The May Bulletin of the International Truth Society indicates that its affairs are prospering. The Society was founded for the defence of Catholic truth. It has run down the liar and slanderer and has earned a claim to the support and consideration of Catholics. We notice, too, that it has a rogues' gallery in the shape of the records of the anti-Catholic lecturer of the Margaret Shepherd stripe. We believe that this business is about played out in Canada. Still, it is well to remember that in case of our invasion of any of the peripatitic purveyors of the unclean, their records are on file and may be had for the asking.

AN ABSURD NOTION.

We are aware that our friends have what they are pleased to term a veneration for the Bible-that is as much of it as Rationalism has left them-but in this connection let us quote the words of a distinguished convert, who was known at one time as James Kent Stone. In his book "The Invitation Heeded," he says:

"Of all absurd notions which ever claimed large sway over the human mind, perhaps the most singular is that of a Supreme Being, Who for ages had spoken to men by direct communica-tion by ministers and prophets, having a special gift of His own Spirit, Who at last sent His Son with a message, should when He recalled that Son have simply put the record of all these trans-actions in a book and given to none any authoritative power of interpretation."

OLD CALUMNIES REVAMPED.

Our readers will remember that at the beginning of the Spanish-American the beginning of the Spanish-American war we published excerpts from various and ornate orations of our ministerial friends. They worked full time at restricted.

They worked full time at restricted and the matter, but just now give light on the matter of the minute calibre and trend of some o friends. They worked full time at resolutions. We had "Westward Ho" over again; also fresh pictures of the Inquisition and the saturnine and merciless friar. It was, nice creepy reading, spines of the inmates of old ladies' home and to make them fearful lest a terrible steal in upon them. So our friends the lesson and be humble and reverent packed their grips and turned their before the things of the other world. faces to the East on their crusade of enlightening the benighted Catholics of They are repeating the same old fairy and rooting for herbs.

A SUGGESTION.

Our scholars are looking forward now to the reward for the year's labor-for some prizes, and for all let us hope a few weeks of romping in the sunshine. And it seems to us that not a few of us are like scholars at this season. We, too, feel the exultation of life; and we which sound well and are inscribed on hark back to the days when we heard a the "minutes" for the edification of message in every breeze, and saw fan- posterity. Still, we have noticed that tastic castles in the blue, and spirits and goblins in the storm. If we cannot knife up their sleeves for their brethby the dust of the city, "every bush after with God," we can hunt up our old memory pictures of things that thrilled us in the years long since. be limited and our vision defective, but it seems to us that we have seen it not it seems to us that we have seen it not in the meeting room, but outside it. It in the meeting room, but outside it. It is ground and sharpened by the jealous thrilled us in the years long since.

into how they may best share the bur- beautiful actions we would have less dens of their less fortunate brethren.

AN UP-TO-DATE CREED.

A good many editors are talking quite seriously on the necessity of having an up-to-date creed. Ingersoll used to say that he could beat the Ten Commandments, and it looks as if some gentry of the press were approaching the same conclusion. We may dub this whittling away of revealed truth an evidence of increasing toleration or a sign that our needs are of a different order from those of preceding generation, but it is in reality an indifference to religion and the broad way leading to naked atheism. It is the wide open door to every species of blasphemous fakirs whether they meet in convention or go forth single-handed to preach their gospel for a consideration. What is the good of a revelation if a man can accept what pleases his fancy, and its doctrines are made the theme of the criticism of editor and preacher? To put Christ on trial, and by amending His Christianity to convict Him of igorance of the requirement of this generation, is the limit of foolish pride. What becomes of the words of the Apostle: "Though we, or an angel from Heaven, preach a Gospel to you, besides that which we have preached to you, let him be anathema."

SCIENTISTS IN A DILEMMA.

