

Christmas Exercise

Children Take Unusual Interest In Sunday School Preparations

Christmas Programs Are Found by Teachers to Have a Fine Influence on the Year's Work; They Doubt Fable About Children Taking Interest Only Before Christmas, Claiming Attendance Equally Good After Holidays.

As the date with the red circle around it marking the Merry Christmas season approaches, the faithful among the Sunday school workers of the city are spending much of their spare time in preparing and drilling the classes for the annual Christmas program.

Reports from all the Sunday schools show that unusual interest is being taken by the children in this work and the Christmas exercises this year promise to surpass the splendid ones which have been given in the past.

The old fable about children taking interest only before Christmas, claiming attendance equally good after holidays.

Junior department; Mrs. W. E. Dawson, superintendent of visitation and home department; Mrs. N. M. Bretney, superintendent of cradle roll; S. Crowley, secretary; W. R. Hannaford, treasurer.

Active preparations are being made in the Sunday school of the First Christian church for a splendid Christmas entertainment and tree.

Want to Get Into New Church. Much interest is being shown in the First Methodist Sunday school by the prospect of getting into the new church before summer.

The following were elected at the December board meeting to serve as officers for 1914: Miss Jessie King, superintendent; C. H. Appleton, first assistant superintendent; Mrs. S. H. McMullin, superintendent of the primary department; Mrs. C. H. Appleton, superintendent of the

Sentence Sermons By El Paso Ministers

JOHN THE BAPTIST has been called a preacher with one sermon, but it was straight and to the point—Rev. Henry Easter, of St. Clement's Episcopal church.

Some folk seem to think they are conferring a great honor on the Lord when they offer their services to him. The fact is that we are highly honored when God is willing to accept our feeble efforts.—Rev. Herman G. Porter, of the First Methodist church.

While a single disciple of Christ, living in a community of unbelievers, could worship God acceptably beneath the shadow of his own vine and fig tree; yet a half hundred disciples living in the same community could worship Him more acceptably by coming together in one place than by staying at home and each trying to worship alone. Hence the command: "Neglect not the assembling of yourselves together."—Rev. J. H. Allen, of Austin Park Christian church.

"In the quickening of trade, in the stirring pulse of the whole world during the Christmas season, a blind man ought to recognize the power of Christ."—Rev. W. C. Baber, of Altura Presbyterian church.

That such a one as the Messiah should appear in the course of the unfolding of God's plan is implicit in all the Hebrew writings.—Rev. Perry J. Rice, of First Christian church.

God and the universe are on the side of progress; the very elements that seem to war with one another without purpose, keep and exercise their gigantic potentialities to help man in his onward march through the ages.—Rev. John E. Abbot, of the Westminster Presbyterian church.

It was the work of the Holy Ghost for Paul and in Paul which enabled him to say: "I live, yet not I, but Christ liveth in me."—Rev. C. W. Weddell, of the Trinity Methodist church.

God's image, found in man, cannot be the physical machine, miscalled "man"—we must search deeper. It would not surprise me, in the last analysis, if the "image" should be found within the mento-moral and spiritual circle of being. The conscious and unconscious plane of mentality possesses heights and depths undreamed of by sage and philosopher.—Rev. Chas. H. Armstrong, of St. Paul's Lutheran church.

William Tell may never have actually lived but the ideals which have clustered around the ideal hero have been of inestimable value to Switzerland. So, so-called facts may or may not be truth, but the poetry thrown around them has been of great importance. As regards actual and ideal truth, the latter is immeasurably useful.—Rev. Miles Hanson, of the First Congregational church.

The giving part of this happy season is the thing that makes Christmas—"Christmas" and which really constitutes the Christmas spirit. I do not mean perfunctory giving or conventional giving, or giving to receive or giving because it is expected or because you expect others to give, but giving which has back of it a heart of love, a heart that longs to give.—Rev. Wallace R. Evans, of Highland Park Methodist church.

One of El Paso's greatest needs is a home and school for wayward and friendless girls. Every man should help the good women of the Rescue Home association in their effort to secure such an institution to the extent of his ability.—Rev. Kenneth Brown, of the East El Paso Presbyterian church.

He who fails to properly value the little things of life will never attain the great.—Rev. A. E. Boyd, of the Highland Park Baptist church.

Blessed indeed among women was Mary, the mother of Jesus, but still more highly favored is every one who, giving the will of the Father in heaven, is called the brother, sister, or mother of Jesus.—Rev. C. L. Overstreet, of the First Presbyterian church.

The exceeding sinfulness of unbelievers lies in the fact that it pours contempt upon the wisdom, love, sovereignty and veracity of God and slanders the character of Jesus Christ.—Rev. W. H. Duncan, of the Alta Vista Methodist church.

