

**"RELIGION A LIFE."**

(Continued from page 10.)

believe must all be true that when we realize the facts of life as they are and have been, we stand amazed before them. Some lives indeed have been wrecked, but the bulk of the lives which have been of the sort that are born from above, have come thru it all, now clinging to this idea, and now to that. Thru it all the steady, and divinely informed stream of life has made progress. The saints have escaped as the redeemed who washed their robes in the blood of the Lamb. Should I say, "Like the redeemed," who have washed their robes in the blood of the lamb?" No this is not correct. They are the redeemed themselves. As John says these are they which come out of the great tribulation, and they washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. Therefore are they before the throne of God." It seems to me that these words were spoken of those who have been trying to let the life within, live, those who have struggled on, dodging, first this way and that, both to avoid danger and to secure a safe footing. These are they who were safe not because of perfect beliefs alone and the permanency of their positions, but because of the bubbling, struggling and onward pushing life within which insisted on finding a way of living. The vital thing was not the belief alone by which life lived, but the life that wanted something by which to live for the time being, at least. Only as we come to grasp this truth can we see how the human soul can live on with so much error coupled with its so-called truth. We believe something but usually it is only part of the truth, or a little more than the same. In this condition what is it that saves us, and enables us to make progress? We are saved by the life within, which knows its destiny sufficiently to hold itself in the right direction. The soul's aim and its insistence on realizing that aim, its life and growing pushing ability, is the thing wherein lies safety. Not all our beliefs will be absolutely pure and beyond correction as time passes by. Error no doubt has always been a part of your belief and mine, thru it all the soul life, unrecognized by us, has been of the kind that wormed itself forward in spite of some error, thus coming to a more perfect knowledge. Like the plant, again, which insists on growing even where the odds are against it, so the soul has gone on in its life. Living, in fact, is much like the conduct of one trying to escape the bullets of an enemy in the forest, first this tree and then that serves as a protection until at last a sufficient distance has been placed between the enemy and the fleeing man. The various trees were not very good protection but they were the best devisable. The trees were not the things being defended but the life which was bent on getting into safe cover. The trees and the enemy were all in the woods, but the life struggling for safety was mightier than the woods, and it was the thing which was making for safety. The winding course of a stream which worms its way around hills thru woods and across plains which seem to be constantly presenting insurmountable obstacles, nicely illustrates the action of the life which is born from above. As we behold the stream with its serpentine course, we almost wonder how it is that it has not gotten lost, and forgotten the great sea the beckoning of which it has seen. A stream never loses its way. It takes a long time and covers a considerable territory sometimes, but it never gives up, the energies of all its volume push it forward, and some time after a long and tedious struggle against the uncertainties of its course, it will lay its weary head on the great bosom of the deep and in a short time will be lulled into peaceful sleep. The drawing of the sea and the force of its own body has held it on its way. Sometimes the opposing banks have seemed insurmountable, but it has only waited and deepened, until at last it was able to make its obstacle the generator of strength sufficient to conquer. Again across its way, there has been hurled steep precipices as if to try its faith and confidence. Precipices never stop a stream. With one mighty leap it rushes into the seeming abyss, only to find that the leap of faith was the way to new life, and all its energies for the time spent in dancing and sparkling midst the spray of a new hope.

The winding and uncertain way has not destroyed the life of the river. When it comes to the sea it brings more volume because of the length of its course. It will flow deeper and fuller of meaning because of the trying course which it has traveled. So is your life and mine, in Christ. Many are the uncertainties; many are the errors which we have faced but we have been saved because there was at the center of all our efforts a life making toward the great Sea of Gods, live, and Gods Life. We have scented the Divine, and by the gravity and inherent force aroused thereby we continue to rush onward in the direction

