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# THE WITNESS

A National Paper of the Episcopal Church

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# THE FIRST ASSUMPTION

An Editorial By

### BISHOP JOHNSON

MAN begins life as a little child and it is the child who is father to the man, for it is the child who gives the trend which the man ultimately follows. Had the child desired to be a great merchant, he would have started the process which would have prevented his becoming a great musician. We begin our vocations in our desires, our beliefs, our enthusiasms, not in logic. It is the childish faith which starts the whole procession of events that subsequently eventuate in a career.

To apply the analogy of an automobile: Faith is the motor which starts the thing; logic is the steering wheel that directs it. We need not confuse the motor and the steering wheel, though we believe in both. When we stand at the fork of the roads we must determine the destination that we seek and this fundamental decision is far more important than the subsequent experiences, as to the character of the road, the nature of the scenery, or the kind of companions who accompany us.

Our progress begins in certain basic assumptions which are far more vital to our joy than the brilliant logic by which we confirm our prejudices. The Chinese have a proverb which is illuminating, "You may cure a man of sensuality but never of logicality." Your logic may be faultless but if your first premise is wrong, your conclusion will be fallacious. The Master warns us that "except we become as little children, we cannot enter His Kingdom," because a child looks forward to life with great enthusiasms rather than logic. Progress does not originate in syllogisms but in belief which may or may not turn out satisfactorily but it is our ideals that start the motors of life. Our lives begin in imagination and are guided by logic; they do not begin in rationalization. At the start we can prove nothing; we may believe everything. The value of our faith will be determined by experience, but we do not really have experience unless we are willing to pursue our desires with patient persistence.

to be a musician; another an artist, and so on. Experience may demonstrate the fallacy of his youthful belief, but there is nothing else that we can substitute for the enthusiasm of wanting to be this or that. Our vocations are determined by us when we are immature in knowledge but familiar with faith. "I believe that I can become a doctor," says the student, "but I cannot prove it." Many medical students fail. "I believe that riches will make me happy," says the clerk, "but I cannot demonstrate it." A large proportion of rich men are most unhappy and thousands who seek wealth die in poverty. "I believe that I am called to be a child of God and to inherit eternal life," but I would not attempt to prove that I am, and certainly not to the man who claims that he is nothing but a few quarts of water, a little lime, carbon and magnesia. If his analysis is correct, why begin an argument with such a mess. It could have no adequate purpose in this world or the next.

The ex-president of the University of Wisconsin summed up things quite satisfactorily when he told me that every man was either an "as if" or a "nothing but." In starting on any life purpose we must begin "as if" it could be done. If the youthful beginner starts out by saying, life is "nothing but" a succession of physical sensations, then he has killed his motor.

We must begin any course of action as if it were feasible. This is the principle of hypothesis which lies behind nearly all our inventions. If Benjamin Franklin had said, "electricity is nothing but a useless phenomenon in nature," we would never have had a radio. As a matter of fact, nobody knows yet what electricity is, but having proceeded on the ground that it had purpose and design which men could utilize, we have light and heat and energy therefrom. In most of the things in life we had to begin as little children and strangely the bent of a little child determines the profound discoveries of a great scientist. He began his career in a desire based somewhat on observation but chiefly upon innate intuition that made him the real father of the man. If he had had a yearning to be a

Life begins in non-rational desires. One boy wants

baseball player, he probably never would have become a great scientist. It was the child and not the man who determined the career.

It throws a flood of light on why we grown-up children must become as little children in our search for spiritual ends, for we are but children in any contemplation of eternity. When I say that we must begin with faith, I do not wish to be censured for minimizing intellect. I merely want each kept in its place. We begin in our intuitions; our beliefs are the motors which start us going; then we are to be guided by reason but not as a replacement of the motor. Neither need we confuse our objective with the obstacles that confront us. They make the difficulty of achievement but do not necessarily block us from attaining our destination. It is through much tribulation that the student becomes a scientist; the clerk a millionaire; or the seeker after righteousness becomes a saint.

As I have stated, the principles are simple; the performances most difficult; but who would draw back from the great adventure of a life because it is hazardous? Let us then consider the basic assumptions of faith that are the propelling forces in starting us on our career toward righteousness.

The first assumption is that in order to get anywhere in anything we must begin in an hypothesis as if it were true and not in the dogma that we are nothing but a chemical compound.

Faith is an hypothesis for future experiment. "I believe, help thou my unbelief."

# ST. JOHN BAPTIST SCHOOL

By

### TRUELL EMERSON

**F**OLLOWING the private driveway winding up the hill from the road below, the visitor finds the new house of St. John Baptist School, a modern fireproof structure of cream colored concrete. This new building, which was built with the aid of interested patrons and contributors, is patterned on the style of an old fashioned Georgian country house, sunny and comfortable, and commands an engaging vista of the rolling hills of northern New Jersey near the village of Mendham.

It is in this healthful location, about 650 feet above the level of the sea, on an estate of 100 acres, that yearly 25 or 30 girls have been carefully and completely prepared to assume the responsibilities of life. High standards of scholarship and spiritual training are the ideals of the school, together with the acquirement of intellectual and social accomplishments. Conducive to this end is the atmosphere created by the Sisters.

