

Dominion Presbyterian

\$1.50 Per Annum.

OTTAWA

Single Copies 5 Cents

NOTE AND COMMENT

The summer is essentially over. We will have hot days and sultry nights, but their continuous reign is broken.

Two thousand socialists and unemployed tried to enter the cathedral in Glasgow by force. They were dispersed by police, but threatened to make another demonstration 50,000 strong.

The number of missionaries in India, native and foreign, has increased nearly 60 per cent. in the past ten years. Today there are 25,799 persons actively engaged in the work of taking the gospel to India. But India has a population of 294,000,000.

A Women's Short Skirt League has been formed in London. The members, according to "Woman's Life," bind themselves to wear dresses which will not sweep the floors and pavements, and so gather up dust and microbes. This is not a new idea in Canada.

It is characteristic of Western life that disaster does not discourage. Pernie stricken to the ground, is rising again, full of hope and determined. That its people have faith in its future is evident from the fact that real estate has been selling during the past two or three weeks at advanced prices.

The new Illinois laws have had a sharp test before a Chicago jury, but have triumphed. A saloonkeeper who sold a man the liquor for his last drink was sued by the widow for \$3,000 damages, which the jury, after a discussion, awarded. This is looked upon as a test case, and the outcome is warmly commended by prominent papers.

The season has been noted for its excessive heat and absence of rain. In the country where we were, the springs were low and the creeks dry. But we do not recall ever having seen the grass look greener or the foliage fresher. Old Mother Earth is no spendthrift. She harbors her resources and lays aside not so much for a "rainy day" as for a dry.

Dr. William Oeler, of Oxford, has just celebrated his sixtieth birthday. It is about three years ago now that Prof. Oeler made his much-talked-of statement at Johns Hopkins University that a man's usefulness was pretty well over at 40, as a rule, and that he should be discharged at 60. Dr. Oeler is not the first man who has found it wise to forget some things.

The British courts decided that the insurance companies must pay the fire losses following the earthquake at Kingston, Jamaica. The insurance companies took the ground that the loss was the direct effect of the earthquake, and that they were not responsible. After eleven months of litigation the courts condemn this view, and support the claims of the policy holders. The amount involved was over \$4,000,000.

The temperance reform on the Western Continent is evidently not confined to the United States and the Dominion of Canada. Old Mexico is feeling the effects of the crusade, and steps have already been taken throughout the republic to limit the evils of the liquor traffic. In Mexico City, a large number of restrictions have recently been passed on the liquor traffic. The sale of liquors to minors has been prohibited, and the federal and local license has been increased.

There are many crooked ways to tell a thing. There is just one straight way. Either addition or subtraction is falsehood. The truth requires that it must go uncolored and unchanged. For that reason it requires care to be truthful. The careless person is not to be trusted. And unless you know a report has passed only through careful hands you need to give it careful sifting before you pass it on.—Ass. R. Presbyterian.

Since the formation of the new Province of Alberta some 425 new school districts have been organized within its bounds. One of the most recent of these is in the Peace River country, a little west of Lesser Slave Lake, over 250 miles north of Edmonton. These figures surely indicate that Alberta is fully alive to the importance of the work of education. About 50 of these districts have been among the Ruthenian settlers in the province, chiefly the Galicians in Northern Alberta.

Petitions are being circulated in Bavaria—a country overwhelmingly Catholic—asking the pope to modify the rule of celibacy for Roman priests so that "secular" priests—as those are called who do not belong to any of the monkish orders—may marry. The example of the Greek Church is referred to by advocates of the change as an assurance that the innovation will not demoralize the devotion of the priests to the church. There seems little hope, however, that the petition of the Bavarians will receive any countenance at the Vatican.

The battle in England over the licensing bill grows warmer. There is now one saloon to every 370 inhabitants in England. This bill proposes one saloon to every 600 or 800 inhabitants in the towns and cities, and 400 to 500 in the country. A recent demonstration in its favor at Hyde Park saw 100,000 persons participating. The Methodists have sent a petition in favor of the bill, containing 700,000 names. "Less beer and more boots" has become a catching motto. The opposition is fierce. If the bill is passed, it will put about 30,000 saloons out of business.

Mulai Hafiz is Sultan of Morocco by virtue of the abdication of the former sovereign whose reign was turbulent and troubled. Whether the new man can make good against the tribesmen is still to be determined. He must have an army, must have revenues, and for both must resort to taxation. Whether an unwilling people will consent to be taxed is the problem of the hour. Quiet, orderly, law-abiding is not in the blood of the Moor. Tranquility and safety can only come by a complete taking over of the government by France. The sooner that shall come the better for the peace of the world.

Mr. Wee Ting Fang, the Chinese Minister at Washington, addressing the members of the Eastern Alliance of Chinese students at Aethburnham, last Sunday, said: "An Asiatic like myself was Christ, the founder of the faith that is foremost in the world, Christianity came out of the East, out of Asia, in the beginning—now it is being sent back there to work its mighty leaven." The distinguished Oriental statesman went on to urge the young men and women before him to be careful to live up to the teachings of Christ. "Those who follow Christianity are the better for it," he said.

Now so far as those who tell it are themselves concerned it may be to their credit that they do not mean to tell anything untrue, but that doesn't undo the harm. Sometimes the harm is all the greater because the falsehood is backed up by the reputation of truthful men. Through carelessness they help a lie to do its work.

Let no young man looking out upon his possible field of labor, turn hastily from the question of a call to the ministry. The demand for men of talent and high scholarly attainment in the ministry was never greater than now. The interests of the church of Christ,—which are the interests for which He gave His precious life,—are pleading for such a service. The powerful sweep of worldly influences, and the formidable array of talent and learning which, in one way and another, is throwing itself across the path of the kingdom of God, make the call imperative. Young men, you can afford to put out of the foreground all lesser considerations and, with heart open to the call of God, let him tell you where and in what capacity he wants you to work. Listen for the sound of His voice, and when you hear joyfully obey.

What honesty is to the individual equal justice is to the state. When a man's honesty cannot be depended upon he has lost his most precious earthly possession—his character. It matters not how amiable, generous or clever he may be—the word has gone forth—he cannot be depended upon. Henceforth he bears a self-inflicted brand. There is one safeguard that the people should never permit those whom they place in authority to tamper with. It is even-handed justice. When the criminal law imprisons a petty thief who has stolen, it may be, because he lacks the necessities of life, and allows the influential investor of other people's money, without their knowledge or consent, to retain his liberty, it becomes an instrument of oppression. What a mockery of justice would be presented in a state where a thief who has means and makes restitution is allowed to go free and his fellow criminal who is too poor to do so is sent to prison.

What are the permanent results of revivals which stir whole communities and which, while in progress, seem to win converts in large numbers? Is a proper inquiry, and of importance in judging the relative value of such evangelistic efforts as compared with the regular work on the churches. Such an inquiry has been made in respect to the Chapman-Alexander revival in Philadelphia last year. The result has been rather disappointing. The pastors of more than a dozen denominations, with few exceptions, report comparatively meager accessions to their membership resulting from these largely attended and apparently successful meetings. Of the cards expressing church preferences nearly all proved to be from those already members of the Bible schools of the churches. Scarcely any were from those outside of the Church, the class sought particularly to be reached. The ascertained results confirm the conviction we have long entertained, says the Christian Intelligencer, that special revival services are mainly effective in bringing to a decision those who, through the influence of the Sunday school and the church, have been prepared for the decisive step. That this is so is no argument against revival services, but rather a reason for them, though it is a different result from that which the evangelists and the churches seek and expect.