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WE recently referred to an American musician who, because of her splendid ability to play the piano was warmly greeted by music lovers across the seas. Her fingers were educated to tickle the ivory but her head was so empty of musical intelligence that she thought America shared nothing of the highest culture, that to find favor she must confine her performance to foreign composers. Europe itself rebuked her. She had to go abroad to learn America's worth.

The American may be a boastful bird; he may swagger and strut about his inventive genius, about his bulk production, about his manufacturing enterprise and commercial sagacity—all of which justify his boast. But his boast may well go farther. Nowhere in all the world is so good a literature being written as by American authors today. Excepting only the immortal Shakespeare, no land has produced finer or nobler-minded poets than America. New York is as good an art center today as Paris ever dreamed of being.

Most of our art producers, which includes our poets and philosophers and novelists, our writers, our architects, sculptors and painters, have arrived at a full appreciation of this fact. But the musician has

Church Notices

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF ALGIERS.
 Sunday School—Sunday 9:45 a. m. and 7:30 p. m.
 Preaching—Sunday 11 a. m. and 7:30 p. m.
 B. Y. P. U. Junior and Senior—Sunday evening 6:30 at K. of P. Hall.
 Prayer Meeting—Wednesday 7:15 p. m. at Pastors' home, 230 Verret St.
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 Week Days—Masses, 6:30 and 7:30. Wednesday—8:30.
 Sunday—6:30, 7:30, 9 and 11.
 Baptisms—3-4.

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LOCAL CHURCH NEWS

Methodist Church Notes

Rev. C. C. Wier, Pastor, Residence 236 Olivier, Phone Alg. 188.
 Church Vallette and Opelousas.

Last Sunday was one full of interest and service for our Church folks. We held our Christmas services and had our Christmas music and did not assemble on Christmas Day. At the morning hour, the pastor spoke; the Men's Choir rendered some beautiful anthems, appropriate for the occasion. One feature was the echo song. It was so beautiful that there has been a request that it be repeated in the near future. This they have promised to do.

At night Dr. Drake the newly appointed Presiding Elder spoke to the edification of the hearers. Mizpah Choir rendered some very beautiful anthems. Of these of especial mention are Holy Voices and the quartette that sang Silent Night.

At 4 p. m., the Epworth Leaguers went to the Bonner Home and held services. By special request, Mizpah Choir was on hand and sang some Christmas anthems for the Bonner Home friends, Miss Orrie Summers gave a beautiful reading. The Pastor made a Christmas talk; Mrs. Summers sang a beautiful solo. After the benediction, candy was distributed to the men. Each man's name was called and he was presented with a box of candy. Mizpah Choir welcomes Mrs. McCoy as a new member, who will sing alto.

PERSONALS.
 Miss Madge Elma Trotter was out again after an absence of many weeks, caused by sickness.
 Miss Lang of Gulfport, Miss., was a recent guest of her aunt, Mrs. Trotter 1001 Belleville Street.
 Mrs. J. Feske of Franklin is the

Mount Olivet Church

Rev. Nicholas Rightor, Rector
 Residence, 235 Olivier; Phone, Algiers 97.

Services at Mount Olivet for next Sunday, which will be the Sunday after Christmas, will be held by the rector, the Rev. Nicholas Rightor, as follows:

First service will be the Holy Eucharist at 7:30 a. m.
 Church School and Rector's Bible Class at 9:30 a. m.
 Morning Prayer and Sermon, with the repetition of the Christmas musical service by the choir. So many expressions about our good Christmas music have been heard that it will doubtless mean that we will have another good congregation Sunday morning. This service will be held at 10:45 a. m.

The regular 7:30 o'clock Sunday night service will not be held on account of the New Year's Eve service. The New Year's Eve Eucharistic service, with music, will commence at 11:15 Sunday night and close at midnight as we usher in the New Year of 1923.

The general public is invited to all services.
 We had great crowds present at the Christmas services, both at 6:00 and 9:00 o'clock. The church was elaborately decorated with palms and Christmas flowers, while the altar held beautiful floral offerings of white carnations. The Christmas day offering of the congregation was the largest in the history of the parish, and there are still quite a number of envelopes to be handed in by those members who could not be present on Christmas day.

St. John's night, Wednesday, was another great occasion for Mount Olivet Church. The members of Sts. John Lodge No. 153, of the Masonic Order, visited the church in a body in large numbers. A good musical program was rendered and the Rector preached a special sermon to his brother Masons.

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"NO VENTURE—"

By FLORENCE E. MC'CAE
 (© by McClure Newspaper Syndicate.)

