

The 'poor man's club'—under which title the saloon has won many a political fight in the past—no longer lures the workman voter as it did. The home is becoming more and more the 'poor man's club'; he is becoming alive to the evil influences of the saloon upon his children, and in the interests of the home, of his children, and of society at large, he takes advantage of Local Option laws to cast his ballot against the saloon.

Can it be doubted that such an attitude, persistently maintained, eventually will benefit industry as it cannot fail to benefit society? Other things being equal, the temperate workman is infinitely the superior of his intemperate fellow.

Religious News.

A revised edition of the Kafir Bible has just been completed in South Africa. The Presbyterian Synod of Kaffraria at its recent session recorded its appreciation of the work of the revision committee which it declares is 'the fruit and unsparing labor of men who brought to their task the gifts of accurate scholarship and thorough and living knowledge of the language and have placed the Kafir-speaking people and Christian workers under an undying debt of gratitude.'

A graded course of lessons covering the entire range of the Sunday School, will be proposed for adoption at the International Sunday School Convention in Louisville, Ky., June 18-23. The Executive Committee will recommend the adoption of the 'findings' of the 'Boston Conference' held in Boston, January 2-3, 1908, when sixty prominent Sunday School leaders, representing twelve of the largest denominations and more than one half the entire Sunday School enrollment of North America, unanimously agreed that 'the system of a general lesson for the whole school, which has been in successful use for thirty-five years, is still the most practicable and effective system for the great majority of the Sunday Schools of North America,' and recommended 'its continuance and fullest development.' This Conference also recognized the expressed need of a graded system of lessons, and voted to ask the Louisville Convention to instruct the Lesson Committee 'to continue the preparation of a thoroughly graded course.'

If the recommendations are adopted, the Convention will approve the continuance of the present uniform lesson,—the same lesson for the entire school, and also provide for a complete graded course of lessons for such schools as may desire it.

The report of the Lesson Committee and these recommendations will be considered by the Convention, Saturday morning, June 20.

Much interest is taken in missions by the Dutch Royal family. Not only has Queen Wilhelmina given the use of her palace at Kneuterdyk to the Dutch Foreign Mission Society for a great meeting on March 14, but the Queen-Mother and the Prince have shown their keen interest in the work among the sailors at Rotterdam. The Prince has forwarded the British and Foreign Sailors' Society a gift toward building a new Bethel Institute on the southern bank of the Maas. This building is for the use of British, American, and Dutch sailors. The Queen-Mother and the Duchess of Teck honored the society's meeting on March 5, at the Hague, with their presence. To raise funds a Children's Guild has been inaugurated. The aim is to induce 50,000 children to contribute one guilder each.

'Add to Your Virtue, Knowledge.'

I presume that Christians pay less attention to this command than to most of the injunctions in the Bible. As a class they do not seem any more eager to get wisdom than any other people, and you know there is nothing so unpopular as learning. People in general acquire just as little as they can get along with, and you often see a man go out of his way to dodge a fact that is coming towards him. Yet it is undoubtedly true, as was said long ago, that 'wisdom is the principal thing we need to make the world go better.' Most people most of the time are doing as well as they know. There are more blunders than

crimes, and the one is often as bad as the other in its consequences. It is ignorance rather than malice that makes the most trouble in government, in society and in the church. We pray often for the removal of our sins, but not so frequently for the removal of our ignorance. We seem to think if the heart is right the hands and head need no attention. Now, that you should have good intentions is a very important thing to you, but not so important to other people. Your good intentions alone are nothing to us; it is your acts that affect us. We do not care so much what you meant to do, but what you did. The world is not concerned with your motives but with your motions. We are interested in your good or bad motives only when we try to estimate your character, and that, after all, is none of our business.

So it is no excuse at all for a bad act to say you meant it right. It may in part clear you of blame, but it does not remove the consequences of your blunder. Your acts are intended to affect others and you are responsible for the result. It is pure selfishness to view your work from the standpoint of your own justification. You ought to care more for others than about yourself, and therefore consider the consequences of your acts more than your motives.

Since so much stress in preaching is laid on the importance of good intentions, Christians sometimes get the idea that it is of no importance how they are carried out. That is why some Christians are doing so little good in the world. They are converted, but it doesn't do anybody else any good. They are headed toward the New Jerusalem, but they do not know the route. They have been born again, but they remain babies. They have a new heart, but they don't know what to do with it. So it happens that in Christianity there is a great deal more zeal than knowledge. Now, knowledge without zeal is like a ship without an engine—it is useless. Zeal without knowledge is like a ship without a rudder—it is dangerous. Which is the worst God knows. Both bring calamity.—Prof. E. E. Slosson, in the 'Presbyterian Banner.'

