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NOTE AND COMMENT

Although the Reformed Church of France has but 100,000 members, it gives annually to foreign missions \$200,000.

English naval officers have recommended that seamen who do not care for the daily ration of "grog," to which all sailors on men-of-war are entitled, shall be paid instead of the drink a penny a day. It is estimated that there are twenty thousand totalers in the British navy.

The Calvinist Methodist Foreign Missionary Society has just brought out a new edition of 10,000 copies of Welsh hymns in the Khasi language. The hymns were edited by Rev. Dr. Griffiths, who for many years labored as a medical missionary on the Khasi Hills, in the northeast of Hindostan.

President Roosevelt, in a published letter, declared that no man should be discriminated against even as a candidate for the presidency because he was a Roman Catholic. In Canada no man suffers on account of his religious belief. When a Wilfrid Laurier appeals to the American people for the highest place in their gift he will get it.

A sad outcome of the saloons of New York is the necessity for a "bread line." Such an institution exists on the Bowery, where from Thanksgiving to Easter, at one o'clock in the morning, a breakfast of hot coffee and rolls is furnished to men who apply. More than 300,000 breakfasts and over 57,000 lodgings were supplied last season.

The first Church of England service in Canada was held in 1710, when Nova Scotia came under the British crown, after the capture of Port Royal, since changed to Annapolis Royal, in honor of Queen Anne. The services of the church have been continuous since in many parts of British North America. In 1910 the bicentenary will be celebrated.

An odd feature of the First Presbyterian Church of Boston is the receiving and forwarding of mail for its members. Many of the latter are from Ireland, Scotland, and the Maritime Provinces, and are engaged in domestic services, so that they use the church as their permanent mail address. The church has been called the "Church of the Letter from Home."

The difficulties of rounding the Cape of Good Hope, with its Antarctic seas, is shown in the fact that a British bark, Inverclyde, meeting the usual storms and heavy seas, put about while bound for the Pacific port of Victoria, B.C., sailed East, went around the world, and arrived at the Pacific port sooner than other sailing vessels of the same owner which persisted in rounding Cape Horn. The Panama Canal will change all that.

A new denominational union formed in India is known as the South India United Church and is made up of Congregationalists and Presbyterians. The Presbyterians are the Madras Mission of the United Free Church of Scotland and the Arcot Mission of the Reformed Church in America. The Congregationalists contributed to the union the Madura and Jaffna missions of the American Board and the Travancore mission of the London Missionary Society. Altogether this makes a denomination of 22,000 members, representing 140,000 adherents of the name of Christ. The Confession of Faith is brief.

The alertness of those who direct the international activities of the Young Men's Christian Association appears in the publication at Tokyo of a monthly periodical in English, The Chinese Student in Japan. In the Mikado's capital are more than 5,000 young Chinamen seeking learning. The association is endeavoring to influence for Christ these future leaders of the Chinese Empire. It provides dormitories, or "hoetels," where they may live somewhat secluded from the surging temptations of a Japanese city. It supports Chinese secretaries for them, and now it enlists the printing press on the side of Christian living.

The Woman's Foreign Missionary Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church in the United States provided in its closing session in Cincinnati, November 5 pensions for retired missionaries, the pension to be in the nature of a retirement fund for the benefit of superannuated and invalid missionaries. This is the first missionary society to take such action in this country. The receipts of the year were \$673,400.04. The apportionment among the eleven branches into which the society is divided in the different sections of the United States provided for raising a larger sum than ever for the work during the coming year.

Says the Medical Record: Dr. Mary Eddy, an American physician in Beirut, Syria, has established a sanatorium for the treatment of pulmonary tuberculosis on the heights of Mount Lebanon, Syria. An English trained nurse has been installed as matron, and the consulting physician is Professor Harris Graham, a Canadian. The dread of tuberculosis is very great in Syria; patients are shunned more than those suffering from leprosy, and in many cases are deprived of proper care. Up to the present there has been no place where they might find shelter and treatment. The new sanatorium has eighteen rooms and a group of tent houses for open-air treatment of men patients.

