

THE THEATRE A MIGHTY POWER

Indiscriminate Patronage to Blame for Quality of Many Plays says Rev. Dr. Scott

That the theatre is one of the greatest educational sources in the world that it fills a natural human want and that the responsibility for clean drama rests on the patrons, was declared by Rev. Dr. C. T. Scott at Bridge Street Methodist Church last evening. Indiscriminate patronage is responsible for the decline of the modern drama.

Theatre Capable of Great Good

"I have no wholesale denunciation to make of the theatre because the institution is capable of so much good and has had such a splendid history," said Dr. Scott.

There is a dramatic instinct in us all, it is natural, instructive. The child with the doll, the boy in military play, children dressing up as parents and elders, these are all examples of the love which human beings have in mimic life. How glad we elders are to accentuate the oddities of our friends and hear a laugh! There is no power greater than healthy ridicule.

We must look at the theatre with sympathy. The drama comes of religious origin, the earliest drama expressing great moral truths. Early comedy portrayed the weaknesses of public and private life to the pleasure and instruction of the spectators.

Catering to Public Taste

Yet in the very development of drama there comes the tendency to what people wanted, rather than what they needed and the ancient drama became degraded. The fault was not in the drama but in catering to the tastes of the time. It is not to be wondered at that the early Christian church condemned the stage. And it well might die out. But you cannot banish human impulses. The church in the middle ages found it necessary to employ dramatic art in the form of miracle and morality plays to instruct the people in the days when books were few. The diversion, interludes were introduced and became so popular as to ultimately dominate the drama. The modern drama reached its greatest height in Shakespeare.

"There is a power in the drama to influence men and women, only secondary perhaps to the pulpit. The weakness of the modern pulpit, of modern education is perhaps its lack of dramatic art and imagination. The theatre will always have its place and responsibility. It is our duty to inspire the theatre with the truest ideals.

French Influence Baneful

"We have lived to see the degradation of the theatre again. Wherein do I condemn the theatre of today?" asked Dr. Scott, who explained that while from choice and calling a minister refrained from attending the theatre, he is always studying conditions. His reply was, "My censure upon the modern drama is its false presentation of life." Aristotle said the object of the drama was to purify the emotions. With the last century the drama fell under the baneful influence of the French school of realism, the real life presented being anything but ideal, and the drama demanding sacrosanctness and suggestion with consequent deteriorating influence upon life and character.

Modern Drama and Divorce

Is there any connection between the drama with its triangle and illicit love and the increase in divorce suits, which are going like an epidemic over the land? The inevitable result is the breaking down of the home life.

Patrons Responsible

The blame rests upon the patrons of the theatre declared the preacher. There are some noble men and women on the stage but this cannot be said of the majority. This condition is due to the indiscriminate patronage of the theatre.

To overcome this indiscriminate patronage we must know something of the plot of the play. If the hero passes through crime, or the heroine is held up as beautiful in spite of moral deficiencies, we know that life's romance is destroyed and its ideal is so distorted as to make it easy to excuse sin. We must also know something of the setting—if the actors are noble. What about the shameful lack of dress displayed on the billboards? Do we go to see it or believe they are camouflaged to catch a few. If you go to see this display, you have lost moral sensibility. We owe it to our fellowmen

to surround the actor and theatre-goer with noble influence.

Love of Applause

There is a besetting temptation of the theatre—the love of applause. There is a temptation to play to the gallery. A leading manager says the high class theatre will not pay unless the baser elements are introduced. We must be guarded in our applause. The lackadaisical attitude of the patrons has had a blighting influence on the stage. The picture show is here to stay. The only thing to do is to put the stamp of approval on what is ennobling, giving it the encouragement it deserves.

The Power of the Mother

Mother's Day Sermon by Rev. D. C. Ramsay at John St. Church.

The power of the mother over the life of the child is governed by law declared the Rev. D. C. Ramsay at John St. Presbyterian Church on Sunday morning on the subject of "What a Mother Keeps in Her Heart" which was fitting for the occasion of "Mother's Day." Mr. Ramsay spoke from the text Luke 2, 51-52.