### THE PURPOSE OF THE SCHOOL

The purpose of the school, one which has actuated it for half a century since its founding, is to fill a gap in the educational facilities of this particular section of the country, otherwise so rich in educational opportunities, by making available a church school offering a high type of college preparatory training to students of moderate means. Notwithstanding the fact that there are many excellent schools of this character within the means of wealthy students, no other church school in the vicinity of New York provides for students from homes with limited incomes. St. John Baptist has dedicated itself to the ideal, "Good scholarship, good discipline, the Catholic faith expressed in the Catholic life."

Because the aim of the school has always been not for size and importance, but steady and progressive

opportunity to a few, the number of students is limited, allowing individual attention to the everyday classroom problems that arise. Close associations eliminate cliques and create the home-like atmosphere which means so much in the forming of character.

#### COLLEGE RECORD

Good scholarship has been considered an essential part of preparatory training at St. John Baptist from its earliest days. At the outset, requirements considerably in advance of those of many of the boarding schools of the day were insisted upon. The first graduate of the school in 1887 passed some of the entrance examinations to Harvard Annex, the original Radcliffe College; and in 1891 one of the three graduates entered the same college on certificate. Columbia and Bryn Mawr welcomed a good proportion of St. John Baptist graduates before the close of the last century and in 1905 the school was granted the right of admission by certificate to Wellesley and Smith. This privilege was enjoyed until 1918, when the larger colleges discontinued the practise of admitting by certificate and substituted entrance examinations as qualification for admission in all cases. The school has long since been a member of the Association of Colleges and Preparatory Schools in the Middle States and Maryland, and beginning in 1908 nearly half of its graduates have entered college, where they have made excellent records.

#### RELIGIOUS TRAINING

The school considers moral training of no less importance than scholastic training and has aimed from the start to inculcate in its pupils ideals for real womanhood so that they might attain the highest standard of Christian living. Sound spiritual instruction has always been a regular part of the course.

#### EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

The life of the girls outside of their studies is that

### THE WITNESS

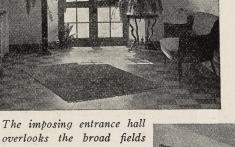
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A light and airy study and recitation room at St. John Baptist School.

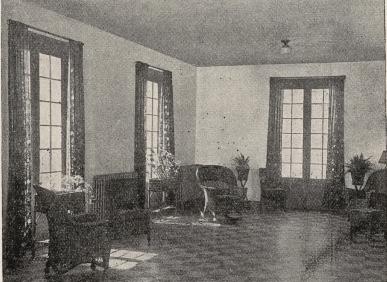
> A group from the 1930 class play.





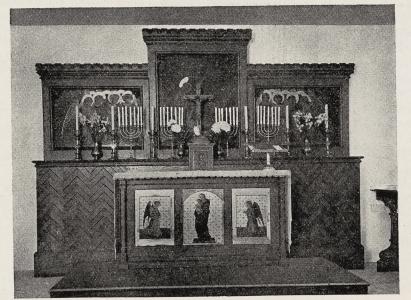


overlooks the broad fields which surround the school.



The spacious sun room is the scene of many happy gatherings.

### THE WITNESS



The altar and reredos is decorated with scenes of medieval art. Graduates of June, 1929, (at left below).



Bishop Stearly and Rev. J. F. Aitkins, Warden of the Community of St. John Baptist (at right above). Chorus in "The Lost Necklace"—a school theatrical presented in 1930.



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of happy friendships and recreational activities which are left to the individual girl's skill and choice. Each morning after breakfast finds the girls enjoying 15 or 20 minutes of the fresh, invigorating air; every afternoon the outdoors again claims them to play tennis or basket ball, archery or riding; for an hour in the evening in spring and summer healthy outdoor sports are again engaged in. Winter evenings encourage dancing and games. There is not a season of the year that does not hold entertaining extra-curricular interests to please every individual.

Thus, the coordination of many varied activities and influences at St. John Baptist goes to form a school personality of vital energy and charm. And in the midst of each lively day the chapel bell, ringing just before twilight, recalls the stability of things eternal. Back of it all are the hills, quiet and enduring, giving voice to their own high call to attend the greater verities of life.

### THE ESTABLISHING OF THE SCHOOL

The new boarding school on the hill is not in the first sense of the word a new one. Both St. John Baptist School and the Convent are part of the history of the New York of the '70's and have behind them a record of half a century of accomplishment well known to generations of New Yorkers. The school, established in 1880, was for the first 34 years located in Stuyvesant Square, New York. In 1914 the crowding city obliged the school to move to the country, to Ralston, New Jersey, where its educational program was faithfully carried on and the school expanded. Here for fifteen years St. John Baptist has quietly gone on, living up to its old ideals and facing new responsibilities.

The fall of 1929 found St. John Baptist in its new building and able to throw open the chance to enter the school to a considerably larger group of girls. The new building provides for an increase in the enrollment to include forty-five boarding pupils and a limited number of day scholars. St. John Baptist will remain a small school in practice and this expansion in the number of pupils that can be accommodated will permit of larger classes with a consequent sharpening of competition and interest, and will make possible the granting of more scholarships to daughters of the clergy.

