

PEASANT TALES

Swedish Professor on the Value of Traditions

NATIONAL CULTURE

Professor C. W. Sydow, of the University of Lund, Sweden, before a large gathering of students of Coliste na Mumba, Ballingery, and people of the locality, delivered an address of quite uncommon interest. The subject was "Nationality and Peasant Culture."

In order to gather old stories and traditions from the mouths of the Irish-speaking peasants, Prof. Sydow came to Ireland. He has spent about three weeks at Ballingery, where he has collected much valuable material, mainly due to the co-operation of Conchubhar O'Malneachain, one of the College Professors.

Professor Sydow said Ireland's peasant tales and traditions embodied all that was oldest and most characteristic of the race. They stood for what was national as opposed to "international culture." Of all the peoples of Europe, none has preserved its traditions, tales and customs more faithfully than the Irish; a tradition as old as that of Greece and Rome, linking up even with that of Indo-European times.

The Irish tales showed marked relationship with those of other European peoples, but had suffered far less by contamination from neighbouring countries. To let this native culture slip away would be a national disaster.

RECOGNISED IN SWEDEN.

In Sweden this fact was recognised, and organised efforts were made to secure the national traditions from the inroads of the American and English influence. To allow such invasion to proceed unchecked would result in a slaking of culture. Hence the necessity of keeping alive the national language, its tales and its music. These were the soul of the nation. A land without such traditions might be termed "A church without the Holy Spirit."

To preserve such traditions, Professor Sydow insisted, should be the prime interest of every Government. By the education of the children in the schools, by the establishment of peasant high schools, such as existed in Sweden, by the endowment of suitable museums, much may be done to promote "peasant culture."

The national language, he added, must depend for its vigour on the preservation of its dialects. They would be the source of its inspiration.

On the conclusion of the Professor's address, a vote of thanks was proposed by Very Rev. Gerald O'Nolan, M.A., D.Litt., President of Ballingery College. Dr. O'Nolan made a strong appeal to all present to derive all possible benefit from the advice of Prof. Sydow, and to show by their enthusiasm for the language, its traditions and music that they appreciated the treasures handed on from our distant forefathers.

LINCOLN'S ROMAN ARCH

Relic of the Early Period of the Occupation of Britain

The Office of Works have decided to schedule the Roman Arch at Lincoln, as a result of a letter from the Dean of Lincoln, calling attention to the risk of damage to the arch from the heavy type of omnibus which is allowed through it.

The Newport Arch, as it is known in Lincoln is a relic of the earliest period of Roman occupation of Britain. Formed of 28 huge blocks of colite, or granular limestone, it was the northern gate of the Roman city that was laid out on the summit of the steep hill which, centuries later, was crowned by the Cathedral. It is said to be the only Roman gate that exists, apart from the 'Balkerna' at Colchester.

The First Commissioner of Works intends to extend largely the list of scheduled ancient memorials of this kind with a view to their preservation.

LIBRARY ASSISTANTS (Male and Female).

Exam. announced for 23rd Sept.

Special Oral and Correspondence Classes will be resumed at SKERRY'S COLLEGE, 76 St. Stephen's Green, Dublin, after Summer Vacation on 19th Inst. (Advert.)

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FASHIONS FIXED

Paris Couturiers Show Winter Modes

SCARVES REMAIN

By M. SAUNDERS.

(United Press Staff Correspondent.)

Paris (By Mail).

If winter comes, the couturier of Paris is ready. Fashions for the coming season, as displayed by the famous houses, show rich red and gold tones, to keep My Lady warm however cold the winds may be; evening frocks as straight as socks, with low belts decorated with beads, are the vogue, and the ubiquitous scarf still reigns supreme, attached to coats and afternoon and evening gowns in all manner of shapes and designs.

Recent displays by the famous fashion houses were well attended, and several of them added to their attractions by concerts and entertainments.

In general, skirts are short, and lines throw the figure into relief. Filmy materials are popular, and for the ballroom, a glorious geranium red is going to be popular, and so is blue. Lucien Lelong, who showed evening gowns in these colours, followed straight and narrow lines, with the skirts in many models flaring at the knees, to give freedom of movement in dancing.

PLUM GAINS SWAY

A determined effort is being made to popularise plum-colour, which takes a good deal of wearing and wants to be cunningly draped and contrasted with other colours to be really effective. Lelong showed several beautiful plum-colour frocks with coats to match, and furled collar and cuffs.

Skirts on the models shown by M. Jean Patou showed increased width and suggested circular cuts, but the straight line principle is generally maintained. All skirts were short and the entire collection youthful in style and ornamentation. Coats were either straight and loose or semi-fitted and double-breasted.

Liko Patou, Bodier featured kasha cloth, with most interesting designs, including broad stripes. Embroidered frocks made a favourable impression, with Egyptian, Chinese, Hindu and Spanish touches.

Chesoff directed attention to the long, straight tunic with a short underskirt, in which the tunic was often of contrasting material with gay embroidery or fur trimming. High collars are accepted as a development of the scarf. Velvet in remarkable shades distinguished the evening gowns and beading revealed many remarkable and original designs.

PLAIDS FAVOURED

"Wing" effects over one shoulder, were favoured by Jean Magnis in evening wear and sports coats, and in the latter plaids were extensively used.

One interesting feature of the Bodier's mannequin display was the number of frocks and coats founded on Empire styles, with high waists and finely pleated skirts; high collars and generous lapels, lace-trimmed and shoulder capes. One costume was named "Robespierre" and another "Revolution." Paul Cart's designs were somewhat similar to those of Bodier, with long coats and "bell" sleeves. Cart has placed the belt-line on the hips, and most of his designs bring out the lines of the figure.

Many new couturiers have come into prominence with their displays this year, and the field of selection is wider than ever. (Copyright in America and the Dominions.)

PALACES TO BE REMOVED

Tokyo (By Mail).

During the next ten years it is proposed to remove the numerous residences of the members of the Imperial Family into the suburban districts of the city, where they will be reconstructed on a more modest scale. The land thus vacated, amounting to nearly one hundred acres, will be available for the reconstruction of the city, and the development of the city defence plans.—Reuter.

Free Night Shelter.—The admission to the St. Vincent de Paul Free Night Shelter, for homeless Catholic men, Back lane, for the week ending August 14 numbered 620. There were 2,253 free meals supplied.

PATENTS, DESIGNS, TRADE MARKS

WM. EWART DOYLE, Registered Patent Agent, Consulting Engineer, Registered Patent Attorney, Advice Free, BELFIELD COLLEGE GREEN DUBLIN.