

### For The Quiet Hour

MR. JACOB A. REES OF THE AMERICAN PRESBYTERIAN mission at Bulungu, West Africa, writes:

The past week I have had a unique experience. Food for the native folk has been very scarce for a month, owing to the elephants coming in and destroying the gardens. The natives made application to the governor, asking permission to borrow my rifle to kill an elephant. They succeeded in hitting him. I went out to the forest, and seeing a gathering of about a dozen elephants around the fence which they had built, I climbed up on the carcass, struck up a hymn and had a real open air meeting in the forest. It was a splendid opportunity, there being about 2000 natives, and even the Christians and non-Christians, but all received the one gospel. The elephant died in a standing position which gave me his back for a platform.

"On one occasion," writes an English Methodist missionary in Africa, "I was challenged to explain the following. A priestess pretended her tongue had cut the tip off with a knife. After dancing around wildly she replaced her tongue and her speech restored. I confess I was mystified, but Providence led me to the market-place, where I saw exposed for sale a lamb's head missing the tongue. It didn't take long to see that if one didn't mind eating raw tongue all the deceptions practised by the priestesses could be accounted for and refuted. The reception of my solution assured me that it was correct, and another group of natives has become suspicious of their doctors."

A MESSIAHARY WRITING FROM THE NEW REVEREND recounts that one of the loaves declared to be rejected when it came on Sundays. When asked why, he explained:

"Because when it rains, my mind can go to church with my body."

It was rain-planning season, and on wet Sundays there is less temptation to be thinking of what could be done in the sun garden.

ARE YOU ON THE WIRES?—GO YE INTO ALL THE WORLD, and preach the gospel to the whole creation." She was the Association President of the Woman's Missionary Society, and was hurrying to a meeting. She picked up the December number of Missions to read on the street car. A little boy next to her on the car looked at the pictures. "What are they doing?" he inquired pointing to a little group of Chinese children. "They are waiting for a teacher. When the teacher comes, she is going to tell them about Jesus. Do you know about Jesus?" asked the Association President. "Sure," was the reply in a tone of offended dignity. "Who told you?" asked the Association President. "My mother did—a long while ago," was the reply. "These little boys' mothers can't tell them about Jesus because they never heard of him themselves." "Some mothers," was the only comment. Just then the street car stopped, and the mother of the little boy motioned for him to alight with her. He started to go, then turned back to the Association President. "Say," he said, "you better go and telephone to those mothers right away."—From Missions.

#### City Neighbors

I thought the house across the way was empty, but since yesterday Coops on the door makes me aware That some one has been living there! New York Tribune.

IN GLASGOW THEY TELL OF A RESOURCEFUL CLERGYMAN who is never at a loss for a resort. He was once called to the bedside of a very wealthy but dying man.

"I," he replied to the clergyman. "If I heard several thousand to the church, will my salvation be assured?" Whereupon the divine responded: "I wouldn't like to be too positive, but it's well worth trying."—The Bits.

BESSIE A. STANLEY, THE KANSAS CITY GIRL WHO WON A two hundred and fifty dollar prize given by a great publication for the best definition of success, wrote the following: He has achieved success who has loved well, laughed often, loved much; who has gained the respect of intelligent men and the love of little children; who has filled his niche and accomplished his task; who has left the world better than he found it, whether by an improved poppy, a perfect poem, or a rescued soul; who has not lacked appreciation of earth's beauty or failed to express it; who has always looked for the best in others and has given the best he had in himself; whose life has been an inspiration and whose memory is a benediction.—Exchange.

MRS. S. IS A WOMAN OF MODERATE MEANS—A WIDOW with seven married children. All of them are competent and self-sustaining. The entire family maintains eight motor cars.

At a meeting of the National Reform Association, Mrs. S. heard the speaker say the people of the United States spend seven billions a year on automobiles, and heard him ask the question: "Which is the more precious to you—your motor car or the upbuilding of God's Kingdom?" Mrs. S. called all her children around the home table for the next Sabbath day dinner, and told them: "As for me, I shall give twice as much to the Church and to its agencies as it costs to run my automobile. And I want you children to do the same. I would be ashamed to meet my Lord if my record showed that I cared more for luxurious riding on earth than I cared for the eternal Gospel."

