

DR. E. M. LONG

DENTIST

Over White & Burchard's Drug  
Store, Union City, Tenn.  
Telephone—  
Office 144-2; Residence 144-3

# THE COMMERCIAL

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IT IS ALWAYS BRIGHT and sunny for those with money in the bank. There are bright things and there are bright lights for those wise enough to provide for the future and lay something away when things are bright.

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UNION CITY, TENN.

## THE LIFE OF JEANNE D'ARC

By R. M. NAYLOR.

(Continued from last week.)

Chinon, which was the Dauphin's headquarters at this time, was two hundred and fifty miles from Vaucouleurs and such a journey naturally involved quite a bit of expense. The money was supplied by two of the Maid's friends, Jean de Novelmont and Bertrand de Poulengy, and the inhabitants of Vaucouleurs. She changed her dress for the uniform of a page (a very modest thing for a girl of her age to do), a horse was bought for her, and when she and the several friends who accompanied her rode out from Vaucouleurs Baudricourt presented her with a sword and encouraged her thus: "Allez, et vienne que pourra." ("Go, and come what will.") The townspeople who had come to clerical great affection for her tried to induce her to abandon such perilous undertakings, but she reassured them: "The way is made clear before me. I have the Lord who makes the path smooth to the gentle Dauphin, for to do this deed I was born."

And, with a heart overflowing with faith, courage and loyalty, la petite paysanne de Domremy (the little peasant girl of Domremy set spurs to her horse and through the gathering dusk started on the long ride to Chinon.

PART THREE.

JEANNE AT CHINON, POITIERS AND TOURS—PREPARATIONS FOR RELIEVING ORLEANS.

Into a large hall crowded with some three hundred knights and officers and flooded with the dazzling light of innumerable torches, Louis de Bourbon, on the night of February 23, 1429, led a tall young girl, beautiful of countenance and figure, with glad and smiling face, a picture of rustic beauty.

Jeanne was not confused by the large assembly or the dazzling lights. "She came forward with humility and simplicity," and immediately recognizing the Dauphin, she said to him: "Most noble Lord Dauphin, I come from God to help you and your realm." The Dauphin drew her apart, spoke with her for some time, and "seemed to rejoice in what he had heard." It is said that the Maid confided many secret things to the Prince which were never revealed. She must, however, have assured him that he was the legitimate heir to the throne—hardly anything she could have told him would have afforded him greater satisfaction than this, and especially since the assurance came from one divinely inspired.

Jeanne was not permitted to go immediately to Orleans, although she was very anxious to do so. The Dauphin's confidence in her was tempered by discretion. He had her lodged in a part of the royal palace at Chinon, and while there she made a true friend of royalty in the Duc d'Alencon, who was to be at her side in many of her subsequent struggles. She asked the Dauphin to place his realms in the hands of God and receive it back again, holding it in lieu of the Lord, to amend his life, to live according to God's will, to be content, to be a good lord to rich and poor, friend and enemy. Much good time was wasted at Chinon, since the Dauphin thought it necessary that Jeanne be examined by many learned divines. Not satisfied with this he sent her to Poitiers, where she was forced to undergo wearisome and needless examinations by erudite doctors, who "found no evil in her" and advised that she be conducted at once with soldiers to Orleans.

His doubts having finally been relieved, the Dauphin sent the Maid to Tours where she was equipped with a costly suit of white armor. While there she wrote to the church authorities at Fierbois, asking them to let her have a certain sword which they would find behind (or in front) of the altar in the Church of St. Catherine. The sword was found and sent to her in due time. The standard made for her was of white linen strewn (some) with fleurs de lys (lilies); in the center was represented the world with an angel on either side, and below was the inscription, "Jhesus Maria." At the Dauphin's desire a household was appointed for the Maid. Among its members were Pasquerel, her confessor; two pages, Louis de Contes and Raymond; an equerry, Jean d'Aulon, and her treasurer, Jean de Novelmont.

Having been thus properly equipped,

Jeanne with her household proceeded to Blois, where she was joined by several military officers and church officials. After a few days spent here in religious exercises they left Blois. The clergy went in advance singing "Veni Creator Spiritus." On April the 28th they arrived opposite Orleans.

The importance of Orleans has already been mentioned (Part One). The English scheme to take the city was a mad one, since their forces and munitions were entirely inadequate. Bedford himself saw the uselessness of the attempt and did not know "by what advice the English from taking the city as it was to drive the English from their positions about the city and so relieve the townspeople of the hardships attendant upon such an attack.

The enemy had entrenched themselves about the city in bastilles or palisaded earthworks—these being few and very far apart. Orleans, on the other hand, had walls of great height and thickness, and in the early part of the siege was well equipped with guns and all munitions of war, and bountifully supplied with food.

The English began firing from the south bank of the Loire on October 12, 1428. From that time until January, 1429, there were skirmishes almost every day, but supplies were brought into the city with the greatest ease. By March 3, however, the earthworks around the city had been considerably strengthened and a week later bastilles completely surrounded the town. All attempts to relieve Orleans now resulted disastrously and only a few supplies could be brought into the city. By the last of April Orleans had been besieged for about six months and, although the brave inhabitants did not despair, the situation was, to say the least, critical.

PART FOUR.

THE RELIEF OF ORLEANS.

