



THE PHILOSOPHER

There is to the full as much truth as satire in the time-worn story of the spinster of 80 years, who when asked by a mischievous girl at what age a woman ceased to think of getting married, answered: "I don't know, dear; you must ask someone older than I am."

MARRIAGE THE GOAL OF ALL.

"When and where shall I meet him, if ever, What are the words which he will first say? How shall the barriers, now that sever Our kindred spirits, be broken away?"

It is of importance that both men and women should marry. The custom of marriage is an ancient prehistoric one, and it is more than improbable that mankind will ever arrive at such a pitch of civilization as to be able to dispense with it. Would-be reformers have found defects in the system, as it exists, but no one has yet succeeded in inventing anything better to take its place. Even the so-called modern proposal that marriage shall be merely a contract for a term of years, instead of "until death do ye part," and that the children, alike of rich and poor, shall be brought up and educated by the state, is as old as Plato, and finds no more favor with those for whose behoof it is designed than it did in his day. A happy marriage is about as near an approach to Paradise as is possible on earth. Marriage is the one thing in all the world about which it is invariably advisable to make haste slowly.

"Unless you can think, when the song is done, No other is soft in the rhythm; Unless you can feel, when left by One, That all men else go with him; Unless you can know, when unpraised by his breath, That your beauty itself wants proving; Unless you can swear: 'For life, for death! O, fear to call it loving!'"

Up to date there have been recorded the usual number of drowning fatalities. The "usual" number, and that's a large one, the exact figures are difficult to get at. Most of the deaths are due to the carelessness, the cock-sure-ness of the canoeist. He rocked the

LOSS OF LIFE BY DROWNING.

boat to show how brave he was. She stood up in the canoe and waved her hands, to let her friends on the shore see what a good time she was having—then a plunge, a scream, a hand uplifted, and the waters passed on as before. The citizens who are drowned year by year are generally young, native-born, energetic, daring, and of a greater potential value than silver mines or fields of wheat. Says the Toronto News: "The annual loss of life by drowning in Ontario, if tabulated and reduced to a percentage, would prove to be appalling. It has been stated that proportionately more lives are lost every year by drowning in Canada than by snake bite in India. We have been in the habit of regarding plague, earthquake and death by violence as greater calamities than our own. What has been wanting is a realization of the true situation." And yet there is every reason to believe that death by drowning is preventable in most instances. Generally the catastrophe takes place through an insane foolhardiness which cannot be condoned.

There appears to be a growing interest among managers in plays of religious import. According to announcements as to managerial plans for the coming season, some of the most talented and popular players on the American stage will venture forth in plays

THE POPULARITY OF THE RELIGIOUS DRAMA.

which are either directly founded on Biblical subjects or are entirely religious in their aspect and bearing. It is with considerable curiosity that the outcome of these experiments will be awaited. Tyrone Power will appear in a play which has been made out of the Marie Corelli novel, "Barabbas," by the authoress herself. The period is that during the life of Christ. The part to be assumed by Mr. Power will be that of Barabbas, the thief, a character which will be found to be ideal rather than traditional. Power will be remembered as the creator of a Judas of great strength and distinction in Mrs. Fiske's "Mary of Magdala," and in Barabbas should find a role equally suitable and effective.

"Mizpah," which is the joint product of Ella Wheeler Wilcox and Luscombe Searelle, will be presented in this city in September. It tells in lyric form the scriptural story of Esther, the Jewish maiden, who rose from obscurity to be the bride of Ahasuerus, king of Persia, and later became the salvation of her tribe. It will mark Mrs. Wilcox's first contribution to the stage, and although tentative productions of the work have been made in San Francisco and Boston, the metropolitan verdict is yet to be passed. The cast will be headed by Elizabeth Kennedy, who will appear as Esther, and Charles Dalton, who will be the king. Music incidental to the action has been written by Mr. Searelle, who is an English composer.