### A LOOK TO THE FUTURE

For fifty years St. John Baptist has filled an educational need with distinction and without assistance. It has come to the threshold of being a much greater school. It must look to its friends and to persons interested in keeping a school of this character available to young womanhood for assistance to go forward. A new chapel, a separate gymnasium and swimming pool, a separate house for little girls under 12—these are all ambitions toward an ultimate goal. Here is a challenge and an opportunity to the church and to the public interested in preparatory school possibilities in the environs of New York to make possible the continued growth of a school which has done so much in the right direction in the past and will continue to do such a splendid and commendable educational piece of work for future generations.

#### School Song

- Where across the Mendham meadows Morning breezes blow,
- Stands the school above all others Where we love to go.
- Lift your hearts and lift your voices Let the chorus swell,
- Hail to thee St. John the Baptist School we love so well!
- Where the sun in noon-tide splendour Pours his radiance down,
- Stands she with green hills around her Circling like a crown—
- Lift your hearts and lift your voices Let the chorus swell,
- Hail to thee St. John the Baptist School we love so well!
- Dies the day o'er dusky highlands In the glowing west,
- Soft she shines amidst the shadows School we love the best,
- Lift your hearts and lift your voices Let the chorus swell
- Hail to thee St. John the Baptist School we love so well!

# Cheerful Confidences

### By

### GEORGE PARKIN ATWATER A Word in Season

THE great telegraph companies have become quite anxious that no one should lack an Easter greeting or a Christmas greeting. The one who would like to send it might hesitate because he is not sure how to spell "felicitations" or "congratulations." The telegraph company will come to your aid and will provide you with printed messages suitable for almost any occasion. Only you must make a careful selection and not send to your grandmother on her birthday, a message reading, "Heartiest greetings on your graduation day."

But the spirit of it is fine. Now the Church needs such stimulus. Believe it or not, a tremendous potential energy lies in words of appreciation and encouragement. When I find churches languishing, I discover that they attribute their condition to indifference of people, to unresponsiveness and to the failure of the people to do their duty. Somebody (sometimes the minister) harangues and scolds and criticises. That is like pouring water on a bag of Portland cement and letting it lie for a day or two. When you want the cement you get a stone of concrete.

It often happens that what that Church and its rector need is a good charge of encouragement and appreciation. Not too much, nor anything false, but a sufficient quantity to stimulate them in their task and to increase their joy in it.

These words of cheer should not be addressed to the rector alone, but to every earnest leader. Nor should this pleasant task be left to the rector, but every member of the congregation should share in the satisfaction.

But many people are tongue-tied and reticent. So for them the National Council should issue a set of congratulatory messages which they can learn by heart and use on occasions.

Before your rector goes on his vacation, step up to him, shake his hand and say firmly, "I have enjoyed your sermons this year."

Or, "I think you are doing a splendid work here."

Or, "You may count on me hereafter to support you in every way in your task."

Choose another person who has worked hard and give him the satisfaction of knowing that some one is interested enough to speak of his labors.

I once knew a rector who spent a year in a very important bit of work for his parish. When it was finished it was received in such chilling silence that he wondered if it were worth while. Several years later some one spoke most enthusiastically about it. Would it not have been better to be more prompt?

So here is your opportunity to give your Church a real boost. I wish to quote again the Japanese proverb which has appeared here before:

"A kind word will warm three winter months."

# NEWS OF THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

READER reminds me that the ancestor of modern baseball, like so many good things, had its beginning in the Church. In Europe a few centuries ago it was the custom after Easter for bishops and archbishops to play ball with their clergy. In Chester, England, it is said that the game was carried into the Cathedral itself. During the antiphon the celebrant would throw a ball to the choristers, and it would pass back and forth along the line until the responses were ended. If somehow or other a game could be arranged between the House of Bishops and the House of Deputies at the next General Convention I am sure a great many people would find it worthy of a trip to Denver to see. A description of the clergy breaking their backs swinging at Bishop Quin's curves would be worth a column in any newspaper, and if we could get a picture of say Bishop Longley sliding home, head first, with the winning run we would have a picture good enough for the cover of the Saturday Evening Post.

An Institute of International Relations is to be held at Haverford College, June 9-21, when the problems of war and peace will be discussed by experts. Among those to lecture are Rufus Jones, Frederick Libby, Norman Thomas, Reinhold Niebuhr, Hornell Hart, Henry T. Hodgkin, Frank Tannenbaum and others. It is under the auspices of the Quakers. \* \* \*

\* \*

The Rev. George Craig Stewart, rector of St. Luke's, Evanston, was elected Bishop Coadjutor of the diocese of Chicago on May 13th. Con-

Edited by WILLIAM B. SPOFFORD

gratulations to the diocese, to the House of Bishops and to Dr. Stewart. \*

Whether the Church gains when it takes a man from one good job to place him in another good one may be a question. The Rev. Charles K. Gilbert, elected Suffragan Bishop of New York overwhelmingly last week, has for a number of years been doing an unique and outstanding piece of work as the executive secretary of the social service commission of the diocese of New York. He is known not only in the Church but among social workers as a fearless pioneer for human rights. It will be a difficult thing to find as capable a man to fill the position he is vacating. However, we can know that in his new position he will be no less the courageous champion of minority causes. We therefore join with the entire Church in rejoicing over his election. \*

The Brotherhood of St. Andrew held a conference on May 14 at Grace Church, Orange, N. J. William F. Leggo, Brotherhood president for Long Island, was the speaker.

