# AMUSEMENTS.

In the February number of that bright and militant little monthly publication, The Ishmaelite, appears a thoughtful and very timely essay "Concerning the Romantic Play," from the pen of Otis Skinner. As The Ishmaelite has not the large circulation hereabout to which its merits undeniably entitle it, and as Mr. Skinner has a host of friends and admirers in Omaha who might otherwise be deprived of the pleasure of reading his words on a subject concerning which he is exceptionally well qualified to speak, the essay is here reprinted. Mr. Skinner's latest engagement here furnished proof of the correctness of his theories, so fas as he himself is concerned; for his play, "A Soldier of Fortune," being the only one of his repertory which he himself would classify as "romantic," not only attracted the largest audience of the week, but furnished by far the most satisfactory entertainment.

"The term 'romantic drama,'" says Mr. Skinner, "has of late been applied to the particular kind of play that contains moving incidents, quarrels, the clash of swords, the swagger of bravos, the plotting of villains and the rescuing of fair maidens by gallant men. This is the idea conveyed as soon as the word 'romantic' is applied to a play. Although the spirit of romance may permeate the many other kinds of plays, they must be parceled off as emotional, sensational, classic, comic, tragic, melodramatic, domestic, etc. The drama of incident, just now swinging into vogue, demanded a name, however, and hence this monopoly of terming, which is palpably unjust to many plays of a somewhat different character.

"A curious evidence of the mutability of public taste is shown in the demand for bloodshed and adventure in the novels and plays of today; but it is only a repetition of conditions that have persistently appeared in stage literature from time to time. The play-going public is as eager for novelty as a man of fashion is for a new mode of clothes. Some time ago it was 'farce comedy' that claimed popular support. This kind of entertainment was apparently invented by Charles Hoyt, who discovered that plays could exist without plots, provided they were furnished with a sufficient number of pretty girls, choruses, jokes and specialties. Before this, melodrama of a pronounced English character, full of explosions, realistic effects and bad characters, prevailed. This class of play has succeeded the drama of intrigue taken from French sources, of which 'The Two Orphans' is a memorable example; and this fashion had in turn been preceded by the emotional French drama, which had to do with infractions of the seventh commandment. Then there were the English social comedies of Robertson and Byron. The list is not by any means complete, for there are numerous minor classifications, such as the New England farm play, the American war drama, as well as the social problem play, which recent dramatic literature owes to Ibsen, Sudermann, Pinero and others. In all those examples of different literature, it has been the play that possessed the greatest amount of romance that has been most successful. Hardly a notable example can be found in the records of plays devoid of romance, that have pleased the public and won men's hearts.

"The last of my classifications, the social problem play, rose a few years ago in defiance of the apparently well-established law of the romantic in stage writing. The advocates of this new cult, said: 'We are tired of the old, exaggerated, false theory that the drama has for years been based upon, of its cast-iron rules and of its false conception of life. Why not represent life as it really is? Why not reproduce the struggles, envies, ambitions and desolations of everyday existence? They are the real tragedies: they "hold the mirror up to nature."' This theory seemed reasonable, and Ibsen was hailed as the Messiah of the drama.

"It has been some years since the coming of Ibsen. In the meantime his works have been exploited, discussed, admired, rejected, made subjects of paeans of praise and volleys of damnation. But in spite of all this notoriety of the pioneer realist and that of his followers, Sudermann, Hauptmann and Pinero, their plays have never had real and lasting popularity. I think that the reason is not hard to find. It lies in the fact that when we go to the theatre we want to be taken out of ourselves and transported to an ideal and wonderful world, and the most potent agents to this end are idealism and romance. These are what make the stage world a paradoxical reality to us; we crave illusion, not literalism; the closer to the lines of idealism this illusion is brought the keener is the delight to the refined mind. It is illusion that gives popular acceptance to the wild extravagances of farce and burlesque, and illusion that engenders belief in even the stale devices of cheap melodrama.

"This has been the touchstone to the sympathies of audiences and not bald literalism and photographic realities. We do not want, when we go to the theatre, to find conditions that thrust us back into the world from which we came. It is neither enlightening, elevating nor wholesome to find disease, lunacy, starvation, groveling passions or distorted emotions made the leading subjects of plays. It is the normal we crave—the normal with its easy, natural attributes—and it is the normal that rises by quick ascent to the ideal. To the normal mind the ideal world is as real as the world of sewers, hospitals and morgues. Thoughts are real things and it is the realm of thought, poetry and romance that we recognize as true in our pursuit of pure enjoyment at the theatre.

