BY PANDORA.

Nothing to Report

I remember to have seen in one of the war stories not so long ago that aside from a few thousand people more or less being killed and wounded at a certain point in the battle line there was "nothing to report." There had been some casualties, but nobody had gotten anywhere in particular.

That's just the situation in Vanity Fair. There have been some minor casualties, but in the matter of important engagements there is nothing to report. The Elks furnished the look of the fun during the week just closed, but it was a stag affair—all except Colonel Sellers, who was a perfect lady throughout the proceedings—and can not be classed as a regular event.

Lent is the excuse that everybody gives for the present stagnation and Lent is about as good an excuse as any other.

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Frequently the man who marries late in life finds it was too early.

♣ ♣ ♣

ONE VIEW OF IT.

The Grass Widow and I were discussing the all-important question of suffrage. I had just come from a meeting at which the Wrongs of Women had been discussed at some length, and I ventured the suggestion that after all there might be something in it.

The Grass Widow, with a gesture of impatience, kicked her slipper into the corner and said what may politely be interpreted into "Tut-tut!" Then we threshed the thing over.

Said the Grass Widow: "Nobody can accuse me of hating myself or of being against anything that is for my own good, and by the same token nobody can accuse me of being a fool. Being a grass widow, I have had experience.

"When you have things coming your way," she continued, "what's the use making a change?"

I desired further information and this is what I got:

"I'm not citing my own case—we'll leave that entirely out of consideration—but you know how easy it was. The point that I make is, what chance has a man against a woman in the ordinary affairs of life? If a domestic struggle comes up, who is blamed? Friend Husband may come home uncomplainingly three hundred and sixty-four days in the year to an ill-kept home, dirty-faced children and a dinner of cold beans and unkind words. During all that time he may have been working just a little harder than he knew how at the very best that he could get to do, and Friend Wife may have been in the meantime berating him because he was not smearing her all over with diamonds and doo-dads, and because the family were not occupying a villa at Newport.

"Then let Friend Husband forget himself and slip a cog—what happens? The neighbors all come in and testify that they heard sounds of profanity in the house, and that they never did like Friend Husband much anyhow—besides, it was generally understood that he drank. Friend wife draped in black, takes the witness stand and tells how she never was so humiliated in her life. Friends of Friend Husband are heard to say that he's a good ol' scout, but you couldn't blame any woman for wanting to get a divorce from him.

"Is there a soul on earth to come in and take Friend Husband's part? Not that I've ever seen. For my part, I want things to stand as they are."

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"Young man, is there any insanity in your family?"

"Why—er—yes. I'm crazy about your daughter."

♣ ♣ ♣

SHADOWS.

Those were not noises that you heard emanating from the three-story brick building at the corner of Fifth and Gold last Thursday night. They were shadows—"shadows of the past"—and from all that I have been able to gather they were some shadows, though I am informed that there was absolutely nothing shady about them.

It was one of the big blowouts that the Elks pull off once every so often, and it seems to have had a little something on every other stunt that the long-horned gentlemen have done yet. Judge Craig and Colonel Sellers had stellar parts and filled them to the entire satisfaction of everybody—that is, almost everybody. Colonel Sellers was a "lady policeman," and it's a pity the civics department of the Woman's club wasn't on hand to see how he held down the job. Both as to costuming and as to the vigorous manner in which he discharged the onerous and often delicate duties imposed upon him he was a solid blaze of glory. If the colonel can only be induced to pull that stunt down in El Paso this week the cow-men's convention is ours for next year.

Judge Craig wore the ermine with grace and dignity, albeit with some severity, but the fact that the fines imposed by him swelled the treasury of the lodge to appreciable proportions outweighed any criticism as to the soundness of his judicial decisions. The learned jurist would brook no contempt of court, and it is figured that at least forty dollars in fines was collected on account of this one offense. A certain bald-headed Elk was summoned before the judge for an infraction of the laws, and before entering upon a discussion of the merits of the case Judge Craig fined the culprit two-bits for appearing in the presence of the court with his hat on. Hastily removing his hat, the victim was fined another two-bits for appearing before the court in the nude. Ernest Landolfi was fined for talking in the presence of the court, and when he undertook to make signs he was fined again for making a monkey of himself. The climax came, when the lady policeman brought into court a shivering and shrinking miscreant who carried in his hands a glass of beer. The court promptly imposed a heavy fine for this offense and then drank the beer. Thereupon a mass meeting was held and Judge Craig was recalled.

