

A Poem for Today

DRAKE'S DRUM

By Henry Newbolt

HENRY JOHN NEWBOLT, born June 6, 1839, at Bilton, England, is a poet, a lawyer and a man. His reputation rests on songs celebrating the achievements of the British navy. Sir Francis Drake was commander of the British fleet which destroyed the Spanish armada, the name given to the fleets sent by Spain against England in the reign of Elizabeth. Plymouth Hoe is a high tableland or cliff, forming the sea front of the town of Plymouth. From the top of this cliff, which for certain years was the signal station on which the transports of the Spanish armada was first described. When the news was carried to Drake and his captains, who were playing at bowls on the "Hoe" green, he coolly went up with the game, announcing that "there was plenty of time" to beat the Spaniards afterward.

RAKE he was a Devon man an' ruled the Devon seas,
(Capten, art the sleepin' there below?)
Rovin' tho' his death fell, he went w'l heart at ease
An' dreamin' arl the time o' Plymouth Hoe.
"Take my drum to England, hang et by the shore,
Strike et when your powder's runnin' low.
If the Dons sight Devon I'll quit the port o' heaven
An' drum them up the channel as we drummed
them long ago."

Drake he's in his hammock an' a thousand mile away,
(Capten, art the sleepin' there below?)
Slung between the round shot in Nomire Dlos bay
An' dreamin' arl the time o' Plymouth Hoe.

Yander lunes the island, yander lie the ships,
WF sailor lads a-dancin' hee-an-toe.

An' the shore lights flashin' an' the night tide dashin'.

He sees et arl so plainly as he saw et long ago.

Drake lies in his hammock till the great Armadas come.
(Capten, art the sleepin' there below?)
Slung between the round shot, listenin' for the drum
An' dreamin' arl the time o' Plymouth Hoe.

Call him on the deep sea, call him up the sound,
Call him when he sail to meet the foe.

Where the old trade's plyn' an' the old flag flyin'

They shall find him ware an' wakin', as they found him long ago.

The Ligonier Banner.

J. E. McDONALD, Editor

Published every Thursday and entered in the postoffice, Ligonier, Ind., as second-class matter. PHONE NO. 18.

WAS AN IDEAL CITIZEN

Ligonier mourns the death of its first mayor—John Weir, for over forty years successfully engaged in the hardware business. He died in Chicago after a lingering illness, from pernicious enema, the disappearance of the red corpuscles of the blood. About ten months ago he was told by a specialist that his case was hopeless and his years were numbered. Uncomplainingly and heroically he proceeded to put his house in order. He was born at Lagrange in the year 1840. His father moved to Lagrange from the state of New York. He was a strong character. Originally a Democrat, he became a charter member of the republican party in 1855. He was elected county treasurer and later on served four years in the state senate. John Weir proved himself a worthy son of his father. Honest, upright, well-meaning, circumspect, he was a model business man as well as a model citizen. The departure of such men is a distinctive loss to the community and to society.—J. B. Stoll in South Bend Times.

It would seem that good common sense would dictate that no local option election be held in Noble county until after the policy of the coming legislature has been determined. If the present law is to be allowed to stand there will be plenty of time to settle the question as far as Noble county is concerned. There is no immediate or pressing demand that the law be put into operation at once in Noble county. The people outside of a few professional temperance agitators seem to be pretty well satisfied that the law is allowed to take its course. If the law is repealed by the coming legislature, which is possible, at least, all the work, expense, agitation and trouble of a canvas and an election will have been wasted. Many of our best citizens, irrespective of party, all of them temperance advocates, are expressing the opinion that an election will be much better if held in April or May than in January or February. Under the operation of the law, providing Noble county should go dry, all the saloons could not be closed until November, as all licenses granted before the operation of the law will be allowed to continue until they expire. In the face of these conditions we do not believe that the taxpayers should be put to the expense and the people be subjected to the turmoil of an election until the status of the law is fully established.

