

Religion and Social Service

Epworth League Gathering at Buffalo Draws Methodist Young People

The International Epworth League convention, now in session at Buffalo, N. Y., in celebrating the twenty-fifth anniversary of the organization of the league, is bringing together thousands of Methodist young people from all America and across the seas. The convention program includes simultaneous meetings in three or more auditoriums each morning and evening with department conferences in the afternoon, from July 1 to 3. A great parade and demonstration was held yesterday afternoon while Sunday is being given to inspirational addresses in all the city's churches and to the concluding sessions of the convention. Among the leaders and speakers of the week are Bishop Frank M. Bristol, of Omaha, the former pastor of Metropolitan M. E. Church in Washington, and Bishop Earl Cranston, of Washington. Washington delegates to the convention

departed on June 26 in charge of Transportation Manager W. Ralph Williamson, president of Anasocia Chapter; Dr. C. A. Christie, U. S. A., president of the Washington District Epworth League, joined the party at Buffalo, after a two weeks' vacation in the West. L. L. Schmale, of the Bureau of Naturalization, and F. C. Carl, of the Zoological Park, are also members of the party which includes one or more representatives of many of the forty-one chapters in the Washington District. Washington goes to the convention with the best report in the history of the local work. The forty-one chapters enroll 4,000 members and are all in flourishing condition. A unique feature of the local work is Rest Court at Washington Grove, Md., where the league entertains its friends from the churches throughout the summer, each chapter being permitted to send two persons for a two weeks' vacation.

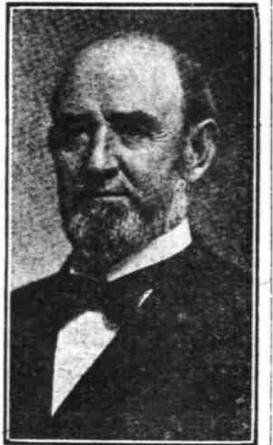
Bishop Frank M. Bristol of Omaha and Bishop Earl Cranston of Washington, speakers at Epworth League convention.



News of Church World From Many Angles

Two hundred Chicago Christian Endeavorers are already busy in the advance preparations for the fifth world's Christian Endeavor convention, which meets in their city July 7 to 12, 1915. It is said 1,500 additional assistants will be enrolled within the next six months. Preliminary advertising literature has been prepared and is being sent out to the Christian Endeavor leaders of the country. Many of the world's Christian Endeavorers are planning to hold their own conventions in Chicago in combination with the world's conventions and others are promising special efforts for large delegations. A chorus of 1,500 voices will be trained for the convention.

Edward Percy Gates, a former Washington boy and worker in Immanuel Baptist Church, is chairman of the promotion committee of the convention. Mr. Gates is Christian Endeavor secretary for the State of Illinois, which position he has held for four years.



of the church by the ladies. After dinner twenty teams of two men each started out to visit all the members of the church. The men returned at 5 o'clock for tea and to report results. The reports showed an increase of over \$400 a year for missions and nearly \$500 for church support.

J. A. Macdonald, the great Toronto preacher-editor, in a recent address on "Love and the Social Order," had much to say of today's startling events, and especially of the church's relation to them. "I say of the Stars and Stripes and the union jack that their stains are as deep and damning if we repeat all the oppression and the injustice of Great Britain in our respective countries of the United States and Canada, and the speaker's assertion. Man's inhumanity to man has made thousands mourn. I know the cry of the privileged multitude. I know also that wealth has its problems and there are among the rich those who have a high desire to do justice. For both classes there is no permanent and adequate solution of the problem that does not change the motives and viewpoint of men. This is the church's greatest chance—to reconstruct the brotherhood. It would revive again the old evangel and the old enthusiasm. The modern church has as much as Peter, James, and John had. They had only an idea, but that idea changed the Roman empire. It is for the church to do the thing which as a church it ought to do: bring men and God together for the salvation of men. Truth need not be deadened in order that it may find one's conscience, but a church crowded with people who are not interested is a poor recruiting ground for the army of the Lord. Better twelve men who are ready to die for their Master than four thousand who come to Him for free lunches. Sincerity and gentleness, candor and fraternity, solace and inspiration—these are some of the characteristics of a genuine religion. To doubt their power and to seek crowds by cajoling, by appeal to that which is frivolous, hysterical, cheap and vulgar, is to publish a lack of faith in the gospel of the kingdom—love, joy and peace in the Holy Spirit."

