

SOCIAL WORK OF THE CHURCH

By the Rev. Charles Stelzle.

For years the evangelists of the church have been telling us that the world is ready for another great revival. They have been prophesying that soon we shall see a "great awakening." But these prophets of a former period and exponents of a waning method have seen only part of the so-called evangelistic preaching but the greatest emphasis will be placed upon the social gospel, for which the church has been so long preparing.

This gospel will have to do not so much with a spectacular philanthropy which is supposed to express the kindness of the well-favored toward the poor, but it will also demand justice and right dealing toward all men. It will deal fearlessly with the questions of the exploitation of little children, of helpless women and of down-trodden men. It will demand that men's bodies shall be saved as well as their souls. It will not say less about heaven and its glory, but it will say more about earth and its duty. It will seek to convert men socially as well as spiritually. It will destroy forever that miserably false conception that a Christian man may practice un-Christian principles in his business life, simply because his un-Christian competitors find it more profitable to do so. It will insist that every community composed of Christian people must also be a Christian community.

Recent developments in the church indicate that it has already taken its place as a larger social force. This has been manifested in part by the resolutions adopted at the various national conventions of the leading denominations throughout America, in which are presented clearly and forcefully the present economic and social conditions of the people, making certain specific recommendations as to what the church should do in view of this situation.

In every instance in which these denominations adopted such resolutions with regard to the social and economic questions of the day, they always preceded them by an introductory statement with reference to the conditions which called forth the actions suggested. Each of the above mentioned denominations have appointed either Commissions on Social Service or have established Departments of Church and Labor, or similar organizations, whose object it is to lead their denominations in social education and in a broader social service.

It is sometimes asserted that the churches are not doing anything in the work of caring for the unfortunate in our great cities who are outside of the church. Dr. W. D. Bliss of the American Institute for Social Service recently sent a questionnaire to a large number of social workers throughout the United States inquiring as to the particular kinds of social service which they were rendering. It was learned that, out of about 1,000 responses which came to Dr. Bliss, 401 were connected with the work of the Associated Charities, 339 were in settlements, 227 were connected with various national social reform agencies. Inquiring as to the relationship of these workers to the church, it was discovered that out of 876 who replied to this question, 753

were church members. Even though the 134 which did not reply were counted as non-communicants, it would still leave 75 per cent church members. It is altogether likely, however, that many of the 134 were in some way identified with churches. Of those engaged in the work of the Charity Organization Society, 92 per cent were found to be church members; in the settlements 89 per cent were church members and in the other reform agencies, 71 per cent. The church membership of this country is only about one-third of the entire population; but the church furnishes 75 per cent of the social workers.

HE ASKED THE TIME.

A Question and Answer That Changed a Clerk's Position.

How many clerks measure up to the standard of the young bookkeeper in this story from Human Life? He was employed in the passenger department of a great railroad. It was just a little before lunch. Some of the clerks were putting on their coats, some leaving for the washroom, some consulting the clock; some were still busy. Suddenly the "boss" entered. He glanced about him and then approached the young bookkeeper.

"What time is it?" he asked. The young man kept on figuring, and the boss put a hand on his desk and repeated the question.

Instantly the other looked up, surprised to see the chief at his elbow.

"I beg your pardon, were you speaking to me?" he asked.

"Merely inquired the time—that was all," said the other.

"The bookkeeper glanced about the room, located the office clock and said, "It's ten minutes to 12."

"Thank you," said the general manager and vice president, and strolled out.

That conversation cost the young bookkeeper his place—in the passenger department—and put him under a higher officer "on the firing line." Nine years later he was assistant general manager, and while still in the thirties became a general manager, full fledged.

RAPID STORY WRITING.

A Boast That Dumas Made, a Wager and the Result.

For rapidity of composition the prize among novelists must be awarded to Alexandre Dumas, who died with over 3,000 books to his credit, in all of which he had some share. According to Mr. Arthur F. Davidson, one of his biographers, he often declared that when once he had mapped out in his mind the scheme of a novel or a play the work was practically accomplished, since the mere writing of it presented no difficulty and could be performed as fast as the pen could travel. Some one disputed this; the result was a wager.

Dumas had in his head the plan of the "Chevalier de la Maison Rouge," of which he had not yet written a word, and he made a bet of 100 louis that he would write the first volume of the novel in seventy-two hours. The volume was to be formed by seventy-five large foolscap pages, each page containing forty-five lines and each line fifty letters. In sixty-six hours Dumas had done the work in his fair, flowing hand, disfigured by no erasures—and the bet was won with six hours to spare.—London Chronicle.

Challenge Sale of Men's Wear

From Oct. 14th to 22nd we are going to name prices **DEFYING COMPETITION.**

We are going to open the eyes of the men. Here's where we challenge the high-priced, exclusive men's stores.

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| \$1.50 and \$1.75 Dress Shirts, all sorts of nice patterns and colors. Challenge Sale Price..... | 98c |
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| Men's Union Suits like other sell at \$1.25, priced at..... | 78c |
| Odds and Ends of Men's 50c and 75c Underwear, cut to..... | 39c |
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| 25c Suspenders..... | 15c |
| Black and Tan Hose..... | 8c |
| 50c Suspenders..... | 23c |
| 25c Hose..... | 13c |
| 50c Neckwear..... | 12c |
| Work Socks..... | 7c |
| Good Cotton Flannel Mitts, a dozen..... | 50c |
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| Corduroy Coats, sheep-skin lined, extra values..... | \$7.00 |
| Best Leather Corduroy Coats, beaver collars, worth \$10.00, at..... | \$7.50 |
| \$4.00 Duck Coats at..... | \$2.75 |
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