

THROUGH A SPECTRUM

In last week's Courier Mr. H. E. Newbranch—critic, literateur, patriot, philosopher—makes exceeding merry over the above heading under which I had commented briefly upon some of the "productions" of his versatile mind.

I suppose no one ever literally looked through a newspaper or a book, and yet these expressions are very common figures of speech. Mr. Newbranch had been using colored glasses and I took his use of the phrase to be a similarly figurative one, and supposed he was writing down his analysis of the things he saw after passing them through these prettily colored glasses. It occurred to me that if I should, in that same sense, look "through," look over, examine the spectrum he had thus made I might lead him to the contemplation of the true spectroscopy which carries a ray of light from the object examined through a pure white prism and makes a truthful record of that object. And because the true interpretation comes only through a pure white prism I hoped he would perceive that whatever came through colored glass must of necessity be inaccurate and unreliable. I hoped he would throw away his glasses. It was a delicate compliment to his power of perception, but it failed, and I gave him up.

It is a rare thing for one to catch the point of a paragraph as well as does Mr. Newbranch when he remarks that I appeared to criticize not his arguments but himself, personally. All I pretended to say was that so far as could be judged from his writings Mr. New-

branch bore the ear-marks of a literal sophomore, and that I wished to protest against his being taken as an exponent of the teachings of the department of philosophy or as a correct type of the university student. Mr. Newbranch pleads sincerity. I have no doubt it is a good plea. But sincerity will not excuse all things any more than ignorance will excuse a crime. It is analogous to saying a man means well and has a kind heart but not much else to speak of. It suggests oftentimes that sincerity and good intentions may be equally as popular as paving materials in the lower world.

I agree with Mr. Newbranch that Lincoln people are probably not interested in this sort of thing and that people in general are much more interested in ideas than in the men that have them. The trouble is that some men have a faculty of shining through their ideas instead of letting their ideas shine for themselves, and if their personality is thus forced upon the public they ought not to complain if now and then they disturb the public patience. I must therefore decline Mr. Newbranch's kind offer to assist me in airing my views on evolutionary religion, as I have neither the time, the views nor the "temerity" requisite for the proposed partnership.

If Mr. Newbranch has the time to spare he ought to read John Fiske's "Destiny of Man" and "The Idea of God." They are little books, but I think they contain a good many ideas on Evolution and Providence that Mr. Newbranch never dreamed of.

T. E. Wing.

IN SOCIETY

W. C. Wilson has gone to Minneapolis.

On Wednesday morning Mrs. Pomerene entertained the directors of the Woman's club at a swimming party at the sanitarium. Those present were: Mesdames Patrick, Humphrey, Everett, Hutchins and Miss Elliott.

The Fortnightly club met with Mrs. Amelia B. Clark, corner of F and Twentieth streets, January 17. Present: Mesdames Taylor, Barbour, J J Imhoff, C H Imhoff, McConnell, W A Green, Lamb, C S Lippincott, Ricketts, Wilson, Clark, Miss Clark and Miss Harris. Mrs. Clark presented a paper on Unitarianism which was the topic for the afternoon. Mrs. Lamb read a paper on Channing, Mrs. J J Imhoff read "The Battle Hymn of the Republic," and Mrs. Lippincott sang "O Love Divine That Stooped to Share" and "Nearer My God to Thee" with sweetness and power. The club will meet next week with Mrs. C. H. Imhoff.

Mrs. Nance gave a party Tuesday evening at which the following were present: Misses Griffith, Moore, Slaughter, Righter, Fechet, Grace Oakley, Miss Wood, of Kansas City; Miss Mount, of Omaha; Mrs. Bailey, of Denver; Messrs. Baldwin, Hurlbut, Honeywell, Johnson, Harley, King, Beecher, Mallalieu, Thorp, Lansing. The guests played cards and danced.

Miss Slaughter gave two trolley parties, one on Monday and one on Wednesday evening. The Monday evening party was in honor of Miss Mount and Miss Weller, of Omaha. They rode to University Place in the new red car and returned to Miss Slaughter's home where refreshments were served. They were: Misses Nance, Oakley, Fechet, Fechet and Griffith; Messrs. Harley, Mallalieu, Honeywell, Hurlbut, King, Evans and Bert Wheeler, of Omaha.

The Beta Theta Pi fraternity gave an informal party in their house on H and Eleventh the first part of the week.

Company B will give a dance next Friday night in Lansing hall.

The Olympian Whist club met at the home of Mr. Homer Honeywell last

night. Some of those present were: Misses Welch, Mount, Cochran, Slaughter, Winger, Parks, Garten and Kleutsch and Messrs. Harley, Morrill, Haughton, Winger, Evans, Lottridge, Farwell, Young and Walsh.

The Sigma Chi fraternity initiated Karl Randall on Tuesday evening.

Mrs. R. H. Oakley held a cake and apron sale for the benefit of the Episcopal church at her home on M street yesterday afternoon.

The department of domestic economy of the Woman's club met on Monday at 3 o'clock p. m. at the home of Mrs. F. W. Hill. Mrs. Gage read a paper on the nutritive value of nuts, Mrs. A. P. S. Stuart on fish and fisheries, Mrs. M. H. Everett a few words on housekeeping. In conclusion Mrs. Everett read a selection called "Love vs. Kindness," after which tea and wafers.

Sorosis met on Monday at the home of Mrs. M. D. Welch. Mrs. Summers presented the subject of the afternoon, which was Russia. The report speaks very enthusiastically of Mrs. Summers' paper as being unusually clear and interesting.

Mrs. Manning's class in dramatic art gave an entertainment in the university chapel Thursday evening, the 16th. The music numbers were in no manner noteworthy—a piano solo played by Professor Mauck with some display, a vocal solo by Carl Tucker, and a violin solo and encore by Miss Silence Dales. Of the elocutionary part of the program, the first number was a recitation of "The Benediction," by Miss Sadie Smith. There was a hitch in the mental adaptation of speaker and piece somewhere. Miss Lottridge's monologue, "Behind a Curtain," was well done. "Pauline Pavlovna" was recited by Evalena Rolofson. Miss Rolofson has a rarely expressive voice, though lacking in volume, and in her facial expression a witch-like power that fascinates. Her movements are easy and graceful, which in this selection carried her to a fault; the sudden transitions from one character to the other demanding more abrupt changes of posture to avoid am-

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