An every member canvass for missions and church support was conducted by the men of a Buffalo, N. Y., church after a recent Sunday morning sermon. Dinner was served in the dining room

The Military Academy at West Point was established by an act of Congress in 1802.

SUNDAY SCHOOL STRENGTHS SHOWN

P. H. Bristow Reviews the Work of the Recent International Convention.

GRADED LESSONS TENDENCY

"What were the strongest impressions made upon you by the convention?" was asked of P. H. Bristow upon his return to Washington from the closing sessions of the fourteenth International Sunday School Convention, held in Chicago June 23 to 30. Mr. Bristow is the best known Sunday school worker in Washington, having been for sixteen years at the head of the largest school in the city, that of Calvary Baptist Church, where 4,500 students are enrolled in the Sunday school.

"I thought it was, in many respects, one of the most successful ever held," was his reply. "To give impression of such a gathering which would, in an adequate way, tell of its meetings and its influence on the Sunday schools would be impossible. It was expected that 4,500 delegates would be present, and there were probably between 2,000 and 4,000. The sessions of the convention proper were held in Medinah Hall on Ohio and Ontario streets. These sessions were held every evening of each day, the afternoons being given to numerous conferences held in churches in different parts of the city and suburbs. There were sixty of these conferences. There were also seventy evening meetings during the convention held simultaneously with the main meeting at the hall.

"The impressions are always most lasting. The present session held on Tuesday evening approached the spectacular. The singing of 3,500 people was an inspiration in itself. After one-half hour of devotional and praise service the regular program was begun. At this point a great American flag was let down like a curtain, and as it came in full view the entire audience arose as one and sang 'America.' The president delivered his address, the audience sang and played songs, and then followed the convention sermon by Bishop C. P. Anderson, of the Episcopal Church. His theme, which was the same as that of the convention, was 'Jesus Shall Reign.' This slogan, the lights being above the stage and was lighted day and night when the convention was in session. The convention was opened and a work of history making in the Sunday school world was begun.

"The meetings were so many and so fine that they even made an 'impression' on Chicago—a perceptible one, too. Of course, thousands were there and the open meetings who were not delegates. At hotels and restaurants the greatest courtesy was shown those who wore the white button of the convention. The street car conductors at just as kind, but they appear always to be that.

Does it pay? "The biggest question which comes to one's mind is, 'Does it all pay?' It costs a great sum of money to run such a series of meetings, besides the many thousands of dollars paid out by delegates and others who visited the convention. Does it pay? One heard there that now, in this year 1914, more than 18,000,000 of men, women and children are enrolled in the Sunday schools of this country and Canada, a gain of more than 1,500,000 during the past three years. There are twenty-six field secretaries employed, who devote their entire time to the work. It was learned also that there are 1,000 State secretaries in every State and province. It cost during the past triennium more than \$200,000 to carry on the work. This is a large sum of money.

"There were more than 400 speakers for all the meetings, and nearly fifty churches and halls used in which to hold the meetings. The speakers were from the ends of the earth. There were delegates from Africa, natives from Japan, Russia, all of the European nations; from South America and the laies of the seas. That cost something. One cannot but be impressed with the intense interest manifested by everybody, all the time, at such a series of meetings. One is also impressed that the Bible, after centuries, is coming into its own and yet only the fingers of the millions of earth are touched.

"Chicago is said to be a wicked city, but the Sunday school seems to have a grip on the city, as well as the men of the city. The association of the city is strangely impressed with the idea that 'the hub, so far as Sunday schools are concerned, has been removed from Boston to Chicago. The Chicago brand is burned deep—that is just an impression also.

