

on until it is within 1,200 yards of the terminal station. A sharp upgrade at the terminals will help start and stop the trains.

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The School Index

A small paper of twelve pages is issued monthly by the city superintendent of schools. A copy is given to each pupil and if most of them get home with the paper still in their possession it forms a valuable means of communication between the teachers and the parents, or patrons, to whom it is more especially addressed. Perhaps there are more people, counting men, women and children, interested in the schools than in any other one subject.

Superintendent Gordon is the editor of The School Index, and there are four associate editors: Mr. Condra, Miss Webster, Miss Pierce, and Miss Simpson, who are teachers in the public schools of Lincoln.

In any business a device or arrangement which tends to deepen the sympathy and increase communication between the men who conduct the business and the patrons whose wants they supply is very useful. The most successful dry goods merchant is the man who understands his trade and gets what it will buy.

Comparative strangers who buy a stock of goods to sell in a new place frequently fail because they do not know their customers. The superintendent, teachers and principals wish to fully accomplish their work. There is not a teacher in the schools who does not wish to aid each pupil to make the most of himself and his life. If a large number of the parents understood specifically what the teachers are trying to do, the overwhelming majority, by the very law of majorities, must win against the forces of darkness and ignorance. The School Index reflects the minds of the representative teachers who edit it and the patrons who read it get a more exact idea of the teachers and of their ideals.

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Organ Renaissance

Alexandre Guilmant, the organist whose American tour has reawakened the interest in organ music, is to be followed by other great organists. It has been arranged that the organists shall follow each other at intervals of a week or ten days apart. Among those who have been engaged are Henri Dallier, organist of St. Eustache, Paris, who is famous for his improvisations, M. Henry de Vries, a Rotterdam organist and one of the greatest interpreters of Bach, and the third virtuoso is an American, Gustin Wright, organist of l'eglise de Passy, Paris, for the last three years. He is soloist with the orchestra of the Jardin d'Acclimation.

It is a far cry from syncopated rag-time to organ music, but the rebound will carry the public a long ways. Symptoms of satiety have been apparent for some time, and it is not impossible that the re-action of disgust and aspiration will carry us as far as Bach and organ music.

CLUB NOTES

THE WEEK'S REVIEW

Sorosis met Tuesday afternoon with Mrs. J. T. Lees. Twenty-five ladies were present. Mrs. E. A. Burnett was leader and her subject was "Characteristics of Recent American Fiction." Mrs. Burnett used the following outline:

I. Some reasons why fiction is the dominant literary form at present.

II. Some responsibilities and possibilities of American fiction.

III. Discussion of some recent stories as types of

1. Romance and "Romanticism," historical and otherwise.

2. Serious fiction.—Of social problems,—domestic, social, religious, political, sectional.

IV. Some characteristics of recent fiction.

1. Sectional and fragmentary rather than national and general.

2. Democratic in variety of theme, and in opportunity to authors.

3. Pervaded by genial humor and philosophy.

4. Growing popularity of the short story.

5. Popularity of romance.—The possible good effect.

6. Interest in romantic past.—Efforts to check the craze for historical romances.

7. Lack of largeness and virile strength in American fiction.

8. Improved technique.

* * *

Chapter K of P. E. O., spent Monday evening pleasantly with Mrs. L. J. Dunn. A serial story was read and Mrs. Mary McKinnon reviewed "The Right of Way." A buffet luncheon was served. The club will meet next with Mrs. Axtell.

* * *

The Century club met Tuesday afternoon with Mrs. E. P. Savage at the governor's mansion. Mrs. F. E. Campbell read a very interesting paper on "The Conquest of Sedan," and located the important towns on a map. She gave a very vivid description of General Gordon's death. Mrs. E. Lewis Baker gave a resume of the life and works of Shakspeare. She took up the Baconian controversy and successfully refuted the claims of Bacon to the credit of Shakspeare's work.

* * *

Last Friday afternoon the society of the Hall in the Grove met at the home of Mrs. F. S. Stein. Mrs. Patrick read a carefully prepared paper on "Chill, Her Government, National Resources and Climate." Mrs. Loveland talked entertainingly and knowingly of the "Birds of Nebraska," and "Our National Parks," was the subject of a general discussion, led by Mrs. Rich-

ardson. The next meeting will be held in two weeks with Mrs. Farnham Smith.

* * *

Saturday, February 1st, the Zetetic club of Weeping Water met with Mrs. Edna Shannon. Ten members were present and Mrs. Cora Shannon, of Lincoln, a pleasant visitor.

The author for the day was Robert Lytton, of whom Mrs. Margaret Sackett, as leader, gave a short sketch, followed by a synopsis of Lytton's most popular work, "Lucile." She also gave a number of interesting readings from the story. The program closed with a spirited discussion of the relative merits of the four leading characters.

Mrs. Hungate defended Lucile, the woman of genius, while Mrs. Shannon's



MRS. DRAPER SMITH.

Of Omaha, President of the Nebraska Federation of Women's Clubs.

admiration was just as great for Matilda, the more domestic type of character.

Mrs. Hay, for the sake of argument, spoke in favor of the attractive but susceptible young Englishman and Mrs. Girardet enthusiastically defended the strong but passionate nature of the Duke.

The club never fails to enjoy these discussions which are at once pleasant and profitable.

* * *

The Woman's Club departed Monday from its usual custom of giving a literary program, and listened instead to a program of chamber music and songs by American composers. The program was in charge of Mr. Henry P. Eames of the university school of music and was most enjoyable throughout. Mr. Eames prefaced the musical program with a brief talk on American composers. He said there is no American school of music, no distinctive school of expression, but there are many American composers. Mr. Eames spoke briefly of those composers who were represented on the program, and of one or two others. Some of them are of foreign birth, most of them were educated abroad, and all are more or less tainted with the foreign influence. Mr. McDowell, standing the first of our American composers, does not wish to be called such, but a world composer, and is unwilling to appear on an American program.

Mr. Eames has played before the Woman's Club on two previous occasions, and his appearances are always welcome, but Mr. Manger and Mr. Kuss were strangers to the audience. The violinist sustained well his part in the two sonatas, playing with ease and abandon. The interest, however, centered in Mr. Kuss, the singer, who, although struggling with a severe cold, made a remarkable impression upon his audience. When his big bass voice was first heard it startled one with its volume and intensity, and one had the feeling that the windows should be opened to give it room, yet in the "Two Posies," and "The Shadow

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