

The rates of remuneration for ship-building at present were simply contributions towards unemployment funds. He did not think there was a firm in the country making its charges out of the average ship. The disappearance of some firms and the balance-sheets of others showed what a terrible state things had come to. When they read in the papers of great firms desperate for work, putting in prices which avowedly did not cover their bare labour and material, they might well ask: What did the future hold? One thing was certain, the British shipbuilder and his employees could not afford to relax one muscle or close their eyes to anything that could be done to improve the quality of their work.—*Vol. J. M. Denny, of Denny Bros., shipbuilders.*

The demand for a statement of a candidate's religious belief can have no meaning except that there may be discrimination for or against him because of that belief. Discrimination against the holder of one faith means retaliatory discrimination against men of other faiths—the inevitable result of our real freedom of conscience and a reversion to the dreadful conditions of religious discussion which, in so many lands, have proved fatal to true liberty, to true religion, and to all advance in civilisation.—*Ex-President Roosevelt.*

In the course of a long life she had been brought into contact with all classes of women—white women, black women, brown women, and yellow women. If everyone of these women had done the work that lay to her hand to the best of her energy, she would have little time or inclination to mix herself up in direct politics. Let us resist this effort to break up our homes and our families, and let us place ourselves in the proud position of being able to use our very utmost for our homes, our surroundings, and the Empire at large.—*Lady Jersey.*

The holding of office is a mere incident in the life of those who are devoted to reforms. The reform is the essential thing. If one can advance reforms by holding office, then the holding of office is justifiable; if one can best advance reforms as a private citizen, then the holding of office is undesirable. The world owes me nothing; I have been abundantly compensated for what I have been able to do. My life will not be long enough to repay the people for their support, and for the confidence which they have expressed.—*Mr. W. J. Bryn.*

It is the amazing superstition of culture which thinks of religion as dull, and colourless, whereas its appeal rests on the imperishable fact that life is an adventure, a real live adventure, with its hopes and its fears, its pains and appalling risks, but its "pearl of great price" for the winning. Dull indeed! It is the cultured and nervous unbelievers who are dull, worn out with the daily effort to keep Christ out of their lives, and wearied with their self-conscious intellectualism.—*Rev. J. N. Figgis.*

England has no national opera house; then she has not enough local orchestras of first-class excellence; then she grossly misunderstands Wagner at first (this sin has, however, amply been atoned for since); then music is grossly neglected in elementary schools; then the Church neglects her own ancient music; then the musical criticisms in the Press are so hastily as to be almost valueless; and, lastly, the publishers fill their windows and catalogues with royalty songs and musical comedies to the neglect of really serious and valuable works.—*Sir Charles Stanford.*

He was more than ever convinced that an association such as the Auckland Agricultural and Pastoral Association could not devote its funds to a better purpose than the collection and dissemination of some portion of the great and valuable store of agricultural knowledge now available in the world at large. In this way much could be done to promote the settlement of the land and the prosperity of the people.—*Mr. E. Hall, Secretary Auckland A. and P. Association.*

New Zealand contains fine material for mounted rifles, and the volunteer force contains a large proportion of this arm, which, though not of much necessity for coast defence in any numbers, would be of great value in New Zealand in case of invasion and of very considerable value to the Empire if properly organised, well officered, and trained for service abroad.—*Major Hobday.*

Musings AND Meditations

By Dog Toby

AN EXPANDED TELEGRAM

THE clergyman who edited the religious paper was in a fix. Just as he was sorting out and reading over the usual mass of copy preparatory to sending it to the printers, he had received a wire from a country parish. It was, like all six-penny telegrams, short, and to the point, and ran as follows:—"Print account opening new church Wednesday. Bishop preached." It was signed with the name of the vicar, but contained no further information of any kind, and the editor did not know in the least how he was to write an account of an affair at which he had not been present, and of which he had received no details.

In his dilemma, he consulted an experienced journalist, who, after glancing at the telegram, expressed surprise at the editor's perplexity. "What more do you want, my dear fellow?" he asked. "There's enough in that telegram to fill your whole paper, if you only work it properly. See here!" He sat writing quickly for some minutes, and finally produced, under the heading of "Parish News," the following setting of the item: "Our parish had a red letter day on Wednesday last, when the new church, which is now finally completed, was formally opened by the bishop of the diocese. The bishop and attendant clergy, robed in the vestry, and the choir sang a processional hymn as they moved slowly up the church. The building itself does great credit to all those concerned in its erection, and, though some will probably still be found who cling to the memories that clustered round the old edifice, there is no denying that this new and handsome structure is a great improvement on its predecessor. Many old and well-known parishioners have been liberal in their gifts, and the funds have been largely augmented by various social functions that have been held in connection with this laudable object. Where all have been so generous, it would be invidious to single out any single names for special mention. All have given, according to their means, and the humblest offering may represent more real sacrifice than some of the larger donations."

Here he stopped to remark: "You don't know the names of any big pots who gave, I suppose? Good thing to shove in names when you can—helps to sell the paper. Don't know any. Very well let it rip at that."