On the 28th of April, 1429, Jeanne, with her army consisting of about four thousand men, arrived opposite Orleans on the south bank of the Loire. It was necessary for the main portion of the army to return to Blois in order to bring a convoy of cattle for the needs of the townspeople and of the army itself. The Maid, fearing that the army "might fall into sin," sent with it Pasquerel and the other priests to act as "chaperones," while she herself, accompanied by Du Bois, who was commanding the city, and an escort of two hundred lancers, crossed the Loire. In order that she might rest before going into the city she passed the night at Reully. It was not desired that any great demonstration should mark Jeanne's arrival. It was, therefore, under the cloud of night on the 29th that she entered Orleans. If any great precautions were taken to make the entrance a secret one, they were indeed in vain. The people pressed close around her, making great exertions to touch her armor or even her horse; shouts of joy arose, as if the enemy had already been driven away. Through it all, calmly, yet joyously, the seventeen-year-old peasant girl of Domremy, admirably controlling her horse with one hand and waving aloft her standard with the other, rode in triumph.

On April 30 the Maid twice summoned the English to withdraw, which they of course refused to do. On Sunday, May 1, the people clamored to see her and she accordingly rode through the town. She reconnoitered the English positions unopposed on the 2d; the army returned from Blois on the 4th; the Bastille de St. Loup was taken; the English, summoned for the third and last time to withdraw, sent back an insulting reply.

Preparations were made on May 6 (?) for taking Fort St. Jean-le-Blanc on the enemy's side of the river, a little south-east of the city. The English commander, however, observing the tactics of the French, concentrated his forces in a work raised on the ruins of an Augustinian Monastery (Les Augustins), which was the Maid's first obstacle in her attack upon the forts (Tourelles) commanding the bridge-head. Les Augustins was taken after a severe struggle on both sides, and a small number of soldiers was left in the fort to guard against a night attack.

"The nature of the task that now fell to the French must be clearly understood. They had first to capture on the opposite bank of the Loire, on solid

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land, the boulevard or outwork protecting the Tourelles, which was a stone fort of two towers on an arch of the bridge. The Tourelles themselves were protected from assault on the Orleans side by the destruction of an arch of the bridge and by an outwork commanding the gap. The boulevard was separated from the Tourelles by another breach or gap through which flowed a stream of the river. This gap was crossed by a drawbridge; the defenders of the boulevard, if too hard pressed, could rush across, retire into the Tourelles, raise the drawbridge and defy the enemy. Their position would now be unenviable—they would find themselves blockaded in the Tourelles till Talbot, if reinforced by Falstof, could deal a decisive blow at the French on the other side of the Loire." The boulevard itself was strong and well defended; both armies were well supplied with implements of war and good fighters.

(Continued next week.)

## COMMISSION GOVERNMENT

Paducah, Ky., Adopts the New Municipal System.

We are quoting from an address made by a former citizen of Union City, C. H. Sherrill, of the Sherrill-Russell Lumber Co., at a mass meeting in Paducah in the campaign for commission government. Many of the larger cities are adopting the system, and it is proving out splendidly. Many more will adopt the plan until it becomes universal, and probably the only system. Many other organizations need it mightily badly. For instance, the county courts need to be superseded by the system. It would revolutionize things.

Chairman Stewart then said the best time to get in a fight was in the beginning and not quit until it was won. He thought it would be a good plan to warm up with speeches on the best plans to pursue, expression of ideas of the new government and its advantages and disadvantages. He called on Clarence Sherrill, president and general manager of the Sherrill-Russell Lumber Co., and Sherrill-King Mill and Lumber Co., who spoke in glowing terms of the government. The essence of his address was as follows:

"I am an ordinary, plain business man. I am an employer, in conjunction with my partners, of 100 men, perhaps 200, whose combined families number about 500. These men are interested in Paducah and therefore I am interested in them. I would not endorse or promulgate a government not beneficial to them. I am in favor of commission government because it is modern."

Here Mr. Sherrill reviewed the origin of commission government at Galveston, Tex., during the great flood there in 1900, details of which are familiar to many citizens, for it was at this crucial time that a committee of representative men of Galveston took affairs in charge

and emerged from the appalling disaster in a surprisingly successful manner. This particular instance gave birth to commission government and its growth has been remarkable.

Continuing he said:

"The great good done in Paducah by a few men and women during the flood last spring was an example of what can be done by a few persons. Everybody familiar with details knows what was accomplished in Paducah at that trying time.

"Concentration in city government is powerful as in all other things, in society, in religion. Is it possible for a house divided against itself to stand, a family, a church, a social organization, or a government? All must fall." He compared the population of a city to a family, urging congeniality and union in fight, when results would be obtained.

"The spirit of competition among business men in Paducah is different than in any other city, because we are non-productive. Paducah is the most beautifully located city in the country, and while it may not be a great city it is destined to be a large distributing point." He spoke of the differentials in freight rates that had been a big drawback to the city, but said they soon would be adjusted and would prove a big help.

"I am not here to endorse or condemn the present administration. I call on you to throw your whole life, your whole efforts and your whole power into this movement to convert individuals to commission form of government."

He said some of his employees thought the new government a scheme for certain men to get hold of the reins of government, work for their own interests and make life hard for the laboring man. This is the element, he said, we have to educate.

Brains, he said, was at the head of the commission government movement in the United States, mentioning that President Woodrow Wilson was president of the Short Ballot Association. He asked the question, "If Wilson finds it good, why is it not good enough for Paducah?" In conclusion Mr. Sherrill said before the audience left the theatre he hoped to see every man on his feet pledging himself and his money for commission government.

## Fine Corn.

H. O. Head, Jr., the well known young agriculturist, has a crop of corn that beats the world. This is his own corn and he wants it understood that he farmed it. On four and one-half acres of ground he gathered 114 bushels of corn, being 25 barrels to the acre. This sounds like old times a few better. Nobody need say anything about the falling off of the corn yield in Obion County to Henry. He has solved the problem, and if you will pay him enough to let you in on the ground floor he will fix you up in good style.