

LENT BRINGS SOCIAL LULL

HAS BEEN A MOST DELIGHTFUL SEASON IN NORFOLK.

ACTIVITIES OF THE PAST WEEK

The Winter Has Been Filled With Merriment of Cards and Dinners and Dances and Luncheons—Euchre Has Afforded Fun.

Lent has lent a quieting tone to the social whirl, as is shown by the lack of events scheduled for the coming weeks. Up to the last moment, and including the romantic St. Valentine's day, continued the round of pleasure which had been so incessant through the winter, and now there comes a sudden lull. The only explanation for it seems to be that the Lenten season is at hand. Features of the week were two dinner parties given by Mr. and Mrs. E. M. Huntington and another by Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Salter and Mr. and Mrs. P. H. Salter.

It has been a merry winter in Norfolk social circles, and it will go on record as one of the most delightful that the city has known in a long time, though for the past three or four seasons there has been no end of pleasures in this line. There have been so many dinners and dances and luncheons that hosts and hostesses have often been puzzled for open dates, and it has taken keen manipulating to get the calendar worked out so that the various events on the schedule dovetailed evenly.

Euchre, as the card game, has been by far the favorite for the season and it has come to prevail on many occasions where a number of guests were brought together, both at luncheons and dinners. It has been the snappy six-hand game of euchre that Norfolk played, and there has been pleasure plus wrought from its curious and erratic ways. It's been a game wherein luck had much to do with winning, while courage and caution, each in their proper and yet indefinite places, played minor roles. On one occasion a person who had never won a prize in her life (or his) would start out with phenomenal hands, progress from table to table every time there came a rapping, and win out with high score, hands down. Again, a player might start out early in the game with no luck at all, wear an unpunched score card a quarter of the way through the evening's play, then suddenly get rabbit's foot fortune and sail in under the wire a neck ahead of the next highest contestant.

There's been the shouting fiend and the over-cautious underbladder. The shouting fiend would shout on an ace and trust to the widow and his partners to hold the joker and the two bowers. And, if he happened to be in luck, he would win it, taking the last trick perchance on a seven-spot or off-suit. And this is the way he (or she) would pilot through the shouting channel, luckily missing obstacles and clearing up a souvenir at the end of the evening without even a competitor to cut with. And on the next occasion this very same player, gone mad with the shouting mania, would shout till he was black in the face and his lungs were sore, without ever once steering clear of the last wild commander. He would hold the joker, both bowers and ace, and some sly fox would swoop down and draw in the final suit card. One famous shouting woman went through a whole evening long with but one single punch on her score-card—and a companion in the shouting craze got the same number before the night was done.

These shouting sharks have all been spotted by the long suffering conservative euchre players, who have been swung in as helpless partners countless times, and it is said that the offenders are marked as targets for revenge—next season.

Most of the dinners served during the season have been in four courses, not counting the coffee. Some of the opinions which must be respected have declared emphatically that the coffee ought by rights to be counted as a separate course of itself. Others, who must be equally respected in their opinions, have declared just as emphatically that coffee goes along with the rest of the meal and that it can't be counted as a distinct course. The result, so far as this illuminating social column is concerned, has been a compromise; in the early part of the winter they were all "five course" affairs, and in later days they have been served in "four courses." It's still a matter undetermined and it's still a compromise. For who wants to pick a quarrel with a lot of women? It remains for the debating society to set the world straight on this vital point—is coffee a course or is it not? And no puns go.

The after-dinner cigar has been a notable feature of the season's functions, and especially for one of three classes of guests. There were the men who smoked, the men who didn't smoke, and the ladies (who also didn't smoke). As soon as the last course of the dinner—fourth or fifth as you will—had been served and the finger bowls passed around, the smokers would toss their napkins on the tables, rise hastily and make a bee line for the upstairs—for the cigar box is invariably upstairs. He would dip into the bunch, select a rich one—for the dinner party cigars are the best a fellow gets to smoke—light up, begin puffing and succeed, before many

rounds, in building a solid lake of pure white smoke, encoiled by the four walls of the smoking room. Through the smoke columns on Brownsville and Tiltman and Japanese and Harry Thaw found their way, each affair being taken up and properly settled in its turn.