The question of the hour is what caused the eruption at Martinique. The scientists are prolific of conjectures and theories, but beyond this they have nothing to offer, and are in their own the searchers after nature's secrets are perplexed and baffled. It is too bad. We have been led to believe that some scientists could account for most anywarranted to send cold shivers up the thing; and now a thing within their own province throws them into consternation and reveals to them the abyss of their friar with a knife or is it a balo, should | ignorance. Perhaps they may profit by

And here is another interesting phase of the question. The different the Philippines. They are there now, theories that have come under our debt of sin. In the same way and having the time of their lives. notice have been rejected by this and that scientist because they were not They are repeating the same old fairy stories and mumbling the same old calumnies. And it is hoped that a propaganda of vilification may influence unfortunately is more honored in the Filinings whose ancestors were breach than in the observance. How the Filipinos whose ancestors were breach than in the observance. Howcivilized when the progenitors of the ever, so long as the geologist or any civilized when the progenitors of the ever, so long as the goods of the missionaries were using stone-hatchets other kind of an 'ist minds his own other kind of an 'ist minds his own contrition. Then we have no debts to pay again. Christ pays for all by His business by occupying himself with

LET US HELP EACH OTHER.

"It is pleasant to dwell in unity." Besides, it inspires many speeches some who dilate on the topic have a hie away to behold with eyes unblinded ren. Our experience, of course, may thrilled us in the years long since. is ground and sharpened by the jealous "Glooms of the live oaks, beautifully and mean - hearted. Sometimes the braided and woven," quiet fishing pools blade is made of calumny and misinteras beautiful as the white soul of a pretation of motives: at others, of actions which are the stock-in-trade of tain with the boys and the winds off the | those who have claws only to tear those river: the grave seniors who smiled at | who have wings. Again, it flashes forth our enthusiasm—all these come with in hints and insinuations, or takes the their burden of joy and of sadness form of prejudiced opposition, and it is for the hopes that are dead. But why used as remorselessly as the hired stiltrouble our readers with rambling re- etto of a bravo. Yet we talk of unity miniscences? What we started out to as we slay our brethren. We judge and say is we hope that the First Air Fund advocated by the RECORD will find not anything." We publish their failmany supporters. The fund is for the ings from the housetops, but take good gamins who sell newspapers and for for every tired little mortal who never gets beyond the confines of the pavement. There are a good many of them in vile rookeries which are a libel on civilization. Why they have not been torn down years ago, passes understanding. They are good enough for the landlord who takes his rent and has a mansion elsewhere, but they are had for those lord who takes his rent and has a mansion elsewhere, but they are bad for those who are obliged to live in them. Suppose, then, we give up the making of pants for the little heathen at the end of the world and take all the lads who are having a post graduate course in the kindly words and acts of those with the cellular out, the fold. Perhaps a strong man strong man are the following acts, which can only be made by the assistance of God's actual grace; namely, an act of faith or belief in revealed truths, an act of fear of God, in revealed truths, an act of charity, an act of hope and an act of charity, an act of repentance for past sins, with a purpose to avoid sin in the future and to keep the commandments: a desire to keep the commandments: a desire to the kindly words and acts of those with the cellular of the storm at sea: He raised the dead who are having a post graduate course in the kindly words and acts of those withthe college of the street, the mothers out the fold. Perhaps a strong man

talk about being discriminated against, and a sondarity that would make the politicians sit up and think. We are making no plea for the support of incompetency. We do not say that an individual beginning, for example, a professional career should be sought after to the exclusion of all other. But we are not extreme in thinking that we are not extreme in thinking that we should not add to the roughness of the road he has to travel by unfriendly and ignorant criticism. Adversity indeed tempers a man and makes him a more efficient instrument for the world's work; but the budding lawyer, or doctor, or merchant, will get it in due time without our contributing to it. And yet this is done in our parts by many of the dulcet speech and big prayer book. Is it because we have been so long in the rut that we brook no one trying to step out of it? Or because we have sat for years at the door of the temple of Prosperity content with scraps and leavings that we care not to see our friends taking a seat inside? Whatsoever the cause, it exists in all unloveliness; and while it does, it will do much to make us believe that the picture limned by various orators is but a mere caprice of the imagination. But we can make the picture a reality, not by words but by deeds. "Words," said Dr. Johnson, "are the daughters of earth and things are the sons of heaven."

further opportunity to escape from hell. Would you then call Him merciful?"

