

SUCH ARE THE STREETS OF THE CHILDREN

Such Are the Streets of the Children.

CURFEW LAW IS THE CURE

Rev. J. R. McClade Urges Its Enforcement to Preserve Parental Control and Prevent Children From Becoming Criminals.

"The Curfew Ordinance" was the topic of a sermon last night by Rev. Jerome R. McClade, of the Methodist Church, Powell street, the theme being timely, following as it did the parents' meeting held in this church Friday night by the Mothers' Club of the Brooklyn School. The effect of roaming the streets at night in debating the morals of children and often making criminals of them was the burden of the sermon. Mr. McClade said:

It may be said that modern life is not adapted to the curfew ordinance, which William the Conqueror is said to have introduced into England, when, at the ringing of the evening bell, the children were to retire to bed. But a limited curfew ordinance as it exists in this city and others, which requires boys and girls under 16 years of age to be indoors from the streets after 9 P. M., from October to March, and after 9 P. M. during the other months of the year, is of very great moral significance. The ordinance, which is so nearly enforced is not an argument against the provision of the law.

This is an age when the study of economics has become more diversified than ever before. Economics is a branch of study in the curriculum of colleges and universities, while the student is given graduate instruction in the fields of industry and life, and, perhaps, the loss is greater in human life because of lack of proper measures than in any other sphere. This is an age when the student is so nearly busy with business, social or professional interests.

A few years ago, Colonel Hagedorn, in an address before the members of the Legislature of Iowa, said that 150,000 struggling widows and tilling tradesmen whose sons and daughters were dear to them as those of the most wealthy parent were to their parents, had almost lost control over their children by reason of these children's association after nightfall upon the streets with a sparse vicious class of youths, until there was a succession of broken hearts and desolated lives.

Official reports show that during a certain year in 100 of the largest cities of our land 197,271 youths were arrested. Something of the waste in human life may be estimated from these figures. The education which the boy or girl receives on the street in the night school is always of a low and degrading kind. From this school large classes graduate into the criminal world. The character is tainted, the ideals are low, the associations vulgar in the extreme. One who had been superintendent of the Wisconsin Industrial School for boys, during his three years' term, had excellent opportunity for knowing what were the principal causes of the downfall of boys committed to that institution, and he was convinced that one principal cause was unlimited street roving after dark, while subsequent years of study of social problems had strengthened this conviction.

"The parent in the place of God to the child"—the above statement, made at the parents' meeting on Friday evening, in this church, is one which will be of great value to the parent who holds the key to the destiny of the child. Without the parent's sympathy and co-operation, the work done among the children in the church and Sunday school avails little. God lays the responsibility of the future welfare of the child upon the father and mother; and any failure on their part involves them as to responsibility.

The curfew ordinance drives back across the threshold of the home, when enforced, the boy and girl into the heat of home and the warmth of its embrace and the strength of its protection. It lays the responsibility of the child upon the parent again. It keeps boys and girls out of the streets, where they learn that in our city's jail and Police Court most pathetic scenes are witnessed frequently. It prevents children from becoming criminals. It is the words of another: "Early prevention is the most effective reform. Reform schools do much good, but it is infinitely better and more economical to prevent crime than to deal with it after it has fallen from a reformer than to reform them after they have fallen."

It is related of a certain magician that he had the power to transform bright boys into idiots. A certain mother consented to have the experiment tried upon her son, and she watched while the intelligent look faded from the boy's face and a blank stare took its place. Her boy had become transformed into an idiot. In haste she brought the magician to undo his work, but he shook his head and said: "The boy's mind has been taken out of bright boys, he had no power to transform idiots into bright boys. And this baneful transforming influence is a far wider war constantly being waged by the streets, and over into the criminal nature and the debased character.

Whether the curfew ordinance will be or can be enforced, God says to us who are parents: "Train up your child in the way he should go; hedge him upon the mouth of his way, and when he is old he will not depart from it."

SENSATION IN PULPIT. Dr. Cressey Attributes It to Need of Sustaining Interest.

At the Unitarian Church yesterday morning the pastor, Rev. George Croswell Cressey, D. D., spoke on the topic, "Dignity vs. Sensation in the Pulpit." Dr. Cressey spoke in part substantially as follows: The growing tendency to sensation in the pulpits of certain denominations is not incidental and fortuitous; it is not the result of personal ambition or desire for cheap popularity. It has a psychological basis and a definite occasion. This occasion is found in the waning belief in the creeds, and in the fact that it is the universal tendency of institutions to seek to intrude and perpetuate themselves at the expense of human welfare. All institutions of a permanent character are founded upon a necessity or truth of human nature, but their efforts for self-preservation or aggrandizement are often at the expense of the essential truth for which they stand.