"The more we struggle against this somewhat hypnotic influence of the romantic the more is our enjoyment lessened in the matter of theatre-going. If we regard the drama in the hard, unimaginative, so-called 'common sense' point of view we are likely to find our orchestra chair anything but a throne of delight. I like, when I pick up a novel by Stevenson, Weyman or Doyle, or when I visit the playhouse, to put myself in the attitude of a child with a fairy tale and for the moment believe it all. It is therefore easy to understand the present popularity of the 'romantic play.' We are tired of the reproductions of literal commonplace things upon the camera of the dramatist and escape by means of romance and illusion is fraught with pleasant consequences. It is not within the range of probability that this or any other form of drama will have uninterrupted sway. The weathercock of public taste may turn to the etherially poetic, the supernatural, or (as the late success in England of Wilson Barrett's 'Sign of the Cross' might indicate), even to the religious, but it will always be the element of romance that will find the largest results."

### Coming Events.

"The New Dazzler," new in everything but name and a few of the most welcome of the old faces, will open a week's engagement at Boyd's theater this afternoon. The piece has been rewritten, and now possesses quite a pretentious story. A German brewer, who has acquired a competency and retired from active business, is besought by his ambitious daughter to go to Europe and purchase a title. The only good thing that he can see in this scheme is that it will enable him, incidentally, to change his name "Ratz," which has become a burden to him through the jokes of his friends. A little while before leaving the country he spends an evening at Koster & Bial's, and, having taken a little too much, he becomes acquainted with Kitty Starlight, a concert hall singer, and in a spirit of bibulous generosity, offers to give her $20,000 to "put a troupe on the road." The next day he repents of all this, but a shrewd tramp, who learns the story, proceeds to blackmail him upon the strength of it, and when the brewer and his daughter sail for Europe they are followed by the concert hall singer and the tramp, the former to get her promised $20,000, and the latter to secure everything he can lay his hands on. This, in brief, is the story of the new Dazzler.

The company, headed by Will West as the tramp, and Ida Rogers as Kitty Starlight, is said to be a good one, including Max Miller, as the brewer; James Cowper, as Hicky; Captain Quarterdeck, the jolly sea dog; Minnie Cline, the brewer's daughter, and a bunch of charming girls, representing the Cooking School, who not only have pretty faces, but good voices and nimble heels as well.

"Chimmie Fadden" comes to Boyd's for three nights in the near future. This play enjoyed the novel distinction of going into New York early last winter without ostentation and packing the theater for nearly five months.

The announcement that Mrs. Jennie Wertz, whose success in organizing and carrying out children's entertainments on a large scale has given her more than a local reputation, is arranging another performance of this kind which has already attracted much attention. As heretofore stated, the spectacle, "Elma in Fairyland," will be presented for the benefit of the Children's home in Omaha, a most worthy charity and one in behalf of which it is eminently fitting that little children of a more prosperous walk in life should expend their efforts. The date and place of the performance have now been fixed and the fairy spectacle will be put on at Boyd's theater on the night of Saturday, March 13.

The cast of characters is as follows and will be seen to include children of many prominent families:

| | |
|---|---|
| Fairy Queen | Vivian Rector |
| Elma (mortal child) | Katheryn Hobble |
| Elma (fairy child) | Dorothy Squires |
| Puck | Frances Riley |
| Moonbeam | Dot McKenna |
| Leaders of Fairies | Marion Hughes and Natalie Merriam |
| Leader of Violet Drill | Laura Brunner |

Fairies, sprites and elves.

The story of the play is a pretty one and will be interpreted by seventy-five children. There will be many attractive specialties and plenty of those drills and dances for the arrangement of which Mrs. Wertz has a well deserved celebrity.

The bill at the Nebraska Music hall this week will include Fanny Nash, the soubrette; Leo La Reno, the strong man, and Billy Blank, negro delineator, besides Emery and Russell, who pleased last week in cornet solos, and May Cameron, Maud Dayton, Mae Dayton, Dollie Bishop, Joe Osborne and Mons. Zrenyi.

## WAS SENT TO OMAHA FROM LINCOLN.

### Helpless Old Woman a Charge Upon the City.

Hattie Edmond, 70 years of age, is being sheltered at the police station until some place can be found for her. The police desire to send her to Lincoln, from which place it is said she was sent to this city. She has lived in Lincoln for years.

According to her story, the woman became ill from lack of care and was a burden on her friends. She was finally sent to the Bancroft Street Rescue Home about a week ago. She complained that there was too much noise there for her and wished to be transferred to the Old Women's Home. She was not allowed to leave, however, but yesterday she made such a disturbance that the police were called and she was removed to the city jail.

"They would not let me go," she told the officers, "and I therefore decided to raise such a racket that they would be glad to get rid of me."

## LOCAL BREVITIES.

A masquerade ball is to be given under the auspices of the Woman's turnverein in Germania hall on next Saturday evening.

In yesterday morning's paper there was an item stating that Mrs. Gilder had been arrested. The item should have read Mrs. Gilligan.

The local civil service board held a special examination this morning to accommodate an applicant who wished to be examined for the position of meat inspector.

The receipts at the custom house for the past week were: Twenty-six cars of ore from British Columbia for the smelter and seven cars of sugar beet seed from Germany and France for Meyer & Raapke.

Representatives from the different German societies of the city will meet in Germania hall this afternoon at 3 o'clock for the purpose of considering the advisability of consolidating all these bodies.

