

OUR SATURDAY EVENING HOME PAGE.

The Church in Eclipse.

The Rev. R. J. Campbell delivered an address of exceptional interest at a meeting of the City Temple of the Congregational Ministers' National "Fraternal," of which he is president. He discussed the marked decline of the Church in the life of the people, which he attributed not to any essential decrease of spirituality among the people or negligence on the part of the Churches, but to the tendency of the age to be preoccupied with material progress.

Mr. Campbell said that by universal admission things were today not so well with the Church of Christ as they used to be—at least outwardly. The Church as an organization, or congregations of organizations, was not making much headway. People did not make it the centre of their life; the culture of the devout life was not pursued as in past times. We had many more institutions of a social and philanthropic character, but purely devotional gatherings did not flourish. He did not agree with Mr. Charles Booth, who thought that if all the churches of London were eliminated there would be no appreciable difference in public life; but at the same time a great part of the talk at the May meetings was waste of breath.

Material Preoccupations of the Age. There must be something wrong. Was it the fault of the Church? No. The ministry was probably as good

to-day as ever it was; its culture, devotion, and spiritual mindedness were unabated, and they were still at it with heart searchings to discover in what way they fell short. It was not the failure of the Church to identify itself with the legitimate aspirations of the proletariat. They were told it was so, and they had invited the leaders of labour to the platform to scourge them. But working men would not have come to Church in greater numbers, even if the Church had fought their battles in the way they desired. They did not want to hear economics discussed from the pulpit, and if it were done they would be bored after the first Sunday.

Mr. Campbell concluded:—"Men tend to become like their pursuits, and the pursuits of the average man today are such that he cannot help himself. He is forced to think in terms of material good from early morning until late at night; what time has he for meditation and prayer? You see what we are making by our commercial and industrial civilization, and I think the tendency has farther to go yet before we see the end. Men have to find out their mistakes. Men see that the labour-saving, wealth-increasing appliances have not made life easier; burdens are heavier, the strain on brain and nerve is greater. Shall we go on with that for ever? Shall we not have to weigh whether our material gains are worth the cost?"

Dogma or Religion?

What does the ordinary man think of all these contentions about High Church and Low, orders, and succession, Catholic and Protestant, Roman and Anglican? Do they not all sound unreal to him, when he is perplexed about the very foundations of faith and morals? Many things that his fathers believed without question are to him impossible. Science and criticism have given him a new conception of the world. Is it not patent that the vast masses of the people stand outside all Churches? If the Church is to recover her influence with the masses, with the artisans, and with the intellectual classes, it will never be by refusing to recognize the profound influence of modern thought or by not meeting it openly.

The critical school merely reflects some part of what the ordinary man is thinking. There are high ecclesiastical who are prepared to admit criticism up to a point, but who draw a barrier at what they deem to be essential. But the plain man draws no barriers. Criticism, if valid at all, is valid everywhere. Nor can the Church ignore questions which are discussed vigorously and without reserve day by day in the halfpenny press.

Many religious souls in these days are fearful, because the dogmatic foundations to which they have chained themselves seem slipping away. But dogma is not religion, and for religion there is no fear. So long as man is a creature of mystery, and infinite being himself, reaches out toward infinity, so long will he need religion and a Church wherein he may seek after God in communion with his fellow men.

Meanwhile, taught by the past and looking forward to the future, it is our clear duty so to act that we may hand on to our children intact the heritage of a Common Church, so far as the intolerance and frailty of our ancestors has preserved it to us.—A writer in *The Round Table*.

About Bells.

