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WILLMAR TRIBUNE

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LITTLE SISTER.

It is towards the close of a busy day for the editor. The telephone rings repeatedly and belated messages regarding notices and want ads still come to catch the paper before the last forms go to press. Most of the newsmatter has been gathered and written, but there is a scurry to get some missing details. Among it all are two tragedies, and several deaths. These are subjects that must be handled by the editor nearly every week. Sometimes one wonders at how calloused one can become, and whether one has lost the power of feeling over the troubles that come to our neighbors. The telephone rings again. This time the call is from New London. We recognize Brother Tom's voice. Its strained tone sets our heart thumping. "Is this you, Vic? Say, Esther has been missing since last night. I just found her muffled in the ice in the mill pond, and we're afraid she's lost. Better tell Eben

and come and help us hunt." Oh, the choking feeling that takes one's breath as the situation races thru the mind! Little Esther under the ice—grief at the home—mother—father—sisters—brothers—Merciful God, protect us! In a few minutes we are on the way and as the auto runs around the pond at New London and we see no lights on the ice we know she has been found. The pitiful form at the undertaker's—the coroner's visit—the night of sorrow at the home—
A terrible tragedy had struck right home.
Dear little devoted sister! Too little had we appreciated your quiet and unobtrusive faithfulness while you were still with us. Yours was a life of unselfish service to others. Your childlike faith in God and desire to do His will remains in our memory as a benediction and removes the sting of a death which separates but cannot destroy.
Saturday Little Sister is taken to

her earthly home for the last time. As we see her sleeping, clad for her long repose, so life-like, the bitterness of the grief is greatly lessened. Messages of sympathy begin to arrive and the chamber fills with the fragrance of flowers sent by friends from far and near. Proffers of assistance from neighbors pour in and are such a comfort to our grieving ones. Then the outpouring of the people on Sunday afternoon, the tributes to the memory and services of Little Esther, the beautiful music and the last sad rites—all are indelibly stamped on our memory, and serve to prove to us that the bonds of human sympathy are strong and deep.
Little Sister has passed on, but the influence of her silent example and beautiful life still lives.

ROSEBERY'S WORDS OF WARNING.

What wiser words could the American people listen to at this critical period than those which Lord Rosebery spoke incidentally, in a speech recently delivered, about the likelihood and danger of our entering into a policy of preparation? It is nothing short of silliness to accuse a man like Lord Rosebery of having any other purpose in view than the welfare of the whole world. He is a profound thinker, an able historian, a great man, one whose career shows nothing that is mean or narrow. He is a Liberal, in the best sense of the word, a broad-minded statesman with the democratic vision. To attempt to minimize the earnestness and seriousness of his words, as some newspapers have done, by implying that he spoke as a narrow-minded Englishman wishing all countries save England to reject militarism, shows that the writers have no knowledge of the man.

To the honor of the newspapers, however, be it said that they have given wide publicity to the speech, whether or not they agreed with its sentiments. It is well that thousands of Americans had this opportunity of reading this utterance of a great and friendly statesman in support of what many of us believe to be the truest patriotism.

But the main thing is that our people, regardless of the author, should ponder the words for what the words are worth. Let us read them again. They can not be printed or read too often.

"I know nothing more disheartening than the announcement recently made that the United States—the one great country left in the world free from the hideous, bloody burden of war—is about to embark upon the building of a huge armada destined to be equal or second to our own. It means that the burden will continue upon the other nations, and be increased exactly in proportion to the fleet of the United States. I confess that it is a disheartening prospect that the United States, so remote from the European conflict, should voluntarily in these days take up the burden, which, after this war, will be found to have broken, or almost broken, our backs."

Lord Rosebery is not the only statesman of foreign lands who has looked to this country as the hopeful field for the development of new and truly democratic policies, one of which would be freedom from the staggering burden of permanent militarism. Since the foundation of this Union of States, the statesmen of all countries who have believed in popular government and human rights, have looked to us to come out and dare to be different from other nations, and thus to lead in new and better ways. Are we to turn back and simply follow in the old steps of militarism and narrowness, along which have fallen so many nations and civilizations? Are we to decline the opportunity of setting the new example which the nations need? If we do, we shall present the most gigantic example which

the world has ever seen of what Dante called The Great Refusal.

