LECTURE SERIES BEGINS

DR. IRA W. HOWERTH DISCUSSES "SOCIAL QUESTIONS OF TO-DAY."

Prime Task Is to Restrict Opportunities for Oppression of the Public by Selfishness.

A series of lectures on social science and political economy was inaugurated last night at the Propylaeum by Prof. Ira W. Howerth, of the University of Chicago. The lectures are to be along the line of university extension and popularizing a knowledge of important studies usually confined to a college curriculum. The series includes twelve lectures—one will be given each week—by university teachers who have become well known as American authorities on the given subjects. After each lecture a half hour will be devoted to a general discussion of the subject, in the same manner that discussion is carried on in university classes.

Professor Howerth announced last night that those taking the course of lectures offered may apply by the usual examinations for credits in the University of Chicago, although those not taking credits need not be debarred from participation in the class work. Attending Professor Howerth's lecture last night were about two hundred persons. Thirty announced their intention of working for university credits. Others signified their desire to attend the classes. A charge of $2 is made for the course of twelve lectures. Professor Howerth's lecture last night, on "The Social Question of To-day," follows:

"The social question presents itself in a double aspect. In the first place there is the general social question which is merely the eternal problem of ecomonic and moral progress leading to better social conditions, the solution of which, if indeed we may speak of a solution of an ever present problem, depends upon the continuance of material progress, or the subjection of nature, and the gradual improvement of human personalities. When men declare that the social question can never be settled until every individual is regenerated, or until the principles of Christianity have taken their rightful place as the basis of all human relationship, and discourage the application of any and all suggested methods of social reform they are usually thinking of the social question in its vague and general sense. It is unfortunate that the uncritical defenders of existing institutions, which it is folly to claim have reached their final form, are able by emphasizing the general social question to present the illusion that there is no practical social question at all. But the social question of immediate and practical importance, the social question of to-day, is something quite definite, and easy to formulate.

"The social question of to-day, or the social question of any given time, is the question of the social welfare pressing most strongly for solution. That question will always be found to be a problem of restricting the opportunities of organized selfishness. Selfishness is general, and it is an illusion to suppose that one class of society is altogether virtuous and heroic, while another is moved only by a spirit of narrowness and greed. The fact that, generally speaking, all men are selfish, does not deny the existence of the social problem of restricting the opportunities of selfishness with those who have at a given time the power to oppress their fellows. The real question is as to whether injustice exists. There this power is lodged to-day and how it manifests itself may be more clearly perceived by tracing briefly the evolution of the social question.

EARLY HISTORY OF SOCIETY.

"In the early history of society, when men's ideas were chiefly religious, and the whole power of church and state was wielded by those in authority, it is plain to be seen who might be guilty of selfish excesses. As the church was the supreme authority the social question was naturally the problem of securing popular freedom from ecclesiastical domination. All conscious efforts of the people were directed toward this end. The social question was mainly a religious question. When, in the sixteenth century, Martin Luther and his associates rebelled against the authority of the church they were engaged in a movement which finally resulted in securing for the people a greater degree of religious freedom; that is, the social question as a religious question was practically solved. While much still remains to be done in the way of securing for the people freedom of thought and action in religious matters, this particular phase of the social question is no longer dominant.

"After the reformation the people soon found that the same opportunities for selfish domination that had been enjoyed by those in control of ecclesiastical institutions were afforded those who were in control of the state. The crozier of the ecclesiastic had merely transformed itself into the scepter of the political ruler. For two centuries and a half the struggle of the people was a political one. This question, however, was nominally solved, so far as the people of this country are concerned, by the Revolution and the Declaration of Independence. The social question is consequently no longer a political question.

"Political liberty having been achieved, where is now the great opportunity for selfish domination? Obviously it lies with that class of persons who have secured control of the great industrial forces of our Nation and have intrenched themselves behind the economic institutions upon which the welfare of society so largely depends. The social question of to-day, therefore, is chiefly an industrial or economic question. It is the problem of restricting the power of wealth, and of securing for the people a higher degree of economic freedom. 'It comes,' as Professor Wagner, of Germany, has expressed it, 'of the consciousness of a contradiction between economic development and the ideal of liberty and equality which is being realized in political life.'

"The story of the social evolution then, or the history of mankind, reveals the fact that there has been three dominant phases of the social question, namely, the religious, the political and the industrial or economic. Always it has been a question of democracy. To-day it is, roughly speaking, the problem of securing a more equitable distribution of the abundance of economic goods made possible by our improved methods of production.

PRODUCING WEALTH.

"Observe that our modern social question is a question of producing wealth as well as the problem of distributing it. We pride ourselves upon the immense product of our industry, but we overlook the fearful waste of materials and energy and life involved in it. If our industrial forces were intellectually organized and directed so as to eliminate the waste of modern industry, we might easily produce double the amount of wealth we now create. The ploblem of a more equitable distribution of wealth is, however, the most immediate question confronting us. No one will seriously contend that at present wealth flows to the producers of it in exact proportion to their services in wealth production. How to apportion wealth so that individual reward will correspond to individual merit is the practical social question of to-day.

