

EASTER SERMON WHITE TEMPLE

Dr. Brouger Declares One Word Enough to Destroy Faith in Christianity.

PAUL'S QUESTION IS THE CRUCIAL POINT

"If the Christ Be Not Risen" Is Answered by the Fact That the Savior Did Rise Triumphant From the Tomb.

The Easter services at the White Temple yesterday were fully in keeping with the spirit of the day. Lilies were much in evidence, and the decorations throughout, the work of Mrs. Brouger and Mrs. T. Papworth, were much admired. In the morning Rev. J. Whitcomb Brouger, D.D., spoke on "Easter Joy," and in the evening, following an Easter cantata, "The Resurrection," his subject was "If." He spoke in part as follows:

"The fifteenth chapter of I Corinthians is Paul's great classic on the resurrection. Here he marshals the arguments one after another like the regiments of a great army, and moves on to the triumphant conclusion, 'Thanks be to God which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.' But in the midst of this great argument he presents an appalling supposition with the little word 'if' introducing it. He says 'If Christ be not risen?' We stand almost aghast at the very thought. There are some things so tremendously vital to our welfare that we do not like to suppose for one minute that they might not be true. It is thus with the resurrection of Jesus Christ. It is utterly impossible to exaggerate the importance of the question. Upon it hangs the hope of the human race. Upon it hinges the history of the civilized world for 20 centuries. About it gather the great events of life in the past and in the present. All life is affected by this tremendous fact. The generations that have already moved on to the great hereafter and the generations that are yet to follow, their destiny wrapped up in the fact of the resurrection. The existence of the church, the unity of mankind, the fundamental truths of Christianity and the destiny that awaits each of us are all controlled by the truth of the resurrection. It is the key that unlocks the mystery of death and reveals to us the glory of eternity. If there was no resurrection there is no Christ.

"Paul shows some of the results of such a supposition. 'If Christ be not risen then our preaching is vain.' This is absolutely true. On the supposition that Christ has not risen from the dead our proclamation of the gospel of Christ would be simply idiotic twaddle. The whole scheme of Christian salvation stands or falls upon the truth or falsity of the resurrection of Jesus Christ. 'A person who professes to be a Christian and gives up the resurrection has only a silly superstition upon which to rest his faith. There is but one important miracle in the Bible and that is the resurrection. Take that from a Christian and to continue to believe in Christ as a divine Savior would be simply preposterous.

The Mission of Christ.
"God was in Christ reconciling the world unto himself. He came to give deliverance from sin. Christ died for

our sins according to the scriptures, and rose again the third day according to the scriptures. Upon the fact, therefore, of his resurrection depends the fact that he died for our sins. His power to forgive sins, his power to conquer sin, his power to transform character, all depends upon his power over death and the grave. If Christ be not risen, then the man who today is an abject slave of sin must go down to his grave without hope and without God. 'If Christ be not risen then is it true that we have no hope of meeting our loved ones in the eternal morning. If Christ be not risen then is Lowell right when he wrote:

"There is a narrow ridge in the graveyard. 'Twould scarce stay a child in his race. But to me in my thought it is wider Than the star-sown vague of space.' But the resurrection of Jesus Christ makes this 'star-sown vague of space' only a thin veil between us and the objects of our love. With this awful supposition, 'if Christ had not risen' earth would be dismal and heaven would be blotted out.

AWAKENING OF CHINA

Missionary Bible Says Native Christians Soon Do All That Is Needed.

"Give us the funds and the workers we need for the next 35 years, and we will leave China with Christianity so firmly rooted that it will propagate itself without further effort on our part," said Rev. F. W. Bible, a Presbyterian missionary in the course of his address at the Y. M. C. yesterday afternoon. Mr. Bible has just returned from Hang Chow, where he closely studied the conditions of 24 children from the First Christian church as at the meeting.

In the course of his remarks the speaker said that there are already 1,000 or 12,000 native Christians in the Hang Chow province, among whom are men and women capable of leading in the movement for Christianity. He dwelt particularly along their ability to grasp situations and said that the Chinese mind is not inferior to the American. He said in part:

"It has been said that the Chinese are imitative, and that they do not reason. While this may be true in some instances, it is not true of the Chinese as a nation, for some of the most able lawyers graduated from prominent colleges of the eastern United States have been Chinese. On the whole, the Chinese mind is not one whit inferior to the American intellect. When China has absorbed this education of ours, and the same is true of Japan, you will wake up to the fact that the greatest thing that has ever happened on this globe is happening right now, before your very eyes.

"But it is not alone in its education that China is making rapid strides. Let your mind run back a few years and recall the struggle our nation went through before we had adopted our present form of government to meet modern conditions. Then think of the significance of the edict from the Chinese throne that the Chinese will in 10 years formulate a constitution, call for a parliament, and establish a democracy. Think of what this means in a country where an absolute monarchy has held sway for thousands of years, and in which there are 400 million people. The task of remodeling the government

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to meet modern conditions, which those about the throne have set for themselves, must be done without plunging the nation into a revolution. It will be the greatest diplomatic achievement the world has ever seen. China then will have placed herself in the lead of all the nations of the globe."

TENT BOOTHS SUSTAIN TEST

Improvements Will Be Made Before the June Election, However.

County Clerk Fields this morning expressed the opinion that the portable voting booth has come to stay, despite discouraging features of the tenthouse voting last Friday, when tents were blown down, voters had to wade in mud and water, and occasionally the water came through on the voting booths.

"There could not have been a more severe test for the tenthouses than last Friday's weather," said Mr. Fields. "The tents are all right, but some improvements can be made, and will be made, for the June election. For one thing, the tents will be more securely anchored, so that they cannot be carried down by a high wind.

