

News of the Churches and Religious Topics

Directory.

Baptist—

Mt. Moriah—Twenty-sixth and Seward streets. The Rev. W. B. M. Scott, pastor. Services: Sunday School, 9:30 a. m.; preaching, 11 a. m. and 8 p. m.; B. Y. P. U. at 6 p. m.

Zion—Twenty-sixth and Franklin (temporary location). The Rev. W. F. Botts, pastor; residence, 2522 Grant street. Telephone Webster 5838. Services: Devotional hour, 10:30 a. m.; preaching, 11 a. m.; Sunday School, 1 to 2 p. m.; pastor's Bible class, 2 to 3 p. m.; B. Y. P. U., 6:30 p. m.; choir devotion, 7:30 p. m.; preaching 8 p. m.

Episcopal—

Church of St. Philip the Deacon—Twenty-first near Paul street. The Rev. John Albert Williams, rector. Residence, 1119 North Twenty-first street. Telephone Webster 4243. Services daily at 7 a. m. and 9 a. m. Fridays at 8 p. m. Sundays at 7:30 a. m., 11 a. m. and 7:30 p. m. Sunday School at 12:45 p. m.

Methodist—

St. John's A. M. E.—Eighteenth and Webster streets. The Rev. W. T. Osborne, pastor. Residence, 613 North Eighteenth street. Telephone Douglas 5914. Services: Sunday, 11 a. m. and 8 p. m., preaching; 12 noon, class;

1:15 p. m., Sunday School; 7 p. m., Endeavor; Wednesday, 8 p. m., prayer and class meetings. Everybody made welcome at all of these meetings.

Grove M. E.—Twenty-second and Seward streets. The Rev. G. G. Logan, pastor. Residence, 1628 North Twenty-second street.

News of St. John's A. M. E. Church. Rev. E. R. Vaughn, instructor of theology in Western university, will preach at St. John's African Methodist Episcopal church Sunday evening.

Rev. W. T. Osborne is closing up his third conference year and urges all members and friends to pay in their dollar money now.

The Willing Workers gave a private outing at Riverview park, being entertained by Mesdames Evelyn Ray and Cora Davis. A delightful afternoon was spent.

The annual Sunday school picnic will be held at Lake Manawa August 5. A special invitation is given to the public.

The Missionary Society met at the parsonage Friday afternoon.

Science Notes

BY WILLIAM G. HAYNES.

Radium in Medicine and Agriculture.

Like every other newly discovered substance radium has had its share of fanciful tales woven into its history. It is quite true that the properties of radium are wonderful; and popular description of these properties have led to the growth of a mass of misconceptions, in the mind of the average reader. One of the newest of these is the mistaken idea that radium is a "sure cure" for cancer.

The true relation of radium to the treatment of cancer is shown by the following abstract from the Scientific American, and is on the authority of the American Society for the Control of Cancer:

"The curative effects of radium are practically limited today to superficial cancers of the skin, to superficial growths of mucous membrane which are not true cancers, and to some deeper lying tumors or bone, etc., which are not very malignant. The problem of the constitutional treatment of advanced inoperable cancer is still untouched by any method yet devised or likely to be devised for administering radium. Even among the so-called radium cures, it still remains to be determined in many cases whether the favorable result is permanent or is to be followed sooner or later by the usual recurrence. The most competent surgeons do not dare to pronounce a case cured until five years have elapsed after an apparently successful operation. The same test must be applied before we can finally determine the real value of radium.

"It should be emphasized especially that radium cannot at present exert

any permanent benefit on generalized cancer, and since cancer, in a very large proportion of cases, is widely disseminated in the body early in the course of the disease, this entire group of cases can expect no important relief from radium. Another large group of cancers is comparatively inaccessible to the application of radium so that the ultimate course of the disease is not effected, although certain portions of the tumor may be reduced in size. Again, many forms of cancer, although localized and accessible to radium, grow very rapidly and resist the curative action of this agent, so that no real benefit can be expected from its use."

On the other hand, experiment shows that radium and radio-active compounds have established their usefulness in agriculture. At the present time there is upon the market a brand of fertilizer composed of a mixture of the constituents usually found in a high grade fertilizer, and a certain percentage of radio-active material.

Extensive research and experiment on a large scale both in America and abroad show that in every cases there was an increase in the crop growth on soil treated with the new fertilizer. The average increase for thirty different crops, including beans, melons, peas, corn, etc., was 37.9 per cent, in favor of the radio-active fertilizer.

The effect of radium in vegetable life is to increase the hardness of the plant and thus make it less susceptible to injury by weather or by insects; to hasten and increase the growth of potted plants; to cause a larger starch content in grains and vegetables; and finally to improve the flavor and palatability of grain and vegetables.

One of the tricks of the recent hail storm in this city was the installation of a temporary arc light in front of St. Phillip's church, to the great consternation of the worshipers there. A limb from one of the trees had fallen

across the electric wires and caused the current to be deflected, or conductor into the ground. The heat due to the passage of the current resulted in the burning away of the limb, and thus an ever increasing gap occurred between the wire and the limb. Now the arc lamp is based on just that principle—that there is a slowly increasing gap between the two carbon rods. It is easily seen that an arc was readily formed between the wire and the limb of the tree. A very brilliant

arc with the customary humming sound furnished ample illumination and excitement for the evening church goers.

To the observant ones, this is no strange phenomenon, for small sparks or arcs may be seen almost any night where electric light wires came into close proximity to trees. Incidentally, there is the tangible evidence of current going to waste, for current so diverted is a dead loss as far as lighting efficiency is concerned.

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