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A BUSY INSTITUTION.

A Few Things About the Meadville Commercial College and Its Course of Instruction—Many Students Enrolled.

It is a problem for the young people of this country to decide what particular profession or line of work they wish to follow. The professions, such as medicine, law, engineering, etc., seem to be crowded, and the expense of preparing for them is almost prohibitive for people of average wealth.

Naturally, the young man or woman who wishes to follow some line of work in farming or the ordinary work found in the smaller cities, turns to the profession of business. Here are found plenty of opportunities for those who are well prepared, who have ambition and who are willing to work hard. Special preparation is necessary, but the cost is comparatively small, and the investment will soon pay dividends.

The most noted school in Western Pennsylvania for preparing young men and women for business professions is the Meadville Commercial College, of that city. This institution was started in 1887, with only one teacher and one pupil. Last year the enrollment was over 200, and the graduating class numbered 78. This growth has been steady and the enrollment this year is expected to be the largest year on a corresponding date. A Tribune-Republican representative visited the school a few days ago, and found a regular hive of industrious young people who are preparing themselves for one of the many positions which come to the school. He found that the graduates of 1907 were all employed, and that 80 calls for bookkeepers and stenographers have been received since last June. These calls were confined to Meadville alone, but came from a distance of 170 miles in every direction including Pittsburgh, Cleveland and Buffalo. Many of the young men who have completed the courses within the last year or so are receiving from \$35 to \$100 per month. The young ladies are equally fortunate, and receive from \$25 to \$50 per month.

The equipment of the school is complete. Plenty of room has been secured, and at the present time the space occupied is over 8,000 square feet. Seven teachers are employed who devote all of their time to giving instruction, and throughout the entire school is seen the evidence of organization and business like methods.

The commercial department, in charge of Mr. R. D. Powell, with Miss Jessie Marvin and Mr. Geo. H. Amidon, assistants, gives practical instruction in methods of keeping accounts together with other subjects such as penmanship, arithmetic, commercial law, rapid calculation, correspondence, English and spelling. One of the most interesting features of the commercial department is the work of the advanced students. They trade with students in other schools, and the business is conducted exactly as it would be in a well regulated wholesale or commission house. The same books are kept and accounts are settled by checks, notes, drafts and currency. If a student in the Meadville school can purchase goods at a reduced rate from a student in Cedar Rapids, Ia., Chicago, Ill., New York City, Lincoln, Nebraska, Baltimore, Md., or in any of the other schools with which he does business, he will order the goods and sell them at a profit. The work is carefully supervised by the teachers in charge, but encouragement is allowed to give the student an opportunity to exercise his own business judgment. The commercial department is a popular one, with a fine appearing class of young men and women in attendance.

The shorthand department in charge of Miss Nan McArthur with Carolyn L. McCluer, J. Glenn Crumb, and Myrtle W. Stuffer, assistants, has the reputation of being one of the most thorough departments of the kind in the United States. Practically all of the expert stenographers in this section of the country are graduates of this department. In addition to shorthand, instruction is given in penmanship, rapid calculation, typewriting, correspondence and advanced shorthand work. The typewriting department contains over thirty standard machines.

The model office of the shorthand department deserves special mention. Students are admitted to this department after they have completed the regular shorthand course.

The model office is fitted with the necessary number of machines, filing cases, card systems, mimeographs, letter press and other modern office devices. Regular office hours are observed, and during the entire day students receive individual dictation, and are obliged to transcribe it on their machine, just as though they were employed in a business office. This part of the course requires from four to eight weeks, and a graduate of the shorthand and model office department has had practical experience when he goes to apply for a position.

It may be justly claimed that the Meadville Commercial College is as good as any similar school in the United States. Its students are successful, the school is prosperous and receives students from a large territory, many of them coming from cities where there are business schools. The reputation of the Meadville school is established, and even though it may cost a little more, it will pay to take a course in a school of this kind. Enrollments are being made every day as the system of individual and class instruction allows satisfactory progress on the part of every one. Pupils are not required to remain in classes, but can complete one or more courses just as rapidly as their ability will allow. Some are able to complete a shorthand or bookkeeping course in six and one-half or seven months, while others will require nine or ten months. The complete course, which is the most satisfactory course for the young man or young woman, requires from fourteen to sixteen months depending entirely on the ability of the student.

