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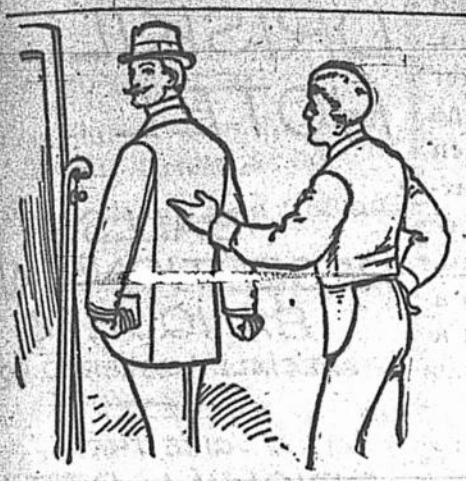
# THE TEXAN

Volume II. AUSTIN, TEXAS, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 9, 1902. Number 25.

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| LOT 1, 95c    | LOT 4, \$2.28 |
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## FOR A STUDENTS COUNCIL

### Steps Taken Saturday to Organize the Student Body.

The movement to organize the Students Council was inaugurated last Saturday in a mass meeting of the students. In as much as the faculty desired to make a statement in regard to social functions, Prof. Houston called the meeting to order and stated the faculty's position on this point. He said that, in first place, there were probably too many social functions, that they were conducted on a scale far too elaborate, dissipating the resources of the participants. In the second place, there had been certain irregularities, that do not meet with the approval of the faculty, particularly the lack of proper chaperonage and the use of intoxicants. The following resolution adopted by the faculty on March 3rd sets forth the position of that body on the subject:

**Resolved:** That the faculty is emphatically opposed to the use of intoxicating liquors in any form at any social function given by students of the University; and the faculty requests the earnest co-operation of the students in carrying out this policy.

Passing from the subject of social affairs, Prof. Houston directed attention to the broader and more fundamental subject of student government. He said the faculty did not believe in paternalism nor elaborate and entailed codes of a positive or negative character. The government should be liberal, not despotic. Its theory is to be co-operative. The students, he said, could not disclaim their responsibility. He closed by citing the eminent success of student management of University Hall as an instance of what can be done by intelligent effort, and urged the students to apply the same principles to the broader questions of University life.

At the conclusion of his remarks Prof. Houston called for nominations for temporary chairman, to which position W. H. Slay was elected, who called on H. L. Crosby to state the objects to be attained by the students' organization. These Mr. Crosby declared to be the management of the student publications, the regulation of the time and manner of holding the various elections, and of establishing a healthy and vigorous college spirit.

J. B. Dibrell then introduced the following resolution, which was adopted:

**Resolved:** By the Students of the University in mass-meeting assembled that we pledge the Faculty our co-operation in carrying out the policy as to social functions indicated in the resolution as read.

It was then decided to appoint a committee of seven to investigate and report a plan for an student organization. The chair announced the following committee: J. R. Johnson, C. S. Potts, H. L. Crosby, Edw. Dabney, J. T. Brown, W. N. Foster, C. W. Ramsdell.

The mass-meeting then adjourned, pursuant to the call of the chairman.

Inasmuch as there seems to be general confusion as to what the Council is to be and is to do, THE TEXAN requested Mr. Potts to make a statement, showing why he considered such an organization necessary, and what the body could reasonably expect to undertake. What he had to say follows:

"Since the question of the organization of a students' council came up there has been a great deal of talk and much fruitless discussion and general confusion. No one seems to know what is proposed or what the scope of the organization is to be, and naturally enough, for as yet nothing has been proposed. Some, with what would seem precipitate haste, have declared themselves against the movement and are busily engaged in meeting propositions that have never been made; while the great majority with better reason prefer to reserve their judgment until some definite plan is brought forward. In order that the students in general may have a little more definite notion of what powers and duties it would seem well to give the proposed organization. I have been requested to outline briefly what functions, in my opinion, should be exercised by it. In doing so I wish it distinctly understood that what I shall say is in

no way intended as a suggestion to the committee, but is solely and simply the expression of a private opinion.