"And this question, in spite of the boasted equality which prevails in this country, has assumed the nature of a class question. True, we have no hereditary class privilege in America, and no caste in the Oriental sense, but we have a comparatively small number of people who control the material instruments of production, and whose immediate interests seem to lie in the strict preservation of the modern industrial order; while, on the other hand, we have the majority of our people dependent for their livelihood upon their success in gaining access to the means of production; that is to say, dependent upon those who control these means. The immediate interests of this majority are involved in a change of the present industrial order in the direction of economic democracy, rather than in its preservation in its present form. It is, therefore, useless to talk of an identity of interests between laborer and capitalist. There is no strict identity and those who claim it are the victims of loose thinking, or are unconsciously biased by their own immediate interests.

"Socialists who claim that 'The whole history of mankind since the dissolution of primitive, tribal society, holding land in common ownership, has been a history of class struggles, contests between exploiting and exploited, ruling and oppressed classes,' and our labor organizations which urge the development of a labor class consciousness, are more nearly correct in their conception of the present situation than those who, fancying a complete harmony of interests, cry peace, when there is no peace. It is true that human progress has been due to some extent to class conflict, just as it has been partially due to intertribal, international and interracial conflict. The great mistake, however, is in supposing that future racial progress must necessarily be brought about by the sort of conflict of which history furnished us so many examples. We have now reached a stage of development when problems involving a conflict of class interests may be thought out instead of being fought out. Both the struggle of classes and class domination have been factors in social improvement. In a critical period of a society as, for instance, in war, it is an advantage to have a ruling class that will organize it for military purposes. Such an organization necessarily means the domination of the many by a few. When such critical times are past, however, then comes the danger arising from the undue conservation of the dominant class and its oppression of the lower classes, who are exploited for the benefit of their masters.

METHODS OF DOMINANT CLASSES.

"History reveals to us the methods which dominant classes of every age have employed to preserve their power and privileges when their exclusive enjoyment of them are no longer necessary to social development. The most common method in earlier times was that of awakening the fear of the oppressed by means of punishment inflicted for violation of the criminal code which is always consciously or unconsciously predominantly inspired in the interest of the ruling class. The brute strength of an army, created ostensibly for defending the state against foreign foes, was displayed to prevent the revolt of the people against the injustices which the dominant class practiced upon them. The religious sentiment, present in every man, and the religious institutions which are the outward expression of it, have been employed to support the dominant class in the enjoyment of its special privileges. Again, every student is familiar with the manner in which the ruling class, by one means or another, has prevented the thought of the people until they have believed that their own interests were best served by remaining in their condition of subjection. A public opinion favorable to the practices of the class in power has been created. As Lincoln said, 'Kings bestrode the necks of their people, not because they wanted to do it, but because the people were better for being ridden.' This instinct of self-preservation, manifested throughout history by the dominant class, explains also the long prevalence of the idea that some men were born to rule while others existed only to be ruled. The idea of divine right, held from time immemorial and formulated in England in the reign of James the Second, the idea that God looked with special favor upon monarchy in comparison with other forms of government, and that accession by primogeniture was especially divine, antedating both the Christian and the Mosaic dispensation, owed its birth and its tenacious life to the support it rendered to the class in power. The same effort of dominant classes to preserve themselves in their position accounts for the opposition to knowledge which has characterized in the past both political and ecclesiastical rulers.

FROM EARLY TIME.

"From the early period of society when, according to the tradition, our first parents were prohibited from eating of the fruit of the tree of knowledge, down to Galileo, who was compelled to bow the knee before the inquisitorial court of Rome and recant his teaching that the sun is the center of our system and the earth revolves around it, on down to the days of Huxley who, for the advocacy of the evolutionary hypothesis, was taunted by Bishop Wilberforce with being the descendant of a monkey, and even at the present day when the soldest results of science are met with ridicule by those whose interests are opposed to the advancement of knowledge, this method of self-preservation has been practiced. This explains, too, why the ruling classes have so often opposed popular education—why little attention was paid in England to the education of the people until 1832, for instance, and why it did not become general and compulsory until 1867. We cannot understand the difficulties attending the social question of to-day, nor take the first step towards its solution, until we comprehend the facts and the reason for it, that no matter how irrational or how inconvenient, or how injurious or how flagrantly monstrous a social situation may be, there will always be those who will rush to its defense.

"The emphasis I have laid upon our economic institutions and the necessity of securing for the people economic freedom and an equitable distribution of the world's goods, mut not be taken as an indication of a belief that wealth, or the satisfaction of our material needs, is the highest thing that can be aimed at. It is true now, as ever, that man does not live by bread alone. But as Amiel said, 'The animal in us must be satisfied first and we must banish from among us all suffering which is superfluous and has its origin in social arrangements before we can return to spiritual goods.'"

WILL OF S. A. MORRISON

THE VALUE OF HIS ESTATE IS ESTIMATED AT $70,000.

