

### For The Quiet Hour

I HAD OFTEN READ IN MAGAZINES AND NEWSPAPERS that through the war equality of races would be established. I had wondered how this could be, for I had always understood that the black race was mentally inferior to other races. How could such a race be on an equality? At the Peking Student Conference I saw, for the first time, a Negro. When Dr. Willis J. King of Atlanta went on the platform to give us a message, I can not express the strange feeling I had. I only knew that a very noted and able person would be asked to speak at such a gathering. I wondered if he would be able to give us anything as profitable as the other speakers, but as he proceeded I found that he was able to draw us nearer to God than any other speaker. I felt no difference in races. I realized that to God there were no differences in races, but that any one who gave himself to him, could be used by him to express his message to the world. The kingdom is nearer than I thought.—Mrs. P. K. Choi, Seoul.

IT IS NOT GENERALLY REALIZED THAT CENTRAL SOUTH America is as healthful as Central Africa. Thousands of tons of grain, coffee, sugar, meat and rubber are shipped annually from South America, but only from the outside strip of the continent. In the interior the gorgeous ritual of the Inca has completely died out, and its place has been taken by the worship of evil spirits. It is a religion of fear. There is no word in the Indian language to express a good spirit, and missionaries have had to fall back upon the Spanish word "Dios" to explain God to the people. The majority of the Indians in these foreign regions are peopleless, and can only back out their own primitive weapons. The missionaries are now teaching them to make furniture and other useful articles, as well as to worship God. Explorers, linguists, and men of God are needed to carry on the work of winning these Indian tribes for God.

THE WORLD CONFERENCE OF FAITH AND ORDER, OF which Bishop Brent is chairman, announces a representation of 78 churches in its organization.

It is sought among its efforts to obtain a general agreement among the churches to cease proselyting, and a closer co-operation for missions among non-Christian peoples. The Holy Orthodox Eastern Church has urged the promotion of closer friendship among the churches, including the acceptance of a uniform calendar for the simultaneous celebration of the great Christian feasts and the settlement of the question of mixed marriages.

THE CHURCH'S APPRECIATION OF THE SACRIFICES MADE by our foreign missionaries is very meagre. The deepest wrench of them all is separation from their children! Christians at home can never enter into his poignant experience. In the July Atlantic Monthly appear extracts from the letters of Mr. David Livingstone, sent by him to his brother Charles, then living in America, and now only given for publication. In one of these the great servant of Christ lays his heart bare. There is more than a single lesson in it:

My poor wife and family sailed by the Trafalgar on April 23. My heart is very sore. I shall never see my children again—they will grow out of my knowledge, and will all forget me. But I grudge Him nothing who died for me. My tears flow, but He knows that my heart grudges Him nothing of all that I have.

I fear for my children. The people in England spoil children by fawning and flattering, if their fathers happen to be popular. I fear silly people will spoil my youngsters. Nearly all our popular ministers in England heget races of wild asses.

THERE HAS BEEN INVENTED A PROCESS OF SILVER-plating dead bodies so as to convert them into metallic images of the individuals as they were when alive. Gold-plate can be used if relatives can afford it.

The parable of the rich man who built greater barns (Luke 12, 16-21) to bestow his goods, suggests the modern danger of gold-plating souls with covetousness, which is but another name for greediness, stinginess, and craftiness. When we see these gold-plated souls we are inclined to believe that God's name for them is very mild.

Abbie Ben Adams—may her life be spared!—Awoke one night and felt a trifle seared, For on her shirt-waist box, cross-legged, sat A Vision writing on a little slate. Exceeding nervousness made Abbie quake, And to the Vision (timidly she spake): "What writest thou?" The Vision looked appalled At the presumption, and quite coldly drawled: "The list of Our Best People who depart." For watering places sumptuous and smart.

THE PROTESTANT CHURCH AS A WHOLE SEEMS MOST solicitous for those who need it least. It sets itself to win and to hold those who represent property. To them it gives its ablest ministers, for them it builds the best equipped and noblest structures, and for them it provides the sweetest music by the best artists. Noting the exceptions that might be mentioned, surely nobody will dispute the trend of the Protestant church's effort towards the people of wealth. It has been true, in part, because the church people have been the kind who would naturally prosper, and the church has in many cases followed them to the more desirable residence districts of the city and to the suburbs.—James J. Coale.

