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Notes of the Week.

It is stated that Dr. Pentecost has stipulated for an income of \$7,500, with house rent free, from Marylebone Presbyterian Church, London. The congregation, which is very hearty in the call, will, it is understood, agree. If Dr. Pentecost accepts the call, he will thus have the largest stipend paid to any Presbyterian minister in England, if not in Scotland.

THE Berlin City Mission Society is more successful than ever in its sermon distribution. The weekly edition is now 130,000. Of these 18,000 are used in Berlin among those whose work does not permit them to attend the church services; 67,000 go to other parts of Prussia; 25,000 to other German countries, and 6,500 to other parts of Europe. The Dresden Society publishes an edition of 12,000 each week, of which about 1,300 go to other countries than Saxony.

THE English Presbyterian Synod's committee on ministerial efficiency had a lengthened sitting in London, recently, and made considerable progress with a series of suggested rules, forming a kind of libel, by means of which a minister, whose usefulness in a congregation has been destroyed through other causes than immorality or heresy, may be removed without injury to his ministerial standing. The Rev. J. G. Train is the convener of the committee, and the Rev. Principal Dykes is one of its most active members.

THE proposal made some time since by members of the English Presbyterian Church, to have the duties of the chair of Pastoral Theology in the London College discharged by distinguished ministers of the Church in active service, under appointment from time to time by the Synod, did not meet with a favourable reception from the College committee at its meeting last week. It was deemed both unnecessary and unwise to interfere with the present arrangement by which these duties are discharged by Principal Dykes, D.D., with great efficiency and acceptance, and without interference with his other professorial work. The question of a lectureship, more or less closely connected with the College, was held over for further consideration.

CARDINAL LAVIGERIE died at Algiers recently in his sixty-seventh year. He had been Primate of Africa for a quarter of a century, and was the most prominent figure in the Roman hierarchy. A man of ideas and aspirations, a diplomatist, and a patriot, he recalls the great French prelates of the seventeenth century. His missionary enthusiasm was boundless, though his methods were questionable, and often dangerous. He was a fighting bishop, and he taught not only the Armed Brethren of the Sahara, but all his missionaries, that in the lowest strata of heathenism the sword must accompany the cross. Protestant missions may long have to suffer from this fatal doctrine. Personally Cardinal Lavigerie, like Hugo's Bishop Myriel, and the French dignitaries described by Mr. Hamerton, was the most simple and frugal of men. His income was about \$3,000 a year, and he spent it freely on his work. His chief personal care seems to have

been for his tomb, which he prepared long ago in the Cathedral of Carthage. All through his career he was out of his proper environment. As a Knight Templar he would have led an army to Jerusalem; as a mediæval pontiff he would have imposed his will on Europe. But in his efforts against the slave trade he had to fight against a lukewarm Government and a policy of *laissez faire*. In spite of all the discouragements, his zeal never cooled, and standing on the frontiers of heathenism, he was hopeful and enthusiastic to the end.

PITTSBURG papers publish a story of an alleged conspiracy to poison the non-union men employed by the Carnegie steel company in Homestead. The developments made, it is said, implicate the members of the Advisory Committee, members of the Amalgamated Association and members of the labour organizations sympathizing with the locked-out men in Homestead. It is alleged that several persons have lost their lives, while scores of others are still suffering at their homes and in hospitals from the effects of poisonous drugs administered to them in food. It is said that nine or more persons have been arrested. If there is any foundation for this terrible story, it will do more to harm the cause of organized labour than anything that has yet occurred in the unhappy Homestead affair. Neither poison nor Pinkertonism will tend to the introduction of better relations between employers and employed. Incidents like these only reveal to what desperate methods unscrupulous men are prepared to resort.

A JOINT resolution has been introduced by the chairman of the committee on the Columbian Exposition, making it the duty of the World's Columbian Commission to make such rules, or modifications of the rules, of the corporation known as the World's Fair Columbian Exposition, as will prohibit the use on Sunday of machinery, unnecessary manual labour and all merchandizing, and at the same time give opportunity for the study of the highest standard of artistic and mechanical science; that the art gallery, horticultural building and all other buildings in which exhibits of mechanical art are installed shall be open to the public every day, and that each employee shall be given one day of each week for rest, study or recreation. Thus it is sought to suspend the operation of the Fourth Commandment in favour of the Columbian Commission. While they are at it, might they not be induced to make some modification of the Eighth Commandment in the interest of the many ingenious knights of industry who are certain to visit the World's Fair.