ASKED WHAT HIS METHOD WAS IN GAINING COMMAND of an audience, Mr. Alexander told the following story:

A man came home from a state railway Y. M. C. A. convention, and was asked what he considered the best speech he had heard. He answered that it was not that of a regular speaker, but a fireman who got up and told his experience. "I was converted two years ago," this man said, "and was converted from my shoes to my hat. I was a fireman on a locomotive, and old Bill... was the engineer. He taught me how to fire in one lesson. He opened the fire box, told me to look down, and asked me what I saw. I told him I saw nothing but coal. He said: 'Look again.' I looked, and told him I saw a tiny flame. He said: 'That's it! Put the coal on the flame!'"

When I see somebody interested, I forget everything but that one person, and talk to him as though there were just he and I in the place, and pretty soon the whole service is on fire.

HAVE WE EVER DONE IT?—AND HE LOOKED THIS WAY and when he saw that there was no man, he smote the Egyptian, and hid in the sand. A little girl had been out quite a little while. When she came in at length, her mother asked her where she had been. "In the garden, mother." "I was helping God," the child replied. She explained that she had found a rose almost blossomed and had blossomed it. She had only ruined the rose. There are many people who try in the same way to help God, trying by schemes of their own to have results.—From "Devotional Hours with the Bible," by J. R. Miller.

THE 400,000 EVANGELICAL CHRISTIANS OF JUGO-SLAVIA ARE proposing to unite in a single body. Although subjected to various petty persecutions, they are growing, and their churches are filled.

Be at war with your vices, At peace with your neighbors, And let every New Year Find you a better man.

### HISTORY OF JOURNALISM

Without attempting to argue the question as to whether China issued a newspaper prior to the Roman diurnal, there is a good case in favor of the contention that the English idea of a newspaper was suggested by the Venetian gazettes.

These writings were displayed in the galleries and public places of Venice, a coin called gazetta being paid by one who desired to peruse the contents. Both "journal" and "gazette," so frequently used as the second words in newspaper titles, are literal descendants of the Roman and Venetian prototypes of our great daily newspapers.

In the opening years of the seventeenth century, aristocrats, when they left town for their country seats, took care to be informed as to current happenings.

Their correspondents were mostly men about town—frequently retired officers—whose duty it was to send a news letter at regular intervals to their subscribers.

These usually had their own "agents" who were generally well paid. Besides of county magistrates and groups of men would join together to share the cost of a letter between them.

A number of these documents have been preserved and bear evidence of much handiwork—betokening great interest in their contents. Macaulay says that the writers must have gone from one coffee room to another gathering up the chat-chats of the day.

Such communications were practically the only source from which publishers at the larger provincial towns could obtain information as to the social, political and court life of the metropolis.

It was Nathaniel Butler, a London stationer, who first conceived the idea of a printed letter. He must have been a very successful publisher of news, with a large number of clients. As a labor-saving device, he determined to collect, arrange and print his letter on a sheet to be issued on a fixed day in the week.

The first number appeared on May 21, 1622, as the "Weekly News" from Italy, Germany, etc. It was an instant success, securing a big circulation among people who were delighted at having information as to current events first hand, instead of being dependent on gossip, passing lips-to-lips, or the loan of a manuscript letter after it had been thumbed and mutilated until almost unrecognizable.

On September 25 Butler and a partner named Sheffield published a quarto sheet entitled "News from Most Parts of Christendom." This was the original English newspaper—the sheets being numbered consecutively as issued. There is no complete set extant.

The fashion being set, there were numerous imitations, and Ben Johnson's "Staple of News," which was acted in 1625, satirized the fashion and poked fun at Butler.

The Long Parliament may claim to have been the authors of the first report of the proceedings of Parliament, for it was by its order that the Grand Remonstrance was printed in November, 1641, and cried in the streets.

During the Civil War, Cavaliers and Puritans issued a number of newspapers—indeed, 170 weeklies were started in London between 1641-1649—mostly called "Mercuries."

Advertisements began to appear. Among announcements of books, rewards for recovery of lost property, list of coaching time-tables, in the "Mercurius Politicus," the following advertisement of tea was published in 1654:

"That Excellent, and by all Physicians approved, China Drink, called by the Chinese Tcha, by other nations Tay, alias Tee is sold at the Sultan's Head, a coffee-house in Sweetings Kent, by the Royal Exchange, London."

A great and picturesque figure of this period is Sir Roger L'Estrange. Charles II. suppressed the press which denounced him and made Sir Roger Surveyor of the Press, with the sole privilege of writing, printing and publishing all narratives, advertisements, Mercuries, intelligence, diurnals and other books of public intelligence.

The two leading organs of the Commonwealth were continued by L'Estrange, the titles being changed, the "Public Intelligencer" becoming the "Intelligencer" and the "Mercurius Politicus" the "News."

