Society

French Soldiers in Our Midst.

The new French society, L'Alliance Francaise, is bringing together French men and people interested in French from all parts of Omaha. Interesting men whom we scarcely knew were among us are rallying to the standards of France, as unfurled by the society, and are coming into closer touch with each other in friendly fashion. Among the most enthusiastic members of the audience at the address of Louis Delamarre in Central High school Wednesday evening were two French officers, who are stopping at the Blackstone.

These two gentlemen, Monsieur Le Francois and Monsieur Huret, are typical French gentlemen, particular in habits and charming in manners. They found distinct pleasure in hearing an address delivered entirely in their native tongue and showed their pleasure by vigorous applause.

The strains of the stirring French hymn, "The Marseillaise," brought sad memories to them. While serving at the front one of the officers had his horse shot from under him. At the same time the young man beside him, only 19 years old, wounded and dying, sang "The Marseillaise" with his last breath. In this engagement the officer's back was broken, so that he was unfit for further service even after he had recovered his health. Instead of accepting the government's permission to retire to his home he offered himself for any sort of service which his health would allow him to undertake. He was sent to America, as many other officers have been, to engage in the buying of horses for military service, and is at present located in Omaha.

Entertain For Visitors.

Mrs. B. F. Marshall entertained fifteen of her friends this afternoon at a kensington tea in honor of her house guest, Mrs. T. F. Marshall. The parlors were decorated in pink roses.

Much social attention is being paid Mrs. C. E. Goodis of Salt Lake City, who has been the guest of her sister, Mrs. Lee Huff, and Mr. Huff since before the holidays and will be here until next Wednesday. Mrs. Huff entertained at luncheon and bridge at her home Tuesday in honor of her sister; Mrs. Madeline Krug gave a luncheon and bridge party for her Thursday and she was the dinner guest of Mr. and Mrs. L. M. Pegau last night. Mrs. Segelke will entertain at a bridge luncheon Saturday in honor of Mrs. Goodis and Dr. and Mrs. E. C. Henry are giving a bridge for her Saturday evening.

Mrs. Fred Pearce will give a luncheon at the Blackstone Monday complimentary to Mrs. T. F. Marshall.

In the Opera Boxes.

Boxes at the opening performance of the San Carlo Grand Opera company were well filled. Although the new arrangement of these seats was rather inconvenient for those who wished to see all the performance, music lovers found the production of "Aida" very enjoyable.

In addition to the party entertained by Mr. and Mrs. Clement Chase, Mrs. E. W. Nash had as her guests in her box:

Messrs. and Mesdames—
E. P. Peck. Joseph Barker.
Denise Barkalow.
Misses— Misses—
Frances Nash. Marie Woodard.
M. Proud. Claire H. Woodard.
Mrs. R. B. H. Bell, Denver.

In another party were:
Messrs. and Mesdames—
Joseph Baldrige, C. C. George.
Messrs.— Messrs.—
Benjamin F. Smith. Farnam Smith.

Social Gossip.

Judge and Mrs. J. W. Woodrough have closed their summer home at Seymour lake and have taken an apartment at the New Hamilton for the rest of the winter.

Mrs. Ralph Tennel of Sabetha, Kan., arrived last evening for a week-end visit with Mr. and Mrs. Charles Platte and to attend the opera.

Mr. and Mrs. E. P. Ellis are entertaining Miss Marian Bingham of Minneapolis, who will make a three weeks' visit. Saturday, Mrs. Eliis and Miss Bingham will go to Sioux City for a few days visit with relatives.

Mr. Walter D. Williams has returned from an eastern business trip.

Mr. and Mrs. John Dorrington of Sparta, Wis., are the guests of Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Martin and Mr. and Mrs. P. C. Hyson. Mrs. Dorrington is just out of the Methodist hospital, where a minor operation was performed.

Mr. and Mrs. P. C. Hyson leave the first of the week for an eastern trip. On their return trip they plan to visit Congressman and Mrs. C. F. Reavis in Washington and Mr. Hyson's family at Stewarttown, Pa.

Mrs. Chester Nieman and son, Master Robert, leave tomorrow for a week's visit with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Sanford. Mrs. Nieman goes to attend the wedding of Miss Breta Bills.

Mrs. Lloyd B. Wilson is spending from Thursday until Sunday with her parents in Lincoln.

Notes of Future Events.

Over sixty reservations have been made for the suffrage luncheon to be given at the Blackstone February 7, in connection with the Congressional union conference.

Mrs. William Archibald Smith and Mrs. Earl E. Stanfield, regent and vice regent of Major Isaac Sadler chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, will entertain chapter members at tea at the Fontenelle, following the regular meeting Saturday, February 3.

Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Martin will entertain at a family dinner Sunday in honor of Mr. and Mrs. John Dorrington of Sparta, Wis., who leave for their home next week after an extended visit. Mr. and Mrs. Coffman of Lincoln will be other out-of-town guests. Covers will be laid for ten.

