

Dominion Presbyterian

\$1.50 Per Annum.

OTTAWA

Single Copies 5 Cents

NOTE AND COMMENT

The church rolls of the Synod of British Columbia show 4,829 families, an increase of 555 over last year, and 6,266 communicants, an increase of 859. Additions during the year numbered 1,531, of whom 396 were on profession of faith. Baptisms, 577.

Many throughout the Church—young ministers especially—will be interested to learn that ex-Principal Oswald Dykes, D.D., is about to publish, through Messrs. T. and T. Clark, of Edinburgh, a volume on "The Christian Minister and his Duties."

The Vice-regal Council in India has passed strenuous measure dealing with bomb outrages and any outbreaks against the Government, and authorizing the suppression of newspapers inciting to criminal acts. Measures of this sort are now necessary the world over for the control of anarchists and those who would destroy any government.

Creed and character have much to do with each other. True character and conduct have the same relation. Then creed and conduct are not so very far apart. Strong and sound beliefs transmuted into practical doing make the latter substantial and strong. A creedless man and a characterless man are apt to be one and the same person.

The Socialists have lost ground in Great Britain, judging by the results of the municipal elections just held in England and Wales. Instead of gaining, the Socialists' party has lost seats. In some cases Liberals and Conservatives united to defeat the Socialists, but even where fusion was not resorted to the more conservative candidates were elected.

It is announced that Gipsy Smith is to visit America again in the autumn. He leaves England in August, and will hold united missions in Baltimore, Washington, Cleveland, New York, Pittsburg, St. Louis, Kansas City, Denver, St. Paul, Minneapolis and Toronto. Good work might be done in Ottawa and Montreal could this evangelist be induced to visit these cities.

Conditions in Corea are indicated by the act of the Privy Council, composed of the Elder Statesmen, the most prominent Coreans, who, before Japanese occupation, were ministers. It forbids the employment of Japanese officials in the government. The Privy Council can not enforce the order, since the Japanese still continue to manage the affairs. But the action is representative, and will add to the difficulties of the Japanese.

Dr. Grenfell, the well-known missionary of Labrador, had a perilous experience lately. In order to make a short cut, he took his dog team across an arm of the sea. The ice broke off from the land, and Dr. Grenfell was alone on the floe for forty hours. An intense frost and a blizzard prevailed, and had it not been for his resource in killing and skinning four of his dogs, the adventure might have had a tragical conclusion. By this expedient, however, Dr. Grenfell secured warm furs for himself and food for his other dogs. Fortunately, when he had almost despaired of rescue, a fisherman saw him, and came with a boat and took him off.

Says the British Weekly: In accordance with a decision of Synod, the Rev. G. C. Grant, formerly of Canada, has been received by the Liverpool Presbytery into the ministry of the English Presbyterian Church.

It is expected that the Czar will visit Sandringham in the autumn. The King's beautiful Norfolk home is being specially prepared for the Russian Monarch, who will probably be accompanied by the Empress. Their Majesties will remain at Sandringham for a week at least. It is considered likely that the Czar and Czarina will remain at Sandringham for King Edward's birthday celebrations in November.

At a great meeting in Oldham, England, the Right Hon. John Burns said: "Last year in the United Kingdom 418,000 men, women, and some children were charged and convicted of disorderly or drunken conduct—offences connected with the consumption of drink. And that does not represent a tithe of the actual drunkenness. What a mass of disorder and dissipation these figures represent!" Surely, it is high time something was done to cure so great an evil.

Ten years have now passed since the death of Mr. Gladstone. In this decade (the "Westminster" points out) most of the statesmen who were prominent when Mr. Gladstone was in political life have also died—Lord Salisbury, Sir William Harcourt, the Duke of Devonshire, Lord Goschen, and Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman, among others, while the same period has witnessed also the death of the monarch during whose reign nearly the whole of Mr. Gladstone's political career was passed.

Lord Ray, G.C.S.I., presided over the Jubilee Meeting of the Christian Literature Society for India, a couple of weeks ago. The report was of an encouraging character in every particular. Referring to the present unrest in India, Lord Ray urged that the spread of good literature in that Empire was the one thing essential for the permanent welfare of its peoples. The unrest showed a desire for a foundation, and the only foundation of real value possible to India was the growth of Christianity.

The crime of perjury is punished more severely in Germany than in any other country in the world. Even an apparently trivial misstatement under oath carries a sentence of ten years in prison. Aside from murder, there are few crimes that carry as heavy a penalty as perjury. The theory of Germany is that the entire system of jurisprudence rests on the respect for an oath administered under the forms of law, and that, therefore, this must be guarded in order to secure the punishment of other crimes, and justice in civil cases. Germany stands at one extreme and the United States at the other. On this point the Herald and Presbyter says: Fewer people are punished here for false swearing on the witness stand. At the same time, we have more crimes than any other civilized country, and a much smaller portion of our criminals are convicted. In Canada the crime of perjury has greatly increased in recent years, and judges have frequently directed attention to the subject, so far with little apparent effort.

The "presiding elder" is a thing of the past in the Methodist Church in the United States. The office remains, but the name is gone. From now on the Church will have "district superintendents."

Returns supplied by the provincial secretary shows that under the License Act the number of liquor licenses cut off in the province exceeded those cut off by local option by laws in the last three years. Local Option wiped out 237. The license commissioners cancelled 238.

They are talking about 115,000,000 bushels as the total Western wheat yield of the harvest. It is too early to set figures but there is no doubt that given favorable weather the crop will break all records. The season has also been unusually favorable for the dairy interests, pasture being splendid in all directions.

Paul was both a tentmaker and an apostle. The former was, in a sense, his calling; the latter was his "high calling." It was a good thing to be a first-class tentmaker, but suppose he had gone into eternity with no other record than that? Suppose that the best that could have been said of him had been that he made more money at his trade than any other man ever made; how unprofitable had his life been in that case, in comparison with what he was! Are we giving more attention to our trade, or to our "high calling?"

Some esteemed contemporaries, says the Sentinel Review, are discussing the value of imperial honors. The approval of a well-regulated conscience and the respectful admiration of his fellow citizens, worthily earned, should be regarded as the highest honor obtainable by a Canadian; but this view of the matter would not necessarily bar out imperial honors. After all, it is the service that determines the value of the honor, and fortunately it is possible to serve both Canada and the Empire at the same time. But too much value should not be attached to the honor, apart from the service for which it was conferred. Some of Britain's noblest have declined honors; some have accepted them. It is a matter of taste. It is the service that counts.

Our gracious King is now acknowledged as the most powerful individual in the world's diplomatic relations. He in no way strays the prerogative of the crown. He works as well with one political party as the other; but his intimate knowledge of international affairs, and his personal acquaintance with reigning houses and tact in meeting sovereigns and others in authority, have given him an influence unequalled in modern times and has greatly improved the relations of Great Britain with other nations. He is now on a visit to Russia, a mere friendly visit. It seems a mere society function. It is even announced that no diplomatic questions are to be taken up. But, nevertheless, the King will strengthen friendly relations in a way to promote universal peace. It is also a good thing for the poor and weak Czar to meet sovereigns from abroad, and he may slowly absorb some of the principles of modern government. A part of the King's success is due to a general belief in his honesty and real desire to promote peace among the nations. Privately, many monarchs are willing to follow his advice in disputed questions among themselves.