The April number of *The Millgate Monthly* contains a very interesting article, by C. F. Page, on Bells. The writer tells of their great antiquity, and some of the various uses to which they were put in the ancient world. Small bells came early into use in the Christian Church in this country. Bede makes reference to one which Benedict brought from Italy for his abbey at Wearmouth about 680, and from him we also learn that bells were in use about that time at Whitby Abbey. In connection with the different offices of the Church there were the Ave Maria bell, the Vesper bell, and the Sanctus bell. Another special bell, the Curfew, played a part in our national life in Norman times. Probably these early bells were cast by the monks. "Great Tom" of Lincoln was cast in the Minster yard in 1610, and the great bell of Canterbury was cast in the cathedral yard in 1762. Nevertheless, bell-founding had become a trade, and some of the founders are three or four centuries old. The art of bell-founding is anything but an easy one, the "tone" being so difficult to secure. Much depends on the composition of the metal, but very much more on the size and shape of the bell. Bell-metal is a compound of copper and tin, in the proportions of four parts of copper to one part of tin. Only a few bells are constructed of steel. Steel bells are said to have a sweet tone, but they do not possess the prolonged vibration of bells cast of bell-metal. Dates, the names of the founders, and mottoes are often inscribed on bells. The bell at the Kremlin, in Moscow, weighs nearly 200 tons; the great bell at Pekin, over 53 tons; "Great Peter," of York, 10 tons 15 cwt.; and "Great Tom" of Lincoln, and the great bell of St. Paul's, each over 5 tons.

The Practice of the Presence of God.

To the soul who makes the practice of the presence of God a reality, all growth is possible. To put oneself, mentally, into the presence of God, at first requires an effort. But the wonderful gain repays manifold.

As one stands thus in God's presence many things which have been paramount in our thoughts fade away; we gain a clearer perspective of life. We see the things which may be cut out of our life; the things which are really essential. We gain in dignity, in poise, in grandeur, sweetness, clearness of thought, greatness of soul.

The habit of practising the presence of God is one which we cannot do without. Our lives will never assume their true beauty and joy apart from this. Just to come quietly into His presence, then to wait, with folded wings, as it were, waiting to hear what He will say to us. Oh, the wonderful clearing up of trials, weaknesses, wrongs, the width of view attained, the responsive willingness to say, "Lord, I am here, send me!"

And, as daily this coming into His presence becomes habitual, we pres-

Knowledge of Words.

Knowledge of words gives one not only appreciation of precision and force in the use of words but it opens up whole pages of beauty. Indeed I know of few things so delightfully or so rewarding as a careful study of words and language, says a writer in the *Woman's Home Companion*. It is amazing, too, the progress one can make with only seven or eight moments devoted to the study each day. A page of great prose or poetry carefully and thoughtfully read, read aloud preferably, with a kind of dwelling of the mind on each word and phrase; five or six words looked up in a good dictionary and their meanings and definitions carefully studied; a few of one's own thoughts carefully expressed in writing with the right word searching for the right word each time; the daily use for reference or study of a good book of synonyms, and before you know it your English will be vastly improved and words a distinct pleasure to you.

MINARD'S LINIMENT - CURERS BURNS, ETC.

Nothing will ever be attempted if all possible objections must first be overcome.

—DR JOHNSON.

The Home and the Gardener.

WASHING MADRAS CURTAINS.

For washing madras curtains use bran instead of soap. A quart of bran to a bucketful of water is the correct proportion. The water, after the bran has been boiled, should be strained, and the curtains dipped and squeezed in it while it is warm. Rinse in more bran water and press when nearly dry on the wrong side with a cool iron.

EASY WASH DAY.

For an easy wash day, without the trouble of running a washing machine, tending over a washboard, or the expense of washing compounds, the following recipe, which has been in use in my family for many years, is highly recommended, says a contributor to the *Denver Times*: First, let the clothes soak in lukewarm water for 20 or 30 minutes. Second, to a No. 9 wash boiler, two-thirds full of water, add two tablespoonfuls of kerosene (common lamp oil) and one bar of any kind of laundry soap (excepting naphtha) finely sliced. Put boiler on stove and let the mixture of water, oil and soap come to boil; then put the clothes, which have been soaked in the lukewarm water the required length of time, into the boiling solution and let boil for ten minutes, after which take clothes out, rinse in cold water, and wring. Should any of the clothes bear a deep grease stain, a few light rubs on the washboard are necessary. If the above directions are followed, the result will be clean clothes, bearing no odor of oil whatever, and a wash day made easy at a cost of not more than 25 cents for fuel, water, oil and soap.