The Property Divided Between His Daughter and His Widow—News of the Courts.

The will of the late Samuel A. Morrison was offered for probate yesterday by the executors of his estate, Gladys Morrison, the widow, and the Marion Trust Company. Mr. Morrison for a long time was the assistant cashier of the Fletcher National Bank, and some time before his death he went to California for the benefit of his health. He died in Pasadena on Jan. 15. No inventory of the property has been filed yet, but it is estimated that the estate left by Mr. Morrison will approximate $70,000 in value.

By the terms of the will, half of all the property is bequeathed to his daughter, Miriam Gladys Morrison. It is provided that her share shall be held in trust by the Marion Trust Company until she shall arrive at the age of thirty. In the event of her death the share will go to her children, or if there be none her share is to go to Mr. Morrison's mother, Nettie S. Buck. The rest of the estate is bequeathed to the widow.

BOY CURSED HIS MOTHER.

Told Judge He Would Like Prison Better Than Reform School.

William Otto, fifteen years old, furnished the judge, officers and spectators of the Criminal Court with as unpleasant an exhibition of depravity as seldom comes within the ken even of those experienced persons. Otto came before the judge for a hearing on the charge of incorrigibility. He had been mixed up in an attempt to rob a drug store. Anxious to save the boy from the ignominy of a penitentiary sentence, Judge Alford informed him that he intended sending him to the Boys' Reformatory. With lurid language the youngster informed the judge that he would rather go to prison. His mother intervened and pleaded with him, saying that it would be much easier for him to go to the Reform School.

"The h—l with you," cried the boy. "I know d—d well where I want to go."

"I think," said Judge Alford, "that where you do go they will take some of that out of you."

The boy went out of court cursing his mother, the judge and everybody who had anything to do with his trouble.

TRAVELING SALESMAN SUES.

Nathan Rosenthaler Says a Company Owes Him $1,950.

Nathan Rosenthaler, a traveling salesman, alleging that the Capital Paper Company wrongfully discharged him from its employ Sept. 14, 1901, and that it is indebted to him on its contract for part of his salary and expenses, yesterday filed suit against the company for $1,950.

Rosenthaler claims that while he had employment with another firm the paper company made a written proposition to him asking him to sell its products and offering him a salary of $2,500 a year and expenses. The salary was to be paid at the rate of $150 monthly and the balance was to be paid after he had worked a year. Rosenthaler declares that, in spite of the fact that he was very successful in traveling for the company and sold $15,000 worth of its goods in four months, that it discharged him without cause. The amount asked for represents the balance of salary due him—$1,750 and expense money for four months.

A Father's Responsibility.

The Supreme Court yesterday awarded Louise Leibold the custody of her two children and required the father, from whom she is separated, to pay $5 a week for their support. Judge Monks, affirming the opinion of the lower court, said ordinarily the father's obligation to support and educate the children and his right to their custody and services are reciprocal, but when the father has misconducted himself or has neglected the children so as to induce the court to take them from him and give them into the custody of another, he is not released from his obligation to provide for them.

Suit for $75 Cost County $150.

A suit which cost the county about $150 was finished in Judge Allen's court yesterday by a jury verdict for the plaintiff. John W. McMullen sued Maggie Twyname for $75. He claimed that she had failed to make necessary repairs to a water tank in a house which he rented from her, and that it leaked and caused him loss which he estimated at $75. A justice's court had awarded McMullen damages and the Circuit Court upheld the verdict of the lower court.

A Chance for "Buck" Wheeler.

The Supreme Court yesterday granted a stay of execution to "Buck" Wheeler until June 6 to give the court an opportunity to pass on his appeal. Wheeler was under sentence to hang Saturday, Feb. 8, for the murder of his son-in-law at Boonville. The court limited the time for filing appellant's brief to March 1, and the time for filing the state's brief to April 2. The case has been set for oral argument April 25.

THE COURT RECORD.

SUPERIOR COURT.

Room 2—James M. Leathers, Judge.

Nellie Reed vs. Indianapolis Street-railway Company; damages. On trial by jury.

Room 3—Vinson Carter, Judge.

Ann E. Wood vs. John J. Hilgenberg et al.; partition. Settled by agreement of parties. Costs paid.

John Brown vs. John F. Barrett; damages. Plaintiff dismisses cause. Judgment against plaintiff for costs.

CIRCUIT COURT.

Henry Clay Allen, Judge.

John W. McMullen vs. Maggie Twyname; from justice of the peace. Jury instructed, retired and returned verdict for plaintiff for $75.

CRIMINAL COURT.

Fremont Alford, Judge.

William Otto; incorrigibility. Found guilty. Sentenced to Indiana Reformatory.

Ida Brackett; assault and battery. Trial by court. Found not guilty.

NEW SUITS FILED.

Interstate Building, Loan and Savings Association vs. Sarah A. Blaisdel et al.; mortgage foreclosure. Superior Court, Room 3.