A subtle law connects what Mary had in her heart and what occurred in Jesus' life. Jesus was subject to the law of influence just as the human race. The future opened before Him because His mother had set her heart. That does not mean that she set a limit for Him, because He had individuality and life is full of infinite possibilities. Many a great man has been great only because he had a great mother behind him. There is little achievement or success that does not find its source back in some mother's heart. What makes possible that power? Wherever the mother's heart is, there are three lasting things of life:

(1.) Faith. She believes in her boys and girls when others only ignore them. She sees the wonderful in the ordinary. By and by her children learn to believe in themselves for it is always faith that gives us a start in life—faith in ourselves that generally arises from some one's faith in us.

(2.) Hope. The real mother does not lose hope. Very often she has little to build on. Often enough she goes down to the grave with her hope unrealized, but the grave is nothing to a mother's hope and many a mother has won for her child in her death what she has never won for him in her life. This hope finds its way into the heart of her child and he sees the world in a large way.

(3.) Love. This is the great source of all a mother's power. Mothers are specialists in love and because love means more to our life than anything else in the world, mothers are specialists in life. Anything that is big in us was loved in by our mothers. With these three qualities, mothers mould our lives for they are the only abiding qualities and like the great powers of nature work silently, preserving, refreshing and renewing our life.

Loyalty to mother is the first duty of life. There is a form of disloyalty to mother—it is a law of life that young folk grow away from the older people. This tendency has been accentuated in our time by our rapidity of life and our conditions. A great many of the fathers and mothers of us were pioneers and did not have time to keep up with the rapid changes in our modern life. There is no doubt that some of them have old fashioned ideas and it is so easy to grow apart and then to neglect, coldness and sometimes to shame. It is a kind of disloyalty that is not only dispicable but foolish, for it is also disloyalty to ourselves. If there is any decency in us it belongs back yonder to the old fashioned ways and old fashioned folk. In these days, when we wonder what are the great powers of life, it is a time to say that mothers are the strongest power in the world. A worn out woman who can go no farther than the door of her home can send out powers greater than any governments.

Nights of Agony come in the train of asthma. The victim cannot lie down and sleep is driven from his brain. What grateful relief is the immediate effect of Dr. J. D. Kellogg's Asthma Remedy. It banishes passages and enables the afflicted the frightful conditions, clears the one to again sleep as soundly and restfully as a child. Insist on the genuine at your nearby druggist.

Ex-Mayor W. Jeffers Diamond is reported better today from his serious illness of the past few days. His friends are hoping for his restoration to his former vigor.

Higher Prices Ever Follow Trail of War

Present Conditions Comparatively Far From Abnormal, Supreme Council Says.

OTTAWA, May 10.—The disorganization of the whole economic position of Europe due to the war is reflected in the rise of prices which is at present the source of universal discontent among the peoples, belligerent and neutral alike, says a declaration on the economic conditions of the world, approved by the Supreme Council on March 8, and tabled in the House of Commons by Sir George Foster.

"High prices are the inevitable result of war," the declaration states, "and in comparison with most wars, the present situation is far from abnormal. In the Napoleonic wars, prices in England rose 75 per cent, and took eight years to become normal again. In the United States civil war, prices rose 100 per cent and took twelve years or more to become normal."

"As a result of this war, the most gigantic of all in the history of the world, general wholesale prices (as distinct from the cost of living) have advanced since 1913 approximately as follows:

All Due to War.
The United States, 120 per cent; Great Britain, 170 per cent; France, Italy and Belgium, 300 per cent."

Dealing with the causes for this increase in prices, the declaration states that they may all be regarded as directly or indirectly due to the war. "Government action may mitigate or disguise some of the effects of the rise in prices, but it cannot remove the root cause, which is the destruction of wealth."

Peace has not yet been re-established, it is stated. Russia has in the field armies of 1,500,000 men or more, and not less than 1,000,000 men are still under arms in Poland, Roumania and the new States created out of Austria-Hungary. The first step needed is to complete demobilization in all these countries, and then to encourage increased production. The output of factories, mines and manufacturing industries is said to be less than before the war, and far below the demands now made upon them. At the same time, consumption, particularly of luxuries has increased. The declaration says:

"The general extravagance now observable throughout the world is a phenomenon which has almost invariably followed in the footsteps of every great human catastrophe. Decrease of gold and excessive issues of paper currency are said to be responsible for a large part of the price increases. It is essential to the recovery of Europe," the statement reads, "that the manufacture of additional paper money and Government credits should be brought to an end, and this must be effected as soon as the war expenditure has been terminated."