The Students' Council should be an organization as nearly democratic as possible. The idea should be to make the student-body self-governing, as nearly as possible an ideal student democracy. For that purpose there should be a students' association to which every student should belong and in which he should have a voice and vote. This body should control directly all matters that could be conveniently and effectively disposed of by so large a body. To the executive committee or council, elected by the association, should be committed only such matters as could not be handled by the larger unwieldy body.

It should, perhaps, be stated in this connection that there is now on foot a movement to organize a separate women's council, to have control of all matters that pertain to the women alone. That movement is entirely separate from this, and, if it succeeds, it will probably not be necessary to elect women to the executive committee at all, though of course they should be members of the general association and should have a voice and vote in all matters that pertain to the entire student-body. That would leave, however, all matters concerning the men only to be adjusted by the men.

"About the powers that should be given to the organization there seems to be much uncertainty and difference of opinion. As to some things, however, there seems to be but little question. There are a number of enterprises and activities that all agree should be managed by the entire student body. Such, for example, are the elections to the various University honors and the management of the University publications. The importance of these things have been too little dwelt upon, especially as illustrated by the present seething state the student politics. It only remains for some central body to fix dates, hold the elections and see that the will of the majority is ascertained and followed. And it would seem but fair and honest for the entire student body by their free ballots to elect the boards of editors and managers of the publications by which we are known to the outside world.

As to the question of control of student conduct there has been much discussion, and it is by no means certain just how much in this direction it would be wise and expedient to undertake. Should the students undertake to govern student conduct as well as student enterprises? Some say not. But it does not appear quite right for the students to assume all the pleasure, but shirk all the responsibility, to assume control of all their affairs that are easy and pleasant and agreeable, and to balk when justice must be meted out to an unworthy fellow student. If the pleasure and profit in the one case are ours, how can we honorably evade the responsibility in the other?

But it is not my purpose in this statement to argue these points one way or the other, but to give a brief sketch of what it would seem well for the organization to undertake. "In the matter of control of conduct there are very few things that should be undertaken. In fact, there seems to be but two classes of cases that would properly be adjudicated by the students, organization: first, breaches of the honor system, and second, those cases of open, outrageous, flagrant, notorious violations of the rules of decent conduct calculated to injure the reputation of the student body in the eyes of an intelligent, reading public, and to bring reproach on the name of the University. The investigation of charges of misconduct of this kind would serve a double purpose, both equally beneficial to the students themselves and to the University. The first would be the detection and punishment of the guilty parties, if guilty they proved to be, and if necessary their elimination from the institution. The second purpose would be the complete refutation of false, often malignantly false, accusations and the exonerating of the individual student and of the student body.

This latter point is worthy of emphasis. The University has its enemy among the press and the people. Every year one or more cases arise in which a small germ of fact is grossly exaggerated

Continued on Second Page.



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BUSINESS MANAGERS.  
G. S. WRIGHT. J. M. NEWSOME.

Vol. 2. Wednesday, April 9, 1902. No. 25.

## Under Way.

As we promised once upon a time we are going to do just what's right; if the committee having the matter under consideration can write a constitution which, when followed, ought to make things run more smoothly, we shall support it. With a view of starting the discussion on a sound basis, in this issue we print the views of two representative student. Mr. Potts, in all seriousness, and Mr. Steger, in lighter vein, but with telling force, absolutely annihilate the opposition to the better organization of the students on the ground of officious interference from the proposed council in private matters, by declaring and reiterating the declaration that nobody has yet suggested, or will suggest any such thing. The ground for opposition on that score is taken away, because nothing of the kind has or ever will be considered.

In addition, Miss Devine removes the ground for a very serious objection to the scheme by her clear definition of the scope of the Girls Council. Furthermore, this Girls Council is no fancy trumped up to allay opposition, but a practicable, working council, plans for which have been formulated, and the organization of which will be effected in a short time.

Because we believe the ends desirable, we hope the committee appointed in the mass meeting can devise the plan of an organization which will be able to put student publications on a sounder basis, and which will bring the students closer together, thereby engendering a healthy enthusiasm and patriotism, commonly called college spirit.

And in the hope of helping the committee we shall be glad to print any sane ideas on this subject pro and con.

## Prof. Houston Elected President of the A. & M.

The Regents of the Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas, on Monday elected Prof. Houston, Dean of the Faculty and Professor of Political Science, President of that institution.

