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LARGE CROWD ON HAND TO HEAR ADDRESS OF GEORGE B. IRVING

The Speaker Talks of Many Evils and the Remedy Thereof and Speaks Right to the Point.

From Friday's Daily.

The long-heralded lecture of Geo. Blackstone Irving, the "town tonic," was delivered last night at the Parmele theater to a fine audience, one which was representative of the city and one which found much food for thought in the remarks which the able speaker made. There was a very large crowd assembled at the doors of the theater for almost an hour before the lecture was scheduled to commence and they waited patiently in the chilly evening air until the doors were thrown open at 8:45. A large number of the pupils of the high school were in the crowd, an organized effort being made by them to express their appreciation of the remarks which Mr. Irving had made to them when he was here several days since. This body was seated together in the front seats of the parquette in order that a little stunt which they had prepared for the occasion might be effectively staged. They made a mighty fine collection of young people and helped amazingly to show that Plattsmouth was alive and very much alive.

It was a few moments before nine o'clock when Mr. Irving, accompanied by an escort of Mayor Sattler, President Falter of the commercial club and a number of leading business men of the city, made his entrance upon the stage of the theater. The entire lower floor of the house was occupied while the balcony and gallery had a very good crowd of spectators. The entire audience gave the speaker a rousing reception which lasted for sometime. Immediately as the speaker and the committee took their seats, the stunt of the high school pupils spoken of above was carried out. They rose in a body under the leadership of one of the young lady pupils and gave the school yell which took the speaker and the audience alike by surprise. Later under the direction of the principal of the schools the yell was again given and the entire assemblage of pupils sang a song composed especially for the occasion boosting the schools and the pupils. This made quite a hit with the audience who loudly applauded the pupils as they resumed their seats.

Incident to the opening exercises of the evening Don C. York sang a booster song especially written for the occasion, the song being based upon the slogan of the city, "See Plattsmouth Succeed." Mr. York is a magnificent singer and his new song made an instantaneous hit with the audience who greeted it with applause. It is well written and effective and in his hands could not help being a success.

Mayor Sattler then introduced the speaker Mr. Irving with a few brief remarks in which he spoke of the ideas which Mr. Irving had to impart to the audience and bespoke him an attentive hearing.

Mr. Irving on being introduced took occasion to explain to the audience why he was here and what he hoped to be able to leave behind him. He is an able speaker and seemed to have the subject of his discourse at his tongue's end. His speech throughout bristled with telling points and the fact that he had spent his day in the city to good advantage came out strongly when he showed to the people wherein they were injuring themselves and suggested methods by which they could avoid this and help themselves and the city. The faults of the city and the people came in for a severe scoring at his hands which indicated that he had made a careful study of the conditions existing here. He cannot be called an eloquent speaker but he has the redeeming merit of being forcible and vigorous in his expression. Added to this he has an effective stage presence and on the whole he is calculated to carry weight with his audience.

In the commencement of his lecture Mr. Irving dwelt upon the subject of patriotism seeking in this way to draw his hearers to the idea that civic patriotism should compel them to work for the interest of Plattsmouth. Going back to the foundation of the nation he pointed out that from the earliest day of American history, the threat of the cities to

dominate the republic was one of the things which it had been sought to avoid. Space forbids a detailed account of this subject but he showed effectively that the doom of the small town and the village community was in the overshadowed domination of the great cities. He pointed this out as applying particularly to this city which lies under the shadow of Omaha and Lincoln. He denounced the large cities as hot beds of vice and corruption and denounced graft in all its forms. In fact, Mr. Irving's speech in its first part was an attack upon the cities and an attack against them. He also took occasion to severely criticize all those who went to Omaha for their purchases, scoring them as enemies to the city and themselves.

Along similar lines he took up the questions of great trusts and corporations and asserted these were sucking the commercial blood of the small towns and the country. He made a number of political allusions throughout his speech glorifying the fight of Ex-President Roosevelt upon the trusts and big combinations and inferentially criticizing President Taft for having a number of corporation lawyers in his cabinet. His political references received a measure of approval from the audience. From the question of trusts and combinations he naturally drifted to the mail order houses of the big cities and severely denounced them and the people who patronized them alleging that the latter were being bled by the former and were paying more to them for goods than their local merchants charged.

Owing to a lack of space the several ideas which the speaker advanced must be condensed. Sufficient to say that he made throughout his speech a number of references to local instances in which merchants and their wives, particularly the latter, has injured the city by either going to Omaha to buy goods or by ordering through mail order houses and this practice he bitterly assailed. He counseled the merchants to get together and to trade with one another. To discourage the exodus of women to Omaha for their trading, he also mentioned an instance of which he had been told wherein the wives of several merchants and ex-merchants had been interested in mail order clubs and his references were so thinly veiled that the veriest tyro could locate whom he meant.