Rev. Dr. A. C. Dixon, who for some years has been the distinguished pastor of Ruggles Street Baptist Institutional Church, Boston, has been relating some of his experiences. They will be of interest to all Christian workers. He says: "The insti-

THE FAILURE OF THE INSTITUTIONAL CHURCH.

tutional church, if plentifully supplied with money, is in danger of pauperizing the community in which it is located, while it repels the self-respecting workingman. Families living three miles away have been advised by neighboring charity workers to move into the community of Ruggles Street Baptist Church for the purpose of receiving help; and, when they come with that motive, it is almost impossible to really benefit them, when the congregation of such families around the church does much to pauperize the whole community. And when a church has made a reputation of helping the poor with a liberal hand, the independent workingman hesitates to go to it, lest he may be considered as seeking charity, against which his soul revolts. One of our most intelligent mechanics tells me that when he asked his godless shop-mates to come to the Ruggles Street Church with him, one of them replied: "I am no beggar. Why should I go there?" And we find ourselves in the rather unusual predicament of having to live down a reputation for charity work before we can reach the very men for whose benefit the church was endowed. The body is redeemed, and Christians should do all they can to relieve physical wants, but the great work of the church is the redemption of the soul, and everything else should be made secondary to that."

One of the traits of the Canadian Pacific character has been its sublime optimism. This optimistic spirit has been incarnated in Wm. Whyte. Sane, prophetic and energetic, he has worked wonders, both for the C. P. R. and Western Canada. There are few men better fitted to speak of the West than the distinguished Vice-President of the C. P. R. He knows the country, has means of communication possessed by few. In a recent interview at Victoria he dwelt at length upon all the points of the labor question, which, both as regards agricultural and domestic service, is much more acute in the east; and, touching the matter of Chinese labor, he deprecated the attitude of the labor organizations as inconsistent and ill-advised, as it was originally through the attitude of the artisans that Chinese labor had been first imported, and at the present juncture it would not interfere with the labor interests. The influx of Japanese has been checked by the course of Japanese enterprise being diverted to Manchuria and Korea, and provided that the removal of the poll tax with a view to the admission of Chinese labor were joined with strict instructions limiting their sphere of activity to agriculture, market gardening and laundry work, he thought that such a step could not be other than beneficial to the country, and he trusted that when this fact was fully grasped by the men, their opposition would be voluntarily withdrawn; the step suggested not constituting any menace to their legitimate rights or conflicting with their vested interests. Mr. Whyte makes a distinction between colonization and immigration, the former being a process of careful selection, as distinguished from the latter indiscriminate methods.

THE OPTIMISM OF VICE-PRES. WHYTE.

Andrew Carnegie says that millionaires never smile; the care of their wealth is too sobering in its effect. Chicago has some juvenile millionaires who will not be troubled by this smile-dispelling influence. They are, and for many years they will remain, millionaires in name only. They are the three grandchildren of the late Marshall Field. Marshall, the oldest of the trio, is twelve years old; Henry is nine, and Gwendoline is four. By the terms of their grandfather's will they are not to come into possession of the Field millions until Marshall reaches the age of fifty. During their childhood, it is further provided by this will, the children are to be kept in ignorance of the great fortunes in store for them—if that is possible. They are to be brought up as ordinary children, and made to believe that they are comparatively poor. The experiment is a curious one, and there are two results which will be watched for with interest. One is the degree of success with which Mr. Field's plan will be executed; and the other is the effect on the character and career of each of the subjects of the experiment.

Public attention is being slowly awakened to the obvious fact that the mortality of infants under one year is appalling. The Mayor of Huddersfield (Eng.) was so impressed that he offered a prize to every working-class mother whose babe attained the age of twelve months during his year of office. But while the prizes of a benevolent mayor may do good locally, we want more general succour for these helpless creatures. Of course, it might be contended that already there are agencies at work to provide a better state of things, and we might point to our district nurses, maternity hospitals and rescue homes. But to two of these a stigma attaches, and all of them but touch on the fringe of the necessity. Until we lessen, at an appreciable rate, the countless number of mothers who toll up to the very hour of their confinement, insufficiently fed, poorly clad, unattended and neglected, and who rise pallid and weak to resume their toll in a few days after the child's birth, we cannot boast much of our provision. Nor can we be surprised that such a babe, thrown upon the care of an elder child, or the charity of a neighbour woman, while its mother spends the long day in warehouse or factory, has a hard fight for existence, and that if it lives at all it is a literal example of "the survival of the fittest."

