THE PRICE WAS TOO GREAT

The Rich Man's Difficulty Before Jesus Is Here Discuesed.

Jesus said unto him, go sell whatever thou hast and give to the poor; and come, take up the cross and follow me.—Mark x. 21.

Here, we have a drama that almose merges into a tragedy. It is full of power; it quivers with intensest interest.

Two young men face each other. The distinguishing quality in one is the bearing of a cultured, well-bred gentleman. The distinguished quality of the other is the strength and dignity and beauty of the soul that shines in every feature of his face. In the face of the one is a great expectancy; in that of the other is the strong reserve power that invites the cry of human need. The one is a pupil, the other is the Master.

Jesus took his hand and, lifting him up to that level where man looks into the eyes of man, said: "Put away, sell those things that are between you and your fellow man and take the same pathway I am taking; then you will truly realize the vision that has come to your soul."

These words created conviction, for they voiced the message of his own soul. He felt that was the door through which he must pass and that on the other side would be

NEW JOY AND POWER.

But the price was too great. In a silence as of the grave he turned sadly toward home.

This is no condemnation of riches. There is no moral quality in mere money. Our saying that money is the root of all evil is only partly true. It is true in so far as money awakens the worst forms of selfishness in us; it touches springs and sources of soul poison as nothing else does. If there is anything else that will touch a deeper depth and awaken a worse form of selfishness, then that is the root of all evil. Jesus enunciated a great principle and did not tie up mankind to a narrow rule.

Life must have a vision, an ideal. A vision is an outline of possibility. "To live," to "truly live," is to bring every energy, every activity, every thought to bear upon the filling in of that outline. It is to see a "gleam" and follow it. To see that vision is to see the purpose of God. To set out to realize it is to feel the presence of God in the life. This gives true bigness to the soul and to the life. The man who is too big to consider small things is also too small to consider big things. We must have telescopic men and men with telescopic minds. Too many are microscopic men—intense upon little things without seeing their interrelationship or their relationship to a center. In religion the order must never be inverted—it is vision, that we may see how the parts relate to the whole; outlook, that we may helpfully and truly get inlook.

WEALTH NEEDS VISION,

and this Jesus gave this young man.

Vision finally changed him. Tradition says the young man followed Jesus later. This is easy to believe, for no true soul can ever get away from its vision or from the love that awakened it. Both were here. Every beggar he met, every struggling workman he employed, every ill-clad, ill-fed child he saw, every tired-looking mother and every form of sorrow or suffering would daily awaken his vision anew. It would be with him as he rested on his own luxurious couch, as he sat at his own richly laden table, as he put on his own comfortable garments, as he balanced his weekly accounts—the vision would pour in its light and suggestions on these. And so this vision, this love of Jesus, would follow and appeal and plead until the heart and life became shot through with the Christ spirit, selfishness was driven out, his soul set free to follow the gleam, and the true joy of ennobled manhood became the young man's possession.

REV. DR. JOHN. R. MACKAY.

OILING THE WAVES.

Valuable Aid in Wearing Ship in a Gale.

When the captain of a wave-beaten ship pours oil upon the waters he does not empty a barrel of kerosene over the side. He stitches up three or four cotton bags, which he fills first with oakum and then with oil, usually equal parts of fish oil and kerosene. The bags are then tied tightly at the tops and pricked all over with a sail needle to permit the oil to exude, and are hung from the boat davits and weather chains to drip their mollifying contents on the raging billows. The bags must not be allowed to get empty, but must be refilled every two hours. For six bags ten gallons of oil are used in thirty hours. Sometimes, if it is very cold, the oil congeals and will not run out through the holes fast enough, and the mouth of the bag is then loosened to let it escape in that way. Its effect is magical on a rough sea. A huge comber will arise threateningly to bury the laboring vessel under tons of water, but will strike a patch of oil no larger than a common dining-table and subside in an instant into a smooth, round swell, which the ship rides like a cork.

The use of oil is also a valuable aid in wearing ship in a gale and high seas. A few gallons of paint oil over the lee quarter enables the vessel to perform the manoeuvre in perfect safety without taking a drop of water on board. When a boat ships so much water that it is impossible to get the oil bags slung into position without running the risk of being swept overboard, an ordinary bed sheet saturated with paint oil, tied to a rope and allowed to float, will soon calm the seas sufficiently to permit men to move about the decks safely. Paint oil is agreed to be the best to use, rapeseed oil and porpoise oil rank next, but kerosene is not satisfactory unless mixed with some other oil.