The Great Parade. "On Saturday afternoon when 50,000 men of organized men's classes, marched down Michigan avenue from Twenty-fourth street, to the music of scores of bands.

"The best in the city, it gave the impression that some force somewhere was holding the parade, a splendid looking lot of men. These were followed by United States cavalrymen in full fighting uniform, and then came the marching bands, clearing across the street, and banners floated as far as the avenue could be seen. Literally tens of thousands of American flags were carried in the line, besides hundreds of other banners. Some schools had 'yells,' and they yelled them. More than 100 large open Bibles were carried, each by four men. But who could describe it all? The reviewing stand near the end of the line was occupied by the convention officers, city officers and 5,000 women. They sang all the well-known Sunday school songs, and more than all else 'Onward, Christian Soldier.'

ORGANIZE NEW CLUB TO HELP DESTITUTE MOTHERS

Washington women are interested in the organization being formed in New York by Miss Willa Holt Wakefield, whose ambition it is to see that no mother, however destitute, will have to advertise her baby for sale or commit herself to an institution. A meeting will be held on July 20, after which the final announcement and the completed plans will be made public. Babies' week fanned into flame the idea that Miss Wakefield has had in mind to care for the babies of destitute mothers.

The object of the new organization is to give instant material relief to the mother, thus enabling her to care for the child in the home, also to help her with the responsibilities and to give the little ones a home instead of an institution to be brought up in.

Associated with Miss Wakefield in the new organization will be Miss Florence Guernsey, Miss Maud Miner, and other prominent welfare workers.



MISS WILLA HOLT WAKEFIELD.

THE OCCULT SIDE OF CHRISTIANITY

By DR. W. W. BAKER.

There is a wide-spread and popular idea that there is no such thing as an occult teaching in connection with Christianity, and that "The Mysteries" were a purely Pagan institution.

It has actually been made a matter of boast that Christianity has no secrets, that whatever it has to say it says to all, and whatever it has to teach it teaches to all. Its truths are supposed to be so simple that a "way-faring man, though his fool may not err therein," and the "simple gospel" has become a stock phrase.

Now all men are not at the same level of evolution, but evolution might be figured as a rising gradient, with men stationed on it at every point. The most highly evolved are far above the least evolved, both in intelligence and character, the capacity alike to understand and to act varied at every stage.

Even within any given civilization we find the most varied types—the most ignorant and the most educated, and each must be helped in the place where he is. Evolution is true, the difficulty is inevitable, and must be faced and overcome by the Divine Teacher, else will His work be a failure.

listed in the past, forming a part of the religions of the world? The answer must be an immediate affirmative, every great religion has claimed to possess a hidden teaching, and has declared that it is the repository of theoretical mystic, and further of practical mystic, or occult, knowledge. The mystic explanation of popular teaching was public, and expounded the latter as an allegory, giving to crude and irrational statements and stories a meaning which the intellect could accept.

The mysteries of Egypt were the glory of that ancient land, and the noblest sons of Greece, such as Plato, went to Thebes to be initiated by Egyptian Teachers of Wisdom. The Orphic Mysteries of the Persians, the Orphic and Bacchic Mysteries, and the later Eleusinian semi-Mysteries of the Greeks, are familiar in name.

We are thus brought face to face with the position that we cannot have one and the same religious teaching even for a single nation, still less for a single civilization, or for the whole world. And are led to the absolute necessity of a graded and graduated religious teaching, such as will meet these different needs and help each man in his own place.

But there also arises the necessity of withholding certain teachings from those who morally are as yet unfitted to receive them; and this necessity presses on every teacher who is able to impart such knowledge. He desires to give it to those who will use the power it confers for the general good, for quickening human evolution; but he equally desires to be no party to giving it to those who would use it for their own aggrandizement at the cost of others.

gradual descent of Christian teaching into so-called simplicity, so that the most ignorant might be able to grasp it. Protestant religionists asserted loudly that nothing ought to be preached save that which every one could grasp.

Teaching of Religious Truths.

