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NOTE AND COMMENT.

The Japanese budget provides for a total expenditure of \$305,000,000, sixty millions over that of last year, and more than twice as much as was required to cover all expenses prior to the war.

After a ten years' trial of the Dispensary, which is nothing more than the State selling the whisky and other strong drinks, the South Carolina Legislature has passed a law abolishing it and providing for the vote by counties on local option.

Need for missions. India's population is 260,000,000. These have but one or dained missionary to every 350,000. China's population is 392,000,000. They have but one ordained missionary to every 500,000 of population. Japan has 38,000,000; of these 30,000,000 have never heard the gospel.

The fish output of British Columbia is very nearly \$10,000,000 per annum while the Maritime Provinces and Ontario are well-known for their fish production; but it will surprise many to find that last year Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta, and the Territories yielded \$1,811,570 worth of fish.

That natives of the Cannibal Islands in Melanesia should now engage in pioneer philanthropic work for the other islands seem almost incredible. Yet when the people of Savo Island asked that teachers be sent to them, four volunteers from Florida Island, formerly one of the most savage settlements, responded to the call.

The British woman suffragists, whose leaders have sworn not to desist in their violent agitation until parliament has granted their demands, made a determined and organized demonstration at the parliament buildings on Wednesday, in the course of which over sixty women were arrested. The police had their hands full in defending the precincts of parliament from suffragist raids.

A gracious revival has been in progress in Sweden for over a year, to which reference has been made before. Its influence has been widely felt in Stockholm and in smaller cities throughout the land. There is a great difference reported between the prayer meetings now and formerly. It is said that people are willing to forsake food and rest to take time to attend the services. The converts show much eagerness for the prayer meetings. When it was proposed during last May to cease holding them every day, the people requested that they might be continued.

Once again says the Dundee Advertiser, have the scientists proved to be wrong. Until recently it was thought that a child could only live eight or ten years with what is known as "a frog's heart"—a heart with single ventricle to perform the double purpose of propelling the pure blood throughout the system and sending the impure blood to the lungs for purification. In the normal being these two operations are performed by separate ventricles. In the course of the post-mortem examination of a man about thirty five years old, who had suffered from heart disease in one of the Manchester hospitals, it was found that he had lived half the allotted span with a heart in all its details like that of a frog, except that it was much larger. It is said that such a case is unique in the annals of medical science.

Rev. Dr. Dickie, pastor of the American Church, Berlin, (formerly minister of St. Andrew's church, Berlin, Ont.), states that there is a profound revival influence moving in Germany and that it is largely due to the spirit and example of evangelical people. The German Empress also is an important factor, as her sympathy and personal influence are decidedly with religious life.

A Kentucky judge, with a sensible appreciation of the value of the religious paper, says: "If I were pastor of a church, my first work would be to get a good religious paper in every family, and then I would not have much else to do but study and preach." Pastors who introduce the denominational paper into the homes of their people, not only do the people good, but make their own work easier and more successful.

The Medical Missionary Work in India has become large. Statistics are published by the Indian Medical Missionary Association showing that last year more than two million patients were attended, and 54,308 operations were performed by medical missionaries, while the number of missionaries trained in the western medical schools has increased from 140 ten years ago to more than 300, of whom 120 are men and the rest women.

British Weekly: The State Church of France, once a limb of the despotism of Napoleon, foully stained with records of intolerance and persecution and in her last days continually engaged in intrigues against the Republic, is apparently about to vanish. What will become of religion? Will there remain in France a form of Catholic Christianity, free from papal usurpation and Jesuit intrigue, doing whatever is in its system to do for Christendom? We know that Catholicism is not the papacy, neither is the papacy Catholicism. We know that the truest Catholics have condemned papal tyranny and Jesuit guilt.