There were some games of chance, which constituted the "shadows of the past," but the most notable feature of them was that nobody who played them had a chance. Whenever anybody was found to have any chips before him, he was promptly pinched for violating the law and was made by Judge Craig to disgorge his ill-gotten gains. If anybody happened to escape the lynx-eyed officers and presented his chips for payment he was met with a stony stare and the remark: "We're selling chips—we aren't buying 'em."

These are only a few of the stunts that were pulled off. There was no chance for anybody who faced the penetrating judicial glance of Judge Craig. For instance, Joe Goodell was arraigned for singing. He had no difficulty in proving himself not guilty of singing, but he was, nevertheless, fined for disturbing the peace in attempting to sing.

All those who were there are still laughing over it, and those who were not are mighty sorry.

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WEEP, SISTERS, WEEP!

As an outgrowth of the "shadows of the past" an organization has been formed which might be not inappropriately known as "shadows of the present." They don't call it that, however—they have named it "The Deserted Wives."

The members of the club are all helpmeets of prominent Elks. They have gotten tired of staying alone while Friend Husband is indulging in shadows, and have decided that they will have some shadows of their own. Consequently, from now on they are to meet at the home of some member of the organization every lodge night and play bridge until Friend Husband comes after them to take them home.

Who originated the idea I have not heard, but it's a clever one. Nor do I know the names of the members of the club. The first gathering took place Thursday night at the home of Mrs. L. C. Bennett, on Fourteenth street, and there are signs that the activities of the organization are likely to bring about a revolution among the Elks.

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Marriages are made in Heaven—chiefly for the export trade.

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NEW BRIDGE CLUB.

A new bridge club was formed during the past week, the first game being played at the home of Mrs. R. L. Hust on Tuesday afternoon. It is known as the "T. C." club and bids fair to take a prominent place among the social organizations of Albuquerque.

The members of the new club are Mrs. Nancy Beswick, Mrs. R. L. Hust, Mrs. F. P. Woy, Mrs. A. F. Van Deinse, Mrs. P. F. Sherwin, Mrs. H. O. Strong, Mrs. Frank Ackerman and Mrs. Frederick Hornby.

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When the donkey saw the zebra
He began to switch his tail;
"Well I never," was his comment;
"There's a mule that's been in jail."

—The Horse Lover.

♣ ♣ ♣

THE WOMAN'S CLUB.

Last Friday's program at the Woman's club was elaborate enough to be called a function. There were music and refreshments and decorations. The club room lends itself well to decoration and flags, bunting, and red and white blue streamers were everywhere.

The subject for the day was "Entertaining at Home," and a very interesting paper was read by Mrs. Robinson, followed by Mrs. Lowber, who described "Afternoon Tea" with several witty hits which were liberally applauded. There was a piano solo by Miss Marie Higgins and vocal solos by Mrs. White and Miss Thorne, after which a practical demonstration of "Afternoon Tea" was given at a beautifully appointed table in the annex. Mrs. Luthy, in colonial costume, with powdered hair, poured the tea and the guests were served by Mrs. Bittner, Mrs. Lowber, Mrs. Carns, Mrs. Sisk and Mrs. Shortle. The club rooms were crowned with the members and their guests.

Next Friday is the all important day of the annual election of officers. Much more depends on this than the mere statement would seem to warrant for, the election will, in a large measure, determine the policy of the club for the year to come. There are already two well defined tickets in the field and several possibilities. The slate mentioned some time ago has Mrs. Medler scheduled as president and Mrs. Brewer and Mrs. Brown as the vice presidents. Many of the club members are anxious to see Mrs. Wilson, who has been a very active worker as vice president, given the part of leading lady with Mrs. Miller, Mrs. Albright or Mrs. Perry on the same ticket. One thing it is safe to predict, and that is that all the club's one hundred and sixty members who are in town will be there and that in spite of the fact that there will be no refreshments.