True enough, if by this it were meant that there are some religious truths that all can grasp, and that a religion falls if it leaves the lowest, the most ignorant, the most dull, outside the pale of its elevating influence. But false, if by this it meant that religion has no truths that the ignorant cannot understand, that it is so poor and limited a thing that it has nothing to teach which is above the thought of the unintelligent.

Is Christianity to survive as the religion of the future, and to continue to play a part in molding the thought of the evolving Western races? If it is to live, it must regain the knowledge it has lost, and again have its mystic and its occult teachings, its magic grip on the soul, as an authoritative teacher of spiritual truths, clothed with the only authority worth anything, the authority of knowledge.

Occult Christianity must reappear in the temple, and dwell behind the veil which guards the "Holy of Holies," into which only the initiate may enter. Then again will occult teaching be within the reach of those who qualify themselves to receive it, according to the ancient rules.

We may accept the Scriptures, as showing what was believed in the early church, as to the teaching of the Christ and His immediate followers, and see what they say as to the existence of a secret teaching given only to the few. As the church regards the words of Jesus and His apostles as of supreme authority, next week we will not only review the words of the great apostle, Paul, in the writings of the great apostle, Paul, but we will consider the statements made by those who guided the church during the first centuries. A. D. Along this unbroken line of tradition and written testimony the proposition that Christianity had a hidden side can be established. We shall further find that the lesser mysteries can be traced through the centuries to the beginning of the nineteenth century, and that though there were no schools of mysticism recognized as preparatory to initiation, after the disappearance of the mysteries, yet great mystics, from time to time, reached the lower stages of ecstasy, by their own efforts, aided doubtless by invisible teachers.

CURIA TO ALLOW BONI TO REVEAL

Annulment of de Castellane-Gould Marriage Practically Assured, Rome Hears.

DECISION IS DUE SOON

Edict Will, It Is Said, Be Practically a Victory for Present Princess Talleyrand.

By CAMILLO CIAUFFARRA. Special Cable to The Washington Herald. Rome, July 4.—The judicial controversy for the annulment of the Gould-Castellane religious marriage which for five years has constantly engaged the public attention of two continents, is on the eve of closing, and it is bruited about in society that Count Boni will once more be able to marry.

Reports add that the Princess Talleyrand consented to allow the third suit before the civil tribunal to go undefended, thus insuring a decision, practically reaffirming the second suit, granting annulment against which the former Miss Gould appealed in vain to obtain its reversal.

While the exact terms of the present agreement are kept strictly secret, information gathered from several reliable sources asserts that the agreement is really a victory for the former Miss Gould, as under it the count waived all rights to interfere in the education of the children and solemnly promises to leave the care of their mother until they reach legal age.

Curia Finally Satisfied. At first this arrangement failed to please authorities of the curia, who maintained that the question of religious education of the children was of the greatest importance, and threatened the count to disclaim the suit, leaving matters in statu quo unless he produced sufficient evidence to show that he had fully safeguarded the spiritual interests of his boys, and under the rules of the church relating to mixed marriages, no such agreement was brought up in the Catholic hall.

At the request of both the count and the Vatican, a thorough investigation was then made by the Catholic authorities of Paris, under the direction of Cardinal the Archbishop Amette himself. The facts now ascertained are said to represent a complete vindication of Miss Gould's good faith, as well as to her noble and unselfish motives which led to her appeal in defense of the suit. This investigation also revealed that the American woman had respected the letter and spirit of the prenuptial agreement in a touching and admirable manner.

Whether the result of the investigation will be confirmed in the final decision of the rota, is unknown, but the former Miss Gould is said to be determined to exact a full retraction of the defamatory statements made by the rota president in the second division and also to have the facts set in their true light before the public of both Europe and America.

Charge Found Untrue. What is now said is that the Paris investigation has shown in the strongest light that the charge preferred against the Princess Talleyrand by Prince Delacro and Count Boni's brother, of having gone to the altar with the mental reservation to break every pledge sworn to in the prenuptial agreement, is at least untrue.

