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"The Human Stampede"

THE MAIL' AND ADVOCATE, ST. JOHN'S, NEWFOUNDLAND, JANUARY 22, 1915-2.

Synopsis of Lecture by Rev. N. M. Guy, M.A., to the Members of the Wesley Bible Class

lady once took upon herself the aster were carried to their last resting adjoining room. Above the hole were and the second s liberty to citicise a lecturer by places. the word "Wait for your turn." It is 5 saying: "Well he talked for an We all saw the crowd which day needless to. say there was always a hour and said nothing, and even then and night with very little sleep or food, waiting crowd. not have enough compassion gazed out the Narrows to catch the The crowd is easily moved and first sight of the Bellaventure which quickly jump at a conclusion. or his hearers to sit down. Now, Mr. Chairman, whatever critic- was bringing home the bodies of their | III.-Again a crowd, carried away ism this audience might have to make dead. with emotion, will always follow its when I am through, I want to avoid Again. We do not forget the thous- leader. The more primitive, less eduif possible such a criticism as that. ands which lined our streets to watch cated the crowd is, the more easily Since you have given me the privilege our noble sons,-the First Newfound- are they moved to do this. and honor of speaking to you, I want land Contingent in the pride of their Under such conditions it is no good to say something that will be instruc- manhood march to the Florizel which to reason. Not until the emotion betive, and when I have said it, to sit was to take them to the defence of comes exhausted or the leader is taken, does reason get a chance to do its the Motherland in this great crisis in The subject which I have chasen for her history to-night is "The Human Stampede or We are all acquainted with that A crowd will do this in the interest the Psychology of the Crowd." of religion as well as in the interest motley heterogeneous company de-A story which I read some time ago signated by the term crowd. of politics reminds me that it is one thing to have Speaking psychologically a crowd A few years ago, while in the West the meaning of terms clear in one's may not be a large company of peo- I met Nath. Macdonald, pastor of the own mind, but it is quite a different ple. first Methodist church in Medicine Hat. problem to make its meaning clear to A jury may psychologically be We walked down to the railway station the minds of others. termed a crowd as well as the larger one morning and saw quite a crowd in A man once received his year's ac- gatherings. the C.P.R. express. count from his merchant. Neither he | The meaning of stampede is equally "Hello," said MacDonald to some of nor his wife could read. A small boy clear to us all. We have seen a horse them, "Where are you going?" He was was engaged to read the account. The or a company of horses by reason of a surprised to see them, because for boy read down 1 lb. of tea, 1 lb. ditto; sudden fright, bolt and in some inst- years they had never left their farms 1 gal. of oil, 1 gal. ditto; 1 yd. calico, ances run for miles. in Ontario. "Oh," said they, "We are 1 yd. ditto. My aim, therefore, to-night is to going to Vancouver." "Indeed." said "Hold on says he," I don't know show the tendency of man, governed he, "and what are you going to do anything about buying any ditto. by his emotions rather than by his there?" "Oh, we are going to General That's something Mary has ben tak- reason to stampede. To produce a Conference to vote against Jackson ng up unknown to me. I must go and panic which usually comes to nought who is accused of heresy because of a see her." And the husband, carried or ends in disaster, and to prove it by book he wrote. "We are going to vote away by his emotions, goes to his referring to some of the great panics book he wrote. "Well," said Macfaithful wife and says, "Mary, what is of history. Donald "have you read his book. "Oh, this you have been doing. You have ho, we haven't read his book, but we one over to Brown's and, unknown NOW psychologists who have studied are going to vote against him the mob spirit, the spirit of the o me, you have bought 'ditto' by the Do you see they were following pcund, the gallon and the yard." "I crowd tell us that there are certain their leaders. They were governed don't know anything about any ditto," laws which underlie their actions. by the Mob Spirit. They wouldn't said Mary. "I never saw a piece of I.-First a crowd doesn't reason. lynch him, but they would blacken his As soon as a panic takes place character, and they would do it in the ditto' in my life. "Well," said he, "It's a mistake. Brown has made a mis- a kind of emotion is engendered interest of religion. and that emotion like an uncontrolltake and I must see him. The crowd will follow its leader. He took his account, walked into able fire sways the crowd, and nothing The State recognizes this and in every Brown's office and said, "Mr. Brown, for the time being can stand against rebellion aims at capturing or supyou have made an unusually large it pressing the ringleaders. number of mistakes on my account. Because of that, persons in a crowd, So much then, for the laws which Why, you have charged me with governed by the mob spirit, as a part underlie the actions of a crowd. 'ditto' by the pound, gallon and yard, of a crowd, will do things which they and my wife says we haven't had a bit would never think of doing as in- NOW let us examine some of the of ditto in our lives.' great stampedes of history which Brown at once saw that here was a Take a crowd of college studients illustrate the working of those laws chance for him to act the school- as an example. Intoxicated by some and note in each instance the ultimate master, so motioning the old man to a victory they will scarcely stop at any- result. seat, he explained that 'ditto' meant thing. In Montreal, the McGill stu- First, from 250 to 1750 A.D. the the same. 1 lb. of tea and 1 lb. of dents are the terrors of the police, world witnessed a succession of religiand many a policeman will remember ous epidemics which resulted in a ditto, meant another pound of tea. The old man, a wiser, but a sadder some of the McGill victories, by the stampede and disaster. men went home. His wife met him on marks he carries about on his body. Take Monasticism or Monachism. the doorstep and said, "John, I hope At Cambridge, Massachusetts, the This held sway from the 4th to the you have found out the mistake. I Harvard students have many a time 13th century. hope you now know what 'ditto' is." tried to paint the town red. Every One by the name of Anthony of "Yes," said John, with a downcast time they win over Yale, some first Thebes, heard one read the words of ook, "I have." And what is it, my class restaurant is bound to lose its Christ, "Sell all that thou hast and dear." "Why," said he, "I'm a fool, crockeryware. give to the poor." He went home, At Mt. Allison, when we defeated sold all th t he had, and withdrew to and you are ditto.' the University of Acadia in debate, the cave in the desert. Others follow-The meaning at last was clear'in the old man's mind, but whether he made the crowd commemorated it, by burn-ed him. Soon there was a general it clear to the mind of his wife is aning down the gymnasium with all its stampede. Before he died the desert other question quipment. was studded with caves. Our papers this week contained in- | One man had 1400 in his own hermit-NOW let us first settle what we stances where infuriated crowds lynch- uge and 7000 more under his author-The "human ed whole familes. ity. In Egypt alone, it is said he had stampede" or "the psychology of the Now here you have proof that a 100,000 followers. crowd. rowd never reasons. It gives itself (Continued on page 3) Well we all know what we mean by up to hypnotic influences which act This city of St. John's on and re-act upon one another, and bemany an occasion has been shaken cause of that the individual as a mem-J.J. St. John from its centre to its circumference, ber of a crowd, will do what he would and you have seen the crowds surge never think of doing as an individual. through the streets II -A crowd is easily moved and Most of you here can remember the quickly jumps at conclusions. crowds which thronged the highways If you were walking along the When you require any when the victims of the Greenland dis- streets of London at this time when the scare of German Zeppelins is on of the following, call and stood gazing up into the sky, it would not be long before the police on us. **Good Morning!** would have to clear the street. Everybody would be looking for the We Are Introducing 250 Bags Zeppelins. American Silk In one of the western exhibition : Whole Corn American Cashmere man was represented by a statue as American Cotton-Lisle looking through an aperture into a





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