

COARSE ENTERTAINMENT.

Virginia Sargent.

I went to the circus for the first time the other day. I broke one of my scruples about going to such things, but I wanted to be able to say to those indifferent to animal suffering that I had witnessed some of the cruelties described in humane journals. The examples I saw in this, supposed to be one of the richest and best circuses, fully convinced me that the journals were not over sentimental.

Of course the wild animal acts distressed me most. Being at one end of the tent I could not see the whole display, but I saw fair samples. The girl with the leopards and the man with the "wonderful" troupe of lions seemed to be hugely enjoyed by the unthinking and uncaring crowd. Driven from their wagon cages to that of the arena, they were constantly subjected to the crack and lash of the whip. For the lions there were also the iron fork and blank cartridges. One poor lion was infuriated (whether purposely or not, I can't say) and he roared, struck at the pronged fork, and at last, by the bravery (?) of the trainer was covered by — a mere box! Thereupon a coarse cheer rose from the throng.

I caught glimpses of bears riding bicycles and rolling on balls. The big elephants looked thin to me. They performed several lumbering tricks. The horses and dogs, while appearing in good condition, were put through acts, a great many of which entailed their maintaining uncomfortable and precarious positions for a number of minutes. One dog, I recall, had to stand balanced on a slender rope with a ball on his nose; a white chariot rolling by had four dogs keeping their footing inside the broad rims of the turning wheels, and two wolf hounds were compelled to follow this turnout walking on their hind legs, and at intervals touching with front paws the wheels, in order to keep their balance. A wild west round up was scheduled as a side show, but as I had my heart's scald of that in a government movie, I saw one time, I did not stay.

Space prevents any more than just these few remarks, though much might be said.

Besides the brutality to the dumb beasts in performing, in close confinement, and in ceaseless traveling, there was evident the moral emptiness, or, to put it very mildly, a lack in certain morals, of being entertained with the stunts of bespangled, slightly clad acrobats and mirth-provoking acts of clowns. I thought of the lack in so many young lives of these latter, and of the many of them, who, if started in life with the ideal of something worth while, might render real service to the world.

I came away heart-sick and disgusted more than ever with the mass of my fellow kind. Oh, for the day when human beings will be too busy carrying out noble aims to demand amusement in ridiculous and hazardous stunts of their fellows, human and dumb, when the minds of the rising generation will have fit food for development. But there is an army of human beings, though at times it may seem small in comparison with the great need, who have noble aims, and part of it, through the Jack London club is striving to impress upon the public the wrong of trained animal acts, and how it is the duty of every theater goer at least, to help abolish these by leaving a place where such are held, or better still, by refusing to buy tickets for performances in which they are included. The management cannot escape being affected by such refusals and must eventually see what the trouble is. But everyone must do his part. Let us not delay longer for the sake of those whose wordless pleas should smite upon every heart.—Dumb Animals.

PROHIBITION MAKING AMERICA SAFE FOR MOTHERHOOD AND CHILDHOOD.

"Dry America is the greatest country in the world in which to produce and rear children. Prohibition is making America safe for motherhood and childhood. The Anglo-Saxon race on this side of the Atlantic and including dry Canada, bids fair to leave the race on the other side far behind as, regards sound, healthy well developed childhood. The economic effects of this inheritance of sound health will be seen in the near future. If Great Britain does not follow the lead of the United States and Canada in banishing the racial poison, alcohol, it will face inevitable decadence.

A drugged lion cannot compete with a sober Eagle."—Dr. C. W. Salleeby of London.

WHY BOYS AND GIRLS GO WRONG.

By Judge Ben D. Lindsay.

Of course boys and men are largely responsible for the troubles of girls. And in spite of the best home training, you find boys and girls going wrong; but do not forget that that is always the exceptional case; and where one boy or girl from a good home goes wrong, there are more than a hundred, who do not go wrong.

In fact, the great majority of boys and girls in this country are wholesome, pure and honest; and great majority of homes are good American homes producing the noblest citizenship the world ever saw.

