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TORONTO, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 1908

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Lessons for Sundays and Holy Days,

November 29.—First Sunday in Advent.

Morning—Isai. 1; 1 Pet. 2, 11; 3, 8.

Evening—Isai. 2, or 4, 2; John 11, 19 to 47.

December 6.—Second Sunday in Advent.

Morning—Isaiah 5; 2 Peter 3.

Evening—Isaiah 11 to 11, or 24; John 15.

December 13th.—Third Sunday in Advent.

Morning—Isaiah 25; 1 John 5.

Evening—Isai. 26, or 28, 5 to 19; John 19. 25.

December 20.—Fourth Sunday in Advent.

Morning—Isaiah 30, to 27; Rev. 6.

Evening—Isaiah 32 or 33, 2 to 23; Rev. 7.

Appropriate hymns for Advent Sunday and Second Sunday in Advent, compiled by Dr. Albert Ham, F.R.C.O., organist and director of the choir of St. James' Cathedral, Toronto. The numbers are taken from Hymns Ancient and Modern, many of which may be found in other hymnals.

ADVENT SUNDAY.

Holy Communion: 203, 310, 313, 314. Processional: 46, 49, 217, 261. Offertory: 51, 52, 205, 362. Children's Hymns: 281, 335, 342, 363. General Hymns: 48, 50, 53, 477.

SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT.

Holy Communion: 196, 316, 320, 553. Processional: 45, 305, 391, 392. Offertory: 51, 214, 216, 226. Children's Hymns: 217, 565, 568, 569. General Hymns: 47, 52, 54, 288.

ADVENT SUNDAY.

We begin a new Church Year with the words of our Lord upon our lips, "Thy Kingdom come." The more we study the life and teaching of Jesus Christ the more clearly do we recognize that He came to this world to provide a salvation for all mankind, and to establish a rule, a kingdom, which must ultimately pervade the whole world. This concept of the Kingdom is suggested by the word "Catholic." During the Season of Advent we look forward especially to the Second Coming of the Lord of the universe. But we must bear in mind the condition. Before that second Advent the whole world must be evangelized—to every living creature the Gospel must first be preached. Therefore, to be anxious to

meet the Lord in triumph means that we must be zealous in extending His Kingdom. The prayer divinely taught must ever be upon our lips-"Thy Kingdom come." And the actions of our lives must correspond with the prayer. Advent Sunday this year is the Eve of St. Andrew's Day; and by common consent throughout the Church that Saint's Day has been set apart as a day of intercession for missions. How are we going to answer this call of Holy Church? Intercession is one of the chief exercises of prayer. May we not say that it is the chief activity of Christian prayer? For the work of our ascended Lord in heaven is intercession. "He ever liveth to make intercession for them" (Heb. 7:25). The highest form of energy is to be found in intercessory prayer. And the most important intercessions are these three: "Hallowed be Thy Name," "Thy Kingdom come," and "Thy will be done in earth as it is in heaven." To-day the Church bids us pray for the extension of Christ's Kingdom throughout the world. Let us put our minds upon the Church's work in the diocese, in the home land, in the uttermost parts of the earth. Pause after the petition, "Thy Kingdom come," and for a moment think of those who are labouring for the fulfilment of that prayer. Why does the Church urge the ministry of intercession? Because she knows that those who pray will be the first to labour. Prayer is the highest form of labour. Therefore, it includes and presupposes all other phases of Christian endeavour. True prayer is always preceded and succeeded by earnest efforts to fulfil the object of the prayer. Remember the lesson of the Advent Season, viz.: The Second Coming of the Lord Jesus. Bear in mind the condition of His coming, and pray and work for the extension of His Kingdom to earth's remotest bounds.

Lay Readers.