"Next time the weather may be fine, but we will be prepared, just the same. Where the voting places are in low ground and not on improved streets, a platform will be prepared to place in front of the voting booths, so that no one will have to wade in the water or mud.

"If there had been only 300 registered voters to the precinct, as we expected when the division of precincts was made, there would have been no difficulty about room. But in some precincts the number of voters exceeds the number of the precinct, and the election will reach 600, or double the number contemplated. This will make it necessary to provide a larger number of voting booths in June in several precincts.

With each set of election supplies Mr. Fields sent out a list of questions calling for suggestions from the voters as to improvements in the voting arrangements. From most of the precincts these blanks have been returned filled in, and the clerk is provided with a variety of ideas that deal with all subjects connected with the voting, from the quality of the paper to the location of the portable tents. From many election boards, however, comes the encouraging report: "Everything O. K."

The chairman of the election board in precinct No. 8 perhaps makes the most wise suggestions of any. He advises larger voting space, more booths and voting machines. This is one of the heavy voting precincts, and reflects the feeling of those who had to battle with insufficient voting room.

Day after tomorrow the registration books will again be opened, and will remain so until May 15, which will be 15 days before the general election.

Building Permits.
A. F. Darling, erect dwelling East Twenty-second between Alberta and Wygant, \$1,800; A. F. Darling, erect dwelling, East Twenty-third between Alberta and Wygant, \$1,800; A. M. Hansen, erect dwelling, Burrage between Barton and Mulino, \$2,000; Arthur Oldham, erect dwelling, East Thirtieth between Powell and Frances, \$2,000; Perkins Hotel company, erect hotel, Washington between Fourth and Fifth, \$3,000; F. M. Pitter, erect store and flats, Dawson between Pike and Stockton, \$5,000.

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New Hats Had Chance to Be Admired

By G. I. W.

Apollo smiled on humanity the early part of the day yesterday and deigned to remember that it was Easter. Many a matron donned her Easter bonnet, which she had scanned for two days with doubtful sighs, and many girls went on their light frocks and tripped contentedly to Sunday school and church. For Phoebus had decided to lend the light of his countenance to the Easter spirit, gave of their best to their joy ringing in their voices some of the grandest music ever written; the ministers, with their hearts full of the Easter spirit, gave of their best to their large congregations; the people smiled happily on one another and looked out the rain-begotten streets.

Nature Sets Example.
Early Christians, who adapted this religious holiday from the heathen people's celebration of Ostera, the goddess of spring and youth, and life, did not celebrate this day with so much rejoicing. There was a spirit of worshipful thanksgiving only. But the life and brightness that marks the day now seems only the natural outgrowth of this season. When the world is just putting on its new dress of flowers and foliage; when the fields grow green; the plants bud and blossom; the birds begin to carol their lays of spring; the sun shines; and the brooks and riv-

ulets take on their babbling, summer voice; what more natural than that those for whom these things were created, the people who can see and hear all the delights of nature, should pour forth their joy and their spring souls in similar rejoicing? And so it is that no matter how old the world may grow; no matter how often fashion may say, "It is bad taste to put on new clothes for Easter; only the humble do it," yet the world will go on donning the garb of festivity and spring on this day. And churches will go on massing flowers in the spirit of joy at the altar; and choruses will go on singing joyous anthems; and ministers will go on preaching the gospel of the triumph of life over death; for does not nature herself preach it at this time?

Great Day at Churches.
Though you may be no church-goer; though you may have to be fairly dragged out to church other Sundays, on this day you will go. And there are many of you. So it is that all the churches have a special service. Many lodge organizations make this their special day for attending church in a body. Last night the Knights Templar, Oregon Commandery No. 1, were present at the Taylor-street Methodist church to hear a special sermon, and as they marched down the street in parade costume, with a band at their head, they made an imposing picture.

Several churches devoted the evening service to music. Cantatas were given at some of the churches. At the First Baptist church in the evening the cantata, "The Resurrection," (Manney), was sung; at the First Christian church, "The Resurrection," and at the Epworth, Oregon Commandery No. 1, were present at the Taylor-street Methodist church to hear a special sermon, and as they marched down the street in parade costume, with a band at their head, they made an imposing picture.

Livers Exchanged

If the active liver of the cod-fish could be put into the place of the torpid liver of the consumptive it would probably do him a world of good. Next best thing is

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attractive as Angela, the much-sought-after young boarding-school girl, and delighted her large circle of enthusiastic admirers with her work in the part.

The audience was also greatly pleased with James Gleason, who played Herr Von Moser, a German musician, and Mrs. Gleason, who was the matron of the seminary. The other members of the company did very well in "The Strange Adventures of Miss Brown," a farce which pleases and should be a paying attraction for the Baker company.

Star—"How Baxter Batted In"
As its farewell attraction the French stock company at the Star has chosen a characteristic farce, "How Baxter Batted In." It is a roaring, effusive sort of show which took well with the audience and if yesterday's performance can be a criterion will be as successful an offering as the Star has given this season. There is a deal of slang in the play—that is where the "Baxter" in the title comes in—and the individual members of the French company all did their very best comedy work.

St. George Gleason has the leading role again and Miss Dorothy Davis plays opposite him in her usual effective manner. Mr. Conners plays Ezra Quick, a choir boy and Eva Earle French, the wife of the objectionable villain. Leah LaRocca achieves a huge success as a head waitress with flirtatious proclivities.

The many patrons of the Star will sincerely regret the departure of Mr. French and his company for Tacoma. During their season in Portland they have put on a great many plays and have pleased many audiences. Their work has been primitive, perhaps, but widely appreciated.

A very good horse can in 10 hours go 60 miles if the vehicle is light and the turnpike good.