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JOHN B. SHELEY and NETTIE B. SHELEY, Editors
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Galli-Curci Swayed by the Seer of Sweden

Emanuel Swedenborg, Scientist and Theologian — Amelita Galli-Curci — Clarence W. Barron, Financial Authority

Prima Donna Gives Wonderful Interpretation of the Writings of Emanuel Swedenborg—

HENRY FORD'S Dearborn Independent publishes a remarkable article on Galli-Curci and Emanuel Swedenborg, by Clarence W. Barron of the Wall Street Journal, the world famous financial authority.

Mr. Barron declares that Galli-Curci has the most wonderful brain he has ever met or heard of in a woman, although she is much more "a true woman with a life and soul of affection for all that is ennobling and uplifting in the family, and in color, form, and music."

Mr. Barron is chairman of the Rotch Trustees, who acting under the will of Lydia S. Rotch of New Bedford, Mass., began in 1872 a modern translation of the Theological Works which Emanuel Swedenborg wrote and published in the Latin tongue, and deposited in the libraries of the world 150 years ago.

This work was completed and published by the Houghton Mifflin Co. in 32 volumes in 1907.

About three years ago there appeared in a Cleveland paper a paragraph that among her other accomplishments Galli-Curci had read all the Theological Writings of Emanuel Swedenborg. The claim seemed so absurd to Mr. Barron that he thought it might be easily punctured by a simple inquiry as to the edition.

The Bible a Greater Work Than Ever

To Mr. Barron's direct inquiry Madame Galli-Curci promptly replied: "Yes, I have read in the past year the complete Swedenborg Works, in fact it is the Rotch Edition of the Houghton Mifflin Co. that I have.

"I can say certainly that the Bible to me is a greater work than it was before."

Mr. Barron says: "My astonishment was intensified. Familiar over many years with Swedenborg's general theological writings, I had set out to read the entire thirty-two volumes preparatory to an advertising campaign for the sale of this edition. Reading a few pages each day I finished my self-imposed task in fourteen years. I shall probably finish a second reading, at my present rate of progress, in perhaps ten years. Was it possible that a woman with no previous knowledge or relation to these books had really intelligently read them within a year?"

Swedenborg's Writings

Mr. Barron continues: "As an economist writing state papers on weights, measures, coinages and currencies, Swedenborg is easily comprehended. As an engineer transporting ships overland he is easily visualized. As a government official in the great mining industry of Sweden, writing practical books on mining and smelting, declared to be the foundation of modern metallurgy, he is of interest in the encyclopedia of scientific history. As the writer of volumes—original studies in search for the human soul—he is not without human interest.

"But when one comes to the realm of the unseen, where there is neither time nor space upon which to rest mental conceptions, few may enter into the fullness of the revelation which has come into the libraries of the world through Emanuel Swedenborg.

"Think of twenty modern-sized volumes, originally written in the Latin tongue and unfolding from the Hebrew of 'Genesis' and 'Exodus' the internal or spiritual sense that lies beneath the letter. Annex a dozen more similar volumes that not only expound every picture set forth in the book of 'Revelation' as conveyor of a tremendous truth of universal application throughout invisible degrees of creation and life, but also illumine all the problems of sex as presented throughout the universe from the union of the love and wisdom in the divine down to sex crystallization in the mineral kingdom; include the deepest of all works ever written entitled, in the original Latin, 'Angelic Wisdom Concerning the Divine Love and the Divine Wisdom.' Then answer to yourself the number of years that ought to be required to master these thirty-two volumes"

Mean More Than Any Other Books

Mr. Barron, still credulous, continued his correspondence with Madame Galli-Curci for some months. He learned that soon after she lost her dear mother she had sought the Writings of Swedenborg in a desire to know more about the other world whence her mother had gone. She spent the entire summer vacation studying Swedenborg's Works, and declared: "They have meant, and mean more to me than anything else I have ever read."

When Galli-Curci returned from California Mr. Barron motored up into the Catskills to her beautiful Italian palace, and in an afternoon with her and her husband, Mr. Homer Samuels, he was convinced that Galli-Curci had read and devoured Swedenborg in a briefer period than anybody had ever done before.

He says of this interview:

"Hours flew like minutes. I wasn't the questioner. Mr. and Mrs. Samuels were at me with the sharpest and deepest questions. They seemed in perfect harmony mentally and spiritually, as in their work in music.

Wanted to Learn

"She wanted to know about the 'Grand Man'. I told her it would be easier to comprehend it if she would forego the idea of time and space and consider, as Swedenborg says in 'The Apocalypse Explained', that every society in the heavens connects with some organ of the human body and helps to sustain it. Therefore the heavens have the organization of the 'Grand Man', but we need not think of it as a shape or figure.

"'Yes,' exclaimed her husband, 'I see it; it is organization.' I explained, also, how the 'Psalms' likewise connected with every society of the heavens, and how the world within and without was knit together in one grand poem and song of creation, man in the image of his Maker and knit into Him through the heavens, from which he has life in every organ of his body.

