

The Social Events of This Week

With the coming of lent the number and brilliancy of social functions is expected to materially decrease. The social season, however closed with a series of unusually pretentious events and the pre-lenten social record holds much of interest.

John Kanaly entertained a number of his friends at a dance at Ryans hall Friday evening.

The Royal Highlanders held a box social at their hall on Tuesday evening. The program included music and drills and plenty of good things to eat.

The Hiawatha Herald says: "Misses Ella and Anna Shilling gave a flinch party on Wednesday evening complimentary to their guest, Mrs. B. Simanton of Falls City."

Anna Dorrington entertained in a charming manner at her home on South Chase street Monday evening. Cards were the order of the evening. Refreshments were served.

With the assistance of a few friends, Maude Heck planned a surprise party for her brother. The surprise was complete and the young folks made the most of this opportunity to have a good time. Fling and music were among the special features. Light refreshments were served.

Lettie Cain entertained at whist on Saturday evening. The competition for prizes offered was very keen and at the close of the games a beautiful fencing girl medallion, was awarded to Mary Clegg. The consolation prize, a valentine went to Sue Hoffnell. Miss Cain served splendid refreshments.

J. F. Whetstine and wife were host and hostess at a very pleasant whist party Tuesday evening. A large number of guests were

present and shared in the pleasures of this occasion. This pleasure was made all the more complete by the serving by the hostess of delightful refreshments.

Minnie Jussen entertained at a Valentine party on Saturday afternoon in honor of her sister, Mrs. M. A. Stuart of Okmulgee, I. T. The event was characterized by some unique features which proved especially entertaining. One feature was a verse writing contest in which all participated and when all the productions had been read it was found that Mary Clegg had proven herself the most clever verse writer present and she was awarded the prize. In another contest the guests moulded images of cupids out of chewing gum and their efforts and the results attained provoked much merriment. In this contest Mrs. J. C. Martin captured the prize. Refreshments were served and the afternoon proved most enjoyable in every particular.

The members of the Episcopal church tendered a public reception to Rev. Henry B. Smith and family on Tuesday evening at the home of Mrs. W. M. Maddox. Many members of the church were present as well as many others who desired to personally meet Rev. Smith and the members of his family. The reception was of an informal nature.

The G. A. R. and W. R. C. celebrated Lincoln's birthday at their hall on Friday evening. After a short program suitable and appropriate to the occasion, all shared in one of those suppers for the preparation of which the Relief Corps ladies are famous. The remainder of the evening was spent in the telling of stories in which line the veterans long ago achieved fame.

Where Princes Abound.

The Russian government has appointed a heraldic commission to inquire into the origin of the titles of numerous "princely" families of the Caucasian provinces. Princes are more numerous there, it seems, than anywhere else in the world, since the old Mingrelian monarchs used to ennoble their subjects on the smallest pretext. One peasant, for example, was accorded the style of prince for picking up a scarf pin which the monarch had dropped in the mud, and another for acting as beater on the occasion of a royal "shoot." The consequence is that Russia is full of Caucasian princes, who keep small shops.

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Farmers Institute.

The farmers institute held at Humboldt last Friday and Saturday was a very successful meeting.

The Friday afternoon session opened with an invocation by Rev. Smith. H. P. Miller of Sanbury, Ohio, addressed the institute on the subject of soil culture, laying before his hearers many practical ideas. The institute was then turned over to the ladies, Mrs. A. L. Drake, lady president being called to the chair and presided during the reading of a paper on the evils of the existing liquor traffic as read by Mrs. A. Edie. C. M. Lewelling of Beaver City talked on the selection of seed corn.

At the Saturday session C. H. Barnard of Table Rock spoke on fruit culture and recommended the Warfield and Dunlap as the best varieties of strawberry. Lulu Hummel rendered an instrumental solo, after which Mrs. Welton of Fairbury spoke on Domestic Science. The speaker also urged increased interest in institute work to better fit the coming generation for farming. M. M. Sterns talked of the best cattle for breeding and feeding. He recommended the low, blocky animal and said that the four best breeds for beef are the Angus, Shorthorn, Herefords and Galloways. He stated that the best breed for a farmer to raise is the breed he loves the best.

The afternoon meeting was addressed by Prof. Snyder, assistant state superintendent of institutes. D. Ward King of Maitland, Mo., spoke on "Good Roads and How to Make them." Twenty-five farmers agreed to try Mr. King's plan of road making. A vocal solo by Bert Williamson and a violin and piano duet by Dr. Litchfield and Mrs. M. L. Wilson were followed by an address on the care and management of poultry by C. M. Lewelling. A song by the pupils of Dist. No. 9 and a solo by Miss Ruby Idle were pleasing numbers. Don Gridley spoke on "Pay of Young Farmers," and then the institute was again turned over to the ladies and Mrs. A. L. Drake spoke on

"Home Manners and Amusements." A general discussion followed.

The corn exhibit held in connection with the institute was an interesting feature. Prizes were awarded to A. E. Stalder, P. M. Gergen, J. L. Mayer and J. O. Shroyer for white corn, and to Ernest Fergus, H. D. Philpot, F. A. Hummel and J. T. Hardy for yellow corn. The prizes were subscriptions to farm papers.

The following officers were elected for the ensuing year: G. H. Hummel, president; B. W. Sterns, vice president; Don Gridley, secretary; James Holman, treasurer; Miss Claire Sterns, lady president; Miss Grace Jones, lady vice president.

Curious Fruits.

In the Island of Sulu grows the durian, which is about the size of a muskmelon. Its exterior presents somewhat the appearance of a chestnut bur, being prickly and tough; within the fruit is white and cheeselike, and owing to this peculiarity the American soldiers dubbed it "vegetable limburger." The mangosteen is another of the rare fruits of the island. It is the size of an average orange, chocolate colored and has a very brittle skin. Inside four white sections contain a colorless liquid. This is the rarest fruit known and the only one, so it is claimed, that Queen Victoria never tasted, there being no way of preserving the fruit for a sufficient period after plucking to permit of shipping it to any distance.

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