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REV. DR. SMITH CRITICIZES FEATURES OF EXHIBITION

The Editor of The Daily Mail:

Dear Sir:—As the exhibition has become a matter of history I am constrained to make reference to one aspect of it which demands careful attention. I desire to express my appreciation of that part of the exhibition which was directly under the supervision of the Agricultural Society. It is, I believe the unanimous opinion that the exhibits were equal to the finest ever displayed here. The live stock, fruit, vegetables, industrial exhibits, fancy work and advertising booths compared favourably in quality with the Toronto exhibition. The Agricultural Society deserves the hearty thanks of the public for its untiring efforts to develop the spirit of native industry. In this spirit of appreciation I cordially share.

The feature I wish to call attention to is the department of amusement or entertainment. I regret that in this department there was so much open to adverse criticism. Our exhibitions are fast becoming a playground for our people and this is wholesome. For this reason the character of the entertainment is very important. If our exhibitions continue to appeal to the better class of the people the amusement provided must be such that parents can feel free to allow their children to roam at pleasure about the grounds and into the tents. Any immoral show almost prohibits this sense of freedom and safety. The performance in one of the tents was unspeakably vile, whilst the language and conduct of some of the actors associated with some others was positively indecent. Even in the Amusement Hall there were exhibitions which are never given to self-respecting society but are only found within the lowest dens of large cities. I have no desire to refer to these things in detail.

I do not for a moment charge the Society with being a party to or directly responsible for these undesirable shows. On the contrary I wish to bear testimony to the fact that when the attention of the civic authorities and the Executive was called to some of these things they promptly and unanimously prohibited them. Within recent years the numbers of persons seeking the privilege of a stand at exhibitions is increasing, and in order to secure such concession they are ready to misrepresent their work and to assure the authorities that the show is decent, even edifying. There is good reason for believing that these travelling fakirs reap a large financial harvest. The officials of the exhibition are busy men and with the labor involved in opening the exhibition it is impossible to personally supervise the entertainment. My position is that some additional instruction or assistance is necessary to maintain a proper standard of amusement. It ought to be the special duty of some officer to visit every tent, booth and corner at the opening and frequently during the exhibition in order to safeguard the interests of the public. It ought not to be incumbent upon any private citizen to make complaint or secure information regarding indecent exhibitions. The fact that any show is permitted either on the grounds or in the vicinity should be the guarantee that it is decent and clean. It should be the guarantee that a man could take his wife and children to every department without risk of meeting things of which he is rightly ashamed.

I call attention to this, not in any critical spirit, but with the hope that it may assist in securing and maintaining a high-class exhibition in the city, not only in the department of the work of the people but also in the department provided for the entertainment of the people. The complaints this year have been so frequent and persistent that they cannot be disregarded. Unless there is some strong assurance given that the amusement features in connection with coming exhibitions are decent there is reason to fear many will not patronize them. I could not blame parents who take this ground. It would be a very serious matter if people had reason for believing that the amusement features were such that young people were exposed to the forms of evil most calculated to leave a stain upon the life. It is a most distressing thing to find a tent filled with boys and young men who were being entertained by the dance which pleased the vice-wrecked devotees of sensualism. Herod. Parents dread the thoughts of their children being led into wicked associations in large cities. It is shocking to know that the sensualism of the most degraded is brought to our doors for our amusement.

There is no necessity for this type of amusement. Our people as a whole detest it. The few who glory in it can find it in their private resorts without having it placed before the public to shock the innocent and tempt the weak. The announcements and invitations of some of these entertainers would in themselves be sufficient evidence that the show inside must be very low morally. With the amount of talent and inventive skill found in the world of amusement it ought to be possible to provide sufficient variety for all classes. Games of skill, tests of strength, athletic contests, music fun-provoking merriment without vicious sugges-

tion, and as much absolute nonsense as there is in humanity generally can all contribute to the desire for relaxation and amusement.

I write this in the interests of the people who delight in the exhibition but who have felt that this year the pleasure was marred by the undesirable character of the amusements. I am convinced that it is also in the interests of the exhibition to maintain a high standard in everything. I believe that the gentlemen who constitute the Agricultural Society are not only interested in the exhibition proper, but also desirous of maintaining the best traditions of our country for clean sport and innocent pleasure. I trust that in the future the Agricultural Society and the civic authorities will co-operate in such manner as to guarantee the moral quality of everything in connection with our already much appreciated exhibition.

Thanking you for your valuable space I remain,

Yours very truly,
W. H. SMITH,

St. Paul's Manse,
Sept. 27, 1911.

SIR WILFRID DEFEATED BY SENTIMENT

Montreal, Sept. 26.—"Sir Wilfrid Laurier was defeated by sentiment, and will be restored to power by reason," declared Sir Lomer Gouin, today when interviewed by a Star representative on the result of the election.

"For every man," continued the Premier, "Sir Wilfrid Laurier stands higher in defeat than he ever stood in victory, and his prestige is rising every day, since the 21st, especially for those who voted against him. He will stand still higher when, in a couple of weeks from now, when people will be given an opportunity to compare Mr. Borden with Sir Wilfrid Laurier, and the colleagues of Sir Wilfrid to the colleagues of the new Premier."