IT IS RELATED OF AN OLD SAXON WARRIOR WHO CAME to unite with the church that when he was to be immersed he insisted upon keeping his right hand out of the water. He was told his whole body must be buried in baptism, but he replied: "I must keep that hand for battle with my enemies." This reminds us of what one has said, that we can step quite close to Christ, even in his way, and yet be thinking of ourselves all the while.

THE ORDINARY SET ROUTINE OF CHURCH SERVICES every week, attended to frequently by a majority of women, is given as a reason by an English minister for the dearth of candidates for the ministry.

IS MODERN PEDAGOGY DRIVING THE BIBLE FROM THE Sunday school? asks Rev. Marcus L. Gray in The St. Louis Christian Advocate. It is the graded lesson system he fears. The theory of it is beautiful, he says, but it falls down on the practical side. "We have been looking at the expert side for a long time; now let us look for a while at the practical side."

DR. ORCHARD, IN HIS BOOK, "THE NECESSITY OF CHRIST" says: "The thinking of men and the movements of our time are running toward Christ. Ethics and philosophy admit that final truths are not in them, but are found somewhere in the direction of Christianity. This great trek homeward is being made with a new generation. Old heresies have died, old rebellions have settled down, and the advanced thinking of to-day is moving toward Christianity."

THE CAUSE OF RELIGION MUST BE WON ON ITS OWN field—that of the devout life. Religion can be neither proved nor disproved by anything outside itself. It is real to those who live in it; it justifies itself progressively to those who will make the necessary sacrifices in order to find the pearl of great price. All the best modern thought is converging in this direction. In a sense it makes the attainment of truth more difficult, because it takes all there is of us to win it; but it also makes it much simpler.—Dean Inge.

THE PASTOR OF LILLIAN RUSSELL SAID AT THE TIME of her recent death that she was a habitual reader of the Bible, and allowed nothing to interfere with her hour of daily devotion.

IN RETURNING THANKS FOR GIFTS SENT TO ESTHONIA by Northern Baptists a letter says that many of the children were born just before or during the war, and they had never seen toys and many other things that they were now able to call their own.

BETH DOR'SHE 'EMETH (THE HOUSE OF SEEKERS AFTER Truth) is the new name for the Presbyterian Mission to the Jews in Montreal. The name was changed because the Jews may not care to go to a mission, but will go to a "House of Seekers After Truth."

IN SOUTH AMERICA THERE ARE STILL ABOUT THREE hundred languages into which no portion of the Bible has been translated.

## "World Leaders I Have Met"

An Address Delivered April 26th to the Durham Men's Bible Class by Col. John Bayne McLean.

At the Men's Class Banquet here on Thursday evening, April 26, at which Col. John Bayne Maclean, the proprietor of Maclean's Magazine, and numerous other publications, and a former resident of Durham, spoke on the subject, "World Leaders I Have Met." The Toronto Telegram had a staff reporter present, and the following appeared in the Telegram of Tuesday of last week. The article is, perhaps, rather lengthy, but is a nearly verbatim report of Col. Maclean's address. We found so much pleasure in the address that we reproduce the article for the benefit of our readers who were not in attendance:

The United Bible Class of Durham, composed of men belonging to the Anglican, Presbyterian, Baptist and Methodist Churches, met in the Presbyterian Church last Thursday evening, where, after a very enjoyable supper, they were addressed by Col. J. B. Maclean, periodical publisher of Toronto, who formerly lived in the town for a time, and where he is well known. He was the guest of Dr. Jamieson during his brief visit. Rev. W. H. Smith presided and the other ministers in Durham were also present. Col. Maclean took as his topic, "World Leaders I Have Met," at least that was the title on the printed tickets, but the speaker told his audience he had not selected a title arbitrarily and just intended giving a more or less informal talk. He told of how great financiers lived and worked, of their human side, and narrated anecdotes of personal interest which were very much enjoyed. He strongly upheld Bible teaching as pointing the way to success and deprecated the modern tendency of the people to stray after false gods while neglecting the really great men and women of to-day who are saving and working for the development, advancement and upbuilding of the country. At the conclusion of the address Col. Maclean was warmly thanked, and Rev. Mr. Smith, who taught the class, was presented with a handsome umbrella by the members.