Swedenborg's 32 Volumes Read in a Single Summer

"'Now I understand,' she said, and asked me for explanation of other things. Her intelligent questions, as well as her statements, left no manner of doubt that Galli-Curci had performed the stupendous feat of reading the thirty-two volumes of Swedenborg in a single summer season. She declared 'Heaven and Hell' a very attractive and popular title and concerns that about which people are most eager to know; but it is not one of Swedenborg's great works; although it makes a good popular and introductory work."

A Help in Her Work

Galli-Curci understands the writings of Swedenborg even better than theologians, because she puts them into practice in the broadest life of loving helpfulness.

She said that Swedenborg had helped her in her work. She had no longer to think of herself but of her audiences, and let the music flow through her: regard herself just a medium for life to pour through. She felt with and for her audiences, and singing was no effort for her.

All Fear Vanishes

"The more you do—the more you give forth—the more life and energy is poured into you, and you are stronger and not weaker for the doing, the working and the singing. I always feel stronger; I am not exhausted at all by my singing. Swedenborg shows the reason and how life comes in as you pour it forth usefully to others. You don't have to try worry or fret. You know it is not you but that it is just being done through you."

Speaking further of the help Swedenborg had been to her in her work she said: "One gets so much more confidence. The other world and the one life, that comprehends all life, becomes reality and all fear and worry vanish."

OREGON NEWS ITEMS OF SPECIAL INTEREST

Brief of Resume of Happenings of the Week Collected for Our Readers

The first summer session of the Southern Oregon state normal school closed last Friday.

The Oregon State Bar association will hold its annual convention at Bend late in September.

The Coos County Natal Day association celebrated its silver anniversary last Tuesday in Myrtle Point.

Dates for the Falls City community fair have been set for Thursday and Friday, September 16 and 17.

Harrisburg will furnish the queen of the Linn county fair this year. Last year Brownsville had the honor.

Ernest Brannon of La Grande has been fined $200 in justice court on the charge of killing an elk on Beaver creek.

Army engineers have approved applications by the Oregon state game commission for a dam across Gilbert river near Scappoose.

Eugene's new $150,000 Masonic temple was dedicated last week. Hundreds of lodge men from all over the state were in attendance.

The eighth grade of the Mill City schools opened last Monday with 31 pupils enrolled, the largest enrollment in the history of the school.

Reoiling of the Old Oregon Trail east of The Dalles to Blalock will start soon, it was announced by the state highway department.

Bucking horse tryouts at the Pendleton Round-up arena are under way in Pendleton in preparation for the big cowboy show opening September 15.

William C. Harris, 42, Seaside barber, was killed accidentally at the resort city when he and his son Kenneth, 14, were target shooting on the beach.

The Deschutes county fair will be held September 30 and October 1 and 2 this year, and all arrangements are being made to make it the best in its history.

Conditions have become so dry over most of the Ochoco national forest that several prominent sheepmen have secured pasturage in the vicinity of Prineville.

Two inches of snow fell during the recent storm on Fugi mountain, a high peak in the Cascade mountains above Oakridge. The peak is 7200 feet above sea level.

Placing of gravel on the hill road in Greenvilla near Sweet Home has been resumed. Improvement of this thoroughfare was completed as far as Alexander corner last fall.

Reports indicate that because of recent rains and the low prices being paid to growers, more than 40 per cent of the prune crop in Marion county this year will not be harvested.

The first prune drier fire of the harvest season was reported when the seven-tunnel drier belonging to G. W. Ruiter, about a mile northwest of Roseburg, was completely destroyed.

Picking of late hops will be started in Lane county the first of next week. Growers state that there has been no damage to the crop on account of the rains, but rather the moisture has aided it.

Postal receipts in Portland during August, 1926, were $243,875.62, larger by $13,321.61 than the receipts in August, 1925, it was announced by Postmaster Jones. The percentage gain was 5.7.

Pendleton's national guard company is to have an outdoor rifle range. A site two miles west of Pendleton, selected recently by Captain Allen, has been given the approval of the adjutant-general.

The Amity unit of the Oregon Walnut Growers' exchange was organized last week with the election of president, W. R. Osborn; vice-president, T. C. Richter; secretary-treasurer, R. H. Campbell.

Klamath Falls building permits for 1926 passed the $2,000,000 mark recently with the filing of a permit for the construction of a $300,000 theater building this fall by the Pelican Theater corporation.

Assessor Beyers figures the taxes coming to Coos county in the tax fund bill about $509,182. There is talk of retiring bonds with this part of the payment. The Coos river consolidated school district will get $30,000.

Lumber mills of the West Coast Lumbermen's association last week shipped more lumber than was produced, it being necessary to use up surplus stock to supply the demand, according to the weekly and comparative report of the association. The report showed that 109 mills shipped 114,486,197 feet, while production totaled but 111,113,194 feet. Orders booked for future shipments totaled 108,578,891 feet.

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