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A. H. Murray
Bowring's Cove.

The Salvation Army

An Appreciation by T. P's Weekly.

There is one body of religionists that never seems to be threatened by the Higher Criticism or condemned by the earnest persons whose religion is that they have no religion. You may accuse them of bluster, you may prefer a quieter form of music or a mysticism that is not what Stevenson would call "twopence coloured." But the fact remains that millions have blessed the name of their God through the forceful ministrations of the Salvation Army.

The Missionary Spirit
First let us welcome their International Conference, and sympathise with those soldiers of the spirit who went down with the "Empress of Ireland." Britons know how to die, even if they do not always how to live. And the Salvationists went down with their colours flying. General Bramwell Booth has arranged to send 1,000 missionaries mainly to the East during the next five years. The men and women are ready, for the training college is full of excellent candidates. Indeed, the General is asking for £150,000 to provide buildings and funds for a new training college. It is useless to send untrained folk to foreign regions. It is true that the Apostles were fishermen, but it was the educated Paul who succeeded as a missionary.

Will It Break?
When the old General died people began to talk about decay, about the "sons of great men," family influence, and all the rest of it. But last year was better, not only in what one might call the "bag of souls," but financially. And in these days souls have to be saved by money. Transit, printing, food, clothing, and organisation have to be paid for; and every year more liability is taken on. General Bramwell Booth went to Canada last year; and it is likely that the present General will be before all else a missionary, following the flag of Empire with the Bible, so as not to leave the gin and whisky bottles as the ambassadors of the greatest world power in history. The General is right. It is not necessary to wait till London is without sin before raising a hand to help the younger countries.

Far Field
Australasia, India, and Japan are promised visits, and to accomplish these will necessitate even more protracted journeys and longer absences from International Headquarters. For the present we may record that the General conducted, in March, a victorious Campaign in Amsterdam. In May he led a great Ascension Campaign at Zurich. Two months later he was at the Danish Congress at Copenhagen, when 10,000 people were present. Most enthusiastic scenes were witnessed on the occasion. Next came the Swedish Congress, in Stockholm, with its series of remarkable meetings, in connection with which the General reviewed, amidst the happiest circumstances, a fleet of thirteen vessels crowded with Salvation Army soldiers and friends at Södertelje. Passing northward to Norway, he conducted powerful meetings in Christiania, and received here, as in Sweden and Denmark, many evidences of affection and keen interest in the work.

Advertise the Army
The Salvation Army succeeds because it uses modern methods for the oldest of purposes. It succeeds not only because many of its workers are educated, but also because many are not. I have been moved profoundly in Guernsey by the speeches of a young man who not only had not book-learning, but condemned it as standing between man's elemental need and its fulfilment. He meant what he said, and who shall say that he was wrong entirely? But, taking it for all in all, the Army is educative. The Army is the largest evangelistic movement to the common people in the world. Over 16,000 officers in 68 countries are solely engaged in preaching, visiting, advising, encouraging, restraining, and in a hundred other ways ministering to the spiritual needs of the unchurched masses. Every week 47,530 indoor and 33,180 outdoor meetings are held, reaching approximately many thousands of people. The brass bands number 1,670, and the bandsmen—almost all of whom have acquired knowledge of music since their conversion in the Army—total 23,313. These men buy their own uniforms, and, without fee or reward, give their scant leisure, almost a day in hours per week, besides attending meetings all day on Sunday. They, with the songster brigades, numbering 13,092 men and women, take the message of salvation, by music and song, into the poorest localities, and to the inmates of prisons, hospitals, and asylums.

Social Work
Because all the soldiers in the Army are total abstainers they are able to put a stop to much drunkenness. It is not enough to advise drink-sodden wretches to be moderate. It must be

root and branch work, and the whole personality must be "converted." This may be an unpalatable fact to those who, like the writer of this article, are fond of an occasional drink. But experience justifies the whole-hearted policy of the Army.

The Army does not leave the matter to the emotions. In these days of poverty it is not enough to save the soul. The body, not only the body of unemployed, but the body of women who are bought and sold, must be cared for. All religious organisations recognise this. But all have not the same methods or organisations. Allied to the most sterling, if simple, faith is a social system of wonderful practical utility, operating not only among English-speaking peoples, but in Germany, France, Holland, Japan—indeed all over the known world.