Cause of Profitless Dealing with profiteering, the declaration reads: "Excessive profit-making, commonly known as profiteering, has resulted from the scarcity of goods. Deflation and a check upon the continuous rise of prices will do much in itself to end the conditions that make profiteering possible. But it is essential, in order to obtain the co-operation of all classes in the increase of production, that each Government should take such steps as are appropriate to the circumstances of its own people to assure and guarantee to the workers that the burdens they are called upon by their efforts to remedy are not aggravated by those who would exploit the economic difficulties of Europe for their own personal ends."

Restriction of Government and private expenditures is urged. Referring to collapse of exchanges, it is set forth that it is urgent to secure a temporary balance of trade by means of commercial credits accompanied by the reduction of all non-essential imports to an absolute minimum. The difficulties of credit and the need for co-operation among all classes are also set forth.

A Two Hundred Dollar Increase

Baptist Pastor Appreciated by His Finance Board

The Rev. W. H. Wallace, pastor of Victoria Ave. Baptist Church was voted an increase of two hundred dollars in his yearly salary by the Finance Board. This raise is in appreciation of the pastor's success in the local charge and on account

of increases in the cost of living.

Special mother's day services were held yesterday, the pastor paying reference to the occasion. In the evening Mr. W. S. Rathman sang a solo "Mother O' Mine" by Kipling-Tours.

Drowned in Moira Lake

Sad Close to Career of Robert Garrett, Formerly of Belleville

The body of Robert Garrett was found yesterday in Moira Lake near Madoc. He disappeared on Saturday from Madoc where he had been staying and a search was instituted, the police at Belleville being asked to be on the lookout for him. He had the misfortune to lose his wife as a result of sleeping sickness several months ago and since then he had been despondent. It is thought that he may in a moment of mental aberration have committed suicide. The discovery of his hat on the shore of the lake led to the finding of his body.

Robert Garrett was about forty years of age and for many years lived in Belleville. He was for a long time in the employ of McIntosh Bros. and about twelve or fifteen years ago left for Campbellford to manage their store there. About seven years ago he joined the staff of the T. Eaton Company Ltd., Toronto with which he had a fine position. His parents and family had been living in Toronto. His wife, formerly a Miss O'Flynn died in Toronto, some months ago of sleeping sickness, and he was left with a family of four children. The shock was very great to him and he was required to take a rest. He was a very fine type of man and possessed the quality of making friends. The unfortunate occurrence of his death is deeply lamented by all who knew him.

The remains of the deceased arrived at the G.T.R. depot at Belleville this morning and were taken aboard the westbound train for Toronto, where the interment takes place.

Successful Students at Queen's University

Mr. W. J. Embury, son of Mr. R. C. Embury, Cedar Street of this city is to be congratulated upon obtaining the degree of Bachelor of Science in geology and mineralogy at Queen's University, Kingston. He will be leaving shortly on a geological survey trip in the northern part of Manitoba.

Another Belleville boy to be congratulated is Mr. Herbert Clinton Barlow, who succeeded in securing deferred degrees in Master of Arts. Mr. George Smith Pound, R. R. No. 6, Belleville is also to be congratulated in having obtained the degree of Bachelor of Arts.

Miss Ila Maude Hamby of Nanawee was successful in obtaining the degree of Bachelor of Arts. Congratulations.

Graduates From Dental College

G. A. Morton, of this City Now a Full Fledged Dentist.

Mr. Gerald A. Morton, son of Mr. W. H. Morton, of this city, has just graduated as doctor of dental surgery from the Royal College of Dental Surgeons at Toronto. Dr. Morton spent over two years in dental work in C.A.D.C. He will open up an office in Belleville.

Mr. W. M. Blakely of Thomasburg has completed his course in dentistry at the Royal College of Dental Surgeons of Toronto and is now qualified to practise dentistry.

Cheese Makers May Oppose Co-operation

Eastern Farmers Said Not to Be Taking Kindly to the Scheme.