The men who didn't smoke went more leisurely to the house-top, even stopping to chat with femininity that stood in the way or sat on the stairs. This non-smoker never arrived at the smoking room until he had run the blockade of skeptical disbelievers who swore they had seen him smoking at some time or other, somewhere or other, but he invariably dropped into the smoke room at last, to be the target again for queries as to why he had no Havana between his lips and then to be alternately told, with all seriousness, both that he was doing just the right thing and just the wrong. Within a few brief moments he learned that he ought never to touch the vile weed and, on the other hand, that he was missing one of the rare and indescribable comforts of life. And by the time he got his eyes as well as his clothes well soaked in the second hand smoke, and just at the point where he was on the verge of asking the cook what he really ought to do, the hostess would appear to cut short the luxury and force unwilling indulgers to throw away fragrant stubs just at the best point—because the ladies were waiting. Poor ladies! Once rekindled, this crowd of smokers and non-smokers alike wonder how the ladies have managed it all alone down stairs for that entire half hour. But the downstairs femininity is still alive and breathing when the smokers, shaking the ashes from their black coats, return for the battle with bowers.

And speaking of black coats. There has never been a season in Norfolk when full dress for men was so popular as during the present winter. Many who had renounced the low cut waistcoats and spiketailed coats, capitulated later in the social season, and it may be said with assurance that their popularity is still on the rise.

But back to the game—and the prizes. While it may be said that nobody starts out with the selfish aspiration of getting a prize at any cost, yet every person has enough spirit and love of success, whatever the struggle, to strive in a wholesome way for victory. Else it would be no game at all. And so the contest waxed merrily on, with now and then a healthy rivalry for points. Systems are brought into use, with more or less success. Partners whose style is similar and successful, often, by coincident, find themselves playing with one another table after table in a long series of bouts—and that helps some. Thirty-two points count for a game and the first table drawing that score gives the alarm. It's a rule that the instant the knock comes, all games end. There's added zest, therefore, if you chance to have half played out a perfect shouting hand when the rapping comes and robs you of the score. And so things sometimes get up to the white heat point for fear another table will knock before a game is won.

But euchre has not been the only absorbing diversion of the season. There's been dancing. More Norfolk people have enjoyed the glide of the waltz and two-step during the present season than for some years. It was a result of new recruits added by a dancing class of last winter, when a large number of prominent society folk took steps to the time of one-two-three. And so the dancing parties have been well attended and have all been enjoyable affairs. A series of six parties given by the Trinity Social guild has been a feature, as well as several private dancing parties among which that given by Mr. and Mrs. George D. Butterfield stands out as the most elaborate by far. The Elks, who usually entertain at a number of dancing parties during the winter, have had less than the accustomed number this year, the annual ball having been abandoned upon the occasion of the death of Past Exalted Ruler W. M. Robertson. "There has been so much else going on," said one of the social committee of this club, "that we've found little time for scheduling dances."

And speaking of dancing, there's a new chance at the polished floor, as a variation. Years ago local devotees of the dance used to journey, now and then, out to the hospital for the insane on Thursday nights for the weekly dance. The patients enjoy square dances and a few round ones are thrown in for the benefit of visitors. Friday is the night that has been set by Dr. Young and therein lies an opportunity.

Whist has still been played in town, though not so much as last year. Dancing is responsible for this. The Team Whist club, formerly devoted to the silent science of duplicate whist and playing in earnest, has thrown its boards and cards into the garret and replaced them with dancing pumps this year. The West Side Whist club, however, clung to its game and has met every now and then.

For the first time in the town's history the game of chess has come into favor and a chess club has been formed, meetings being held for this diversion each week.

And while cards and dances have been prominent as amusement features, one other factor has come which hopes to take a part in keeping amused the people of Norfolk. This is the theater. For years the local theater has been a losing game and

it came to a crisis. An effort is going to be made to build it up into a solid institution and, with the loyal co-operation of Norfolk which has already become so manifest, it is believed that the stage in this city is going to do its share as a social factor. Not all the shows booked, of course, will be society affairs. Now and then there will be one eminently worth while. Norfolk has shown in the past that these attractions may depend upon full houses, and with Norfolk theatergoers' co-operation the standard of these entertainments is going to be lifted just as high as that of any city of the size in the country. It's going to be a long try before the theater will be made a paying proposition to the management, but the Norfolk public has shown such liberal and generous loyalty to the playhouse already that the management has every confidence in the future.