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Young Lady (in book store): I want something popular.
Clerk: Wicked or vapid?
—Philadelphia Public Ledger.

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MRS. STRONG'S BRIDGE.

Mrs. Harry Strong was an auction bridge hostess Thursday afternoon at her home on West Copper avenue. The rooms were most artistically decorated with blossoming geraniums, a pot being placed at each table and the player who was lucky in cutting received the flower at her table as a favor.

Assisting Mrs. Strong were Mrs. C. H. Conner, Miss Bessie Strong, Miss Salome Stateson and Miss Reba Conner. The prize for the high score was won by Mrs. F. P. Woy.

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Willis—How do you do that new dance?

Gillis—You hop four times on your partner's feet, take eight steps on the dress of the woman behind you, turn on your ankle and then glide on your neck.

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BELEN HOSPITALITY.

The members of the Albuquerque Business college basketball teams who went down to play the Belen team last Monday could not say enough on their return in praise of Belen hospitality.

From the moment of their arrival the town was turned over to the visitors to do with it as they pleased. A chicken dinner, served by the ladies of Belen in honor of the Albuquerqueans was one of the most pleasing features of the trip. The Commercial club was placed at the disposal of the guests, with all its delightful privileges. After the game there was a dance, and another dance at the club completed one of the most delightful rounds of social entertainment that any of the visitors had ever known.

The business college teams went to Belen on a special car, and in every particular the trip was a memorable one.

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"The only trouble with the pace that kills," said the pessimistic person, "is that it doesn't kill enough of them."—Penn State Froth.

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UNIVERSITY MUSICALES.

The first of a series of University musicales was given before an appreciative audience at Rodey hall last Tuesday morning. Mrs. Kathryn Grimmer-Bailey, soprano, and Mr. E. Leroy Yott, violinist, participated. One of the features of the recital was the cycle of "Saracen Songs," by Burleigh, which was heard for the first time in Albuquerque, as sung by Mrs. Bailey and Prof. E. Stanley Seder, director of music at the University.

The next musicale in this series at the University will be announced shortly. The program given last Tuesday was as follows:

(a) "My Lover, He Comes on the Skee," .....Clough-Leighter
(b) "The Lass With the Delicate Air," .....Dr. Arne
Mrs. Bailey.
(a) "Air on the G String," Matheson
(b) "Scherzo," .....Van Goens
(c) "Concert Mazurka," .....Musin
Mr. Yott.
"Saracen Songs," .....Burleigh
Mrs. Bailey, Mr. Seder, Miss Allene Bixler, accompanist.

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Milly—If you kiss me I'll scream.

Billy—Well, so long as you don't scream first it's all right.

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UNIVERSITY NOTES.

The debate between the University and the State college which is to take place next week is the all-important topic of conversation among students now. The subject of the debate will be: "Resolved, That Municipalities in the United States Should Own and Operate Plants for Supplying Light, Water and Transportation." The University has the affirmative side of the question and will be represented by Allan E. Bruce, Carl D. Brorein and Lee W. Walker. The Aggies will put forward Miss Mildred Fulghum, Richard Buvens and Earl Taylor to defend the negative. The judges will be Rev. C. K. Campbell, Dr. T. C. Sexton and R. L. Young.

Dr. L. B. Mitchell will address the assembly Tuesday on "The Influence of the Dance on Literature."

At vespers today Dr. L. B. Mitchell will give "Some Reflections on the Bible as a Lawyer Might Make Them."

The Sigma Taus entertained the young ladies of the domestic science classes at their chapter house Friday night. The guests did the cooking and did it well, but no engagements have been announced so far.

Percy L. Burns of Oklahoma, and Brook Brantley of Tennessee, were two new students who entered the University during the last week.

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Teacher—Now, children, here's an example in mental arithmetic. How old would a person be who was born in eighteen eighty-eight?

Pupil—Please, teacher, was it a man or a woman?—Woman's Home Companion.

