

GAVEST WEEK OF THE YEAR

Society Reluctantly Yields to the Solemn Season of Lent.

LAST SIX DAYS ARE ROUND OF PLEASURE

Receptions, Balls and Countless Minor Functions Make the Period One that Will Be Long Remembered.

The last week of the winter season of society has arrived, all too soon for the members of the gay world, who are unanimous in their praise of the countless good things which have fallen to their lot since the first brilliant week ushered in the present season...

That "coming events cast their shadows before" can hardly be said to be true of the welcome advent which has heralded by the passing together of exceptionally gay events. But now the merry reign must end, but fortunately it will be of short duration.

Omaha society folks may well look back with pride upon the long list of fashionable tea, receptions, card parties, chafing dish suppers and other events of that nature and the elaborate banquets in the form of either buffet breakfasts, luncheons or dinners which have been given during the winter months. Well may they be proud of the many elegant weddings and brilliant pre and post-nuptial receptions incidental thereto, which have caused such tremendous sensations amongst the younger members of the social set from time to time. Last but not least important, especially in the eyes of the reigning belles and their attendant beaux, have been the many delightful dances which have been given in their honor or to swell their numbers by ushering some fair young lad into their gay world.

Certainly every member of the smart set will enter deviously upon the season of rest, knowing that they have done their full share toward brightening the days of the long winter season. Therefore they can be true to rest on their laurels, if it may be so, the supposed period of rest will not be a period of rest, for the clever, untiring women and the dear, indefatigable girls will put their heads together to plan succeeding brilliant events, which will occur as early as possible after the solemn and uneventful weeks of the Lenten season have dragged their weary length to its full limit and then passed hurriedly into oblivion.

After all the dark cloud will have its silver lining, and the appalling weight of the snow and the drearily formal atmosphere of the winter months will be gently welcomed by those whose ideas upon the literal interpretation of the wearing of sackcloth and ashes, the shedding of unceasing tears and the general appearance of unmitigated woe and misery are not so terribly strict.

The approach of the feast of that most romantic and interesting of saints, Valentine, has as usual been the signal for much whispering of precious names and for the holding of many secret confabulations in the privacy of the dear girls' boudoirs and the men's dens. Judging by the interest and energy displayed in the selection of appropriate message-bearing cards from his saintship, all kinds of fun and merriment ought to crown the morning of the day which has set apart for the devotion of his favors to those who have caused him to be never born and will consign him to the bottom of the sea, but their ill-wishes will be entirely counterbalanced by those of the favored ones upon whom he has smiled and bestowed their hearts desire, who in return will wish he had a birthday every morning of the year and extol him to the heavens. It is much to be feared that Cupid's head will be hopelessly turned and so permanently enlarged by the prominence given him in this all-important matter, that he will grow still more conceited than that he will become prone to work havoc with his potent bow and arrows. The wildest guesses ever proffered at a guessing contest will not begin to compare with the wide-of-the-mark speculations as to the sender of the treasured or abhorred thing, which will be the feature of St. Valentine's fête.

The most notable events of the week were the receptions given by Mesdames Alvin Saunders and Russell Harrison and that given by Mr. and Mrs. Ames Field. The card party given by Mrs. George Mercer, the dinner dance, the host and hostess on that occasion being Mr. and Mrs. George Mercer, and the Reichenberg-Adler wedding.

The social calendar for the forthcoming week is necessarily a somewhat abbreviated one, but at any rate as many events as possible have been crowded into the few days which remain to the devotees of society before the gay world will be submerged in the gloomy season of Lent. St. Valentine's day will be a red-letter one in the social calendar and he ought to feel flattered to see how many delightful affairs have been arranged in his honor.

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A meeting of the Century Card club was held on Wednesday afternoon, on which occasion the hostesses were Mrs. Guild and Miss Hake. The affair was one of the most enjoyable of the season. After playing bridge and cards the club members were served by Mesdames L. A. Welsh and H. Werber.

The Ladies' J. T. Coffee club met at the home of Mrs. W. L. Wignam, 1515 Dodge street, on Thursday afternoon. The time was spent in doing different kinds of fancy work. Refreshments were served at small tables and a high tea was served by all present. The next meeting of the club will be held at the home of Mrs. J. Bunker.

