

NOTES AND COMMENTS

When the proposal was last definitely revived to dig a tunnel under the channel to furnish railway communication between France and England, the voice of many Britons was raised in a unanimous cry of horror.

The entente between Great Britain and France seems unbreakable for the present, but what statesman can foresee the developments of the next fifty years in European coalitions?

The Thames embankment is no longer the "show place" of London's poverty. For generations the benches and sidewalks of the embankment have served as sleeping quarters for down and outs nightly.

Through the efforts of John Burns the various charity shelters of the city have been brought within reach of all needy. The police have been called into co-operation. The unfortunate men and women who seek the cold pavement of the embankment for rest are directed by the policeman on the beat to a nearby office.

In the shelter the down and out is not merely given a bed to sleep in. He is required to take a bath. He is also given breakfast the next morning. In placing the homeless men in the various shelters distinction is made between the man who is a hopeless delinquent and the man who is only temporarily down and out.

THE KAISER'S MAXIM.

In a golden frame on the German Emperor's desk in his study is to be found the following code of ethics: "Be strong in pain; don't long for what is unattainable or long less; be satisfied with the day as it comes; look for good in all things; be satisfied with one hour of happiness for a thousand bitter ones; always do your best even though you may not be thanked."

Dr. Osler tells the following to illustrate the elasticity of the English language as used by the Southern negro. "One day there came to the clinic a negro with a broken jaw. The examining physician, intent on discovering the exact nature and extent of the injury, asked numerous questions. To all of them the negro returned evasive answers. Finally she admitted that she was 'hit by an object.'"

"Was it a large object or a small object?" asked the physician. "Tolle by large."

"Was it a hard object or a soft object?" "Tolle by hard."

"Was it coming rapidly or slowly?" "Tolle by fast."

Then, her patience exhausted, the negro turned to the physician. "To tell the truth, doctor, I was jest simply kick'd in the face by a gentleman friend."

FROM MERRY OLD ENGLAND

NEWS BY MAIL ABOUT JOHN BULL AND HIS PEOPLE.

Occurrences in the Land That Reigns Supreme in the Commercial World.

The value of the fish drawn from the North Sea every year is £20,000,000.

A London firm of brokers sold 25,000 house cat skins last year for making "furs."

Sixty-eight per cent. of all the newspapers published throughout the world are in the English language.

Great Britain has no intention of following the lead of Washington in recognizing the Republic of China.

The Salvation Army raised £27,062 1s. 8d. by its recent Self-denial collections, which is £9,229 5s. 4d. in excess of the amount obtained last year.

There are in London more Scotsmen than in Aberdeen, more Irish than in Dublin, more Jews than in Palestine, and more Roman Catholics than in Rome.

Fire occurred on the 2nd inst. at the shipyard of Doxford & Sons, Pallion, Sunderland. The joiners' shop was gutted, and the damage is estimated at £10,000.

The Duke and Duchess of Montrose are to entertain more largely in London this season than during the past few years. They are now seeking a suitable town residence.

In the cotton mills manual labor has been reduced about 50 per cent. Now one weaver manages from two to ten looms, where one loom was formerly tended by one worker.

The Rev. J. E. Adderley, Birmingham, advocating religious films, says sermons are sometimes delivered to people who really don't know what the preacher is talking about.

Mrs. Susan Alcock, who died at Anderton, Norwich, Cheshire, aged 88, left no fewer than 69 descendants—three sons, three daughters, 40 grandchildren and 20 great-grandchildren.

Scotland Yard, London, aroused by the threats of women, has sent out warnings to owners and tenants of property of possible developments, and the police everywhere are taking unusual precautions.

"Shakespeare," said an eighteenth century writer, "was master of two books unknown to many of the profoundly read, which the last conflagration only could destroy—the book of nature and of man."

The Times announces the death of Admiral John Halliday Cave, C. B., at Kensington, aged 96. He was present at the siege of Sebastopol as senior lieutenant of the Diamond, and was honorably mentioned as wounded at the storming of the Redan.

St. Paul's London, has been the burial place of many of the greatest soldiers, including the Duke of Wellington. Lord Napier of Magdala was buried in 1890 in the Crypt, and the Cathedral also contains memorials to soldiers of such renown as General Gordon, Sir Henry Lawrence and Sir John Moore.

The population of the principal parts of the British Empire overseas has increased in the 20 years from 1891 to 1911 as follows:—India, 287,270,000 in 1891 and 315,066,000 in 1911; Australia, 3,174,000 and 4,569,000; South Africa, 2,071,000 and 5,937,000; West Africa, 1,649,000 and 20,177,000; Canada, 5,035,000 and 7,447,000.