of a richer and a deeper life. Many obstacles present themselves to us, but the life kept alive will find a course for its channel. Error and darkness stand before us as great precipices at times still thru the inherent confidence and strength of our very life we grasp at that which seems to give signs of light and with one mighty leap of faith the life brings up in better condition than ever. Like the stream we go bounding on our way, not so much concerned that we could not prove all before we leapt, but glad that the life has bounded forward and grown better thereby. We have heard the words of the Master beckoning us onward and in response to the same we go forward to find that we can trust the life to come out right, if we will only keep it healthy and wholesome. It will make a way thru the error, ignorance and superstition of the world, and in it is our hope. This soul of man energized and properly motivated by the Christ is the marvel of the ages. It has insisted in going forward. Men have argued against it and caused it to stand dumb before them from the logical standpoint, but still, it has been true to itself and insisted on breaking the bounds which would hold it from light and liberty. It has turned a deaf ear to the appeals of unbelief, and while it can not prove it, has said because He lives, I shall live also." It has consented because of the very life within itself to be placed in very perplexing positions, and often undefeatable positions from any standpoint but that of life. It has always been unconsciously convinced that the argument for its position and its method is to be found in the inscrutable mysteries of the life itself which insists in making room for itself. This is the well of water springing up within the disciples of Christ. It will live and because it lives it will find its way, and never tire in its seemingly endless task. It will only cease its efforts when the Son who hath given unto men such life says "Well done thou good and faithful servant," and rest can be sought in Him who has the truth and the way.

It is easy for us to lose sight of this truth and put our supreme faith in our beliefs and moral codes alone. Life is a very subtle thing it acts and never leaves itself very conscious of itself, and the part it plays. We must not forget that a living, acting something is there, a life within springing up toward certain ends. The beliefs which we hold and prize so highly, as being of great value to life and essential to its development, are not the only things in which we should place confidence. It seems to me if you have grasped my thought you will see that there is even a better anchor for life in the life itself. The life believing and trying to shape itself toward certain ends is a reality, and the most definite one of which you and I have any knowledge. This is the one thing which abides so far as we are concerned. God abides but our that of him changes. The inner life abides, and we can rest in it as the most certain fact with which we have to do. We have some use for moral codes, but they are meaningless to you and me as Christians unless we have come to the place where the very life of our soul is able to devise and determine upon good things and to see the good even in the deeds named in the code. As indicated above we are not to have a law for every act. We have to know enough to do something right, and if we have life touched and inspired by the Divine we will be able to measure up in this respect. Religion is to be an inspiration a giver of wholesome and properly directed life. It is to be that which puts the soul in possession of itself for the working out of its destiny. Consider our beliefs; our safety is not in our ability to prove that they are as a whole without error. They may change for us as they have for many others. If they do it will not harm us if they change under the demands of the life within which is trying to live by the same. Our insight is not perfect and our knowledge as much as we dislike to admit is not perfect. Paul got this right when he said: "Whether there be prophecies they shall be done away whether there be tongues they shall cease; whether there be knowledge it shall be done away; for we know in part and we prophesy in part." All our beliefs are only crutches upon which the life limps along toward the perfect goal. The thing we are trying to develop is not merely a defendable belief but rather a dependable and worthy life. We have often repaired and improved our belief crutches, always however because the life knows what will serve it better as it goes on in its development.

Absolute knowledge is not necessary for life to grow. Had it been we would long since have been stranded on the shores of time. These beliefs are our tools with which we work out the life, and as time and experience increase we discover where we can better them. The thing we want to put our unbounded confidence in is the worth and the trust-

worthiness of the life begun and lived in Christ. Our trust is not in the tools, alone, but in the being which works with the tools.

In conclusion then it would seem that religion must be looked upon as the birth and development of a strong inner life under Divine stimulus and inspiration. And this life properly guarded and nurtured can be trusted to make its way thru the ever changing environment thru which it moves, and in which it is to find its expression. If this can be fully grasped, we have an anchor that we know will remain sure as the God who leads. Men may talk about changed conceptions and modified beliefs, without disturbing our peace. We with our divinely informed life within are the permanent things. We may change our coat of belief, if need be, and indeed as long as there is real life at the center, change will no doubt be necessary, for life like boys, outgrows some of its clothes. The vital thing is to hold to the possibility of life, and cling to Him who has promised to give it. "In Him was life and the life was the light of men," and he who drags his sin-ridden soul out into the beneficent rays of the Son of Righteousness, will soon begin to feel the well springs of a new life surging up with power and beauty before unknown.