A. Look at the gates of hell. Behold your crucified Good pleading with you to avoid hell, with His arms outstretched to forgive you and to aid you; you hear Him say that out of hell there is no escape; you hear Him beseech you with all the power and eloquence of an infinite God of love and mercy not to throw away your soul for which He died and for which He pleads even now before the gates of hell; you

" QUESTION BOX."

Philadelphia Catholic Standard and Times, The following questions and answers, which are important alike for their depth and importance, will illustrate the calibre and trend of some of the minds were not, for lack of time, so much in detail as here given:

Q. "If the blood of Jesus Christ is efficacious and sufficient to pay the penalty for sin (you even claim a surplus for the granting of Indulgences), why is purgatory necessary to again pay the Why is hell necessary also; one

A. Why is hell necessary also; one is just as good a question as the other. Hell is necessary because we do not accept the condition laid down by Christ for the obtaining the merits of His sacrifice, and so we must pay again the debt of sin. In the same way is purga-tory necessary to again pay the debt due to sin, if any remains. We go to heaven when we accept the conditions laid down by Christ. made a good confession with imperfect business by occupying himself with material phenomena he is not likely to rush into metaphysical speculation and to unload his theories of God and the soul on a suffering planet.

| Day again. Christ pays for all by His passion. We go to purgatory when we have fulfilled the conditions for escaping hell, but have not fulfilled all the conditions for going to heaven. We have thus to pay the debt still due though our imperfect repentance, between though our imperfect repentance, between the description of the soul to cast aside its Saviour and damn itself reflects on the saviour and damn itself reflects on the holiness of God?"

No, I do not think so. God is alling non-Catholic study the question of such a Church without considering the knows only too well that men reject the knows only too well that men reject the saviour and reject her, the Saviour and reject the soul or a suffering planet. cause we have not allowed Christ to pay all the debt. By our sufferings here and in purgatory we pay again the debt

sacrifice of Christ?"

A. Man alone by his own sufferings cannot expiate sin. Man can do nothing in regard to sin or its punishments without the expiation or atonement of Christ. Man by himself cannot take after in purgatory, help to compensate for the imperfections of his repentance, after the guilt and eternal punishment after the guilt and eternal pursuants are freely taken away by God on account of the repentance. Sufferings in purgatory and on earth of themselves do not satisfy the justice of God for sin, but only inasmuch as they derive all their value from that all-availing atonement which Jesus Christ made atonement which Jesus Christ made upon the cross and in virtue of which alone all our good works find accept-ance in the sight of God.

Q. "If man is justified freely for His

(Christ's) sake, as the Scripture says, how can he be justified by his own

A. He is not justified by his own works.
The Council of Trent says we are said

under all circumstances all-merciful, and a solidarity that would make the and cannot be otherwise, whether there

A. I believe He is all-merciful be-cause the Roman Catholic Church (the authority on earth that can teach me as God and Christ can teach me, without an error, when it is question of God) declares that God is all-merciful, all holy, all just. Christ Himself inflicted all just. Christ Himself inflicted punishment on the money changers, and He was a God of mercy, and it was He who said, be perfect, as your Heavenly Father is perfect. Moreover, the infliction of punishment is the duty and right of justice. God is justice and has the right to punish. And when He punishes, it does not conflict with His mercy or His love.

Q. "He allows the souls to remain forever in hell and will give them no further opportunity to escape from hell. Would you then call Him mercital?"

even now before the gates of hell; you will not listen to the voice of love and mercy, you hurl open the gates of hell; you enter of your own free will and over the body of your crucified God; you force yourself within with full consent and deliberation; you know that there is no return, because God, a God of mercy and love and truth, has told you so; would you, could you turn around and demand of an outraged, mereiful, loving God to reopen the gates of hell or else you will call Him unmerciful? Would you then attempt to make out ere not, for lack of time, so much in etail as here given:
Q. "If the blood of Jesus Christ is Q. "If the blood of Jesus Christ is Q. "If the blood of Jesus Christ is the property of the laws of His quantity of the laws of His own nature. The law of infinite truth cannot conflict with the law of infinite mercy and of infinite love. One must not forget that our God is not only a God of love, of mercy, of justice; He is a God of truth. He cannot lie. The Church of God, the Roman Catholic Church, says that hell is everlasting. Christ said, depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire. Let us plead for protection of truth, as well as for the

protection of mercy and of love.