The same principle is amply illustrated in our own current political history. When a party desires to profit directly or indirectly by some unjust statute or policy, the true nature of which the people are beginning to apprehend, it at once seeks to divert attention by the presentation of some new issue; it occasionally appeals to the passions to shield the evils of which they know rather than risk the control of the Government in the hands of its opponents. Such devices generally succeed for a time, but the day of reckoning comes at last, often with a "tidal wave" of indignation. Exactly the same principle is applied, though more subtly and indirectly, in the life and economy of the church. The Rev. James Martineau in his "Seal of Authority in Religion," at the close of a profound and relentless exposure of the nature of the dogmas of the church: "For their long array of debt to the intelligence of mankind it seeks to make amends by elaborate beauty of ritual art. The apologetic speeches for a time, but it will not last forever."

This applies especially, of course, to the ritualistic and liturgical Church of England. True, it is that it cannot "last" true in the nature of things. For the scientific, intellectual and of the highest value, as it is, in the human constitution, is impermanent. The peculiar influence and inspiration lie in the fact that it is thus impermanent in distinction from thought and ethics, which have, the one its origin, the other its application, solely in the life of the individual. But religion is personal; its permanent foundation must be in conviction; its fruit, in character. The non-ritualistic Protestant churches, however, have sought and are seeking now to avoid produced by wanting belief in the creeds by other devices and in other ways. These vary

WRECK OF THE GRAND-AVENUE BRIDGE ACROSS SULLIVAN'S GULCH



—Werschell Photo.

In time and place, but problems among them as these methods of preaching, usually, among the laity, induce him to come again to see what the preacher will say or do next, which may be summarized under the term "sensation." There is a certain type of sensational preaching which, from its own point of view, is commendable, the sensation in which Jonathan Edwards indulged when at Danford, Conn., he portrayed to his hearers the doom of the sinner in the hands of an angry God, the sensation which springs from deep conviction, and is found not in the manner, but in the matter. But this is not the sensation of the modern pulpit; this consists, for the most part, in ingenious use of colloquialisms, even slang, in illustration of word and voice, and, perhaps, of body, which monopolize the attention of the auditor—in short, in manifold devices which may serve to entertain, but do not edify. The term, however, needs no explanation. The cultivated and refined recognize it at once; it offends no religious purpose, in no wise offends the individual, and in the end, it leaves the hearer with a more fervent, humble, devout, should be the words and manner of him who speaks to others of the mysterious, the inscrutable, the divine.

CHURCHES FEAR SALOONS.

Mr. Stone Says They Have Power to Crush, But Aren't Use It.

A. Foster Stone, a National W. C. T. U. lecturer, spoke yesterday morning in the Hassalo-Street Congregational Church, where he was introduced by Mrs. L. H. Addison and in the evening in the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, under the auspices of the Multnomah County W. C. T. U. Mr. Stone is a very forcible and pleasing speaker, and at times is eloquent. In his lecture at the Hassalo-Street Congregational Church the gist of his argument was to the effect that the members of the churches in the land hold the balance of power, and could by a united effort, if they so desired, crush the saloon. He declared that there were 6,000,000 votes in the churches, and in their hands the saloon was safe; they had no more backbone than a shooting star, and with them everything was for or against the saloon. He pointed out that the churches in the land have 6,000,000 votes and the saloon power has 1,000,000, to show that the churches have the power to crush the saloon.

LIFTING THE BURDEN.

Memorial Evangelical Church in a Debt-Paying Campaign.

Rev. P. J. Green, pastor of the Memorial Evangelical Church, East Eighteenth and Tibbets streets, is in the midst of a debt-paying campaign, with good prospects of winning out. The original debt was \$700, which had stood over the church and since 1883, or ever since the church was completed by Rev. L. S. Fisher. No pastor ever undertook to reduce it until Mr. Green was appointed pastor three years ago, and it was not until last Summer, Children's day, that he made the start, raising about \$200 in subscriptions. Mr. Green said yesterday that \$600 of the debt had now been paid, and about \$200 more had been pledged. Something over \$300 had been raised from the friends of the church through the mails. Letters were mailed to friends asking for small contributions and also for the names of five or six friends who would be likely to contribute, with the result that hundreds of small contributions were received from this source. Mr. Green hopes to nearly complete the work of paying off the debt by the time of conference, which meets in Jefferson May 12.

TWO CHINESE BAPTIZED.

Episcopal Service in Both English and Chinese at St. Marks.

At St. Mark's Episcopal Church, last night two young Chinese men from the Chinese Episcopalian Mission, Lung Wing and Jack Kan, received holy baptism and thus became members of that church. Rev. E. N. Simpson, the pastor of St. Mark's, was assisted by Rev. Leo To, the native minister in charge of the mission. Mr. To interpreted the service, so that the baptism was performed in both English and Chinese. It has generally been the custom to hold baptismal services at the missions, but Mr. Simpson is of the opinion that the church is the proper place, and that when these converts understand enough of the Christian religion to wish to be baptized, they should become church members. Quite a number of converted Chinese were present.

New Central Christian Church.