The mother of Susie Schmelzer, a 17-year-old girl, has asked the police to locate the girl, who has been away from home for the past two weeks, but who is in the city. The family lives at 813 South Ninth street.

Martha Green yesterday afternoon swore out a warrant for the arrest of her 17-year-old stepson on the charge of assault and battery. Mrs. Green alleges that the boy struck her in an effort to prevent her from moving from the Cunningham block.

Invitations have been received in Omaha for the marriage of Mr. William E. Heathcote of this city and Josephine, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Crocker Sibley of Franklin, Pa., to take place at the First Baptist church of Franklin, Wednesday, March 17.

At 2:30 o'clock yesterday afternoon hot slag running through a trough in one of the buildings at the smelting works set fire to the woodwork and was the cause of a fire alarm. The little blaze was extinguished after some $15 damage had been done.

"Come Back to Your Mother, Madge," is the title of a song recently issued from the press, the words and music being written by residents of this city. The words are by Samuel I. Osmond, and the music by James A. Fairfield. The piece has a pretty sentiment, and the music is said to be catchy.

The case of Charles Wilson, the only member of the Davis gang who has not been bound over to the district court for some burglary, was to have been tried yesterday afternoon in Justice of the Peace Cockrell's court for robbing the school house of district No. 57 of an organ, but the case was continued until next Tuesday.

## THEY CONDEMN RECEIVER POTTER.

### Depositors in the Nebraska Savings and Exchange Bank Resolve.

At the last meeting of the depositors of the Nebraska Savings and Exchange bank, John Mackin, Mrs. C. C. McKinney, Lizzie Qualey, G. C. Cockrell and Charles Rosewater, members of the committee, reported a set of resolutions which were adopted by a unanimous vote. After a long preamble, in which grave charges are made against Receiver Potter, came the following resolutions:

Resolved, That W. K. Potter is not a fit person for receiver; that his appointment was illegal; his retention is injurious to our interests as depositors; his salary is exorbitant and an unjust confiscation of our property, and we demand his removal and the appointment of a disinterested person of good business capacity at $1,200 per annum, who will close the matter up in six or twelve months and pay the proceeds to the depositors; and we guarantee to find any number of such men competent and willing to do so.

Resolved, That we deem Mr. Potter's bond insufficient, as most of the names upon it are said to be insolvent or judgment proof; and we request that the connection of the receiver with the National Bank of Commerce be severed, as inimical to our interests; that the receiver rent an office elsewhere at $10 per month and not $25 as now paid; and that he deposit any money on hand in one of the Omaha banks known as a United States depository, whose officers were not, nor are not, interested in the affairs of the broken bank he represents.

Resolved, That it is the sense of this meeting that, owing to a recent decision of the supreme court, we, the depositors, will never realize anything except from the assets, and we respectfully submit to the court that most of us are poor people, who earned this money by hard work at low wages; that many of us are out of employment and have families that suffer privation for want of food and fire, and we protest that the retention of W. K. Potter and Silas Cobb at their high salaries, or at any salary, is an outrage of our rights. We believe Mr. Potter is not competent to dispose of the assets if he were willing, and that he and Cobb would rather perpetuate their offices than wind up the affairs of the broken bank.

Resolved, That in order to expedite the sale of assets, a list describing all the property should be made by the receiver, giving name and address of parties owing each claim, with a list of all real estate by street and number, giving name of occupant, if any; that 1,000 copies of such list or schedule should be printed for distribution among the depositors, and that the addresses of all depositors be given to the president and secretary of this meeting by the receiver in order that they may confer together upon a plan of settlement.

The next meeting of the depositors of the insolvent bank will be held on the evening of March 8, at the rooms of the Jacksonian club.

## PULLS GUN AND IS SHOT

(Continued from Second Page.)

took place from the Sacred Heart Catholic church this morning. The resident pastor, Father Petrasch was assisted by Reverend Fathers George Boll of Crete, Hansen of Alma and Merkel of Beatrice. Owing to the long residence and the well-known charitable virtues of the deceased, the church was taxed to its utmost. The remains were laid to rest in Fairview cemetery.

## START WORK ON NEW COACH SHOP.

### B. & M. is Replacing the Building Burned Down at Plattsmouth.

PLATTSMOUTH, Neb., Feb. 27.—(Special.)—Work has already commenced upon the framework of the new coach shop to be erected by the B. & M. in place of the one destroyed by fire at this point a month ago. The ironwork and woodwork are being taken out and as soon as the weather becomes settled and warmer the brick masonry will be begun. The carpenters employed in the coach department have not lost a single day's work on account of the fire, as temporary quarters were provided in another portion of the shops and work has gone on without any stoppage. The company has acted in a very generous manner and the men have been able to purchase new tools from the company to replace those destroyed and ample time given them in which to make payments. The company also sent a check to the fire department the other day, giving $1 to each member who assisted at the fire.

