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The Morning Call

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THE BIG FAIR IS OPEN

The Hospital Bazaar is Ready for Business.

A LARGE CROWD ATTENDED

On Saturday Night and All Were Well Entertained—Receipts Estimated to Have Been \$500—To-night's Program.

The big hospital fair opened on Saturday evening in Market Hall under the most auspicious circumstances. The large hall was literally jammed from 8 to 9 o'clock and it is estimated that the receipts are \$500. The receipts at the door alone were over \$70.00. All the different booths were in their handsomest dress and the blending of the colors with which they are decorated was a matter of very pleasant comment by those who attended the opening. The program published in Saturday's MORNING CALL was carried out.

Mayor Lewis made a most interesting address, of which the substance is as follows:

MAYOR LEWIS' ADDRESS.

"It is with no ordinary degree of pride that I open this grand fair this evening. On all sides I see the evidence of energy on the part of the philanthropic ladies of our community. The beautiful booths, tasty decorations, all speak of the weeks of toil in this work of charity, and this opening to night is indeed a finale to so stupendous an undertaking. The old saying that the hand that rocks the cradle rules the world is true indeed and in any work of charity she is never found wanting.

"There may be those who will try to throw cold water upon the hospital project, but after they find their work is of no effect they will fall in line and become staunch supporters.

"A hospital we must and will have, and it must be said to the shame of our beautiful city that we have none. Picture to yourselves the agony of the poor sufferer waiting for attention. One boy was kept waiting for four hours before he could be taken to the hospital. Others have waited for shorter periods and in this while must have suffered untold agonies. We do not know when the heavy hand of misfortune may be laid on our shoulder. The great and small are always liable to misfortunes.

"The large gathering here to-night tells me plainly that the citizens of Allentown are heart and soul in the grand project and where so many hands are united in a great cause like this the result can not be otherwise than a success. And now in the name of aid, by the authority of the Ladies' Auxiliary, I declare the fair open and hope it will be liberally patronized, as the Lord loveth a cheerful giver."

At every booth there is a corps of able workers, and it was a pleasure to note the rivalry that existed to make the biggest sales. The ice cream booth was crowded all evening. In fact, there was not sufficient space there to accommodate the crowd. The helpers at the various booths are all dressed in the costumes of the country which their booth represents. The German and Swiss peasants, dressed in the simple costumes of that country, are in marked contrast with the gaudily attired French maidens and the vari-colored Japanese girls. At the candy booth the sales amounted to some \$50. At the ice cream booth the amount came near to that figure and every other booth can show a receipt list of from \$40 to \$50.

The fish pond was a favorite resort. Here the fisher-maidens were busy taking in the nickle all evening. They had gathered fish, as they thought, sufficient to last them all week, but their stock is entirely run down, and they ask for additional contributions.

John M. Hoffman, the electrician, has wired and furnished the lights for the restaurant booth and the result is that it is one of the best lighted booths in the hall.

Mr. Gossler sold hundreds of cigars at his handsome log cabin. He was one of the busiest men in the hall, looking after many details.

In the nurse's tent, which is in charge of Gustavus Mennig, there are interesting relics in the shape of the knapsack, tin cup and the last ration of coffee received by Mahlon Beary from the government.

The bureau of information is a cozy spot, especially for the reporter. In here he feels at liberty to drop into a chair and take a few notes. Mrs. Diehl, Mrs. Leisenring, Mrs. Huber and Mrs. Singmaster were there giving information that was wanted and receiving the articles found by people. The bazaar is connected by telephone. The instrument is placed in the cigar cabin.

Why not ask Lillian Russell to sing tomorrow afternoon?

The voting for the next President resulted in an immense vote for Major McKinley. The vote was McKinley, 149; Olney, 2; Hill, 5; Reed, 7; Pattison, 33; Quay, 29; Haslaga, 29; Cleveland, 1; Russell, 1; Allison, 4.

TO-NIGHT'S PROGRAM.

Owing to the inability of the Allentown Band to play at the hospital fair this evening the committee, through the kindness of G. C. Aschbach, is enabled to entertain the audience with a grand concert on the symphony organ instead. Miss Daubert will render several select recitations and a quartet of the St. Aloysius Young Men's Society will sing. In addition to these numbers the exhibition drill by the Athletic Association and the graphophone by Joe H. Hart will prove interesting features.

On Tuesday afternoon there will be a children's matinee program rendered by school children of the public schools. A varied program has been prepared and will no doubt prove an enjoyable feature of the fair. The children's admission to this popular afternoon entertainment will be but five cents, so that all the school children will be enabled to enjoy the treat in store for them.

Mrs. William B. Yeager, chairman of the fancy work booth committee, desires to inform the public that she is in need of articles for that booth, and any contributions will be thankfully received.

Mrs. D. S. Menges has been very successful in securing contributions for the hospital fair. She has been successful beyond the limits of this city. From Philadelphia she has received the following: Strawbridge & Clothier, nine fancy articles; Hanco Bros. & White, six dozen toy frogs; John Wannamaker, three handsome imported dolls. From New York—Whyne Kratzer, \$5; Dr. E. H. M. Sell, \$5. Many of the articles she was not able to use at the booth over which she presides, but distributed them where they belong.