Tales From Abroad
Here are three instances of woman's work in the Army, taken from the "Year-Book":

A Salvationist matron, out shopping, was met in the street by a man who announced: "There's a woman taking fits at No. 57 in this street. I reckon you're wanted down there!" The Salvationist went down, and took charge of the patient until the ambulance removed her to the hospital.

A Dutch policeman called at the home of a Slum Officer. He had a case on hand that he did not know how to handle—an old man living in such shocking neglect and poverty that the neighbours had reported the case. (There are no workhouses in Holland, each Church provides for its own poor, and in some cases a long time leazes before a destitute person can be satisfactorily settled.) The Captain willingly took up the case; but when she saw the old man, even her brave heart almost failed. So filthy was his condition that he was almost unapproachable. The Captain intended to take him to our Men's Shelter at Rotterdam, and went to the railway station for that purpose; but the stationmaster refused to allow the old man to travel by train. She went on to the canal-boat, but met with a like refusal. Then a great battle was fought in that pure, tender maiden's soul; hot tears fell down her face as, walking along with her charge tottering beside her, she prayed, "I cannot do it without Thy grace, Lord; but I am willing." She took the man to her own spotless rooms, bathed and reclothed the poor, vermin-eaten body, soothing the old man's cries as a poor mother would soothe a frightened child. At last towards the Captain took him to Rotterdam, where he remained at our Men's shelter until she had arranged for his admittance to an old man's retreat.

A knock at the door, a frightened child's face and screams of "Murder!" made the Salvationist-mother hurry into a coat, and run out into the night. A drunken man in the house opposite was threatening his wife with an axe. The terrified, screaming woman kept the table between herself and the mad man. The Salvationist took in the situation, slipped into the room, and blew out the candle. In the confusion which followed she bundled the woman out, locked the man in, and took the woman and child to her home. In the morning she returned to the house to find an ashamed and grateful man. She brought in the wife, prayed with the pair, and henceforth exercised a motherly guardianship over the household.

Thus one sees the great drama of life played, if you will, crudely. But life is crude. Its vital realities are simple, and the things that really matter are well within the compass of the Salvation Army.

A SUFFERER FOR THIRTY YEARS NOW CURED.

Country Road,
May 12th, 1914.

To whom it may concern.—
I was a sufferer from Indigestion for 30 years. I bought a bottle of Saunders and Mercer's Arctic Indigestion and it cured me. Previous to this I tried seven doctors, but they all failed to do me good. Any person who doubts this statement can consult me personally.

HENRY SNOW.
Another Sufferer Relieved.
Bishop's Cove,
May 1st, 1914.

Last summer I was taken suddenly with Heart Failure. I procured one half pint bottle of A.I.C. and I haven't felt any trouble since I am now perfectly cured. Anybody not believing this statement can consult me personally.

ARNOLD SMITH.
Manufactured by Saunders & Mercer, Shearstown, Nfld. —jnel0

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MANY CHANGES MADE BY CLERGY IN PRAYER BOOK

But They Are Practically All Simple
And Are of a Minor
Nature

NEW PRAYERS ARE ADDED
FROM OTHER BOOKS OF WORSHIP

Slight Alterations in Communion,
Baptismal and Marriage
Services

The second statement of the Bishop Suffragan of Kingston on the proposals for the revision and enrichment of the Book of Common Prayer, which the revision committee requested him to prepare, shows that many new prayers have been added. These include prayers for the New Year, for missionaries, for those about to be confirmed, for Parliamentary elections, for fair weather, for blessing on fisheries, for fruitful seasons, for hospitals, for those who travel, or the sick, for synods and for vacant pastorates and sees. Many of these prayers are taken from the Scottish Prayer Book, some from the Irish Prayer Book, others from the American Prayer Book, and various sources.

Prayer for Parliament
The prayer for Parliament has been adapted to include the Dominion Parliament and Provincial Legislatures.

The prayers in the time of dearth and famine and in the time of any common plague or sickness appear in the adapted forms.

Dates of all the festivals which fall on fixed days are placed at the foot of the page.

The third collect for Good Friday is thus amended: The words after "Have mercy upon . . . heretics" are removed and it now reads: "Have mercy upon the Jews, Thine ancient people, and upon all who reject and deny Thy Son."