Q. "God permitted the soul to cast aside the crucified Son of God who guarded the gates of hell, and thus permitted the soul to damn itself. Hence mitted the soul to damn itself. Hence
He is not so merciful; at least, He is
not all-merciful."

A. This permission has nothing to
do with His mercy; it regards His

Holiness.
Q. "Then do you not think that this

all the debt. By our sufferings here and in purgatory we pay again the debt remaining due to sin on account of our imperfect repentance.

Q. "If man by his own suffering can expiate sin, what is the need of the sacrifice of Christ?"

A. Man alone by his own sufferings the control of the control of the sacrifice of the control of the c in this world? Why don't you say, it know the Church says sin came into the world by means of Adam and through the devil; but why permit the exist-ence of sin, at least mortal sin, at all? Why don't you say, if there were no mortal sins, there would be no damnation? Instead of trying to blame God for hell, come nearer home to what you are better acquainted with and speak of You know that you can sin. know that men commit mortal sin.
Why not say, and be done with the
whole difficulty of hell, God cannot be holy, since He allows men to commit mortal sin? You do not care to put it that way, because now you are treading on surer ground than that of hell; now there can be no quibbling. Well, then, I will put the question for you that you should have put in the beginning.
Q. "God cannot be holy, since He

allows to men the possibility of committing mortal sins."

A. You do not dare to put it that A. You do not dare to put it that way because you know that God, the God of infinite love, of infinite mercy, must also be a God of infinite sanctity. He can't be one without the other. Besides, you know He hates sin with an infinite hatred; you have heard the thunder of this hatred for sin in your

of His crucifixion?"

A. Why, Judas of course, Peter and

the Jews. Then who is to be blamed for the souls in hell? Not the holiness of God, but the souls of the damned. We blamed Judas and the Jews Q." We blamed Judas and for their sins because they are free to sin. Why, then, did God give men

A. "To know Him, love Him, serve Him in this world and be happy with Him in the next.
Q. "Can we blame God in any way

Q. "Can we blame God in any way for making us free, since it brings with it the possibility of sin?"

A. He had the right to make us free or not, and the liberty to choose between them: He exercised His right and His liberty. He chose to make us free, and He did so.

Q. "Is that the reason we cannot blame God in any way for the existence."

blame God in any way for the existence of sin and hell?

Yes, especially since God gave to all the necessary means to avoid sin and

Q. "Can priests commit sin?"
A. Yes; for they are men. All men can commit sin, but all men will be

can commit sin, but all men will be judged and condemned for their sins when unrepented. The priest will receive a worse punishment from God for his sins than the ordinary sinner: because he knows more, receives more graces from God, his responsibilities are more grave. Christ has said, To him to whom much has been given, much is expected.

much is expected.

Q. "Do you then admit that there were some bad Popes and Bishops and

priests before the Reformation?

A. Certainly. There always have been and always will be some bad officials in the Church. Even Christ had his Judas. Thank God, there are not

many of them in the Church!
Q. "Why, then do non-Catholics
make such an attack against the Church when they find in history some men who are not worthy Catholic officials? Why for this reason do they say the Catholic officials? lie Church cannot be the Church of A. Because they are like those who

attack God and cry out against Him, since Heallows sin to exist in the world since He allows sin to exist in the world and souls to damn themselves. They think the sanctity of God should not allow these things to exist. So the non-Catholic thinks that the sanctity of God should not allow sin to exist among officials of His Church on earth. And just as men turn from God because there is a hell, so also many non-Catho lies turn from the Church and say it is not the Church of God because God has not destroyed the official before he had a chance to sin, or at least so confirmed him in grace that he could not sin. This method when applied to the Church is just as false as when applied to God.
Just as God exists with sin on earth, so does the Church of God exist with sin among its officials. The right-thinking according God, and man does not condemn deny His existence because of sin and hell, so neither should the right - thinking non - Catholic condemn the Church nor deny the existence of the true Church because of the existence of sin among its officials. God never promised that the officials of the Church would not be able to sin. rmission to the soul to cast aside its
He promised she would teach without existence and attributes of God without whole stud of them.