Regarding the religious education of the offspring, which they called to examine the facts the prelates detailed by Cardinal Amette ascertained that since the day she remarried, the education of the Castellane children had been entrusted to a Catholic priest as tutor and guardian, and that they are as devout and pious as the children of any papal family in Rome. A number of friends of both parties are negotiating an agreement in order to avoid future litigation.

SENTENCE SHOCKS SOCIETY

Baron Bismarck, Slayer of Prince Lubekki, Gets Heavy Term.

Special Cable to The Washington Herald. St. Petersburg, July 4.—The sentence of four years imprisonment on Baron Bismarck, whose wife is a relative of Princess Dorothy Radziwili, nee Deacon, for the murder of Prince Lubekki, has created a profound sensation among his many society friends.

The baron killed the prince after a heated altercation caused by the dead man's unwelcome attentions to the Baroness Bismarck.

The sentence, which carries with it loss of all privileges as a member of the nobility, also of his entailed estates which pass to his six-month-old son, is to be appealed, but under the Russian system it will be at least a year before the appeal is finally settled.

Next Sunday the discussion of the occult side of Christianity will be continued.

MUSIC AND MUSICIANS

The pupils of the piano and vocal departments of the Columbia Conservatory of Music, gave a very interesting recital last Tuesday night at St. Stephens Parish Hall. Edwin R. Harp is principal of the conservatory, and H. E. Patisson is in charge of the vocal department. The following program was presented: Piano—Four Hands, "Spanish Dance" (Mozart), Misses Louise and Mary Gomez; piano solo, "Traumeri" (Schumann), Miss Elsie White; piano solo, "Fifth Nocturne" (Leybach), Miss Grace Van Horn; piano solo, "Nocturne" in E flat, (Chopin), Mr. Glenn Colcord; vocal solo, "Carmina," Miss Sadie Lippy; piano solo, "Valse" in E flat (Lyle C. True), Master Victor Beauchamp; piano solo, "A Spring Morning" (Thompson), Miss Florence Walter; piano solo, "Minnies Waltz" (Streaberg), Master Harold Luber; piano solo, "Minuet" (Paderewski), Miss Mary Gomez; vocal solo, "Eyes That Used to Gaze in Mine," "Time Was I Roved the Mountain," (Schubert), Mrs. Royal Foster; piano solo, "Evening Bell" (Kullak), Miss Cleo Tamplin; piano solo, "Faust" (Gounod), Miss Mildred Pines; piano solo, "Scherzo No. 2" (Chopin), Miss Louise Gomez; vocal solo, selected, Mr. Warren W. Grimes; the piano Miss Helen Camp; piano solo, "Thou Art Repose" (Schubert-Liszt), Miss Helen Morris; piano solo, "Tarrantella" in A flat (Heller), Miss Marie Van Ock; vocal solo, "A Gypsy Maiden," (H. J. Parker).

Miss Estelle Murray, at the piano; Mr. Saltzman; piano solo, "La Cinquantaine" (Gabriel Marie), Mr. Clarence Colcord; piano solo, "Humoresque" (Dvorak), Master Theo. Lasagne; piano solo, "Sons of Amour" (Von Blon), Carl Goussard; piano solo, "Three For Jack" (Leighter), Mr. Eugene Walter; piano solo, "Prelude" in C sharp (Rachmaninoff), Miss Helen Camp.

Miss Helen MacLeod sang the offertory solo at the First Presbyterian Church last Sunday morning and will substitute this morning at the Calvary Methodist Church, singing "Like as the Heart," by Allisten.

The management of the Boston Symphony Orchestra has definitely closed its subscription books for two series of five concerts each which the orchestra will give in New York next season. Carnegie Hall is entirely sold out for both series. For both series there were less than one hundred seats that could be allotted to new subscribers after the renewals had been allotted to subscribers of last season. There is still a long waiting list of applicants for seats and some of these applications are two years old. This state of affairs is naturally gratifying to the friends of the Boston Symphony Orchestra, showing, as it does, the great esteem in which the orchestra is held in a city like New York which is overwhelmed in a season by orchestral music.