\* \* \*

Last year a Churchwoman of New York gave a fund of \$300,000 to the diocese of New York, the income to be used for missions and weak parishes. Bishop Manning in his convention address last week announced that \$200,-000 had been added to this fund. The Bishop stressed the missionary character of the diocese, which contrary to the opinion so generally held, is not a small diocese but covers a territory larger than the state of Connecticut. Bishop Manning expressed

the hope that money would be available to complete the nave of the Cathedral of St. John the Divine so that it could be formally opened within a year or so. He concluded his address with a strong plea for a revival of the pastoral office. \*

\*

Rev. James Craik Morris was unanimously elected Bishop of Louisiana on the first ballot at the Diocesan Council held at St. James' Church, Alexandria, on May 14th. \* \*

The convention of the diocese of Bethlehem was held at Bethlehem, Pa., May 19-21. On Monday afternoon there was an address on parish administration by the Rev. Charles H. Ricker of Long Island, and in the evening one on Psychiatry by the Rev. Dr. John Rathbone Oliver. The following day there were addresses by the Rev. O. S. Newell of Yonkers, N. Y., on Pastoral Visiting; Rev. H. Adye Prichard of Mount Kisko, N. Y., on "The Rector in His Study," and by Rev. W. F. Bumsted of New York on the work of the church in Porto Rico and the Virgin Islands. At the Convention service Bishop Sterrett read his annual address and there was an address on the work of laymen by Mr. Coleman Jennings.

\* \*

Children from all church schools in the Diocese of Pennsylvania took part in the annual presentation service of the children's Lenten offering last week. In order to make it possible for as many children to attend as possible, seven services were held, two in the convocation of Germantown and one in each of the other convocations.

three services on May 11th and four on May 18th. The main feature at the service for the children of the convocation of Chester, held in the Church of the Redeemer, Bryn Mawr, was an open air memorial service at the grave of John Marston, the founder of the Lenten offering, in the churchyard of that church. \* \*

\*

The convention of the diocese of Easton was held at Salisbury, Maryland, May 4-6, with sixty delegates attending. They honored Bishop Davenport who has served the diocese as Bishop for ten years, four other bishops being present for the occasion, Bishops Cook, Ward, Jett and Helfenstein. Bishop Davenport was presented with a check for a thousand dollars.

> \* \*

Episcopalians will be interested in knowing that Mr. Owen J. Roberts, who has been appointed Justice of the Supreme Court by President Hoover, is a vestryman at the Church of St. Luke the Ephiphany, Philadelphia. Although he was born a Welsh Quaker, he was confirmed some twelve years ago under the rectorship of the Rev. David M. Steele, in the church in which he has since served as vestryman.

Two mass meetings were held in connection with the convention of West Virginia, held at Parkersburg, May 7-8. The speaker at the first was Bishop Rogers, coadjutor of Ohio, while the address at the other was given by Rev. M. S. Collins of the State University who spoke on youth and religion.

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Answering a call from the field department of the National Council a representative group of Negro clergymen met in Washington last week to consider every phase of Church work. The Rev. C. E. Snowden, executive secretary of the department, presided and there were addresses by outstanding Negro leaders. A resolution was adopted pledging the support of Negro Church people to the whole program of the Church, and asking for a commission to make a survey of the work among Negroes.

The rural work department of the National Council has issued an attractive leaflet entitled "Prayers for Rural Life and Work," which may be had by writing the department at 281 Fourth Avenue, New York City.

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Twenty or thirty of the students at the General Seminary banded themselves together early this academic year to study together the relationship of the Church to social and

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GEORGE CRAIG STEWART Elected Coadjutor of Chicago

economic problems, as a chapter of the Church League for Industrial Democracy. More recently they took up a collection among themselves and established a scholarship to the School for Christian Social Ethics, to be held this year as a part of the Wellesley Conference. It has been awarded to Jonathan Sherman, a junior at General, who graduated from Yale last vear. \* \* \*

Bishop Freeman of Washington is to preach at Canterbury Cathedral at the commemoration of the 11th century dedication of that ancient church this summer.

A message from Dr. Louis B. Franklin, treasurer of the National Council:

"The statement of receipts on the budget quota to May 1st, 1930, is a disappointing one. One month ago the total receipts were \$50,053 greater than in 1929, while now the total is \$119,835 lower than last year. This is largely due to the date of Easter, which occurred in 1929 on March 31st and in 1930 on April 20th. As a consequence a large part of the Children's Lenten Offering of 1929 reached the national treasurer in the month of April, while very little of this offering for this year has as yet been received. There is, therefore, good hope that during the month of May the entire loss will be made up.

"The decrease in receipts is fairly general throughout the whole Church, but two prominent exceptions are the dioceses of Long Island and New York, each of which show large increases over the figures reported for

May 1, 1929. This is due to the successful efforts made about the first of the year to obtain special gifts to supplement the pledges made by the parishes.