There can be no doubt that we are in a critical period, and that the decision will soon be made. The fearful pity is that the chief danger seems to lie in the hands of those who think there is no danger in yielding the fateful inch, which they call preparation.—J. H. Dillard, in The Public.

CREDIT RATING GUIDE

Issue For Willmar Soon to be Published.

The Merchants Mercantile Agency Co. is preparing to publish an issue of their Credit Rating Guide for this district.
The Guides are made up in districts covering the entire state. They are made from the combined experience of all business and professional men who extend credit, each rates his own customer, client or patient according to how they pay him.
Before being rated they are given notice by letter that they will be rated, and given an opportunity to settle their past due accounts and thus secure a better rating.

By this system the merchants are put in direct touch with credit conditions all over the United States and when any one moves here from any other part of the country the subscribers are notified how the party paid his bills where he came from.
Each subscriber is given a copy of the Guide that he may refer to it and the rating of any customer or prospective customer before extending credit.

Monday Afternoon Club.

Mrs. Harriet Reeves was hostess to the Monday Afternoon Club at her home, at the regular meeting, this week. Roll was responded to with current events. Following a discussion of routine matters, Mrs. Baldwin gave a very interesting talk on "The Holy Land." Mrs. Russell Spicer gave a review of an article in the March number of the Geographical Magazine, by Jane Albright, on "Impressions of Palestine." Delicious refreshments were served by the hostess, who was assisted by Mrs. M. C. Lewis. Following a short business meeting the Club adjourned to meet again December 20th with Mrs. A. F. Hanscom, when the annual Christmas party will be held.

Mrs. Ella H. Mantor of North Yakima, Wash., who is visiting friends in this city was a guest of the Club.

Col. Luce is telling what would happen should an army of 150,000 soldiers cross the Canadian border and invade Minnesota with the Twin Cities as its objective. The colonel might better spend his time preparing a defense in case a horde of Luce line shareholders should invade Minneapolis in search of his scalp.—Pierz Journal.

Miss Carmen Anderson entertained a few of her friends at supper at her home on Bernard street last Monday evening, the occasion being her birthday anniversary.

Miss Josie Ongood of Langford, N. D., spent last week visiting with relatives in this city.

Mrs. William Giger spent last week visiting with relatives at Renville.

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SMALL CREAMERIES SHOULD COMBINE

Says M. P. Mortenson at Nicollet County Dairy Meeting.

Hand separators and the automobile are revolutionizing the creamery business in Minnesota, according to M. P. Mortenson, head buttermaker in the state creamery, and who is a former Cokotote, having been buttermaker at the Stockholm creamery in recent years.

Addressing the midwinter meeting of the Nicollet County Creamery and Dairy Association, Mr. Mortenson asserted there is small excuse for the creamery whose output falls below the 100,000 pounds of butter a year, and he urged that small creameries be consolidated.

He held that scores of Minnesota creameries were erected when the plants were dependent upon whole milk, and patrons had to haul large quantities of raw material daily. With the hand separator in very general use and the advent of the automobile, the creamery can serve an increased number of patrons, and, in many cases, the territory of the smaller creameries is too restricted.

"Under present conditions," he said, "cream can be hauled from seven to nine miles, which means that our small creameries should get together—should consolidate. If a creamery's run does not amount to at least 100,000 pounds a year, it has no excuse for its existence. Below that the operating expense is so high that you can not pay enough for raw material."

This statement drew the fire of Representative O. A. Swenson of New Sweden, chairman of the dairy products committee of the house at the last session of the state legislature. "You urge consolidation of small creameries," said Mr. Swenson. "Do you think it advisable for the state dairy department, which has advocated the building of so many creameries, now to advise their consolidation?"

"That depends on the location and on local conditions," replied Mr. Mortenson. "Down at Albert Lea we have been successful in getting two creameries to consolidate. Three others have absorbed their patrons. Small creameries, three or four miles apart, would be far better off to consolidate."

"Only a few years ago," remarked Mr. Swenson, "the dairy department sent speakers into all parts of Minnesota who contended that, when it was possible to secure 65 to 70 patrons, a community could well afford to open a creamery. In my opinion, no employe of that department should advocate the consolidation of the institutions they were instrumental in establishing. It is a question now, not of too many creameries, but of too many patrons who do not take care of their cows. You should talk to the latter."

