

The Canadian Churchman

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Hymns from the Book of Common Praise, compiled by Dr. Albert Ham, F.R.C.O., Organist and Director of the choir of St. James' Cathedral, Toronto.

WHITSUNDAY.

(May 11th).

Holy Communion: 191, 242, 254, 435.

Processional: 470, 536, 578, 625.

Offertory: 187, 188, 189, 441.

Children: 190, 576, 607, 701.

General: 186, 538, 594, 604.

The Outlook

Our New Bishop

We offer our hearty congratulations and good wishes to the Bishop-Designate of Kingston, Dean Bidwell, of St. George's, who has been elected Coadjutor-Bishop of Ontario. We sincerely regret the ill-health of Bishop Mills, and we are thankful to know that he is gradually getting stronger. It is hoped that a long rest will be the means of further improvement, and that thus his valued services may be continued to our Church and country. It is said that this is the first time that a Bishop has been elected on the first ballot of the Synod, and if this is the case we hope that it will be repeated in all subsequent elections as they arise, for nothing could be more satisfactory than that the mind of the Synod should be made definitely clear at first and without having any uncertainty, with all the inevitable and often objectionable consequences. Dean Bidwell is to be consecrated on June 24th, and will be followed by many prayers that Divine grace may be given to him in rich abundance for his new and high office.

A Remarkable Testimony

It can almost be said that the whole world has been impressed by the opening words of the will of the late Mr. J. Pierpont Morgan, and, although they were quoted in our issue last week, they are so important and ex-

ceptional that they call for further consideration:—

"I commit my soul into the hands of my Saviour, in full confidence that, having redeemed it and washed it in His most precious blood, He will present it faultless before the Throne of my Heavenly Father; and I entreat my children to maintain and defend, at all hazard, and at any cost of personal sacrifice, the blessed doctrine of the complete atonement for sin through the blood of Jesus Christ, once offered, and through that alone."

It may be questioned whether there has ever been so striking a testimony to the Atoning Sacrifice of our Lord from a man in the late Mr. Morgan's position, and his entreaty to his children to uphold "the blessed doctrine of the complete Atonement for sin through the blood of Jesus Christ" is particularly impressive. Mr. Morgan's words go to the very heart of the New Testament view of Christ, and as long as preachers and teachers take this line they are certain of blessing in their own souls and also in the lives of their hearers.

How War is Made

Germany is in the midst of a great upheaval, owing to certain revelations connected with the Krupp manufactory. It seems that this great German firm actually instructed its Paris agent "to leave no stone unturned" to persuade popular French newspapers to publish the statement that France intends doubling her orders for machine guns, the object being to persuade the German Government to give machine gun orders to the Krupp firm. One of the German newspapers of standing speaks with truth of "this fabricated war talk," and accounts for it as due to "the sheer lust of gold." It explains how societies have sprung up to preach war, financially helped by armour plate firms; how numbers of pensioned officials have gone through the country preaching war; how armour firms have subsidized newspapers to engage in campaigns of hostility against France and England, and how these same firms sold weapons to the German Government dearer than in the nations their press is paid to abuse. An enquiry is to be instituted into this scandal, the facts of which seem to be beyond all question. It is a fresh revelation of the hollowness and unreality of a great deal of newspaper talk, and shows how easy it would be to stir up strife between two great nations and plunge Europe into war. We are grateful for this exposure, and we hope the obvious lessons will be learned by all who are responsible for national welfare.

Unity is Strength

Canon Plummer, preaching at the special service of St. George's Society at St. James' Cathedral last week, made a strong plea for the unification of all Christian Churches. He pointed out that it is impossible for the Church to wage warfare against the forces of evil unless it is united and got back to the first principles of Christianity. This is the only way to convince mankind that the Church is, indeed, the Church of the Living God. The condition of the world to-day is such that unity must be had at any cost short of the sacrifice of truth. The circumstances of modern life show that the forces of evil are daily growing stronger, and, as these forces are united for the destruction of souls, so the Church in order to combat these forces must present a united front to the common foe.

With this hearty conviction of the need of unity in order to do proper work we desire to associate ourselves. As a modern writer has truly said, a divided Church means a weak theology, and, we may add, a weak theology means a futile witness and a fruitless work.

Churches and Charitable Work

One of the interesting points made by Canon Plummer in the sermon to which we have already referred was his conviction that the Church has failed to do its duty, and that one proof of the failure is apparent in the necessity for the formation of National Societies to care for the poor and needy. The preacher declared that the Church leaves too much of its charity work to the Benefit and Brotherhood Societies, who cannot give the requisite time for the proper supervision of the disbursements. Canon Plummer believes that one of the true reasons for the existence of the Church is this charitable work, and that there should be denominational connections in this regard, when moneys would be properly distributed and the right people benefited. This is a very suggestive point, and illustrates in a striking way the difference between a new country like Canada and an old country like England. In England, through endowments and other gifts, a great deal of charitable work has hitherto been associated with the Church, and the tendency is in the direction of severing the two tasks and putting charitable work into the hands of municipalities, because it has been found that so many attend Church and associate themselves with religion for unworthy motives. But in a community like Canada the matter is different, and there is much to be said for Canon Plummer's contention, especially if all the Churches can be united in this service. At present a good deal of trouble is due to overlapping of agencies, whereby the same people get help from a variety of sources. But the general principle is clear and calls for serious attention.

The Gospel of the Boy

Toronto had a most interesting visitor the other day in the person of Mr. J. A. Riis, of New York, who told the fascinating story of his slum fight in that city, where he has done so much for what has been called the "cut-throat section of New York." Mr. Riis has for some years been calling attention to proper methods for saving slum children, and he is particularly optimistic on the subject, very largely through the establishment of playgrounds. He urges that play is the safety-valve of childhood, and that as vacant lots give place to skyscrapers the children have nothing left but the street. In New York they have 222 playgrounds already, and the number is growing. Results have shown that playgrounds planted in a disorderly neighbourhood means the reduction of juvenile crime. Play also supplies a vent for youthful spirits and makes for better citizenship. To quote Mr. Riis: "You cannot make a whole man out of half a boy." His story was perfectly wonderful, and we are not surprised at his enthusiasm or the enthusiasm he engenders in his audiences. To quote one of his own epigrams, "A Lads' Club is better than a policeman's club." Toronto, and, indeed, other large cities as well, should take heed to Mr. Riis' moral. As cities fill up, more and more depends upon the childhood if future citizenship is to be what it ought to be. Whether we think of material, intellectual, or moral considerations, land for playgrounds is cheaply bought, even at a high price.

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