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Rev. Percival Mayes Inducted.

A very impressive service was held in St. Mark's Church, Hamilton, on November 21st, when Rev. Percival Mayes was inducted as Rector. The induction service was conducted by Bishop Clark, of Niagara, assisted by Canon Howitt. Rev. Professor Cosgrave preached a most appropriate sermon, taking as his text, "And He ordained twelve that they should

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be with Him and that He might send them forth to preach." Professor Cosgrave impressed upon the congregation the necessity of helping their pastor in every way, and in an eloquent appeal, begged for the co-operation of all the parishioners. The Rev. P. Mayes succeeds the late Rev. C. P. Sparling, recently deceased.

Church of the Messiah, Toronto.

Last Sunday, services for the twenty-eighth anniversary were held in the Church of the Messiah, Toronto. The Vicar, Rev. S. A. Selwyn, completed three years in this charge the previous Sunday. He had asked the parishioners for \$1,000 as a special anniversary offering. Over \$1,100 was given at the services. The special preachers were Dr. W. T. Hallam and Dr. Griffith Thomas. The excellent music was a noticeable feature of the services.

Victory Bonds Purchased.

The Sunday School of St. Matthew's, Toronto, has purchased Victory Bonds to the amount of \$400, which sum will be devoted to the endowment of the Indian and Esquimaux work.

Plan Federal Church in United States.

Representatives of nine Protestant denominations have accepted an invitation of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America to meet in Philadelphia, December 3, to consider a proposal of the Presbyterian General Assembly for "Organic union of the Evangelical churches in America." The plan, as presented for discussion, calls for an interdenominational council to work out a plan for making "One federal church out of all these denominations." The denominations which will be represented at the conference are the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States, Reformed Church in the United States, United Presbyterian Church of North America, Methodist Episcopal Church, Congregational Churches, Disciples of Christ, Evangelical Synod of North America and Moravian Church in America.

A Worthy Record.

Sincere and general were the expressions of regret at the annual meeting of the Infants' Home and Infirmary, Toronto, on November 15th, when it was announced that the president, Mrs. Wm. Boulbee, of St. Luke's Church, Toronto, who for the past 30 years has been on the ladies' board, was retiring from office. The Hon. Featherston Osler spoke of the many and great services she had rendered the institution. For 13 years Mrs. Boulbee was treasurer, and for the last 17 years has been president. On behalf of the board of management, Mr. Featherston Osler presented Mrs. Boulbee with a very handsome china breakfast service.

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**The
Jolly Animals' Club**
By LILIAN LEVERIDGE

XX.

A Thing of Mystery.

"MRS. Bear," said Puck one evening, just as the darkness was settling down over the Merry Forest. He glanced over his shoulder and spoke in a half whisper, and there was a sort of haunted look in his eye. "Mrs. Bear, do you know, I have a queer feeling all the time that there's something around."

"Something around!" exclaimed Mrs. Bear in surprise. "I should think there are a good many things around. What do you mean?"

"Oh, I can't just explain it, and I suppose you'll think me crazy. I don't mean anything we can see; but there's something queer. I don't feel safe, and every little while there's a sort of creepy feeling comes over me, and all the hair on my back stands straight on end."

"How very strange!" cried Mrs. Bear in alarm. "Surely you must be sick. You'd better go home and go to bed."

"Bed! I couldn't think of such a thing! I tell you, Mrs. Bear, there's no joking about it. There's something in the Merry Forest that shouldn't be here, and none of us are safe. Don't you feel kind of queer yourself?"

Mrs. Bear was silent for a minute, and then she whispered: "Now you mention it, I do feel rather creepy. Whatever do you suppose can be the reason? What can the Thing be?"

"That's what I'd like to find out. But it's very certain that we have a dangerous enemy lurking not far away, and I think everyone in the Merry Forest should be warned to be on the watch."

"I think so too, and I'll tell everybody I see."

Mrs. Bear did tell everybody she saw, and she made it a point to see a good many. It was a strange thing that everyone, upon hearing of the mysterious Thing that was hiding in the Forest, felt that queer creepy feeling. Still, all that night and the next day passed without anything being discovered or anything happening.

In the evening there was to be a meeting of the Jolly Animals' Club. The lamps were all lit in the Cave of Fireflies when Puck, the monkey, and Fleetfoot, the deer, arrived. They came together, and were the first.

Both stopped short in the doorway with a little cry of alarm. The Thing had been there! It had actually been in their own secret Cave! It was the Thing, sure enough, they smelt it! And though it was nowhere to be seen, it must have been there only a few minutes ago.

Fleetfoot started and trembled; her nostrils widened and her eyes grew as big as tea saucers. "I know what the Thing is now," she gasped wildly. "It's a Man—one of the kind with a fire inside of him, and that's the most dangerous kind there is. Oh dear! Where can we go? What can we do?"

By this time quite a little crowd were gathering at the door of the Cave, and it seemed plain to everybody that Fleetfoot was right. There was the unmistakable smell of smoke in the air—not ordinary wood smoke, but something with a strong, peculiar odor that had never been known to come from anything but a Man with a fire in his inside. More than one of the Jolly Animals had seen this deadly-dangerous enemy, but for the benefit of those who hadn't, Puck ex-



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plained that the smoke came in little puffs out of his mouth or through a very tiny chimney. Sometimes he had a larger chimney, long and black. Both fire and smoke came out of this, with a noise like thunder, and if anybody were in sight, as likely as not he would die suddenly with the shock.

"There will be no meeting to-night," said Professor Owl after a while. "The best thing we can do is to form ourselves into a search party, all keep together, and hunt through every foot of the Merry Forest until the enemy is found. Then, all pitch into him, tooth and claw, and make an end of him."

This seemed very good advice, and the party began its search at once. They searched until long past midnight without finding so much as a track of the enemy, which was very strange indeed. Everybody was very tired when at last they returned to the Cave. Some of the birds had given up and gone home to their nests, and Puck also had been missing for the last hour.

Fleetfoot and Mrs. Bear came once more to the door of the Cave, and again they stopped short with a cry—this time a cry of surprise and rage rather than of fear.

There on the edge of the platform, with his arms folded and his legs crossed and with the Queen of Sheba's hat stuck sideways on his head, sat Puck—smoking a pipe!

"Ha, ha, ha! Ho, ho, ho! He, he, he!" laughed Puck, waving his pipe in the air. "Aren't we a jolly lot? Aren't we clever? Couldn't fool us, eh? Not by a long shot! Ho, ho, ho! He, he, he! Ha, ha, ha!"

"You'd better laugh while you have the chance," growled Mrs. Bear in a rage. "It's our turn now. Catch him, you fellows! He's got to be taught a lesson for once in his life."


As she spoke, Mrs. Bear rushed forward. Fleetfoot and Quilly-Coat and all the rest of them followed, and a wild chase began which would have knocked down the walls if they hadn't been pretty solid. Puck was spry, but he had no chance against so many.

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