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NUMBER 70.

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THOUGHT--INSPIRING TALK BY ATTY MOSS

Presents Subject of Advancing Democracy to Large and Appreciative Forum Audience.

The usual large Forum audience was present Sunday to hear Atty. L. H. Moss, of Lake Charles, talk on Advancing Democracy. Mr. Moss began by quoting extracts from writings of Dr. Hill and Dr. Butler, which expressed apprehension as to the radicalism of the present day, and asserted there is an effort to change our constitutional government into a socialistic government. Our country is passing through a crisis, Mr. Moss said, and the people are demanding direct control of the government and an enlargement of its functions. On the other hand there are those, among them Drs. Butler and Hill, who stand for vested property rights before human rights.

Mr. Moss then began tracing the growth of democracy from the founding of our government. The constitution as adopted was a compromise. Because of the property spirit in those days when men were jailed for debt and Hamilton, one of the dominant figures in the convention could boldly call the people a beast, the constitution was framed not to give

the people control, but by its checks and balances leave the real power in the hands of the "gentlemen." The form of government, however, was a big step towards democracy, but democracy had not arrived. Jefferson was the representative of individual liberty. Jackson was the first to stand for both individual and social liberty. Rapidly sketching the development of the great west and the building of the great continental railroad binding the two oceans with a rod of steel, he declared that the development of the trusts had followed destroying competition. Great cities had grown up ragged like a ragged and untended newsboy. Corruption flourished as a result of big business entering the field of politics to control for selfish ends. But conditions have changed. People no longer accept a man with wealth, but now look at the size of his wealth and inquire how he got it. The trusts and plutocracy, he said, stand for the constitution and vested rights regardless of human rights. They stand pat, but the people are studying to find a way to make opportunities more equal, and the trend to accomplish this is towards control by the people. This attitude of the masses is what has alarmed Drs. Hill and Butler and the plutocrats. It took the people 25 years to win the right to elect their senators. They are now asking for the right of recall and referendum. He showed how these privileges were partially

possessed now in periodic opportunities to reelect or reject officials and in voting special taxes; but the people will not be satisfied until they have full control. They are smarting under the oppression of the trusts and ready to break through the walls of the constitution to attain industrial freedom. Government ownership is asked because no competition is now possible, and private ownership of monopoly is a menace to our liberties. The government has already gone into the banking and express business and it is proposed and urged that it take over the telephone and telegraph. Mr. Moss cited many other ways being urged today to promote the general welfare. The ideal, he said, is permeating the masses to socialize industry for the benefit of society and not the individual.

After quoting figures to show the enormous wealth of this country, Mr. Moss declared that a just distribution of this wealth will impoverish no one. It is a pathetic fact that labor produces this wealth and yet is asked to be satisfied with a living wage. He told of Mr. Ford, the automobile manufacturer whose company divided its earnings with its employees, saying Mr. Ford declared that every workman should have \$5.00 for an eight-hour day. Advocates of the standard conditions declare Ford's company guilty of misplaced charity. The laboring man did not ask charity, he demanded justice. If the constitution was in danger it was the fault of the privileged classes. The great question of the just distribution of wealth must be solved. The Ford Company in taking its employees into fair partnership in the profits had shown the way. He urged no remedy himself, but asked for an open mind to

consider these questions. He closed by declaring that advancing democracy demanded a constitution responsive to the people's will.

In the above we have been able to give but an imperfect sketch of Mr. Moss' able and thought producing talk. That it was greatly appreciated was shown by a unanimous vote of thanks being given him.

The following enjoyable musical program was given: Vocal solo, Miss Eunice Blanchet; vocal solo, Miss Edith Rollo; piano solo, Miss Hilda Rosenfield, who played a composition by Prof. F. Sontag; vocal solo, Miss Gerturde McConnell.

An Omission Corrected.

By some oversight we failed to mention that Miss Lucille Mouton contributed one of the numbers to the highly successful vaudeville, "The Garden Party," at the Jefferson last Wednesday. Miss Mouton rendered a piano solo, La Traviata, which was fine and greatly enjoyed by every music-lover present.

Miss Odette Burguières assisted Miss Mouton by turning the pages of the music.

We noticed the omission too late to correct in our last issue and do so now in justice to Miss Mouton because her performance deserves complimentary and appreciative mention.

Just received, a stock of aluminum cooking utensils.—Denbo & Nicholson Co.

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Genuine Simpkins Prolific Cotton Seed from North Carolina.—Peoples Cotton Oil Co., Lafayette Louisiana.

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TUESDAY, MARCH 24—Bunny's Birthday, comedy, Vito; Peggie's Squaw, comedy, Kalem; Children of Destiny, drama, B.C.; The Port of Doom, in three reels, in connection with our regular program.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25—The Tragedy of Ambition, in 2 reels, Selig; The Adventure of the Extra Baby, comedy, Edison.

THURSDAY, MARCH 26—The Parasites, in 2 reels, Pathe; Snowville's Fire Brigade, comedy, S & A.

FRIDAY, MARCH 27—King Baby's Birthday, drama, Selig; Sawdust and Salome, drama, Vitagraph; The Perfect Truth, comedy, Edison; \$5.00 given away at 8 p. m.

SATURDAY, MARCH 28—The Long Cold Night, drama, S & A; Coon Town Suffragettes, comedy, Lubin; The Mystery of the Ladder of Light, drama, Edison.

SUNDAY, MARCH 29—The Race for a Mine, drama, Kalem; The M's-chief Maker, Vitagraph's special feature in two reels; Andy, the Actor, comedy, Edison.

