions



Ruth Foster, popular debutante, whose engagement to Lamont DuPont, Jr., son of the president of the DuPont Powder Company, was announced by her parents, Mr. and Mrs. William Byram Foster, of Westover Hills, Wilmington, Del. The wedding will take place some time late next Fall.

35,000 People See Otto Wood A Corpse

Salisbury, Jan. 3.—A beautiful floral design arrived at the undertaking establishment here where Otto Wood's body has been lying.

The wreath, expensive in design, was signed "from a mother to a mother."

Throng continued to pass and view the body, total estimates placing the number around 35,000 yesterday. Mrs. Wood is expected to arrive from West Virginia today to claim the body.

Junior Football Champs Meet President



Members of the Charlotteville School for Boys' football team, pictured with President Herbert Hoover upon whom they called New Year's Eve. The boys won the grid championship for 100-pounders. Left to right in center are: Roe Jarman, President Hoover and John Battle, Jr.

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WE DELIVER

Times Bright For Youthful Writers

Baltimore.—It's hard to and ray boy's end for the budding genius of the pen: H. L. Mencken, editor, critic, sometimes lambasted bad boy of Baltimore, thinks times were never better for the young American writer.

Said Mr. Mencken: "If a new Walt Whitman should write a new 'Leaves of Grass' tomorrow he'd certainly not have to print it at his own expense. I know at least a dozen high-toned and very solvent publishers who would leap at it."

"Moreover, the magazine rights would bring a pretty penny. Thus the new Walt would not have to resort to mendicancy; he would have an income at least equal to that of a young lawyer, doctor or politician. The editor of the American Mercury and such bachelors of the country—until he married last May—just was gratified that since the Levi's won the Nobel prize for literature, but he hopes Mr. Lewis' success making speeches and returns to writing novels."

Mr. Lewis misplaced his glasses when he addressed the Swarthmore academy and avowed that was a hard struggle in America. Mencken counters: "It is possible to get a hearing for any sort of man, no matter how unusual, and for most of them there is very good money."

"True enough," continued Mr. Mencken, "young writers of general originality are always violently denounced by a certain group of stiers. This was the case with Poe, it was the case with Whitman, it was the case with Wreiser, and still is the case with Sinclair Lewis."

LYRIC

"The Little Theatre With Big Productions."

TODAY - TUES, WEDNESDAY

A subject Every-body's talking about...

"FREE LOVE"

with Genevieve Tobin and Conrad Nagel

A startling expose of young lovers— seething with exciting situations & brilliant wit.

— 10c and 25c —

WEBB THEATRE COMING NEXT WEEK 'WHOOPEE'