One of the last duties which the future Archbishop of York will have performed before his nomination was that of presiding at the nineteenth anniversary of the Training College for Lay Workers in Stepney. The warden stated that sixty men had applied, and that thirty had been accepted, and were in residence and in training. He said that the demand for lay readers seemed to be increasing, and that it was encouraging to see that the various Church societies which employed lay workers were coming to value the work of the College. We see that both the Bishops of London and Stepney had by their presence and addresses done all in their power to show their interest in the College and its work. We feel that this enterprise is one which, like others in England, is doing the work which Mr. Jenkins, of Petrolea, has so much at heart, creating a lay diaconate under another name. Perhaps Mr. Jenkins and the other friends of the movement and Dr. Waller might start a training school in Huron College.

Brotherhoods.

In an appeal for men to join Bush Brotherhoods the Bishop of North Queensland, an almost tropical diocese of Australia, writes in part as follows: "Bush Brotherhoods have now been recognized as the best means of providing religious ministrations for people scattered over a large area of country. They are to be found in several Australian and Canadian dioceses, and their central idea is to adapt a very simple community life to modern missionary needs." And the Bishop goes on in further detail, using language which seemed familiarly like old appeals in the "Canadian Churchman." But it is a surprise to us to read that these missions have been established and are successfully working in our Canadian dioceses. If so, the members have been modest and retiring, so far as any public record is concerned, and we are sure that a num-

ber of our subscribers would be glad to hear of and from them.

Dr. Withrow.

The name of Dr. Withrow has for many years been familiar to all interested in the religious or literary activity in Canada. A Canadian to the core was the cheerful, energetic and learned Doctor. To men of his robust intellect, indomitable industry, and patriotic optimism our country owes a debt of earnest gratitude. We know no finer example amongst the literary men of Canada of recent years of pure and upright character, genial and sympathetic temperament, capable and diligent scholarship, combined with deep religious feeling, than the late Dr. Withrow. Such a man not only lent distinction to the religious body of which he was an honoured member, but was a benefactor to the country, of which he was proud to be a citizen.

A Constitutional Check.

In view of the awful results of war, the time has surely come when it should be rendered impossible for a ruler, of his own motion, to bring upon the people ruled by him that dreadful scourge. Vanity, envy, passion in the ruling individual should be strongly curbed by a constitutional check. Nothing short of a deliberate and determined decision on the part of a people, through their parliamentary representatives, should suffice for the taking of such a grave and responsible step. And then only as a dire necessity.

Canadian Librarians.

We have watched with unusual interest the outcome of the work of the special committee appointed to select, or rather nominate for selection, a librarian for the important position rendered vacant by the lamented death of the late Dr. James Bain, late librarian of the Public Library at Toronto. We believe the committee has chosen wisely and well. We are gratified that a Canadian has been appointed, one of our own graduates, a man in the early prime of life, who has acquired a large and varied experience at home and abroad in those branches of applied knowledge which form a good foundation for the intelligent and effective discharge of the duties of a Public Librarian. An acquaintance with publishing, editing, and the conduct of libraries, and a knowledge of men, books, and educational methods, gained in at least four universities, joined with other important requisites, no doubt materially helped the committee to make choice of Professor Locke. We believe the time has come when a certain proportion of our young Canadian scholars should prepare themselves for the honourable position of librarian, a position that opens out a field of attractive usefulness Indeed, the extent of the usefulness of a public librarian is bounded only by his desire and effort to aid, guide, and stimulate the thousands of students and readers who from year to year come within the scope of his influence. In closing we may say that the Public Library Board of the city of Toronto is to be congratulated on having as its chairman a man of such fine literary taste, sound scholarship, and eminent position in the community as Chief Justic Sir Glenholme Falconbridge. The public spirit shown by this learned Canadian judge in devoting no inconsiderable portion of his valuable time to the service of the community in an intellectual and influential capacity is worthy of all commenda-

Church Finance.

Canon Bullock Webster, writing on this subject recently, pointed out that there were in the provinces of Canterbury and York some 14,000 benefices, of which 1,100 yielded less than £100