

## SOCIAL HYPOCRISY.

CUSTOM makes hypocrites of us all. We say a hundred things every day, prompted by custom, that we do not mean, and we are constantly doing things by rote that we have no heart in and would not do save that a precedent has been established, and we must, like so many cattle, follow in the beaten track.

How solicitously do we inquire after the health of people whom we do not care a rap for, and whose rheumatics and various aches we would like to avoid! We lie in these idle questionings with the most brazen facility. And the amusing part of it is that the other party usually knows our hypocrisy.

What a devastation there would be in our kitchens, and what surprise and chagrin and anger would we experience if half of the people we invite to dinner would take us seriously and accept! We invite people to our houses whom, if they were foolish enough to present themselves at our doors, would certainly find them locked and double barred.

When we go out in the social world we are frequently filled with disgust and enmity and dislike, but there are smiles on our lips and we greet our foes and those we despise in much the same manner that we greet our dearest friends.

And after an utterly stupid evening we say we have had *such* a nice time.

We call on people we detest and jabber away with them as though they were dear friends.

We go to church and appear devout while the preacher talks of God and heaven—our thoughts being down town among boxes and bales and books and money drawers, and we sing of praise sometimes with anything but gladness in our hearts.

In conversation we appear interested in our friends' tiresome stories, when we are in reality bored to death, and waiting anxiously to tell our own which are much better.

We praise when we should condemn, and make promises we do not intend to keep, and feign happiness or distress at a moment's notice.

It is easier and maybe, pleasanter to do these things than to be forever telling the truth, and hurting people's feelings, and making ourselves generally disagreeable. Social hypocrisy puts a sugar coating on a great many bitter things.

## MR. ZEHRUNG AS A MANAGER.

THE COURIER'S announcement that Frank C. Zehring would manage the new Funke opera house next season, which was eagerly seized and enlarged upon by our daily contemporaries, was something of a surprise, as but few people knew that such a deal was contemplated. Mr. Zehring's new venture has provoked much comment, and the opinion prevails that a turning point in the destiny of the Funke has been reached. If the good will of the citizens of Lincoln will bring success Mr. Zehring will soon be using gold eagles for suspender buttons. Frank has unusual elements of popularity, and this fact ought to have an important bearing on the success of his managerial enterprise. Personality has a great deal to do with the success or failure of such an undertaking as that in which Mr. Zehring is about to engage, and here will be one of his strongest points. But there are many reasons why the new management of the Funke should be profitable for all concerned. In the first place THE COURIER believes that no man in Lincoln is a better judge of the drawing qualities of a play than Mr. Zehring. He has been a devotee of the theatre for years, and he has acquired an experience and judgment in matters theatrical that ought to be very valuable to him, and he has also a large acquaintances among leading professionals that will stand him in hand when it comes to booking attractions. Then Mr. Zehring has certain well defined fin de siecle ideas that will do much toward giving the new house a tone and reputation throughout the country. Before he signed the lease he had a clear understanding with Mrs. Funke as to the nature and extent of the improvements to be made, and those persons who are aware of his fastidious taste will need no assurance that the opera house will be fitted up and maintained in the most approved manner. It will be a first-class and well conducted house as long as it is under his management. It is believed that the improvements and decorations will make the Funke one of the prettiest houses in

the country. Mr. Zehring has been singularly successful in building up his own business, and it is but reasonable to suppose that the same qualities and talent that have told so effectively here will bring equally favorable results in the new departure. In his new location he can combine his two businesses very conveniently, and each will, to some extent help the other. Lincoln is to be congratulated on the prospect in store. With the Lansing and the Funke both maintained as first-class theatres, the amusement going public in this city will have unusual privileges.

## TENNIS.

During the winter there has been an unusual amount of interest aroused in the needs of the physical man by the new and able management of the Y. M. C. A. in Lincoln. Scores of young men have realized by practical experience how much better men they are by reason of spending an hour every day in physical exercise. The season is approaching when the exercise in the gymnasium will be a task rather than a pleasure—the time for out of door sports. There is nothing so perfect in itself for exercise as the game of tennis. In its play almost every muscle of the body comes into active and energetic use, and what is of more importance, the exercise is steady and not spasmodic, as is that of base ball.

Tennis is a game to play rather than to watch, and the fascination of it is marvelous.

This season promises to be a pleasant one in Lincoln for those that enjoy tennis.

The Lincoln Tennis club has already organized and now has on its list about ten or fifteen members. This number will be doubled before the season fairly opens. The club grounds and house at Sixteenth and G have been put in good condition, and there will be tennis every evening the weather will permit.

It is desired to have two tournaments in Lincoln this season. The first will be a local tournament to be held in the latter part of May, if arrangements can be made, so that the players in the state university and colleges near at hand may swell the lists, and provoke some strife for supremacy.

The state tournament in single, or double, will be held probably in July in this city and it is hoped that then the Lincoln tennis players and the city will return with good grace the courtesies and kindness of the Hastings and Omaha clubs, which were so well bestowed last year.

The Lincoln club authorizes THE COURIER to extend a cordial invitation to any who may desire to become members, to make the desire known, to Mr. Hardy, to Mr. Geisthardt, to Mr. Haggard or to any other member of the club whom the person may know. This will be the tennis season in Lincoln. Begin to play early and go into the local tournament.

## LACROSSE.

The lacrosse club will be re-organized sometime this month, probably next week. This sport has a steadily growing hold on Lincoln, and it is expected that the coming season will be markedly successful.

## CYCLING CLUB RUN.

Last Sunday twenty-five members of the Capital City Cycling club made a fifty mile run to Valparaiso and return, starting at 10 a. m. and returning at half past four. Tomorrow afternoon there will be a club run to Waverly.

## THE AUTHOR OF "THE HEAVENLY TWINS" ON MAN.

Mrs. Sarah Grand says of man: "He cramped our minds so that there was no room for reason in them and then made merry at our want of logic. He did his best to damage our divine institution by sneering at it as an inferior method of arriving at conclusions, and finally, having lost his wag and lost his head entirely he set himself up as a sort of god, and required us to worship him, and, to our eternal shame be it said, we did so."