

FAMOUS PREACHER IS IN THE CITY

HE WILL SPEAK IN CHURCHES TO-MORROW

Rev. Mark Guy Pearce to Deliver
Famous Lecture on Monday
Evening.

(From Saturday's Daily.)

Rev. Mark Guy Pearce, whose name is probably as well known as any of the philanthropic workers of the world today, is in the city. He will occupy the pulpit of the Centennial church to-morrow morning, will address a meeting for men only in the Y. M. C. A. hall in the afternoon, and will preach in the Metropolitan Methodist church in the evening.

On Monday morning he will attend the meeting of the Ministerial Association, and in the evening the noted preacher and equally famous lecturer will speak in the Metropolitan church, giving his great lecture, or more properly entertainment, "The Old Folks at Home."

Since 1887 Mark Guy Pearce has been connected with the famous West London mission. That he is peculiarly adapted for the work is manifest by the signal success which has attended his labors in this most trying of missions.

The West London mission is more than the ordinary preaching hall. It embraces in its scope of work, homes for the destitute and the children; day nurseries for the latter and light work for the disabled adults and children who are too poor to provide for themselves, and are without homes.

The lecture on "The Old Folks at Home" has been received with the greatest enthusiasm throughout the present lecturing tour in Canada. He has had excellent facilities for gathering material for it, and possesses in the various homes a great store of material which he has been able to deliver in an entertaining manner. He depicts character in an excellent style, and treats his audience to never failing comedy, interspersed with anecdotes illustrative of Cornish and East London character are numerous references to folk lore.

An evening spent in his company, as it essentially is under the style in which he delivers his lecture, is one of true enjoyment. He has fascinated his audience, and his cast as no lecturer has done for years.

ORPHANS' CHRISTMAS TREE.

Gifts Distributed Among the Children of the Home Last Night.

Tuesday night the children of the Protestant Home were given their second instalment of Christmas gifts. In the large dining-room of the institution an immense Christmas tree brilliantly illuminated by the Electric Light Company was loaded down with gifts for the orphans. The presents represented the gifts of a great number of friends.

There was a large attendance of visitors who enjoyed the scene almost as well as the children themselves.

A programme prepared for the occasion was given. It consisted of the following songs and choruses: "I am the Child of a King," recitation, "Hazel McKittrick," dialogue, by ten children; song, "I am a Sailor, Pilot Me," recitation, "Lizzie Emerson," song, "Echo, Echo, Hear the Echo," anthem, "King of the Court." Addresses followed by Bishop Cridge, Bishop Perrin and Rev. J. P. Westman. The president of the board of management, Chas. Hayward, then distributed the gifts among the children. In addition the music and assistant received recognition at the hands of the board of management.

The visitors were entertained by the ladies' committee at the close of the programme.

BISMARCK THE MAN.

My first glimpse of Bismarck was obtained on a journey to the middle of Germany just after the war with Prussia and before the signing of the peace treaty. We found a crowd gathered at the station, waiting to be attached to our train. Bismarck was the first to greet us, and he was in the form of the great North German.

He was then in the prime of life—sturdy and happy in the presence of his wife and children. The people at the station evidently knew what was wanted, for he had arrived when waiters appeared, bearing saucers covered with huge tins of foaming beer; thereupon Bismarck took two of the mugs and poured their contents down his throat in immediate succession, evidently with great gusto.

Barly peasant just back of me, unable to restrain his admiration, solicited me to a deep, slow, guttural, reverberating rumble. It struck me like a thunderbolt. The water of Kissingen had evidently restored him, and he was ready for his first battle.

My personal intercourse with him began eleven years later, when, as chancellor of the German Empire, he received me as minister of the United States. On my entering his workroom he rose, and it seemed to me that I had never seen another so towering, save Abraham Lincoln. He was then in his two big black boots, and with a pleasant smile, they seemed to join him to the wall. He was then in the prime of life, and he was in the form of the great North German.

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"LADY BACHELORS"

Club Formed in London to Abolish the Word "Spinster."

The abolition of the word "spinster," as applied to unmarried women of all ages, is the sole object of a society which has just been formed. It has its origin in a Bond street tea shop, where a party of five ladies discussed the hated word, and resolved to form themselves into a committee to devise some drastic means of stamping it out.

It was at first suggested that an "Anti-Spinster Crusade" should be organized. This was, however, abandoned on the ground that to be "anti" anything was an indication of "crankiness." All agreed that the term spinster was distinctly unfair to all absolutely lifeless, and that its application branded all unmarried ladies as old maids. "Bachelor" was elegant when compared with "spinster," it was contended. And then the promoter of the movement had a brilliant inspiration. "Why not form a Lady Bachelors' Club?" she asked.

The ladies reasoned that such a club would provide a kind of passive resistance to the word they abhorred.

The question of a club having been decided, it was resolved that its object should be mainly to remove the word "spinster" from all dictionaries; and one lady hinted that she had influence in high quarters sufficient to prevent the use of "that horrible word" upon census returns and other official documents.

The following general principles of management were then agreed upon: That the members of the club shall consist of girls who are not single by reason of the fact that they have never received a proposal; girls who have never had the opportunity of rejecting an offer of marriage; and married girls.

That when a member of the club is married no fine be imposed.