**FROM THURSDAY'S DAILY**  
Thursday, March 27.

Mrs. Frank Flora is reported to be lying very ill at her home in the city.

Today is a nice sunny day. Not at all disagreeable and some of the feeling of spring.

Among those who were here last evening from Fingal to attend the Masonic Ball were Messrs and Mesdames C. W. Pollock and C. E. Batchelor.

Dr. and Mrs. Spicer, of Litchville, were among the out of town guests here last evening at the Masonic party.

Supt. and Mrs. Roberts, and the Misses Hazel Stevens and Laura Livingstone came up from Tower City last evening to attend the Ball.

Wimbledon was represented at the Masonic Ball last evening by Messrs and Mesdames Art Swartwout, W. O. Joos, Peter Poste, E. Evenson and C. Simons.

Articles of Incorporation have been issued to the Swedish Evangelical Church of this city. The three trustees for the corporation are Swan Johnson, Theodore Danielson and Chas. S. Johnson all of Valley City.

Miss Bessie Butterfield is expected home Saturday from Breckinridge, Minn., where she is an instructor in the city schools, and will spend a week with relatives.

Miss Florence McDonald will arrive home tomorrow night from LaMoure, where she is teaching, to spend a week's vacation here with relatives and friends.

Clarence McCulloch of Fargo was an attendant at the Masonic Ball last evening and was the guest, with in the city of Mr. and Mrs. Arleigh Miller.

E. R. Wanner, who is now at Bis marck where he is acting as secretary to the board of control, arrived in town last night to visit with his family and attend the Masonic Ball. Mr. Wanner reports everything in the capitol city as being quiet and stated that he might move the family there about the first of June.

Manager Boyd of the Arena has made arrangements with the managers of the "Arrival of Kitty" company for a benefit performance here when they appear here. The company will contribute one-third of the total door receipts for the evening to the flood sufferers. This is generous on the part of the company as well as the opera house management and no doubt will meet with a cordial response from show patrons.

Mr. and Mrs. Turner More of Wimbledon came down last evening to attend the Masonic Ball. Turner it will be remembered was in the general mercantile business up there at one time and is the only man in the state who ever attempted to promote, an inland light house proposition. This business venture was undertaken, in Eddy county and Turner never tires of telling his friends of the prospect. At present Mr. More is conducting one of the neatest little refreshment places in this county, at Wimbledon, and it is reported that the public has discovered that he is the man that puts "more" in ice cream and as a result his place has become very popular.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Walsh of Lethbridge, Canada, are the proud parents of a fine baby boy. Mother and little one are getting along nicely.

**Spring is Here!—Are You Ready?**

# **PAINT-VARNISH-CALCOMINE**



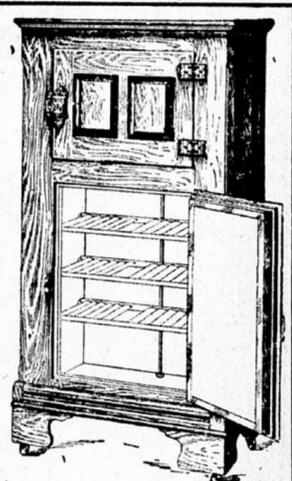
It is time for painting, varnishing and calcomining. In every home some part is in need of retouching. A little paint or varnish on the woodwork or calcomine or in the flat finish paint on the walls will help a great deal in making the home cheerful. Paint is cheaper than for several years. We have Blood's paint and **Blood Makes Good Paint**. Also remember **MURESCO** is the calcomine that gives satisfaction and is only 8c a pound. Our varnish is the best and price right.

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## **REFRIGERATORS**

### **OIL AND GASOLINE STOVES**

It is also time to get a warm weather stove to keep the woman folks cool and sweet and a refrigerator to keep your food cool and sweet. We carry a fine line of stoves and you will find our prices right. They run from \$3.00 to \$35.00. Our refrigerators are the **ALASKA** and **ENAMEL** on them is **BAKED ON** not **PAINTED**. That means they are more healthy and clean.