"Just four months ago the Church was engaged in a strenuous and successful effort to collect all that had been promised for the year 1929. As of December 1st, nearly \$900,000 was still unpaid, leaving 30 per cent of what had been pledged to be collected in a single month. This annual drive for the payment of pledges in the final month of the year is made necessary by the gradual accumulation of unpaid pledges in the earlier months of the year. The time to think about the end of the year is now. Particularly is this true as the vacation season approaches. The expenses of the Church go on regardless of hot weather or vacation periods, and those of us who have promised to give regularly to the support of the missionary work should see to it that our pledges are paid regularly even when we are not at home."

A bunch of parsons in and about New York went on a pilgrimage to a clothing shop last Wednesday afternoon. This unique pilgrimage was arranged by the 20th Century Christian Fellowship and the Church League for Industrial Democracy. The twenty men visited a shop, held a conference with the employer, and then returned to the headquarters of the Ladies Garment Workers, union of the trade, and were given an opportunity to confer with officials and to inspect the health centre maintained by the union.

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\* More news of summer conferences. The diocese of Michigan is to hold its conference at Hillsdale, June 19 to 29. The faculty includes the Rev. Robert Bell of the Society of the Nazarene; Professor Trout of Hillsdale College; Miss Bessie Blacknall, missionary of Alaska; Rev. Alfred Newbery, rector of the Atonement, Chicago; Rev. John W. Suter of the department of religious education, who will be there part time; and the following from the diocese of Michigan, Rev. C. C. Jatho, Mrs. E. G. Bissell, Mrs. W. L. Torrance, Mrs. Frank E. Dow and the Ven L. P. Hagger. One of the features will be the counselling of young people under the supervision of Mr. Ernest E. Piper.

Also I have the faculty list for the Blue Mountain Conference, mentioned here a few weeks ago. This delightful conference is held at Hood College, Frederick, Maryland, and meets from June 30 to July 11. There are several unusual things about this gen-

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Page Ten

THE BLUE MOUNTAIN **CONFERENCE** Hood College, Frederick, Md. June 30 - July 11 A General Conference including a School of Religious Drama and a Children's Conference Send for information to **REV. N. B. GROTON** Whitemarsh, Penna.

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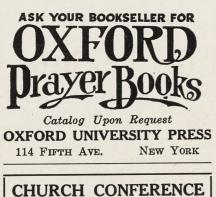
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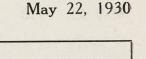
eral conference perhaps the most unique of which is the Children's Conference which is run in connection with it. The children, under expert care, have their own quarters, their own dining table, their own classes. My children, there last year, have been begging all winter to go back; a fact which is a testimonial, at least for me, for with most Church events the begging my children do is generally in reverse gear. As for the faculty: William C. Sturgis of the College of Preachers; Rev. Granville M. Williams of Brooklyn; Miss Florence Newbold of the Girl's Friendly; Rev. William L. Wood of Cambridge; Rev. Fleming James of Berkeley; Rev. A. C. Zabriskie of Alexandria; Rev. C. S. Ball of Bexley Hall; Rev. C. E. Snowden of "281"; Miss Edna Beardsley of "281"; Rev. Harold Holt of Chicago; Deaconess Edwards of the department of religious education; Miss Jane Welte of Philadelphia; Miss Joy Higgins, religious drama expert. And for the Children's Conference, Miss Elizabeth Frazier in charge, assisted by Mrs. S. F. Brown, Miss Esther Brown, Dr. Irene G. Woodcock and Miss Helen McHenry. Ħ # \*

The conference for the diocese of Minnesota is to be held at Frontenac, June 22 to 28. The faculty: Rev. H. H. Lumpkin of Madison, Wisconsin; Mrs. John Flockhart, educational secretary of Iowa; Rev. E. P. Houghton of Lancaster, Pa.; Rev. C. B. Scovil of St. Paul; Miss Caroline B. Averill of the Girls' Friendly.

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Sixty years ago the convention of the diocese of New Hampshire met for the last time at Dover, when William Woodruff Niles was chosen Bishop. This fact suggested the holding of this year's convention there. There was a stimulating report from Bishop Dallas and a fine sermon by Dr. Drury, St. Paul's School. A disquieting note was introduced by the painstaking report of the committee on the state of the church which reported that the number of pupils in the Church schools was not in proportion to the number of baptised persons, and also that there was a recurrence of losses, small but repeated, in the number of communicants. Deputies were elected to the next General Convention, the first diocese to so elect. Those honored were Dr. Drury and Dr. Brinley of St. Paul's School, Rev. W. P. Niles of Nashua and Rev. A. M. Dunstan of Dover, and Messrs. L. S. Davidson, Joel B. Sheppard, John R. Spring and Edward K. Woodworth.

Bishop Perry was the speaker at a meeting of the Churchman's Club, diocese of Maryland, May 8th. Rev. Robert Chalmers, rector of Grace and



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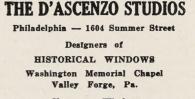
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St. Peter's, also addressed the meeting.

Perhaps it is not too late to report what appears to be an Easter record: at St. Paul's, Flatbush, Long Island, the total attendance during the day was 3,000, with 1,750 receiving communion.