BEN GREET WOODLAND PLAYERS

To Appear Here May 2, at Beausejour in As You Like It and Mid-Summer Nights Dream.

The Ben Greet Woodland Players are to appear here on Saturday afternoon and night, May 2nd.

The announcement is made by the Industrial Institute, under whose auspices Mr. Greet is to appear and the plays will be presented in the open air under the great live oaks at "Beausejour" on the bank of Bayou Vermillion.

The plays chosen for this engagement are "As You Like It" for the afternoon and "Mid-summer Night's Dream" for that night.

Ben Greet is acknowledged to be the pioneer and the originator of the open air performances in their present form in America. For many years he gave these performances in England and on numerous occasions has been commanded to appear with his players before royalty on the terraces of their country palaces.

When Mr. Greet came to this coun-

try eleven years ago open air performances had never been attempted by a professional company and up to six years ago he was alone in the field. Ben Greet has always kept his stage settings as simple as possible and by means of a background of green boughs and shrubbery produces a pleasing illusion of the sequestered and romantic glades of the Forest of Arden.

MAMMOTH OYSTER SHELL IN MOSS PHARMACY WINDOW.

It is a far cry from Busuango Sea in South China to the Bayou Vermillion in Louisiana; also it is a far journey down the years from the time of the baby oyster that originally inhabited the enormous shell now on exhibition in the Moss Pharmacy window to the day of the human baby, photographed so attractively, playing in the erstwhile home of the huge mollusk.

Centuries must have elapsed from the hatching of this oyster till its maturity, and other centuries still before it was dragged up from its bed by some Phillipino fisherman finding its way to the St. Louis exposition and finally into the possession of a former Lafayette citizen, Mr. C. P. Moss, now president of the New Iberia Extract of Tobacco Pepper Company. Mr. Moss secured the shell which is 35 inches long, weighs 110 pounds and is said to be the largest in the world, through a St. Louis friend, and will exhibit it at the Panama Exposition in San Francisco, and afterward at the noted oyster houses of the country, giving away as souvenirs pictures of the shell and the baby, the son of Mr. Harry J. Smith, Jr., of New Iberia, La.

Mr. Moss has sent it to Lafayette to be placed on exhibition for a few days, believing it would be of interest to his home people to look upon such a curiosity.

TAX REVISION MAY BECOME AN ISSUE

Big Business Men Reported Behind Move to Have Governor and Legislature Act.

Times-Democrat.

Steps to inaugurate a campaign among the commercial organizations of Louisiana to induce Governor Hall and the Legislature to again take up the question of tax reform, have been taken during the past week. Big business men, men who are factors in the political life of the State, and members of the Legislature are said to be interested in the movement. It is proposed that it shall be State-wide in character and that it shall take the form of an appeal to the Governor and the Legislature.

The tax reform measure proposed by the Tax Commission of 1912 and backed by Gov. Hall which was beaten at the polls, was put forward by the State administration in fulfillment of its platform pledge to give the people reform in taxation and assessment. The full importance of the reform did not dawn upon the business interests of the State at that time, and they permitted the measure to be fought on a political basis. Since the defeat of the measure the inequalities and injustices of the old system have been growing daily more undesirable in the eyes of the business community and a wide-spread demand for tax reform has grown up. In commercial bodies all over the State and in nearly all meetings of a development nature in recent months this need has been strongly voiced.

Men who are close to Gov. Hall are disposed to doubt whether, in view of the unfavorable popular vote on the late tax reform effort, the Gover-

nor will again attempt tax revision this year. They say, however, that should a demand for it be voiced by the business interests of the State, it is probable that the Governor would take it up and that the Legislature would apply itself to the task.

R. N. SIMS MADE BANK EXAMINER

Prominent Banker of Donaldsonville and Former State Railroad Commissioner Succeeds Young.

R. Nick Sims, prominent banker of Donaldsonville, La., and campaign manager for Theodore Wilkinson in the latter's race for the governorship in 1908, was appointed state bank examiner by Governor Hall in place of William L. Young, ordered removed. The appointment of Mr. Sims was announced shortly after 1 o'clock Friday at the St. Charles Hotel.

Announcement was made at the same time that Mr. Sims has accepted the appointment. There is not the least doubt but

that the news of the appointment of Mr. Sims will cause much surprise in administration circles. Several names had been mentioned for the place, but in none of the advance or inside "dope" did the name of the Donaldsonville banker appear. Bankers from various parts of the State, following the refusal of Henry P. Palfrey, of Franklin, to serve, had been suggested to the governor. Until Friday, however, when the appointment was announced, there was no intimation that Mr. Sims was even being considered.

Mr. Sims has figured prominently in Louisiana politics and state banking circles for a number of years. At one time he served as state railroad commissioner. In 1908 he acted as campaign manager for Mr. Wilkinson, and in the last gubernatorial fight supported John T. Mitchel against Governor Hall.

Mr. Sims qualified Saturday and arranged to give the \$25,000 bond required.

Attention Farmers!

Now is the time to plant your corn. To be certain of obtaining good results with the CORN MARKET, plant yellow corn. The yellow corn makes the prettiest chops and feeders prefer the yellow corn to the white. YELLOW DENT and SILVER MINE are two good grades of seed corn for you to plant. In regard to the marketing of your corn, I will guarantee to purchase all of your product at the HIGHEST RULING MARKET PRICE, offering you the best of service in quick unloading facilities and courteous treatment. For any further particulars, apply to

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