As to the merchants themselves, he severely criticized their lack of progressiveness and urged upon them the building of better stores, the better display of their wares and above all the use of judicious advertising and plenty of it. Along this line he insisted that advertising should be up-to-date just the same as news and that it should be changed from day to day. His address along these lines was to show if Plattsmouth merchants are to escape being swallowed by Omaha and Chicago, they must wake up and make an aggressive campaign through the newspapers for trade. Emulate the example of the big cities and use a whole page in the local papers to tell what they had to sell and what they wanted for it. He stated that he believed in setting aside two per cent of the business for this purpose.

Referring to the city itself he had many suggestions for the beautification of its streets and parks. He contended it was money well invested and that the appearance of a home-like city worked wonders in securing good citizens from abroad as residents. He scored the condition of the streets as they are at present and recommended an immediate turning of public attention to them. He condemned the present system of municipal elections and declared for the commission form of government in the cities.

He recommended the formation of women's clubs to push civic matters and to assist the city in getting more beautiful streets and parks. He also recommended the women to get together for many other reforms to help rebuild the city.

Much of what the speaker said is

forced to be omitted, one thing which he did oppose however, being the construction of the interurban line between this city and Omaha. He pointed out that the construction of this line coupled with the rise of the automobile would result in ending business in this city. In the conclusion he took up a list of the city assets and liabilities, the former including what the city now had to start with and the things which it had on hand but which it had done nothing with.

For obvious reasons some of the latter will not be mentioned as undue publicity might impair their usefulness to the community just now. One thing he did point out, however, was that the city has the best location for industries of any city in the country and that it is endowed by nature with an especially fine location for a residence town, the high hills along the Missouri affording magnificent home sites. He also contended strongly that Plattsmouth must be made a factory city and that the securing of small factories meant a world of good to the people of this city. He recommended the creation of a community fund which was to be used to promote factories in the city and asserted that it could be raised here if the people only made up their minds to have it. He figured that the city could raise \$30,000 without trouble for this purpose.

Throughout his address the speaker took occasion to cite many towns which he had visited which were in a similar condition to this city and he told how they had risen from adversity and had struggled to the front until they were now real cities within the meaning of the word. He pointed out that what they had done this city should and could do. He urged united action and cooperation to avert the threatened decay of the city and especially exhorted the merchants and businessmen to get together and build up the city. He also illustrated his speech with several stories, each bearing a telling moral, and in a number of instances his references to local people were such that the identity of the parties was obvious, in one or two cases he used actual names. He wanted knocking stopped and he cited one party in particular whom the knockers committee should visit at once.

His speech on the whole made a very favorable impression and one which will probably be of much worth to the community. Starting as he did at a late hour, he had to cut out several of the points he desired to make and even at that it was some time past eleven o'clock when he closed. He was loudly applauded as he finished.

The Journal reporter made an effort to find out what the public sentiment seemed to be on the lecture with the following results:

J. C. York—He made a pretty fair speech. I think the way to make Plattsmouth succeed is for the merchants to get away from swords points, rub noses and be friends.

August Bach, Sr.—It was a nice talk. The merchants should get together and shake hands.

C. W. Baylor—It was about the best thing I have heard here in a long time. He had some ideas which could be carried out by Plattsmouth which many had never thought of.

Mayor Sattler—It was all right. He told a whole lot of truth. If the people live up to his advice we will have a good town.

Wm. Egenberger—He was all right. He is a good speaker. I admire the way he roasted the people of Plattsmouth.

L. B. Egenberger—He made a pretty good talk, said some mighty good things.

E. A. Wurl—It was all right as far as it went but the people have to do these things themselves in the end, and we can only do the best we can.

Henry Goos—I liked it very much. He said a lot of good things.

H. M. Soennichsen—It was about what all of us know. What we want is to know how to make the tight wad let loose.

A. J. Trilitty—He was all right, if the people don't forget what he said, especially the bankers and merchants.

E. H. Wescott—I think it a very practical, well directed address.

H. K. Davis—I think the lecture worth twice the price of its cost to the merchants if they only appreciate it.

Carl Herger—What he said was the truth. If we get together we can go ahead. Cut out the jealousies. For myself I am going to start improving without waiting for a donation from

anyone. I intend to get me a cake machine and a battery and make cakes. I believe I can sell them here and then I am going after business outside of town. I don't need to wait for help.

Dr. Cook—He said some very good things which ought to be and should be heeded by the people, especially that part which will do great good toward beautifying the town.