BABIES AT CHURCH.

"Quip" in New Zealand Tablet.

All honor to the mother who brings the baby to church rather than miss Mass on a Sunday! Some one has said "a babe in a house is a well-spring of pleasure," Well, a house isn't a church, pleasure. Well, a noise is a tachirch, and it is pretty certain that a baby in church, so far from being a well-spring or any other sort of a spring of pleasure, is about the nearest approach to the sublimated quintessence of everything annoying that can be had at a cheap rate in this "vale of tears." Some of these "sweet, new blossoms of human-ity" wait with fiendish cunning until the solemn parts of the sacred function and then"let go" and prove that in case they fail to carry out their parents' designs and become bishops and nuns, they will at least qualify to become topnotchers in a fish-hawking or town-crier business. You can always tell a "squealer," because its mother who knows its pretty and winsome ways who knows its pretty and winster of the months of the months are under the months of t other babies—those that are "so awfully good, y'know"—think that they have been sent into this world solely to distract every one within a radius of ten seats by frantic and persistent but happily futile endeavors their own feet or to alter the architecture of their mothers' noses. And they the college of the street, the mothers who are tired and sick of the reek of

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the tenement and put them for a day now and then where everything is fresh and sweet. It is but an elementary schemes for the protection of our interests. If but one-half of the beautiful things we hear were translated into how they may best share the burs.

A GOOD WORK.

The Catholic Record.

the tenement and put them for a day does not get it from many of those who talk about sympathy and unfold airy schemes for the protection of our interests. If but one-half of the beautiful things we hear were translated into beautiful actions we would have less and sweet. It is but an elementary schemes for the protection of our interests. If but one-half of the beautiful things we hear were translated into beautiful actions we would have less and sweet. It is but an elementary schemes for the protection of our interests. If but one-half of the beautiful things we hear were translated into beautiful actions we would have less and sweet. It is but an elementary schemes for the protection of our interests. If but one-half of the beautiful things we hear were translated into beautiful actions we would have less and sweet. It is but an elementary schemes for the protection of our interests. If but one-half of the beautiful things we hear were translated into beautiful actions we would have less and sweet. It is but an elementary schemes for the protection of our interests. If but one-half of the beautiful actions we would have less and sweet. It is but an elementary schemes for the protection of our interests and sweet. It is but an elementary schemes for the protection of our interests and sweet. It is but an elementary schemes for the protection of our interests and sweet. It is but an elementary schemes for the protection of our interests and sweet. It is but an elementary schemes for the protection of our interests and sweet. It is but an elementary schemes for the protection of our interests and sweet. It is but an elementary schemes for the protection of our interests and sweet. It is but an elemen melidious birds are supposed to sing to the waterfalls in fairyland. But to me, trying to turn the "key of heaven" without needless distractions, they are they abomination of desolation—unless the bethe soft coo-cooings of my tiny little Celia Angelina, which are as sweet as the twitterings of the cherubs and wouldn't disturb the ecstasy of a St. Anthony of Padua.

A PLAN THAT FAILED.