"Please stop this nonsense, Dick. I don't love you. Why, I've known you for simply ages, and I will not marry you unless I love you. The man I marry will be someone whom I will meet and fall in love with instantly." Barbara's face was determination itself, and the word "instantly" was very emphatic.

"So you see, Alice," Dick finished telling his sister, who was herself happily married, and therefore doubly interested in all love affairs, "where I am. I think she loves me, and doesn't know it. That sounds conceited, but I believe it's true. She's the only girl I'll ever love, and how I'm going to have her is beyond me. Alice, she won't even let me touch her!"

Dick's voice was hoarse and indignant, all in one.

Alice's eyes sparkled in a way which Dick well knew. It was a sure sign that her brain was busily hatching some scheme. Alice had never failed Dick, and this was to be no exception to the rule.

"Listen, Dick, I have it. Fully guaranteed. I'll have Alice down here for the week-end. You are to come down on the same train. I'll let you know just which one. Barbara has a wonderful new coat and you, my dear sister, are to foot the bill for a twin set, to that same coat, if I can possibly find one like it in the city tomorrow. Are you on?"

Dick nodded. His face was a study. He was striving to follow Alice, but his face was so blank that his sister laughed outright.

"Then, Dick, you are to leave the train only after you are sure Barbara gets off. Then, no matter who is at the station, you hear, no matter if the President should be holding a wedding reception at the very train-steps—you are to rush up and kiss Barbara. She'll be furious, of course, but you can explain the mistake easily because of the likeness of her coat and mine. O. K.?"

Dick's face had brightened, but his smile was soon succeeded by a frown.

"Alice, she'll never speak to me again and then I'll be worse off than before. However, I'm game, and will do the 'Prince, wake 'em up' act. Barbara will be wild. You don't know her?"

"I don't know her! I know Barbara and I know you. And what is more to the point, I know girls. Nothing venture, Dick, nothing gain, you know."

The 5:14 was never quite so slow to Dick as it was the following Friday. In the car ahead he caught a glimpse of Barbara, keeping herself, however, well out of her sight. To Dick's wrought-up nerves the wheels seemed to repeat over and over, "Nothing venture, nothing gain. Nothing venture, nothing gain."

As the train stopped at his station Dick braced himself. The time to venture was at hand.

Three strides brought him close to Barbara, and, forgetting his instructions and obeying only his natural impulses, he caught her up in his arms. It would have taxed the strongest imagination to have called that kiss but brotherly. For a moment Barbara was stunned, and then her wrath was poured upon Dick's defenseless head.

If Alice had not appeared hurriedly upon the scene with exclamations of surprise upon noting the likeness of Barbara's coat to the one she herself was wearing, Dick would probably have boarded the train and gone on, not caring where it took him.

"Of course Dick mistook you for me. Naturally he did. My dear, where did you get a coat so like mine?"

Dick breathed a sigh of relief. Thanks be to the stars for a sister like Alice. But the end was not yet.

Dick spent a wretched half-hour waiting for the girls to come down to dinner. Alice's husband had taken himself off, for which Dick was devoutly thankful. Not that Bob wasn't a nice enough chap, but this was no time to talk politics, etc. In Dick's

Engagement Ring Has Become Recognized Institution

There wasn't much romance connected with the ring back in the Second century, B. C., when woman first began to flash it on the fourth finger of her left hand as a symbol of betrothal. The engagement ring originated as a "safety first" institution to hold fickle and forgetful man to his bargain from the time he made his first avowal of love until the wedding ceremony took place. As an ancient document reveals:

"There are many men who, forgetful of their plighted faith, defer the fulfillment of their nuptial contracts. Therefore there shall be a solemn declaration before witnesses and a betrothal ring given and accepted."

An old German formula reads: "I give you this ring as a sign of the marriage which has been promised between us, provided your father gives with you a marriage portion of a thousand reichtalers."

During the Seventeenth century England chose to have the engagement ring adorn the thumb. The reason why English women wore them on their thumbs during the reign of George I was because they were too large to wear on any other finger. The old Hebrew betrothal rings were almost as large as turnips, including in their superstructure reproductions of Solomon's temple or some other sacred building.

At one time the engagement ring consisted of three hoops looped together into what was known as a gimlet or puzzle ring. When the wedding took place one of these hoops was kept by the bride, one given to the groom and the third bestowed on an intimate friend who acted as witness to the ceremony.

Today's Wise Word.

"Given a good cook, a good figure, a good temper and a good bank account, and a woman can outmarry all the sirens of song, story and history."
 —Helen Rowland.

Like the Noise.

Jud Tunkins says every man is entitled to his own opinion, but most of us would rather get into an argument than enjoy peaceable possession.
 —Washington Star.

