

# Dominion Presbyterian

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## NOTE AND COMMENT

The South African Zionists intend to commemorate King Edward and his treatment and friendship to the Jewish people, by planting an olive tree grove in Palestine.

Japan, which since the Russo-Japanese war has controlled Korea and managed its foreign relations, has now taken over the police administration of the kingdom. This is a long step toward annexation.

By the terms of his will the late Mr. John H. Converse, a wealthy Presbyterian of Philadelphia, endowed the support of Evangelist J. Wilbur Chapman. It leaves Mr. Chapman free to work either under church direction or independently as he may desire.

Dr. Robertson Nicoll, of the British Weekly, in reviewing a new hymn book, says: "Always on taking up a new hymnal I look first to see whether the hymn 'Rock of Ages' is included or not. The future of religion lies mainly with the churches that include it, and if the day comes when it is omitted from all church hymnals, then we may safely conclude that the Dark Ages have returned."

In introducing the budget for 1910-11 in the British House of Commons, which provides revenue to meet estimated expenditure of £198,930,000, the chancellor of the exchequer, David Lloyd-George, proposed to retain the high duty on spirits unchanged from the previous year. He admitted that this duty had caused a loss in revenue of £1,400,000, but claimed that the diminished consumption of 10,000,000 gallons morally outweighed the loss in income.

Dr. Jowett, the English Congregational minister who was sought by the Fifth Avenue Presbyterian congregation, New York city, as its pastor, has been elected to the presidency of the English National Free Church Council. Instead of proposing that his administration shall be characterized by impetus which shall be given to the various phases of church work, he is devoting himself to promoting ways and means for deepening the spiritual life of the churches. Their time and efforts, he feels, have been too much employed with semi-political matters.

Authentic figures have been obtained on the expulsion of the Jews from Kiev. These show that 1,421 individuals have been expelled up to June 5. Of these 517 came under the rule allowing them a short time in which to prepare for their departure without restriction, while 904 received passports good only over the route on their specified destination. Two hundred and eighty-eight persons, who originally were ordered expelled, succeeded in proving their right to residence. The previous estimates of expulsion were based on families not individuals, and the present figures are confirmatory of the earlier reports.

"If any one studies the Old Testament through, he is liable to be led astray into Christianity." This remarkable answer was given by a Jewish father whose son asked him why the Jews did not study the Old Testament, since they believed it. Dr. J. Ross Stevenson, formerly pastor of Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church, New York, now pastor of Brown Memorial Church, Baltimore, related this striking incident before the ministers' Association of that city in an address upon "The Religious Value of the Atonement." He added: "I was impressed with the importance of endeavoring to get the Jews to study the Old Testament in their own language. As soon as that is done many Jews will be led to study the New Testament and find Jesus as their Saviour."

Four years ago the national debt of France was about \$5,700,000,000. Now it is over \$7,000,000,000, and the annual interest and other charges amount to more than \$300,000,000.

Cardinal Merry del Val, papal secretary of state, has enemies at the Vatican, but the pope is his staunch friend, and will not let him go. A bond of sympathy between the pope and the youngest cardinal is that both of them are determined foes of "modernism."

Rev. Dr. William Patterson, of Bethany (Wanamaker's) Church, Philadelphia, formerly of Cooke's Church, Toronto, has accepted the offer of the Canadian Presbyterian General Assembly's Committee on Evangelism to devote himself to evangelistic work for a term, his duties to commence on Sept. 1.

The American Grocer says that the people of the United States have lessened their drink bill during the past two years by over \$110,000,000. Remembering the increase in population steadily going on, these figures are certainly cheering, and serve to indicate that possibly, after all, prohibition really does prohibit.

Commercial bodies in Spain have joined in a petition to the government in favor of limiting the growth of the monastic orders. They assert that the orders are monopolizing many branches of industry and commerce. The Republicans have organized themselves to support the government's religious programme.

The Speyside Distillery at Kingussie Inverness-shire, was sold by auction in Edinburgh for £700. It occupies ten acres of ground, cost £20,000 to build in 1896, and has been famous for pure Highland malt. Even in Scotland it would appear that the traffic is in a bad way when so marked a falling off in values could take place in so short a time.

