

scribed circle for a little more than a week. Now an injudicious, vicious zany like the Maclay whom the newspapers call a historian, is given columns where an epitaph of two lines is all he merits. A fame, newspaper born and unnaturally prolonged by newspaper stimulants after dissolution has begun, is boring subscribers into an unrelieved ennui. Occasionally chance elevates a man of mediocre ability into prominence. Chance is only a flash as to energy and impulse. Chance may boost a man into a coveted place, but only ability can keep him there. A man who gets into the newspapers by a conspicuous act of folly is just as well satisfied with his notoriety as though it were attained legitimately. All the cranks and fakirs whose names are household words in this country owe their fame to the very papers whose editors profess contempt for their conduct and pretensions. The waters of oblivion used to sweep over a fool and his folly. Today his reward is fame and the reproduction of his commonplace, uninspired features in nearly every paper of consequence in the country. Ennui preys upon the sophisticated and the reading of the daily papers for the very exaltation of fools therein is a cross.

* * *

German Protection

Who pays the tariff on food stuffs in Germany if the tariff is increased? The American shipper? There is no doubt that his sales or orders for wheat delivered f. o. b. at a German port will decrease. But the grain will cost the German importer the price of the grain plus the transportation, plus the tariff. The importer sells the grain to the miller and the miller to the baker and the baker to the people. But the tariff is on the wheat from the time it leaves the exporter's hands. The last man who buys the grain either as flour or meal pays the tariff. If the father or bread-winner sold the bread to his children, he would sell it to them for a price fixed by the tariff, but when it finally slips down the red throat of the little German child it has reached the consumer. For a sentimental reason the father can not get the price out of the bread and he therefore pays it.

* * *

Ideas

The man of works and deeds has a great contempt for the theorist, the debater, yet there is not a warehouse, a grain elevator, a freight car, or a shop that was not originally an idea and nothing more material. Debate brought about Magna Carta, the execution of Charles I, the American revolution, and it will in time accomplish universal suffrage for all the children of men. An idea is born in one brain. The man who owns the brain communicates it to his friends. It is startling and awakens the opposition of his kind. A hundred years ago they killed a man whose ideas were too original. But you cannot suppress an idea that way. Someone else is likely to catch it before the man dies. Or if he dies without making a convert the same idea will occur to some other man by original inspiration. The only way to keep new ideas out of a body is to kill all the dreamers and theoretical fellows just as soon as they are old enough to show plainly what they will be about as soon as they are grown. Sweet content never accomplished anything. It is the divine discontent which stirs a man to think he can make things better if he tries, which induced the Puritans to come to America, which influenced Luther to nail his theses on the cathedral door, which made the Man of Sorrows willing to be nailed on the Cross.

* * *

"But has he the first characteristic of a true poet?"

"Well, yes, He was born, I believe."

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CLUB NOTES**THE WEEK'S REVIEW**

Following the luncheon at the Lincoln the Nebraska Library Association held its annual meeting in Pailadian hall on Wednesday afternoon. In the absence of the secretary Miss Mullikin was appointed secretary pro tempore. In his introductory address President Wyer gave a brief resume of the work accomplished by the association during the past year. The six largest libraries in the state are the Omaha city library, the university library, the Nebraska state library, the Peru library, the Creighton library, and the Lincoln city library. The first library bindery in Nebraska has been put into operation in Omaha during the last twelve months, and is proving a successful experiment inasmuch as the convenience is greater and the expense is less than when the books were sent to other binderies. The university

work in Nebraska is one of growth and adaptation to conditions, in which there can be no precedents and which cannot be systematized. The conditions are unlike those of either the east or west; they are not unlike the conditions in Idaho and Washington states, where there are few large cities needing help from the commission, and where there are many towns too small to support a library, yet bravely endeavoring to sustain a reading room through the help of the traveling libraries. The aim of the state commission is to be helpful without being officious.

The question box was conducted by Miss Tobitt of Omaha. One question related to the advisability of buying cheap or good editions for use in the library. It was decided that good editions should always be purchased.

The session closed with the election

QUEEN WILHELMINA AND DUKE HENRY MAKEUP

Here is the latest photograph of Holland's queen, whose domestic troubles have been discussed all over the world. It was feared for a while that a royal divorce would scandalize the court of Holland, but the queen and her consort are now said to have made it up and will strive to dwell together in peace and harmony.

library has been increased by the gift of a private library of 1700 volumes, which is the largest contribution ever received by that institution.

The state library is limiting its work to the collection of law books, and it is considered one of the best law libraries in the country.

After collecting books for nearly thirty years the library at Peru is now being classified and catalogued.

In spite of unfavorable conditions the Lincoln city library is rapidly increasing in popularity and efficiency. It is expected that the library will occupy its new building some time in February.

New libraries have been established in Fremont and York. In Norfolk a library has been started in connection with the high school, and libraries will soon be established in Wahoo and Nelson. New buildings have been donated to the libraries at Falls City and York.

Miss Edna Bullock, secretary of the state commission, declared that the

of officers, with the following result: President, Miss Edith Tobitt, Omaha; first vice president, Miss Abbott, Lincoln; second vice president, Miss Rulon, Peru; secretary, Miss Mullikin, Lincoln; treasurer, Miss O'Brien, Omaha. The next annual meeting will be held in Omaha.

At the meeting of the Atheneum club yesterday afternoon, Mrs. W. A. Greene, the hostess, read a paper on the subject "Mosaics."

On New Year's day the members of the W. R. P. C. club were at home to their friends at the residence of Mrs. Horace Yates, 1108 H street. In the evening the postal clerks and their families were entertained informally.

Mrs. H. W. Kelley entertained the New Book Review club yesterday afternoon.

At the meeting of the City Improvement society on Thursday morning a committee was appointed to meet next

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