JAIL-BIRD PLAYED COUNT.

His Joke Got Him Expensive Dinner, Also Another Term.

The French correspondent of the London Telegraph relates the following amusing story of a jail-bird's joke. A man in rags and list shoes stopped a motor taxi near the Arc de Triomphe and said: "My name is the Count d'Abbeville. I have just wagered fifty louis that just as I am now, I will get dinner in a smart restaurant. There will be five louis for you if you help me to win the bet." The chauffeur entered into the fun of the thing, and drove the "count" to an expensive restaurant at Montmartre. There he gave the landlord the tip, and the "count" was served with the utmost deference, not a waiter appearing to notice the state of his clothing. When the time came to call for the bill the "Count d'Abbeville" said: "I have not a sou. I have just come out of Fresnes prison on ticket-of-leave. Take me to the police-staiton." The landlord, the waiters, and the chauffeur roared at Monsieur le Comte's good joke, and, to keep up the fun, all went with him to the police-station. There the joke was found to have even more point in it than they thought; but a different one from that which they had expected. The "Count d' Abbeville" had been very humorous at their expense in a literal sense. He proved to be one Jules Duval, several times convicted, and he was perfectly correct in saying that he had not a penny, and had just come out of Fresnes prison. He has now gone back to jail. In Republican France anyone seems able to swindle anybody by calling himself a count.

SCIENCE OF WORN BOOTS.

Character Reading By Boots And Shoes.

Palmistry, phrenology, graphology, and all the other methods of judging character seem destined henceforth to take second place to cothurnology—the science of the boots.

According to Dr. Garre, of Basle, worn shoes give far more reliable indications than the lines of the hand, the features of the face, or the style of handwriting.

If heel and sole of the shoe are equally worn after two months' wear, the wearer is an energetic business man, a trusty employee, or an excellent wife or mother.

If the sole is worn on the outer edge the wearer has a marked tendency for adventures, or a bold, obstinate spirit.

If the wearing is on the inside edge it is a sign of irresolution and weakness in a man, modesty in a woman.

Dr. Garre has put his views to practical test, and on one occasion, having closely observed a stranger entering his house, noticed that his shoes were worn on the outer edge, the tip of the sole being roughened, while the rest was still new.

He was convinced that the man before him was a scoundrel, and on the very same day the individual was arrested for theft.

WHERE THE MIRACLE CAME IN

Dr. Walter C. Smith, the popular Scotch poet-preacher on one occasion tried to explain to an old lady the meaning of the scriptural expression, "Take up thy bed and walk," by saying that the bed was simply a mat or rug easily taken up and carried away.

"No, no," replied the lady. "I canna believe that. There would be no miracle in walking away wi' a bit o' mat or rug on your back."

The Home

APPETIZING MEAT DISHES.

Creamed Chicken with Mushrooms.—Boil until tender one six pound chicken. Take out bones and pick the meat into small pieces. Then season with salt, pepper, and a dash or two of cayenne. Add the juice of one lemon, one fair sized onion, grated, one can of mushrooms cut in halves, one quart of cream heated, one-half cup of butter and half cup flour rubbed together. Mix all together nicely and put in a buttered baking dish with cracker crumbs over the top. Bake half hour.

Barbecued Chicken.—Take a fat, tender spring chicken of roasting size. Clean and wash well and salt inside and out. Sprinkle over with flour quite heavily. Place in a kettle with heart and liver and two cupfuls of boiling water. Let it boil well, as you would for a pot roast, and baste often. When about half done, or so that it scarcely resists the fork, add one-half cupful of vinegar, boil until done, and take out. Chop the liver and heart and serve in the gravy. Chicken is delicious cooked this way and served cold. The rich gravy can be used as a dressing for lettuce.

Recipe for Suet Pudding.—One cupful suet, one cupful raisins, one-half cupful citron, one-half cupful currants, one teaspoonful each of cinnamon, cloves, and soda, one-half teaspoonful of nutmeg and salt, one cupful sour milk, one cupful New Orleans molasses, three and one-half cupfuls flour. Add one-half tumberful of good brandy. Steam in cans. Keep in airtight box. They will keep and may be used when needed. Steam three hours.

Meat Loaf.—A good substitute for veal loaf is the beef loaf. Take two pounds of round beefsteak and one-half pound of salt pork; put through meat grinder. Salt and pepper and a little nutmeg, one egg, and enough dry bread crumbs to mold into a good solid loaf. If taken out of tin while warm, a fine thick gravy can be made. It should bake in a moderate oven nearly an hour. This is much more economical than veal.