\* \*

The convention of the diocese of South Carolina was held at Charleston, May 6th, at St. Philip's on the 250th anniversary of the founding of that parish. Bishop Thomas stressed evangelism in his address. The diocese is to push the Advanced Work Program, working for Arizona whose Bishop was formerly of the diocese of South Carolina. It was also decided to build a Bishop's House in Charleston at a cost of \$35,000. \* \* \*

The convention of Georgia opened informally with a dinner given by the hosts, St. Thomas Church, Thomasville, May 6th. There were addresses by Bishop Reese and the Rev. W. S. Stoney, both of whom talked on the value of a Family Relations Institute. In his convention address the following day Bishop Reese deplored the cutting down of pledges which seems to be so general. People are impoverishing themselves, he said, by buying luxuries, and he quotes a number of merchants who had told him they had a difficult time collecting grocery bills because people were making payments for automobiles. He urged co-operation in making the Every Member Canvass successful. Rev. David R. Covell, National Council field secretary, addressed the convention on the Church's Program and the Advance Work Program, and it was decided to have an institute in the Fall under Mr. Covell's direction. The convention heard reports of the work of the department of religious education, with special stress on the college work.

The convention of Central New York was held at Utica, May 13. Bishop Johnson of Colorado was the speaker at a banquet held in the evening.

\* \* \*

Bishop McCormick of Western Michigan was the speaker at the dinner held at Elkhart, Indiana, to celebrate the anniversary of the laying of the corner stone of St. John's. Rev. Cleon Bigler, one of six to go into the ministry from the parish, also spoke. The evening following the dinner a missionary meeting was held with Bishop Gray as the speaker, the rector, Rev. W. J. Lockton, presiding.

The alumni of the General Semi-

nary are to meet on May 27th at 10:30 A. M.

Two hundred men and women attended the church club dinner of Long Island, honoring Bishops Stires and Larned. Others to speak were Dean Fosbroke of the General Seminary, George W. Wickersham and George E. Fahys.

I have discovered that at least some of the students at the General Seminary read THE WITNESS. A week or so ago I reported here that they had a basketball team but that I did not know whether or not they played any games. It prompted several letters, a couple of the boys saying that they read the "humor columns" in the paper regularly, a statement lending itself. Also they informed me that their team played fourteen games of which seven resulted in victories, including victories over the Yale, Union and Bible seminaries. That's fine. \* \*

Christ Church, Manhasset, Long Island, is to erect a parish house, to cost \$160,000. The Rev. Charles H. Ricker is the rector.

The layman's league of the diocese of Erie has given \$15,000 to St. Paul's Mission, Erie, where the Rev. S. J. Noce is doing a great work among the foreign born. The mother parish, St. John's, Shanon, has also given \$5,000 for this work.

\* \* \* Bishop McCormick of Western Michigan recently dedicated a new parish house for the Epiphany, South Haven. Included in the construction is a stained glass window, donated by the children of the parish.

A class of 130 was confirmed recently at St. Luke's, Kalamazoo, Michigan.

Duncan E. Mann, son of the bishop of Pittsburgh, was ordained deacon at Calvary Church, Pittsburgh, May 4th. The sermon was preached by Bishop Mann of Florida, uncle. Mr. Mann is the fourth successive generation to have been been ordained.

Convocation of Eastern Oregon was held at the Redeemer, Pendleton. Bishop Remington urged preaching missions and classes in personal religion, and also more beauty in worship. During the past six years over a quarter million dollars has been spent in the district in new buildings, and several are now under construction. A mass meeting was held in connection with the convocation, Dr. Stephen Penrose, president of Whitman College, Rev. T. K. Vigler, Congregationalist, and Bishop Remington giving the addresses.

Convention of the diocese of Albany was held at the Cathedral, May 6. Bishop Oldham pleaded for loyalty to the National work of the Church, and expressed satisfaction with the reorganization of the diocese which was perfected at the convention the previous year. There was considerable

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# THE WITNESS

debate over the question of dividing the diocese, final action being postponed. The evening session of the convention was addressed by Rev. Allen Evans of Hewlett, Long Island, who spoke on the missionary work of the Church. Rev. William C. Prout was elected secretary of the convention for the 51st time.

Over 150 young people attended the young people's fellowship meeting held recently in St. Paul, Minnesota. Speakers were Rev. F. M. Eliot, pastor of Unity Church, St. Paul, Bishop McElwain, Rev. F. D. Tyner and Rev. Douglas H. Atwill.

Writes our correspondent from the diocese of Kentucky:

"We have always felt that aside from its furnishing the best and most suitable Church music, a boy choir is one of the greatest missionary organizations a church can have for it gets and holds the boys at a most impressionable age and often secures entire families as well. On Palm Sunday evening Bishop Woodcock made his annual visitation to the Church of the Advent, Louisville, and confirmed a class of which the men and boys comprised two-thirds of the number, half of the entire class being choir boys." \* \* \*

Here is comforting news. A New York pastor the other Sunday assured his listeners that the fact that a woman wears short skirts and paints her face does not necessarily mean that she will go to hell. Some of the boys, apparently, have a difficult time digging up sermon material. \* \* \*

A national meeting of diocesan executives of religious education was held in St. Louis, May 5-8. \* \*

Dean Kemmerer of Pittsburgh has resigned in order to become the head of a boys' school in Connecticut. \* \*

prominent Vida D. Scudder, Churchwoman, has been delivering lectures at the Chicago Theological Seminary. Miss Scudder is the dean of the new School for Christian Social Ethics which is to be a part of the Wellesley Conference this year. She is to lead discussion groups.