Pleasures of the Week.

Lincoln's birthday afforded an opportunity for unusual decorations at two pleasant dinner parties given during the past week by Mr. and Mrs. E. M. Huntington at their pretty home on The Heights. Flags and national colors were used effectively for the occasions. One of the parties was given on Monday evening and the other on Tuesday evening. In all, 130 guests were invited for the two events. The dinner on each occasion was served in four courses, covers being cleared afterward for military euchre, which afforded great fun. On Monday evening the players captained by Mr. S. G. Mayor were successful in bringing back the largest number of flags, while the company captained by Mr. D. Mathewson won the honors Tuesday evening. The ladies were presented with pretty salts and peppers, while the gentlemen received cups and saucers. The winners on Monday evening were: Captain S. G. Mayor, Mrs. C. H. Reynolds, Mrs. G. D. Butterfield, Mrs. Copeland, Miss May Durland and Dr. C. S. Parker. On Tuesday evening the winners were: Captain D. Mathewson, Mrs. O. R. Meredith, Mrs. E. E. Gillette, Mrs. N. A. Huse, Mr. Jack Koenigstein and Mr. C. S. Bridge.

Another pretty party was given in the home of Dr. and Mrs. P. H. Salter on Thursday evening of the past week, when Mr. and Mrs. G. B. Salter and Dr. and Mrs. P. H. Salter entertained a company of friends at 6:30 dinner. It was St. Valentine's day and the spirit of the holiday entered into the party in each detail. The home was prettily decorated in hearts and other Valentine effects, the dinner was featured with heart-shaped refreshments, score cards were heart-shaped and the game of hearts was played. In the games winners' prizes were awarded to Mrs. C. H. Reynolds and Mr. C. S. Bridge, while booby prizes went to Mrs. Erskine and Mr. D. Baum. This was the second dinner party given in the same home and by the same hosts and hostesses within a week, each evening affording much pleasure to the guests.

One of the pleasant informal events of the winter came last Saturday evening when a number of Norfolk people drove to the hospital for the insane to be present at the regular weekly dance. A feature of the evening was an informal concert consisting of several vocal numbers by Mrs. Chambers, Mrs. Evans and Mrs. Sullivan of Columbus, and Dr. Singer, a Norfolk quartet composed of C. C. Gow, C. E. Greene, Dr. C. S. Parker and Mr. Solomon. Afterward a short dance was enjoyed. Mrs. Chambers, Mrs. Evans and Mrs. Sullivan of Columbus and Dr. and Mrs. Hay of Lincoln were guests of Dr. and Mrs. Young, and a number of friends in town took this way of meeting the visitors.

Nearly one hundred and fifty young people attended the party given by the business college students last night at their rooms in the Cotton block. It is the second affair of the kind ever undertaken by the college and proved a decided success. A nice program was rendered. Flinch and cards were features of the evening. After the lunch was served the floor was cleared and dancing enjoyed for a time.

Lorin Doughty entertained a few young men friends at dinner on Wednesday night. It proved to be in the nature of a farewell as was discovered soon after gathering as three of the guests left town this week. Carl Austin went to Lincoln on Thursday morning, to be gone for some time; the host left for the west on Thursday night and Halbert Johnson left on Friday for the west.

Mrs. P. A. Shurtz entertained a company of ladies at 1 o'clock luncheon on Thursday. Three courses were served. Little hearts were used for place cards and the house was decorated with hearts. Flinch and euchre were features of the afternoon. Mrs. W. H. H. Hagey won the shouting prize, a little vase, and Mrs. W. I. Jones high-score prize, a dainty book.

Mrs. H. L. Snyder, Mrs. C. F. Shaw and Mrs. E. Sley entertained about fifty ladies of the M. E. Aid society on Thursday afternoon. The house was decorated with hearts, it being St. Valentine's day. The same idea was prettily carried out in the refreshments.