CLEANING AND CLEANSING.

Furniture Polish.—To one-half gallon of raw linseed oil add two and one-half ounces of balsam of fir. To remainder of container add enough pure apple vinegar to make up the gallon and shake well before applying. But a little polish shuld be rubbed on well and dried as much as possible. This is an excellent furniture polish.

To Remove Paint.—To remove paint from any kind of cloth use common paint remover, which can be had at any drug store, pour it on the cloth, and let stand a few minutes and rub with dry cloth.

Cleaning Silver.—Moisten liberally an old silk handkerchief or ther soft, worn silk with kerosene. Rub it over silver and you will be delighted with the almost immediate result, dark stains, of how long standing, quickly disappearing beneath the friction, and the silver will remain bright a long time. If you desire an extra "shine" use another silk cloth and dry rub with polish.

To Remove Paint from Windows.—Moisten the edge of a silver coin and rub the spot of paint. The paint will disappear like magic.

Mattress Pads.—One of the simplest and nicest things for the pad on top of the mattress is the silence cloth which comes for dining tables. Get the desired length and bind the ends with bias strips of white material. These launder nicely and are delightfully comfortable.

DUMPLINGS.

German Potato Dumplings.—Cook eight half potatoes, grate, add a tablespoonful of salt, one egg, three-fourths of a pound of flour. Knead as you would bread dought. Roll out, form into balls. Put in a kettle of boiling water and cook twenty minutes. These are delicious with roast pork.

Cherry Dumplings.—Two cupfuls of flour, one tablespoonful of lard, one cupful of sweet milk, two teaspoonfuls of baking powder, one-half saltspoonful of salt, one cupful of cherries, one-half cupful of sugar. Sift salt, baking powder and flour together; rub in the lard and wet with the milk. Roll out about one-fourth of an inch thick and cut into three inch squares. Heap as many cherries as the dumplings will hold in the center of each; sprinkle thickly with sugar and press together. Put in a kettle of boiling water.

SEASONABLE SALADS.

Cabbage Salad.—Three-fourths cupful of sugar, one egg, one teaspoonful ground mustard, one teaspoonful butter melted, half cupful of vinegar. Let come to a boil and pour over one small head of cabbage cut fine.

Ham Salad.—Cut up small bits of boiled ham, placed in salad bowl with the hearts and inside leaves of a head of lettuce. Make dressing as follows: Mix in a saucepan one pint of sour cream, as free from milk as possible, half pint good vinegar, pepper, salt, and a small piece of butter, sugar and a small tablespoonful mustard mixed smooth; boil, add the well beaten yolks of two eggs, stirring carefully until it thickens to the consistency of starch; then set in a cool place or on ice, and when cold pour over salad and mix well.

Salad Dressing.—Beat two eggs, add three large tablespoonfuls of vinegar, one teaspoonful of mustard moistened in a little of the vinegar, add to eggs, and then add salt and white pepper to taste and one teaspoonful of sugar. Add two tablespoonfuls of cream and beat in quickly. Add lump butter size of an egg. Put in rice boiler and stir slowly until the mixture is a little thicker than thick cream.

VARIOUS USEFUL HELPS.

Removing Paint Specks.—Moisten baking soda with water to paste and apply to the paint spot. When dry rub off both paste and speck.

To Protect the Hat.—Buy a piece of oil silk large enough to cover the whole hat and extend under the brim. Cut the goods circular and run a casing around the edge, so that when it is put on the hat, the drawstring may be pulled up lightly. Fasten the bag securely inside the crown of the hat, and then when you are caught in a summer shower, it can be quickly taken out and adjusted to the hat and you can go on your way in peace of mind.

Uses for Newspapers.—To keep burglars out spread newspapers on the floor. Thieves will not step on a newspaper because it crackle may awaken some one. A well known criminal lawyer is authority for this statement. To fill cracks in wooden floors put one-half pounds newspaper in three quarts water and soak three days. Then add one tablespoonful powdered alum and one quart wheat flour. Stir and boil till like cake dough. Cool and fill cracks. It will harden like cement. To fill rat holes use above recipe, but add, when cool, a liberal allowance of red pepper. To clean carpets wet a newspaper with ammonia and water, squeeze, tear into bits, throw on the floor, and sweep from one wall to the opposite one. Repeat, beginning where you left off. Use them to cover top of shelves, bottom of drawers for cleaning (dampening them), hardwood floors, other kinds of floor, also top of range after each meal, outside of kettles and pans.