Rev. John F. Ghormley, D. D., who had just returned from a five-weeks' visit to San Jose, Cal., occupied the pulpit of the new Central Christian Church, of Sunnyside, yesterday morning and evening. Services were held in the hall on East Thirty-fourth and Taylor streets. The church has been incorporated with Dr. O. C. Blaney, Isaac Pearson and H. B. Morgan as trustees, and has 25 members. These trustees will adopt plans next Thursday evening. The new society has a quartet block on East Thirtieth and Salina streets, where a tabernacle will soon be built.

WILD DEEDS OF THE STORM

(Continued from First Page.)

The Ladd tract, being put up by R. L. Cate & Co., was wrecked. Here and there frames of dwellings which the builders had failed to properly brace were pushed out of line.

On the corner of Corbett and Gibbs streets, in South Portland, a big oak tree was blown down and the water main along the street were burst. As a result a number of houses in that vicinity were without water all day.

On Raleigh between Twenty-fourth and Twenty-fifth streets a row of trees was blown down and the street was completely blocked for a time. In numerous other places single trees were blown across the sidewalks and sections of fences were knocked down.

The telephone company is sadly handicapped by wires that have been put out of commission. Yesterday morning the only long distance wire that could be operated was the one to Vancouver. During the day some of the others were put in order, but they were only working by town last night. In the city there are about 150 lines out on the East Side and 150 on the West Side. Repair gangs were kept busy all day yesterday, both in the city and the country, looking up the damaged wires and repairing them. The company expects to have everything in working order by tonight.

The weather office issued the following statement yesterday afternoon relative to the movement of the storm: The storm which passed eastward over this district during the last 24 hours is now central over Montana. It has caused general precipitation in the North Pacific States and in California and heavy rain in Washington. Light snow is falling this evening in Southeastern Idaho.

The winds west of the Cascades diminished during the storm, but to the east of the range of mountains, especially in Eastern Washington, they have continued high during the night. The following maximum wind velocities were reported: 40 miles, southwest; 36 miles, southwest; Seattle, 34 miles, south; and Pocatello, 26 miles, southwest. The telegraph lines were down in the Columbia river, and the maximum wind velocity at North Head is not known at this office.

SOME LOSS AT SALEM.

Goods Were Damaged When the Roofs Were Torn Off.

SALEM, March 20 (Special).—Reports from the city here show that damage in this vicinity by yesterday's storm will not exceed \$100 to \$200. In business-houses from which tin roofs were blown, the merchandise was damaged, and in some cases the roofs with tin paper, so that goods were not injured. The Breymann block, in which is located Stockton's drygoods store, was considerably damaged by the water soaking and loosening the plaster. A chimney on the Breymann block blew down, and in falling crashed through the roof of the Chicago Clothing Store adjoining.

Wind, Rain, Hail and Snow.

INDEPENDENCE, Or., March 20 (Special).—The heaviest wind storm experienced here began at about 2:30 yesterday afternoon and continued all day and most of the night. It was followed by heavy rain, hail and snow. Telephone, telegraph and electric light wires are all down, and the city is in total darkness. Considerable property was damaged.

Rain Fell in Sheets.

ALBANY, Or., March 20 (Special).—A terrific storm raged over Albany yesterday afternoon and last evening, the wind

blowing a gale, accompanied in the evening with sheets of rain. Considerable damage was done by the high wind. Wires both south and north of Albany were prostrated, rendering communication impossible with other cities of the valley.

The big flagpole on the W. C. T. U. Hall was broken off, the buildings in Chinatown were damaged, one having part of its roof blown away, and many trees in the eastern part of the city were uprooted.

Gale Along the Coast.

ASTORIA, Or., March 20 (Special).—While there was another heavy southwest gale along the coast yesterday afternoon and last evening, the storm did not strike this city until after midnight, when there were several severe wind and hail squalls. The barometer dropped very rapidly yesterday, but at 10:30 last evening it turned and went up 15 points within an hour and is still rising gradually.

Early last evening all the telegraph wires were blown down about 20 miles east of here and the city was cut off from communication by wire until this afternoon.

Shade Trees Blown Down.

OREGON CITY, Or., March 20 (Special).—Last night's severe wind storm did general, though not extensive, damage in this section. Shadestrees were blown down, signs displaced, electric and telephone wires rendered useless and street car service interrupted.

Near Riley's Station, on the O. W. & R. Co.'s line, a large tree was blown across the track and the wires were detached. The operation of the cars was delayed for several hours.

Rain Accompanied Wind Storm.

FOREST GROVE, Or., March 20 (Special).—The severest storm began early last night. About all the damage which was done, though, was the breaking of telephone and electric light wires by trees being blown over and falling on them. A heavy downpour of rain was present during most of the time of the wind storm.

Wires Generally Prostrated.

MINNIVILLE, Or., March 20 (Special).—A severe storm began early last evening with a high wind that took out nearly all the telephone lines, tore down signs and did considerable damage to roofs. Early in the night the wind was accompanied by a heavy downpour of rain that has continued ever since, with an occasional flurry of snow.

No Damage at Eugene.

EUGENE, Or., March 20 (Special).—The storm of yesterday afternoon and last night effected no damage in this vicinity, although the wind was quite severe at times. The foothills surrounding the valley were covered with snow this morning.

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