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C. Blackett Robinson, Editor.

OTTAWA, WEDNESDAY, NOV. 8 1905.

In our advertising columns will be found the prospectus of the United Empire Bank of Canada, with headquarters in Toronto. It is being organized by Mr. George F. Reid, for several years the successful manager of the St. Lawrence Bank; and this fact is a guarantee that the new bank, under his experienced management, will prove a money maker from the start. The rapid growth of population and the wonderful expansion of business render necessary the increase of banking facilities; and we feel safe in saying that the stockholders of the United Empire Bank will find their investment a safe and profitable one. The stock books are now open at the address stated in the prospectus.

The Fourteenth Alumni Conference of Queen's University came to a successful close yesterday. The attendance was fully up to that of last year; the addresses were given and discussions taken part in with all the old time vigor.

Contrary to what we usually find in such gatherings, the opening meeting (on Monday afternoon) was well attended, and the topic "The Problem of No-Church Goers: Why and How to Reach Them," was discussed with great interest. One speaker raised the point, "Let a man build a fire on a cold day in the centre of a large room and the people will soon gather around the fire." Another speaker said that "the great trouble with the non-church goer was that he did not feel the cold, therefore did not appreciate the need of a fire. Thought if he lived a square life he was alright and did not require the help of the church. However, there would come a time in that man's life when overtaken by accident or sickness came into his family, he would appreciate the helpful sympathy of the church and the faithful pastor must always be on the alert to take advantage of such opportunities." Rev. J. A. McDonald, Toronto, in his topic Monday night, "The Place of the Preacher in the Making of the Nation" had one of his old time treats for his hearers.

One noticeable feature of the conference was the large part of the programme filled by Queen's professors. As usual, Prof. Watson gave two addresses and Prof. Cappon one. The place Prof. Cappon holds in

the hearts of the students was easily seen by the large number of them present at his lecture.

The chief feature of the conference seemed to be the "Chancellor's Lecture-ship." In these nightly lectures given by Prof. Shortt problems of living, vital interest were discussed. No one attending these lectures could fail to see the immense advantage the pastor, who has a wide knowledge of the economic and social problems affecting the everyday life of the people, has over his poorer informed brother in the work. The well-informed man knows what he is doing and is able to direct his blows against the root of our social and political evils, while the man lacking this knowledge is working largely in the dark.

The annual election of officers took place Friday morning, when the Rev. Dr. MacTavish, Toronto, was re-appointed president. Rev. J. W. H. Milne, Ottawa, vice-president, and Rev. Alexander Laird, Kingston, secretary, and Rev. Dr. MacTavish, Cook's Church, Kingston, was given the additional office of treasurer.

SORROW'S BRIGHT SIDE.

Only the Father in heaven knows all the "why of suffering." But he is ready to give glimpses of its brighter side to those whom he trusts and honors in his call to suffering, even while the sorrow is heavy upon them, if they will let him do so. A mother who had been entrusted alone with the training of her four boys after their father had been taken home, and who had seen the oldest son lay down his life in service for others, was called upon to give up still another son to special service above. To friends, the sorrow seemed crushing; yet because the mother herself was looking for the brighter side, she could see what they could not. "Why, I oughtn't to complain," she said bravely, a few days after her loss; "John has two of his boys with him now, and I have two with me." Only the chastening of suffering could have brought out that perfume from the crushed flower. But it is God's loving purpose that every afflicted child of his shall bring earth a little nearer to heaven.

IN MEMORIAM.

MRS. A. C. WISHART.