## Girls Council.

A movement is now on foot to organize a student's council of the girls. The promoters for this movement are anxious to solve a long felt need among the girls, and do not intend by proposing a separate council of the girls to discourage in any way a similar action of the whole student body. All matters which pertain to the general welfare of the entire University could be subject to a combined council; but there are many things which concern the best interest of the girls alone and do not need consideration by the whole student body—frequently have little matters arisen—unfounded reports been circulated and disconcerted feelings fermented which have gone unremedied and uncorrected for want of some definite organization among the girls of this institution. It is earnestly hoped by those who have the welfare of the girls at heart, that this movement will materialize and become the helpful, controlling, but not usurping factor which is needed.

## Prof. Houston.

As reported in another column of the TEXAN Prof. Houston has been elected by the Board of Regents of the Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas, to take control of that institution as its president. The announcement comes as a surprise to us all, for no one knew that Prof. Houston was spoken of for the place, and he himself, when approached on the subject had positively refused to allow his name to be considered in that connection. But it is the unexpected that happens. The Board proceeded with the election, and such was the pressure and weight of influence brought to bear on Prof. Houston by the members of the

Board and the friends of the institution throughout the State that he has decided to accept the honor that has thus been thrust upon him.

The TEXAN desires to congratulate Prof. Houston. But more especially would it congratulate the A. & M. College and the State on the move that has been made. This action marks the beginning of a new era in the history of this important institution. This high post in the educational world has heretofore been held by politicians, who, however honest and honorable in life and character they may have been, were prominent neither as scholars nor as educators. In fact they were men who had devoted their lives to the successful practice of the law and in the public service, but were not trained educators in any sense of the word. But now the institution is to be turned over to a man who has devoted his best efforts through a long series of years to the solution of the problems of modern education.

Now is the time above all others for Texas to take a long stride in the work of industrial diversification and development. Texas has all the requisites to make her a great manufacturing State. Rare material is unlimited in quantity; there is an apparently inexhaustible supply of the best and cheapest kind of fuel. Population and capital are coming to us at a rate never before heard of. What is needed is a great technological school in which our people may learn to do things, to build factories, to handle complicated machinery, and to acquire a knowledge of the new and intricate processes of manufacture. To build up such a school and make it the great industrial power it ought to be, perhaps no man is so well qualified by natural ability, by educational training and by long and serious study of the economic and industrial problems of our State as is Prof. Houston.

That the University suffers greatly in the loss of Prof. Houston all will agree. As Dean, he has commanded the confidence and esteem of the faculty and of the entire students body. His administration has been wise and just. Careful and judicious he has always been looked to for advice and counsel, and the vacancy created by his resignation will with difficulty be filled. We wish Prof. Houston all success in his new field of endeavor.

The following is from the Austin Statesman:

"Mr. Arthur Rector was in town last week, en route from Marlin to Southern Mexico, where he goes to accept the position of topographer of the Kansas City, Mexican and Orient railroad. Mr. Rector went from here to Benson, Arizona and from there to Guaymas, Mexico, on the Gulf of California, from which place he goes by boat to Augi Bampo, where he will join an engineering party in the mountains. The Mexican Orient railroad is an immense undertaking, being projected from the southwest coast of Mexico straight through the states to Kansas City. Mr. Rector's friends will congratulate him upon his advancement."

## Graham & Andrews, DRUGGISTS.

## THE STUDENTS COUNCIL.

Continued from First Page.  
and heralded to the world beneath flaming headlines. The charges that were published regarding the conduct of the students at the depot on the occasion of the foot-ball teams departure on its northern trip, is a case in point. The student body for lack of organization, was utterly powerless, either to bring the criminals to justice, if there had been any criminals, or to resent or refute the charges brought against them. Instead of a refutation after a complete investigation of the charges by the organized student body, we turned in our helplessness to the faculty to defend us against the aspersions that were heaped upon us. In a large per cent of the cases of this kind the work of the Student Council would prove to be exoneration rather than condemnation.

It is not proposed to institute a system of spying, of prying into the private character and conduct of the individual. Such a system is out of the question. It has never been seriously considered for a moment by any intelligent student of the University.