He then continued his writing—"Of the service itself, it is unnecessary to speak in detail. Suffice it to say that it took the form usual on such occasions, but it was rendered doubly impressive by the devout and reverent attitude of the congregation, and the solemnity of the ritual. A specially noticeable feature of the service was the beautiful singing in which all the congregation joined most heartily. When the Bishop gave out his text, an expectant hush fell over the vast audience, you could almost have heard a pin drop, so great was the stillness. And indeed the discourse was one worthy of the great occasion which called it forth. We can safely say that it will long remain in the memory of those who were privileged to hear it. The offertory, which will be devoted to the building fund, was a large one, and testified to the well-known liberality of the parishioners. Church work in the parish has made great strides of late, thanks to the devoted energy of the vicar, and a new building was urgently required to accommodate the largely increased congregations. We hope to see the church always as well filled as it was on Wednesday last, and we trust that when the bishop next visits us we shall be able to au-

nounce that all the outstanding debt has been liquidated. Too much praise cannot possibly be given to all those devoted men and women who have worked so hard and so ungrudgingly towards raising the funds necessary for this great undertaking, but we feel sure that they must have felt more than repaid when they saw how faithfully and well those entrusted with the erection had done their work."

"I fancy," said the journalist, "that what I have written will about fix up the parish news part of the business. You see, I really hadn't much to go on. Now I suppose you want a leading article on the affair."

But the editor stayed the hand of his versatile and obliging friend. He began to feel that if he allowed him to go on the whole of the paper would be taken up with the expansion of the few simple but suggestive words contained in the telegram. So he thanked his professional brother, and departed, wondering how any man could write so much out of so very little.

For Air Navigators.

An enterprising Paris firm is busy with a bird's-eye map of France, on which, for the use of aeroplanists and balloonists and air-navigators generally, the direct distances from town to town will be marked in clear figures. Now that the navigation of the air is a thing of the near future, people are realising how difficult it is for the captain of an airship to find out exactly where he is, and maps will not be sufficient for this purpose. Travelling at the rate of fifty miles an hour, which is a speed already made by airships of all kinds, it is quite impossible to recognise a landscape from above. The French Aero Club is offering prizes for the invention of an airship's compass. The ordinary compass is no good at all. For some reason, as has already been proved on motor-boats, the action of the motor's magnet influences the ordinary compass so that no reliance can be placed on it. In the motor-boat race from Algiers to Toulon the boats had to follow torpedo-boats. They would not find their way across without them. In the race from Boulogne to Folkestone, where all the competitors had ship's compasses, most of them lost their way across the Channel, and one of them spent all day rushing round Calais and found himself off Cape Grisnez in the evening, while several went to Dover by mistake instead of to Folkestone. So an airship compass will be a very necessary thing in the immediate future.

Curing a Degenerate.

Dr. Northrop, Dean of the Hahnemann Medical College, at Philadelphia, announces that he has cured a criminal degenerate by a brain operation. The man was formerly a respectable citizen, but in 1891 he was struck on the head by a piece of falling timber, and immediately became a typical degenerate. He drank a bottle of whisky daily, stole his employer's money, and finally was discharged for stealing £800. Dr. Northrop operated in January, 1907. He found that the dura mater was adherent to the plate of the skull, and that the membranes were glued together in a solid mass. The patient became normal on his recovery from the operation. He is now a total abstainer, has got his old position back, and has been promoted twice for industry and excellent work.



SUFFERING IN SILENCE

Many women go through life always ailing, weak and unhappy. The languor and bloodlessness of girls and young women, with headaches and faintings; the nervous ailments, back pains and failure of strength of wives and mothers; the trials of matrons in later years—at all these ages the CAUSE of suffering is usually IMPOVERISHED or IMPURE BLOOD.

Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People have helped many women to the joy of health, because these Pills supply New Good Blood to the starved veins and tired nerves; making weak women bright and well.

The value of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for women is shown in the case of Mrs. Charlotte Hickton, Cinnamon-st., Reefton, who says:—

"Five years ago, before coming to New Zealand, when I was living in Corowa, N.S.W., I took Dr. Williams' Pink Pills because I was in a bloodless state and very ill. For two years my strength was almost gone. I was pale and listless and suffered a lot with headaches, which prostrated me. My appetite was gone and I had to force myself to eat. I was a poor sleeper and often lay awake the whole night. I suffered a lot with my nerves, and it did not take much to set them a-tangling; a little fright was enough to upset me. I was always completely worn, without energy, so that the least work was irksome. I got very low spirited and miserable, and did not take much interest in anything. If I exerted myself I got very short of breath and was easily exhausted.

"I was willing to do anything to get back my health, so that when a friend advised me to try Dr. Williams' Pink Pills, I got some, and the first box made a big improvement in me. Three boxes restored me to good health, and ever since I have been keeping splendid."

The price is 3/ per box; 6 boxes 16/6, and if you have trouble in getting them send a postal note for the amount to the Dr. Williams' Medicine Co. of Australasia, Ltd., Wellington, and they will be sent post free by return mail.

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