### Revivals May Come to an End.

OSCEOLA, Neb., Feb. 27.—(Special.)—Rev. T. A. Hull, pastor of the Methodist Episcopal church here, has been having special revival meetings for the past three weeks, but has met with indifferent success, and it will be decided tomorrow whether the meetings will continue longer or not.

### Listen to Silver Speeches.

YORK, Neb., Feb. 27.—(Special.)—The silver club last evening held a public meeting at the court house. George Bigelow of Lincoln was the principal speaker. He is a representative of the state silver organization from the prohibition wing. The court room was fairly well filled.

### Dismissed for Lack of Evidence.

STROMSBURG, Neb., Feb. 27.—(Special.)—The case against J. B. Cypher, charged with threatening to take the life of Charles L. Moore, was dismissed today for lack of evidence. The threat was said to have been made in church.

### Hold Joint Revival Meetings.

BLOOMINGTON, Neb., Feb. 27.—(Special.)—The Methodists and Baptists are holding a three weeks' revival here. The Baptists organized their church yesterday with twenty members.

### Find the Stolen Goods.

BLOOMINGTON, Neb., Feb. 27.—(Special.)—The goods stolen from C. Roupp's hardware store recently were found today in a haystack west of town.

### Favor a Larger Appropriation.

ALMA, Neb., Feb. 27.—(Special.)—It is the general sentiment here that the state should appropriate $200,000 for the Transmissisippi Exposition.

### Beatrice District Court.

BEATRICE, Neb., Feb. 27.—(Special.)—District court will convene again Monday after a week's rest.

### Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption.

This is the best medicine in the world for all forms of Coughs and Colds and for Consumption. Every bottle is guaranteed. It will cure and not disappoint. It has no equal for Whooping Cough, Asthma, Hay Fever, Pneumonia, Bronchitis, La Grippe, Cold in the Head and for Consumption. It is safe for all ages, pleasant to take, and, above all, a sure cure. It is always well to take Dr. King's New Life Pills in connection with Dr. King's New Discovery, as they regulate and tone the stomach and bowels. We guarantee perfect satisfaction or return money. Free trial bottles at Kuhn & Co.'s drug store.
Regular size 50c and $1.00.

### Young Briggs Not Guilty.

The jury in the case of Anna Rosjohn against Benjamin S. Briggs returned a verdict yesterday afternoon, finding for the defendant. This was a case in which Miss Rosjohn sued young Briggs for $10,000 for alleged criminal assault, alleging that she had suffered physical injury from being thrown against a table and being roughly handled. The case occupied four days and the jury was out nearly twenty-four hours. The defendant in this case is the son of Benjamin W. Briggs, baggage master at the Webster street depot.

## THE REALTY MARKET.

INSTRUMENTS placed on record Saturday, February 27, 1897:

WARRANTY DEEDS.

| | |
|---|---|
| J. P. Kohn and wife to S. N. Kohn, lot 1, Koch's sub.; lot 1, block 78, Benson | $ 900 |
| J. P. Kohn et al to same, und. ½ lot 2, Koch's sub | 1,250 |
| T. J. Evans and wife to August Doll, lot 13, block 6, Albright's Annex | 75 |
| August Doll and wife to C. T. Doll, se 9-10-13 | 4,800 |
| A. J. Stonedahl to L. Powell, lot 10, block 3, Hoffman Terrace | 300 |
| A. J. Smith to J. N. W. Stuckenburg, w½ lot 2, and e½ lot 3, block "A," Lowe's add | 500 |

QUIT CLAIM DEEDS.

| | |
|---|---|
| John Woodford and wife to estate of L. W. Case, n½ lots 21 and 22, block 9, Summit add | 1 |

DEEDS.

| | |
|---|---|
| C. F. Flower and wife to C. M. Close, lot 8, block 2; lot 7, s½ lot 6, n½ lot 8, block 12, Kountze 3d add | 1 |
| Total amount of transfers | $7,827 |

# ECHOES OF THE ANTE ROOM

The regular annual benefit entertainment of the Elks will take place at the Creighton theater next Wednesday evening and will consist of the regular performance of Roland Reed and his company of players. All the proceeds of this performance will be turned over into the Elks' charity fund. It is expected that the theater will be crowded.

This means of raising money is something of an innovation, although it has been tried once before and was successful in every way. On that one occasion Roland Reed gave the benefit for the Elks. In other years the lodge has gotten up a show of its own, which has been largely of a variety and minstrel character. This year it was deemed advisable in the interests of variety to make a break in this chain of entertainments. The lodge members hope that the fund will be put on a very substantial basis as a result of the benefit. On account of the hard times the lodge has been called upon to do its share of charity work. It has fully lived up to the reputation of the order, and during the past year has never failed to respond when an appeal for assistance was made to it. As a consequence the fund is practically depleted now and it is absolutely necessary that it should be replenished.

There seems to be little doubt that the hopes of the members will be fulfilled. They have been engaged actively in selling tickets for the affair, and it is believed that the house will be packed. The performance promises to be made something of a society event, as many of the swell set will be in attendance.