In conclusion it would seem to me that this is a matter of such importance, involving as it does such vital interests of the students and of the University, that it shall not be hastily decided or lightly pushed aside. It is confidently believed that if all parties will come together in a spirit of fairness, of deliberation and mutual concession, an agreement can be effected that will be honorable alike to all and of lasting benefit to the University."

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## Locals.

Hunt has gone to his home in Dallas for a few days.

All Cactus material has at last gone to the publishers.

Miss Hines is still at home with her mother, who is quite ill.

Mrs. White, nee Miss Helen Brady, is here visiting her parents.

Dr. Benedict's course in "Popular Astronomy" is truly popular.

A. E. Ammerman who graduated in '99, visited Varsity this week.

Base ball practice should be made harder and more systematic.

G. S. Pike, a prominent student of A. & M. College visited B. Hall last Friday.

Baton Rouge plays a series of three games here beginning with the 18th of April.

The University Ladies' Club meets Tuesday afternoon with Mrs. Hilgartner.

The Glee Club will take a brief trip to Laredo and San Antonio the latter part of this month.

W. F. Schenck, L. L. B., '96, was nominated last Saturday for county attorney of Bosque county.

Crowder came very near being seriously injured last week by a fall from the Horizontal Bars.

President Prather went to Galveston last week to attend a meeting of the Medical Faculty.

Several of the track team men have been out in their new suits during last week posing for snapshots.

Ashbel will have an open meeting the first Saturday evening in March. Program will be published later.

Thomas H. Stone, L. L. B., '96, was elected city attorney of Houston last week on the reform ticket.

The work of the band and the glee club at the Evans contest reflects great credit on those organizations.

Fred West Moore, L. L. B., 1890 visited Varsity last week. He is now practicing at Beaumont and getting along fine.

Gillett is getting fine form in the running high jump, preparatory to winning first place in that event at Nashville.

Dr. Wheeler last week visited the San Angelo high school, the Belton high school and the Thomas Arnold high school.

J. A. Beall, L. L. B., '90, carried Bosque county against Wooten for Congress. The primaries in Hill county will determine the result.

F. R. Newton, L. L. B., '97, has been appointed county clerk of Bexar county by the commissioners court to take the place of his father who recently died.

The work of the band is of a high order indeed and deserves to be a source of gratification to every member of it and to every student of the University.

W. A. Spalding, C. E., '96, who is now Division Engineer on the H. & P. C. with headquarters at Houston, was a visitor last week. He is getting along splendidly.

Mr. Carroll Clark, son of Judge Clark, and a graduate of Medical Department of the University, was married to Miss Ida Hill of Austin, last Wednesday, April 2nd.

The Alumni catalogue is now being worked upon and will be ready for press in about a week. It will be quite a large publication and will contain a brief account of every alumnus of the University.

Percy Baker, who attended the academic department of the University for several years and graduated from the medical department in '99, was in the corridors last week shaking hands with old friends.

The following are the new officers of the Y. M. C. A. recently elected: Robert Knox, president; Dick Morgan, vice-president; Tatum, secretary; Howard, treasurer; Walker, corresponding secretary.

The baseball boys need some hard, earnest practice. Varsity has the material. The men need only to be given steady, systematic practice to get them to working together, and they will make a good team.

The University German Club gave an elegant Easter German, Thursday night at the Eighth Street hall. About fifty couples were present and the affair was greatly enjoyed. Cold lemonade only was served.

So far there are filed 22 candidates for the B. S., 20 for the B. A.; 12 for the B. Litt and 4 for the C. E. Those who have not yet filed out applica-

tion blanks can obtain them at the Registrar's office. All seniors should see to this at once.

Dr. Battle was away last week visiting affiliated high school. Among them was the Corpus Christi high school, the Beeville high school, the San Antonio high school, the West Texas Military Institute and the Cornal Institute at San Marcos.

Who said the gym is not coming to the front? The other day Mr. Curtis received a letter from Mr. Clark W. Heatherington, Director of the Gymnasium at the University of Missouri, asking him to recommend someone to assist in the gym at that University with a salary of \$1000.00.

The track team management considers itself very fortunate in having secured the services of Mr. Preston from the University of Pennsylvania. Mr. Preston is an enthusiast in track athletics and while in school made both the track team and the Varsity crew. At present he is located in the city as an architect, but has kindly agreed to come out free of charge during the afternoons and help make the track team a winner.