In a word the Meadville Commercial College recommends itself to all young people who wish to secure a business education.

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Clothing down to \$10.

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SOUNDS DEPTHS OF INFAMY.

Negro Preacher Finds a Crime Which He Cannot Forgive.

An old negro preacher of Southern Georgia had been given a fine, fat possum by some of his admirers and was keeping it in a barrel, feeding it heavily to increase its weight. He had decided to have it killed the next day, when, to his rage, it was stolen in the night.

Shortly afterward a revival meeting was being held and among those who went up to the mourner's bench was a certain very black Jim and his grief seemed inconsolable.

"Dat's all right, mah brudder!" the old man shouted. "Don't matter what yo' done, de good Lawd gwine fergibe you!"

"But Ah's been powerful mean," Jim declared, weeping.

"Is yo' stole chickens?" the old man demanded.

"Oh, wuss 'en dat!"

"Good Lawd! He'p dis po' nigger!" the old preacher entreated.

"Is yo' use a razor?"

"Is yo' dan dat?"

"Is yo'—yo' ain't done killed anybody?"

"Wuss dan dat!"

"Den hyah's what we tangle!" the old man shouted, throwing aside his coat. "De good Lawd kin fergibe yo' if he wants ter, but Ah's gwine sken yo' alive! Yo's de varmint dat stole mah possum!"—New York Herald.

In Case of Fire.

A Germantown man was talking about the famous Dr. Henry Van Dyke, of Princeton.

"When Van Dyke was a little chap," he said, "I went to school with him."

"One day, before school closed for the Christmas holidays, we expected a visit from a director. This director always questioned the children about one thing—namely, what they'd do in case of fire. So the teacher coached us all the morning before he came, preparing us finely on the course to be taken if fire should break out."

"Well, sure enough, the director called, but when he got up to address us, he said:

"It is good to be here at this jolly Christmas among so many rosy, smiling young faces. You are a very bright looking lot of children, and I wonder what you would do now if I were to make you a little speech on the best way to celebrate Christmas." Dyke piped out:

"Form in single file and march out quickly!"

O Ye Tears!

The president of one of the well-known colleges tells this story of one of his professors of chemistry:

It seems that the professor and his wife had not agreed upon some domestic question, the professor asserting that his means would not warrant the expense involved. His wife had used all her powers of persuasion without avail, and at last resorted to the final feminine expedient—a flood of tears. At this the professor picked up his hat, but paused to remark:

"You might save yourself the trouble of that, my dear, your tears have absolutely no effect upon me. Why should they, being nothing but common water with a very small percentage of phosphorus salts and a trace of chloride of sodium?"

Matrimonial Conversations.

Husband—Another new dress! Where do you suppose I shall get the money from to pay for it?
Wife—You must excuse me, I didn't marry you to give you financial advice.—Kikeriki.

Julia Marlowe's Wit.

A comedian was praising the art of Miss Julia Marlowe.

"And she is as brilliant as she is artistic," he said earnestly. "A wonderful young woman!"

"Do you remember her impersonation of Juliet? A doctor saw her as Juliet one night in Pittsburgh, and was tremendously impressed. Only, in the powerful death scene there was one technical error."

"Miss Marlowe, the doctor said at a reception the next day. 'I admired your Juliet profoundly. The impersonation was a work of art. But—pardon me—don't you know that a corpse doesn't stiffen for at least six hours after death?'"

Miss Marlowe answered, in that drawl she reserves for such speeches:

"Now, doctor, do you think I'm going to keep my audience waiting six hours for me to stiffen?"

Poor Show for the Hat.
First Diner (to his friend)—What's the matter? You look worried.

Second Diner—Well, that fat man at the next table has sat down on my hat and now both his fat boys are sitting on his knee.—Fliegende Blätter.