On the evening before the benefit performance the lodge will hold a social session in the lodge rooms. This is promised to be one of the most elaborate in the history of the local order. Extensive preparations have been made for it. The program that is to be rendered will include selections from prominent musicians and elocutionists in the city and from the members of the theatrical companies in the city. One of the latter will be Roland Reed. The invitation for the affair begins as follows:

"To All Elks and Especially to All Wandering Animals of the Omaha Herd, No. 39, Greeting: You are expected to raise up your heads and sniff in the air this summons to the glen of pleasure (lodge rooms), at 9 o'clock, p. m., March 2, 1897, where we will engage in festivities befitting the natures of such animals as we are. We will have among us ye bold rover, Roland Reed, and some of his companions, also many brothers and friends who will entertain us with speech, song and story."

Each member of the lodge is privileged to bring two guests to the entertainment. It is presumed that the entertainment will not close until quite late, and therefore arrangements have been made with the street car company that cars shall run until 1:30 o'clock. The invitations state that the "people held responsible for this trouble" are the following: Moses P. O'Brien, George P. Cronk, John E. Tetard, Charles Cockrell, J. F. Barton and J. C. Farish.

Among those who will take part in the program are the following: W. F. Gurley, J. F. Barton, W. S. McCune, A. J. Van Kuran, E. M. Schenk, Lucien B. Copeland, Homer Moore, Elks quartet, T. J. Kelley, the Sutorius Mandolin club, Paul Beresford, Kenneth Fraser, C. T. Warren, Frank Lea Short, Roland Reed and his company, Mr. Allison and members of the Moore-Livingston company, Clark and Harrington.

Last Wednesday evening the lodge gave a very enjoyable dancing party in its rooms that proved to be quite a society event. The affair is the last that will be given until after the lenten season is past.

### Woodmen of the World.

In another column in this morning's Bee will be found an account of the adjustment of the difficulties between Alpha camp and the sovereign officers. The question over the members-at-large has been decided by an agreement on the part of the sovereign camp that such members shall be allowed to pay their assessments into the camp treasurer. There seems to be a probability that another little tiff will arise over the recent report of the deputy state auditor. Mention is also made of this in the article referred to.

The difficulty in the Woodmen circle out west is said by the local head officers to amount to very little. It is another proposed secession from the sovereign camp on the grounds of mismanagement. A meeting is to be held at Salt Lake next Wednesday to see what steps in the way of a separation should be taken. The local head officers say that the disaffection is confined entirely to the groves about Denver, the members of which want to hold office. The greater part of the membership of the circle is located in the territory which it is proposed to take away from the sovereign grove. The territory is practically the same as that covered by the Pacific jurisdiction of the Woodmen of the World.

Last week Camp Loyal gave its first entertainment in the Royal Arcanum hall in The Bee building. The affair was a very enjoyable one, and was largely attended. The program was opened by an address of welcome from Dr. W. O. Rodgers, and this was followed by recitations by Miss Lois Dorward, Mrs. W. N. Dorward and Master Fay Rodgers, a soprano solo by Miss Katie Griffith, a bass solo by A. W. Williams, an autoharp solo by Augustus Miller and a mandolin and piano duet by Misses Vincent and Richards. The evening was concluded with a dance.

Tomorrow evening Druid camp, Woodmen of the World, will give a social in the rooms, Sherman avenue and Corby street. The question of plans for increasing the membership of the camp will be discussed.

### Knights of Pythias

On Friday evening, February 19, Triangle lodge, No. 49, of Howard, S. D., held a public installation of officers, which proved to be a decidedly enjoyable affair. Deputy Grand Chancellor W. W. Girton, assisted by Deputy Grand Master-at-Arms John Johnson and Deputy Grand Prelate J. W. Sency, administered the beautiful ceremonial of the order in the presence of a large audience. C. A. Lamson was installed chancellor commander, L. E. Girton keeper of records and seals and the minor offices well and duly filled. At the close of the services the lodge, with invited guests to the number of 130, sat down to an elegant banquet. J. W. Sency was toastmaster and announced the following toasts: "The Order Universal," response by Prof. C. E. Holmes; "Triangle Lodge, No. 49," response by O. M. Osbon; "The Motto of Our Order," response by Prof. W. W. Girton; "The Lodge Goat," response by C. J. Farmer. At the conclusion of the feast the young folks engaged in dancing until 2 a. m.

On last Wednesday evening the annual ball of the Hebron lodge occurred and was one of the most brilliant affairs of the season. The knights were resplendent in full dress uniforms and excellent music was furnished by the Manhattan Mandolin club. Lieutenant Marsh, who had complete charge, spared no pains to make it the success it was.

At the conclusion of last week's regular meeting the lodge at Weeping Water enjoyed a social, to which the members' wives were invited. Bowling, parlor croquet and quoits were the amusements. Fruit, candies and nuts were served.

