

THE RICHMOND PALLADIUM

AND SUN-TELEGRAM.

VOL. XXXII. NO. 324.

RICHMOND, IND., SUNDAY MORNING, JANUARY 5, 1908.

SINGLE COPY, 3 CENTS.

CLUBS ARE NOT CAUSE OF DIVORCE

Prominent Women Say That Divorce Cases in Wayne County Cannot Be Attributed To These Organizations.

MERE MEN GET BURDEN OF BLAME FOR EVIL.

Asserted Male Organizations Do More to Disrupt Homes Than All the Women's Societies of the City.

SAY THE IDEA IS ABSURD.

THERE ARE NOW MORE THAN SEVENTY WOMEN'S CLUBS IN THE CITY OF RICHMOND OF VARIOUS CHARACTER.

The club women of Richmond, have one and all "abooed" the idea that the club is the cause of the divorce epidemic which is now raging in Wayne county. When seen yesterday they were unanimous in saying that the club builds up homes instead of tearing down. "The club is a grand thing." "It is one of the greatest culture agents that this country ever knew." "During twenty years' connection with my club I have not known one of its members to get a divorce," are some of the statements which these ladies made. The mildest statement which was made was to the effect that there are both good and bad clubs, and some of the clubs by making excessive calls upon the time of women who have household duties, may break into home life. One lady rapped the male population of this old world roundly, by saying that if the men would stay at home as well as the women do, there would not be so many divorce proceedings.

Out in Oakland, California, an enterprising minister conducted an investigation into the cause of divorce. He consulted forty well-known lawyers and a large majority of them gave as the first reason for the severing of the sacred bonds of matrimony—the women's clubs of our cities.

It is safe to say that if the pious gentleman who gleaned these opinions should land in Richmond, he would receive a reception which would resemble very strongly the polar zone in winter. One prominent club member said, "It is simply awful that men should say such things. Everyone knows that the clubs are doing great good in the home life. They give women culture, make them broader, and consequently better wives, mothers and companions. As for me, I laugh at the idea that our meetings foster the divorce evil." When asked about the men's clubs, she shrugged her shoulders, and with a twinkle of fun in her eyes, said, "Well, they are not as bad as they might be."

Richmond might be known as a city of clubs. There are over seventy clubs to which ladies belong. Many of the leaders in these organizations stand high in national circles, and are known throughout the country. They do not hesitate to express an opinion on the divorce agitation. All of them deplore the fact that Wayne county courts broke all previous records last year by granting a divorce for every five marriage licenses that were issued, but they were certain that the clubs of the city have not fostered the Great American evil.

Mrs. M. F. Johnston, a leading club woman, whose interests are in art rather than social clubs, said: "There is nothing in it. I must laugh at the whole idea. The women who are good club women are also good wives and mothers. I do not know the cause of divorce, but I am sure that the clubs are not at the bottom of it."

Mrs. Erie Reynolds, of the Magazine club, said: "The idea that the clubs are responsible is preposterous. They have kept women from getting divorces. I am a member of six clubs and in none of them have I seen any thing to foster divorce. On the contrary, the women of the clubs are better housekeepers and more intelligent companions to their husbands for being members of clubs. It is true that some club women I know have been divorced, but in every case the separation has arisen from causes wholly without the club. I do not know what part men's clubs have played in this question, for I never had the opportunity of belonging to any of them. Perhaps if I knew the inside workings of them I could give you more information, but I can say as to women's organizations, and I unhesitatingly pronounce them a grand thing for the women of our country."

Mrs. N. C. Heironimus, president of the Aftermath club made the following statement: "I really know little about it, because during the twenty years

(Continued on Page Eight).

MEN OF AFFAIRS IN RICHMOND



LINAS P. MEREDITH.
Sheriff Wayne Co.

WIRELESS SYSTEM MOST REMARKABLE OF ALL INVENTIONS

This is the Opinion of Everett Larsh, a Former Well Known Richmond Man, Now in the United States Navy.

IS IN THE CITY ON A VISIT WITH RELATIVES.

Tells of the Communication Carried on When Admiral Evans and His Great Fleet Sailed Past Key West.

The greatest invention and the most interesting work in the world is the way Everett Larsh, a former well known Richmond young man, describes the wireless telegraph. Larsh is an enlisted man in the United States navy and for the past year been stationed at the United States naval wireless station at Key West, a small island just south of Florida. Larsh is now in the city visiting relatives.

"When Admiral Evans and his fleet of sixteen battleships sailed past Key West the wireless station there at once opened communication with the fleet. The forty-five horse power instruments at this wireless station, which is the largest in the United States, is still in communication with the fleet and will continue to be until the battleships arrive at Rio Janeiro, Brazil, which is about 1,000 miles south of Key West," stated Seaman Larsh last evening.

The maximum range for transmission at the Key West wireless station is one thousand miles. This station keeps up a steady communication with New York City.