That such bridge should, however, cease to be a member of the club.

Powerful alcoholic beverages are distilled from bananas, the milk of coconuts, rice and peas. The Japanese distill spirit from plums, peaches, and the flower of the mulberry. The Chinese make an alcoholic drink from plums.

BALLOON AID TO WRECKERS.

Frenchman's Invention to Land Rope Ashore From Vessels in Distress.

Interesting information is contained in a report to the state department, Washington, by United States Consul Jackson, at La Rochelle, France, regarding Drouillard's drier balloon float, an apparatus designed to carry from a vessel in distress to land, or the reverse, a rope by means of which the passengers of the distressed vessel can be rescued.

The apparatus is formed by a specially shaped balloon, which floats to a point above the distressed vessel. The drier is connected with the balloon float by a regulating arrangement by means of which the drier is thrown at sea, at an angle from 60 degrees to 90 degrees from the direction of the wind is supposed to be attained. The apparatus is used for experiments is covered with cotton cloth, but when in practical use it is to be inflated with air.

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NEW EXPLOSIVE.

Big Claims Made For Novel Smokeless Powder—Is Chlorinated Veloxite.

Col. W. Howe announces that after nine and a half years' continuous work, he has at last calculated and recorded over ten thousand experiments, he has produced an absolutely safe and stable smokeless powder, which he calls veloxite. He says that it contains 73 per cent of nitro-compound, no sulphur, no phosphorus, and, in fact, no dangerous ingredients.

The flashing point of black powder is 640 degrees Fahrenheit, that of cordite 300 to 370 degrees, while that of veloxite is 2,000 degrees. He says that veloxite stands the hammering of a sledge hammer on an anvil. The ingredients of veloxite are in fact a stable substance. The setting up of chemical action is impossible in any length of time, in any variations of climatic conditions.

Veloxite can be made in the morning and fired in the afternoon, not requiring, as other powders do, several weeks to manufacture. It can be made cheaply, its ingredients can be purchased in unlimited quantities by the ton, and it is available for small arms as well as artillery.

HOW SHE KNEW A SOLICITOR.

The London Daily Graphic publishes the following amusing incident: "During the hearing of a charge at Marylebone Magistrate's Court, Josephine Barton, a well-dressed married woman, aged forty, giving an address at Stapleford road, Bristol, it was alleged that she had obtained money by fraud from Mrs. Lewington, the wife of the manager of the Bristol and Gloucester road. Mrs. Lewington had been induced to lend it in the belief that Mrs. Barton was the widow of a man who had died of a disease, and that she was a fortune of £7,000, and that she was a respectable person, the wife, as she also stated, of a solicitor in cross-examination Mrs. Lewington said she had also seen Mrs. Barton's husband once, and that he was a very respectable man. (Laughter.) Mr. Froke Palmer (the defending solicitor)—What does a solicitor look like? The witness—Well he looks like a gentleman. (Loud laughter.) Mr. Palmer—I must let you down. Light affords that (Reserved laughter). The prisoner was eventually released."

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DYNAMITE EXPLOSION.

Man Blown to Pieces at Coquitlam Tunnel Works.

New Westminster, Dec. 30.—A frightful accident at the Coquitlam end of the million dollar tunnel being built between Lakes Coquitlam and Beautiful by the Vancouver Power Company as a part of their new power scheme, is reported tonight.

It appears that there is an isolated house near the works which is used as a powder store house. One room is used for drying the dynamite and the other is stored with combustibles. This morning about 10 o'clock, when Frank Rich, who was employed at the works, was leaving the drying room he noticed that a blaze had suddenly started up near the fire. Regardless of consequences he turned back to put the blaze out and shut the door behind him. That was the last seen of him, for a minute later the air was filled with parts of the building. Rich is thought to have had a piece of dynamite in his pocket, and when near the fire this exploded and set off the rest.

All that could be found of the remains was the trunk. The coroner will go out to-morrow to investigate the cause of the explosion, and to determine on a plan for the operation of the organization next year. With a larger association next year and more funds, so that it possible a permanent fund for the purpose of the organization could be considerably enlarged.

T. G. Proctor, acting for the Kootenay Valley Co., of which he is the manager, has been the timber on a 10,000 acre block of land situated between the junction of the Kootenay and Elk rivers. The price paid was \$50,000. The same parties purchased from Mr. Proctor's company 800 acres of 100 acres and millsite located on the banks of the Kootenay river. It is said to be the best millsite on the river, for the reason that it can be held on it during all stages of water.

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PROVINCIAL NEWS.

ROSSLAND.

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NELSON.

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NELSON.

Early next month a meeting of the citizens of Nelson will be held for the purpose of hearing the report of the secretary of the Nelson Tourist Association and determining on a plan for the operation of the organization next year. With a larger association next year and more funds, so that it possible a permanent fund for the purpose of the organization could be considerably enlarged.

T. G. Proctor, acting for the Kootenay Valley Co., of which he is the manager, has been the timber on a 10,000 acre block of land situated between the junction of the Kootenay and Elk rivers. The price paid was \$50,000. The same parties purchased from Mr. Proctor's company 800 acres of 100 acres and millsite located on the banks of the Kootenay river. It is said to be the best millsite on the river, for the reason that it can be held on it during all stages of water.