Kingston, May 8.—Local dealers in cheese are satisfied by the prices being paid on the opening boards by exporters. It is stated that a supply of last season's cheese is still on hand and the last prices quoted by wholesale dealers were from 27½ to 29 cents a pound. The Frontenac Cheese Board was among the highest in Eastern Ontario, reaching 31½ cents, on Thursday. This should stimulate the patrons of factories to produce to the greatest extent this season, for with the establishment of condenseries there is going to be less

cheese available for export this year than last. A large condensary has just been established by a Toronto company in Sydenham, the heart of the best farming region in Frontenac. Circulars are still being sent out to cheesemen in this district urging them to join in the proposed co-operative scheme, but there appears to be a growing feeling amongst them that it is better not to break up a system that costs so little and is working so well, for something they know nothing about and which may only mean additional expense and general dissatisfaction. George Smith, owner of a factory at Parham, condemns the whole co-operative scheme and warns farmers to have nothing to do with it.

OBITUARY

MRS. MARY ANN McDONNELL

The death occurred on Sunday afternoon of Mrs. Mary Ann McDonnell, after a lengthy illness, at her home, Cannifton Road. She was the widow of the late James McDonnell and was born in Murray, being a daughter of the late David Ahearn. She had lived in this vicinity for fifty years and was in her 79th year. Mrs. McDonnell was a member of St. Michael's church. Surviving are two daughters, Miss Nellie of this city and Mrs. Andrew Walsh of Tyndinaga.

MRS. MARIAN C. TRENAMAN

The remains of the late Mrs. Marian C. Trenaman arrived here on Sunday from Orillia and were laid to rest this morning in Belleville cemetery. Rev. Dr. Scott, of Bridge Street Methodist Church conducted service at Tickell & Sons' Co. Mrs. Trenaman was in her 74th year. Mr. Sargent of Toronto and Mr. H. A. Raney of Orillia accompanied the remains here.

GLENN HAROLD AKEY

On Saturday morning, May 1st, Glenn Harold, the youngest son of Mr. and Mrs. Adam Akey, of Tweed, passed peacefully away. The little fellow was only ten months and two weeks old. The funeral service was held at St. James' Church on Sunday afternoon, the Rev. A. E. Smart officiating. Many friends gathered at the church to sympathize with the bereaved parents.—Tweed News.

JOHN WINFORD SCOTT

Mr. John Winford Scott, who came to Trenton some months ago to establish a paint and dye factory, died at his home on Wednesday evening from heart failure following influenza. Deceased leaves a widow and five children. Mr. Scott was a travelling salesman for the Nordheimer Piano Company and lived in Gananoque before coming here. The dye and paint works were an experiment and proved, we have heard, quite a disastrous financial undertaking. Mr. Scott was a business man of outstanding ability and was a well known and popular traveller. The remains will be taken to Gananoque tomorrow for interment. He was 37 years of age.—Trenton Advocate.

ELIZA TRUMPOUR

The death took place at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Geo. Wilson, of Sulphide, on Sunday last, after a long illness, of Mrs. Eliza Wilson, a former resident of this village. The deceased was a sister of G. S. Wilson, of Vancouver, and Miss Willis, of Peterboro. The remains were interred in Bethel cemetery on Tuesday afternoon.—Tweed News.

Talk of the Town And of the Country

M. McIntyre Hood, who until recently was a member of the editorial staff of the Kingston Whig, is doing well in Chicago. He left the Whig to take a position with Associated Editors of that city, and on this company being incorporated, he was appointed to board of directors and elected vice-president and manager. He is in full control of the working operations of Associated Editors, the leading dailies in North America. Associated Editors was developed from the Boys and Girls Newspaper Service, which supplies the feature articles that appear daily in the "School British Whig." Several other features are being consolidated in the same company, which is the youngest and one of the most progressive syndicates in the United States.

On Saturday afternoon a serious accident occurred on the Trenton Road, several miles west of Belleville, when Mr. Jack Casey, Station

RITCHIE'S

Extensive Displays Of Very Special Values In RUGS



We are certain that the Rug Values we offer today cannot be duplicated elsewhere. We have been fortunate enough to secure early deliveries direct from the makers in England, Scotland and Canada, and there is a rug here that will exactly please you at a price you'll be pleased to pay. Note these moderate price ranges:

WILTON RUGS
 Sizes 4' 6" x 7' 6" to 9'x12'—priced . \$30.00 to \$120.00
 Special value, size 9'x12' at \$85.00

BRUSSELS RUGS
 Sizes 4' 6"x7' 6" to 11' 3" x 13' 6" priced \$15.00 to \$80.00
 Special value, size 9'x12' at \$60.00