ENGLAND'S DEBT TO CONVICT.

Fine Roads and Fortifications Built by Convict Labor.

The news published the other day that a well-made road has just been completed by convict labor through Parkhurst Forest, in the Isle of Wright, to the site marked out for the new colony of habitual criminals, serves to call attention to a seldom-noticed phase of England's penal system.

Not all prisoners are employed at comparatively useless tasks, such as oakum-picking and stone-breaking, for example, nor have they been in the past. But for convict labor the nation would not to-day own the fine docks it possesses at Chatham and Portsmouth, to say nothing of the fortifications on the Verne and on Blue Bell Hill.

At other places round the coasts convicts have constructed fine breakwaters, deepened harbors, nad widened estuaries. The wonderful system of defensive galleries at Gibraltar, too, was constructed by them; and at Malta they have excavated vast subterranean granaries in the living rock, capable of holding food supplies for the garrison for ten year· ahead.

Perhaps, however, the most stupendous convict enterprise ever undertaken is that now in progress at Dartmoor, where the wilderness is slowly, yet surely, being transformed into sometning very like a garden. No paid labor would ever have accomplished this almost miracle, for the simple reason that it could never have paid for it to have undertaken it.

The water-logged soil has first to be trenched and drained rood by rood, and almost yard by yard. Then it is treated with white lime, at the rate of no fewer than five tons to the acre. Afterwards spade culture precedes the advent of the plough and of ordinary manures.

And all the tools and other appliances used are manufactured by the convicts; the necessary draught animals are reared by them. Even the warder-overseers drive round in prison-made traps drawn by prison-bred ponies.

SENSE OF ART.

Homeboye—"I've read somewhere that the Chinese will not allow their women to be photographed."

Globetrott—"Shows their sense of art, my boy. I've been there, and seen some of 'em!"

If we all had our own way other people would quickly get out of it.

WRECKERS OF THE SLUMS

FEMALE SHYLOCKS IN LIVERPOOL, ENGLAND.

Infamous Business Plied by Woman—Charge 1,000 Per Cent. Interest.

Almost every week in Liverpool, England, some woman comes up at the Police Court charged either with being an unregistered money-lender or with carrying on business away from her registered address. In nearly every case the woman is heavily fined, and the fines are always paid without delay. These women are extraordinarily active in Liverpool, and in the opinion of one who knows them and their system thoroughly, they are in some part at least responsible for the city's black record for domestic tragedies.

WRECKERS OF SLUMS.

"They are the wreckers of the slums," a London Daily News representative was told. "How many homes they have wrecked and how much misery they have caused probably no one can estimate. And, despite the activity of the police, they seem to have established themselves firmly, so firmly that in some districts they exercise absolute tyranny."

Their system is very simple. They do not bother themselves or their clients with County Courts and the paraphernalia of the law. Some poor woman, possibly unknown to her husband, goes to one of them for a shilling or two to meet some claim. She gets it—at an interest of 2d. or 3d. on the shilling per week. Perhaps she does not pay for a week or two. The debt mounts up at compound interest. She can then only pay off a portion at a time. The rest stays to germinate, and at last perhaps she may have paid ten or fifteen times the amount borrowed, and still be heavily in debts. The husband must not be told, and so the money-lender maintains her grip. At last she is unable to pay an instalment.

FEMALE SHYLOCK.

Then the money-lender shows no mercy to her victim. The women are all burly. Fragile women do not go into the trade. In the Police Court a short time ago a woman was dealt with who had almost torn to pieces one of her victims who could not pay. She gripped her by the hair, pulled her down in the gutter, and scratched her with a hatpin. This is the usual method of securing payment.

"Very often," the interviewer was told, "the moneylender has a general shop. at which her client is forced to purchase, paying exorbitant prices for inferior stuff — a shilling, say, for groceries that could be got for 3d. or 4d. at an ordinary shop. And the more interest paid often works out at more than a thousand per cent. per annum. A curious point about these women was elucidated a short time ago. For long it had been suspected that there was someone behind all these women financing them — a money-lending Moriarity. Recently the police got this man, and he was fined $500. What is wanted is power to imprison the women for long periods without the option of a fine."

A LAND OF OLD TINS.

Discarded Cans are Appreciated in Hayti.

An interesting sight into social and commercial conditions in Hayti, the black republic, is contained in a report from the British Consul-General, issued by the Foreign Office.

Old tins are in great demand throughout the island. Condensed milk, preserve, butter, and lard tins form practically the bulk of the cooking and table utensils used throughout the island. Cooking is done in five-pound butter and lard tins. Condensed milk tins become drinking mugs by the simple addition of a band which serves as a handle.

