

January 1934

The Athenaeum met at the Latham Hotel at 6:30, the evening of January 4th with an attendance of 24 members and two guests. Twenty-seven plates were served. President Chappell called the meeting to order and instructed the treasurer to collect the dues. The result netted the Society \$47.00. This sum has enabled the treasurer to meet all our current expenses.

A great deal of talk followed the roll call, with a variety of suggestions, motions, and counter motions as to the advisability of authorizing the secretary to read the minutes of the two previous meetings or the expediency of ordering the readings omitted. Several points of order failed to be registered strictly in order. Finally, upon instructions from the Chair, the secretary read the minutes of the November meeting and heard the Society's expression of approval.

David M. Walker appeared first on the program with a paper on Simon Bolivar, the South America Liberator, with consummate realism.

James A. McKenzie in his paper feelingly portrayed the disillusionment and despair of Francesca in Dante's immortal poem of the mediaeval theology.

Members present were Meacham, Ira L. Smith, Downer, Henry, Rives, Eckles, Linton, McKenzie, Ira D. Smith, Clark, Soyars, Chappell, P. C. Walker, Holmes, Fink, Gaither, Flener, David Walker, Koffman, Petrie, Saunders, Ezell, Rogers, and Weldon.

Discussion-

With one exception (Eckles) all participated in the discussion.

B. W. Gaither, Secretary

Society at a dinner given at the Hotel Montgomery in their home city. The speeches of our hosts were brief and witty. The stated program of the evening was given in a brilliant lecture by our own beloved J. W. Downer, the guest of honor. Mr. Downer treated "Robert Louis Stephenson" with historical fidelity and extraordinary eloquence.

The other members attending were:

H. W. Linton, Trimble, Chappell, Soyars, Ira L. Smith, Ira D. Smith, Flener, Ezell, Holmes, Henry, Clark, McKenzie, Eckles, and Gaither.

The Ladies who attended were:

Mesdames Ira L. Smith, Alvin Clark, Ira D. Smith, Oglesby Soyars, William B. Holmes, Jr., B. Wood Gaither, Phil Chappell, And John Thomas.

Secondary note: At the March meeting the February minutes were approved with the proviso that James E. Breathitt's name be stricken from the list of members excused for absences from the February meeting.

B. W. Gaither Secretary

1934
Minutes of the February Meeting

The Athenaeum met at the Hotel Latham, Thursday Feb. 1st, 1934 with twenty-three members and two guests present, and President Chappell presiding. Upon the president's earnest entreaty Miss Nora had the Society served with T-Bone steaks, piping hot from the broilers. This innovation won hearty approval. In the course of the evening's business deliberations the secretary was directed to write Miss Nora a letter of appreciation for this unusual treat. That humble servant of the Society, still with the flavor of the fat bullock lingering in the region of his palate, was moved to cast the message in poetic form. He was very careful, when ordering dinner for the March meeting, to place the manuscript in Miss Nora's hands.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read, and, after several minor corrections, were approved. The collection of dues netted the treasury \$19.75. The hotel account of \$18.75 was paid the following day.

Excuses presented by Mr. Pettus White for his absences from the two previous meetings were accepted.

The secretary was directed to write a letter of sympathy to James E. Breathitt and to send a floral token to the Breathitt family.

Excuses for absences from the February meeting were presented and accepted for W. H. Southall, and David Walker.

The resignation of Selden Y. Trimble was read by the secretary. The Society ~~read~~ Mr. Trimble's message with the deepest regrets. Charles M. Meacham moved that a committee be appointed to ask that Mr. Trimble reconsider his severance of membership. Pettus White explained Mr. Trimble's position and said that preparation for the Society's program would be a great hardship. He recommended that Mr. Trimble be made an honorary member of the Athenaeum. H. W. Linton, after a brief exordium, repeated Mr. Meacham's motion. It was seconded by W. B. Holmes, Jr. and adopted on the vote of the society. President Chappell appointed Charles M. Meacham, Pettus White, and H. W. Linton, a committee to confer with Mr. Trimble.

On the program Charles J. Petrie read a splendidly scientific paper entitled, "You, The Other Fellow and I." It was a study in personalities and outlined a number of Biological findings and some fundamental psychological principles. His style showed the enthusiasm of a student with his hobby.

