

SPRING MEETINGS ARE CONCLUDED

The Congregational Churches
Wound Up Sessions in Lon-
don Last Night.

THE CURSE OF LIQUOR

Owing to the Number of Foreigners
Coming Into the Country the Traffic
Was Declared To Be a National
Menace.

At yesterday afternoon's session of the spring meetings of the Western Association of Congregational Churches, a discussion on "The Model Constitution" was led by Rev. W. T. Gunn, of Toronto. Mr. Gunn said that the model constitution was the present constitution of the Western Association, remodelled so much that it could hardly be recognized. After some discussion the matter was finally left to the executive committee, and they will present their views on the question at the fall meeting of the association, when the matter will be decided.

The Social Outlook.
The feature of the afternoon was the address of Rev. W. E. Gilroy, of Hamilton, "The Social Outlook; Where Are We Going?" The awakening to democracy is the main factor in men's lives, said the speaker, in opening his address. "Democracy is not as common as it is thought to be. In the British Parliament, where the Commons is supposed to run affairs, it is the cabinet that really governs. In industrial life the managers of large manufacturing concerns have far more power than the public think they have, as the most important question in a man's life is his livelihood, his views naturally concur with those of his employers. The speaker cited a case that happened in Hamilton, where men were refused work with one firm because of the agreement that firm had with the previous employers of the men.

Weakness of Unions.
The weakness of trades unionism is that some of the leaders of the labor men have been dishonest, and so killed the respect of the men for their leaders, although most of the officers of the different unions have sacrificed their time and money for the cause, and are good citizens.
He said that one could not foretell the political history of a country, as there were many circumstances where a man would change his view of life entirely, and so upset all calculations. The speaker said: "We may not be drifting towards Socialism, but we are drifting towards public control. Public control will come before public ownership and socialism."

A National Menace.
In reference to the large number of foreigners who are entering this country, the liquor traffic becomes a great national menace. These newcomers settled down in the poorer sections of the different cities, and owing to their nature, the liquor easily excites and causes the large number of murders and assaults in the larger cities.
The great need of today is the need of leadership and this leadership must be within the church and have some of the ideals of the church.
The evening session which brought the spring meeting to a close, was addressed by Rev. Edwin Hobbs on "The Truce of God," and Rev. G. A. McKenzie, of this city, on "Mountain Springs and Trailing Streams."
The fall meeting will be held next October in Burford.

The Officers.
The officers elected were:
President—Rev. A. E. Cooke, Stratford.
Secretary—Rev. W. D. Spence, Embury.
Treasurer—Rev. W. H. A. Claris, London.
Home Missionary Representative—Rev. Matthew Kelly, Brantford.
Registrar—Rev. D. A. Armstrong, Frome.
Chairman—Credential Committee—Rev. W. E. Gilroy, B.A., Hamilton.

NO CANADIANS LOST.
Cairo, Egypt, April 10.—There were no Canadians or Americans among the victims of the collision between an excursion steamer and another vessel which occurred near the great dam below Cairo on the Nile on Monday evening. According to reports of eyewitnesses, the persons drowned were all natives.

A WELL-KNOWN CHICKEN MAN

Poultry Review Has Interesting
Article on the Life of
William McNeil.

WON VERY MANY PRIZES

"Cleaned Up" \$1,360 at the World's
Fair in St. Louis—Knows All About
the Business.

Mr. H. B. Donovan, editor of the Canadian Poultry Review, in a series of articles in that magazine on "Canadian Judges" deals with Mr. William McNeil, of this city, one of the oldest and most widely-known in the business. It is an interesting sketch of this famous Londoner, and will be appreciated by the readers of The Advertiser. It is as follows:

In beginning a brief biography of leading prominent Canadian judges, we give Mr. William McNeil, one of our oldest and probably the most experienced fancier in Canada, pride of place. As we said in last issue, if Mr. Sharp, Butterfield, were now in active work, we would give him the priority. The editor of the Review has known Mr. McNeil for about thirty years. We have often fought it out in the show room and when we won no one was quicker to congratulate us than "Uncle Billy," one instance comes to mind particularly emphasizing this. Some twenty-five years ago, if not more, when the Ontario Poultry Association show was held in St. Catharines, we exhibited the Buff Pekin Bantam cockerels, as they were then called. Of these we won first and second, and a win in the Pekin classes in those days meant a good deal, as the breed was then a new one and rapidly gaining popularity. We were not present at the show, but when Mr. McNeil got home he took the time and trouble to write us a letter of congratulation. This meant a good deal to a young breeder, especially from such a keen competitor as the subject of our sketch. We have never forgotten it, though, probably the incident, being one of many, has escaped Mr. McNeil's memory.

