

# Dominion Presbyterian

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## NOTE AND COMMENT

Quebec city has passed a by-law forbidding grocers to sell liquors between seven p.m. on Saturday and Monday morning.

The Moscow newspaper "Zhign" has been fined \$1,500 for printing Count Tolstoy's latest article against the inflicting of the death penalty, entitled "No evil without good."

Report comes from Rome that the fund for the relief of sufferers by the Sicilian earthquake has reached \$15,000,000, more than can be effectively handled by those commissioned to distribute it.

A mob at a town in Missouri had made up their minds to lynch a negro, who was accused of robbery and murder, but not to desecrate the Sabbath postponed the carry out of their design till daylight on Monday morning. This was surely straining at a gnat and swallowing a camel with a vengeance.

Lady Aberdeen is to be in Canada next June with a party of about 60 ladies from nearly every country in Europe. They are the delegates to the International Council of Women to be held in Toronto. On their way the ladies will be entertained by local societies in Quebec, Montreal and Ottawa.

A "world's missionary conference" is to be held at Edinburgh in June, 1910. It will be one of the greatest and most characteristic Christian conferences ever held. All Christian bodies outside the Catholic and Greek churches will be represented, and about 1,000 delegates will be present from the different missionary societies of the world.

The more than 1,000 Cleveland young people who undertook to live for two weeks "as Jesus would live" have resolved not only to continue their effort themselves, but also to extend the idea as widely as possible. Dr. Charles N. Sheldon, of Topeka, whose book, "In His Steps," first gave vogue to this idea, is co-operating in the revival.

Says the Westminster of Philadelphia: The pouring of millions into Italy by the open hand of the world is one of the proofs of the fact that "a fellow-feeling makes us wondrous kind." It is also eloquent on the power of the single sentence spoken by Jesus: "Therefore whatev'er ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them."

The Winnipeg Health Department are having a strenuous time preventing foreigners from overcrowding, to save expenses during the winter. They have just discovered a house, consisting of sixteen rooms, in which each room had a family and five or six boarders, although there was scarcely room enough for the family alone. This has now been altered.

The next world's Sunday School Convention will be held at the capital of the United States. At the last convention held in Rome, Italy, it was determined that thereafter the organization should be known as the World's Sunday School Association and should hold triennial conventions. The executive committee has selected Washington for the place of the first general meeting of the world-embracing association. It will be held from May 19 to 24, 1910.

The Rev. Johnston Meyers has established a "silence" room for women at the Immanuel Baptist Church in Chicago. No one who crosses its threshold will be permitted to utter a word even in a whisper. Dr. Meyers insists that many women are on the verge of a nervous breakdown for the simple reason they have no place where they can remain absolutely quiet.

The three events of greatest world-wide interest in the past year were probably the awakening in India of a National consciousness; the promulgation of a constitution in China; and the revolution in Turkey. In all these the Missionary work of the church has played a large part. They all impose a further obligation on the church. Will she rise to her opportunities? The Laymen's Missionary Movement warrants the hope that she will, at least to some degree.

Boston is experiencing one of the most remarkable religious awakenings in its history. In over 25 centres meetings are held daily, and thousands profess a change of heart. The revival is under the leadership of Dr. J. Wilbur Chapman. Dr. Clark, father of the Christian Endeavor Movement, writes favorably of it. Appeals are being made from other towns and cities for evangelists. It would be well if the Movement would extend to Canada and waken up some of our churches.

The Fifth Avenue Presbyterian church, New York, inseparably linked with the name of Dr. John Hall, has just celebrated the centennial of its organization. The present church edifice, occupied in 1876, is the fourth building in which, the congregation has worshipped. It has had eight ministers, the longest pastorate being that of Dr. Hall, which extended over 31 years. Rev. J. Ross Stevenson, D.D., is the present minister. During the seven years of his ministry, the sum of \$2,270,000 has been contributed to home and foreign missions.

The Socialists of Ottawa announce that they will put candidates in the field at the next municipal elections. Not that they expect to elect any of their men, but they wish to show their strength. The Socialists in Toronto have for years put the city to great cost by running candidates, and have made a sorry spectacle by the relatively small vote they have received. Socialism is a serious menace to the body politic, and it is regrettable that it has such a modicum of strength in some of our larger cities.

Japan is credited with 886 missionaries, including their wives, 404 Japanese ordained ministers and 698 unordained ministers and helpers and 395 Japanese Bible-women. There are 66,621 Protestant Christians, 59,437 Roman Christians, and 29,573 Greek Christians in Japan. Young Men's Christian Associations, 13; Sabbath schools, 832, with 45,000 teachers and pupils in the same. Ten years ago, not a teacher in one of the large city schools was a Christian, and the pupils were forbidden to attend Sabbath school; now five of those teachers are Christians and the pupils are encouraged to attend Sabbath school. When two years ago a union hymnal was printed, it was thought that 50,000 would meet the demand, but 150,000 have been sold, and another large edition has been issued to meet the constant demand.

Prince Chun, the new Chinese regent, is described by the newspapers as "the most puritanical and moral of the Manchu princes. He has only one wife. If not popular among the high officials of Peking, he has, at any rate, won their respect, and he is said to have been the most accessible of the imperial family. The regent has had but little experience in state affairs, and of his ability as an administrator little or nothing is known.

Regulations have been adopted by the Dominion Government, in respect of the sale of patent and proprietary medicines in stock at the time the Patent Medicine Act comes into force on April 1. It is provided in these regulations that all the patent or proprietary medicines in stock in the hands of manufacturers or dealers at the time the act comes into force, shall have attached a special stamp provided by the Inland Revenue Department. No medicines, however, containing cocaine or any of its derivatives or preparations, shall have attached thereto the stamps in question. Under the provisions of the Patent Medicines Act the manufacture, importation and sale of all such medicines is, after the first of April, 1909, prohibited.

In one particular at least the following is of interest to friends of Knox College, as well as to Canadian Presbyterians generally: Notices of nomination were given in at the last meeting of the United Free Presbytery of Edinburgh—Professor Martin said he would ask leave to nominate for the Principalship of the college Dr. Alexander MacEwen, Professor of Church History, and the Rev. Dr. Whyte, St. George's, associated himself with the proposal. For the professorship Mr. Bogle put forward the name of Prof. H. A. Kennedy, of Toronto; on Dr. Kelman's behalf the name of Dr. W. M. MacGregor was proposed, and Mr. Reith gave notice of the name of Dr. James Moffat, Broughty Ferry. Professor Kennedy is also nominated by the United Free Presbytery of Inverness.

The facts connected with the rise and development of Young Men's Christian Associations in different countries all over the world compel the conviction that they meet a need that is common to young men, and afford "a Christian instrumentality of the simplest character." The latest returns of the entire movement, as summarized in the "English Year Book" for 1908-9 (which is published at "George Williams' House," 13, Russell Square, W.C., and costs 1s.), show the following remarkable figures: Number of centres included in World's Alliance, 7,681; number of enrolled members, 820,643; Associations employing whole-time secretaries, 1,239; number of buildings owned by Associations, 1,182; approximate value of Association buildings, £10,257,815. What is even more remarkable is the reality of this federation of young people scattered over some fifty or more countries. Excellent progress is reported from North America and Canada, Australia and New Zealand. Gratifying accounts come also from different centres in Europe, especially from Germany. The South African Associations are maintaining invaluable work, whilst the awakened Orient, represented by India, Burma, Malaya, Japan, Korea, and China, "not only records achievement, but opens a vista of glorious possibilities of extended usefulness." Truly, the founder "built better than he knew."