FEEDING FOR LARGE EGGS.

Experiments have been carried out by the French Academy of Sciences to test the effect of feeding on the quality and size of eggs to find out how to produce the biggest eggs. Three lots of ducks were fed on flesh, fish and vegetables. Those fed on the fish diet laid the greatest number of eggs, but they were of the poorest quality. The heaviest eggs were laid by those fed on the flesh diet, whilst those fed on pure grain diet also beat the fish-fed birds both for quality and weight of egg.

The American poultry raisers are agreed that the best quality and heaviest eggs are got from fowls fed on grain with a small percentage of flesh food. Strange to say, they hold that the foraging for insect and such like life has a deteriorating effect on the quality of the egg, and they are also unanimous in the finding that too much green food has a similar effect on the quality and weight of an egg. It is on this account that they agree that the Asiatic brown-tinted eggs are of a better flavour, as these breeds are but poor foragers and depend on the grain feeding more than the grain fed birds. On this theory, spring eggs are of a better quality than those laid during the summer months or early autumn, when insect and plant life are abundant. If good eggs and likewise vigorous chickens are wanted, the fowls must have the best quality grain foods at all seasons of the year. The difference in weight can easily be noted, but the difference in quality can only be ascertained after the eggs are cooked.

THE RASPBERRY.

It is a very small garden indeed in which a place cannot be found for a few raspberry bushes—say, a dozen. They are easy to grow and there is now an ever-bearing raspberry so-called, which may be depended upon to yield fruit for three months.

The red and purple raspberries both should find a place in the home garden; while the former are unexcelled for the table, the purple varieties are superior for canning. The Black Caps may be grown, too, if there is room in plenty. Some people think they make the best pies.

Raspberry plants should be set out just as early as possible in the spring, and sharply cut back. The ever-bearing variety will produce some fruit the first season. It is best to set raspberry plants about two feet apart in the home garden, with six feet between the rows, if double shoots are planted. Every spring the shoots should be cut back one-third, and after the fruiting season is over, the old wood should be cut out. Many new shoots will come up and a large proportion of them are best removed.

The fruit produced next season will come on the canes grown this year and these canes will then die. That is the reason for cutting out all the old wood each summer; and if done without delay, any insects or fungi that the wood may be harboring can be destroyed by burning. If more plants are needed, it is necessary only to dig up some of the new shoots either in the fall or spring. There will be no need of buying plants after the first purchase. Blackberries may be treated in the same manner as raspberries, but need more room.

FOWLS.

Fowls should always be allowed to have a run and a scratch before they are fed in the morning, as they appear to enjoy their breakfast much better afterwards. When they do not run after their food greedily, a meal should be missed, than the birds will generally eat their next food with avidity; if not, they should have a dose of Epsom salts, followed by a daily dose of rump powder for a week or ten days.

In addition to the supply of grit and shell in their run, laying hens should have flint dust added to their soft food, allowing one teaspoonful for each bird every day. Where this advice is followed, shell-less eggs are unknown, and these should always be avoided, otherwise the birds will become egg-eaters through acquiring the

taste for eggs by first devouring shell-less eggs.

ORIGIN OF BLANKETS.

The cold winter of 1340 gave us the blanket. Its inventor, Thomas Blanket, was a Flemish merchant, settled in Bristol, and fallen from affluence to want. He and his wife suffering from the intense cold by reason of scanty bedding and lack of fuel, he searched for something to put on the bed to increase the warmth, and hit on a piece of rough unfinished cloth that had been thrown to waste. Its success as a warmth-giver suggested the manufacture of special bed covers of the same material, and these articles, to which he gave his own name, won him wealth and immortality.—*London Chronicle*.

THE AMERICAN POULTRY RAISERS.

