

---As Good As the Best and Better than the Rest---  
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**Mephisto Speaks**

(By An Anonymous Writer)

(Editorial Note: With this issue we present the first of a series of weekly articles by an Alliance writer who prefers to preserve his—or her— anonymity. Judging from the initial installment, Mephisto will say quite plainly the things he thinks should be said. There are no strings tied to him—this column is his own and he is the boss of it. Probably we shall not agree with him all the time, but we have an idea that no matter what he writes, it will be interesting. He promises us that he will attempt to base his observations on things that he finds in Alliance—and he thinks there will be enough to keep him busy. Please don't ask us to give his name. If you can guess it, that's all right with us. But somehow, we doubt whether you will.)

There are some things we cannot understand, and among them is why an editor would want to get married.

By the way, speaking of marriage reminds us of that fine sermon of Dean Dixon, printed in a local paper. Say, boy, he does say some real timely things, among which is: "We are witnessing in our day an open violation of our marriage covenant, that most sacred of human relationships." Then he goes on to say: "The sin strikes at the very foundation of our nation." Right you are, dean. And the way the violation is extant in some parts of this town among children as well as among adults, there will be no need of marriage. Why should there be? The violation in some cases is not only among children, but often outstanding people of the community.

The preacher mentioned above also says: "Lots of mothers and fathers are downing the picture shows, etc., when they themselves are to blame by setting the example which their children follow."

Mephisto thinks that the children of Alliance are doing well—considering the parents they have.

A father was heard to say recently that if he ever knew of a man violating the virtue of his daughter he would not hesitate to shoot him on sight. Mephisto saw that same man, not very early in the evening, in the company of—well, not his wife. Isn't it strange how sensitive we are about our own girls, and how lightly we regard the other man's daughter?

Viviani, the great Frenchman, now our guest at Washington, says he can read the early downfall of France, because of her abandonment in licentiousness, into which she seems to have thrown herself since the war. You perhaps will say: "That fellow must be a preacher or a reformer." No, dear, he is an avowed infidel and agnostic, but he reads the history of present nations in the light of the past, which, by the way, is a safe means to ascertain the result of any course.

Another sentence from the dean's sermon: "Too often the mistakes of childhood are attributed to the church, school or movies, when the truth is they are often the only too apt pupils of the examples set before them by the parents and their associates."

Mephisto thinks the average boy and girl in Alliance is doing well—considering the parents they have.

The mother who is a church member who plays cards for a vase or other prize need not be surprised if her boy plays for pennies and later for dollars. Why should she? The father that shoots craps need not be surprised if his son does so. The mother who attends any doubtful pleasure certainly should not be sad if her daughter wants to go to the same place. Why shouldn't she? That the churches do not have much influence over the children that attend the services is nothing against them, as often the parents of the children are acting against the very things the children are taught to stand for. What is the use of sending children to church if you are going to set an example before your children that is in direct contrast to that which they learn there?

People are often so busy preaching purity that they have no time to practice it. The downfall of most boys and girls can be traced, as a rule, to the training—or lack of training—in the home.

Mother, how long has it been since

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 Keep the vital organs healthy by regularly taking the world's standard remedy for kidney, liver, bladder and uric acid troubles—



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you sat down and talked to that daughter of yours about the great facts of life, and warned her of the great pitfalls that await the girls of Alliance?

Father how about that boy? Have you explained to him how to protect himself, and avoid indulgence in the vices that await the boys of this town?

You say parents ought not to talk to children about those things. Listen, if you don't do so the fiends of hell will. What right have you to force that boy or girl to go to the libertine or harlot for the information that you alone have the right to impart? Think it over.

Licentiousness has become so common in our day that we only laugh where we ought to weep; we joke of the things we hear about our boys and girls when we ought to want to fight the hell hounds who bring about their downfall.

Again let Mephisto say that he thinks the Alliance boys and girls are doing nicely, considering the teaching and example the parents set before them.

(Signed) MEPHISTO.

**Home Cook Shop will open Wednesday morning. Coffee and waffles served from 7 to 9 a. m. A general delicatessen. 118 West Fourth St. Mrs. A. H. Robbins.**

**College Specialists Say The Wise Farmer Will Stick by Stock-Raising**

Specialists at the Nebraska college of agriculture believe the wise farmer will stay by stock-raising. There is now a surplus of low-priced grain and hay and a material decrease in the amount of stock in the country. It is estimated that there were on January 1, 1921, nearly ten million fewer head of stock in the United States than on January 1, 1920. Barring widespread crop failures, this year will add materially to the surplus of corn, wheat and other cereals and feeds. Farmers who have livestock to feed may find this a good way to market their grain and hay. By increasing his livestock operations the farmer is able to get along with less expense for hired help and at the same time escape some of the hard work connected with grain farming. Many farmers are planning to increase their meadow and pasture acreages, especially those of alfalfa and sweet clover. Many of them have taken advantage of the low price of purebred stock and have laid the foundation for fine herds of cattle, hogs and sheep. Dairy farming is growing in favor in several Nebraska counties and good cows are being shipped in from other states. Maintaining soil fertility is another reason why some are leaning toward more livestock.