Prof. Jordan Lloyd, senior surgeon at the Queen's Hospital, Birmingham, and a well-known figure in connection with medical jurisprudence, died with tragic suddenness on the 4th inst., at Edgbaston. After attending at the hospital, where he performed several operations, Mr. Jordan Lloyd walked home and died from angina pectoris a few minutes after entering his house.

FRANCE LEADS IN AIRSHIPS

Has 48 Different Makes of 47 Other Nations Combined.

An analysis of the existing makes of aeroplanes and hydro-aeroplanes made by a French newspaper shows that France alone possesses forty-eight different makes of aeroplanes compared with forty-seven credited to all other nations combined. Nations alone, it is pointed out, do not prove much, but chief records give France also the first place.

The non-stop record has been beaten twenty-three times, three times by foreign machines, twenty times by French. The speed record has been held twice by foreign machines and eighteen times by French. The height record has been beaten twenty-five times, four times by foreign machines, the rest by French.

In the list drawn up America is credited with two makes of biplanes (Wright and Curtiss) and three of hydro-aeroplanes (Burgers-Wright, Wright and Benoist); Great Britain with nine makes of biplanes, eleven of monoplanes and one hydro-aeroplane; Germany with six makes of biplanes, seventeen of monoplanes and two hydro-aeroplanes; France with twenty makes of biplanes, twenty-four of hydro-aeroplanes. The remaining countries do not reach double figures. Italy has nine, Austria, three, Japan, Russia and Switzerland one each.

The man who is buying his house on the instalment plan now wishes he could redecorate it in the same way.

LONDONERS' GLOOMY FACES.

Seventeen Out of Twenty Betray Much Misery.

Arnold Bennett's remark, after returning to England after a long stay in Paris, that the expression on the faces of Londoners varies from the sad to the morose, and that their "general mein is one of haste and gloomy preoccupation" has led to an enquiry by The Daily Mirror, which finds that it is "all too true."

The Daily Mirror says it tested the statement recently, when seventeen hours were spent in counting faces in the streets and in typical places where people meet. Everything was gloom; people looked glum and worried, strained, over-serious, and anxious.

Across London Bridge, for example, when it was visited half an hour before noon, were tramping a long procession of deary-looking men and tired, bored women. The first twenty who passed on the pavement on the western side were carefully sorted out into three classes—"Happy," "miserable" and "indifferent." The fact that seventeen had to be put into the "miserable" class, and that it was difficult to classify the other three, was proof that Mr. Bennett's statement was justified.

Then a journeying from London Bridge Station past the Mansion House was made, and the persons inside were sorted out under the three heads. Of ten, five were looking tired, three seemed to be bearing upon their shoulders the burdens of the world, and the other two looked out upon the roadway as though it was not there.

The head waiter at a world-famous restaurant in the Strand tried to explain it all. "It is an age of worry," he said. "Look around this room. There are here thirty or forty persons, well-to-do, and being served with some of the finest food in Europe, yet scarcely one of them looks happy."

In Bedford Street, and thereabouts—the actors' promenade—the Macbeths of yesterday and the Romeos of to-morrow all looked like Hamlets, so melancholy was their mein. Outside one of the biggest agent's seven of them stood together, all in an "Alas, poor Yorick" mood.

DOGS AS RAILWAY GUARDS.

Paris Police Dogs Are Trained to Refuse Bribes.

After several attempts had been made to damage the railways used for the transportation of Greek troops into Turkish territory, dogs were employed to guard the lines, the Greek Government being unable to spare soldiers for the purpose. The results were excellent. At Larissa in particular, the entire railroad line was efficaciously protected by dogs.

For several years perfectly trained police dogs have been found invaluable in Paris, and they have been assigned to important duties. All along the banks of the Seine dogs watch for accidents. If a careless passenger or an unwary boatman falls off one of the many boats barges plying constantly up and down the Seine, one of the big Newfoundland river guards bounds into the water to the rescue, barking to give the alarm, and often swimming with the limp body to the shore.

Dogs are now used to escort prisoners to and from jail in Paris. They will courageously attack their enemy, even when fired upon, as a notorious bandit found to his cost during a recent struggle to escape while being conveyed to trial. This is a result obtained by careful training.

How to defend his master is another important lesson taught the police dog. The dog must snarl and bite as soon as an attempt to hold up his master is made. In this the police dog is developing marvellous qualities.

