

ventured to hop on the tip of the little girl's thumb for a minute. Then I flew to the tree and sang to her.

Now it is spring, and we find plenty of food — but next winter won't you all remember to put out some suet and crumbs! Chickadee-dee-dee.

FROM HERE AND THERE.

DR. BREWER'S NEW APPOINTMENT.

Dr. John M. Brewer, of Harvard University, has been appointed head of the Department of Education of the Los Angeles Teachers' College.

CONFERENCE AT EXETER, ENGLAND.

A largely attended conference on "Secondary Education in Relation to Practical Needs" was held at University College, Exeter, on June 15. As reported in the London "Times," the discussion was opened by Sir William Mather, who referred to the neglect of secondary education hitherto in England and Wales, with the result that the spread of technical education among the working classes had been greatly retarded. He advocated a drastic reduction in the size of classes, a permanent Minister of Education, a much greater provision of secondary schools, and free, compulsory, part-time education up to the age of eighteen, the onus of ensuring this to be placed on the employer. Dr. Alex. Hill, principal of Hartley College, Southampton, emphasized the increase in the demand for secondary education as one of the results of the war, and contrasted the American belief in vocational training as the foundation of all education with the view of the working classes in England, who demanded for their children not vocational education but the same kind of intellectual and spiritual training which those in a more fortunate position were accustomed to expect. Subsequent speakers urged the need of a better provision of maintenance allowances for bright children, and a representative of organized labor from Plymouth demanded compulsory, full-time, non-vocational education for all children up to the age of sixteen.

BOMBS DROPPED ON SCHOOL CHILDREN.

In the raid by German aeroplanes which took place over London shortly before noon on June 13, an East-end school under the London County Council was bombed, and eighteen children, most of them under six, were killed, and many injured. We learn from the account in the London "Times" that the two teachers entrusted with the care of the children had practically finished giving lessons. Suddenly there was a noise as of something crashing through the roof immediately overhead, and in an instant a huge bomb fell in the midst of the babies and exploded with terrific force. The room, which measured about twelve yards by eight yards, was partially divided by a small partition, and not one of the children escaped. Several were buried entirely beneath the avalanche of debris. Scarcely anything remained intact, a considerable quantity of the school furniture being reduced to matchwood. A basin-shaped hole, some six feet in diameter, was made in the ground to a depth of several feet, while very little of the wood-paved floor and its concrete foundation remained undisturbed. A large portion of the ceiling was blown away, and a good deal of damage was done to the room immediately

above, occupied by a class of boys, one of whom was killed. On the top floor, where a number of girls were being taught, one of the occupants of the class was killed at her desk by the falling bomb. The school caretaker, whose little boy was amongst those killed outright, and the two women teachers, both of whom had a narrow escape, together with many other helpers who had rushed to the scene of the catastrophe, rendered splendid service in extricating the dead and wounded children from the ruins, and soon there were many ambulances available to convey the sufferers to hospital. The two teachers are Mrs. Middleton and Miss Watkins.

MEDICAL INSPECTION OF SCHOOL CHILDREN IN LIVERPOOL.

The medical officer to the education authority, Dr. E. W. Hope, has published the report of the medical inspection of school children for 1916. According to an abstract in the "British Medical Journal" the examination was confined to entrants and leavers; owing to the war the examination of the intermediate group at the age of eight had to be relinquished. The number of children attending school in 1916 was 136,575; the average attendance was 118,788. The ratio was in 1916, 87.0 per cent, as compared with 87.4 per cent in 1915. The total number of children inspected was 32,372, and, in addition, 9,762 special cases presenting defects were medically examined at the request of head teachers. School nurses are employed to attend at the clinics, and to visit certain of the schools with the object of promoting cleanliness and tidiness, and women sanitary inspectors visit the homes of neglected children and of children suffering from medical defects that are being treated at home.

A SCIENTIFIC LABORATORY TWO MILES IN THE AIR.

Since the closing of the little meteorological station which Harvard University once maintained at the top of El Misti, Peru, and the destruction by Alpine storms (perhaps aided by an earthquake) of Janssen's famous solar observatory at the summit of Mont Blanc, the loftiest scientific establishment in the world is probably the observatory on Monte Rosa, the second highest summit of the Alps, 14,960 feet above sea-level.

The Monte Rosa observatory is also known as the Regina Margherita Cabin. It is really an outpost of a much larger establishment, situated at a lower altitude on the same mountain (at the Col d'Olen), and both institutions are called officially the Angelo Mosso Scientific Laboratories. They are maintained by international co-operation, each co-operating country being entitled to keep one investigator at the laboratories for every 5,000 francs contributed to the joint fund.

FOR NOVEMBER.

SCRIPTURAL READINGS.

- | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. Acts ii, 1-24, 37-47. | 1. Hebrews i; ii, 1-4. |
| 2. Acts iii. | 2. Hebrews xi, 1-10, 32-40. |
| 3. Acts v, 12-42. | 3. 1 John i; ii, 1-11. |
| 4. Acts ix, 1-22. | 4. 1 John iii. |
| 5. Acts x, 1-35. | 5. 1 John iv, 7-21; v, 10-15. |
| 1. Ephesians i. | 1. Joshua i. |
| 2. Ephesians ii. | 2. Joshua iv. |
| 3. Ephesians iii. | 3. Joshua vi, 1-20. |
| 4. Ephesians iv. | 4. Joshua xxiii. |
| 5. Ephesians vi, 1-20. | 5. Joshua xxiv, 1-25. |