President-elect Taft has chosen for his secretary of state, Senator Philander C. Knox of Pennsylvania. Senator Knox was attorney general in President McKinley's administration and was retained in that position by President Roosevelt until he resigned to succeed the late and unlamented Mathew Stanley Quay as senator from Pennsylvania. Mr. Knox is an eminently respectable gentleman, of high legal ability, which was much sought for by great corporations prior to his entrance into politics. Though by training and sympathy a corporation man, no breath of scandal has ever sullied his record. The "gang" in Pennsylvania hail his change of base from senate to cabinet with great glee, as it opens the opportunity to award the senatorship to some faithful gangster of the Quay and Penrose stripe. Already a half dozen multi-millionaires who have always been "faithful" to the machine politicians are clamoring for the toga as their reward of merit.

One of the bright members of the coming Indiana senate will be Robert E. Proctor of Elkhart, the first democratic senator since 1861, and the youngest members of the senate. Mr. Proctor was at the meeting of democratic legislators-elect last week at Indianapolis, and in a strong address urged the Democrats to stand by the party platform. "We should sink individuality in the cause of Democracy," said Senator Proctor. "We are sent to frame laws that the people by their verdict have declared they want or they do not want. There are laws on our statute books that ought not to be there. It is not necessary for me to designate a single one of these laws. If the democratic platform was good enough when we went into the democratic convention last March, it is good enough now. Stand by your party, gentlemen, and do not recede from any position that party takes. I have no fear of my constituency, and I am going to stand on democratic principles. I will vote to repeal any law that is not in conformity with the democratic platform—particularly the democratic state platform."

In an inquiry the Pittsburgh Gazette-Times expresses the idea that parental responsibility has reached a low ebb and that the sacredness of the home has become, in too many cases, a name and less; that father goes to the bowling alley and mother to the bridge party, while the children are hustled off to school, and the time that used to be spent in a reunion round the evening lamp is given over to vaudeville, skating rinks and other forms of entertainment.

The solidarity of the family is impaired—each member goes his own way; lodges, missionary society, basket ball game, dance, poolroom, or street, and anoon the saloon. No care is exercised over the young people's choice of companion; late hours are kept without reproof or question. Does the father who reads this know where the boy was last night? Does the mother know where her girl was? Do they both realize that the enactment of a curfew law is an insult to them? It means that many parents are so criminally careless about their children that the authorities must threaten action to get them to do their duty.

Reviewing the recent attack on congressmen by the president agent of the secret service appropriation and congress's attitude toward it, the New Orleans Daily States says:

It is no more permissible for the president to establish a system of espionage over congress than it is for congress to set secret spies to pry into the private affairs of the president. Such conduct is tolerable in Russia, but not in free America. The house is, therefore, well within its rights in submitting the matter to a special committee and proceeding in a dignified way to vindicate itself. It is unfortunate that in the closing days of his administration Mr. Roosevelt should have permitted himself to be guilty of this astonishing breach of propriety, unparalleled in the history of the government. Whatever the outcome of it may be, no good purpose can be accomplished by thus setting the legislative and executive departments of the government by the ears. It is a display of petty tyranny that could most profitably have been left unattempted.

Obituary

Taylor C. Shobe was born January 20, 1849 and he died most peacefully in his own home in the presence of his family Saturday, Dec. 19, 1908. He was the son of Silas and Mary Shobe and in their good home with his brothers and sisters he was reared to manhood's years. Of this family five are still living and they most reluctantly part with him whose body we place to rest and whose name they feel shall always cherish. They are Charles Shobe, Mrs. R. D. Kerr, Ligonier, Indiana, Mrs. A. W. Parsons of Cleveland, Ohio, Mrs. G. A. Henry, Elkhart; and Mrs. Frank Stuart of Englewood, Ill. Taylor Shobe was married on March 12, 1872 to Miss Sarah Fisher Carr who still survives him, and with their sons, George C. of Mishawaka, Indiana, and Robert D. who is yet at home, lament the loss of a good husband and a kind father.