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GOOD MUSIC TONIGHT.

A song service that will have a special appeal for the general public will be given at the Congregational church tonight at 7:30 o'clock. Musical services of special merit have been a prominent features of the work of the music committee at this church for several years past, and this Sunday's is expected to be well worth while. The program, under direction of Prof. E. Stanley Seder, A. A. G. O., organist and choirmaster of the church, includes a short organ recital-prelude and a hymn improvisation by Mr. Seder, two violin numbers by E. Leroy Yott, a talented violinist of the city, and vocal solos by Miss Louise Thorn, contralto, and Mrs. Kathryn Grimmer Bailey, soprano, the latter being with violin obligato by Mr. Yott.

Miss Edna Archier of Garnett, Kan., who has been upon the chautauqua circuit for several years, will give a reading which promises to be of great interest. The Congregational choir will render two anthems, "Ave, Sanguis Christi," by Foster, and "Hail to the Lord's Anointed," by Mark Andrews. The university brass quartet will complete the program with a quartet number and a pleasing cornet and horn duet. They will also assist the choir and organ in the congregational singing.

Following is the detailed program:

Organ Recital—Prelude:
(a) "Prelude in A Minor" ....Bach
(b) "Humoreske" .....Dvorak
(c) "Introduction and Allegro," (Sonata in A-flat) ..Rheinberger
Prof. E. Stanley Seder.
Quartet—"The King of Love My Shepherd Is," .....Gounod
University Brass Quartet,
Messrs. Clarke, Pennewill, Barnes, Porterfield.
Organ Offertory—"Evensong," .....Johnston
Prof. E. Stanley Seder.
Anthem—"Ave, Sanguis Christi," .....Foster
Congregational Choir.
Solo—"Golgotha," .....Couchois
Miss Louise Thorn.
Reading—"King Robert of Sicily," .....Longfellow
Miss Edna Archer.
Organ Solo—"Improvisation on a Hymn," .....Professor Seder
Anthem—"Hail to the Lord's Anointed," .....Mark Andrews
Choir and Brass Quartet.
Violin Solo—
(a) "Arioso," .....Handel
(b) "Evenig Song," .....Nachez
E. Leroy Yott.
Cornet and Horn Duet—"The Lord Is My Shepherd," .....Smart
C. R. Clarke, R. W. Barnes.
Solo—"The Day Is Ended,"..Bartlett
Mrs. Kathyrn Grimmer-Bailey.
Violin obligato by Mr. Yott.
Postlude—"Fugue" from Sonata in A-flat .....Rheinberger
Prof. Stanley E. Seder.

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AT ST. VINCENT'S.

The musical program rendered by the students of St. Vincent's academy last Thursday was one of the most attractive ever given by that institution. A patriotic note ran through the entire entertainment, and the large audience showed by its liberal applause its appreciation of the merit of the entertainment.

The program was as follows:
Chorus..."America, Land of Liberty" The Cecelians.
Piano—"Maienlust," .....Lichner
Victorine With.
Violin—"Old Folks at Home," (Transcription) .....Strube
First violin, Chonita Martinez; second violin, Eleanor Lynch; piano, Miss Cecelia Murphy.
Vocal Selection—"Blossom Time," .....Sauter
Irma Lix.
Reading—"The Legend Beautiful," .....Longfellow
Miss Mary O'Loughlin.
Piano—"Meadow Dance" ...Williams
Lenore Brown.
Piano—"By Mountain Spring," Bohm
Estella Armijo.
Vocal—"Air Castles," ...Jacobs-Bond
Margaret McCanna.
Piano—"Humoresque" ..... Dvorak
Helen Gridley.
Piano—"With Spanish Grace,".... .....Licurance
Emma Gilbert.
Violin—"Summer Evening" McIntyre
Stephens Balling; piano, Miss Marie Balling.
Piano—"March of the Flower Girls" ..... Wachs
Lala Garcia.
Reading—"Psalm of Life," Longfellow
Dorothy Butler.
Vocal—"Ave Maria," .....Rosewig
Mary Stewart.
Piano—"Valse de Concert"..Peabody
Mary Springer.
Piano—"Lofty Strides,".....Wachs
Agnes Wienke.
Vocal—"Bedouin Love Song,"....Ball
Lillian Yrissari.
Violin—"The Bee,".....Schubert
Eleanor Lynch.
Piano—"Mazurka Caprice,"....Heins
Amy Chaplin.
Reading—"Ride of Paul Revere,".. .....Longfellow
Anita Garcia.
Vocal—"Spring's Awakening," Warner
Kathryn Keleher.
Piano Duet—"Lyrique March,".... .....Koelling
Marie and Ursula Balling.
Vocal—"When Irish Eyes Are Smiling," ..... Olcott
Anita Garcia.
"Scherzo Valse," .....Henlein
Mandolin, Francis Lynch; violin, Stephen Balling; piano, James Blainey.
Closing Chorus—"The Arrow and the Song," .....Walter Hay
The Cecelians.