Joseph H. Alexander (Alexander & Co.) vs. Reinhold Stark; complaint on account. Superior Court, Room 2.

Nathan Rosenthaler vs. Capitol Paper Company; complaint for judgment. Superior Court.

HIGHER COURTS' RECORD.

SUPREME COURT.

19673. Leibold vs. Leibold. Marion S. C. Affirmed. Monks, J. 1. The Marion Superior Court has full jurisdiction of all suits in equity, and it is within the power of such court to control not only the estate, but the person and custody, of infants, except where there is a statute providing otherwise. 2. The obligation to support and educate a child, and the right to custody and services of such child, are reciprocal obligations and rights, unless otherwise fixed by judicial decree. When, however, the father has so conducted himself that it is necessary and proper to deprive him of the custody of his minor child, he is not thereby released from his duty to support it. 3. It not being shown that the allowance made by the court is more than a bare maintenance for appellant's children, it is not necessary to determine whether or not the court had the authority to compel appellant to pay what would be deemed a liberal allowance for the maintenance and education of them.

19775. Wheeler vs. State of Indiana. Warrick C. C. Application for suspension of execution granted. The execution of appellant is ordered to be suspended until Friday, June 6, 1902. Appellant ordered to file his brief on or before March 1, 1902. State to file brief on or before April 2, 1902. Ten days allowed for reply brief. Oral argument fixed for April 25, 1902.

19776. Brown vs. White. Marion S. C. Publication ordered.

—Minutes.—

19775. Willis B. Wheeler vs. State of Indiana. Warrick C. C. Petition for suspension of execution granted. Execution ordered to be suspended until Friday, June 6, 1902. Testified copies sent to warden. Appellant ordered to file briefs by March 1, 1902. Appellee ordered to file brief by April 2, 1902. Appellant granted ten days for reply brief. Set for oral argument April 25, 1902.

19776. George W. Brown et al. vs. Flora White et al. Application on non-residence. Publication ordered issued.

APPELLATE COURT.

3645. Kline vs. Kline. Jasper C. C. Motion to dismiss overruled.

3812. Maxwell vs. Shirts. Boone C. C. Motion to retax costs granted—one-half vs. Appellant Maxwell and one-half vs. Appellee Shirts.

4089. Board of Commissioners vs. Mowbray. Miami C. C. Advancement denied.

4129. Williams vs. Chapman. Whitley C. C. Petition for certiorari overruled.

—Minutes.—

4089. The Board of Commissioners of Miami County et al. vs. William E. Mowbray. Miami C. C. Brief of appellee in answer to Miami County Council.

4137. Jacob Frankel vs. William L. Ganard. Delaware C. C. Appellee's brief (8.)

3645. Charles M. Kline vs. Addie Kline. Jasper C. C. Appellant's answer to motion of appellee to dismiss appeal and appeal bond tendered. Motion to dismiss overruled.

4191. Anna E. St. Clair et al. vs. Henry M. Marquel et al. Delaware C. C. Assignment cross errors.

3816. Monroe W. Fitch et al. vs. Kittee Long et al. Appellants' additional authorities.

4328. Thomas Wool, minor, vs. The Republic Iron and Steel Co. Record. Assignment errors.

Broad Ripple Oil Field Failing.

Included in the oil report of State Geologist Blatchley is a paragraph touching on the output of oil of the Broad Ripple field in 1901. During last year 17,038 barrels were taken out of this district, while in the year previous 30,094 barrels were taken out. When the field was discovered some years ago the yearly output reached over 100,000 barrels. Mr. Blatchley says the decrease annually in this field is rather alarming. No new wells have been bored in recent years, he says, many of the old have been abandoned, while others are not pumped.

Negro Servant's Sudden Death.

Joseph Lewis, a negro, who was employed at the home of Albert Gall, 712 North Illinois street, died suddenly yesterday evening. He got aboard a street car at St. Clair street, taking a place on the rear platform. At Eleventh street he fell backward and would have gone over the end had some one not caught him. He was taken into the office of Dr. Wheeler, at 1535 North Illinois street, for medical attention, but died as he was being carried. Apoplexy, it is thought, caused his death.

John R. Pearson Sells Building.

John R. Pearson yesterday sold to George W. Brown, through the W. E. Mick agency, a brick block at the corner of Indiana avenue and Blackford street. The consideration was $23,675, including a transfer by Mr. Brown of a house on South Noble street, two houses on East Tenth street, twelve lots in Jackson Park and one house in Marion. It is said Mr. Brown intends remodeling his purchase into a modern business block.

Requisition Seems Faulty.

Captain McCurdy, of the Atlanta, Ga., police force, came here yesterday with a requisition for E. E. Hollis, who is wanted at that place on a warrant charging the "larceny after trust" of $250 from Schaul & May, pawnbrokers. When the requisition was read by the attorney general he expressed doubt as to its regularity, and the further consideration of it was postponed until to-day.

FOR FEMININE READERS

GOWNS FOR LITTLE GIRLS ALWAYS OF INTEREST TO MOTHERS.