### Modern Woodmen of America.

Last Friday night a joint committee from all the lodges in the city and South Omaha met with Beach camp for the purpose of taking steps to induce the supreme head camp to establish headquarters in this city during the exposition. The committee is composed of three members from each camp and has the entire matter in charge. J. W. Houder is chairman and P. C. Shroeder secretary.

It will be necessary to bring the matter up before the head camp meeting next June. It is believed that if the proper representations are made that the body will see the thing in the right light and will establish the headquarters. The committee decided to at once get into communication with the delegates of the western states to the meeting in order to get satisfactory results.

On last Wednesday evening the joint debate of the camps in this city and South Omaha on the reserve question occurred in Myrtle hall. J. W. Houder, Dr. Merriam, and James Sheean spoke in favor of the plan and D. Clem Deaver, George W. Magney, John S. King and R. Murdock of South Omaha in opposition. The question was fully discussed and brought forth considerable oratorical and argumentative efforts from the debaters.

One of the affairs of the season at Decatur happened last Monday evening, when the annual banquet of the Woodmen lodge occurred.

### Sons of Veterans.

As a starter in the campaign which the local members hope will end in obtaining the national encampment for this city in the exposition year, committees are preparing to make an attack upon the railroads for rates for the body which will go to the encampment in Indianapolis this year. It is understood that a reasonable fare will be obtained. It is expected that several car loads of people will be taken on the trip.

The encampment would be a big feature for 1898. It is estimated that it will be attended by very nearly if not fully 15,000 people. As a show feature it would be of great value as fully 6,000 uniformed men are always in attendance. The city would reap great financial benefit from the meeting, it being estimated that the cities which have had the encampments of late years have doubled their business in the week that the body is in session.

Crook camp is preparing for a big bazaar and fair which is to be held in the near future. The date has not yet been set. A committee consisting of J. G. Kuhn, A. H. Rawitzer and O. H. Salisbury has the arrangements in charge.

On last Thursday night the camp was visited by Camp No. 72 of South Omaha. Pipes and tobacco were passed about after the regular meeting and a couple of hours were spent in social enjoyment.

### Fraternal Union of America.

The series of entertainments given by Banner lodge during the winter have been very successful, but the card party on last Thursday evening is said to have capped the climax. There was a good attendance, thirteen tables being occupied. The prize winners were Mrs. Brink and Mr. Tighe, and the booby prizes were awarded to Mr. and Mrs. Holton. Refreshments were served and were followed by a dance. During the course of the evening a musical program was rendered, consisting of the following: Piano solo, Mrs. Merges; violin solo, Miss Cleve; piano solo, Master Woodbridge; recitation, Miss Virginia Merges, and a piano duet by the Misses Cleve, during which little Miss Holton gave a very pretty dance. Before the affair was over a flashlight photograph of the gathering was taken by Mr. Miller.

Monarch lodge, No. 61, celebrated Washington's birthday with a ball, which was very successful. The attendance was large and the members and their friends were well pleased with this first public entertainment given by the lodge.

Bellevue lodge, No. 88, met Monday evening and decided to accept an invitation from South Omaha lodge to visit the latter in a body when the degree of Fraternity is to be conferred.

### Masonic Bodies.

On last Monday night Mount Moriah lodge of Perfection, No. 1, Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite, installed officers as follows: Louis E. Wettling, V. M.; Claude L. Talbot, S. W.; Isaac R. Andrews, J. W.; Rufus S. Parker, O.; Franklin C. Tym, A.; Lyman E. Ware, S.; Gustave Anderson, T.; Leonidas P. Funkhouser, M. C.; Matthew H. Collins, E.; Snelling R. Crickmore, A. E.; John C. Buchanan, C. G.; Harry Newell, T. The installing officers were Henry C. Akin, deputy inspector general and grand minister of state, and Charles S. Huntington, grand master of ceremonies.

Last Friday night after the regular meeting the Shriners enjoyed an informal card party. This social affair is a starter for others, which will be held at the conclusion of every monthly meeting in the future.

Last Thursday the thirty-first degree was conferred upon several candidates.

Mount Moriah chapter, No. 38, Order of the Eastern Star of Fairmont, celebrated its anniversary last Tuesday night. An excellent program was rendered and was followed by a bountiful banquet. One of the features of the program was an original paper, entitled "Why I Love Masonry," written by E. Milner and read by his daughter, Mr. Milner being too ill to attend.

### Ancient Order of United Workmen.

Members of the order, as well as those of other secret bodies, will be interested in the fact that an appeal to the supreme court of the state has been taken in the Higgins case, which was decided in the district court last week. The suit was against the grand lodge of the Ancient Order of United Workmen for insurance. It was fought on the grounds that the deceased lapsed in his payments. The court decided against the grand lodge.

The members of North Omaha lodge, No. 159, had a very enjoyable time on last Monday evening, it being the grand opening of the new hall in Odd Fellows' temple. The families and friends of the members were in attendance, filling the hall to its utmost capacity. The crowd was entertained in the fore part of the evening by a very interesting program, at the conclusion of which lunch was served in the dining room, where all did justice to the occasion. The furniture was removed from the center of the hall and a great number enjoyed themselves by dancing and card playing until a late hour.