When and What to Read.

If you are impatient, sit down quietly and have a talk with Job.

If you are just a little strong-headed, go to see Moses.

If you are getting weak-kneed, take a look at Elijah.

If there is no song in your heart, listen to David.

If you are a policy man, read Daniel.

If you are getting sordid, spend a while with Isaiah.

If you feel chilly, get the beloved disciple to put his arms around you.

If your faith is below par, read Paul.

If you are getting lazy, watch James.

If you are losing sight of the future, climb up to Revelation and get a glimpse of the promised land.—Selected.

[For the 'Northern Messenger.'

The Victoria India Orphan Society.

During the ceremonies at Dhar in Central India, attendant upon the recent installation of the young prince Maharajah of the State, it was especially pleasing to note the high appreciation of the work of the Christian Missionaries which the young prince expressed in his speech from the throne; he stated he had always found them ready to help in any good work, and that it would be his constant aim to follow in the footsteps of his late illustrious father and assist them in any way in his power (in 1897 when the Society commenced its work among the famine orphans, his father, the late Maharajah, presented ten acres of valuable land for the Orphanage); the prince also referred specially to Dr. Mar. O'Hara by name, and she had the unique honor of being invited to be photographed with the State group of dignitaries, her position being next to the young Maharajah, on his right hand. This public recognition of the good work of the missionaries by the ruler of the State, and his definite expressions of goodwill towards

them speak well for the future of the Mission, and our Society is particularly fortunate in carrying on its operations under such peculiarly favorable conditions.

The great scarcity of food is gradually telling more and more upon the people, and from our last monthly report from Dhar we learn that more children are being taken into the Orphanage; however, good news has come in the fact that rains had fallen in the north of India, giving hopes of a fair wheat crop, which prospect had caused some reduction in the terribly high prices of all foodstuffs; still the condition was so very serious that the Viceroy had started a General Famine Relief Fund, for which subscriptions both from India and abroad would be thankfully received (when it is possible, it is best to send relief through the missionaries who are on the spot, by which means all that is given reaches the needy, and those cases which require help the most get it). The famine area covers about 150,000 square miles, and fifty millions of people are affected by it. By the middle of March over one and a half millions were receiving State relief, a condition of affairs which we in our highly favored land can hardly imagine, and the distress must continue to increase for some months to come, as there can be no general alleviation of the suffering until September or October.

Our special Industrial Fund has now reached the sum of \$1,071.07. By teaching our orphan boys useful trades we shall enable them to earn a decent living when they leave the Orphanage, and meanwhile their work will make them partly self-supporting. We need \$3,000 for the purpose of building and furnishing the necessary workshops, and any help towards this Industrial Fund will be thankfully received.

Our lady superintendent, Dr. Mar. O'Hara, paid a visit to Amkhat lately, during which she received no less than forty letters from the girls in the Orphanage, who were all longing for her return, one of the many evidences of their well-earned, deep affection for her. A number of them have also written to our members expressing their gratitude for all that is being done for them and the great pleasure given to them by the Christmas treat, and their appreciation of the little gifts the Society also provided. The Society's annual membership fee is \$1.00, and a child can be maintained in the Orphanage for \$18.00 a year, which covers the membership fee.

All subscriptions should be sent to the Secretary-Treasurer, Mrs. A. S. Crichton, 74 Furby St., Winnipeg.

Labrador Supplies—At Once.

Now is the time to forward all barrels, boxes, etc., with clothing, hospital supplies, and all the gifts which you have been preparing during the winter for the Labrador work. Miss Roddick, 80 Union Ave., Montreal, will receive all such contributions for shipment to St. Anthony, Harrington, or any point on the Labrador. Contributors are asked to send all in before the end of May in order that gifts may go promptly forward by the first week in June.

Enclose at the top of every barrel or box a complete list of contents and also forward some such notice in advance to Miss Roddick, that unnecessary unpacking may be avoided. See that the sender's name and address are also clearly stated, both on advance notice and the contribution itself. Don't let your gifts miss the boat.

Acknowledgments.

LABRADOR FUND.

Received for the launch:—A Friend, Hudson Heights, P. Que., \$5.00; A Friend, Granville Ferry, N.S., 50 cents; Mrs. S. J. Shanklin, Shanklin, N.B., \$2.00; a local church, Brantford, Ont., per the 'Expositor,' \$8.00; Total \$ 15.50
Previously acknowledged for all purposes \$ 1,630.73

Total received up to April 29 . . . \$ 1,646.23
Address all subscriptions for Dr. Grenfell's work to 'Witness' Labrador Fund, John Dougall and Son, 'Witness' Office, Montreal, stating with the gift whether it is for launch, komatic, or cots.