YOUNG MILLIONAIRES WHO MAY SMILE.

A writer to the Chicago Tribune voices the longings of many of her sex in the following statement of her case: "I am a girl without a talent and no beauty. Can you imagine a more hopeless case, and do you wonder that I am downhearted and not getting much out of life? Don't tell me to be good. Goodness doesn't win friends like good looks and talent."

The answer given is one that every pretty as well as "plain" person should take to heart. Here it is: "Aside from the talent of being beautifully amiable, polite, prompt, and cheerful, which you perhaps will include under the term of goodness and which do win hosts of friends in the long run, and multitudes of genuine admirers among men and girls, old and young, there are many talents that may be won, and which add much to any one's attractiveness. One of these is the voice. If you do not possess already a truly melodious and sweet voice cultivate it and render your speech clear and quiet. By this is not meant a halting, hesitating delivery, but a quiet, gentle voice; the words well chosen, the accents clear and soft. The power of such a voice will keep a whole roomful of people hanging on its accents, whereas the hasty and strident speaker tires the listener; her conversation loses its good points, and the hearers are unimpressed. Another talent that may be cultivated is good carriage. Carry yourself well, and you have added much to your looks. Take a little course in gymnastics if possible until you understand how to be limber and lissome and how to hold yourself erectly and gracefully. If you have opportunity at all to play games it is a good thing to know how to play well, whether in tennis, golf, cards, or bowling. First, last, and foremost enter into the spirit of every occasion and contribute your mite toward making every occasion where you are present a genuine success. Nothing will so speed your efforts as a deep rooted wish to fulfill your part in the scheme of the world, to play your little instrument to the best of your ability in the orchestra of the whole wherein each of us contribute our own melody. Set out to win the talents, whatever these be, and know that now or later you will secure them. Take a broad, hearty, healthy, wholesome view of what it is to be good, great, and useful, and you will find your life more than worth while."

INFANT MORTALITY.

"HOW TO BE PRETTY THOUGH PLAIN."

Goodness doesn't win friends like good looks and talent."

The answer given is one that every pretty as well as "plain" person should take to heart. Here it is: "Aside from the talent of being beautifully amiable, polite, prompt, and cheerful, which you perhaps will include under the term of goodness and which do win hosts of friends in the long run, and multitudes of genuine admirers among men and girls, old and young, there are many talents that may be won, and which add much to any one's attractiveness. One of these is the voice. If you do not possess already a truly melodious and sweet voice cultivate it and render your speech clear and quiet. By this is not meant a halting, hesitating delivery, but a quiet, gentle voice; the words well chosen, the accents clear and soft. The power of such a voice will keep a whole roomful of people hanging on its accents, whereas the hasty and strident speaker tires the listener; her conversation loses its good points, and the hearers are unimpressed. Another talent that may be cultivated is good carriage. Carry yourself well, and you have added much to your looks. Take a little course in gymnastics if possible until you understand how to be limber and lissome and how to hold yourself erectly and gracefully. If you have opportunity at all to play games it is a good thing to know how to play well, whether in tennis, golf, cards, or bowling. First, last, and foremost enter into the spirit of every occasion and contribute your mite toward making every occasion where you are present a genuine success. Nothing will so speed your efforts as a deep rooted wish to fulfill your part in the scheme of the world, to play your little instrument to the best of your ability in the orchestra of the whole wherein each of us contribute our own melody. Set out to win the talents, whatever these be, and know that now or later you will secure them. Take a broad, hearty, healthy, wholesome view of what it is to be good, great, and useful, and you will find your life more than worth while."