The Congregationalist says that the chairman of the Prohibition National Committee, is responsible for the statement that: "After Kansas City had enjoyed enforced prohibition for less than ninety days the public schools reopened for the fall term. They had to employ eighteen new teachers because no fewer than six hundred boys and girls from twelve to eighteen years old had come to school for the first time. These gave as their reason for non-attendance in former years that they had to assist drinking fathers to earn livings for the families." Of course, everybody knows, though hardly anybody stops to realize, that a drunken father or mother means an overburdened and under educated child.

Announcement has been made that the Oceanic Steam Navigation Company of Liverpool (the White Star Line), a subsidiary company of the International Mercantile Navigation Company, is about to issue first-mortgage debentures to the amount of \$6,250,000 as additional capital for the construction of the four new liners at Belfast. Two of these four steamers will be for the Canadian trade, and the remaining two will be the largest steamships afloat, the Titanic and Olympic, for the Southampton service. These last named liners will be 42,000 tons, and from 900 to 1,000 feet long. They will be furnished and decorated in a superior style to anything hitherto attempted by the White Star Line, and are expected to be ready for the summer season of 1910.

Hospitals have to be somewhere; so have consumptive dispensaries, says the Montreal Witness. Dislike for them is, for the most part, pure prejudice. The objection on the score of danger to health will not bear investigation. It was shown with regard to a contagious diseases hospital in the thickest part of Boston that the diseases treated were less rife within a circle of which it was the centre than elsewhere. As for the danger from tuberculosis, the precautions that it is the mission of a dispensary to inculcate are of a sort to make its neighborhood safer than elsewhere where consumptives are spitting on every sidewalk. And yet the Ottawa aldermen can not agree upon a site, although the money is forth-coming for the building.

Andrew Carnegie gave \$5,000,000 recently to some of his pet projects in Pittsburgh, remarks the Philadelphia Presbyterian, but he has not denied himself because of that of one lump of sugar for his coffee. But a man handed to us at the close of a church service recently \$1.00, and said, "I must give this to the cause that you have presented. It is all I can give. I have been out of work for months, I do not know when I shall get work. My son works four hours a day for part of the week, but that is all we have." We thought of Mr. Carnegie's millions. We wanted to refuse the \$1.00, but something said, "Jesus once sat over against the treasury and saw a woman cast in a gift, and spoke about it," so we took the \$1.00, knowing that it meant sacrifice and love.

The "Christian Work and Evangelist" tells of how, since the separation of Church and State in France an Association of Working Priests has been founded, to meet the necessities of that large body of French clergy who are in distress by reason of the refusal of some parishes, and the inability of others, to pay their priest a living salary. The association has already a membership of five hundred priests, and a newspaper, with a large number of French and foreign subscribers. The members of the association are found in many employments—agriculture, market gardening, pharmacy, mechanics, jewelry, metal engraving, book-binding, weaving, art industries, painting, surveying, architecture, wood carving. Most of the "working priests" (evidently, not all of them) carry on their industries in their parsonages and with no apparent detriment to their pastoral duty.

General Booth, in the course of an interesting interview on South Africa, from which country he has just returned, refers to the great depression among white men, who, he says, prefer to supervise the work of others rather than do work themselves. The natives, on the other hand, are ingenious in trade and industrious in work, and are growing in both numbers and power. "You must do something with the black man and you must do it quickly," says the General. "Some people say there are only two things to do, either to exterminate or to enslave him. But both are impossible now. You must civilize him properly; make him a self-respecting individual, take him away from his old tribal conditions. You must Christianize him, so that he is not only taught to read and write and calculate, but is changed in heart. You must befriend him and make him feel that it is better to work with you rather than without you or against you. Otherwise there will be terrible and appalling trouble."