One of the prettiest luncheons of the season was given on Thursday by Mrs. Warren Switzer in honor of Mrs. John Gordon, who was invited by Mrs. Henry W. Yates, the dinner dance, the host and hostess on that occasion being Mr. and Mrs. George Mercer, and the Reichenberg-Adler wedding.

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second, Mrs. L. A. Garner, while the consolation prize fell to Mrs. Elmer Beyound. Thursday Mrs. H. L. W. was the guest of Mrs. Draper Smith carried off the consolation prize.

Mesdames G. W. Hoobler and H. G. Straight gave a reception yesterday afternoon between the hours of 2 and 5 at the residence of the former, 1015 Georgia avenue, in honor of Mrs. G. K. Smith of St. Louis, who is the guest of Mrs. Hoobler; Miss Wilson of Kansas City and Mrs. F. Payne of Carthage, Mo., who is the guest of Mrs. Hoobler. Mrs. Hoobler's bride of last week, who is the guest of Mr. and Mrs. Ames Field.

Mrs. Richard Craven gave a farewell party on Wednesday evening to her son, Victor, and his friend, Ralph Cheney, who leave this week to attend the medical department of the Pennsylvania university. Dancing formed the principal feature of the event, and the party was made all the more enjoyable by the announcement of the engagement of Mr. Marmaduke Dwyer, of Platteville, to Miss Daisy Melbourne of the same place.

Miss Anna Arnold was pleasantly surprised by about thirty of her young friends who called on her at her home on Wednesday night. The ladies' first prize for which was won by Miss Anna Gentleman. Miss Emma Helmer was the second prize winner, while Messrs. Will Arnold and M. Vance drew for the gentlemen's first prize, which was finally captured by the latter. Messrs. Spelman and Stevens contested the consolation prize, which eventually fell to the lot of the latter. Refreshments were served during the evening.

Movements of Society Folk. Mr. E. S. Dundy, Jr., has gone east. Mr. H. A. Thompson is in New York. Mr. Clement Chase is visiting friends in Chicago.

Miss Poycke leaves Tuesday for Grand Rapids, Mich. Mr. Frank Hod is enjoying a short winter trip in Honolulu.

Mr. George H. Crosby spent part of the week in Kansas City. Mr. and Mrs. John L. Webster spent part of the week in St. Louis.

Mr. Van Lan returned last week from a trip through the state. Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Burns left on Thursday for a visit to New York.

Miss Louise Squires has returned from her extended visit in St. Louis. Mrs. Charles Turner of 2316 Farnam street is entertaining Mrs. O. M. Carter.

Miss May Hennessy of San Francisco is visiting her cousins, the Misses Durr. Mrs. William Tupper is in New York. Mrs. Charles Brogan are at Colorado Springs.

Mrs. C. C. Chase of Chicago has returned home after a week's visit with Mrs. E. V. Lewis. Mr. John Francis and Miss Clara have returned from Honolulu after a most enjoyable trip.

Mr. T. P. Godfrey is at Hot Springs, Ark., whether he has gone to recruit after an attack of grip. Mr. Henry W. Yates was called to St. Joseph on Thursday by the serious illness of her father.

Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Gibson and daughter Hazel are in St. Louis, where they will spend a week. Miss Allen left on Wednesday for Chicago, where she will be the guest of Mrs. Drake and Miss Julia Hammond.

Mrs. Harry Wilkins has gone to California, where she will meet her husband on his return from the Kiowa. Mr. and Mrs. M. Monheit, who were the guests of Mr. and Mrs. Levinson of Charleston, Ia., last week, have returned.

Mr. and Mrs. C. Bevan Oldfield have taken the Stewart Hayden house and will be at home there after February 15. Mr. and Mrs. Linsinger left last week for a trip to Florida. They expect to be gone two months.

Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin Smith will occupy the apartments of Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Smith at the Normandie until February 20, when they will return to St. Louis.

Miss Gertrude Branch went to Lincoln yesterday, to be present at a dance given in St. Valentine's eve at the Lincoln hotel by the Phi Beta Phi. Mr. and Mrs. O. H. Tatt left last Tuesday for their winter home in Georgia. Before returning home they will take a pleasure trip through the southern states.