Now, something ought to be done to protect the worshiping public from those babies that are not like my wee Celia Angelina. Why, for instance, cannot each church have a place off the porch ixed up with rows of hooks like cloak-room of a theatre? The fond mother could go in there, hang her offspring (preferably by the neck on a hook, receive a check from the attendant and then stalk into the church and hear Mass in comfort. Our priest on White Island was greatly struck by the sim-plicity and convenience of this scheme and decided to give it a trial. tunately the choir is, vocally, in a tumble-down condition since it lost tumble-down condition since it lost the benefits of my rich baritone voice—although its meself that says it—(I never could stand the airs of the conductor). Well, just as all the babies (eleven in number) were "hung up" and ticketed, the choir struck up the "Kyrie." The eleven mothers all simultaneously jumped like lightning to the conclusion that the attendant was trying to strangle the babies. There was a sudden stampede of eleven infuriated Hebes towards the "dove cot" (as the babies' "stable" "dove cot" (as the babies' "stable" was called), and before you could count five the attendant looked like a plucked blackbird, and hairpins, one geisha frame and an assortment of ribbons and curls and trimmings were distributed "rather numerously" about half a rood of ground. Appearances were, I must of ground. Appearances were, I muss admit, somewhat against the success of the experiment, and our priest is now thinking of following the example of August Van Beine, the actor-'cellist, who (according to "M. A. P.") once quieted a "passel" of kicking and yelling infancy in his audience by distributing a supply of those rubber contrivuting a supply of those rubber contriv-ances known as "babies' comforters." This cannot fail to produce the desired effect, and I shall watch the experiment with interest. Pope remarks:

Behold the child, by nature's kindly law. Pleas'd with a rattle, tickled with a straw

In country districts it would very probably come cheaper to use the straw.

AN OLDER BABY. It seems to me that there is more of pure and unadulterated mischief in the make-up of a four-year-old than there is in a whole kindergarter full of youngerones. And the four-year-old never hides his light under a bushel at a re-hides his light under a bushel at a re-hide his light under a bushel his li ngious celebration. During the Christmas holidays I spent a Sunday at a country place where they have Mass in the local schoolhouse. The atmosphere of the place was not, to say, extra devotional. If your eyes wandered for an instant from your prayer hook they ligious celebration. During the Christinstant from your prayer book they were caught immediately on the one were caught immediately on the one side by a series of menageric charts depicting boa-constrictors. alligators, chimpanzees, lions, tigers, rhinoceroses and other denizens of the jungle in all the glorious coloring of a circus-poster. On the other side your optics were confronted by the representation of an idiotic-looking bey in a red coat and yellow mantaloons He promised she would teach without an error the doctrines and commandments of Christ. Let the right-thinking non-Catholic study the question of such a Church without considering the sins of its officials, just as he studies the sins of its officials, just as he studies the sins of its officials, just as he studies the sins of its officials, just as he studies the sins of its officials, just as he studies the whole stud of them. * * * Anyway to standard to the contrary, Ned may have a whole stud of them. * * * Anyway to standard to the contrary. being hampered by the question of the existence of sin among men. Is this not dress her son up in that absurd fashion Q. "Could not God do this without making us free and bringing in the possibility of sin?"

A. No. Without freedom there is no such service. It also brings with it does not be set in 1.472 discovery discover making us free and bringing in the possibility of sin?"

A. No. Without freedom there is no such service. It also brings with it the possibility of refusing the service, and hence the possibility of sin.

Q. "Where is the mystery, then, in evil?"

A. Cardinal Newman says: "The mystery is not that evil should have no end, but that it had a beginning."

PARIES AT CHIRCH a pot-hook on the bald head of an old farmer in front who was devoutly and very audibly saying the Rosary in a mellow accent that came from the neighborhood of the Lakes of Killarney. The old man simply wiped his handker-chief across his head. He then wiped the youngster across the mouth, and, in the last words of Hamlet, "the rest is silence."

The Pope and Wages.

Mr. C. S. Devas, in the current issue of the Dublin Review, offers the first of a series of articles analyzing the econa series of articles analyzing the economical views of Leo XIII. as disclosed
in his public utterances. The Holy
Father's attitude with regard to the
question of wages is clearly defined.
Wages, to be just, must be sufficent, all

contracts notwithstanding, for the sup-port of a frugal and steady workman. If the workman is compelled by fear of worse evils to take less, being all that the master or contractor will give him, he suffers violent injustice. The comchildren as well as himself.

It is, therefore, a mistake to suppose that wages are a mere matter of contract. No contract can set aside dictates of natural justice bidding wages be fair, and neither master nor man must be a party to a bargain inconsistent with the decent living of work

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