



GATEWAY TO THE GARDEN OF THE GODS.

A happy Christmas party was the reception given by Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Mercer at their home, 1809 P street, to celebrate their silver wedding anniversary. Misses Anna and Ada Mercer admitted the guests and directed them to the dressing rooms. When they descended the stairs they were greeted by Miss Mercer, who presented them to the receiving party, Mr. and Mrs. Mercer, Mr. William Mercer and Mr. and Mrs. Loringier. The double drawing rooms were decorated with white roses and carnations and festoons of Christmas greens. White shades subdued the lights. The reception hall and dining room were in red and green, much holly being used. The balustrade was entwined with greens and the shades were red. The punch room above stairs was done in pink and the dressing rooms were in green. Chocolate and wafers were served in the dining room by Mrs. Young, Mrs. Perkins and Miss Bell. Mrs. Stewart and Mrs. Brashear assisted in the drawing room, and punch was served by Miss Virginia Mercer and Miss Haynes. A handsome buffet and many individual gifts were presented to Mr. and Mrs. Mercer by their guests, who numbered one hundred. A music box played merrily during the receiving hours.

Association at the card table often reveals characteristics which are anything but pleasing. Not long since a lady was speaking of a gentleman of her acquaintance and said, "He is the most disagreeable man at the card table that I have ever seen." That such cases are not unusual is likely, as the following from the New York Tribune would show: "I wish I had not played bridge with Mr. X—," said a girl recently. "I thought him so nice before, and now my liking for him has quite gone. He was so keen about trifles, insisted upon every forfeit, questioned the score, and seemed so annoyed when he lost, and yet the stakes were very small, and he was only out a few dollars, so, of course, it was not the money. It must have been the disposition of the man coming out under provocation, and the test did not show him up to advantage. Now, Mr. Z—, the other man at the table, was so good natured and such a gentleman in his play that I quite like him, although I never thought him attractive before." "All games of competition may be said to assay certain characteristics, but the most crucial test seems to be card playing, and bridge is responsible for many a coolness resulting from self-betrayal at the green table."

Mrs. Rose Herron and Miss Herron entertained ninety friends very pleasantly Monday afternoon in the parlors and the small hall of the Fraternity building. The rooms were artistically decorated with holly and ropes of evergreen. Mrs. Herron, Miss Herron and Mrs. Theodore Westermann received the guests, and they were seated by Misses Barr, Conklin and Pound. A delightful Christmas program was given. Mrs. Sherman Hart sang "O Holy Night," very sweetly indeed, and Miss Alice Howell read Henry Van Dyke's "The Lost Word." After the program ice cream, cake and coffee were served by Mesdames John S. Reed and George E. Barber, assisted by Misses Hallett, Henry, Miller, Whiting, Mulhnan, and

Poynter. Mrs. and Miss Herron were assisted in the parlors by Mesdames W. G. L. Taylor, W. A. Poynter, and G. E. Barber.

A lovely luncheon was given at one o'clock today by Miss Marie Talbot in compliment to Miss Ruth Jakway and Miss Mary Minor. The decorations were indicative of the Yuletide and the place cards bore Gibson heads done in India ink. The menu was served in five courses. Guests were Misses Ruth Jakway, Mary Minor, Ruth Prentiss, Ruth Holmes, Gertrude Kincaide, Helen Laws, Mary Spalding, Lila Le Gore, Edna Baker, Louise Hoover, Claire Canom, Ethel Perkins, Neva Hibner, Hazel Vandenburg, Fanchon Hooper, Marion Ogden, Helen Berger, Marie States, Lola Southwick, Katharine Lee, Grace Stewart, Edith Wilson, Margaret Wharton, Silence Stewart, Ethel Burket, Grace White, Marion Hart, Annie Jones, Marion Holcomb, Cora Faulkner, Virginia and Eunice de Steiguer of St. Joseph, Dona Begole of Beatrice.

The annual exhibit of the Nebraska art association opened last night with reception to the public. Many palms from the university conservatories were massed in the centre of the room, and couches covered with oriental rugs made comfortable resting places. Casts and statuary added to the artistic effect. The arrangements were in the hands of a committee consisting of Mesdames C. G. Crittenden, W. C. Phillips, A. S. Raymond, W. M. Leonard, S. H. Burnham, F. M. Hall, John S. Reed, J. C. Seacrest, F. D. Levering, Henry Mayer, W. G. L. Taylor, C. F. Ladd, Paul H. Holm, John B. Wright, A. R. Mitchell, W. C. Wilson. There was no receiving line but the reception was a full dress affair and the attendance augurs well for the success of the exhibit.

The old fashioned epergne is making its way to the fore again as more or less of a novelty. A particularly attractive English design in crystal and silver consists of a group of vase-like flower holders, the centre one tall and slender, those surrounding it being in floral shapes and detachable. For few covers, these are separated and distributed about the table. Different colors in Italian cut glass are also employed with good effect.

At their residence, 1805 Euclid avenue, Mr. and Mrs. George W. Losev entertained twenty persons on Christmas night. A large Christmas tree containing presents for all was the centre of attraction. Cards were played and a three-course luncheon was served by the hostess. Holly and carnations in profusion adorned the house.

The following pupils of Miss Lucy Haywood participated in a musicale at her home, 1441 G street, Tuesday afternoon: Misses Effie Powell, Grace Salisbury, Florence Frost, Florence Schwake, Frances Sheldon, Fay Hartley, Genevieve Harmer, Alice Harmer, Alice Pardue, Louise Hoover, Mabel Coder. Refreshments were served after the program.

Nodd—Have you made up your mind what to give your wife for Christmas?
Todd—No; she is going to surprise me with it.

Mrs. W. M. Leonard will entertain Les Bohemiennes next week.

Miss Minnie Jo Don spent Christmas with relatives in Wymore.

The Patriarchs will give a dance Monday evening in Walsh hall.

Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Gerhart will entertain the V. V. card club tonight.

Mrs. George Risdon is the guest of Mrs. George Moore in Omaha this week.

Mr. Fred Tatum of New York city is the guest of Mr. Harry Hargreaves.

Miss Kathryn Pollock of Chicago is the guest of her aunt, Mrs. L. J. Herzog.

Mr. Milo Eames of Hastings is the guest of Mr. and Mrs. C. G. Crittenden.

Miss Gladys Garoutte is the guest of Miss Agnes Casebeer in Cherryville, Kansas.

Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Marshall spent Christmas with Mrs. Marshall's parents in Omaha.

Miss Daisy Minor of Winchester, Illinois, is the guest of her sister, Mrs. W. G. L. Taylor.

Mr. Scott Garoutte of St. Louis, is the guest of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. L. W. Garoutte.

Miss Nellie Watson of Denver is the guest of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Watson.

Invitations have been issued by Mrs. A. Ross Hill for a reception on New Year's day from three until five o'clock, to be given in honor of her guest, Mrs.

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