According to a parliamentary return, issued last month, the quantity of Indian opium consumed in Burma during the year 1904-5 was 79,428 seers of 23.35 pounds each. This is the largest quantity for thirty years. The revenue from opium in Lower Burma in the same year was 4,832,381 rupees, also a record; and the number of convictions for crime was 63,338, again a record. The convictions practically show a steady rise from 38,264 in the year 1885-6. In Upper Burma the revenue in 1904-5 was 397,932 rupees, but it has been higher in past years. The number of convictions, however, has risen almost steadily from 13,409 in 1890-1 to 23,134 in 1904-5—Foreign Exchange.

According to a late despatch from Paris, Church and State in France seem now to be on the verge of a final agreement relative to the terms of the lease of the churches. The Perfect of the Seine has now offered a modified formula which M. Briand believes will meet the objections raised by the Vatican to his original proposition. The new form of contract requires the successor of a parish priest to be a party to the original contract signed, and to assume the obligations of his predecessor, thus insuring a continuation of the lease of the church for eighteen years, and quieting the Vatican's apprehensions that new Mayors might decline to renew the contracts under the old conditions. The new formula still declines to allow the Bishops to become direct parties to the contracts, but it indirectly recognizes the hierarchy. The form may be extended throughout France.

Dr. Buckley in an editorial in the Christian Advocate last week pays his respects to Mrs. Eddy in the following language: "As it happened, we got upon the track of Mrs. Eddy a little before the time she was coquetting as a patient with Quimby of Portland. For four years we were in the immediate vicinity of Tilton, then called Sanborn Bridge, N.H., went there frequently, knew her pastor and conducted a service for him in 1862. We heard much of her and her strange career, attacked her "meta-physical college" as soon as we heard of it, because of the absurdity of its root ideas when made all-inclusive, the queer makeup of her intellect, and the remarkable peculiarities of her previous life. While the first article in McClure's Magazine may have done scant justice to some of her relatives, the published statement by Mrs. Eddy, in assuming to correct it, was further in advance of the actual facts about herself as to education, etc., than the other was deficient. The current article in McClure's Magazine in relation to Quimby states the exact facts. Mrs. Eddy has never produced a fundamental idea that Quimby did not possess and stumblingly each. We have nothing to do with McClure's Magazine, either by preknowledge of any special thing to be brought out or by counsel or suggestion, but that all her ideas in their substance came from Quimby and from some other contemporary writings in the same line is capable of absolute proof—proof from other sources corroborating thoroughly the February number. The claim that Mrs. Eddy received these ideas from God or any supernatural or preternatural source is a humbug. Whether she thinks she did is a problem of individual psychology.

The Dundas Banner of last week contains the following appreciative reference to Robert McQueen, of Kirkwall: The McQueen family was one of the pioneers of Beverly and did much in laying the religious and educational foundations of the township. They were a large family, characterized by intellect, sound judgment and goodness of heart. All have reached distinction among their fellows, but in this article we refer specially to Mr. Robert McQueen, who a few weeks ago reached his jubilee in the eldership of the Kirkwall church. On January 23, 1857, he was ordained an elder and has during all these years taken an active part in the work of his own congregation at home and has been almost continuously a member of the presbytery and the synod; and since 1877 he has attended as a commissioner every meeting of the General Assembly except three. His discerning mind and sound judgment have been recognized and he has served for years on every important committee where his presence has been much prized. He has always been a liberal contributor to religious work. He was a teacher in the public school at Kirkwall for 32 years. For over 30 years he has been superintendent of two Sunday schools connected with the church. He is a good preacher and speaker, revealing competent knowledge in language clear and beautiful. At the January meeting of the Hamilton Presbytery Sir Thos. Taylor moved a feeling and appreciative address commensalating Mr. McQueen on having reached his jubilee in the eldership. This was spoken to by the venerable Rev. James Black and Mr. McQueen's own minister, the Rev. Chas. A. Ashdown. Mr. McQueen is the father of Rev. Dr. McQueen, of Edmonton, Alta.