The government has just installed a small but complete wireless station at Dry Tortugas, an island sixty miles west of Key West, and Larsh expects to be placed in charge of this station when he reports for duty. Dry Tortugas is one of the principal naval stations of the United States.

Mrs. M. F. Johnston, a leading club woman, whose interests are in art rather than social clubs, said: "There is nothing in it. I must laugh at the whole idea. The women who are good club women are also good wives and mothers. I do not know the cause of divorce, but I am sure that the clubs are not at the bottom of it."

Mrs. Erie Reynolds, of the Magazine club, said: "The idea that the clubs are responsible is preposterous. They have kept women from getting divorces. I am a member of six clubs and in none of them have I seen any thing to foster divorce. On the contrary, the women of the clubs are better housekeepers and more intelligent companions to their husbands for being members of clubs. It is true that some club women I know have been divorced, but in every case the separation has arisen from causes wholly without the club. I do not know what part men's clubs have played in this question, for I never had the opportunity of belonging to any of them. Perhaps if I knew the inside workings of them I could give you more information, but I can say as to women's organizations, and I unhesitatingly pronounce them a grand thing for the women of our country."

Mrs. N. C. Heironimus, president of the Aftermath club made the following statement: "I really know little about it, because during the twenty years

(Continued on Page Eight).

Deputy United States Marshal Alonso Boyd of Indianapolis, has arrived in the city to take charge of the affairs of the Quigley and Babylon drug company which was but recently forced into bankruptcy through the active claims of both local and foreign creditors. Mr. Boyd will act in behalf of local creditors.

(Continued on Page Eight).

MANY PUPILS ARE OVER AGE IN THE RICHMOND SCHOOLS

Some Interesting Figures That Bear Out This Statement Compiled by Superintendent T. A. Mott.

TOO MUCH INDIFFERENCE ON THE PART OF PARENTS

The Percentage of Boys Over Age Exceeds That of Girls By Seven Per Cent, the Ratio Being 37 to 30.

THREE CAUSES ARE FOUND.

ONE IS SICKNESS, ANOTHER IS INDIFFERENCE OF THE PUPILS AND THE THIRD IS THAT SOME PUPILS CANNOT DO THE WORK.

That there is too much indifference on the part of the patrons of the public schools, is the conclusion drawn from some interesting figures just compiled in the office of Supt. T. A. Mott. From the records he has found that of the 2,273 pupils now enrolled, 769, or 34 per cent are over age. 436 are one year over age, 237 are two years over, 76 are three years over, 16 are four years over, and two pupils are still lingering in grades five years behind where they should be. In compiling these figures, seven years was taken as the normal age for first grade pupils, eight years for the second grade. A pupil should be fourteen years old when the eighth grade is reached.

It is also noted that the percentage of boys over age exceeds that of girls by 7 per cent. Of the total enrollment, 1,146 are boys and 1,127 girls.

Of those over age, 428 are boys and 341 are girls, or, putting it another way 37 per cent of the lads and 30 per cent of the lasses are one or more years behind their classes.

Supt. Mott has figured that the large percentage comes from three or more causes. The first in importance of these is sickness. Many pupils in the grades are frail and the changes of weather in the winter work havoc with their health. When a pupil is absent for as short a period as three days, it is almost impossible for him to catch up with the class. It has covered a certain amount of work and gone on, and when the sick pupil returns, he has more than he can do with the double lessons.

The second cause, and the one about which the officials are now trying to arouse public interest, is the indifference about the pupils who are mentally and physically too lazy to do the work assigned them. These pupils need pushing is the decision of Supt. Mott, and just now he is busily engaged in organizing a "push" campaign. Boys and girls who can, but won't, are to be prodded along until they are awakened. In this way it is thought that the percentage can be reduced very materially.

For the third cause, comes in the fact that a few pupils are short on mental ability and cannot do the work. But this class is vastly smaller than school men used to think it was. According to Supt. Mott it is an easy way out of the whole question, and one too often employed by teachers and parents.

The movement in which Richmond is taking the lead, is one in which educators will be much interested in the immediate future. Supt. J. M. Greenwood, for forty years superintendent of schools in Kansas City, and a very close friend of Supt. Mott, is making a similar investigation of the schools under his jurisdiction. These men will tackle the problem and try to solve it.

The men who found Heiger at once called for the city ambulance and on its arrival, he was at once taken to the Reid Memorial hospital where prompt measures were taken to save the man's life.

Officer Vogelsong, who drove the ambulance, says that Heiger gave no account of how the accident happened. Heiger suffers from a mental trouble and frequently wanders away from his home. It is thought that while walking across the tracks on the Sheridan street viaduct he became confused and was knocked down by a train and directly under the wheels.

Last winter Heiger wandered away from his house and remained away for over a day. The police were called upon to search for him and when found the unfortunate man was almost frozen to death. The physician who attended him at the hospital, is confident that he will recover from the effects of the accident despite the severe nervous shock and the amount of blood lost.

Just as the bride was about to reply to the words "honor, love and obey" she shifted her foot and sat down plump on the floor amid screams of laughter.