Mrs. H. M. Roberts entertained a few friends of Miss Lena Pasewalk at dinner last night. It was a surprise to Miss Pasewalk. When she returned from her work in the evening she found her friends awaiting her. It was her birthday.

The Queen Esther Circle held a very

enjoyable and profitable meeting Tuesday evening with Miss Georgia Austin. This is a young ladies' missionary society of the M. E. church and it has doubled its membership in three months. Starting in December with six members, they now have twelve. A program is carried out at each meeting and other work is being planned.

A party was held at the home of Herman Korth, one mile north of town, on Wednesday night, the occasion being the birthday of Miss Emma Korth. The evening was pleasantly passed in games and music after which a lunch was served.

Wednesday was Mrs. William Rickert's birthday and a number of her friends helped her to celebrate the event, by spending the evening with her. Cards were a feature of the evening, after which refreshments were served.

The West Side Whist club enjoyed a pleasant meeting last night at the home of Mr. C. S. Bridge.

Weddings.

A quiet wedding took place at the M. E. parsonage Monday morning at 10:30 o'clock when Miss Jessie Howe and Mr. R. E. Williams were united in marriage by Rev. J. L. Vallow. The bride was dressed in a pretty light grey traveling suit and the groom in black. They left on the 1 o'clock train for Omaha and Lincoln for a short honeymoon trip. They will return to Norfolk soon and be at home to their friends. For the remainder of the winter they will board, but in the spring will go to housekeeping. The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. D. Howe and Mr. Williams is secretary of the Elkhorn Valley Life and Accident insurance association. Both have a great many friends in Norfolk who wish them every happiness and prosperity.

Coming Events.

The Elks will enjoy an informal dancing party at Marquardt hall next Friday evening.

The following dates are announced by the Auditorium as scheduled with attractions: February 28, March 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 20, 23; April 3, 4, 5, 11, 12, 13.

Resolutions of Esteem.

Verdigré Progress: In the district court of Knox county, Nebraska:

In the matter of giving expression the universal friendship existing between Hon. J. F. Boyd, judge of said court, on the occasion of his retirement to enter upon his new duties as congressman.

Now on this 5th day of February, A. D. 1907, a committee appointed by the bar of Knox county, Nebraska, to draft resolutions on the retirement of Hon. J. F. Boyd, judge of this court, made their report which was accepted as follows:

We, the undersigned committee on behalf of the bar of Knox county of the Ninth judicial district of Nebraska, in view of the contemplated early retirement of Hon. J. F. Boyd, judge of this district for six years past, congressman-elect, whose duties as congressman will commence March 4, next, have the honor to submit the following:

Whereas Judge Boyd has presided over said court at all times with dignity, courtesy and fidelity and has at all times maintained the high standing of the court by the manner in which he had administered the said great office and trust, and whereas, by the learning, industry and integrity in which he has performed his duties he at all times commanded the unbounded confidence and respect of the bar and people of this district, therefore be it resolved, that we, the members of the bar of said Knox county, hereby testify our highest regard and love for Judge Boyd as a jurist, man, citizen, and gentleman, and follow him in his new field of usefulness with our esteem and best wishes, hope for his success, happiness and usefulness in his new field of work and endeavor, feeling confident that he will carry his industry, courtesy and other commendable qualities of heart and mind with him to the honor of his district and state halls of congress, and be it further resolved, that these testimonials be spread at large on the records of our said court and that a copy thereof under the seal of said court be presented to Judge Boyd.

Respectfully submitted, O. W. Rice, W. R. Ellis, W. L. Henderson, Solomon S. Draper, Committee.

BUD POWERS, LIVE WIRE

Former Norfolk Youth Has Become Factor in a City's Growth. [From Saturday's Daily.]

Isaac Powers, Jr., better known in Norfolk as "Bud" Powers, son of Judge and Mrs. I. Powers of this city, has just been elected manager of the Gravel Springs company, a new business institution at Jacksonville, Ill., where he is also manager of a large packing plant. He has also been made chairman of a promotion committee in Jacksonville, this committee being composed of a number of live members of the Commercial club there. All in all Mr. Powers has become one of the most prominent factors in the upbuilding of that city, which is a place several times larger than Norfolk, because of his great zeal and progressiveness.