Macmillan's publishes a handy book for the general farmer in "A Manual of Practical Farming," by John McLennan, Ph.D., superintendent of farms at the New York State School of Agriculture, Alfred, N.Y. The book, of some three hundred pages, and well illustrated, gives detailed information on all manner of farming subjects, from the too much neglected one of the treatment of the soil up to the scientific treatment and breeding of the important domestic animals.

The emphasis those Russian Hebrews who passed through Ottawa en route west Saturday placed upon the fact that they were to live in future in a land of civil and religious liberty helps us to realize in part what they have suffered, says the Citizen. We have accustomed ourselves to regard civil and religious liberty as a condition of life as permanent as the air we breathe, forgetting that is a condition won only in its completeness a very few generations back, through the struggles, denials and deaths of centuries of our ancestors.

Writing concerning the World's Missionary Conference recently held in Edinburgh, ex-President Roosevelt says, "Surely every man imbued, as every man should be, with the ethical teachings of Christianity, must rejoice in such an effort to combine the strength of all the churches in the endeavor to Christianize humanity and to Christianize it not merely in name, but in every fact. An infinite amount of work remains to be done before we can regard ourselves as even being within measurable distance of the goal; an infinite amount at home in the dark places, which too often closely surround the brightest centers of light, and an infinite amount abroad in those dark places of the earth where blackness is at yet unrelieved by any light."

A recent writer well says: "Keep your Sabbaths free for earnest reading. Burn up the Sabbath newspapers. It is an indefensible, intolerable curse. It exists simply and solely to swell the insoles of wealthy and greedy newspaper proprietors." One can not burn it unless he has it. Why not just let it alone? The best way to oppose the Sabbath paper is not to buy it.

In Britain the movement in favor of Government action looking to the suppression of the pictures of the Reno fight is extending to a considerable section of the House of Commons. Both parties support the movement. Some of the morning papers advocate a general suppression as tending to prevent glove fights, which, they say, are promoted merely for the sake of the profits from the pictures. The question has also been discussed by the Glasgow Corporation. It looks as if on both sides the Atlantic the exhibition of such pictures will be illegal, and will not be permitted.

The financial statement of the Dominion for the first quarter of the present fiscal year shows an increased revenue of \$4,741,981, as compared with the corresponding three months of last year. For the last quarter the increase was \$1,633,779. The quarter's revenue totalled \$26,334,853, and the revenue for June \$9,612,677. Expenditure on consolidated fund account for the three months was \$8,833,107, an increase of only \$16,500. Expenditure on capital account for the quarter totalled \$3,150,035, a decrease of \$864,263. During June the net debt of the Dominion decreased by \$2,333,467, the debt at the end of the month being \$322,405,328.

The great commission is the largest order Christ gave His people. It is the greatest because it is addressed to them all, it is a continued and life-long service, it embraces them all in one common partnership, it takes in all their resources and embraces the entire earth. Here more than in any other one task are we all required to do that which is more like the work He performed than is any other duty we are called upon to do. Every penny dropped with a prayer into the mission treasury makes the earth tremble. No money is put to so high and holy a use as that which carries the word of life to the lost. This is an undertaking in which all can help and from which no one is excused.

"Let this be a warning to Italians and others who are addicted to drink, for only for the cursed liquor I would not be in the position which I am in today." At the very threshold of death, the recently executed murderer, Ventricini, uttered these words in solemn assertion. That "cursed liquor" has much of this kind against it. And yet men will make it, sell it and drink it. All there, to be sure, do not become murderers. But a sufficient number follow in that train to make many men and women of all classes and conditions of society to desire with a strong purpose to destroy the manufacture and sale of the "cursed liquor."

An exchange says that during the last eleven years the Lost Rom (Away from Rome) movement has brought into the Old Catholic Church of Austria no fewer than 13,837 souls. These, however, do not sum up the losses of Roman Catholics in Austria. During the same period the Protestant Church has gained from the same source no fewer than 51,177 members. A number of new Protestant parishes and mission stations have been founded, but (as is natural in the early days of a movement), there is a dearth of pastors. A number who, in former days, had sought pastorates in Protestant Germany are returning to their own country. There are a number of theological students, but hardly enough to meet the coming need.