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Mr. Oscar Funke was at the bachelors' last week visiting relatives and old friends. When he returned to his new home in Kansas City he was accompanied by Mrs. Hall and the children.

Miss Rae Lichtenstein of Salt Lake City is visiting Mr. and Mrs. William Wolf, 463 South Twenty-fifth avenue, prior to the wedding of her brother, Ernest Wolf, which occurs on February 22.

Mr. and Mrs. G. P. Stebbins and children will leave on Thursday for California, where they will be the guests of Mr. and Mrs. Stebbins, who will return in about three weeks' time, expect to remain for two months.

Mr. C. B. Havens, who left Omaha last September for a long tour abroad, is now on his way with a large party from Malta to Egypt. The party will go as far as the first cataract of the Nile and then return to Malta.

Mrs. Ford spent part of last week in Des Moines, where she was a guest at two delightful functions given in honor of Mrs. Farnsworth, president of the County Federation of Clubs, and Mrs. Noyes of the Chicago Woman's club. On Friday Mrs. Farnsworth gave a large luncheon at the Metropolitan club, and Mrs. Noyes entertained at a most enjoyable breakfast at the Lavery.

Weddings and Engagements. Invitations have been issued to the wedding of Mr. William Gerke and Miss Katherine Lewis, to occur on Wednesday, February 15, at 2 p. m. at the County Memorial church. The officiating minister will be Rev. L. Groh of St. Mark's.

Miss Lavinia Browne and Mr. William Stepha Reynolds were married on Thursday at 2 p. m. in the presence of a large gathering of friends. The wedding was a very pretty one. The bride and groom were both well known in Omaha. The happy pair received the hearty congratulations of their numerous friends. Mr. and Mrs. Reynolds will make their home on a Colorado ranch, the property of the groom.

On Friday evening, February 10, at the residence of the First Methodist church, the Council Bluffs, Charles H. Cox of Omaha and Kittle S. Gilmore of Council Bluffs, Ia., were united in marriage by Rev. W. S. Barnes. The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. H. H. Gilmore of Council Bluffs and Omaha, where she has resided for the last ten years. She has the best wishes of her many friends. The groom is a prominent young man of Omaha, where Mr. and Mrs. Cox will make their future home.

One of the most fashionable of the season's wedding occurred at the Metropolitan club on Wednesday evening, when Mr. Max Reichenberg and Miss Isabel Adler were united in marriage. The ceremony was performed by Rabbi William Rosenau of Baltimore, who came to the city specially for the event, before a large number of relatives and guests, some of whom were invited in order to assist at the nuptials. The groom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. R. Reichenberg and the bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ferdinand Adler. Immediately after the ceremony a banquet was served to ninety guests, which was followed by a grand ball.

On the Social Calendar. The Forest Hill club will entertain with Mrs. H. Heth on St. Valentine's day. Mrs. Jay D. Foster and Miss Bauman will entertain at a "hearts" party on Tuesday afternoon.

The Jolly Eight Dancing club will give its regular monthly ball next Saturday evening at Patterson hall. The Wednesday Luncheon club will be entertained by Mesdames Grossman and Williams at the home of the latter on Thursday.

General and Mrs. Cowin have issued invitations to a dance to be given tomorrow evening in honor of their daughter, Miss Edna.

The Monday Night Card club will meet on February 13 at the home of Mr. and Mrs. George Kiplinger, 1319 South Thirty-first street.

Mr. and Mrs. John A. Kuhn have issued invitations to a reception to occur on the evening of Tuesday in their suite at the Normandie.

A progressive high-five party is to be given by Garfield circle, No. 11, Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic, at Red

Men's hall, Continental building, Wednesday evening. The last collision of the season will occur on St. Valentine's day.

Out of Town Guests. Miss Florence, a frequent visitor, Neb., is the guest of Mrs. Frank L. Adams at the Madison.

Rev. Mary A. Safford and Rev. Marie Hoffendall, Jersey of Sioux City are the guests of Dr. and Mrs. Newton Mann.

