

The Ashland Collegian

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SOCIAL SERVICE

Criticism is often made of suggested means of social amelioration on the grounds that such suggested means are seldom concrete and hence not worthy of consideration.

But out of the rich field of social science has come suggestions which have been put into practical use and which are doing much for the mind, body and spirit. Fundamental changes in the character of American life have necessitated changes in the means of entertainment and recreation of men and women in leisure hours.

At the present time the theater, the athletic contest, and similar means have been made use of by men as a means of securing needed pleasure and recreation. But these sources of recreation are open to much criticism because of the fact that they are fundamentally commercial in character and are not maintained, as they should be, for the good of the public. In France the theater is supported by the public through public funds which gives the advantage of the production of worthwhile plays without attention being forced to the financial success. The American musical comedy is a type of recreation that obviously appeals to the low and superficial and imparts no high and profound ideas or emotions.

In this day approximately one-third of life is spent at leisure. In all large industrial centers the eight hour day has been accepted, leaving the worker some five or six hours to spend in recreation or improvement. This leisure is a powerful force that may work for the betterment or degradation of the worker. If his leisure time is spent in questionable activity then that leisure is inimical to his interests.

But a better way must and is being found for the utilizing of the force of leisure time and so directing it that it will be an asset to the nation rather than a liability. This is the activity known as community service or social work. Such service is at present extending its scope and its ramifications are running all over this country.

Parnassus Breezes

BY G. K. STONE

TRIOLET

I started an ode—
But this is a triole;
Now ode rhymes with code
And code rhymes with road
And road rhymes with road,
My next rhyme is violet;
I started an ode—
But this is a triole.

A DIALECTIC DIARY

It is amazing to what lengths some people will go to attain notoriety. For instance, we noticed in Ted Robinson's column in the Cleveland Plain Dealer the other day a contribution from one Henry Geevems McBlink who says that he is the author of the "Great American Novel" (unpublished) and several other works unworthy of mention. He then goes on to say that now that the "ten best book" lists have overflowed into that column he is moved to ask a question that has long perplexed him. "Why the ten best books?" he asks, "why not the ten worst?" He seems to think this a brilliant idea of his and proceeds to enumerate his list of the ten worst books in the world. A careful scrutiny of his letter however, reveals the fact that his list of the ten worst bears several striking resemblances to the list we published in this column a month ago. Mr. McBlink has simply stolen his idea from this column and palmed it off on the unsuspecting public as his own. Besides being a plagiarist he is moreover an impostor. He is not as he avers, the author of the "Great American Novel," but pilfered that idea also from this column of the same issue, wherein we began our novel "Queer Street." We wish to warn the public against any further activities of Mr. McBlink who is nothing but a cheap parodist and deserves to be thus rebuked.

TO LUCASTA, UPON GOING TO THE THEATER

The love I bear you, dearie's such
As none could but adore,
But if you wouldn't cost so much
I'd love you oodles more.

GIVE US CREDIT

First Stude (At the ball game, noticing a certain vociferous but unmusical acquaintance accompanying the band to the field): "What's Wiss doing in the band?"
Second Stude: "O, he carries the air."

OUR WEEKLY SHORT STORY

At the Sign of The Three Brass Balls.
"Here's your ticket."

THE NIGHT. EDV

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