As long as we have known him, Mr. McNeil has been active in the up-building of the poultry business in Canada, and not from one side only, but in all its various branches. He believes that in helping others he helps himself, and that in helping himself he helps others. This is the kind of mutual interest that we want more of.

When a boy, and by the way, he was born in the County Armagh, he was very fond of hunting and shooting and always kept a dog or ferrets. The poultry fever struck him while he was with the game-keeper at Lord Lurgan's demesne, County Armagh, Ireland. It was accidental, while employed at Lord O'Neill's castle in the County of Antrim. He says himself that, like all wild Irishmen, he got married while very young, and in 1867, soon after his marriage, he and his good wife came to Canada with a determination to secure a reasonable amount of this world's goods. We are revealing no secret when we say that this resolution has been fulfilled. Mr. McNeil, through hard work, thrift, and that readiness to turn a dollar into two dollars, has become independent of further toil and turmoil. But he is too young yet, and too active, to give up the fight.

The Beginning.
His first introduction into poultry circles in Canada he describes as follows:

"The first spring I was in this country I got a setting of Golden Spangled Hamburg eggs from the late Colonel John Peters, and bred them. I might say, even down to about two years ago. The first fall I was here I got the position of superintendent of poultry at the Western Fair, London, and also that for the provincial show. I held these positions for fourteen years, travelling all over the province to the different cities, and in that time I got to be pretty well a professional breeder, and raised and sold some of the best exhibition birds. The first bird I showed in the United States was at the Centennial in Philadelphia. I won a medal there for the best Silver Polish, and from that date I was an exhibitor. I went in very largely to breed and show them. I was at the first poultry show held in Madison Square Gardens, New York, and showed there very successfully for quite a

few years, winning more prizes than any other breeder there. I have been shown at Boston, Mass., ever since it opened, always winning more prizes than any other breeder. I showed four times at Kansas City, Missouri, in 1892-3-4-5. In 1892 I won a piano for the largest collection there. In 1893-4 another piano for the largest collection, and in 1895 I won \$150 of a special for the largest exhibit. In each of these years my prize money amounted to between eight and nine hundred dollars. At the World's Fair in Chicago, I won more prizes than any other three exhibitors, and at the Pan-American at Buffalo, N. Y., also won more prizes than any other breeder.

A Big Win.
"At the World's Fair, St. Louis, I won more money than any other breeder, \$1,360 in cash. I have showed at Buffalo, Detroit, and all the large shows on this side of the line, and have been very successful. In all my time as an exhibitor I have never entered a protest; and have never had a word with a judge only with the best of good feeling. I have tried to make it pleasant for the secretary and management of the show, and I think that is why I have got along so well and have been so successful, for no matter what I asked for I could always get it. I have handled a great number of varieties of poultry, but have never tried to originate any new variety. I always tried to make existing breeds a little better and keep them up to the standard. I have bred all the Asiatic varieties very successfully, also all Polands and Hamburgs. I bred White and Brown Leghorns, Black, Buff, White Cochins, Bantams, Golden and Silver Sebrights, Black Tailed and White Japanese, Black and White Rose Comb, Polish Bantams and Silkies. I have raised most of all my stock with hens, but have raised better birds with the incubators than with the hens. I bought four brooders last year, and raised my chicks that way. I like it best; there is less trouble with a brooder than with fussy hens." For several years now Mr. McNeil's valuable services have been in request at some of our largest shows. In fact, he has been called on to judge much more frequently than he has any desire to act. His extensive experience has given him a splendid all-round knowledge, and after all it takes a breeder and exhibitor, one who has to know the good and the bad points, to give intelligent decisions. The condition in which he put down some of the rarer varieties, White Cochins for instance, was an object lesson for exhibitors of that time, and in fact, for any time.