His moral training forms as much of a police dog's education as his professional lessons. He is taught to be honest and faithful and not to accept a bribe.

The lesson is important because the poisoned meat is offered to these dogs. The police dog soon learns to eat nothing but what his master serves him and is an example to many men in his resistance to temptation.

INDIA'S MARBLE GATEWAY.

Structure to Mark Spot of King George's Landing.

Lord Sydenham, the Governor, recently laid the foundation stone of the building, the symbolical gateway of India, which is to mark the spot where King George landed on Indian soil on his way to the Delhi Durbar.

The structure will be of shining white marble, and the style of architecture chosen is mixed Hindu and Moslem. The total cost of the building will be about \$300,000, of which the Government of India is contributing two lakhs of rupees, the Bombay Government three lakhs, Sir Jacob Sassoon three lakhs, and the Bombay Corporation one lakh.

Referring to the happy combination of the Hindu and the Moslem styles, Lord Sydenham said he earnestly hoped that this would be good augury for the advance of the great Indian communities hand in hand towards nationhood under the guidance of British rule.

Denied.

Judge (to notorious bank robber)—They say you were in politics on the other side.

Accused (with offended dignity)—Never, your honor! Politics would have ruined my character.

FROM BONNIE SCOTLAND

NOTES OF INTEREST FROM HER BANKS AND BRAES.

What is Going on in the Highlands and Lowlands of Auld Scotia.

A start has been made in the construction of Port-Glasgow passenger station.

Ex-Bailie Alex. Stewart, who is 92 years of age, is still an active member of the Callander Town Council.

Kilmarnock Town Council's by-laws for refreshment shops have been approved by Sheriff Lyon Mackenzie.

The death has occurred at Falkirk of Drummer Thomas Neill, who served for 21 years in the 42nd Highlanders.

In order that Patrick may not lose its identity now that it is merged in Glasgow, an old Patrick Club has been formed.

Dalbattie Territorials have been reinforced by the addition of 38 recruits, bringing the strength of the company to over 90.

The Electricity Committee of Glasgow Corporation have acquired an electrically-propelled motor van for use in breakdowns.

A poacher has been shot dead down New Luce way. He was a fox which had put lamb and goose too frequently on his menu.

The Clackmannan County Council have agreed to increase the wages of certain of their workmen from 22s. to 24s. per week.

The gross earnings of 150 steamers of the Clyde and district at the winter herring fishing has been calculated to amount to \$857,500.

The estate of Lochvale, belonging to the trustees of the late Andrew Luck, has been purchased by James Cleughan, cattle dealer.

At a meeting of the Edinburgh and Leith Corporation Gas Commission it was stated that an offer had been received for the Corporation old gas works.

Out of regard to the feelings of its poor, Falkirk Parish Council has decided to eliminate the word "pauper" and substitute "recipient" in its books.

Mr. Andrew Dickson, clerk of works, has just retired after 35 years' faithful service in the Hope-town estates, and was the recipient of many presents.

An offer has been made by Paisley Art Institute to build and hand over to the Town Council, free of cost, an addition to the existing art gallery.

Dunfermline Town Council has resolved to borrow £20,000 for the purpose of the construction of an outfall sewer to the Forth and subsidiary sewers.

Operations have been begun for pumping the water out of the Glasgow harbor tunnel and putting the machinery and the elevators into working order.

Greenock Corporation have decided to take tenders for the installation of an extension to the harbor works, to be constructed on the vertical lift system.

Several whales have been sighted sporting themselves some miles north of the May Island, and it is believed that they have followed herring to the mouth of the Firth of Forth.

Steps have been taken with the view of holding in Aberdeen next year a national exhibition, representative particularly of the fishing industry and the general trade of the north of Scotland.

Will McKie, Chaplain Farm, Strathaven, Co. Kirkcubright, at Hamilton Sheriff Court for allowing a dairymaid who had recently been in contact with persons suffering from scarlet fever to milk cows.

The modelling of the memorial for Edinburgh to the late Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone by Dr. Pittendrieh Macgillivray, R.S.A., has been completed and the statue will be ready for setting up in about six months.

ICELAND WILL BE "DRY."

Present Stock of Liquors to Be Exhausted by 1914.

At the end of the present year, according to news received from Copenhagen, it will be impossible for either natives or tourists to obtain alcoholic liquors in Iceland.

Under the anti-spirit law permission was given to consume the present stock of liquors in Iceland, and figuring on the per capita consumption it will all be gone by the end of the year. The government adopted the drastic prohibition laws because it was felt that the excessive drinking of the Icelanders was undermining the physical fitness of the people.