Captains Estsbrook and Lucas of the Church Army have just completed a mission at St. Andrew's, Kokomo, Indiana.

\* \*

The following appropriations were made from undesignated legacies at the meeting of the National Council last week: in the district of Oklahoma, \$5,000 toward a new \$15,000

### May 22, 1930



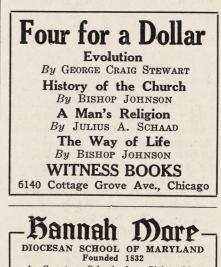
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church at Miami; at Cushing \$7,450 toward a new building to cost \$9,450; at Muskogee for St. Philip's, a Negro church, the council gave an additional \$2,350, having previously given \$5,000; at Tulsa for St. Thomas', \$8,000 toward an \$11,000 building. The Council had previously reserved \$25,000 for student work at Norman but at Bishop Casady's request the money was transferred to these centers. For the Indian mission at Oneida, Wisconsin, \$7,500 was appropriated. For student work at Manhattan, Kansas, \$10,000.

Here is another record confirmation class: at St. Luke's Charleston, S. C., the Rev. Harold Thomas presented a class of 75, a record for the diocese.

\* \*

\* \* \*

Commencement at the General is May 26-28; baccalaureate sermon by Bishop Thomas of South Carolina; alumni essayist, the Rev. E. T. Mabley; commencement address by Professor Wilbur M. Urban of Dartmouth. \* \*

The diocese of West Texas is to hold a conference the first week in June at Kerrville. Rev. Henry H.



Herndon is to be the chaplain, and courses will be given by Miss Cooper, Rev. E. H. Gibson of Galveston, Mrs. J. C. Tolman of Houston, Rev. L. B. Richards, secretary of the diocese, Miss Rowana Brown, Y. W. C. A. secretary from San Antonio.

Fort Valley School for Negroes is rated by the Georgia State education authorities, Bishop Mickell says, as the best industrial school in the state.

Has Mrs. Grafton Burke at the Hudson Stuck Hospital, Fort Yukon,

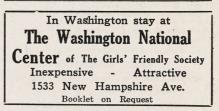
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### Page Fourteen

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the regular meals of her family of three, she served 28,775 hospital meals last year.

Improvements in public school facilities in Upper South Carolina have enabled that diocese to close some of its Negro parish schools. Several are still much needed, however.

Loneliness? Some one speaking of rural life tells of a farmer whose wife became insane, and the farmer said, "I don't see where she caught it. She's not been out of the kitchen in fifteen years."

The word "Incunabula" is cut into the front of the beautiful new library at St. Augustine's College, Raleigh, because the library, a gift from Dr. Hunter, former head of the school was made possible by his sale of ancient books. \*

Twenty-four Japanese children and two Japanese mothers were baptized this spring, in the Church of Our Saviour, North Platte, Nebraska, the results of the work of the Rev. Mr. Kano, Japanese missionary. The font is at the west end of the church; during the service, the sun broke through a cloudy sky and showered them all with light through the stained glass window.

Taylor Hall, Racine, Wisconsin, in its service as a Church center, has come to have the atmosphere of a real home for many university students from the Orient and other countries overseas who have visited there, either for student conferences or for a few days' escape from their heavy schedules of university work. Almost all were graduate students.

A list, not entirely complete, of the nationalities of 207 student visitors shows the following: Chinese, 52; Hindu, 29; Japanese, 24; Hawaiian, 7; Korean, Russian and Jewish, 5 each; German, 4; Russian Jew, 3; Swiss, 2; and one each of the following: Moslem-Hindu, Turkish, Lithuanian, French, Jamaican, Bulgarian, Norwegian, Irish, Mexican, English, Latvian, Yugoslav, Czechoslav, Dutch, Armenian; also 36 Americans.

Of these, there were 120 Christians; other religions or systems of thought represented were Buddhism, Confucianism. Islam, Hinduism. Sikhism, Zoroastrianism, Judaism, Navavidhan, theosophy, and communism. Twenty-six professed no affiliation, and 11 claimed atheism.

Dr. Heridas T. Muzumdar of Bombay, writing the preface to a report of the Oriental students' conference of last year which he attended, says, "The conference makes no pretense

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Preaching on a recipe for happiness, the Rev. Dr. Frank Warfield Crowder, rector of St. James's Church, New York, said:

\*

"As people grow older, most of them have to struggle against the tendency to believe that happiness is nearly imaginary, when it is not a deliberate self-deception. The happiness of youth, many are tempted to think, is a blissful illusion, while the happiness of mature life springs only from the resolute shutting of one's eyes to the hard facts of existence. Like the child who tries to believe in fairies when he knows there are no fairies, such a one deliberately nurses what I have seen described as those essentially truthful illusions that alone make life worth living."

The Bible offers a recipe which will enable us to enjoy life in the best and fullest sense, Dr. Crowder said. "This recipe, in brief, is to refrain from evil thought, speech and action; to be virtuous, kind and helpful to others, and above all to trust in God whatever be our joys and sorrows. This represents the distilled wisdom, not only of the Bible, but of all great and living books of the world-whose tributary streams have made up one vast river, following the banks of which we shall gather the flowers of joy and eat the bread of peace, and we shall love the life. If we do not, our bad days will multiply and we shall fall in love with death."