### Imperial Mystic Legion.

The supreme officers have rented and fitted up a suite of rooms in the McCague building and the headquarters of the supreme castle will be at that place in future.

Reports from South Dakota show a continued interest in the work in spite of the stormy weather that has prevailed there nearly the whole winter.

The new meeting place of Windsor castle in Foresters' hall, over the Boston store, will be occupied Friday night of the coming week and thereafter on Thursday evenings. This is done to accommodate Court Omaha of the Independent Order of Foresters, which has arranged to give an entertainment on Thursday evening.

Preliminary work in the extension of the order is being done in North Dakota, California and Ohio. In a short time representatives of the order will be on the ground in those states.

Owing to the lateness of the hour only a short program was rendered at the last session of Windsor castle. Those taking part were Dr. Henry and Mr. and Mrs. Packard. The usual program will consist of at least four numbers, and, as Windsor castle has considerable literary and musical talent, this feature of the order of business will doubtless prove most enjoyable.

### Independent Order of Foresters.

Court Omaha No. 1091 will give an entertainment and concert in the lodge rooms over the Boston store next Thursday evening. The affair will conclude with a dance. Great care has been shown by the committee in charge in getting up the affair.

The program is as follows:

| | |
|---|---|
| Waltz—El Minio | Sutorius |
| | Troubadour Mandolin Club. |
| Quartet—O'er the Beautiful Sea | Auer |
| | "T. K." Quartet. |
| Recitation—High Tide on the Coast of Lincolnshire | Ingelow |
| | Miss Swartzlander. |
| Zither Solo | Selected |
| | Alfred O. Muller. |
| Quartet—Within a Little Wood | Kratz |
| | "T. K." Quartet. |
| Soprano Solo—The Raft | Pinsuti |
| | Miss Griffiths. |
| Recitation—A Few Friends | |
| | Miss Swartzlander. |
| Tenor Solo—Dearer Far | Leppilli |
| | Mr. A. L. Rush. |
| Quartet—On Venice Waters | Roeder |
| | "T. K." Quartet. |
| Selection | |
| | Troubadour Mandolin Club. |
| Quartet—Pickaninny Lullaby | Macy |
| | "T. K." Quartet. |

On Monday night the joint initiation team of the order will do work for Court Omaha. Ten candidates are to be initiated.

High Secretary T. L. Combs is preparing to put in a new lodge at Clarks.

### Order of the World.

On Monday evening, March 1, Myrtle lodge, No. 399, Order of the World, will give a masquerade charity ball at the lodge rooms in Myrtle hall, Continental block. The affair is in the hands of a competent committee, and no expense will be spared to provide entertainment and amusement for all who attend.

A good sized company of the members and friends of Omaha lodge, No. 200, Order of the World, enjoyed a private masquerade at the lodge rooms, Patterson block, Seventeenth and Farnam streets, last Monday evening. Under the management of J. W. Doran, the affair was a decided success.

Otto Schneidewind, the well known German deputy who was severely injured about a year ago, is improving rapidly and is able to be out again.

On Saturday evening, March 6, a promenade concert followed by a masquerade will be given by Teutonia lodge, No. 262, Woodmen of the World, in the Knights of Pythias hall, Fourteenth street.

Riverview lodge, No. 421, Order of the World, will hold a masquerade ball on Monday evening, March 1, in Forrest hall, Sixth and Pierce streets.

### Order of Omaha Chiefs.

Iroquois tepee No. 1, a newly organized literary and social society, gave its first public entertainment and council of peace last Thursday evening in the Omaha Commercial college hall over the Boston store. Encouraged by the assurance that the braves were not on the warpath and no scalps would be taken on this occasion, a large number of pale face friends gathered to witness the ceremonies. A literary and musical program was rendered, concluding with the enchanted bear dance, the chiefs appearing in full regalia to smoke the pipe of peace and engage in the dance, which was a revelation to the whites.

The objects of the order are to learn the art of public speaking and acquire a general knowledge of literature. The membership of each tepee is limited to sixteen. It is the intention to organize a number of tepees in different parts of the city and surrounding country. The regular weekly meetings are secret, but it is the purpose of Iroquois tepee to give a public entertainment about once a month.

### Knights of the Maccabees.

Preparations for entertaining the delegates to the state convention in this city and members in the vicinity are approaching completion. A royal time may be expected by those fortunate enough to receive an invitation. March 24 has been set as the time and Metropolitan club the place.

Gate City, No. 60, team visited Washington tent, No. 67, at South Omaha and conferred the work in a manner creditable to themselves and the order.

Deputy Supreme Commander Hubbard is rounding up the state this week.

The several tents in the vicinity of Omaha are having work every meeting night and the order has taken a new lease of life.

### Secret Society Notes.

A lodge of the Royal Mystic Legion with fifty members was recently organized at Shelton.