"The Power Age" was the subject of N. L. Simmons, whose paper dealt with the effects of modern machinery upon agriculture and the daily life of rural America. His presentation of the subject and manner of reading won the audience.

This was the first appearance of these two men on an Athenaeum program. The receptivity of their papers was attested in a lively and dignified discussion by the following members, viz: White, Linton, McKenzie, Holmes, Saunders, Fink, Clark, Henry, Meacham, Ira L. Smith, Ira D. Smith, Ezell, Weldon, Downer, Koffman, and Gaither.

Foot Note:

On the evening of Tuesday, Feb. 20th, the Philomatic Society of Clarksville, Tenn. entertained the Athenaeum

Minutes of the March Meeting
1934.

Par.1. March the first at six-thirty p.m., the Athenaeum met at Hotel Latham with an excellent beefsteak dinner demanding first consideration, and Phil E. Chappell presiding. Twenty-four members were present when the meeting was called to order, and two more came in after the roll-call.

The dues collected amounted to twenty-seven dollars.

The minutes of the February meeting were approved, with the proviso that one correction be made.

Absences from the February meeting were excused for Flener, Southall, Rives, David Walker, and Trimble, (also Breathitt.)

For the March meeting the following excuses were accepted; Rogers and P. C. Walker, also Breathitt.

On the program W. B. Holmes, Jr. responded to the first call with a paper entitled, "The Progress of Labor."

The caption of Ira D. Smith's paper, who rose to the second call, was "Crime and It's Punishment,"

The seventeen members who made impromptu contributions to the discussion were in order;

Rives, Flener, Petrie, Soyars, Trimble, Ezell, Ira I. Smith, Downer, Clark, David Walker, Meacham, Henry, Fink, Saunders, Koffman, Eckles, and Weldon.

On the Program for June;

Saunders and Linton.

Secretary/

April Meeting 1934

- Par. 1. The Athenaeum met at the Hotel Latham, in the club room, at 7 p.m., Thursday, April 5th, 1934. Twenty-six members were present.
- Par. 2. Excuses were presented and accepted for two of the absentee members, viz: Clark and Simmons. The treasurer collected \$29.00 in dues.
- Par. 3. After hearing the minutes of the March meeting read, Ira D. Smith moved that the secretary be instructed to expunge the sixth paragraph. President Chappell put the motion to a vote and it was carried.
- Par. 4. The President ruled that only those who are out-of-town people, or former members of the Athenaeum, be invited as guests to the regular meetings of this society.
- Par. 5. The membership committee reported the name of Mr. Wallace Henderson for nomination; and the Society approved by vote. The final ballot is to be taken at the June meeting.
- Par. 6(a) The second item of New Business was the annual election of officers. The chair appointed J. A. McKenzie, Ira L. Smith and S. Y. Trimble, a nominating committee. After a secret session this committee reported their nominations as follows:
Oscar Flener, for the office of president;
Charles J. Petrie for vice-president;
B. W. Gaither for secretary-treasurer.
- (b) On a motion, which carried the consent of the meeting, the president cast a ballot that elected the three nominees to their respective offices.
- Par. 7. The chair announced that the newly elected officers will constitute the program committee for the ensuing year.
- Par. 8. There was some talk pro and con of postponing the open meeting until June, but a motion from Charles M. Meacham, that the open meeting be held the first Thursday in May, was put to the vote and carried.
- Par. 9. The following appointments for the open meeting were announced by the newly-elected president.
- (1) Committee on arrangements.
Holmes, Koffman, and Chappell.
- (2) Committee on Decoration
Mrs. Petrie, Mrs. Gaither, and Mrs. Flener.
- Note: As sickness at her home prevented Mrs. Petrie serving on this committee Mrs. Fink substituted for her.
- (3) Program Committee
Meacham, Gaither, Petrie, and Flener.
- Par. 10. On the program, Oscar Flener, substituting for Ira L. Smith, responded to the first call with a paper on "Dentistry".
- (b) On the second call B. W. Gaither read his short story entitled, "Too Much or Nothing."
- Par. 11. The fourteen members who had survived up to this time and participated in the discussion were:
Saunders, Holmes, Rives, Koffman, Petrie, Linton, Downer, Fink, the Ira Smiths, D. and L., Meacham, David Walker, Henry and Weldon.

On the program for September; Gaither and Rogers