

How shall we face this call for light from a despairing world? Two things it demands of us. It demands a new perseverance in exploring the way of unity and capturing its spirit by a new loyalty to Christ. And it demands a new perseverance in Prayer, both as a means of personal union with God and as a task for the Kingdom. For true Prayer is both a means of grace and a task of service, and the one depends on the other. Only as we go out with Christ, taking on us with Him the burden of a world warred through sin, can we find him for our own personal fellowship. Only as we revive our allegiance to Him can we become his helpers to bring in His Kingdom through the ministry of intercession.

(Signed by British and Foreign representatives of the World's Evangelical Alliance: by heads of Churches in Great Britain and other Countries; and by official representatives of Bible and Missionary Societies, etc., with whose co-operation the programme is annually circulated and used throughout the world).

An Alliance camp will be held at Waimarino during the week of prayer. Copies of the programme may be obtained from the Rev. F. H. Spencer, Remuera.

Spiritual Healing.

The South African "Church Chronicle" of September 21st reports a wonderful instance of Mr Hickson's work at Johannesburg:—

An old St. George's Cathedral Choir boy who served in German West, and overseas with the Artillery for the rest of the war, writes from Johannesburg to a friend:—Mr Hickson's Mission started here on Monday, and he has caused much deep thinking and a turning away from the material life. At lunch time to-day I was much moved by seeing a boy of 12 years of age, who was born blind, fully restored to sight. I attended the service on Sunday evening in St. Mary's, and even then there seemed to be a new life and spirit waiting for those who profess the Faith.

The same journal quotes a letter from a medical man to the "Cape Times," in which the following paragraph occurs:—

It is a well-established medical fact that growths (cancerous and others) are largely dependent on the patient's state of mind, so that even in cases "given up by the doctor" we may expect much relief when the mind is set at rest and ceases to brood over the trouble. And similarly in the case of all the many diseases to which the flesh is heir. Even a broken leg.

will heal more quickly when the owner ceases to grumble, and still more so when his whole being is impressed with the conviction that all is going well, a state of mind often only to be induced by one of the methods mentioned above.

The distinction between Coue's method of auto-suggestion and the various forms of faith-healing is that the assistance of religious emotion is added in the latter instance, an addition which experience teaches us is by no means to be despised. Thus, although the use of the word miracle is scarcely correct, in many instances the effects are so striking as to fall not far short of the "miraculous."

A Methodist Opinion.

OF ANGLO CATHOLICISM.

As evidence of a broad-mindedness amongst our non-Conformist friends that is too frequently absent amongst members of our own communion the following extract from a recent article in the "Methodist Recorder" is of interest:—

"In the somewhat dark and grimy northern city in which I live we have had a conference and a 'procession of witness.' A company of bishops and priests paraded our streets, wearing gorgeous robes, swinging incense, and carrying unashamedly a crucifix at their head. I am not horrified by that, nor frightened. I am profoundly thankful for it. To put it at the lowest, if we are to have a brighter London, why not a brighter Leeds? That procession did brighten things up for an hour in our meaner streets. If at a football match men may patch themselves with team colours, and at elections be-ribbon themselves with self-declaring blues and reds: if our Universities may parade in their degree gowns and hoods, and judges wear the ermine and even Lord Mayors their gold chains, may not the Christian Church when it moves in a procession of witness, boldly fronting the world with its message of the saving love of God—that good news—may she not come forth robed in the brightest and best? I certainly prefer to see 400 men thus garbed than to see the same company in black trousers, frock coats and tall hats, that funeral invention of tailordom. They might be mistaken for a company of shopwalkers, politicians or undertakers. And if regiments can have their bands and their banners, and are proud to step it under colours that symbolise their courage, victories and patriotism, then I am not ashamed to carry the symbol of a stronger, purer love, and a greater victory—even the Cross of my Lord. No, I am not worried about the procession or the pretty clothes. If we Protestants had kept

the pretty clothes in the parade of our religion, we might have kept prettier tempers, and perhaps if we had kept the crucifix before our eyes we might not so easily have forgotten it in our hearts.

"But this movement is more serious than millinery, and has bolder ambitions than processing the streets, good and useful as that may be. The movement is the liveliest in the Church of England, spreading fast—perhaps the most enthusiastic movement in the country to-day. I feel friendly towards this movement because here I find the Church of Christ setting about its chief work to declare Jesus Christ as the Saviour of the world. They have got hold of that idea, and unashamedly they preach and declare it at every point, even to the very gestures of head and hand. I know that in furthering this they do many things with which I cannot agree, just as many revivalists I have heard of have adopted methods I strongly dislike. But I have a prejudice in favor of men who have made their chief end to preach Jesus Christ as the Crucified Redeemer, I feel friendly towards them."—
"Church Times."

St. Hilda's Home.

St. Hilda's children are to have all the joys of a holiday at Napier this year, for we have been granted the use of Hukarere School, and hope to go there from December 20th till January 18th. We are delighted that they should have a seaside change, for several will have been at St. Hilda's for four years, and the greater part have been with us for over three. I hope that all who have kindly sent gifts during the year have received "thank-you letters" from the children, but we wish to thank you all again, and to wish you a very happy Christmastide.

Hawke's Bay Clerical Society.

A meeting of the Northern Hawke's Bay Clerical Society was held at Waipukurau on Monday, November 19th. After intercessions in the church the clergy adjourned to the Vicarage, where an interesting paper was read by Canon E. D. Rice on Sunday Observance.

A motion was carried expressing regret at the departure for Wellington of the former secretary, the Rev. F. B. Redgrave, assuring him of the prayers of his brother clergy on behalf of his work as General Secretary of the Board of Missions.

A similar motion was passed with regard to the departure of the Rev. F. G. Malcolm from Porangahau to the Wellington diocese.