Sometimes when a brother is asked to give something to the Lord, he replies by saying, "I will give the widow's mite," disparaging the smallness of the widow's mite by comparison with the smallness of his own gift. The widow gave cheerfully and she gave heroically. That is, she gave all she had. Can such a brother find any similarity between the pittance which he gave from his abundance and the widow's colossal gift—all her living.—Rev. J. F. Williams, of the First Baptist church.

The gospel of Christ attacks sin, the root and source of man's woe, takes it away.—Rev. Paul G. Birkmann, of the German Lutheran church.

THEFTFUL Righteousness "Which Exalts A Nation," An Important Consideration

Future of the American Republic Depends Upon the Youth of the Country for Civic and Religious Progress.

By Rev. CHARLES H. ARMSTRONG, Ph. D., Pastor of St. Paul's Lutheran Church.

Text: "Remember Now Thy Creator in the days of thy youth."—Ecc. 12, verse one.

UR theme, "Youthful Righteousness," is an important consideration, at this period of race history, for all good and patriotic citizens of whatever political party or religious body.

It has not been possible for the juniors to have a room by themselves in the present church; but a superintendent has been provided in the person of Mrs. C. H. Appleton, and it is expected that the work will be so thoroughly organized by the time the new building is ready that it will start in its new quarters without a hitch.

Dr. G. N. Thomas has helped along the work by offering 50 cents a Sunday to the class that has the highest average collection. The money is applied to the purchase of a subscription to the new church.

Officers of the Highland Park Baptist Sunday school were elected Wednesday evening. J. H. Sanderson was elected superintendent; J. K. Griffith, assistant superintendent; Miss Willa McClure, secretary, and Miss Grace Robertson, treasurer.

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No longer the deeply learned flautist and courtier of the past, the young man of today is a different type of man. He has modified their once brilliant scientific men are ever the shining with the magnificent temple of faith.

Indeed, the following delverance of a well known scientist sounds more like an outburst of illumination from some theological school, leaving no room for doubt as to the author's bias.

It is worse than folly to deny a beneficent being, all loving, wise and glorious history, and the ideal ever created man a "spirit," in his image and likeness; nor can we escape the conclusion that earth life is but a brief span of years, at most, if not all, not our end.

It is not always the army winning the battle nor the individual triumphing in his adversity that is successful. Who really was successful at Thermopylae—Leonidas with his nameless 300, defeated, or Xerxes, with his vast host, victorious?

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Intelligence, mental work so that the hand and the time clock shall point to the hour of their death, they may be qualified to fully profit from it.

Remember the little "rod school house," a proverbial phrase now, is our strongest citadel, so far as civil fact extends, for the perpetuation of a republican form of government; education, mental, moral, spiritual, in the broadest application, is the crowning glory of this republic and of Anglo-Saxon Europe, while illiteracy is the supreme shame of the Latin, African and Asia.

Nations, systems and individuals, of past ages, entered the world lists, to battle for supremacy; but instead of erecting their superstructure upon such foundations of truth as had been revealed to them, they attempted to build on sand, of greed, dishonesty, unfaithfulness, false to "standards" of right, as defined by their ethical codes and creeds, the inevitable consequence was that outraged law flung their moribund dynasties into the nadir of oblivion, unable to longer endure the very zenith of national greatness.

It does not require a high grade prophet today to forecast this decay of the world, turning a blind eye to opportunity, blindly worshipping the material, turning a deaf ear to divine importation, through the Holy Spirit, our glory shall depart and time's annals refer to us as "have been."

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Protestants' Missionaries Not Disturbed in Mexico

Reports to Home Bodies Say Their Work Continues, Despite the Unsettled State of the Republic; Eight Catholic Cardinals May Be Chosen; Episcopalians May Elect Missionary Bishops.

MISSIONARIES in Mexico report, as a rule, that their work has been less interfered with by warlike conditions there than they would have expected. Practically all of them refuse to quit their posts.

The American Bible society reports that it has received a large number of bibles, with the full belief that they will be sold at previous shipments.

The Presbyterian church of Mexico, closely related to the other branches of the denomination, is strongest in Mexico City, and has repeatedly had the protection of the present government for its interests.

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consecrated in January. They are the Rev. E. Taylor, of Hagerstown, who goes to North Dakota; the Rev. F. H. Howden, of Georgetown, who goes to New Mexico; and Rev. C. R. Colmore, dean of the cathedral at Havana, who comes to the University of the South at Sewanee to be consecrated for Porto Rico. The last named will also have charge of Episcopal work in Hayti, whose bishop lately died.

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CHRISTMAS EVE IN THE SPANISH SOUTHWEST

By EDITH C. LANE, for The Herald.