The American poultry raisers are agreed that the best quality and heaviest eggs are got from fowls fed on grain with a small percentage of flesh food. Strange to say, they hold that the foraging for insect and such like life has a deteriorating effect on the quality of the egg, and they are also unanimous in the finding that too much green food has a similar effect on the quality and weight of an egg. It is on this account that they agree that the Asiatic brown-tinted eggs are of a better flavour, as these breeds are but poor foragers and depend on the grain feeding more than the grain fed birds. On this theory, spring eggs are of a better quality than those laid during the summer months or early autumn, when insect and plant life are abundant. If good eggs and likewise vigorous chickens are wanted, the fowls must have the best quality grain foods at all seasons of the year. The difference in weight can easily be noted, but the difference in quality can only be ascertained after the eggs are cooked.

ABOUT THE YEAR 1720.

A great many Englishmen invested millions of money in companies which were organized for such objects as: "Wrecks to be fished for on the Irish Coast"; "For Making Oil from Sunflower Seeds"; "For Importing a Number of large Jack Asses from Spain"; "For a Wheel of Perpetual Motion"; and, most extraordinary of all, "For an Undertaking which shall in due Time be revealed." The promoter of this last company received more than one thousand subscriptions during the morning on which the offering was made, and disappeared the same afternoon with more than two thousand guineas. The Englishmen who parted with their money for such ludicrous enterprises were not, unfortunately, the last of their kind.—*The World's Work (America)*.

A Collection of Wesleyana.

The collection of Wesleyana formed by the late Mr. Joseph G. Wright was sold at Messrs. Sotheby's, attracting a large number of collectors and others interested in Wesleyan Methodism. The collection, which was in 112 lots and realized £245 34s. 6d., included busts and plaques of John Wesley, autograph letters and prints of the Wesley family and of prominent Wesleyans, and books of the three Wesleys. A series of 17 autograph letters of John Wesley, and various other documents, fetched £81; and a collection of about 450 portraits of the Wesley family, and many of which are of the greatest rarity, £42.

Good Stories From The Magazines.

There was no more popular figure in early Victorian society than Lord North's daughter, Lady Charlotte Lindsay, whose ready wit made her friends forget that plainness of face and figure she herself so often joked about. It was Lady Lindsay who once set London laughing with one of her excuses. Arriving late for dinner at Holland House, she apologized to her hostess, saying: "I am exceedingly sorry, but, really, the roads are so macadamizable."—"Woman as Wits," by Joseph Heighston, in *The Strand Magazine*.

She was a pretty young schoolmistress, and was reading sentences to her class, letting them supply the last word.

"The sphinx," she read, "has eyes but it cannot—"

"See!" cried the children.

"Has ears, but it cannot—"

"Hear!" they responded.

"Has a mouth, but it cannot—"

"Eat!" came the chorus.

"Has a nose, but it cannot—"

"Wipe it!" thundered the class.

—*Windsor Magazine*.

A certain amount of jealousy was popularly supposed to exist between the dignified, slow-moving vicar and his earnest, energetic young curate. The parishioners, however, never overlooked the fact that it was from the vicarage they must expect such material benefits as calf-foot jelly and bed-socks. The vicar had just returned from his annual month's vacation, spent in Italy, and was making a round of the district. At a cottage door he came across an addition to the flock in the arms of his fond mamma. After inquiring its name, he said, "I sincerely hope the little fellow has been baptized?" "Oh, well, sir," replied the tactful mother, with a courtesy, "I should not like to go so far as to say that—you being away—but your young man came round and did what he could."—*Pearson's Magazine*.

The divorce had been granted. Their only child had been given to the mother, but after the final decree they met and the young woman said, "I am willing to let you have the baby half of the time." "Good!" cried the father, with satisfaction. "That's fine!" "Yes," resumed the fair, yet so unkind, divorcee calmly; "you may have him nights."—*Dorothy D. Lake in Lippincott's*.

The Archbishop of Canterbury, speaking at a high school recently, told an amusing story of an experience of his own. He was visiting a school, and the head master, wishing to impress the scholars with the importance of the occasion, announced "is Grace's title and then asked of the class: "What do you know about Canterbury?" Faced with such a vague question, the boys remained silent, until, after repeated pressing, a little chap put up his hand and shouted: "Where mother gets her frozen lamb from."—*The Educational Times*.