For a number of years he has been in business with his father, and as he had a fondness for good horses he found it a pleasure to deal with them for a large portion of his life and thus he was engaged with his brother Charles for as much as twenty years; and in these relations they were prosperous and happy. But when his health failed him, and he began to see that he could not do his share of the work he retired from active life in June 1908. Naturally he was a strong man and the promise of long life with which he was so hopefully encouraged would, barring all accidents and casualties, have carried him far beyond this day on which we assemble to pay a suitable tribute to his memory and carelessly to touch his face for the last time before we place his body in the tomb. But his life was not finished as it seemed to us that it might be, and he did not live as long as we thought he would, for today it seems to us that for quite a while he was sick when he ought to have been vigorous and well, and now he has gone from us while we feel that he ought to be yet with us here. And why is it not thus we cannot tell but some bright morning when the clouds of mystery which hang over us are cleared away we shall understand.

It was in the year 1907 while on an errand of business for himself and he was driving home and he was overtaken by an accident and was severely hurt, but he seemed to recover since he was so strong, and he might have done so but for a second injury about a year later. But after the unfortunate experiences of these two accidents it is thought that he never fully rallied to himself again; and his friends witnessed a decline in his health until he was confined to his home, and then to his bed. Of his last months of sickness and languishing I confess that we know nothing. We can think of this and speak of it, but I cannot command words to express the extent of his sufferings and the sublime patience with which he bore it all. And now if Taylor Shobe is safe at home with God and has rest, which will never be broken and peace, which will flow on forever we ought to wipe away our tears and rejoice that his banquet of pleasure begun and will never end. You loved him of course you did! But you would not call him back to earth if he has been promoted to the heavenly estate and has been crowned in glory.

You and I may have several dear ones in the paradise of God but we should be content to wait to go and see them, and they may look for our coming.

W. A. BEANE.

The Truancy Law

The total number of children brought into the schools of Indiana as a result of the activity of the truant officers is given at 26,181. These figures indicate simply those brought into the schools by the officers, and not children who attended because the law requires them to do so. Of the number reported 24,688 were placed in the public schools and 1,508 in private schools. The salaries of the truant officers amounted to \$32,502.50. Aid was given to 7,606 of the children at a cost of \$21,470.51. The aggregate expense of the officers' salaries and for the aid given the children is given as \$24,470. At this rate the cost for each child was \$2.08. Out of this total number of truants there were only 289 prosecutions. Of the number 286 were successful, twenty-two were lost and one was pending at the close of the school year.

Sad Suicide at South Bend

The lifeless body of Eunice Walton, twenty years old at the home of her grandfather, Washington Walton, 2131 Merry avenue, tells the pitiful story of a motherless girl wronged by a man, taking her own life because she felt the pangs of disgrace, and unable to face the world's battle of life. A note was pinned to the pillow upon which her head rested and told of her unhappy existence leading up to her rash act, says the South Bend Times.

"I did this deed myself," she wrote in a letter. "I am in a delicate condition, caused by ——." Here was penned the name of the man. "There is nothing for me to live for. Good bye." The note, together with three once ounce bottles, two of which contained carbolic acid, and the third laudanum, explains everything.

Quotation Books for Christmas

The Sewing Society of the Presbyterian church will have some of their beautiful books for sale, and nothing would make a more acceptable present to a friend. Copies may be procured for 50¢ either at the post office or of Mrs. J. L. Dunning.

Position Wanted

By competent girl for general house work. References. Call or address, S. S. STAGE, City

Facts About The Indiana Legislature

Under the Indiana state constitution the number of senators in the general assembly can never exceed fifty, though it may be less—and the body now has the limit—while the house of representatives can never have more than 100, the present number.

The representatives are elected every two years, but one-half of the senators are elected every two years each to serve four years, so that there are always twenty-five "hold over" senators, unless in the event of death or other reason for vacancies.