TAPETRY RUGS
 Sizes 6' 9"x7' 6" to 12'x13' 6", priced . \$10.75 to \$48.50
 Special value, 9'x12' at \$36.50

AXMINSTER RUGS
 Sizes 4' 6"x7' 6" to 11' 3"x12', priced . \$17.50 to \$37.50
 Special value, size 9'x12' at \$65.00

HEARTH RUGS
 Wilton, Axminster and Smyrna qualities . \$2 to \$21.00

Beautiful Window Curtains

Our Curtain Department has the special advantage this season of displaying the most distinctive and beautiful collection of Window Curtains that it has ever been our privilege to show:

Nottingham Lace Curtains, 45 to 50 inches wide by 2½ to 3 yards long, \$3.00 to \$6.75 pair

Marquessette and Voile Curtains in White, Ivory and Ecru, standard sizes, priced \$4.00 to \$14.00 pair

Madras Curtains in Ivory, Brown, Green, Blue, Champagne, etc., at \$5.00 to \$8.50 pair

Pointed Arab Curtains, 42 inches wide by 90 inches long at \$10.00 to \$12.00 pair. —Third Floor

RITCHIE COMPANY LIMITED

Talk of the Town And of the Country

General satisfaction around the city that garbage collection Mr. Thos. Harris. been carrying out work the past two years that has pleased the man who kicks habit. Mr. Harris ants have set an example and business-like effort.

Ald. R. D. Ponton Parks, has already a good work of beaut city. A transformation been effected in the 1 fire station. Even struction of the railway beauty spot has been kept, but since the Spring several dozens have been deposited surface raised about levelled. Some have been established and expecting a fine green of the late desolate end of Victoria Park ten below water-level ing a heavy top-dre This will gradually northwards until the of the island is plac the highest high-water protecting wall arou is also being repaired so that the whole wil with its limestone re Ponton is taking a ke tention in this work of He has made an exce and we are hoping to paint extended until we locally eliminated ugl city. St. Thomas has thing. Everywhere in eye is greeted with a agreeable picture. Belleville? It pays.

No. 1 fire station is b ly renovated both up Chief Brown has turne men into amateur plai and decorators. T ly been spending abo a day each at these ex will soon have wall ceiling and floors sp and shining. The wood outside will also be paint. When No. 1 st celved its full baptis paint and kalsomein Brown's intention to g to No. 2 station. The done in a most satisfi and at a cost to the ci als only.

During the forepart 1919 Robert Hamilton, had occasion to use so pay a party at the roads to Mrs. Hamilton to pocketbook. She did so ing the party there was pocketbook over \$800. after he wanted some but the pocketbook was found. A few days ago ting down hay for his came to light. The mo tact, but mice had taken of the purse. There w joining in the house of

The city of Galt has been having the same troversy over the probl ing as we had at Bellevi or seven years ago. T of concrete, brick, trav forms of paving have al ing their say but the on our Front street, fina and placed a contract. work is now done and t are viewing the resulti satisfaction. The Repor So much of the West pavement is in a finishe that residents have now of what the completed look like when the last phat has been laid. T ventures to say that at many of the objectors o are in a more pleasant fra than when operations st street last fall. Some, it pected, would not agree be done—to go back to t things that produced the law introduced and passed itative of the Council. ble that they are even no their street, though sc half of the asphalt has And well may they be. street will soon challengi ation of citizens genera properties abutting it a higher figures than one y believeable. That value stabilized must be the res improvement undertaken. handsome appearance of

It appears that Capt. McManus, adjutant of the Argyll Light Infantry, had written out a cheque for \$25.00 to be mailed. It is alleged the cheque was stolen before posting. It is said that the accused secured ten dollars yesterday on the cheque at the Empire Cafe and that he later came back for the rest. One of the Chinamen reported the occurrence to the police.

Tomorrow morning the boys of the Belleville High School agricultural class will be seen in working clothes and carrying hoes and rakes. They will every Tuesday work on a vacant lot on Queen street to produce potatoes and vegetables. The practical experience on the land will supplement their training in agriculture in the school.

St. Michael's baseball team practice every Tuesday and Thursday evening at the fair grounds.

Frank Wilson, Jr., was arrested today on a charge of stealing a bicycle.

Mr. Vernon Weir reports the loss of his bicycle.

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