## Personals.

Miss Ethel Oliphint has the pleasure of a visit from her mother, Mrs. Oliphint of Waco.

Invitations are being sent out for the wedding on April 22nd, of a former Varsity student, Miss Bessie Beall to Mr. Walter L. Boyden of Beverly, Mass.

Miss Belle Tyler, sister of Wallace Tyler of Belton, is visiting in our city.

Jack Kirkpatrick has gone home for a short visit on account of illness.

The inimitable Sigma Nu's are to entertain once more!

They say that the summer of 1902 will witness four weddings among the bachelors of the Faculty.

The matrimonial fever amounts to an epidemic in one department of the University.

## A School of Mines.

Washington, D. C., April 5.—The University of Texas is to be given an annual appropriation of \$10,000 by the Federal Government to be used for the maintenance of the school of mines and mining connected with the institution. The bill providing for the application of part of the proceeds of the sale of the public lands in certain States has been unanimously reported to the House and it contains an amendment offered by Representative Burleson which will give the sum named to the Texas school each year. So far as known there is no opposition to the bill.

The following dispatch contains a welcome item of news. If this measure passes as it doubtless will, it will mean the establishment here of an elaborate and modern school of mines, the need for which is distressingly felt. An informal course of lectures on mines and mining inaugurated by Dr. F. W. Simonds, two weeks ago, has in attendance some thirty students who are especially interested in this line of work, and this fact is especially significant when it is borne in mind that no credit is given for this course. Such a school of mines is much in demand here, and Congressman Burleson's efforts in this direction are deserving of great commendation. Mr. Burleson is an honored alumnus of the University of Texas, and has always labored unceasingly for the upbuilding of the institution.

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Evans Contest in Declamation Results in a Tie.

After staying out long enough to take a trip to the Irishman's, the judges in the contest Saturday night came back with a decision that pleased everybody. The prize was divided between the two speakers that the audience had picked for winners, Alex Weisberg, of Waco, and Budley Fisher, of Austin. Both these young gentlemen are very popular in the University of Texas, so the announcement of the double winning was greeted with tumultuous applause.

The other speakers merit a great deal of praise, although they were excelled by the winners. Several of them performed in a manner that would pull the prize in a less spirited contest than the one Saturday evening. Altogether the entertainment was high class in every particular, and was thoroughly enjoyed by the fine audience.

Short, well selected speeches, delivered with a deal of superior declamation furnish capital entertainment; besides this the Band played its best music, and the Glee Club sang a catchy song and returned with "Viva la Varsity."

This was without a doubt the finest contest of the kind ever had at the University, and it reflects great credit on the work being done in the school of oratory.

The tact displayed by Prof. Piner in keeping his audience in suspense was unimitable, and received a good deal of applause.

HORSE SENSE.

Mr. Steger Makes Some Sprightly Remarks.

Why the Faculty is Like a Boy Holding Onto a Calf's Tail.

I have never before expressed myself in print on questions pertaining to student affairs, but when a measure like this of the students' council comes up, and when much of the opposition to it is founded upon what I conceive to be misapprehension, I cannot refrain from airing my own views. I do not see how any man with sane notions can object to the students of the University of Texas being a self-governing body. We do not want paternalism from the faculty; the faculty does not wish to chide or reprove us for what they consider breaches of discipline. The faculty has nothing to do with the present movement, as I understand it. We, the students, or at least a large part of us, want this organization to come about, but do not believe that one of the defenders of the students council proposition wishes for an instant to establish a system of spying, or a bureau of detectives to ascertain the number of glasses of beer a student drinks or the particular brand of it. This council does not intend to claim the right of administering public reprimand to some over-zealous who has watched too many sunrises, unless his actions during his vigils make the University, and therefore us ourselves, suffer.

But the greatest work of the council will be to regulate affairs essentially of the students; under its jurisdiction ought to come such matters as elections, their dates and their validity, the conducting of a University paper that will not be a "proprietary" article, the publication of a literary magazine that will thus be the organ of the entire student body, and the arbitration of affairs athletic. Further, I may say that I believe the students ought to have control of the "Cactus." I can see no logical connection between the Athletic Association and the Annual of the University, and we most assuredly do not sympathize with the present system where a poll-tax of \$4.00 is exacted before a man can vote for a board of editors to edit the journal most representative of the students.