"It would be a boost for dairying," was the retort of Mr. Mortenson, "if the small creameries would pay more for butterfat. If the worst comes to the worst, they should consolidate. There is no excuse for a creamery on every quarter section; a creamery must have a certain volume of business to justify its existence.—Cokato Enterprise.

Erickson-Anderson.

A pretty home wedding took place at the Ole E. Erickson home Thursday evening, Nov. 30, at eight o'clock when Miss Hazel Margaret Anderson, daughter of Mrs. Mary Anderson of Thorpe, was united in marriage to George Albin Erickson of Keldron, S. D., son of Mr. and Mrs. Ole E. Erickson.

Rev. C. O. Bergquist, pastor of the Swedish Lutheran church of Christine, performed the ceremony. The marriage services were read in the prettily decorated parlor.

The bride wore a gown of white silk crepe de chine over white mesaline. She wore a veil and carried roses and lilies-of-the-valley.

Miss Alice Anderson, sister of the bride, was maid of honor and Esther, sister of the groom, was bridesmaid. They were prettily gowned in white and carried white carnations. Arthur Lundin was best man and Ira Strom was groom's attendant.

The wedding march was played by Mrs. Adolph Erickson.

At nine o'clock a delicious luncheon was served to about one hundred guests who had gathered to witness the wedding.

Mr. and Mrs. Erickson received a large number of beautiful gifts. The evening's entertainment consisted of speeches, songs, and music by the L. L. Beach orchestra.

The bride is a lady of charming character and has grown to womanhood at Thorpe where her mother is engaged in the store business. Miss Hazel attended the home school, later went to Panjop, California, where she attended high school and graduated at that place. She has taught school two years in this state and one year at Keldron, S. Dak.

The groom grew to manhood in Lake Lillian. When twenty-one years of age, he went to North Dakota at the time the Sheyenne Standing Rock reservation of North and South Dakota was thrown open for settlement. Believing his future prospects were in store at that place, he filed on a claim and at which place he is now engaged in custom farming, and has prospered greatly.

Mr. and Mrs. Erickson left last Thursday for their future home and were accompanied to Bird Island by a large number of friends who gave them a shower of good wishes and rice.—Contributed.

Observe Wedding Anniversary.

A very pleasant re-union of relatives took place at the Peter Norman home last Sunday, the occasion being the observance of the 45th wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. Norman. The entire company numbered twenty-four, the only guests outside of the relatives being Mr. and Mrs. Aug. Broman. The affair had been planned as a surprise for the honored couple. Following the dinner the afternoon was spent in social intercourse and it was indeed a great pleasure to all present to know that both the bride and groom of 45 years ago were still enjoying good health, altho they had both passed the age of three score years and ten.—Atwater Republican Press.

Don't you fool yourself in thinking your education is sufficient to enable you to succeed in business. Business men are exacting and you need the best possible training. Write Manazo Commercial College, Manakato, Minn., for their free catalogue.

Fire was discovered last Thursday morning at two o'clock in a box car in the local yards. It was extinguished before any damage was done.



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CLOTHIERS

"The Darkening Trail." "The Darkening Trail," featuring William S. Hart will be the Mutual Masterpiece shown at the Majestic next Tuesday evening. William S. Hart is so well known that the mere fact of his playing the leading role in the picture insures its success. This picture deals with life in the northwest, in Alaska. "On the Edge of the Great White Silence." Elnid Markey and Louise Glaum will also be seen in this production.

Svea Y. P. S. The Young People's Society of the city will meet next Friday evening, December 10th. A good program will be rendered and lunch served by the Ole Rasmussen, J. R. Swenson and A. J. Rydin young folks. Everyone welcome.

Rev. W. R. Harshaw, D. D., of Minneapolis and Rev. T. M. Findley will conduct church services next Sunday, December 12th, as follows: Brooklyn, 10:30 a. m.; Burbank, 3:00 p. m.; and Spicer, 5:00 p. m. There will also be special services in the Burbank church each evening next week conducted by Rev. T. M. Findley.

Mrs. F. C. Mason of Sioux City, Ia., arrived last week for a visit with Mrs. K. O. Axness.

Carl Hook, with Hoaglund & Diffendorf, cleans, presses and repairs your clothes in first class shape. Ladies and gents glove cleaning a specialty.