OMAHA SUBURBS. Florence. Mrs. John Anderson was an Omaha visitor Saturday.

Mrs. K. Yost of East Omaha visited friends and relatives here Tuesday and Wednesday.

Miss Hattie Wilson, who has been teaching school during the winter at Chatham, Neb., returned home Thursday night.

Frank L. Tracy, who has been in St. Paul doing dental work for the last six months, being young dentist here, will remain here with his parents for several weeks.

At the regular school meeting Tuesday night the resignation of R. W. Cowan as a member of the board of directors was on account of his leaving the city in the near future. F. S. Tucker was elected in his place to serve the unexpired term, which is completed on June 1st.

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The hall given by the Northwestern Social club at the town hall last Saturday night was well attended by the members and friends of the club, in spite of the cold weather. Supper was served at the hall.

About eighteen of the members of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows' lodge No. 221, of this place, accompanied the South Omaha degree staff to Springfield, Neb., where they were to confer degrees upon a number of candidates. The party returned on last Sunday afternoon and reported a grand reception.

Epitaphs. The Epitaphia Collium club, under the direction of general freight offices of the city laid aside tariff sheets and bills of lading yesterday evening and met in the Paxton cafe and partook of a banquet. It was the first time this branch of railroad life attempted to meet in this manner, but the members were highly successful. The purpose of the banquet was to bring the representatives of the different roads closer together as a class and to cultivate a more social feeling among them, with the ultimate object of organizing a local association, with headquarters at Omaha.

The following were present: B. E. Jentler of the Baltimore & Ohio, I. Hale and R. C. Hayes of the Burlington, Eugene Duval of the Milwaukee, C. S. Stockham and John W. Warner of the Northwestern, C. A. Carr of the Rock Island, W. O. Carr of the Erie dispatch, W. H. Jones of the Elkhorn, J. E. Larsen of the Grand Trunk, J. F. Eumert of the Lake Shore, J. S. York of the Michigan Central, J. H. Mitchell of the Chicago & North Western, C. A. Arier of the Nickel Plate, V. A. Lagen of the Pennsylvania, Julius Rosenzweig and C. O. Cornwell of the Port Arthur, Phil Rose and C. M. Seclert of the Union Pacific.

The banquet was made up of a very enjoyable railroad train in very excellent expressions embellishing the several courses. "Baked fish on flat cars" is a sample. While this feature was being disposed of music was furnished, interspersed with the good natured roasts of the different agents and the humorous remarks of the guests. A package of bouillonettes was brought in with the compliments of George M. Entrikin, assistant general freight agent of the Port Arthur, and a box of cigars with the regards of C. J. Lane, assistant freight traffic manager of the Union Pacific, both donors receiving a vote of thanks.

A program of toasts was then taken up, in which there was much seriousness as well as an abundance of local hits and bright humor, contributing to the pleasure of the occasion. The toast which was given by the gathering began to break up, and each one expressed a feeling that the evening had been well spent, and that good would result from the meeting, not only to those who participated, but indirectly to the roads represented.

Custer County People Dine. Twenty-two years ago this month Custer county, Nebraska, was carved out of surrounding territory, and a county government established. Not exactly an anniversary of that event, but more as a reunion of former Custer county residents, Harry E. O'Neill of this city gave a complimentary dinner last night at the Omaha club. Those who gathered around the board were, in addition to the host, Senator Frank M. Curle of Broken Bow, George B. Blair of the Callaway Courier, J. H. Edmisten, state oil inspector; Alpha Morgan of Broken Bow, secretary of the state senate; Frank H. Young, receiver of the state; C. E. Hubbard of Omaha, Edison Rich and W. O. Gilbert, both of this city. Telegrams and letters of regret were received from Governor Poynter, ex-Governor Holcomb, ex-Late Commissioner Humphrey and other prominent men of the county.

At their regular meeting of the evening the stationary engineers listened to an interesting lecture by James Anderson, the chief engineer of the smelter, who described the process of sampling smelters and refining ores, together with the engines and immense fans used for the purpose. Next Friday evening J. H. Edmisten, chief engineer of the Broken Bow factory, will lead in discussion of electrical questions published in the last issue of the National Engineer. There will be initiation ceremonies.

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