The districts from which senators and representatives may be elected can be changed once every six years—by the first subsequent legislature after the regular sextennial enumeration of male citizens of twenty-one years or more. If the first subsequent legislature does not re-district the state it may be done by any one subsequent assembly within the six year period.

Members of both houses must be citizens of the state for two years preceding election and of the district for one year. Senators must be at least twenty-five years of age and representatives twenty-one. No law suit can be started against a member between 15 days before a session and 15 days after adjournment. Nothing that a member may say in a speech or debate in the assembly is actionable by any aggrieved person.

The pay is \$6 per day and twenty cents mileage each way.

The regular session begins the first Thursday after the first Monday of January of the odd years and cannot extend over sixty-one days, counting Sundays. Special sessions cannot extend over forty days, but may be called by the governor at any time.

Neither house can adjourn more than three days or repair to any other place than where it is sitting without the consent of the other house.—Elkhart Review

County Spelling Contest

Later in the school year spelling contests will be held in each school and representatives will be selected to take part in a township contest in March or April. The three best spellers in each township will be given certificates which will entitle them to enter a county contest to be held at Albion on County Commencement day. Prizes will be awarded the best spellers in the contest.

University professors, high school teachers, editors and business men who employ the boys and girls who get their training in our schools, complain about having to deal with poor spellers. Every teacher recognizes the spelling problem as one of the difficult and one of the important ones. There is abundant evidence that our schools are failing short in the work done in this very important subject.

The object of holding these contests among the pupils of the county in the subject of spelling and to impress upon them the fact that correct spelling is really important. The work which the schools should do towards making good spellers must be done below the high school and by far the largest part of this responsibility rests upon the township and district schools. In recognition of this responsibility these contests have been arranged with a view to create and an interest in spelling and to supplement the daily efforts of the teacher in making good spellers.

W. A. BEANE.

The Preacher's Salary

The current issue of the Success contains an excellent article on the salary of the preacher and the usual methods of raising it. The writer takes the position that the church bazaar and oyster supper plan is largely responsible for driving men out of the church while at the same time the dignity and self-respect of the pastor is usually submerged beneath the avalanche of donations.

What the preacher of today wants is a straight salary in cash, realized by equitable subscriptions from the members of his congregation. The sooner the church establishes itself upon a business basis, if it is not already there, the better for the church. There is no more reason why the preacher should be an object of charity than should the janitor who sweeps out the building in which the word of God is expounded.

A Successful Fancier

Bert McConnell recently made a

shipment of bronze turkeys to New

York, which secured a telegraphic

inquiry from a party who saw the

stock. The following telegram was received: "If more stock like this, wire price on same."

Mr. McConnell wired reply and

made a good sale at a fancy price.

He received a letter from a last

year's customer who purchased three

turkeys. The party stated that

they were the best he was ever able

to obtain and wanted more stock.

He received an order from this party at a good price. He has inquiries from all parts of the country. He is a firm believer in the value of print-

ers' ink and is meeting with great

success.

Is a Great Play

The Banner directs the attention of Ligonier theatergoers to the engagement of "The Witching Hour," announced for the Jefferson next

Tuesday night. It is beyond all

doubt the most sensational and original

and successful play written during

the decade and is the best of the

Augustus Thomas plays.

The company sent to Goshen is the superb

organization that recently appeared in Fort Wayne.

Every Ligonier theatergoer who likes the theater, should make it a point to try and see

"The Witching Hour" the opportunity

may not come again and to miss

it would be to miss seeing a power-

play that appeals to all classes of

showgoers.

Farmers Make Recommendations

The Indiana Farmers Congress, which met at Indianapolis last week adopted resolutions recommending the following laws and amendments for the consideration of the 68th General Assembly:

Wants wind and water taken out

Railroad change in drainage and

roading laws.

Agricultural and mechanical train-

ing schools.

Fuel alcohol as the universal fuel.

Ten pound unit instead of a 100

unit pound. Abolition of game and

fish warden.

Purification of Indiana streams.

State aid for improvement of

waterways.

Township trustees placed on grad-

uated salaries.