George A. Custer Women's Relief Corps No. 82 will give a progressive high five party in Grand Army of the Republic hall next Saturday evening.

Iroquois tepee, No. 1, Order of Omaha Chiefs, gave a public pow-wow in its hall in the Boston store building Thursday night at which a large number of friends of the order were present. A literary and musical program of unusual excellence was rendered. Among those who participated were: M. A. Pillsbury, Lyman Searl, J. Swartzlander, A. N. Davis, W. A. Baldwin, G. P. Netherly, M. P. Goodrich and Miss Heinrick. The autoharp solo by Prof. Gus Miller and the piano solo, "La Rose au Nord," by Miss Heinrick, were worthy of special mention.

Ak-Sar-Ben lodge, No. 322, Ancient Order of United Workmen, is in a prosperous condition, its membership increasing steadily. During the present season this lodge has given a number of social entertainments, which have been very successful and enjoyed by all. Next Tuesday evening a progressive high five party will be given for the members and their friends. Two weeks following this there will be the crowning event of the season, to which every effort will be put forth to make it a grand success. A cordial invitation is extended to all.

### Suffering in Louisiana.

Jacob Elton of Irvington has received a letter from O. H. Elliott of Winnfield, La., telling of the distress and sufferings which exists in that state owing to the failure of crops there last year. The letter says that the drouth began early and continued late, preventing even fruit and vegetables from growing. It says the people in fourteen parishes in the state are in a pitiable condition and asks Mr. Elton to interest himself in soliciting subscriptions of food or money for relief. The latter adds that the state of Louisiana will pay the freight on any shipments which may be made intended for the drouth-stricken people.

## MAY PAY OUT IN TWO WEEKS

### American Savings Bank Affairs in Prospect of Settlement.

### DEPOSITORS' CLAIMS TO BE PAID IN FULL

#### Money in Sight with Which to Liquidate All the Claims Against the Insolvent Institution.

The affairs of the American Savings bank formed the subject of a short discussion in Judge Scott's court yesterday, and the announcement made by the court will be received with rejoicing by the depositors in that institution, this announcement being to the effect that the depositors will probably receive full payment on their deposits within the next two weeks.

The matter came up on an application by a number of depositors represented by their attorney, these depositors being anxious to know more about the affairs of the bank and the probability of their ever getting anything out of the assets of the bank.

When the attorney brought the matter to the attention of the court Judge Scott interrupted him to say that he was glad to inform him and his clients as well as all other depositors that within the next ten days or two weeks there would be paid in the sum of $25,000, with which all undisputed claims against the bank would be paid. The court said the disputed claims and the liability of the stockholders would be settled. If the $25,000 was not enough to pay all claims then remaining the stockholders would be required to pay the balance. Continuing, the court said there would probably be no litigation, but that all disputes would be settled amicably and the affairs of the bank wound up in an expeditious manner. In commenting on this case Judge Scott said he wanted especially to compliment the receiver, J. W. Thomas, on the business-like way in which he had conducted the affairs of this bank. The court said the affairs had been carried on in a most satisfactory way and the receiver had used excellent business tact in getting the matters in such shape that the liabilities would probably be settled without litigation.

The attorney stated that the desire of the stockholders was to preserve the assets of the bank intact, so far as possible. He said his clients had made no objection to this, but they had insisted that the stockholders should pay the depositors. He said the capital stock of the bank was $100,000, on which only 25 per cent had been paid, and there was enough still due from solvent stockholders to pay 85 per cent of the claims. The attention of the court was called to the fact that Judge Ambrose had fixed the compensation of the receiver at $300 per month and asked to reduce this amount.

Judge Scott said he would not acknowledge the right of another judge to fix the compensation of a receiver in a case under his jurisdiction and he said he would set the order aside temporarily, leaving the matter of compensation to be determined later. The court said he wished to be understood as not objecting to the amount fixed, but said this was a question which could only be determined when the matter was settled.

The order was set aside and the application was put over for two weeks, pending the payment by the stockholders.

## INVESTIGATION IS CONCLUDED.

### Legislative Committee Finishes Its Work and Returns to Lincoln.

The legislative committee appointed to investigate the Institute for the Deaf and Dumb in this city finished its work and returned to Lincoln last night. It spent the greater part of two days in examining witnesses. It listened to a repetition of the charges made by ex-Bookkeeper Davis and the former carpenter, Richards, against Superintendent Gillespie, and the superintendent explained the matters involved in the charges. Further testimony was taken from most of the employes of the institution.

While the report was not agreed upon, it is understood Superintendent Gillespie will be exonerated and the action of Davis in preferring charges severely criticised.

### Knights of Ak-Sar-Ben.

ALEXANDER, Neb., Feb. 22.—To the Editor of The Bee: Please inform me what are the Knights of Ak-Sar-Ben, and oblige,
ROBERT R. WEEDEN.

They are a secret organization whose principal business is to arrange entertainment annually for visitors to the state fair at Omaha. There is considerable mystery about the order, and members being initiated are run through a red hot furnace.

## FORECAST