Old petroleum tins are used for storing and carrying water, and even a cook in a well-to-do family prefers old tins for cooking purposes to ordinary saucepans or other kitchen utensils.

CURE FOR POISON IVY.

In the summer season it is not uncommon for persons going into the woods to be poisoned by contact with dogwood, ivy or the poison oak. The severe itching and smarting which is thus produced may be relieved by first washing the parts with a solution of saleratus, two teaspoonfuls to the pint of water, and then applying cloths with extract of hamamelis. Take a dose of Epsom salts internally or a double Rochelle powder. The cure is immediate.

IN SUBURBS.

"How do you lik your new neighbors?"

"I haven't called on them. I didn't like the look of their furniture as it was being carried in."

RAID OF MALAY PIRATES

EIGHT OF A CHINESE JUNK'S CREW LOSE THEIR LIVES.

Hung up the Steward and Forced Him to Disclose Location of Valuables.

A rousing pirate story comes from the vicinity of Singapore. A large Chinese junk left Singapore for Hainan, but found the winds unfavorable and next night dropped anchor between Pulo Tokong and the mainland of Johore, not far from the Sultan's Asian Monte Carlo. The crew of fourteen and four passengers were aroused at midnight by the barking of the junk's dog, but the alarm was speedily silenced by

A MALAY KNIFE.

Two prahus had come alongside and in them were ten men, some Chinese and others Malays.

They proceeded to strike right and left among the sailors, laying several low. Then they seized the chinchow and proceeded to hang him up in buccaneer style to force him to disclose the location of the most valuable cargo. This he did, and the pirates having secured all the booty they could make way with departed as silently as they had come. The booty was not immense. It consisted of $4 in money, gold leaf valued at $80, raw chandu valued at $90 and six boxes of personal effects.

When the survivors came to count losses they found five dead on the junk, two were missing, their bodies having been thrown overboard. and four were wounded, one of whom died later. His deposition was taken at the General Hospital at Singapore. Seven of the occupants of the junk were

PRACTICALLY UNHURT,

and these started to bring their vessel back to Singapore, the chinchow coming on ahead in a sampan.

When he arrived a police party put out in the launch Lady Evelyn and met the junk off Tanjong Katong. She was towed into port and the injured men were conveyed to the General Hospital, and the five bodies landed for burial. The survivors turned over to the police four weapons found on board after the pirates left. These may help in identifying the criminals, who escaped unscathed. The weapons are two long Chinese knives with narrow blades and bone handles, an axe with a short iron handle and the heavy murderous fighting blade with which the greatest execution was wrought.

MUSIC OF THE TELEGRAPH.

The Bears Think It Is the Buzzing of Bees.

Everyone has put his ear to a telegraph pole to hear the wires hum, and most people have assumed that the wind was entirely responsible for the sound. So it is, in many cases, but often the note is heard where not the slightest movement of the air is preceptible. A recent French investigator tells us that the sound in this case is due to the expansion and contraction of the wires from variations of temperature. As the wires are not perfectly uniform, they rub against the insulators, making a slight noise, which is amplified by the post acting as a sounding-board. Another investigator is sure that the sounds are due to electric waves, but he fails to explain how ordinary telegraph wires should be able to serve as wave detectors and in what way the electric waves are transformed into sound waves. The other theory seems more probaole,

Some curious stories are told of this telegraph wire music. In Siberia the bears think that it is the buzzing of bees, and would tear down the poles to look for honey if the constructors did not pile great stones about them to prevent this. In France, on the south side of the forest of Fontainebleau, the telegraph sounds are regarded as presaging rain. This is because the south wind in this region brings rain, and the forest shuts off the north wind. In some districts the noise is popularly supposed to be due to the passage of messages, but it is hardly necessary to say that there is no evidence to support this view.

SOUTH POLAR MINERALS.

One of the results of the recent exploration of the Antarctic Continent is the discovery that that lone and distant land, with its burden of snow and ice, is able to furnish minerals of value to the civilized world. Among the minerals is a very good variety of coal. Professor David, one of Lieutenant Shackleton's companions, who climbed Mount Erebus, expresses the opinion that there are many minerals on the Antarctic Continent that could be profitably worked from Australia.

"Did you take me for a fool when you married me?" cried an angry husband, in the thick of a domestic quarrel, to which the wife meekly responded:—"No, Samuel, I did not; but then you always said I was no judge of character."