The title of the twenty-fifth Sunday after Trinity is changed to the Sunday next before Advent.

Proper anthems are proposed for the greater festivals in place of the "Antiphona" as an Easter Day. The Transfiguration becomes an appointed feast.

Minor Changes

Numerous minor changes are made in the Communion service, the Baptismal service, and the administration of the rite of confirmation.

The old tables showing how to find the time of Easter and other movable feasts have been withdrawn and instead the tables showing the dates of these principal movable feasts for one hundred years ahead have been inserted.

There have been some changes in connection with the Calendar of Saints tending to bring the national Saints into greater prominence. The special Saints' Day services for New Testament saints have not been altered; but in the list of saints the names of St. George, St. Andrew, St. Patrick, and St. David now appear, as representing England, Scotland, Ireland and Wales respectively.

Explanatory Note

In the Creed no alteration has been made, but a footnote has been added. Much objection was taken to the phrase, "He descended into Hell," as it is so often misunderstood and thought to mean that He descended into the abode of the lost to suffer there the full penalty of human sin. The revisers have left the creed unaltered, but append a footnote "Note that the words 'He descended into Hell,' are to be regarded as meaning He went into the abode of departed spirits."

A slight change has also been made in the marriage service. The sentence expressing in the frank language of the fifteenth century the main objects of wedlock has been phrased more delicately and one or two other minor alterations on the same principle follow. Thus the words "with my body I Thee worship" have been changed to read "with my body I Thee honor."

A number of other minor changes were also mentioned, but the old Prayer Book is on the whole little changed, and the changes made are in the nature of improvements. The suggested new volume will not appear unfamiliar to those accustomed to the present addition.

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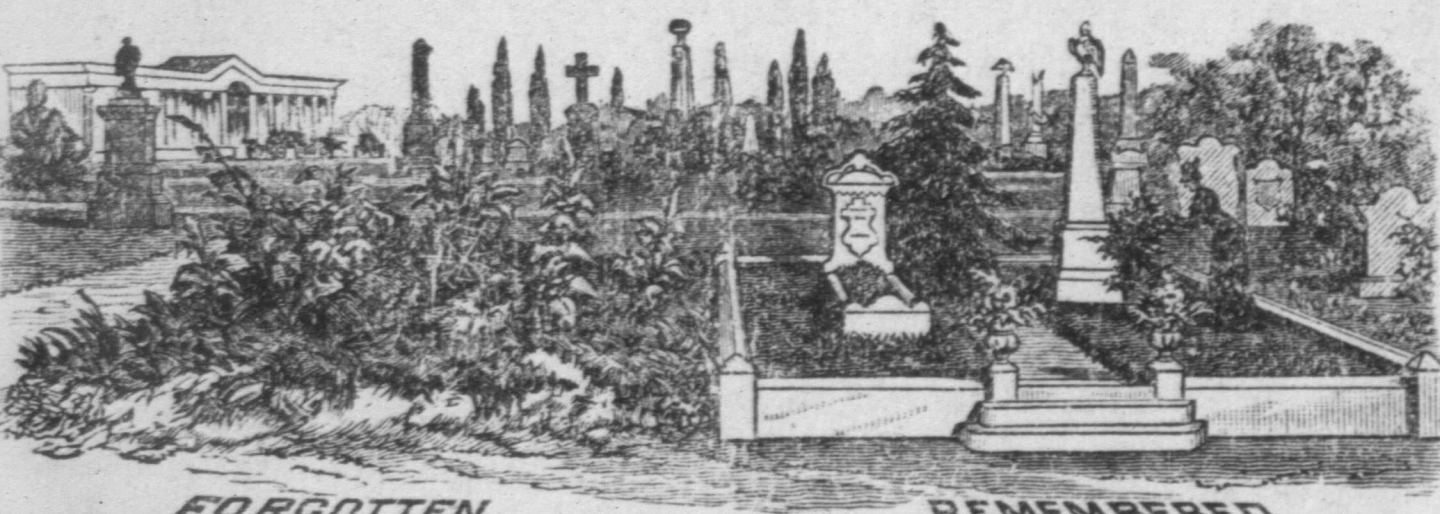
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