Sir Lomer declared that he had no doubt that the Conservatives regime was doomed to a premature death and that the Liberal party would come to power stronger than ever. Sentiments and prejudices had been worked, efficiently against Sir Wilfrid Laurier and his colleagues, but the effect of such a campaign could not be of any protracted effect. The provincial Premier declared that he did not see how the result of the elections could affect his policy. If the time had come he would not hesitate in appealing to the people and would be a sure of a victory.

MINNESOTA CLUB WOMEN

Sauk Center, Minn., Sept. 26.—Sauk Center today is teeming with women from all over the State, who have come here to participate in the seventeenth annual convention of the Minnesota Federation of Women's Clubs. The proceedings began this morning with meetings of the executive board and council, followed in the afternoon by the formal opening of the gathering in the Congregational church. The program extends over three days and is one of the most attractive ever prepared for a meeting of the federation. The election of officers will take place Thursday.

Toulon, France, Sept. 26.—A thin ship's company was drawn up on the deck of the battleship Suffren this morning to answer to the roll-call of the crew of the ill-fated Liberator, which was destroyed by an explosion and fire twenty-four hours earlier. The survivors of the disaster, with the exception of those in the hospital, are temporarily quartered on the sister ship. When the name of an absent one was called some one of his comrades responded "Dead," "Hospital" or "Missing."

The official estimates this morning places the number of dead, wounded and missing at between 350 and 400. It is difficult to determine the actual fate of the missing, as many bodies were mutilated or burned. Some of the missing were probably drowned.

WATERLOO READY FOR T E PRESIDENT

Waterloo, Ia., Sept. 27.—A committee headed by Congressman C. E. Pickett has completed all arrangements for the reception and entertainment of President Taft tomorrow. The President is scheduled to arrive here tomorrow afternoon and will remain in the city until the following morning, when he will leave for Des Moines. Upon arrival he will proceed directly to the East Side Park, where he will deliver an address. An automobile tour of the city will follow the demonstration in the park and in the evening there will be a reception and banquet.

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HON. G. P. GRAHAM TO RETURN TO JOURNALISM

Brookville, Sept. 24.—"I have not really made up my mind what my plans are, but in all probability I will return to journalistic work on the Brookville Recorder" said Hon. George P. Graham to your representative last night. It is a well-known fact that since the Minister of Railways and Canals has been a member of the Dominion House he has not had any financial interest in The Recorder, the control of that paper being in the hands of his late son Percy M. Graham, up till the time of his death, when it passed into the ownership of his brother Mr. William N. Graham, barrister of Ottawa. It is not at all unlikely that the Minister of Railways will repurchase the controlling interest and come back to his old love. In response to a telegram from Sir Wilfrid Laurier, Hon. Mr. Graham is leaving on Monday morning for Ottawa to assist the Prime Minister in winding up the business of the Government. In a very large department like that of the Railways and Canals there has been a great accumulation of work which must be cleared off the slate so that the public interests may not suffer. Naturally the new Ministers will take some time to get conversant with details as the present Ministers understand them. It is quite likely that as soon as Mr. Graham is relieved from the cares of office he and Mrs. Graham will take a much needed rest, which they have not had since Mr. Graham became Brookville's representative in the Legislature thirteen years ago. He entered the House of Commons in 1907.

THE SEASON'S MUSICAL EVENT

Tour of England's Great Organist composer Gatty Sellars, Solo Organist of the Queen's Hall London Concerts and the King's Trumpeter William Short, L. R. A. M. Principal Trumpet H. M., The King's Privats Band, Buckingham Palace and State Trumpeter of England is likely to prove a record one. After landing at Halifax, N. S. Sept. 25th, they are to appear in different cities every night, resting only at the week ends. The world's greatest artist as a rule only appear three times a week, but so great has been the demand for dates, dates, that these gentlemen are having to perform in five and six cities every week. As previously announced they will appear at Methodist Church in this city on Sept. 29 and the occasion may be regarded as the musical event of the season, this being the first time these artists have visited Canada, whilst never in the history of the country has the King's Trumpeter and State Trumpeter of England previously appeared, coming direct from the Coronation in the Coronation music. Seeing the Trumpet will be heard in conjunction with the organ and chimes. The King's Trumpeter may rest assured of a crowded Church welcoming him to this city. In Australia which he recently visited the audiences numbered 5000 people. Mr. Gatty Sellars visited the United States last year and crowded the largest Cathedral, etc. so what may we expect from such a combination?

They are to appear also at the largest Auditorium (seating 10,000) in the United States before returning to England.

THE UNIQUE TODAY

A splendid set of pictures are being shown at the Unique today. "The Blind Princess and the Poet" (Biograph). "A Gay Time in Atlantic City" (Lubin). "The Regeneration of Apache Kid" (Selig). Final appearance of the comedy pair Broe and Maxim. On Thursday "The Hawaiians."

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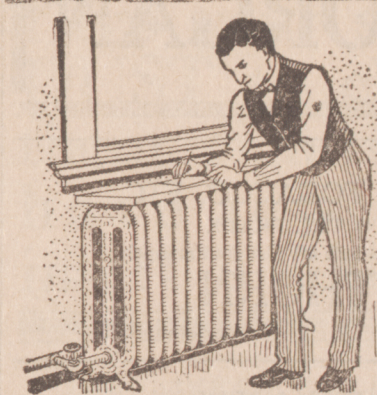
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