Concerning Mr. Powers the Jacksonville Journal says: "Mr. Powers is certainly one of the most progressive young business men Jacksonville has ever known."

RAILWAY RATE MATTERS

STATE LEGISLATURE WILL GIVE POWER TO COMMISSION.

MEN WHO MAY RIDE ON PASSES

Lawyers Who Draw \$500 Per Year From the Railroads, Surgeons and Caretakers of Live Stock—Vote Against Tipping.

Lincoln, Neb., Feb. 16.—The railway commission bill must go through the legislature with a hop, skip and jump. There is no doubt that the measure will be hastened. The members of the legislature are anxious to make some proof of their party loyalty and it is thought that the measure will receive nothing radical in the way of an amendment on the way through the house and senate. Thursday afternoon the house wrestled with the question and the bill was sent on its way. It is expected that the measure will be out of the senate in a few days. The bill confers all powers concerning the regulation of railway, express, telegraph and telephone companies on the commission. Rates must be revised within sixty days and the railroads must go to the commission with their protests. The railroad attorneys were given hearing but they made no protests against the commission bill.

"Who is a caretaker of stock?" This is the question that has been raised concerning the anti-pass bill. "Caretakers" can ride free along with railroad employes and the surgeons and attorneys who draw \$500 per annum. It is probable that the bill will be so amended that the names of the persons favored with free transportation will be filed with the railway commission for the inspection of the public. The bill is expected to pass the house and senate without the least friction.

The primary bill, outlined by Senator Aldrich and several of his colleagues, will make some radical changes in the elections and the measure will be first tested next fall. There is no doubt of the disposition to pass the bill favoring a statewide primary. The bill provides that the primaries of all parties shall take place on the same day. The right to vote will be based on party affiliations and the voter must affirm that he voted with a certain party at the last election and means to vote for a majority of its nominees at the next election. The officials of the regular election act at the primary. The ballots are printed and the vote counted similar to the canvass after a regular election. Candidates for state offices pay \$100 while the local aspirants "dig up" \$10 each. This fund is applied on the primary expenses and the various counties must raise the balance. At present it is planned to elect the state central committee of each party and the state central committee outlines the platform. Concerning the cost of the primary no authentic figures have been cited.

The child labor law is scheduled for early passage. This bill prohibits all child labor in sweatshops and factories and insists on the enrollment of children in the public schools. A state position is created which must be filled by appointment.

Senator Gibson's liability bill was recommended for passage in the senate committee of the whole without the least opposition. There was little oratory and the promised fight did not develop. The bill is aimed at the Burlington relief and the measure applies to the operating departments of the railroads. Senator Burns championed a liability bill including all classes of laborers. The fight will now be transferred to the house.

The senate will pass without a dissenting vote a measure to place the tipping practice within the list of crimes. Fines of from \$5 to \$50 are prescribed by the provisions of the act for both the man who gives and the individual who receives a tip. The bill was outlined by the senate judiciary committee and is supposed to be law proof.

County option may be revived. There is a plan to introduce a bill making each county a voting unit and exempting all cities of 5,000 or more from the provisions of the law, such cities to hold their own elections. The verdict of a majority settles the "wet" or "dry" proposition for a period of five years.

Senator Sackett's bill to prevent pooling in bridge contracts was endorsed by the senate by unanimous vote. All combinations, pools or agreements among county bridge builders are declared criminal and against public policy. Severe penalties are outlined. For those who will give evidence an "immunity bath" is allowed and they will not be punished for their share in the deal.

Bills to abolish the death penalty have been voted down in both the senate and the house. It is now absolutely certain that there will be no modification of the death penalty law. On the other hand it is believed that bills will be passed compelling all hearings for pardons to be made public.