I am an optimist, and believe better things are better; but you can't keep them better unless you keep up the eternal fight that the right must wage against the evil; and while crime is increasing; it must be remembered at the same time that good citizenship is increasing. Most boys, like most men, are honest, but I do say that there is a fearful amount of depravity among the children of the cities of this country; and I don't blame the children at all; I blame the parents, the men and women of the city officials. There are many who are not to blame, but there are many who are.

Of course I will not be misunderstood. The average boy and girl who goes wrong deserves to be firmly dealt with and I have sent many of the older ones to jail and many of them to reformatories; and do not hesitate to do so in proper cases. They must suffer for wrong doing, and they must be able to know that after all, they are themselves responsible for what they do.

The point I make is that they at least deserve a square deal; for opportunity, environment, example, and everything in the life of an individual, and the boy or girl who does right may have been even worse than the boy or girl who does wrong, if these conditions had been revised in their lives; and while character can sometimes lift the individual above environment, we cannot judge these children with charity and justice unless we take all these things into consideration.

One of the chief causes of dishonesty among boys and immorality among girls is the fact that the newspapers teem with such stories. I do not mean by this to blame the newspapers, as some people do. The newspapers publish what the people do and what the people want to know, and the fault, if there be a fault, must be charged up to the people themselves, to the public sentiment of the times, which must change if other things change.

Boys and girls read about the graft and dishonesty among people in the supposedly higher walks of life and the example is a powerful thing for evil in their lives. Children become calloused more or less to vice, and get really false notions, because what they read in the papers is after all the exceptional or special condition.

I believe that the messenger service is one of the greatest corrupters of boys.

There are many pure, honest girls in the department stores, and we dislike to speak of the dangers encountered here, because we have such a high respect for the many good, pure girls who courageously lead a noble life under all kinds of trials and temptations; but no one knows better than these very girls the temptations they endure, and how many of their sisters fall.

There are certain young scoundrels in every community who go about seeking whom they may devour and who lead many girls astray; and young rascals of this kind should be hunted down and shown no mercy. They have no respect for virtue or womanhood.

Another prolific cause of the downfall of young girls is their going to theaters and public dances without chaperones or, in fact, going at all at a tender age to some of these places; visiting girl friends of questionable character, especially in rooming houses or outside the family circle.

After all the lack of companionship between mother and daughter and the lack of training a girl in that maidenly modesty which is her chief protection from scoundrels, are also causes for the downfall of thousands upon thousands of girls in the cities of this country. If the number were really known, I am sure it would be startling.

The truth is that the public, like many parents and teachers, do not really know the fact, and from one standpoint it may be just as well they do not know, but from another

standpoint it is very important that the facts should be known, for there is nothing to be gained by permitting sores to fester under cover. However disagreeable it is to deal with filth and garbage, the whole city would suffer in the end if it is neglected. But it can only be removed and cared for in the proper way.

No girl's trouble or any troubles affecting the morals of the youth of the city should be aired and written about in the newspapers any more than the garbage wagon, which is absolutely necessary to the health of the community, should perform its functions in the open streets at times when they are most needed.

Perhaps an occasional jolt to the community is necessary to let them know that evil is getting in its work, and they must be up and doing, to overcome evil with good.

NOTICE!



Concordia Lodge No. 50, A. F. M. will hereafter hold its regular communication on the SECOND MONDAY night of each month instead of Friday night as heretofore. All members are kindly requested to observe the change and be present accordingly.

J. H. CANTELOU, W. M.
Edgefield, S. C., August 1, 1921.



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GEO. F. MIMS,
Optometrist-Optician,
Edgefield, S. C.

NOTICE.

We having organized the Edgefield National Farm Loan Association in connection with the Federal Land Bank, I shall be glad to file your application for a loan.

J. H. CANTELOU,
Secretary-Treasurer.
Edgefield, S. C.

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Notice of Final Discharge.

To All Whom These Presents May Concern:

Whereas, J. H. Allen has made application unto this Court for Final Discharge as Executor in re the Estate of Clara Penn, deceased, on this the 23 day of August, 1921.

These are Therefore, to cite any and all kindred, creditors, or parties interested, to show cause before me at my office at Edgefield Court House, South Carolina, on the 28th day of September, 1921, at 11 o'clock A. M., why said order of Discharge should not be granted.

W. T. KINNAIRD,
J. P. C., E. C., S. C.

August 23, 1921.

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