Boxes for the concert of the Tuesday Morning Musical club at the Brandeis next Tuesday evening have been taken by Mesdames S. S. Caldwell, C. M. Wilhelm, J. E. Summers and E. W. Nash. The Flonzaley quartet and Miss Corinne Paulson, Omaha pianist, is the musical event.

The Sermo club will entertain at a matinee party at the Orpheum next Tuesday afternoon.

For Departing Couples.

Miss Vivian Griffith will entertain at dinner this evening at the Blackstone in honor of Mr. and Mrs. Walter L. Griffith, who leave Monday for their new home in Wilmington, N. C. Seven guests will be present, the table to be decorated in red carnations, with place cards to harmonize with the color scheme.

B. F. chapter of the P. E. O. sisterhood will entertain at dinner Tuesday evening at 7 o'clock at the Rome for Mr. and Mrs. E. A. McLaughlin, who leave soon to make their home in Detroit. Covers will be laid for eighteen guests.

Luncheon for Mr. Neihardt.

John G. Neihardt of Bancroft, a Nebraska poet of growing renown, who gave reading from his poems for the Omaha Society of Fine Arts today, was entertained at luncheon at the Omaha club by the courtesies committee of the Fine Arts society, headed by Mrs. Charles T. Kountze. Meredith Nicholson of Indianapolis, well known writer, who is a guest at the Kountze home, introduced Mr. Neihardt at both the luncheon and afternoon affair. Aside from board and courtesies committee members, covers were placed for the poet's mother, Mrs. Alice Neihardt, Mr. and Mrs. Keene Abbott, Mr. and Mrs. August Mothe Borglum and Mr. Edgar H. Scott.

War Relief Benefit.

For the benefit of widows and orphans of the Allies, Queen Mary and Shakespeare lodges of the Order of St. George will give a dance and carnival Wednesday evening in the Lyric building. The officers in charge of the affair are: President, Mrs. Rose Morris; vice president, Mrs. Jessie Isitt; financial secretary, Mrs. E. A. Hoyle; recording secretary, Mrs. E. A. Nelson, and treasurer, Mrs. Gertrude Morris. A gypsy fortune tellers' camp will be part of the entertainment.

Junior Musical Event.

The Junior Musical club will give its next musical program Saturday afternoon, February 3, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. H. S. Clarke, jr., at 3 o'clock. Gilbert Doorly, who was to be one of the guests to take part in the program, lost his violin in the fire of Monday, and so will not be able to take part. The other visitors on the program will be Richard Munchhoff and Miss Agnes Knoflicek, a 17-year-old violinist, who has studied in France. The literary program preceding the concert will have for its subject, "Tschaikowsky." Katherine Baxter will read a paper on the life and works of the musician.

Old Flames :-: My Wife :-: By Nell Brinkley

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THE man drew to the end of his love-tale as the brown snub of his good cigar burned short and shorter. He had lighted and blown out many flames—as you have seen.

"I haven't told nearly all," quoth he, "but there've been enough to light my way around the world, my friend; as it is with most men—what with all the elderly white women, the young ones sprinkled through, the babies that deliberately search for a heart to steal it, that roam the world to make themselves each a shelf in the little secret closet of his heart! But I muddled through, with the blind instinct of the male, to port at the last—found, the face that has kept my heart young—grasped my dream almost—the mingled silver and gold shine that she was.

"Next to my last flame was my wife. Somehow it's hard to make this a fussy, extravagant story. It's naturally a plain one. She was just a girl; the first time I saw her she was patting the hand of an old, old man and I was introduced. The next time I saw her she was feeding the birds in the white winter time. And the next time I saw her she was talking the tears away from the heart of an anguished child, with her white arms 'round about him.

"I didn't see much how she looked—except that her eyes and her mouth smiled often and her hair was shiny; and there was a sweet woman something about her figure that made me think of summer, coming, holding love by the tiny hand. And I wanted her to pat my head—to feed me, too—to talk away my anguish with white arms 'round about.

"And that was all I asked her, and she smiled and said 'Perhaps!' But she put her hand in mine— and I married me a wife!

"And straightway out of my heart flew all the flames that had danced there—and cried as they flew.

"And they flickered low and faraway; save now when I've puffed out my cheeks and blown hard to rouse them up for you.

"Twin flames burn now each side of my old heart—no room for any other. No matches either. Love—my love, at last, has grown old and gray with me—and he's scratched the last little glow-worm in his box—and now he shakes it.

NELL BRINKLEY.

Pure White Light

By GARRETT P. SERVISS.

"Will you kindly explain the blending of colors? At a vaudeville show I saw a man with a green coat under a white spotlight. The light was changed to red and the coat turned to purple. Then when a purple light was turned on the coat became black. "M. N. D."

