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Smiling

When the weather suits you not,

Try smiling.

When your coffee is not hot,

Try smiling.

When your neighbors don't do right

Or your relatives all fight,

Sure it's hard, but then you might

Try smiling.

Doesn't change the things, of course,

Just smiling;

But it cannot make them worse—

Just smiling.

And it seems to help your case,

Brightens up a gloomy place;

Then it sort o' rests your face—

Just smiling.

Born at Oxford.—Bishop McDowell says: "One John Wesley was born at Epworth, but the Wesley with genius like that of Richelieu was born at Oxford. Young people are eager to begin life early. They should be more eager to begin life well prepared. Too many come into active life like Ephraim—'a cake not turned,' or a cake half baked. A college education pays. The facts prove that a liberal education adds ten years to a man's life. He is prepared to do at thirty what he would not be able to do until forty without such training."



"The Hermit Nation."—Missionary work was commenced in Korea in 1884, up to which time it was known as the "Hermit Nation." Not very much progress was made during the early years, for only seven converts in 1888 secretly gathered around the Lord's table. This year, there are 15,700 members in 139 churches of the Presbyterian denomination alone, representing nearly 60,000 adherents. The converts are said to be characterized by four marked features: They are a Bible-loving, prayer-believing, money-giving, and actively working people. There are many church members in this country of whom this could not be said.



All the More Need.—In urging the organization of an Epworth League we sometimes hear the statement that it is difficult to conduct a successful League because the young people are not spiritual enough and not as consecrated to the work as they should be. This very condition of things is one of the strongest reasons for the exist-

ence of the League. If our young people are not devotional, are frivolous and indifferent to the church, shall we allow them to continue so without any effort to make them different? Shall we not endeavor to properly train and develop them in matters of church importance? If this work is not done through the League, how else can it be done?



Does It Pay?—A correspondent asked Success, "Does an education pay?" and received this answer: "Does it pay to learn to make life a glory instead of a grind? Does it pay to add power to the lens of the microscope or telescope? Does it pay to learn how to center thought with power, how to marshal one's mental force effectively? Does it pay to acquire power to get out of high and noble pleasures that which wealth cannot purchase? Does it pay to make lifelong friendships with bright, ambitious young people, many of whom will occupy high positions later on? Does it pay to acquire a character wealth, a soul property, which no disaster or misfortune can wreck or ruin?" Surely these questions from Success are the best sort of an answer.



The Future Secure.—In speaking to the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, President Roosevelt said: "If the average man is brave and hard working and clean living, if the average woman has the qualities which make a good wife and good mother, and each has self respect, and if each realizes that the greatest thing in life is the chance to do service—why, then the future of the nation is secure. We cannot stand up for what is good in manhood and womanhood without condemning what is evil. We must condemn the man who is either brutal and vicious, or weak and cowardly, the man who fails to do his duty by the public, who is a bad neighbor, an idler, inconsiderate and selfish husband, a neglectful father."



Governor Hoch.—Governor Hoch, of Kansas, has been teaching a Sunday School class for twenty-five years in Marion, and one of the regrets of being obliged to live in Topeka is leaving this class. He is one of the finest types of reform governors—like Hughes, Hanly, and Folk—and believes in the application of the Ten Commandments and the Golden Rule to political life. He says, "The longer I live the more

thoroughly I am convinced that the only life worth living is the Christian life. Its basis is the Bible, the foundation of all good things in individual character, in social life and in government. He who builds upon this foundation builds an indestructible edifice. It is the Book of books, the hope of the world. The study of no other book is so interesting or profitable."



The Bishops and the League.

The Bishop's address, delivered at the recent General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, contained the following reference to the Epworth League: "The Epworth League is nineteen years old. Its earlier years were characterized by phenomenal growth and extraordinary enthusiasm. It could not be expected that these conditions would be maintained always, and no one is surprised that the present rate of growth is somewhat slower. The Sunday School was an evolution, and required more than a century to bring it to its present efficiency and strength. So this movement among young Christians will require time to work out the best form of organic life and the largest usefulness within the church. We are glad to note that, while the great conventions are not so numerous nor so largely attended, there are many evidences of genuine prosperity. The spiritual life of the League seems to be deepening. The interest of the young people in the evangelization of the world is growing. The educational movements are being conducted with zeal. Not all Leagues are ideal in their spirit and activities, any more than all churches measure up to the best standards. But the movement generally continues to have our warm sympathy and commendation. Young people are singularly impressive. They readily yield to the influences of their environment. The success or failure of the Epworth League in the local church depends largely upon the character of that church and upon the kind of leadership it gives to its youth. We can not, therefore, emphasize too strongly the importance of constant and sympathetic pastoral oversight of the activities of the League, the careful training of young persons who give promise of leadership, and the necessity of keeping the organization close to its original design, namely, the cultivation of symmetrical Christian character, the promotion of the spirit of evangelism, and the enlarged usefulness of our young people in works of mercy and help.