**PIANO FOR SALE**

We have a slightly used piano in Alliance that we were compelled to re-possess and reliable party can purchase same on small monthly payments. We can sell this at a rare bargain, if you are interested write us and our representative will call upon you.

**LARSON'S MUSIC STORE**  
 SIDNEY, NEBR. 27tf

**ART NOTE**

The thief who recently stole a statue from a park in Berlin ought to be compelled to keep it.—Kansas City Star.

Apparently the antitobacco crusaders are bent on preventing America from becoming a land of smoking ruins.—Norfolk Virginian-Pilot.

**Young Men to Be Given Outing Free By the Government**

Citizen's military training camps are to be conducted by the war department during the coming summer (or the training of young men who have passed their sixteenth birthday and who are not over thirty-five years of age. These training camps will be opened not earlier than July 15 nor later than August 10 and will continue for one month. They will be modeled and fashioned after the Plattsburg and similar officers' training camps that were run by the war department during the world war to train officers for the expanded army. The objects of these citizens' training camps are to bring together young men of all types, both native and foreign born; to develop closer national and social unity; to stimulate the interest of the youths of this country in the importance of military training as a benefit to the individual taking such training and as an asset vital for the problems of national defense.

**No Obligation Incurred**

The camps will show the public by actual example that camp instruction of the kind contemplated will develop the young men physically, mentally and morally and will teach Americanism in its true sense through patriotism and self-discipline, resulting in greater national strength, both civil and military.

There will be no obligation resting on the men who attend these training camps other than that they shall properly conduct themselves during the period of the camp and receive the instruction given. At the close of the camps, the young men will return to their homes without being tied up with any contract or agreement of service. This is simply a plan to give the young men all the benefits of a few weeks' training without enlisting them in any of the military forces of the United States.

Applicants for these camps must have average general intelligence and be of good moral character. No educational qualifications are prescribed or required. Each candidate, before admission, will file a certificate from a qualified physician stating that his health and strength are adequate for the course of training; such certificate to be on official blanks to be furnished to the applicants; also a certificate from a schoolmaster, clergyman, priest or rabbi, to the effect that the candidate is of good moral character and average general intelligence.

**Transportation Paid**

It is the desire of the war department to train the maximum number possible in the appropriations made by congress. Transportation charges of applicants will be paid to and from camps. Subsistence will be furnished without charge to all men attending camps, but they will not receive pay.

In the Seventh corps area, which embraces the states of North and South Dakota, Minnesota, Nebraska, Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, and Arkansas, two camps will be conducted—one at Fort Snelling, Minn., which is situated on the edge of Minneapolis, and the other at Camp Pike, Ark., which is adjacent to Little Rock, Ark. Applications to attend the citizens' military training camps should be sent to the commanding general, Seventh corps area, Fort Crook, Neb., attention Major Lemmon.

**Wanted to buy both your fat and stock hogs. O'Bannon and Neuswanger. Phone 71. 18tf**

An actress says she can't live on \$50,000 a year. A lot of people who would like to can't, either.—Santa Rosa Republican.

A husband has applied for a divorce because his wife did not take a bath in twenty years and we have to admit that it really did begin to look as if she did not intend to take one.

As a mystery that passes all understanding consider the state of mind of a slender girl who thinks she looks well in a pair of those loose topped galoshes.

Maybe the noise of riveting in our ship-yards makes it impossible for Japan to hear the talk at Geneva about disarmament.—Little Rock Arkansas Gazette.

**Be Proud of Your Kitchen**

WOMEN are giving more thought to their kitchens these days than ever before. They have learned the comfort and convenience that modern equipment affords—and that as a matter of pride and real economy, too, such equipment should be of the best obtainable quality.



"Sanitary" Kitchen Sink, White Enameled Kitchen Table, Herrick "Dry Air" Refrigerator, Universal Aluminum Cooking Utensils that are clean, bright and silver-like; Universal Bread Maker; the Step-saving Wonderfully Convenient Sellers' Cabinet; a Cover-tight Garbage Pail; a

Compact, Smoothly Operating Universal Food Chopper, a Sterling Slicer, will slice any fruit or vegetable; a Westinghouse Electrical Range with the automatic feature and other kitchen necessities that take the hard work out of Kitchen Hours.

*Newberry's Hardware Co.*

**The Lap Of Fortune**

**B**EN FRANKLIN said: "To be thrown on one's own resources is to be cast in the very lap of fortune."

Ben was a pretty wise old chap and in the above paragraph, in the language of the street, he "said a mouthful." In other words a case of sink or swim teaches one to SWIM. In financial affairs, it means work and save in order to succeed. The dollars you earn are the ones you value and will keep. Are you struggling along on your own resources? Then you are the very party we are anxious to help. We admire your pluck. Open an account with our Bank. We will stand by you.

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