Queer Undertakings of Club Women in New Mexico—Rich Ladies' Jeweled Crowns—Here and There.

Fashions for children are vitally interesting to the mothers who have to follow them, but they vary so little in style and outline that they are not a very prolific source of inspiration to the fashion writers, says the New York Sun. However, there are some little changes creeping in all the time, even though they are not radical.

The one style of bodice, which is simply a gathered puff with belt, and bertha collar and worn with a guimpe, has obtained for years, but it is new as well, since constant reproduction makes it so. With this is the simple straight skirt, sometimes gathered into the waist, sometimes plaited.

A pretty idea for the thin muslin is vertical tucks down four or five inches from the waist line all around. These dispose of the fullness very prettily. Other muslin skirts are tucked around the entire length in very thin tucks, with fully an inch between them.

A hem is usually the finish, but sometimes a little frill of embroidery is used. The bertha frill on one figured dimity is made of white dimity with an inch band of the figured muslin hemming the edge. This certainly has economy to recommend it and is very effective as well.

The collar in another gown is of white linen shaped to round up in front and back. Two collars of this sort, one over the other and the upper narrower than the under one, make a stylish finish.

Most attractive for the dressy gown worn by the little girl of from seven to ten years is the black taffeta. It is made with a plain hem set on with a very open stitch in black.

The usual full waist is in bands joined in encircling lines with the open stitch, which lightens the effect very much. Any pretty open pattern in cream lace may form the bertha, through which you thread inch-wide ribbon, either blue or pink, a little below the upper edge, and tie in a rosette bow at one side of the front.

Another pretty frock for a girl of ten is made of gray cashmere with the bodice and the top of the skirt tucked in groups, and a yoke and cuffs of white silk striped around with silver braid. In gray nun's veiling is another dress, with an accordion-plaited skirt, and waist gathered into a belt of white silk embroidered with white and blue French knots.

The sash is of white taffeta tied in a knot at the back. The narrow collar is of white with a frill of point d'esprit lace on the edge and the guimpe is of tucked batiste and narrow Valenciennes insertion. Knots with ends of black velvet where the collar meets in front and around the bands of the puffed sleeves give it a chic finish.

The colored pique gowns with collar and skirt trimming of white Irish lace are very pretty. Plainer pique dresses are made with no trimming at all, the blouse laid in one or two plaits, turning toward the shoulder and well back from the front and center of back like the Maxime shirtwaist.

Sailor collars are quite as good style as ever and they are varied prettily by trimming them with braid sewn on in all sorts of designs.

Just at present the little corduroy suits in Russian blouse style are worn by both boys and girls. The corduroy coats with white leather belt and heavy lace collar are also very good style, especially in the tan and fawn shades.

For girls of ten or more the circular skirt is worn trimmed with velvet ribbon, braid or tucks above the hem. The bodice is usually a blouse and is sometimes made with a box plait in the center of the back and front, with small tucks at either side. A lace collar with a hem of silk or velvet around the edge is a good finish.

Black silk bands trim some of the colored gowns very stylishly as black in gowns, coats or trimmings is a great feature of children's dress. Very narrow bands in a green cashmere are effective, the blouse finished with a little white silk vest front with tiny black silk-covered buttons down either side of the edge.

It is well to notice that the openwork stitch, mentioned in connection with the black taffeta gown, is very pretty on the colored cashmere dresses done in black. The hem is attached in the same way; the open stitch joins bands in the blouse in vertical lines and also the hem on the bertha. e taol

Art in Needlework.

Philadelphia Times.

Very valuable are the examples of antique embroideries and other specimens of the needle's cunning treasured within museum walls; but that artistic, too, and lovely to look at is the needlework produced in Philadelphia to-day, is convincingly illustrated by some of the pieces which have just been completed at the School of Art Needlework on Chestnut street.

Among them has been a table set, consisting of center piece and plate doilies, of white linen, embroidered with La France roses, which was used at a dinner given in New York this week. The center piece was circular and beautifully embroidered with a wreath of the roses. The garland, which nearly covered the linen, was formed of single, exaggerated roses, with the stem foliage, shown in the front, back and profile views of the flower; the stems converged toward the center, so that the sprays, which were embroidered in nature's hues of flower and leaf, looked as if dropped gracefully around the circle of snowy linen. The doilies harmonized in design with the center piece.

Destined to adorn the same home in New York is a luncheon set consisting of center piece, plate and lunch doilies of Russian crash. The center piece is circular and is exquisitely embroidered with a garland of acanthus leaves and spring flowers in delicately harmonized tints.

It means much when New York comes to Philadelphia for art needlework. There has also been embroidered at the school for a New York woman who counts her wealth by the millions a table cover of the new congress linen, worked with a design of pomegranates and foliage, with graceful scroll-work meandering between in the rich, harmonious hues of the ripened fruit and greens of the leaves, shading from deep tones to tints that border on maize.