\* \* \*

The tragedy of modern life is that we are not only losing our souls, but our peace, our minds and our liberty, the Rev. Dr. Henry Darlington, rector of the Church of the Heavenly Rest, New York, said last Sunday.

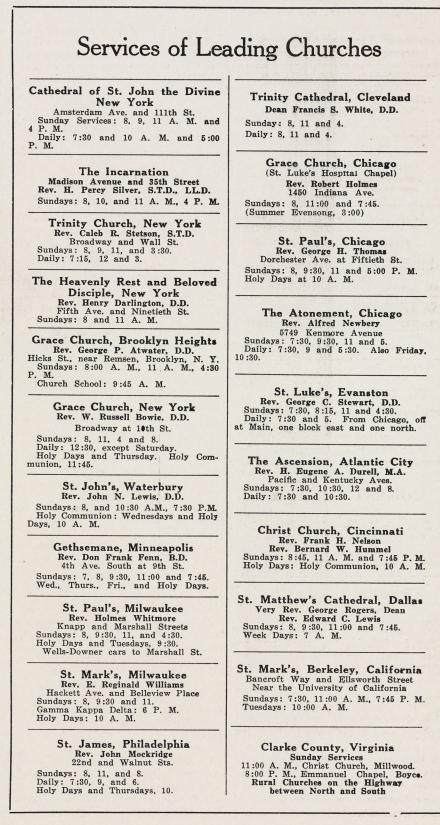
"The world has mounted into the saddle and is a hard rider," he said. "Think of the number of things we have to do each day which are really not necessary or worth doing. We rush from one appointment to another. Recently a friend of mine took me for a ride in a motor car and all I recall of it is the zip, zip, zip, zip of trees and telegraph poles as they shot by."

All this rush and bustle, Dr. Darlington thinks, is opposed to the teachings of Christ. While people are "constantly packing trunks that they will never be able to take with them into the next world," they are neglecting life's time-tables, he explained.

### THE WITNESS

"I think we should all be happier if we were like that professor of Salamanca who was arrested by officers of the Inquisition while lecturing," the rector continued. "Fourteen years later, being released from prison, he went back to the same lecture hall and took up his discourse on the same subject by saying, 'I was about to say before I was interrupted.' If we could all cultivate that type of mind, perhaps there would not be so many people dropping dead from nervous diseases.

"We not only lose our souls but we lose our lives. I was talking last week



### Page Fifteen

### Page Sixteen

with a father about a matter which was of vital importance to his family. He was so fatigued and worn out in providing for their material welfare that he was unable to concentrate on the decision which might be concerned with their spiritual well-being. And yet that decision which he made that day was to have its effect upon not only his children, but his grandchildren.

"He was unable to think clearly because he was so involved and fatigued. What did it profit him or those who are to come after him? He had, figuratively, gained the whole world, and yet was unable to give direction and guidance which his family needed to counsel and control them."

We have become such slaves to the machine, Dr. Darlington said, that all the beauty and harmony, the music and grandeur of life are lost. He said one's soul is "so cabined and confined that some day it will just be crushed out of existence." Thus it is "that the teachings of Christ, who said 'What does it profit a man if he gain all these things . . . and in the process lose his own soul'?, are most timely," the rector concluded.

\*

Canon Donaldson, of Westminster, who was appointed to his canonry by Mr. Ramsey MacDonald during his previous administration, has long been a member of the Labor party, and the precincts of Westminster have not cooled his political allegiance. In one of his Lenten lectures at Westminster Abbey the Canon, speaking on "the idolatry of riches," said: "The Church of today is guilty because she either is silent or speaks so faintly her Master's teaching that men do not know that this striving for an accumulation of riches is a deadly sin-covetousness. St. Francis Xavier said that men had confessed before him all sins he knew of and some he had never thought of, but none had ever of his own accord confessed that he was covetous."

Canon Donaldson said that speculation in the United States with its recent terrific crash, the Hatry collapse in Britain, the gambling on horses and greyhounds were all rooted in the same evil passion for wealth without work. "This," he said, "is paganism naked and unashamed —the bane of all noble striving and the pollution of our civic and national life. We have discarded God for Mammon—the God of Gold."

A week or two ago I asked what sort of services were held in your parish, during Lent, for children. It brought a very interesting letter

\* \*

### THE WITNESS

from the Rev. George G. Burbanek, rector of St. Paul's, Richmond, Indiana, who has been holding special services for children on Wednesdays of Lent for many years. By getting the cooperation of the superintendent of schools all teachers are notified that no child is to be kept after school on Wednesday whose parents express a desire that the child shall attend these services. Parents are impressed with the desirability of having the children attend these services. Then a motor corps of

### May 22, 1930

mothers call at the schools, pick up the children and call the roll too before starting to be sure that all who expressed a desire to attend the service are on board. The service begins at four and lasts just 35 minutes. Then on the Wednesday in Easter week there is a party. Mr. Burbanek does not write of the results. Says he: "I will leave them to your imagination but if I were not sold on these services I would not be holding them for the 26th Lent of my ministry."