Before the passage of the present strict banking laws in Wisconsin, starting a bank was a comparatively simple proposition. The surprising small amount of capital needed is well illustrated by the story a prosperous country town banker told on himself when asked how he happened to enter the banking business. "Well," he said, "I didn't have much else to do, so I rented an empty store-building and painted 'Bank' on the window. The first day I was open for business a man came in and deposited a hundred dollars with me; the second day another man dropped in and deposited two hundred and fifty; and so, by George, along about the third day I got confidence enough in the bank to put in a hundred myself!"—*Everybody's Magazine*.

A lady wrote to the Post Office Savings Bank stating she was not at all well, and that she understood what she had to do was to ask for a Power of Eternity. Could we send her one or advise her? The department suggested a Power of Attorney, but took occasion to point out that it possessed limitations.—*St. Martin's-Grand*.

Izri Jacobs boarded a tram-car with his son. The youth was tall and ungainly. He looked at least twelve years old, but when the conductor called for the fare the father slowly counted out five pennies. "Look here," said the conductor, "where's the fare for the boy?" "Yes, he ain't five." "Five!" growled the conductor. "Go on! He's fourteen if he's a day." "Oh, no," pleaded Izri, in true Yiddish fashion. "He can't

be five. He—"Well, he looks a good deal older," the conductor insisted. "Certainly," said the old Jacobs. "Certainly. Vy shouldn't he? He's had a lot of trouble!"—*Harper's Monthly Magazine*.

The Cry Of a Woman.

The Forum contains a spirited poem by Victor Starbuck, and is reminiscent of the myriad songs which have heralded each advance of the race. We quote one or two verses:

"Behold me come, for Womanhood is waking!
Before us break and fall the rusting bars.
Lo, to the winds new banners are we shaking,
The olive-leaf for ancient wars and scars;
We stand, at last, where fadeless morn is breaking,
Our feet upon the stars.

"Before our eyes undreamed horizons widen;
The shadows vanish and the vapours shift.
We ask not for the trump, the torch, the guidon,
But for the wings that soar, the dreams that lift;
And from the mists where we have long abided
We claim the perfect gift.

"We cannot fail. Behind us press the others—
The million generations yet to be.
They urge us ever on, O men and brothers,
To bear the torch for all humanity.
And we, who have been and who shall be mothers—
Shall not we, too, be free?"

There is a cry from the forgotten reaches;
The voiceless deep-below-the-deep is stirred.
The hills give tongue, and earth's remotest beaches
Fling echoes of the message long deferred—
A voice that prophesies, exults and teaches—
The Cry . . . and it is heard!

The Value of Oranges.

It is now being generally admitted that sun-ripened fruit has therapeutic and sustaining values which the chemist cannot locate. . . . It is not too much to say that every organ of the body is helped in its action by a liberal diet of sweet, juicy oranges. Eat them freely, and make a complete meal of them now and again. With wheatmeal bread and butter they are rich and nourishing. The panel doctor must rejoice when he sees his patients using these beautiful articles of food. He knows they will not want his prescription—they have something better—the food medicine which Nature alone can compound.—*J.N. in The Vegetarian Messenger*.

Capt Amundsen's North Polar Expedition

Which, as originally planned, was to have sailed in the summer of 1913, and was postponed for a year in order to give his scientific staff more time for preliminary studies and training, has now again been postponed for a year; this time because it appears that the "Fram," the vessel in which the expedition is to sail, cannot reach San Francisco in time for an early start from that port. Last year the little vessel sailed from Buenos Ayres to Colon, in the expectation of proceeding thence via the Panama Canal; on account of the delay in the opening of the latter, this route was finally abandoned, and the "Fram" started on the long journey around the continent, in which she is now engaged. The further postponement of the expedition will be turned to advantage, especially in giving the explorers time to become expert in the use of the aeroplanes, three of which are to be included in the equipment of the expedition.

Try Again.