A "between meals" cloth which will adorn a "red dining room" in Philadelphia is embellished with a circular design of apples, which, with original idea, is embroidered in the various stages of ripening, from the fruit of emerald hue to the roseate tint of maturity.

They Wear Crowns.

Frank S. Arnett, in Ainslee's Magazine.

Again. Do you remember when good, old-fashioned society women sat by the hour and talked bonnets? When there were whispered comments to the effect that Mrs. A. looked like a fright in hers, and that Mrs. B.'s (providing Mrs. B., of course, was the one addressed) was simply a dream? There is no more of it. You may possibly hear Mrs. C. say that Mrs. D.'s new crown isn't a bit becoming, but bonnets are a very minor consideration, indeed.

These crowns are really and truly ones, although some are more modestly referred to as coronets and others as tiaras. I can trace their use in America no further back than the third Mrs. John Jacob Astor, who died in 1887, but her sister-in-law, Mrs. William Astor, was almost as early in the field with the royal insignia. The value of these ornaments varies from $20,000 to $50,000 each. The present Mrs. John Jacob Astor has two, one solely of diamonds and valued at $50,000, the other of diamonds and emeralds, valued at $20,000; while Mrs. Ogden Mills possesses three, with a total value of $85,000, one composed of diamonds, another of diamonds and pearls, and the third of diamonds and emeralds. Others that have adopted a custom that was at first a bit startling are Mrs. O. H. P. Belmont, Mrs. William Starr Miller, Mrs. Bradley-Martin, Mrs. William D. Sloane, Mrs. Levi P. Morton, Mrs. Alfred S. Post, Mrs. Clarence H. Mackay, Mrs. George Jay Gould, Mrs. Charles T. Yerkes, Mrs. Perry Tiffany, Mrs. Philip Rhinelander, Mrs. Harry Payne Whitney and Mrs. Alfred Gwynne Vanderbilt.

Codfish Chowder.

The Cooking.

If the fresh codfish cannot be obtained, freshen three pounds of salted cod by allowing it to soak in cold water for several hours. Shred the meat, put it in the bottom of a kettle, upon this put half a pound of chopped salted pork, a sliced onion and a dozen crackers. Cover all with cold water, put a lid on the kettle and boil gently for an hour, or until the fish is done. With a perforated spoon remove the fish and crackers, and pour the liquor through a coarse strainer to get out the bones. Return this liquor to the fire and thicken it with two tablespoonfuls of butter rubbed into the same quantity of flour. Add a pint of chopped oysters, a tablespoonful of chopped parsley and return the fish and crackers to the kettle. Cook for five minutes, stir in a cupful of boiling milk, season to taste and serve. Cook for five minutes, stir in a cupful of boiling milk, season to taste and serve. Men are particularly fond of chowders as they seem so much more substantial than a clear soup.

Dancing Men Scarce.

London Mail.

A complaint has been generally heard in the suburbs of London this season of winter gayeties that dances are going out of fashion.

Progressive whist and ping-pong, but especially the latter, are the attractions that are usurping the place dancing formerly occupied, and pretty girls who are nimble of foot and not very alert in card games or ping-pong are feeling the matter keenly. Men, it is found, are on the side of the whist parties, for it is a sad fact and a true that the apathy accorded to Terpsichore by members of the highest society has spread to middle-class circles, and makes dancing men harder and harder to discover.

It is a pity that the cotillon is not danced more frequently at balls than it is. Why should so social and pretty a pastime be left to the wealthiest chatelaines in their splendid halls to arrange? Young men of leisure make great names for themselves by inventing new cotillon figures, but that inducement can scarcely be held out in business circles in favor of the dance, seeing that gilded youths are rarities there. In America "surprise" figures are always inserted, and at his stepdaughter Miss Randolph's debut party in New York just lately, Mr. Whitney, the millionaire, introduced into the ball a motor car in charge of a chaffeur, decked out in the correct dress and goggles, who distributed to every one miniature motor cars in the form of bonbonnieres charged with delicious sweets.

The Club Woman's Hearse.

February Pilgrim.

Think of a woman's club buying a hearse with its first official dollars! That is the odd proceeding of the Woman's Improvement Association at Las Cruces, N. M., and as the president, Mrs. D. C. Billings, puts it proudly: "It's the only hearse in the county."

This enterprising incident indicates the uphill work of clubwomen in the sparsely-settled Southwestern States, who long for some of the advantages and esthetics of so-called civilization—and up-hill work, it may be added, which is unknown to big and three-blessed clubs in thickly-populated centers.

The Las Cruces Woman's Improvement Association has only eleven members. When this ambitious little band organized five years ago it not only purchased a hearse to replace the rude wagon that had previously served at the head of funeral processions, but set about to otherwise improve this small town, made up mostly of unprogressive Mexicans and winter tourists. They bought a section of land and proceeded to convert it into a park by planting trees and putting up a pavilion. Afterward they purchased a lot for the purpose of erecting, some prosperous day, a public library and clubhouse under one roof.