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MARTHA WASHINGTON TEA.

From Clovis comes the news that the ladies of the Christian church gave a delightful Martha Washington tea at the home of Mrs. Wm. McLendon, Monday afternoon and evening.

The house was prettily decorated in flags, red hatchets and carnations. Mrs. S. Grisamore, dressed as Martha, in a rich gray satin was assisted in entertaining by Mrs. William McLendon, Mrs. W. J. Stewart, Mrs. Tom Davenport, Mrs. E. A. Gurley and Mrs. Herbert Brown, all dressed in Martha Washington style. A dainty luncheon was served, while the Victrola music added materially to the evening's enjoyment.

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FORTNIGHTLY CLUB.

The Fortnightly club gave an excellent classical program at the Congregational church Tuesday evening. The public was invited and an audience which filled every seat in the church enjoyed the program which was excellent and instructive.

Mrs. Elizabeth Bradford presided, and the study period dealing with "Oratorio" as the subject, was ably lead by Mrs. Mabel Stevens Himoe. Miss Marie Higgins read a paper on "Bach and Handel;" the program as published was given.

Professor Seder's organ numbers were well received and were given with a thorough understanding of their difficulties, and show that he has gained by his study with Mark Andrews in New York. He also pleased the audience by the vocal number he gave, taking the place of Mr. Chas. J. Andrews, who was unable to be present. Professor Seder played several organ accompaniments for the chorus and solo work with his usual good taste.

Mrs. Bradford's arias from Elijah and Joshua proved that she is fully capable of singing the greatest of oratorio solos. She has ample voice and dramatic ability and was never heard to better advantage than in this style of singing. She was also obliged to fill Mr. Andrews' place as director of the chorus work, and performed this task to the complete satisfaction of the singers and audience.

Miss Marie Higgins was accorded an ovation for the remarkable way in which she played Handel's difficult "Harmonious Blacksmith." Mr. Yott's violin numbers were thoroughly musicianly and were warmly received, he being much aided in his work by the excellent accompaniments of Miss Louise Nichols. Mr. Sewell had a fine baritone solo from the "Creation," and the work of the chorus in rythm, shading and tonal quality was fine.

It was a heavy program but the participants showed themselves quite equal to all its demands.

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LADIES' AID ENTERTAINED.

Thursday afternoon, at the home of Mrs. Hugh Trotter, the Ladies' Aid society of the Lead avenue Methodist church were delightfully entertained. The time was passed with fancy work and social chat. Several guests were present besides the members of the society, and three new names were added to the roll.

At the close of the afternoon the hostess, assisted by Mrs. F. E. Dearth, served refreshments.

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SIDEWALK COFFEE.

The ladies of St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran church entertained at a coffee at the parsonage Thursday afternoon, about seventy-five guests being present. It was one of the most successful and enjoyable entertainments that the Lutheran ladies have yet held.

These monthly socials have come to be a distinctly delightful feature. The February coffee was named the "sidewalk coffee" in honor of the improvement the church at Sixth and Silver has just received in the way of 160 feet of new concrete sidewalk which was used for the first time Thursday.

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ONE O'CLOCK LUNCHEON.