Knowledge Men Claim.

Men will talk of little things and great things as if they knew what things were little and what things were great.
 —Phillips Brooks.

ARMIES OF WOMEN WARRIORS

Amazons, According to Ancient Writers, Were Fierce Fighters—Some Records of Their Deeds.

According to ancient writers, the Amazons were a nation of female warriors, who allowed no men to live among them, but marched to battle under command of their queen. They held occasional intercourse with the men of neighboring states. If boys were born to them, they either sent them to their fathers or killed them. But the girls were brought up for war, and their breasts were burned off that they might not be prevented from bending the bow. From this custom they received the name of Amazons, which is "breastless."

The Asiatic Amazons are said to have at one time subdued the whole of Asia, and to have built Smyrna, the city recently captured and burned by the Turks, and other cities.

Other nations of Amazons mentioned by the ancients were the Scythian Amazons, who in aftertimes married among the neighboring Scythians, and the African Amazons, who subdued the Gorgons and Atlantes, marched through Egypt and Arabia, and founded their capital on the Lake Tritonis, but were annihilated by Hercules.

What is Earth Like Inside?

Old ideas in regard to the high heat on the unknown inside of the earth may have to be revised, if the inconclusive evidence adduced by temperature tests in 107 deep wells in the United States by Dr. C. E. Van Ormand, physical geologist of the United States Geological Survey, should be confirmed by later investigations. According to this expert, the steady increase in temperature, so great that a miner could not live at a depth of one mile, appears to be less rapid a little beyond that depth. Combined with the fact that mathematicians have not yet found the law of distribution of temperature from the surface to the center of the earth, this makes uncertain the estimation of some scientists that the heat at the center is as high as 180,000 degrees Fahrenheit. Observations at a depth of about 7,500 feet have been taken, but Dr. Van Ormand has not been able to carry his investigations further.—Science Service.

How Gold Prospectors Work.

Whether gold occurs as an alluvial deposit or in a "reef," it is traced by the prospector with the help of a gold "pan." This is a shallow pan of light sheet iron with dished sides. When "panning" for gold, the prospector places the sand, soil, or crushed rock into the pan, and adds water to wet the substance to be panned. Then, holding the pan in a tub or stream of water, he adds more water, and by a shaking motion works the heavy minerals to the bottom of the pan. By a lapping process he ejects the sand until there remains only concentrates, among which the gold may be distinguished by its color and relative heaviness.

There are rich gold reefs which shed gold very sparingly, and sometimes the gold is locked up in pyrite or other minerals, from which it is liberated by roasting or chemical treatment.

How to See the Wind.

Choose for the trial a windy day, when the air is free from rain or snow. Take a bright, clean hand saw or other polished metal object about two feet in length and having a straight edge. Hold the saw or metallic surface at right angles to the direction of the wind. Incline it at about 35 or 40 degrees to the horizon and with the back up, so that the moving air, in striking the surface will glance upward and flow over the edge of the metal, as water flows over a dam. Sight carefully along the edge of the metal, at a sharply defined object, and you will see the wind or air waves pouring over the edge in graceful curves.

Unusually Endowed With Legs.

Following on the reports from Ontario of quadruped birds comes a story from Tawatinaw, Alberta, where a farmer has a four-legged chicken. The two extra legs in this case seem to have grown just at the end of the backbone and across each other just under the tail. It is a healthy bird and will eat and fight with the rest of the brood.

Pig Retrieved Ring.

While digging potatoes a Prince Edward Island woman lost her wedding ring, which was too big. The pigs were then turned into the garden to root for the potatoes that were missed. When the hogs fattened and were butchered the woman's ring was found on one of the pig's teeth.

MAKE WAR ON "BABY TALK"

Cincinnati School Authorities Have Issued Special Appeal to Women's Clubs of the City.

An appeal has been made by the school authorities of Cincinnati to the mothers of that city to enlist in a war against "baby talk," and its effects on their children, and a special speaker has been appointed to carry this cause to the mothers' clubs.

While much of the talk with which fond mothers beguile their babies may sound very foolish to others, it seems to sound good to the baby, and while the claim that it makes stutters and causes other defects of speech may have some truth in it, the "baby talk" will bear comparison with much other talk heard by children.

While good speech is important, the matter is of more importance than the manner—in fact, good matter naturally tends to good matter in speech. It is at least quite as important that parents, fathers as well as mothers, are careful to select the right subject matter for talk before and to their children as that baby talk be eliminated.

Try, as they may, the teachers are likely to have a hard time anyway to convince many mothers that baby talk is not the proper language in which to address the baby, both as to subject matter and method of speech.—Pittsburgh Dispatch.

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