J. W. Crabill—He was all right.

W. E. Rosencrans—I only heard part of the address but what I did hear pleased me.

John Bauer—It was very good.

Frank Bestor—A first class talk, especially that part referring to the merchants wives going to Omaha to buy little things they say they can't get here. He is wide awake.

Emil Weyrich—It hit the point. Let such speeches come thick and fast.

Carl Kunsman—Some of it was all right and some not. It is all right to talk about home people working together but they don't get together. He made many very good points.

George E. Dovey—He is a crack-jack lecturer. It is a mighty good thing to stir up the people. The citizens should try to carry his ideas out. We can't have all but we can have a part of what he advocated.

Ed. Lutz—I think it was all right. It was fine and I believe in more of them.

Emmons J. Richey—It was one of the biggest things in the town for a long time. If people take advantage of his suggestions they can get results. As to raising money we can raise it if we try.

Wm. Schmidtman—The talk was all right, but he didn't tell us anything new. What we want to do is to be good fellows among ourselves.

Charles C. Parmele—I think he was all right. There are some things on which we would disagree as he was not acquainted with local conditions. I certainly agree with him on the commission form of government. We must push, work and get together.

Wm. Hassler—I agree with him on some things while on other things I don't.

Emmons Ptak—I think he hit the nail on the head.

A. H. Koubek—He made a nice talk on some things but there are two sides to the matters.

M. Fanger—It was a dandy. I certainly enjoyed hearing about the women with the suitcases.

Jillip Thierolf—It was a fine talk. I would be willing to spend a sum like that every month to hear that kind of a talk. It puts ginger into the people and makes them talk.

Carl G. Fricke—I thought it very good and enjoyed the evening very much.

J. P. Falter—It was all right—unquestionably right.

J. M. Roberts—It was very good. One strong point he made was in regard to people schooling their children here and spending their money in Omaha, being objects of charity.

Geo. L. Farley—It was very good and will do good.

John Nemetz—I enjoyed it.

R. B. Windham—I enjoyed the evening. He pleased the audience. I agreed generally with his views and I think the lecture did good.

W. J. Streight—I thought it all right. He was talking sense.

H. A. Schneider—I liked it.

Judge Beeson—It was all right on the whole. One could agree with some of the things and disagree with others but generally it was a good thing.

J. W. Larkin—It was all right. I enjoyed it thoroughly.

Matters in County Court.

In county court today the matter of the final settlement of the estate of Christina Kunz was to have been heard but it was finally concluded to continue the case until tomorrow.

In the matter of the appointment of an administrator in the estate of Gustave Buss, deceased, the court this morning appointed H. G. Wellensiek of Avoca as administrator on the petition of Mrs. Lulu Buss, the widow.

The first hearing on claims in the estate of Caroline Rauwen was had, there being no claims presented against the estate.

Mail Carrier Appointed.

Washington dispatches today announce the appointment of Elmer E. Horton as rural mail carrier at Elmwood with St. Mairs as substitute.

DR. YOUNG AND HIS TRUSTY GUN

Ends Life of Small Dog This Morning After Wild Chase

Doctor Howard M. Young, night chief of police, has added another title to his many. He is now the lord high executioner, having accumulated this distinction this morning when he sent a worthless little cur dog to the happy hunting grounds. The good man's many adventures with the dog constituted a source of much laughter to those who were fortunate enough to see them. The animal saw the good man bearing down on him with all sails set and his portholes bristling with large, heavy muzzle loading artillery, and he promptly took refuge in flight. The dog raced down Main street toward the depot hotly pursued by the doctor who ever and anon paused to unlimber his artillery and train it on the unfortunate canine. Each time he paused there was a general scattering among the spectators and each and everyone took refuge behind some convenient building or telegraph pole, expecting to hear the roar of the heavy guns but none came. The pursuit continued to the Burlington station where the dog executed a flank movement and crossing the viaduct came up Main street on the south side. The doctor was unrelenting in his pursuit and followed the animal. At the corner of Main and Third the miserable animal took refuge with a man standing there and he seized it and turned it over to the valiant warrior. The doctor took the cur into an adjacent alley and then came a loud roar as his trusty or rusty weapon spoke. A great cloud of smoke and flame reared its crest to the heavens and the dog was no more. Thus came the good doctor by his title of lord executioner extraordinary, a title well fitted to a worthy man.

Leaves Cass County.