Mrs. Louis Ilfeld was a one o'clock luncheon hostess yesterday, having as her guests a number of the younger set, including the Misses Bendheim, of Altoona, Penn. The decorations of roses and violets were especially effective.

The guests included Miss Helen Hope, Miss Myri Hope, Miss Edith Childers, Miss Agnes Childers, Miss Virginia Carr, Miss Jean Arnot, Miss Erma Bendheim, Miss Tessie Bendheim, Miss Dorothy McMillen, Mrs. Max Nordhause, Mrs. Thomas N. Danahy, Miss Katherine Chaves, Miss Eleanor Vaughey, Miss Elsie Kempenich and Miss Aline Stern.

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NOTES OF SOCIETY.

Mrs. W. Y. Walton has been the recipient of many delightful attentions on the eve of her departure for San Diego. Among the most pleasant was the auction bridge party given in her honor Wednesday afternoon by Mrs. E. W. Dobson. Mrs. Walton leaves for San Diego today.

Mrs. Otto Dieckman is expected home today from Los Angeles, where she has spent the last six months.

Mrs. J. C. Baldridge arrived from California last night for a short visit. As soon as she can pack her household goods she will return to Hollywood, where Mr. Baldridge is building a beautiful home.

Mrs. Ivan Grunsfeld will return today from an extended visit to relatives and friends in Chicago and New York. She will be accompanied by her daughter, Miss Florence Grunsfeld.

The Highland Bridge club will meet tomorrow at the home of Mrs. D. A. Bittner, on South Walter street.

Mrs. H. O. Strong has sent out cards for a luncheon next Thursday.

Mr. Charles J. Andrews, who has recently moved to Santa Fe, was in the city for a brief visit during the past week.

Charles Wakefield Cadman, eminent all over the world as a composer and well known in Albuquerque, stopped for a brief half hour in this city last Monday on his way to the Pacific coast. Members of the local musical colony hope to persuade him to tarry in Albuquerque on his way back east.

Mr. and Mrs. E. F. Jacobson entertained Tuesday evening at their home on North Fourth street in honor of their tenth wedding anniversary. A dainty two-course luncheon was served.

The Country club is now prepared to serve meals to its members upon notice to the steward. A table d'hote turkey luncheon will be served today from 12 to 2 o'clock.

The Ten Dons met last night at the home of Dr. J. H. Wroth. A paper by A. B. McMillen on "Some Steps Toward Efficient Publicity," was a feature of the meeting.

Mrs. A. Borders arrived yesterday for a visit to Mrs. D. A. Bittner.

Mr. Lyman B. Putney was host at an informal dancing party last night at the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. R. E. Putney, on West Central avenue.

Mr. and Mrs. Albert G. Simms were dinner hosts Friday evening at their home on North Fourteenth street. Among their guests were Mrs. Frederick Holland Elliot, of New York City; Dr. and Mrs. Julian Reed, of Texarkana, Ark., and Mr. John F. Simms.

Mrs. Frank Ackerman entertained the Gold Avenue Bridge club yesterday afternoon.

Mrs. Frank Filmore left Friday for her home in El Paso after a visit with her mother, Mrs. Renner, and her sister, Mrs. C. A. Hudson.

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LEW WALLACE CHAPTER.

Appropriate in every detail to the occasion celebrated was the Washington's birthday meeting of Lew Wallace chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution which was held at the home of Mrs. R. R. Pollock. Patriotic decorations called to mind the Father of his Country, and a program of unusual excellence was rendered. It was as follows:

Piano Solo—"Prelude E-minor," (MacDowell), Mrs. Mabel Stevens-Himoe.
Vocal Solo—"Tenting on the Old Camp Ground," (Kittredge), Mrs. R. R. Pollock.
Paper—"American Women Composers," Mrs. D. R. Lane.
Piano Solo—"Soaring," (Schumann), Mrs. Mabel Stevens-Himoe.
Vocal Solo—"Si Vous L'aviez Compris," (Denza), Mrs. R. R. Pollock.
"Patriotic Airs," Chapter.

Santa Fe Society Notes

I DID NOT KNOW.