"You clubwomen of the North have no idea how away-back-in-the-Bible-times are these Mexicans," wrote Mrs. Billings the other day. "We women have worked slowly and at great disadvantage. Several times we have applied to outside clubs for help, but, receiving no answer, have decided we must still wait and work."

At present these clubwomen are building a windmill to secure better irrigation—another unusual undertaking, indeed.

Mrs. Croly Needed No Money.

New York Tribune.

The family of Mrs. Jennie June Croly have publicly expressed their annoyance at the offer of Sorosis to take care of their mother during her life, and say that as soon as they knew of it they returned the checks sent. They point to the fact that Mrs. Croly left $35,000 as proof that she was not in need of financial assistance. They are at a loss, they say, to understand why it should have been offered.

Mrs. Vida Croly Sidney, who has recently come from London to receive her share of the property, said yesterday that her mother had shown a nervous dread of becoming poor that amounted almost to monomania. This dread, she thinks, was expressed in such a way that her club friends supposed her to be really in need.

"Mrs. Croly was staying at the Gardner, where she paid $25 a week, so there could hardly have been much evidence of poverty," said Mrs. Herbert Croly.

The Woman's Health Protective Association, which took the lead in the matter of raising a fund, tried to keep the proceeding secret, but it leaked out, and then Sorosis took it up. Mrs. Croly's death occurred so soon after that no permanent arrangement had been made.

True Sympathy with Children.

February Home Companion.

There are many conscientious fathers and mothers who make themselves and their children miserable by taking youthful foibles too seriously. It is an innate propensity of a child possessed of average good health and spirits to make older people laugh with him; not at him, but at the things that seem amusing to his own sense. And the mother who has the blithe and ready humor to enter into his fun becomes his most fascinating companion. He heeds her rebukes and bends to her correction without ill feeling, where sternness would arouse his pride and ire, for he is assured that she is ready to share all his innocent pranks, and that her disapproval has no foundation in impatience or injustice. And when the day arrives that "childish things are put away," and the grown men and women look backward to their early home, with what a throb of pleasure they say, when things happen, "Mother would appreciate this; she had the quickest sense of humor of any woman you ever saw!" And underneath these light words is the thought, "How happy that dear mother made me, and how I love her!"

Odds and Ends.

Darn cracks in linen on a back of linen cambric with fine thread and cut the cambric away around the darn. When properly done and laundered the darning will hardly show if there is a little starch in the cloth.

Candied mint leaves are a fashionable substitute for mint bonbons or the cordial that is served at the end of a dinner or luncheon. A cooking teacher advises, too, that a few added to a lemon ice impart a delicious flavor.

A piece of velveteen—say, a quarter-yard—makes the best of all brushes for silk. Use it on a black silk petticoat, and see how perfectly it wipes away all the dust that gathers so vexatiously in the ruffles and pleatings. Any brush, no matter how soft, acts as an irritant to a silken surface, but the velveteen entirely removes the dust without any injury to the fabric.

The best way of marking table linen is to place the initials of the hostess in the upper left hand corner just below the edge. This is done in satin stitch in plain English script and in plain printing letters, because such letters are easily read and serve their purpose of marking the linen without being conspicuous. Monograms, which are not as legible as initials, are not often used.

Opinions differ as to the order of the various wedding anniversaries, but the following list seems to receive the sanction of the best authorities: First year, cotton; second year, paper; third year, leather; fifth year, wood; tenth year, tin; fifteenth year, crystal; twentieth year, china; twenty-fifth year, silver; fiftieth year, golden; seventy-fifth year, diamond.

A nightdress case seen at an exchange is particularly good. It is crocheted in silk in open mesh and is a circular bag, open at both ends and provided with a shirring, which, after the garment is rolled and inserted, secures it by being drawn and tied in a bow. It is specially adapted for traveling, particularly if a customs officer will rummage one's bag, as the garment is readily examined without unrolling.

Persons who like sugar with vinegar on lettuce may defend this taste with the statement that William Cullen Bryant had it. "He was an old family friend of ours," said some one over her luncheon, the other day, "and I think it has become almost a matter of principle with us to dress our salad after the same simple fashion. We always call it the poet's dressing, and, after that title, have introduced it to the notice of others."

A novel way of saving the special magazine articles in which she is interested has been found by a woman who considers it a waste of money to have such periodicals bound. When the other members of the family have finished reading the magazine, she removes the wire or cord that holds the leaves together and takes out the articles she wishes to preserve. These are then sorted into envelopes marked "history," "verse," "fiction," etc. When she has collected enough articles to form a thousand page book on any subject she numbers the pages over, writes out an index and sends the books to be bound. In this way she has collected several volumes on subjects of special interest.

...Topics in the Churches...

SUNDAY-SCHOOL LESSON AND CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR WORK.

THE SUNDAY-SCHOOL LESSON.

The First Quarter: Lesson v: Acts iv, 1-12—February 2, 1902.