An important real estate transfer has just been made, Frank Young selling his fine farm near Murray to C. D. Long from near Red Oak, Ia., for the sum of \$110 per acre. The farm comprises 120 acres and is a mighty good one. Mr. Young has occupied this farm for 55 years almost, having moved upon the place on March 5, 1855. He parts with it with regret but saw an opportunity to make good money in Minnesota, he having bought 650 acres in that state near the town of Degraf. Of this fine farm 440 acres are under cultivation. Mr. Young expects to yield possession of the farm very shortly and in order to get away, he arranged for a big sale of his farm stock and implements which will take place Feb. 17th. The Journal will print the sale bills for this sale which will be a good one and one at which many bargains can be had. It is with sincere regret that the many friends in this locality see him leave but they hope and believe that his prosperity in his new home will continue unabated. Mr. Young is one of the finest men ever living in Cass county and the people of Degraf are to be congratulated upon securing so good a man and so excellent a family for their neighborhood.

William Rejoicing.

William Sitzman is always a very happy individual and his condition for the past few days has not been such as to cause any unusual comment from any of his friends. They noticed that he seemed more obnoxious than usual but they laid it to his exuberance of animal spirits. As a matter of fact, it was on account of the arrival at his house of a fine young woman. The young lady made her appearance night before last, the Stork acting as an escort. The secret leaked out yesterday afternoon and William has been showered with many congratulations by his numerous friends. He is bearing his honors as meekly as could be expected and is quite proud of the addition to his family. Both Mrs. Sitzman and the daughter are doing nicely.

Brantner Sells Farm.

Ed. Brantner has disposed of his farm property just at the northern outskirts of the city to Chris Iske, selling the same for the sum of \$2700. The property is excellently situated and is a valuable piece of property and Mr. Brantner disposed of it at what is considered a low price.

Higley first, Dovey Second
The committee to award the prizes for the greatest number of booster buttons sold met this morning and after canvassing the buttons accounted for decided that James Higley, Jr., won the first prize, the \$5 awarded by Mr. Irving. The second prize went to Charles Dovey but just what it was to be had not been determined at the hour of going to press. Higley sold 74 buttons and Dovey 64. There were many competitors for the prizes and several were close to the leaders.

"RAILROAD WRECK SALE" IN COURT

Large Crowd in Attendance at The Trial and Much Feeling is Shown by Attorneys

The latest phase of the war which is being waged between the merchants of the city and the commercial club and the three ne'er-do-wells who are running the "railroad wreck sale" in the Leonard building, was reached this morning when the case which was brought against them for distributing advertising matter in the city came on for trial. Matthew Gering, their counsel, arrived home last evening and this morning the men were in court ready for trial. The names of the men as given in the complaints are N. Greenberg, H. Carton and Wm. Warsaw. The case against them was commenced last Wednesday when City Attorney Ramsey filed a complaint before Judge Archer charging them with violating the ordinance by distributing advertising matter without a bill posters license and also with scattering advertising matter over the city under the last ordinance passed by the council.

The morning was taken up with the introduction of evidence which went to show that the three defendants had hired some small boys to distribute advertising matter over the city consisting of a cheap bill promising a vast stock of merchandise consisting of clothing, furnishing goods, hats and caps and boots and shoes, to be sold at scandalously low prices. After many heated debates between counsel which at times waxed very acrimonious, Attorney Gering for the defendants admitted that his clients had distributed the matter as charged but denied that they were amenable to the ordinance which he denounced as null and void. The arguments of counsel which commenced this morning ran along into the middle of the afternoon. They were decidedly lurid especially that of Mr. Gering, who proceeded to take the hide off of the local prosecutors and denounced them in strong language. He also threatened to turn over the names of some of the local merchants who had distributed bills just as his clients were charged with doing, to the city attorney for prosecution and charged the counsel on the side of the prosecution with playing politics in the matter. City Attorney Ramsey opened the argument for the prosecution and insisted upon the validity of the ordinance and the fining of the prisoners. Attorney Tidd closed for the prosecution and he and Attorney Gering had a running fire of personal comments for each other which was highly edifying to the large crowd who had assembled to "see the fun." The personal history and habits of counsel seemed to be as much of an issue in the case as the merits of the charges and everyone who attended stated they had more fun out of the trial than they would hearing Irving speak.

Out of all the mass of irrelevant and immaterial matters injected into the trial of the three "wreckers" this afternoon Judge Archer finally concluded that our old friend N. Greenberg was the responsible party and he soaked N. with a fine of \$5 and costs. Carton and Warsaw, he stated the evidence showed to be merely hirelings of Greenberg and these he discharged. The decision will not give the greatest amount of satisfaction to the local merchants but it was the law and the evidence as the court saw it. The said N. Greenberg will separate himself from the profits on a pair of pantaloons and liquidate said fine and costs. Just what move will be made now in the game is unknown.

C. H. Vallery, the well known citizen of the precinct, is in the city today attending to business.