#### Side--Stepped Invitations.

"I have read papers and given talks, but they have been to business men," said Col. Maclean, who was very cordially received, "and they have been on subjects I know a little about. I have been afraid of clubs and other general audiences and I have side-stepped every invitation, but a Bible class has been hitherto outside my field. I have been wondering ever since I accepted, just what mental sleight of hand Rev. Mr. Smith worked on me. I had been compromised before I realized it. Journalists, like business men, as a rule are poor speakers. I know of only one great business man who is a brilliant, convincing speaker, but he can't write a speech. The most respected and powerful world journalist I know is a poor speaker. He can't dictate his articles. He has to write them himself with a pen, and, usually before they go to press he has rewritten them many times.

#### Reflected Glory.

"I am still further handicapped. I am here under false pretenses. I am treated as a leader in literature, but the fact is I merely reflect the glory of the many brilliant young writers who are associated with me. But this is not all. Here you are, with your highly trained teachers, and all of you students of the greatest of all text-books for the study of the English language and composition—the Bible. I have a fair history as a business man and a journalist, but I have a very bad record as a writer of good English. Our highest experts decided and certified to it officially.

#### Plucked!

"My natural inclination led to the army as a career, but I thought it

would be well to have a permanent civilian occupation to fall back upon. I passed my university matriculation and tried for a teacher's certificate—a life certificate. I have to shamefully confess they plucked me twice in English. The examiners also concluded I would never make a teacher. They also decided that twice. However, there were some consolations. It happened that a few days previous to the final examinations I was called before the Principal, Rev. Dr. Davies of the Ontario Normal School, where he sat in state with his two chief assistants Drs. Carlyle and Kirkland. He said they had been asked by Port Hope—I think it was—to recommend a principal for their Public school. They had agreed upon me. I suggested that I might be plucked. They said, no chance, but I was.

#### Articles Always Accepted.

"But within three years I was earning more with my pen than the examiners had ever received. In addition to my own daily paper, I had become a regular contributor to a number of Canadian, British and United States publications. I never had an article refused. About thirty years ago I made the acquaintance of a very promising young minister—a brilliant Canadian, who took post graduate courses in Europe and Harvard. He wrote a book, presented me with a copy. I cannot tell you how many times I have conscientiously tried to read that book. I do not think I ever got beyond the first chapter. There was too much literature and not enough news or entertainment.

#### Demand For News.

"A few years ago Sir Robert Falconer, a life-long friend of this minister, told me he thought he had the highest attainments of any man in Canada. Not very long ago he wrote me that he had two more books ready but could not find anyone to publish them. He is a great success in the pulpit. One of his congregations, a Cabinet Minister at Ottawa, thinks he has no superior in Canada. And here I am unable to get by a simple examination. What is the explanation? It is simply that the public demands in its reading, news, instruction and entertainment, set forth in the simplest current language, in words that they can quickly understand.

#### Best Training School.

"But I still feel the double condemnation of the technical experts hanging over me, and from this standpoint it is a very humble individual who addresses you. I hope you will not betray this little confession, for it is important for my bread and butter that I should still continue to fool the public with my literary pretensions (laughter). At the same time, I have no objection to your spreading the facts about my failures as a teacher. About 25 years ago some rival, some enemy of mine, started the story that my organization was the best training school for success in journalism and publishing. The result is that our young men are being constantly sought after with higher salaries. We encourage some to accept; some, we would like to keep, drift off, some come back. But I am happy to say that all my senior associates have refused all temptations.

#### World's Leaders.

"It is a coincidence that the man who heads the educational system of this province is one of our old associates, and the chief editor of the Canadian daily that stands highest in the opinion of literary men received his training with me. You let me select the subject—a very difficult task. I put several thoughts before Mr. Smith and he suggested that I should relate personal stories of some world's leaders. I felt that this would be interesting and entertaining, but as I continued to study the problem, the practical side came up—as it always does to those of us

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who have to look at problems from that viewpoint.

#### Practical Lessons.

"I concluded that I would be more useful and helpful to you young men of the Bible Class if I were to make the personalities of these leaders secondary to the practical lessons, their lives, their careers and their experiences taught. Men and women who crowd lectures seldom make practical use of what they hear. I did not expect to find so many seniors, but I am glad to see them and to tell them not to regard themselves as beyond the stage

where they can do the greatest work of their lives; where they can begin new and useful ventures. The sad part of life is that we have been in the habit of retiring or have had to quit just when we have begun to know something worth while about our job.

#### Just Plain Banker.

"I recall that teachers were supposed to have outlived their usefulness and be entitled to pensions at sixty. Yet if they take care of their health and continue to learn, at sixty is when they should begin to be

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