There is a subtle charm in all stories of moral courage: Leonidas gathering the Persian spears to his Spartan bosom at Thermopylae; Florence Nightingale ministering on Crimean battlefield; Grace Darling launching her lifeboat in the boiling surf; Clara Barton, at seventy, penetrating to suffering Armenia; the martyr Maceo dying for Cuban liberty—each stirs our blood. But not a whit less fascinating than any instance, ancient or modern, is that of the apostles standing for their lives before the Sanhedrin.

The court is convened in its glittering marble hall within the temple. The august members, gorgeously robed, sit in semi-circle upon their crimson divans. Wealth, learning, power of a nation are there enshrined; rulers, elders, scribes, chief priest, and his kinsmen—a very galaxy. On the tessellated floor before this brave array stand two Galilean fishermen. Effort is to overawe and constrain them to confess to sorcery, and thus make them liable to a death penalty.

It is a moment of suspense. Men's souls are tried. Human lives are in the balance. The destiny of a new system seems to be deciding. But the most self-possessed persons in that dread court are the humble and friendless defendants.

Peter breaks the silence. Consciously, or unconsciously, he is addressing the nation itself through its constitutional representatives. For him the Sanhedrin is the ear as well as the mouth of the whole people. He is punctilious, in a good sense of the word, using the proper titles in his deferential introduction.

The readiness of conscious innocence has fine illustration at this point. It has nothing to fear. Its cause can not ultimately be lost. The seeming triumph o'er God's saints lasts but a little while. The promise of Jesus that when His apostles should be delivered up to judgment, it should be given them what to say, has here its first lustrous fulfillment.

Though Peter, "the mouth of the apostles," is scrupulously courteous in his address, there is not wanting a fine irony in his expression, "If we be examined of the good deed." It is as if he had said, "Men are usually arraigned for crimes, but this court arraigns for a benefaction."

No doubt is left in the minds of the court, if any ever existed there, in whose name the merciful cure had been wrought upon the cripple. Again, as on Pentecost and in the porch, the apostle appeals to Hebrew Scripture, and uses it with consummate skill.

The tables are turned. The court itself becomes the defendant. Such dauntless courage in friendless peasants, such wisdom from unlettered laymen, such divine helpfulness as is manifested in the person of the healed cripple, who joins his benefactors in the august crescent of the Sanhedrin. Ah! is it not the renaissance of the Nazarene? They had been so much with Jesus that they reproduced Him in their very selves.

As ever in instances like this, there is a divided auditory. The play of variant and numberless motives and feelings tends to set some for and others against the new cause. The schoolmen are offended that unlettered teachers should gain such a hearing. The orthodox care not whether a beneficent miracle has been wrought or not—only whether the workers conform to their views of doctrine and order. The Sadducees are violently angry that the doctrine of the resurrection should be incidentally reenforced by these miracle-workers, in whose creed it stands conspicuously. The priests, on the other hand, are outraged that these men should presume to be teachers without official authority. So it goes. The case is not being heard on its merits or truth.

The name and person of Jesus is, on this occasion, as so often subsequently, a great divisor. He separates. He is set for the rising and falling of many. Some become believers, others persecutors. The hope of the world's advance in truth and goodness is in that contingent usually present in larger or smaller numbers— who are open-minded, whose judgment is not warped by personal interest, and whose convictions are strong enough to make them willing to suffer in behalf of their new faith. Happily, there are many such present on this occasion.

THE TEACHERS' LANTERN.

There is in the social order an unwritten law by which everything claiming the world's franchise is first subjected to criticism. The law is of universal application. Creations of literature and art, measures of legislation, judicial decisions, commercial schemes fall under its review. It applies to men as well as measures. All candidates for political, mercantile, professional, or social preferment pass in review before it. The utility of this "law of the test" is readily conceded. It is a public safeguard. It is a dike against a deluge of charlatans and frauds.

Like everything good, however, the "law of the test" can be abused. In its normal use it is simple society standing on guard and challenging man or measure to show reason why ascendency should be allowed. In its abnormal form, it is not a challenge, it is an attack. Its cry is, "Away with him!" "We will not have this man to reign over us!" Persecution is the perversion of the law of the test. Attention is called to the fact, however, that even in its preverted form, the advantage of the law is not lost. Doubly tried! Doubly true!

Has Christianity been subjected to the operation of this law? Was an exception made in its favor? Did it slip into the world clandestinely, when society was off guard? The Book of Acts is the answer to that question. It is historically true that "the law of the test," in its severest form—viz., of persecution—was brought to bear upon Christianity.

On the whole, it will probably be the impartial verdict that Christianity, in its truest and best type, has stood the test. Christianity is Christianity's best defense. It presents the loftiest ideal for human character; service without hope of reward; not to be ministered unto, but to minister and give.

The Synedrium (assembly) was at start the municipal legislature of Jerusalem—of board of aldermen. It became, by evolution, the Supreme Court and Congress. Aristocracy, wealth, and learning were its constituent elements. Its power, rising or declining, truly gauges the severity or liberality of the foreign mas