The minister not only married the couple, but took occasion to preach a stirring sermon to the skaters. The bride and bridegroom then led 250 couples in a skate around the rink to a wedding march.

THE WEATHER PROPHET.

INDIANA—Generally fair Sunday; colder in south portion, Sunday.

OHIO—Fair and colder, Sunday.

JAPAN IS NOW PREPARING FOR WAR

Large Number of Vessels Being Fitted Out.

MARTIAL LAW AND TROOPS PUT DAMPER ON MOB SPIRIT

Affairs of Muncie Are Clearing Up and There Was No Violence Saturday, Probably Due to Presence of Troops.

BUSINESS MEN SWORN AS DEPUTIES TO AID PEACE.

Business Houses Closed and People Are Required to Keep To Their Homes in Obedience to Governor's Order.

HANDWRITING ON THE WALL

BOTH CITY AND COUNTY OFFICIALS DETERMINED TO CHECK ALL LAWLESSNESS AND SET MUDDLED AFFAIRS ARIGHT.

Muncie, Ind., Jan. 4.—Muncie, for a riot-stricken city, the result of outbreaks of mob sympathizers with the striking motormen and conductors of the Muncie street car lines operated by the Indiana Union Traction company, is in joint control of the Indiana national guard and the municipal government. Five hundred citizens have been sworn in as special officers of the law, and will try to preserve order without the active aid of the military. The troops, however, have the effect of awing the mob spirit.

Proclamation by the Mayor.

The new order of affairs brought forth another proclamation from Mayor or Guthrie in which he ordered that all women and children remain off the streets except when their presence there is necessary. He also ordered all saloons to remain closed until he should issue an order opening them. Persons standing in the streets will be promptly arrested. The spirit of the proclamation is one of determination to restore Muncie to a state of good order.

The work of swearing in 500 business and professional men commanded to serve as deputy sheriffs by Sheriff Perdien proceeded as Saturday wore on. Attaches of the office of Sheriff Perdien hurried over the city and summoned the men to appear at police headquarters to be sworn in. These men are the most prominent in town and the list probably includes the entire roster of the Commercial club. They left their stores, banks, and offices to stand about the streets in the cold, January rain, wearing the badge of the law, a white brassard on the left arm.

Has Already Had a Good Moral Effect.

At first many of them took the matter lightly, but the real seriousness of the situation soon dawned upon them and the business men assumed the duty of trying to restore Muncie to its normal quietude. These deputy sheriffs and the police will try to control the situation, assisted only when necessary by the soldiers. If they can do so successfully the soldiers will take no part in the affair. Their presence here has already had a good moral effect.

General McKee put the matter of self control up to the city and county authorities in strong terms at a conference. He told them what martial law meant. He said that it would mean that all business houses would have to be closed and citizens remain in their homes. This statement followed the call for the business men to serve as deputy sheriffs. Muncie sees the handwriting on the wall now that the soldiers have finally come. The city has had quiet Saturday, the first it has known since the new year came in.

Governor Sets Out Reasons.

In the proclamation issued, the Governor sets out his reasons for proclaiming Muncie and adjacent territory under martial law. He calls attention to the lawlessness and to the executive efforts of the local authorities to quell the riots, and declares the city and its immediate environments to be in a state of riot and insurrection.

The Governor has waited in the hope that the local authorities of Muncie, supported by the law-abiding citizens, would be able to maintain order, preserve peace, and protect life and property." was the executive statement made today. The inability and failure of the local authorities to cope with the situation leaves the executive no choice.

The law in Muncie will be enforced; order will be restored; peace will be maintained, and life and property will be protected, even though it require the full resources of the State. Martial law will not be continued one day beyond the necessity for it. Its duration will depend entirely upon the action of the citizens of the city of Muncie."

The martial law proclamation and the order to General McKee were issued by the Governor in his double capacity as Governor of Indiana and commander-in-chief of its military forces.

ADAIR MAY ENTER RACE FOR GOVERNOR

It Is Thought Recent Squabble at Anderson Was Clever Political Move.

DESIRÉ TO BE CANDIDATE.

Portland, Ind., Jan. 4.—The belief is gaining ground that John A. M. Adair, democratic congressman from the Eighth district, will yet be a candidate for governor. It is known that he desires to be such a candidate. He was at one time a suspected candidate, when he said that if he got into the race in earnest he would hand to the state committee the sum of \$10,000 as a starter. Adair is a good many who do not wish to let that \$10,000 slip away.

There are many who believe that the recent events in the Eighth district

SAD DEATH ANNOUNCED TO LOCAL FRIENDS

Mrs. Esther Strawbridge Dies in Florida.

Word has been received here of the death of Mrs. Esther Strawbridge, wife of William Strawbridge, at Eustis, Fla., January 2, at the age of 64 years. Her remains will be taken to Chicago and the funeral services will be held from the family residence, 4026 Grand Boulevard, on Tuesday. Mrs. Strawbridge was well and favorably known here, this having at one time been her home.