The sudden death of Mrs. Wishart, wife of the Rev. A. C. Wishart, B.A., of Knox Church, Beaverton, came as a great shock to the congregation as well as the entire community. To the members of Knox Church, among whom she took her place as their minister's wife ten months ago, her early death seems like a personal loss, so greatly had she endeared herself to every one who knew her. Her bright, winning manner, kind, sympathetic nature, with a charming personality, made her a favorite with old and young alike. Mr. Wishart has the sympathy of all in his sad bereavement. The following from the Galt Reporter, shows how she was loved where she was best known:

"Mrs. Wishart, known to hundreds of affectionate friends as Hester Millican, was uniformly admired and beloved by those who knew her, most beloved by those who knew her best. Beautiful in face and form, her character was marked by native sweetness, candour and gentleness, while a winsome gravity, blending with sparkling mirthfulness, rendered her singularly attractive to both old and young. Sincere, serious, sympathetic, impulsive, her whole life was fragrant, while the power of a quiet and unobtrusive religious life touched it all with a nobler beauty. In every good work, both in Knox church, to which she belonged, and in all philanthropic and unselfish enterprises, she was an earnest and potent force. Her memory will be cherished with gratitude and love by hundreds who prized her friendship."

A WIFE'S PRAYER.

A wife's prayer, nearly as beautiful as the prayer of Naomi, is expressed in these words: "Lord, bless and preserve that dear person whom thou hast chosen to be my husband; let his life be long and blessed, comfortable and holy, and let me also become a great blessing and comfort unto him, a sharer in all his sorrows, a meet helper in all his accidents, and changes in the world; make me amiable forever in his eyes, and forever dear to him. Unite his heart to me in the dearest love and holiness, and mine to him in all sweetness, charity and complaisance. Keep me from all ungentleness and discontentedness, unreasonableness, and make me humble and obedient, useful and observant, that we may delight in each other according to thy blessed Word, and both of us rejoice in thee, having our portion in the love and service of God forever. Amen!"—Anon.

SHIFTING THE COMMA.

In considering the affairs of Russia, it is sometimes forgotten that our Royal Family is related by marriage to that of the land of the Tsars.

The Dowager-Empress of Russia, who is sister of our own Queen Alexandra, exercised an excellent influence over her husband, Alexander III., who was at times inclined to be severe.

The Tsarina one day saw on the Tsar's writing-table a document relating to some political prisoners, and on it Alexander had written: "Pardon impossible, to be sent to Siberia." The Tsarina took up the pen and altered the punctuation, making the sentence read: "Pardon, impossible to be sent to Siberia."

The Tsar was so struck with her ingenuity that he would not alter it, and the paper was sent in its amended form.

BETTER THAN SEEING.

Believing is better than seeing. It is sometimes so in the material world,—better to take a ship into harbor by a trustworthy chart than by the best eyes. But it is always so in the spiritual world. Which is the nobler, better man,—he who is honest because he sees gain in it, or he who is honest because he believes in honesty, as a high principle of conduct? Which is better,—the man who sees that dissipation is unhealthy, and therefore restrains himself, or the man who cherishes an unseen ideal of character, and so shrinks from the crossness of debauchery and sin? Which is the sweeter, better love,—that which sees gain, or social position, or worldly influence, and so renders the pledges of affection; or the love "proof o' shot to birth or money," whose silken bonds are woven of the unseen things of esteem, and reverence, and affection? The Apostle went to the heart of the matter when he wrote that in spiritual things we walk by faith, and not by sight. He walks very feebly and uncertainly, indeed, and goes only a little way, who walks by sight; but he walks in the light and he goes far, who is guided and upheld by a compelling and an unswerving faith.

RICH EXPERIENCE.

It is the purpose of God to make His children stronger, better and more useful. So He permits experiences to come to us that will broaden our outlook, give us earthly things their real value, and inspire us to form Christian characters of the best material heaven can give. He lets a true disciple catch glimpses of Him, and the joy that is set before us that will enable us to overcome temptation, bear burdens uncomplainingly, and do Christian work faithfully, and thus change us into the image of His dear Son. Not a few of these rich experiences come to us through prayer when alone with Him.

"O Master, it is good to be
Entranced, enrapt, alone with Thee."