

Canadian Churchman.

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LESSON FOR SUNDAYS AND HOLY DAYS. FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT.

Morning—Exod. 11. Luke 1, 26 to 46.
Evening—Exod. v. or vi., to 14: 1 Cor. xiv., 20.

Appropriate Hymns for Fifth Sunday in Lent and Palm Sunday, compiled by Dr. Albert Ham, F.R.C.O., organist and director of the choir of St. James' Cathedral, Toronto. The numbers are taken from Hymns Ancient and Modern, many of which may be found in other hymnals.

FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT.

Holy Communion: 97, 107, 310, 312.
Processional: 96, 200, 261, 281.
Offertory: 213, 214, 267, 542.
Children's Hymns: 254, 258, 336, 342.
General Hymns: 106, 226, 252, 467.

PALM SUNDAY.

Holy Communion: 193, 197, 321, 322.
Processional: 36, 98, 280, 547.
Offertory: 88, 248, 252, 255.
Children's Hymns: 286, 331, 332, 334.
General Hymns: 31, 91, 250, 253.

Charity.

The key-note of Lent is struck by the Collect, Epistle and Gospel for the Sunday called Quinquagesima. The gift prayed for in that Collect, and set forth in that Epistle and Gospel, has in it the quality to settle all ecclesiastical and moral disputes—"charity is the electricity of religion." It is the fire—the subtle power—you can only see it when there is an impediment. Ice upon the rail, or ice upon the wire. It must burn every impediment up or the car must stop. "Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and have not charity, I am become as a sounding brass, or a tinkling symbol."

To Our Correspondents.

We shall be much obliged to our many correspondents if they will in future, when writing letters to us for insertion in our col-

umns, be much more brief in their remarks than it has been the custom of at least a large number of them in past times. At the present time, we have by us a number of letters on various topics for which it is impossible to find room, as they are far too lengthy. A letter should not be any longer than half, or at the most, three-quarters of a column. Some of the letters which reach us would, if printed, occupy two, and sometimes even three, columns of our space. We find that, as a general rule, those very long letters are seldom read. People now-a-days, in these busy times, have little time for reading, and those who do like to have the facts placed before them in as terse a manner and occupying as small an amount of space as possible.

Forbidding the Banns.

In answer to a perplexed enquirer, the Irish Church Times gives the following lucid answer to this well known question, what constitutes an impediment. The impediments referred to in the Form of Solemnization of Matrimony may be practically regarded as falling under three heads: (a) Previous marriage not dissolved by death or by the decree of a competent tribunal; (b) relationship within the prohibited degrees; (c) in the case of a minor want of consent by parents or guardians. Misconduct, even of the grossest character, is no legal bar to a marriage; and the old canonical disability arising from precontract with another party is no longer recognized by law. When a license is produced, an incumbent is generally bound to act on it without further enquiry.

Large Contributions for Church Purposes.

The voluntary contributions made by Anglicans in England during the past financial year again show an increase—in spite of the many conflicting claims during the past twenty months. For home work just £600,000 was raised, for foreign missions, £831,000, and for philanthropic work, £522,000. In addition to these sums, £822,000 was raised for the support of the clergy, £1,119,700 on behalf of elementary education, and no less a sum than £3,561,700 for parochial purposes. The grand total amounts to £7,770,990 (\$38,854,950). This is an excellent showing, and is one which shows that the Church people of the Old Land, despite the many calls made upon them in other directions, are not forgetful of the claims of the Mother Church. Never was the Church in the Old Land more fully alive to its duties or doing a greater work than it is to-day for the good of mankind in general, and it is very gratifying to know that its efforts have been so nobly backed up by the people at large.

The Castor Oil Plant.

An American journal gives, on the authority of a South American consul, the follow-

ing valuable information to the dwellers in summer cottages. This gentleman's residence was surrounded by plantain and banana trees, and the gathering of mosquitoes between the leaves had been a great source of annoyance. Following the example of old settlers, he planted castor seeds, which came up in profusion, causing the complete disappearance of the mosquitoes, although the ground under the trees was kept constantly irrigated. Branches and the seeds of the plant placed in rooms will, it is said, keep them free from mosquitoes.

Unfaithful Officials.

A great storm has been raised in the press in the United States against Admiral Sampson, who has been giving an unpopular opinion in fulfilment of duty to his departmental superiors, and in consequence we are assured will not get his step of rank. His communication was confidential, and as put by our exchanges, in some unknown way a Washington reporter secured a copy of this letter. In plain words, either the superior officer broke faith with Admiral Sampson and published a confidential, private communication, or an inferior stole it. It shows an extraordinary state of public morality when all the resentment is showered on the man who did his duty, while the officer who deliberately betrayed him, escapes punishment. Under these circumstances, how can a Government expect faithful service?

The Church Congress.

The list of subjects for the Brighton Church Congress, England, has been revised, and among them may be noted such practical questions as Church Finance, the Licensing Laws, Hooliganism, the Layman's Status as a Church Worker, and the Church in Relation to Journalism. The subject of sermons is also to be introduced, and their length discussed; but as there is no voting at the Congress, the real opinion of the members may not be reached. Many Churchmen think that the bill for the legalization of marriage with a deceased wife's sister will be introduced and passed into law this session, and in view of this are making arrangements to "sound" the Bishops as to how far they will permit parish churches to be used for such services. The position will legally be the same as now exists, with regard to the remarriage of divorced persons.

Confirmation.

The Bishop of Carlisle, in sending his Confirmation Letter to his clergy, draws attention to two charges which had been made: (1) The age limit has been reduced from fourteen to thirteen years. "Below thirteen I cannot accept candidates, but I desire to leave to the discretion of the clergy the reduction named." (2) "The order of confirmation, or the laying-on of hands," will be used intact as set forth in "The Book