Few ever reflect what a dull, monotonous, ugly world ours would be if we had only monochromatic, or one-color, light. There are in the heavens red stars and blue stars, and I have heard some persons say: "Oh, how delightful it would be to live in the light of a ruby or a sapphire sun!"

But it would be anything but delightful to an inhabitant of this earth who happened to be translated to such a place. He would miss all the splendor of the contrasted colors, and the shifting and changing hues to which he is accustomed here.

He would never see a rainbow. He would never catch the prismatic gleam of a dewdrop in the sunshine. The autumn trees would never put on their robes of russet, scarlet, crimson and gold for him. A tree clothed by a winter sleetstorm in a suit of crystal would not look, as Mary Twain described it, "like the Shah of Persia's diamond plume."

The flowers in his garden would be all of one color or else all black. They would have no chance to select among the waves of light the colors that best suited them, reflecting those while absorbing and thus concealing the others.

It is probable that there are only three really independent colors in sunlight, but it has not been finally decided just what they are. Formerly it was supposed that they were red, yellow and blue; then that they were red, green and violet, but another opinion is that they are red, green and blue.

A glass prism separates white sunlight into a band of seven distinguishable colors, called the spectrum. These seven are, in order, red, orange yellow, green, blue, indigo and violet, and they always stand in that order of succession, the red being produced by the longest light waves and the violet by the shortest.

Waves longer than those making the sensation of red, and shorter than those making the sensation of violet, are indistinguishable to the sense of sight, although they produce other recognizable effects. But several of the seven spectrum colors are evident compounds, only three, as already said, being independent or fundamental.

Then we have in the arts and among natural objects a large number of colors which are not found in the spectrum, but are formed of various combinations of spectrum colors, in varying degrees of strength and of tint. Thus a certain quality of red combined with a certain quality of green makes yellow, and a certain quality of blue combined with a certain quality of red makes purple, the latter not being a spectrum color at all, although some persons confound it with violet.

The light waves have, in themselves, no color, just as the sound waves have, in themselves, no notes. A great painting is a color symphony. On the other hand, some persons associate sounds with colors, and an exquisite piece of music is for them almost a visible melody.

When we mix pigments, i. e. colored substances, we do not get exactly the same effects from combination that we get from mingling the spectrum colors, because pigments do not exhibit pure colors. Opaque substances, such as dyed stuffs, flowers, leaves, wood or stone, obtain their characteristic colors by a process of selection among the light waves that impinge upon them.

Owing to some peculiarity of their molecular make-up, they absorb some of the colors and reflect others. The absorbed colors disappear, and the object assumes a hue due to the reflected ones. This hue seldom, if ever, accords with any pure spectrum color.

Firemen Carry Women From Burning Building

Members of Fire Company No. 6, known as "The Gallant Six," Twenty-fourth and Cuming streets, gathered additional laurels early Friday morning at a fire at the home of Mrs. Ida Bearman, 710 North Twenty-third street, when they carried Mrs. Bearman and her daughter from the burning building to places of safety in the homes of neighbors.

The blaze started in the basement of the house, presumably from hot ashes, and had gained considerable headway when the firemen arrived. Mrs. Bearman and her daughter were in their rooms on the second floor, partly overcome by smoke. They were carried to the open air, where they were revived and found shelter next door.

Several hundred dollars damage was caused by the fire.

Superstitious Chauffeur Avoids Unlucky Number

When G. H. King of 2127 Dougls street, operator of a motor truck, called at the office of the superintendent of police for a 1917 permit he was offered No. 813, which happened to be the next serial number.

"Not for me. I would not have any number that has a thirteen in it, nor would I drive across the path of a cat," exclaimed the superstitious chauffeur.

He got No. 814 and was pleased.

Berg's 15TH AND DOUGLAS Berg's

For Saturday a Sale of Smart Looking

PLUSH COATS

Our Regular $35.00 Garment for

$19.95

These plush coats are garments one can buy for use right now and still feel confident the style will be correct for next winter. They are a big flary style, 100 inches around the bottom and hang in a graceful swing from the shoulders.

The coats are 46 inches long and have a 9 inch wide collar that buttons high or lays flat. They have 8 inch deep cuffs and are lined throughout with a guaranteed lining.

They represent the best coat values we have offered this season.

Blouse Sale
Crepe de Chine, Georgette, Pussy Willow, Laces.
Regular $5.75 values—
$3.95

Skating Set
(Knitted Caps and Scarfs)
All colors.
Were $1.75, $2, $2.45, $2.95
1/3 Off

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Berg's
15TH & DOUGLAS
NEW SPRING DRESSES

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2nd—The wholesale grocer with his high standing and desire to handle only reliable goods.

3rd—The retail grocer who desires to handle only those brands he knows will please his customers.

4th—The food officials with their rigid laws for the purity and wholesomeness of food products.

5th—And most important, you, the housewife with your desire for purity, efficiency and perfect satisfaction.

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