During the last twenty years the trade and industry of Iceland has increased enormously. Twenty years ago there was not a dairy in the country; now thirty big dairies are sending thousands of casks of butter to Leith and Edinburgh, Scotland. Sheep raising is also becoming an important business.

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INTERPRETATION OF LIFE

Our Analysis Will Show at Once the Complexity of This Problem

All the problems of human life are centered in the idea of spiritual unity, which is neither a chaos nor an empty vessel, as some thinkers imagine; and it is only in and through this spiritual unity that our life problems find their final solution.

This all pervading idea in the unity of our consciousness finds its deepest expression in religion because in the sphere of religious experience our beliefs and doubt meet together and become co-partners, finding their reconciliation in the unity of one life.

This is possible because religion is a growth, a development, and in the process of development, which is a transition, life fulfills its mission, returning once more upon itself.

The process is a movement in which, though our conscious elements seemingly differentiate themselves, nevertheless a unity is still preserved in that differentiation and still holds its own even in the extreme opposition. Not only so, but even in the moments of antagonism that unity restores itself in a higher and a fuller form by means of that antagonism.

It is indeed true that "a universal," as one has said, "often manifests itself in the opposition and relation of individuals, but only through that opposition and relation the universal can realize itself as an individual whole."

A scientist may insist on interpreting a problem of this sort by a

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL STUDY

INTERNATIONAL LESSON, MAY 4.

Lesson V.—Joseph interprets dreams, Gen. chap. 40. Golden text, Job 32, 8.

Verses 9, 10. Chief butler—Cup-bearer to the king.

A vine was before me—In his dream the king's cup-bearers sees the whole process of wine-making transpire before his eyes in a few moments of time. It was as though the branches of the vine budded, and as though their blossoms shot forth, and these in turn grew and brought forth ripe grapes.

Verses 11. Pressed them into Pharaoh's cup—The usual interpretation given to this verse would lead us to think of unfermented grape-juice, refreshing and as highly prized in ancient Egypt as it is in America to-day. But if we follow the suggestion given in the preceding paragraph in connection with verses 9 and 10, we can imagine the drama enacted in the vision to include the transformation of the grape-juice into wine before the cup is given into Pharaoh's hand. It is well known that fermented wine was a common beverage among many ancient peoples, including both Hebrews and the Egyptians.

13. Lift up thy head—Reinstate thee in office; do thee honor. Compare 2 Kings 25, 27: "Evil-merodach, king of Babylon, in the year that he began to reign, did lift up the head of Jehoiachin, king of Judah, out of prison."

14. But have me in remembrance—Do not forget a friend who is suffering unjust imprisonment when thou art again in a position to show kindness.

Bring me out of this house—Bring about my release from imprisonment and slavery and my restoration to deserved freedom.

15. Stolen away—And therefore not lawfully a prisoner or slave.

16. Three baskets of white bread—The meaning of the word translated "white bread" is uncertain. Various earlier different renderings, such as "baskets of palm branches," "wicker-work baskets," and "all manner of baked food," that is, baker's goods, such as pastry, cakes, bread, etc.

17. In the uppermost basket—The presence of all manner of baked food in this basket does not harmonize with the statement that there was white bread in all three baskets. (Compare comment on preceding verse.) If we were to substitute in verse 16 the translation "three baskets of palm branches" or "three wicker-work baskets," then the two lower baskets might be thought of as being empty, so that when the birds had devoured the contents of the uppermost basket there was nothing left for the chief baker to serve to the king. The baker experiences the helplessness so common in dreams and is not able to frighten away the birds.

19. Pharaoh shall lift up thy head—The interpretation of the dream begins exactly like the interpretation of the butler's dream. Three momentous words are, however, added—from off thee. These change the interpretation from one of promise to one of doom.

Hang thee on a tree—To expose the dead body of a malefactor was to increase the degree of punishment, and yet severer punishment was to indignity.

The birds shall eat thy flesh—The Egyptians believed that the preservation of the body as a mummy was essential to a person's immortality. The dire punishment predicted thus added indignity to punishment, and yet severer punishment was to indignity.

20. Pharaoh's birthday—An occasion for national rejoicing among the ancients was the birthday of their king. There are evidences that in Egypt it was customary to celebrate the birthday of the reigning Pharaoh with great formalities, including religious ceremonies and the granting of pardons to many prisoners.