A Particular Pet.
If Mr. McNeil had a particular pet it was the Poultry Association of Ontario, since developed into those two immense bodies, the Western Ontario Poultry Association. He has held office in more associations and clubs than we could number, and has acted

Guard Your Eyesight!

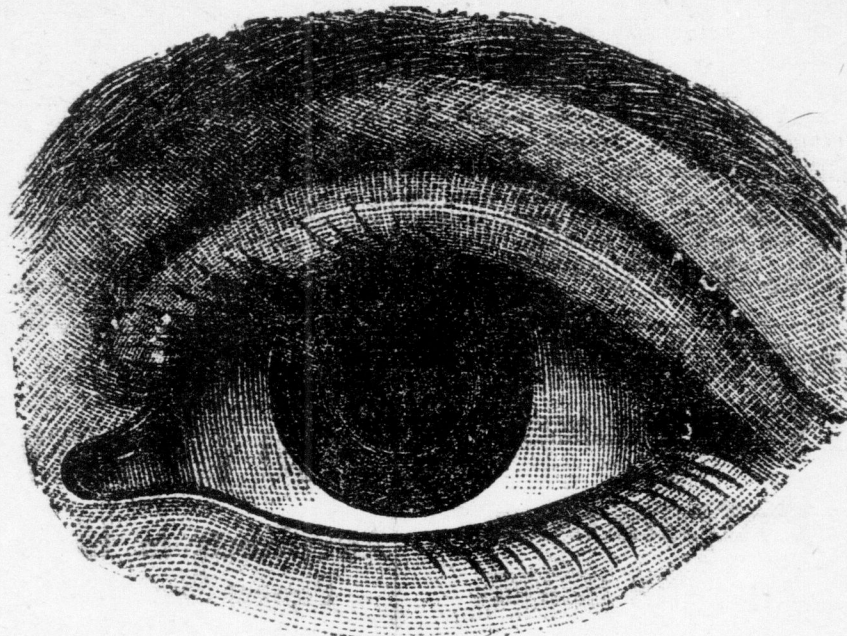
Great Six-Day Cut-Rate Optical Sale

Starting Friday, April 12
Ending April 19

ONE DOLLAR : : : ONE DOLLAR

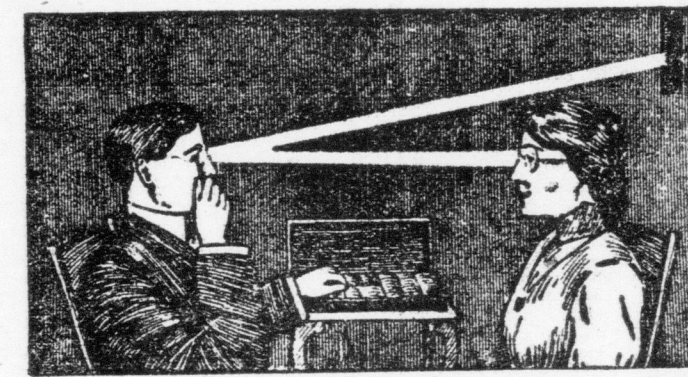
Notice

All who were customers during my previous sale are requested to call. I make good all my work if your glasses require adjusting or changing. Call in.



Children's Day

Next Wednesday we will devote the entire day to fitting Children's Eyes, so, mothers, take advantage of this, and bring the children early. OFFICE HOURS, 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.



EYES EXAMINED FREE—SATISFACTION AND ACCURACY GUARANTEED. WE GIVE YOU A PERFECT FIT.

I have engaged one of Toronto's leading Eye Specialists to do our fitting, and I guarantee all his work. I have secured 600 pairs of assorted frames, all 10-karat gold-filled, guaranteed. The glasses are worth \$5 to \$10 in the regular way of buying. Also the best white metal frames. This is a Special Reduction Sale to advertise our Optical Department during this dull season, and each and every customer receives just the same care and attention as though they were paying regular prices. These specialists have discovered this wonderful new method of examining the eye—the Shadow Test. This wonderful new method of shadow testing does away with the prolonged strain of testing with lenses or asking questions.