## **The American Fence and Steel Posts are the Best**

We have the American Fencing and it is the fence that will stand the test. It is the fence that is heavier and stronger than the rest and weight and strength considered you will find it the cheapest. The steel posts will last a life time and require no staples. We will soon have a car of this celebrated fence and wire nails and it will pay you to see us before doing your fencing.

*Remember the place, East Main Street*

# **Berg & Benson, Hardware**

### **Farmer Committed Suicide Last Monday**

Swan Johnson, a farmer living three miles west and four miles south of Fingal committed suicide last Monday by cutting his throat, first with a draw shave and later with a table knife. Every evidence goes to prove that the man was insane as he had been in a state of melancholia ever since he returned from St. Paul where he went about ten days ago to consult an eminent doctor who told him that his disease was incurable.

His first attempt to end his life was unsuccessful as a doctor was called and sewed up the gashes cut in the back of his neck and chest. The deceased had become so weakened through the loss of blood that it was not supposed he could not rise from his bed yet when the doctor had left and those watching him had got out of his sight he got up and walked into the kitchen where he secured a table knife and slashed his throat again.

Mr. Johnson was a man well liked by his neighbors and up until just recently had been perfectly rational. He came to this county about five years ago from Sweden and has lived on the farm on which he died ever since.

# **Horse Remedies**

## **and Foods**

All the best foods and remedies are carried by this drug store. You can order by phone or mail if you are in a hurry for delivery. Here are a few of them with prices:

Colic Remedy 50c and \$1.	Liniments 50c and \$1.
Heave Powders 50c.	Healing Powder 50c and \$1.
Distemper Remedy 50c.	Stock Foods 25c to \$3.50.

*Further List on Application*

## **CITY DRUG STORE**

"The Store of Better Values"

**C. N. MCGILLIVRAY, Proprietor**

Free Delivery  
Main Street, Valley City, No. Dak.

Phone 180

### **Rex Theatre's Benefit Proves Success**

LARGE AUDIENCE SEES "FALL OF TROY"—SUBSTANTIAL SUM RAISED.

(From Monday's Daily.)

Under the auspices of the Civic Improvement League of Valley City, the Rex theatre yesterday afternoon gave a more than successful benefit for the fire and flood sufferers of Ohio and Indiana.

The net sum realized was a trifle more than sixty dollars, and this amount will be forwarded today. A great many business men bought tickets who were unable to attend, and on this account the theatre was not filled as it otherwise would have been. The attendance was largely women and children, including many Normal school students, who however thoroughly enjoyed the entertainment.

C. F. Mudgett is spending several days at Washburn in the interests of the briquetting company in which he is interested.

### **Progressive Farmer Expresses Political Views**

LITCHVILLE MAN CONDEMNNS GOVERNOR KRAABEL FOR VOTE ON INITIATIVE AND REFERENDUM.

S. J. Aandahl, one of the oldest of the old timers of Barnes county, is spending the day in the city with Mrs. Aandahl, on a business and shopping mission, and is registered at the Rudolf hotel. Mr. Aandahl, states that the farmers about Litchville, are preparing for spring farming, but that work in the fields will be impossible for some time, as the fields are covered with water. Elliot Gusaas, who is operating a large farm near Litchville accompanied Mr. Aandahl here, and both gentlemen are looking for help on their places for the spring and summer's work. Regarding politics, Mr. Aandahl who was a strong progressive republican, during the last campaign, has very little to say. He condemns Lieut. Governor Kraabel, however, for his vote on the initiative and referendum bill in the last legislature, and expresses his belief that if Mr. Kraabel is the kind of progressiveness which it is necessary to espouse to belong to that faction, he prefers to align himself under some other political banner.

Miss Florence Winterer of Valley City, N. D., who will be the maid of honor at the wedding of Miss Margaret Benton, and Miss Marie Confer, one of the bridesmaids, will give a tea Tuesday at the home of Miss Confer. Several surprise parties have been planned.—Minneapolis Tribune.