

A NOTABLE CONVERSION.

Wide comment has been excited by a public confession of conversion by Professor Edward Everett Hale, jr., occupying the chair of English at Union College, Schenectady, N.Y. Prof. Hale is the son of the venerable chaplain of the United States Senate, the most conspicuous clergyman of the Unitarian Church. The son has accepted until now the theology of the father and he also has called himself a Unitarian. But at a meeting in a Methodist Episcopal church of Schenectady he made recitally a public address on "The Call of Christ," in which he related a new religious experience which came to him during the series of evangelistic services held in Schenectady in November by Rev. W. J. Dawson, the Congregational evangelist. Professor Hale said his attendance upon the first service in which he heard Dr. Dawson preach had been almost an accident. The discourse was on prayer. He was impressed that the speaker represented prayer to be far more useful in life than he had himself ever regarded it. He determined to try the matter for himself—to see whether, as the speaker said, prayer would open the way to Christ. For several days he prayed an almost formless petition that God would bring into his life the best that Christ had for him. Said the Professor in his public statement: "As I continued the experiment, I became conscious of a curious change going on within me which I did not then and cannot now explain. Many things which had been much to me—indeed, all—had ceased to interest me. I became for the time indifferent to books and art and nature, and there came upon me a greater love for humanity, for others, for people in general. What is the experience of him who obeys? Love to all is the feeling that follows." Professor Hale thus defined what he understands conversion to be: "The call of Christ I conceive to be that time in a man's life when an impulse comes to surrender everything for Christ. We all come to that place in our lives when we feel that there is something lacking, and Christ speaks to us in that still, small voice, and if we accept him he brings us into that new life." He spoke of himself as having answered "the call of Christ" and characterized these statements of his as "confessing Christ." It is reported that the Professor has already become a "personal worker" among his students. He has joined a Presbyterian church in Schenectady, of which his wife has been a member for some years.

The ministers of London, Ont., are making a move in the right direction. A strenuous and concerted effort is being made to do away with Sunday funerals. A circular has been issued in which it is said:

"While we have no desire to shirk any duty, yet we feel that, in most cases, Sunday funerals could be avoided, and the ministers should not be taken from their Sunday school work, unless when absolutely necessary. Therefore, in the interest of the church's work, we appeal to the Christian public and all concerned to cooperate with us in doing away with Sunday funerals, as far as possible. We quite understand that cases may arise when it will be necessary to bury on the Lord's Day, but these will be few and might be private. We must sincerely and earnestly appeal to all our fellow-citizens for their sympathy and assistance in this important matter."

Hon. Mr. Matheson provincial treasurer in Ontario, has announced that the provincial receipts for the past year were approximately \$800,000 over Temiskaming railway receipts. Timber bonuses amounted to \$295,000. Ordinary receipts paid all expenditures, both ordinary and capital, and left something over.

WHAT IS THE SPIRIT-FILLED LIFE?

By Anna Ross.

The spirit-filled life is the work of God's spirit, whereby convincing Christians of their spiritual deadness and utter helplessness, enlightening their minds in the knowledge of Himself and His appointed work, and subduing their will entirely to be His, He doth incline and enable them to accept Him as their sole and all-sufficient life and power and wisdom, as He is legally deeded over to them in the new covenant, symbolized to us by the wine accepted at the Communion Feast.

This exposition of the spirit-filled life accommodated for the answer to the question, What is Effectual Calling, shined out upon me the other day; and I have thought over it, and I cannot see any flaw in it, nor any lack.

The next morning I was questioning it this way: "However perfect human wordings and human thinkings may be, I would rather have the same thing expressed in the words of scripture." I then looked to see if anywhere in scripture I could find the same truths given in the same order and relation to each other. My eye fell immediately upon the Beatitudes, and there I found very quickly all I had been asking and more.

"Blessed are the poor in spirit," there is the spiritual deadness and utter helplessness painfully realized.

"Blessed are the mourners for they shall be comforted." What can "comfort" these mourners over spiritual poverty but "the enlightening of their minds in the knowledge of the comforter and His appointed work?"

"Blessed are the meek." Who are the really meek except those whose wills are yielded up in simplest trustfulness to the holy spirit?

"Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness, for they shall be filled." Those who are hungering for a righteousness that shall make them safe before a righteous God are "filled" when they accept as their own the perfect righteousness of Jesus Christ. But those mourners who are hungering for an inwrought power of righteousness that shall make them strong to conquer sin and to do God's will on earth as it is done in heaven, cannot be "filled" but by "accepting the Holy Spirit as their sole and all-sufficient life and power and wisdom, as He is deeded over to them in the New Covenant."

The outcome of all this is seen in the closing beatitudes.

BRITISH AND FOREIGN.

Dear Editor—The Foreign Mission Executive met today and among other matters considered the state of the foreign mission fund. The outlook is that the revenue of 1905 will barely meet the expenses of this year. This will leave us with the deficit of nearly \$20,000 untouched. For the past two years the existence of this debt has handicapped our efforts; and estimates for current year have had to be cut below the point of the actual needs of the work, because the deficit is still with us. Is it not time that the church aroused herself and wiped out this vermin? The past year has been one of great commercial prosperity throughout Canada. May we not therefore hope that within the next month many will be stirred up to do a little extra for this department of the Master's work and thus help to remove one great obstacle to the progress.

W. A. J. MARTIN,
Convener F. M. C.

Brantford.

The wise man adjusts his theories to the facts; the fool manipulates the facts to suit his theories.

PRINCE RUPERT CITY.

Respecting the name competition, the G.T.P. authorities make the following announcement:

"As a result of the publication by the company throughout Canada of its offer of a prize of \$250 to the person who would suggest a name that would be selected for the city which will be established at the western terminus of the company's transcontinental railway on the Pacific coast, upwards of twelve thousand names were received, the majority of which complied with the conditions of the contest. It was the desire of the competition, that the name chosen should be euphonious, and that it should be appropriately significant of Canada, and more especially of the northwest and British Columbia, in the future development of which the railway is to take so large a part. With this end in view, therefore, the suggestions submitted have been carefully reviewed, and the name Prince Rupert has been selected, it having been suggested by Miss Eleanor Macdonald, of Winnipeg. Under the terms of the competition, that the names did not contain more than three syllables, nor exceed ten letters, the name suggested, which complied with the conditions, and most nearly resembled that selected, was Port Rupert, suggested by Mrs. John Orme, of Bonnechere, Ont., and by Mr. R. Kirkwood, Copper Cliff, Ont. As against Port Rupert, however, Prince Rupert constitutes the full name of that illustrious explorer, but it exceeds the conditions of the competition by two letters. On account of its selection, therefore, and with the desire to accord fair treatment to all, the company have awarded the full amount of the prize offered, \$250, to each of the two who suggested Port Rupert, as well as to the one who suggested the name which has been adopted. As Miss Macdonald says, it was in the year 1670 that King Charles II. of England granted a charter to Prince Rupert and a number of others to trade with the Indians in British North America. They established trading posts throughout this immense country, from the Atlantic to the Pacific, including Alaska, which territory from that time and for more than a century after, was known as "Rupert's Land." In this way, therefore, the name which has been chosen for the new city, which will be situated about thirty miles south of the southern extremity of Alaska, is connected with the oldest records of the history of Canada, and particularly of the western portion thereof, and it seems especially fitting and appropriate at this time, after the centuries that have passed, that it should again be prominently identified with the march of progress which is wending its way across this western empire in the construction of the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway. It is Canadian in the broadest sense; it is replete of the vast Northwest territories and British Columbia, and, beyond this, it was the name of one of those fearless sons of Britain who came and conquered this new land which is our proud heritage."

The annual report of the Dominion Bank, published in another column, is the most satisfactory statement ever presented by that institution. Net profits were \$490,495, or 16.34 per cent on the paid up capital. This compares with \$459,670, or 15.32 per cent, earned in 1904, 15.03 per cent in 1903, and 14.21 per cent in 1902. The next quarterly dividend, which will be declared in a few weeks, will likely be 3 per cent. The Dominion Bank stock is quoted higher than that of any other Canadian bank, it has practically no overdue accounts, its rest exceeds its capital account, while it is paying this year a dividend equal to the highest ever paid by a Canadian bank.