But the opposition is mistaken, I believe, when it uses as an argument against the council the plea that it is an attempt to resolve certain of the students into an ever-diligent investigating clique, a spanking committee to administer punishment to those who are suspected of occasionally be-

coming confused in their ideas of the sun and moon. That is in direct contradiction to the basic idea of the organization. What we want is freedom, independence, self-government, the right to regulate our affairs, to transform ourselves from a howling mob possessing no means of ascertaining what the consensus of opinion is, to a well-governed, business-like, systematic, clean organization with some means of accurately obtaining the general sentiment on any issue that may come up. Then we will not be reduced to the necessity of "conferring with a committee from the faculty." This council will make us RESPONSIBLE.

Again, we hear it said, "It is a mighty little business to spend your time on these student affairs." These who say this will probably hold the same views when they get into civic life in earnest. When a man stays here at the University three or four years, if he has the broad point of view a student should have, he will feel an interest in everything that pertains to student life. It is important, this management of our own affairs. We cannot deny the need of some authority in such a large community as our University world. We do not relish faculty administration. Then, why on earth should we not have a students' council? It is not to be a machine operated by student-politicians. It is not a scheme to elevate over-ambitious students to high honors in the institution. It will not assemble for the purpose of putting students on probation, or prescribing lines of conduct for them. It is not to be organized to gratify the personal whims of a select crowd. If it is to be at all, it must be democratic. We have it in our hands to dictate who shall serve as officers of the council. There is absolutely no chance for political chicanery. There is something materially wrong with things, when a sane, plausible, methodic, carefully thought out plan like this meets with such bitter opposition. There must be some misunderstanding, for no man in his sane moments could object to a movement that is founded on such a basis of University honor, University purity, and, most of all, the principle of self-government. Why should anyone protest when strenuous efforts are being made to turn his affairs over to himself? The faculty is tired, and we can not blame them. They have done their best, only to find that their decisions, reached after long and careful deliberation, are diametrically opposed to what the students considered to be justice. Of course, this difference of opinion between the students and the faculty is so natural that it is not even deplorable. We are not a set of namby-pamby infants, liable to stick our fingers in our eyes, or to swallow needles, or to hurt ourselves with the scissors, or to fall in the fire. The faculty knows this, and the faculty is like the boy holding on to the calf's tail. It wants to turn loose.

I do not suppose that I have convinced anybody. But I must say once more that I feel sure that those students who think the council is to search out incriminating evidence, and hunt for bugs under chips, is to be a scheme enabling a few puritanic, straight-laced, offensively moral students to pry into, regulate, and oversee the affairs of their more Bohemian, less straight-laced, less orthodox, and far more numerous fellow-students, are terribly in error. It is nothing of the sort. It is hard to conceive of a vigilance committee, composed of students of the University of Texas, meeting for the purpose of ascertaining whether there is any foundation for the sensational report that so-and-so was seen draining the last drops from a suspiciously shaped piece of crockery, while in his unoccupied hand he viciously grasped a miniature doughnut, which for the benefit of the uninitiated I will say is a pretzel. Just imagine one member of this "smelling committee" saying to another, "Hist!!! I heard Bill Smith say to Sam Jones that he would meet him at Jacoby's to-night. You run that way, and I'll run this way, and maybe we can catch 'em in the act. We haven't run up against any cases for a week." Just stop and consider the absurdity of imagining that this is the object of the proposed organization.

Vote for the students' council, and you will be voting to be your own boss.

H. P. S.

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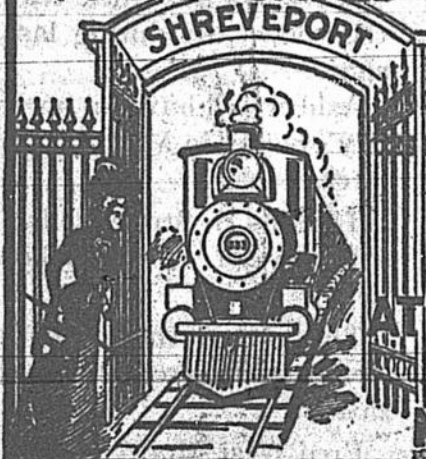
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