This is the chance of a lifetime to have your eyes properly examined. What you get for your money: Gold-filled frame, properly fitted, and your eyes carefully examined. BEWARE OF THE CHILD AT SCHOOL. Does your child suffer from short sight, a tendency to headaches, or to squinting? If these defects, however small at present, now is the time to have it remedied. 'Tis easier to overcome now than later on. Many a child's seeming backwardness at school can be traced to a defect of this kind. We make a specialty of testing children's eyes. We do not rely on the answers of a child as to what he sees. Our method of scientific measurement by means of rays of light enables us to find the slightest defect. We have special frames for children. Take advantage of this great sale. No need for reading and distance glasses. We make them up in one pair. Be sure and bring the children.

WINING THE RELIABLE DRUGGIST

S. W. CORNER DUNDAS AND WELLINGTON STREETS.

STRATHROY CHURCH HAD A PROSPEROUS YEAR

St. John's Congregation Reduced Its Debt From \$2,000 to \$700.

[Special to The Advertiser.]
Strathroy, April 10.—The congregation of St. John's Anglican Church faces the new year with a cheerful outlook, and the record since last Easter is very encouraging. The new vestry and supplied choir, with the debt on the church reduced from \$2,000 to \$700, the parish house free from all debt, with a new piano for the Sunday school, with a new library of nearly 200 volumes, and sectional bookcases, all show a satisfactory advance.
The vestry assembled at 8 p.m., with the rector, Rev. Rural Dean Robinson, in the chair, and Mr. R. F. Richardson, vestry clerk, recorded the minutes. The report of the wardens, read by Mr. George Weeks, people's warden, showed a balance of \$67 in the treasury.
The rector read his annual report, showing 16 infants baptized and 2 adults; 9 marriages, and 17 burials. The latter is the largest number recorded. Eleven different clergymen had taken service during the year, among them two bishops, Qu'Appelle and Huron. The Lenten services were well attended. The average attendance of the congregation markedly increased; 109 communicants attended the Easter administration of the sacrament.
Mr. George Weeks was re-elected people's warden. Mr. James Sadleir, having asked to retire after years of faithful service, retired from the position of rector's warden. The rector, Mr. R. J. Avery and Dr. A. S. Thompson all paid tributes to Mr. Sadleir's good work. The rector appointed Mr. F. L. E. Evans, editor of the Age, his warden for the year.
Mr. Sadleir, superintendent of the Sunday school, presented his annual report.
The following were elected for the year:
Sidesmen—Dr. A. S. Thompson, Messrs. Dampier, A. Stevenson, Endacott, J. Wright, Jervis, Maine, Bixal, Avery, M. Rapley, and F. J. Wright.
Select Vestry—Messrs. Sadleir, Kinder, Avery, Pincombe, C. Wright, H. S. Rapley and Dr. Thompson.
Auditors—Messrs. M. Rapley and Kinder.
Vestry Clerk—Mr. R. F. Richardson.
Treasurer—Mr. H. S. Rapley.
Votes of thanks were given to the choir, organist, choir leader, Sunday school organist, Working Society and Ladies' Society.
The vestry adjourned for two weeks. At the congregational meeting which

"PORTUGAL HAS HER LIBERTY AND I HAVE MINE"



Latest portrait of Dom Manuel, the exiled king of Portugal, at present domiciled in England. In the upper corner is the gigantic bust of "Liberty" being executed at the order of the Republican Government, which drove Manuel from his throne. The sculptor is the famous Joao Silveira, of Lisbon. It is placed in National Assembly House at Lisbon.

John Stuart was for security for the repayment of money advanced. The plaintiff asks for repayment of any moneys received from the sale of any portion of the property and for the conveyance of the property.

Try Cuticura Soap and Ointment Free
Although Cuticura Soap and Ointment are sold by druggists and dealers everywhere, a liberal sample of each, with 32-page booklet on the care and treatment of skin and hair, will be sent, post-free, on application to Potter Drug & Chem. Corp., Boston, U. S. A.

OLD GOLD



CIGARETTES

It'd give my last quarter
if I could only get a light

Only One "BROMO QUININE," that is
Laxative Bromo Quinine
Cures a Cold in One Day, Grip in 2 Days
on box 25c
E. W. Brown