Woman suffrage has been voted down in the house. The battle was an exciting one and the margin narrow. Some of the opponents of woman suffrage took the stand that the woman was the queen of the home and any participation in politics would lower the standard of womanhood. The senate has passed the bills, introduced by Senator King, abolishing dower and curtesy and giving the widows one-third of the real estate and personal property. This is in cases where the widow is the mother of one or all the children. In case she is not the mother

COMMERCIAL CLUB.

Speaking of constructive factors of Norfolk's upbuilding—there's the Commercial club.

The whole organism of a commercial club is constructive. Organized activity among business interests of a community can mean wonderful development of that community and Norfolk business interests, realizing that there are countless possibilities by way of development for Norfolk's future, have organized. They have gotten together for mutual benefit and advancement and they have called themselves the Norfolk Commercial club.

The other day Head Consul A. R. Talbot of the Modern Woodmen of America made a speech in this city to a thousand assembled fraternal members from out over this territory. In that speech he spoke of the advantage of organization and co-operation. And he told a story to bring out his point. "Up in Dakota last summer a child was lost in the wheat field," he said. "The child's parents tried and tried, but failed to locate their little daughter. She had wandered into the midst of that great wheat field and had been swallowed up by the waving grain. The minister learned of it and rang the church bell. He proposed that everybody join in the search and that they all join hands and march through the field in one long line. They found the child in this way."

It's true of a community as it is of individuals. And Norfolk business interests have grasped this fact and put it into use for Norfolk's upbuilding.

Prominent and respected business men have been elected as officers in the Commercial club of Norfolk. There are nine directors, a president, a vice president, a treasurer and there is to be a secretary. The whole united business interests of Norfolk have utmost confidence in these officers, and expect confidently that benefit will come in the future as it has in the past from co-operation.

Every business man in Norfolk is eligible to membership in Norfolk's Commercial club—and every business man can take just as many memberships as he likes, at 50 cents per share per month. This money is used for defraying various expenses that are incurred in promoting the interests of the whole city. There are 135 memberships at the present time and the fact that most of these memberships exercised their right to vote during the past week, shows that there's interest in the organization and what it does. Every commercial traveler residing in Norfolk belongs to this Commercial club and, by recent vote of the directors, will be given membership certificates without fee. Committees are appointed by the directors to look after various matters of importance that arise, and it has been so arranged, by limiting committees to one man each, that these appointments shall result of achievement. Every Tuesday morning the directors of the club meet at 8 o'clock to talk over public matters of the moment, and to lay out plans for the coming week's campaign toward a greater Norfolk.

Norfolk believes that a Commercial club is one of the most vitally constructive factors that a community can possess, and that by taking the initiative and creating new ideas and plans for making Norfolk a bigger and better city, it will take the lead in all things progressive.

The following officers have just been elected for the ensuing year:

- President, C. E. Burnham. Vice president, A. J. Durland. Treasurer, H. C. Sattler. Directors: C. E. Burnham, G. D. Butterfield, W. A. Witzigman, D. Mathewson, A. J. Durland, A. Degner, S. G. Mayer, S. R. Carney, W. R. Hoffman.

CHARGED WITH FORGERY.

Man at West Point Bound Over to the District Court.

West Point, Neb., Feb. 18.—Special to The News: F. W. Selk was brought before county Judge Deward on a charge of forging a check for \$16 and passing the same upon a resident in Bancroft. He absconded to Blair from which place he was brought back by Sheriff Malchow. He was bound over for trial in the District court and the amount of his bond placed by the judge at \$300.

Miss Merritt Recognized.

This week's issue of the "Billboard," a New York City dramatic paper and one of the standard stage publications, has for its outside cover a full page of photographs of Miss Grace Merritt as she appears in "When Knighthood Was in Flower," the beautiful play which was recently presented by her at the Auditorium in this city. Miss Merritt has come to be recognized as one of the best of the minor stars in the country.

Edwin Strong Company.

Edwin Strong's company, playing popular melo-dramas and the like, will be seen at the Auditorium Thursday, Friday and Saturday of the coming week and Saturday matinee, at popular prices.

Water Works System.

Newman Grove, Neb., Feb. 18.—Special to The News: The voters of the village of Lindsay will vote April 2 on the proposition to build an \$8,000 water works system.