THE Australasian Census, completed last year, covering New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland, South and West Australia, Tasmania and New Zealand, gives the total population as 3,801,050. This is divided among the different religions as follows: Church of England, 1,485,066; Roman Catholic, 801,118; Presbyterians, 493,369; Wesleyan Methodists, 364,549; Primitive Methodists, 59,371; other Methodists, 10,435; Baptists, 87,176; Congregationalists, 79,423; Lutherans, 76,439; Buddhists, Confucianists, Mohammedans, etc., 46,166; Salvation Army, 42,811; Jews, 15,268; all other religions, 161,055; persons who objected to state their religion and unspecified, 78,804. The population of the different provinces is given as follows: Victoria, 1,139,840; New South Wales, 1,123,954; New Zealand, 626,658; Queensland, 393,718; South Australia, 320,431; Tasmania, 146,667; West Australia, 49,782. The Church of England is strongest in New South Wales, 502,983; Victoria, 401,375; New Zealand, 250,945. The Roman Catholics are chiefly in New South Wales, 286,915, and Victoria, 248,585. The Presbyterians number 166,911 in Victoria, 141,477 in New Zealand and 109,383 in New South Wales. The Methodists are strongest in Victoria, where they number 148,429; New Zealand coming next with 62,346. The Baptists are pretty evenly divided between the different sections. The Lutherans are found almost entirely in Victoria, Queensland and South Australia.

The Congregationalists number in New South Wales, 24,112; in Victoria, 22,099; in South Australia, 11,882, the remainder are evenly divided among the other sections. The Buddhists, etc., are found chiefly in Queensland, 17,434, and in New South Wales, 10,790. What religions are included in "all other religions," or just what is meant by "unspecified," is not evident, but Victoria takes the lead with 82,063, the other sections, except the two smallest, having from 40,000 to 50,000 each.

THE *Christian Leader* intimates that the editor of the *Expository Times* has hit on an admirable idea. He has issued proposals for a Sunday school college, an institution by which all the Sunday school teachers in Scotland shall be banded together for mutual help and encouragement. A hand-book will be published giving the list of the names, with full particulars of the classes of the members of the college. Any boy leaving a place can be sent on by his teacher to some other teacher of a corresponding class in the place to which he is going. A journal, called the *Sunday School*, is to be started, the first number of which is to be ready immediately, in which all manner of Sunday school work, and especially the preparation of the International lesson, is fully taken up. The lessons are much more fully dealt with than they have ever been in any publication on this side of the Atlantic, and those subscribing to the journal will be independent of all other assistance in their Sunday school work. The most recent ideas are taken advantage of, and the teacher is not only furnished with teaching matter to help him in his preparation, but also, what is more important, with detailed hints how the lesson ought to be brought before his class. Practical and literary papers will also be contributed by eminent hands. If anyone can make this excellent plan succeed it will be the editors and publishers of the *Expository Times*, which has been so great a success in the theological world.

THE New York *Independent* says: A sharp correspondence took place last week between the Superintendent of Police, Mr. Byrnes, and Dr. Parkhurst, President of the Society for the suppression of Vice. Superintendent Byrnes, in a singularly rash attack, intimated that Dr. Parkhurst is not sincere in his crusade against vice, that he has a special grudge against the Police Department growing out of a divorce incident in his own church, and that there is evidence in existence which will be brought out at the proper time, the tendency of which will be to discredit Dr. Parkhurst's motives. Superintendent Byrnes, however, does not give this evidence, and all that is clear in his rather wordy assault is that of his animus. There is no man who stands more fully or clearly in the public eye than Dr. Parkhurst. He is right in saying that it is not necessary for him to assert or defend his sincerity; that he has established in his fearless, determined assaults upon vice and upon the listlessness of the police in suppressing it. Superintendent Byrnes will not be able to make any headway in public opinion by pursuing the line of attack he has begun. As to Dr. Parkhurst's motives, his thorough honesty and sincerity, there is no doubt in the public mind. The confidence in him cannot be shaken. It is the Police Department in which public confidence has been shaken; and the burning words with which Dr. Parkhurst again indicts it carry conviction to every impartial mind. He is accused of not helping the police to close the brothels and gambling houses. Dr. Parkhurst retorts that it is not the business of the Society to do that; that is made the duty of the police under the law; and he admits that the chief purpose of the Society is to compel the police to do their duty. This is perfectly right. It is not the business of a private citizen to act as a detective for the Police Department. That department has plenty of men who may be employed for this purpose. Dr. Parkhurst has the true idea of the matter; and we hope that he will continue his crusade until the police are forced to break up the infamous business in order to clear themselves of the public suspicion of being in alliance with it.