You have, it may be, used ointments, pastes, lotions for Eczema till you begin to get tired of trying things. Well, but you should remember that science is advancing all the time, and that what was not possible yesterday can be accomplished to-day. If you neglect to try Zylex—the newest and best thing that science has yet to offer for the relief and cure of Eczema and other annoying and disgusting skin diseases—you are missing a great opportunity. It may be that it will cure you. It has cured some very bad cases. Price 50c. a box. Zylex Soap, 25c. a cake.

Municipal Muddling.

J. G. Leigh's indictment in the Economic Review of our municipal methods is well worthy of perusal, and many will be found to agree that "the average municipal election is a farce," and that "it is of all things most foolish that men should stand for municipal management as Tories or Whigs." The general conduct of affairs is the same all over the country, whatever the political coloring of the Councils, and while there is nothing "savouring of corruption" there is "ample evidence of waste." The writer recommends the adoption of the American method of government by Commission; the central idea of which is "to substitute business methods and scientific management for the old system of political controversy." In effect, to replace the amateur politician by the expert administrator. The Commission system has proved so successful in the United States that over 186 cities adopted the new method between 1906 and 1912. The expert naturally demands a high salary for his services, but the community reaps an ample reward in enhanced efficiency. The writer concludes:

It may be that our national instincts of government will not permit us to take the plunge—quite so boldly as our American cousins have taken it; but the fact remains that one of the sorest needs of the England of to-day is a deeper interest in municipal affairs, and a severance of those affairs from the party politics for which much can be said in their relation with matters of State. We need to know of those to whom we entrust the important matters of local management, not that they have this or that belief as regards questions of Imperial moment, but that they are enlightened enthusiasts for economic and efficient government of our cities and towns. We are only at the beginning of municipal efficiency. There is yet much to be accomplished, both in respect of research and of the application of research. But it is very doubtful if this can be done the while we employ busy politicians who can only give a small portion of their time, no matter how well-meaning they may be, to the affairs of the municipality. Sooner or later we shall be compelled to provide a class of professional municipal administrators.

Railway Nationalization.

Mr. Emil Davies, chairman of the Railway Nationalization Society, gave evidence on Friday last before the Royal Commission upon Railways. The witness, dealing with the question of fares, advocated uniformity of charges. He said that what was wanted was a regular mileage rate through the whole railway system of the country. Mr. Davies added that the ordinary fares upon the State railways of Europe was very much lower than in England, the difference being in some cases as much as 50 per cent. He admitted that the profits earned by the State railways were not so large as those obtained by the private companies in this country.

Mr. Davies estimated that to nationalize the railways in this country, at 25 years' purchase, it would be necessary to issue 3 per cent. stock of the value of £973,000,000. This would mean that the State would issue stock bearing interest at £32,000,000 and acquire property bringing in a profit of £52,000,000. The nationalization of the railways would result in a saving of £10,000,000 a year in working expenses.—*Times*, May 15.

Truro, May 28.—David Pearson, living in a house on his farm at Harmony, a short distance from Truro, was killed this morning during a heavy storm. The electric bolt struck Pearson as he was entering the door. The house was damaged considerably. Deceased was well-known and is related to many of the name in this country.

Announcement.

D. J. Furlong wishes to announce to his friends and the public generally that he has opened a custom establishment in connection with the Cleaning and Pressing in the store lately occupied by N. W. Chown, 7 New Gower Street, and is now prepared to receive orders for any garment in the tailoring line; also wishes his friends to notice that he is giving a very special offer to anyone having suit length to be made up. Every garment will receive the best of attention. Call now and see our goods and select your pattern. Workmanship guaranteed. All goods well shrunk before making.

D. J. FURLONG,
7 New Gower Street.

the pro- e fullest

Shoe for ladies

the latest de-

had in the fol- styles: Tan metal-Calf, very on, Blucher and cuts. \$6.00, \$6.50.

ON

Burl

SHOE

ork

Shoes!"

ar do parents

WN SHOES

so often.

nd hard knocks

ing vs ordinary

BROWN

SOES

Girls.

Burl

SHOE