I did not know I was fond of you,
Until I saw another by your side;
Then, dear, the depth of my deep love I knew
As through my heart swift swept its surging tide.
I did not know that you belonged to me,
Until he called you sweetheart; then my heart
Cried out in protest, "No, that cannot be!
She must be mine. With her I shall not part!"
I did not know that Heaven was here on Earth,
Until you whispered that you would be mine;
I did not know the world was filled with mirth,
Till you and hope brought joy and peace divine.
—Charles H. Meiers in Romance Magazine.

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MILITARY DINNER.

At the beautiful country home of Captain ad Mrs. Charles M. de Bremond, an elegant six o'clock dinner was given Monday night. The affair was military as the guests were the distinguished officers here for the annual inspection of battery A. Covers were laid for Adjt. Gen. Harry T. Herring, A. P. Sands, first lieutenant Sixth field artillery, detailed inspector; W. F. Sharp, first lieutenant Fifth field artillery, inspector instructor; Lieutenant F. C. Test, inspector of infantry of the National Guard of New Mexico; Captain de Bremond, commander of battery A; Mrs. de Bremond; Miss Mary Louise de Bremond, Miss Edith de Bremond.—Roswell Daily Record.

ADDITIONAL SANTA FE SOCIETY ON NEXT PAGE.

Xantippe Dialogues

(OF SAVING TIME.)

"Alexander," said Xantippe, "what was that I heard you saying to Mr. Stephanas last night?"

"Why, nothing that I remember, mater," replied Alexander; "I just said 'Good evening, reverend, that was a fine sermon you gave us this evening!'"

"That was what I thought," said Xantippe, "I'm sorry to see I was not mistaken."

"Why, what's the matter with that?" asked Alexander, surprised, "didn't you like the sermon?"

"Certainly, it was a good sermon; what I object to was the way you addressed Mr. Stephanas. No, I know you didn't mean to be disrespectful, but neither should you be ungrammatical."

"O, I see," grinned Alexander, "the school ma'am is abroad again. Just where did I slip up this time, mater?"

"I'm sure, Alexander, as long ago as when you were in the grammar school, and I was helping you with your language lessons in the evening, you were warned against such errors in speaking as 'Rev. Stephanas.'"

"But, mater, I'm sure the paper said 'Rev. Cleon' was holding a series of meetings."

"Don't quote the paper to me! You ought to know by this time that a newspaper is no authority on syntax. The word reverend is an adjective and should not be used as a substantive."

"Well, then, what shall I say? Shall I say 'doctor?'"

"Certainly, say 'doctor' if he is a doctor," replied the mother. Otherwise there is no more sense in calling a preacher 'doctor' than in calling every man 'colonel,' as they do in the mountains, or every person 'judge' who was once justice of the peace back in Lycos, Macedonia."

"Well, surely you would not have me always say 'Reverend Mister Johannes Thebanus;' it would take too much time," complained Alexander.

"Why not say Mister Themanus; there is no more reason for addressing a preacher as Reverend, than for saying 'Good morning, Honorable,' to the senator, or 'Good morning, Venerable,' to the arch-deacon. And when you are speaking or writing of them take time enough to do it properly. Though I must say I think this is sometimes carried to an extreme, as when one writes 'Former State-senator So-and-So,' or ex-Ambassador to Egypt Fulano."

"Speaking of wasting time, and not to change the subject," said Alexander, "it would save a lot of somebody's time if there were a label on our postoffice. It's a pretty cold day when some gink from the country, or some dame from Cyprus doesn't ask me where the postoffice is, and of course, it's up to me to see that they—or he—or she—what should I say, mater? find or finds it."

"What is that, Alexander?" asked Socrates, rousing from his abstraction and saving Xantippe from what might have been an embarrassing situation, "is there no sign on our government building to indicate that it contains the headquarters of our mailing service?"

"Not so that you'd notice it" replied the boy. "If there is any it is so well concealed that strangers don't seem to be able to find it."

"I really must look for myself," said the philosopher; "I seem to have heard somewhere of a law requiring an adequate sign on all postoffices in Attica, and it would be strange, indeed, if in Athens itself, so important a matter should be neglected."