Both the chief butler and the chief baker are summoned from prison, the one to be restored to his former office, the other to be executed.

32. As Joseph had interpreted to them—Both dreams had come true, even as Joseph had foretold.

33. Yet did not the chief butler remember Joseph—The request of the fellow prisoner is entirely forgotten amid the old surroundings of prosperity and power.

Excavating Nero's House. Art Galleries of "Nero's Folly" Were Filled With Earth.

Interesting excavations are being made in Nero's "Golden House" by the Italian Government, whose attention was drawn to the subject by Dr. Fritz Weege, a young German archaeologist, author of that vast palace known as "Nero's Folly" and which covered an area about three times that occupied by the present Vatican with all its appurtenances. Erected after the burning of Rome in A.D. 64, the "Golden House," which extended from the Palatine far up the Esquiline, and of which the artistic Emperor completely remarked, "I am now lodged as a man should be," was converted by his successors into other edifices, according to some, time-honored fashion of Rome, and while the Colosseum arose on the site of the Neronian Lake, the baths of Titus and of Trajan respectively represent other portions of the Neronian palace. The immense and richly decorated galleries were more than half-filled with earth, and recent visitors had to grope through the dense, bent nearly double, to avoid touching anything. Of the mural paintings the most interesting is that of a warrior with nodding helmet, a woman holding a child (clearly visible in the painting) and another woman in the background, where a gator and battlements are also noticeable. Besides the mural paintings, the excavations have revealed a number of historic names, scratched after the fashion of the tourist, on the walls. Nearly 200 names have been already noted down, beginning with the year 1496. Most of them are Dutch; but of Britons there are Cameron, Buchan and John Parker. One king has scrawled his name there—Gustavus Adolphus III, of Sweden, with the date 1784, eight years before his assassination.

Patronizing a Princess. How the Crown Princess of Germany once met a rebuff is told in a Berlin despatch. The princess takes great interest in all measures that alleviate the lot of working girls. As the story goes, she once applied, incognito, on behalf of a protegee to a leading firm of dress-makers for a position as model. "I came," she said, "because I saw your advertisement, and I thought—"

The manager laid his hand upon her shoulder. "My dear girl," he said, "I am sorry, but it's no use. You are not quite good-looking enough. Still, you have a pleasant face, and I'll tell you what I'll do. Come again next month, and then I'll see if I can use you as a junior saleswoman."

His consternation, when he discovered the princess identity, was only equalled by her tact in making him forget his discomfiture.

It would be a much more progressive world if we reduced the time we give to other people's business.

Clark's... A fourfold economic... A three and seven... A strength... Park & Bee

SUGAR USED 8,000... Its Origin is Lost in Antiquity... It is not known who discovered sugar. Sugar seems to have been known since the time of the ancients.

The Chinese appear to have discovered sugar, but not in all the Indies. The Chinese appear to have discovered sugar, but not in all the Indies.

Experiment has demonstrated that sugar has remarkably purgative power when eaten by a person suffering from indigestion. The sugar is ascribed to the Venetian merchant who introduced the process into the refining of sugar was introduced in England about 1600.

INTERESTING STORY OF DIAN COMPANY'S DEVELOPMENT.

The Russell Motor Car has had long experience in the automobile industry. Starting as agents for other cars, this company produced a plant in Canada.

Some of the parts were made abroad; others were designed and manufactured at home. The home manufacturing increased. In 1910 the Russell Motor Car gave a stimulus to the business.

Company found it necessary to make a strong manager. Developments in mind were in opposition to the popular motor; the adoption of a steering and centre gear shaft; the adoption of electric lighting and self-starting.

Early in 1911 a corps of engineers was set to work to develop a reputation. In September they were ready for a year report, and taking advantage of the unusual opportunity of engineering and conference of engineers past the preliminary plans. The then worked out in further. In January, 1912, this report met a second time, there being present representatives of three foremost manufacturing firms in the United States and two from Europe, from which they were ready to have their designs had built, experimental cars made and submitted to tests, upon the bench in the and upon the road. Followed a small number of demonstrators were put through a series of their points of interest.

Then came the careful selection of exact type material, so that each piece would be an exact duplicate of a similar one after the other, having been tried through. To-day the Company is delivering cars equipped under the most advanced conditions of engineering and manufactured with a view to requirements not only of 1914 as well.

The Russell car of this year model on which there will be a important change for two years least.

"What's your age, my dear?" "I'm ten next birthday."

"Ten! Oh, what a little of your age. Why, your brother's bigger." "Yes, Well, yer see, I'm only a better