Biliousness and Constipation.
For years I was troubled with biliousness and constipation, which made life miserable for me. My appetite failed me, I lost my usual force and vitality. Pepsin preparations and cathartics only made matters worse. I do not know where I should have been today had I not tried Chamberlain's Stomach and Liver Tablets. The tablets relieve the ill feeling at once, strengthen the digestive functions, helping the system to do its work naturally.—Mrs. Rosa Potts, Birmingham, Ala. These tablets are for sale by Dunn & Fulton.

AN UNGENTLEMANLY QUESTION.

Old Dick Could Tell He Was Not From the South.

There is a spur of the Baltimore and Ohio railway running up the valley of Virginia, from Harper's Ferry to Strasburg. There is no dining car attached to the train that makes the trip. To supply the wants of the hungry public on the coaches at this hour, Dick Wells, an old Virginia "fo' de war" dinky has for the last thirty years served passengers with coffee, eggs, chicken sandwiches and pies on these cars; every trip he is on the train, serving lunches from a basket.

Recently on their way to the unveiling of a monument at Newmarket, were a great many Northern veterans, and the quaint old negro reaped a rich harvest on these trips, often receiving double and treble what he asked for his wares.

A northern gentleman on his way to attend these ceremonies, while eating a "snack" of chicken and pie bought from old Dick, says Youth's Companion, began to compliment the chicken and pastry, and finally wound up by asking: "Uncle, where do you get such nice chickens?"

The old negro, with a twinkle in his eyes and a wink at the other passengers, replied: "Boss, I sho' knows you ain't from de soif."

"Why, uncle?" exclaimed the gentleman, "how can you tell I am not from the south?"

"Cause, suh," answered Dick, "no southern gentleman ever comprimes a nigger by askin' him whar he gits his chickens."

Hateful Hater.



Igenious Maiden—Some one told me that the eighth day of the month was the luckiest to be married on.

Woman Hater—Then you were deceived, my child. The eighth day of the week is the luckiest.—Berliner Illustrierte Zeitung.

Difficulties of Classification.

A baggage master was called upon to decide whether a tortoise that was being taken home by a traveller could be checked free or came under the head of animals that had to pay small addition fee, as dogs did, says a writer in Success. He looked at the strange creature, the like of which he had never seen before, and brought all his past experience to bear on the case. The only rule he had to go by was the one that said dogs must pay, for much was left to the common sense of the baggage-master, and he gave his decision.

"Of niver had I decide on wan av thim things before, but dogs pays extra, but does it come in th' classification of dogs O' duno."

He called the station master, who was also an Irishman. The station master looked at the tortoise.

"'Tis not a dog," he said, promptly. "Dogs is dogs, and cats is dogs, and squirrels in cages is dogs, but that there animal is an insect and goes free."

Same Old Thing.
Belle—How is your sister trimming her hat this fall? Just with feathers, isn't she?
Cousin Tom—No, the usual combination.

Belle—How do you mean? What combination?
Cousin Tom—Fuss and feathers.—Philadelphia Press.

Handicapped.

The obese citizen who was headed toward the depot six blocks away paused to look at his watch.

"Have I time to catch the next train for St. Louis?" he asked, addressing a policeman at the corner.

"You have the time," replied the officer, "but you don't seem to have the speed."—Chicago News.

Problems.

"Is this new piece of yours what you would call a problem play?"

"I should say so," answered the manager. "I never had to do so much arithmetic in my life to make the balance come out on the right side of the ledger."—Washington Star.

Rough Handling.
Shabby caller (to servant)—Can you tell me when the dentist sees his free patients?
Servant—I think between 6 and 7 o'clock in the evening; there's always more shrieking then.—Wiener Caricature.

Not Quite the Same.
Miss Angles—He was pleased to say, I believe, that I had many good points.

Miss Cutting—Not exactly, dear. He said you had a good many points.—Philadelphia Ledger.

Chapped hands are quickly cured by applying Chamberlain's Salve, Price, 25 cents. For sale by Dunn & Fulton.

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