He had a cynical contempt for the public. He told them all newspapers were had as tending to make the populace "too familiar with the actions and counsels of their superiors," but he would seek to bring them to reason by judicious guidance.

In 1691 he began the "Observer" which served as a model for succeeding newspapers. It was a rival named Williamson, who induced Charles II. in 1695, to let him start the "Orford Gazette," as the only official paper. This killed the "Intelligencer." Williamson's paper afterwards changed its title to the "London Gazette," which has continued to the present time.

An attempt to run a daily newspaper was made in 1695—with the "Post Boy." It had a very brief existence, and not until March 11, 1702 was the first daily successfully launched.

This was the "Daily Courant" which appeared three days after the accession of Queen Anne. It was printed on one side only of a sheet, measuring fourteen by eight inches. The blank side was utilized by persons in London for the purpose of writing to their friends in the country and so combining a personal with a news letter.

The proprietor was E. Mallet, and it was published "next door to the King's Arms Tavern at Fleet Bridge, Fleet Street, was, therefore, the birthplace of daily journalism.

### WORLD-WIDE SUCCESS PAID IN ATTEMPT

A Chicago man who felt blue on Christmas eve, was prompted to commit suicide by shooting himself, and succeeded in having a bullet into his heart. Medical surgeons, however, cut his heart out, squeezed the bullet from it, put it back into position, and saved him up. The man was thereafter reported as likely to recover. Seems that the chances of getting away from this world's trouble by the suicide route are growing less. To the majority of men, there is more real fun in facing and fighting the whole way through life, but there are always a few who don't seem to be able to see the humor of a tough situation, and prefer to destroy themselves rather than contend against the odds of a natural finish. Will this man's experience be sufficient encouragement to him to go on from where he intended leaving off? Having it to tell about would be enough for some people to live for.

### THE FIRST MOUTH ORGAN

Many of our readers will, no doubt, be interested in a short history of the first mouth organ manufactured. In view of the popularity of this little instrument, we are sure you will read with a good deal of interest, just how the first mouth organ was made, seventy-five years ago. The Music Trades Journal of Toronto, in a recent number contains the following history of the mouth organ from Mr. W. E. Wythill, vice-president of Whaley, Rogers and Company Limited, Toronto:

"In the year 1845 in Trossingen, a village of the Wurtemberg part of the Black Forest, a son was born to a poor linen weaver called Christian Messner who became a weaver exactly like his father. This occupation did not satisfy the ambitious son who being of an industrious turn of mind, spent his spare time in wood carving.

"One day he purchased at the Fair a single reed child's trumpet, and this gave him the idea that it would be possible to put single reeds next to the other and tune same to scale.

"He cast his first plates of lead and etched and filed the cuts thereon, and from hammered brass, he filed the first reeds to fit into these cuts. The village schoolmaster was the musical expert who helped him in the matter. The blow cells he made with a saw and gimlet and produced the first mouth organ ever made.

"Young Messner did all this work in secret, fearing his father's objection. For his workshop, he used a doghouse. Only after a great deal of difficulty when he showed to his father that by manufacturing mouth organs in this way he could earn more than by weaving, the second son, Johannes, was allowed to join in the venture together with a nephew, Mr. Christian Weiss.

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# The Perfect Blend "SALADA"

Tees from nearly thirty different gardens are blended to give SALADA its distinctive flavor. It is truly a revelation. Try it.

"Many years passed this way, the mouth organs being manufactured by hand only. The regular factory production started in the year 1862 when the present senior of the firm of Charles Weiss, then a young and ambitious man, trained in business, entered into partnership with his father. A factory was erected and special machinery, mainly of their own invention, was installed, also a steam engine which provided the power necessary. From this small beginning, a huge business has developed, employing an army of skilled workmen, and today, there is not a country in the world where mouth organs are unknown. Even the blacks in Africa dance to 'Harmonicas.' The very first mouth organ was made by 'Weiss,' and this business has been handed down from father to son."

McTavish knew "And what would you be doing with a wife at your age, Donald? Inquired McTavish. 'Just to look up me, and when I see, to show my eyes,' replied Donald. 'Awful,' said McTavish. 'I've had two, and they opened mine.'"

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Mrs. D. R. difficulty in sleeping, dull, exercising thing else that without relief ment something take that would here rel thing.

If you mean fuses to give you sleep, he according to the subject. Less drugs that some of the forming. The germine your sistent. An out after being quiring largest which is dang

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F. J. L. W.

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