



Overcoats Good-Bye

The time has come for us to say good-bye to the few remaining members of our overcoat family. We have sent a good many of these fine fellows out into the world this season and they are all "making good" so far as we can find out. We do not intend to carry over a single overcoat into next season and to accomplish this we have cut the price deep. No monkey business about it, but a genuine reduction of 20 to 50 per cent. Come in and see what \$7, \$10, \$12 and \$15 will buy now in the overcoat line. Discount price strictly *net cash*.

C. E.

Wescott's Sons

ALWAYS THE HOME OF SATISFACTION

M. W. A. TO INCREASE INSURANCE RATES

Many Attending the Meeting at Chicago Unfavorable to the Proposition.

Dr. E. W. Cook, head physician for the M. W. A. insurance order, returned from Chicago yesterday morning on No. 15. The doctor was a delegate to the meeting, which met for the purpose of considering the question of the readjustment of rates. For some time it has been apparent to those in charge of the departments of administration of the affairs of the order and doing the work of collecting the assessments and paying the death claims that the company could not long continue to pay its losses with the present rates. And in view of the fact that many of the states have already passed legislation requiring fraternal orders to keep on deposit in the hands of state authorities securities proportioned to the amount of insurance at risk in the state, to protect its policyholders, it becomes necessary for every fraternal order to create and have on hand a sufficient reserve fund to meet the requirements of the laws of the state in which the order seeks to do business.

Actuaries were present at the Chicago meeting and gave information on the data furnished from the books of the company, and demonstrated to the satisfaction of a majority of the delegates that a readjustment and a considerable increase in rates would have to be made or the order would undoubtedly not long survive. The M. W. A. has 1,200,000 members within the territory in which it does business.

Head Counsel A. R. Talbot of Lincoln was present and made a strong appeal for the readjustment of the rates, while on the other hand there were strong men there who argued just as strenuously for a maintenance of the old rates. It was shown that the

readjustment at this time would affect 50,000 old men in the order, while if the matter was put over for two years, or until the next great encampment, there would be about 135,000 old men affected. It was argued by those against readjustment that 400,000 members would be lost to the order. But it was argued in reply that it would be better to lose this number from the membership and be placed on a firm foundation, financially, than go on as they had and go to the wall.

The step toward an increase of rates was advised by the insurance commissioners of sixteen states, and other states have enacted laws looking toward the same end. The M. W. A. is the first fraternal order to comply with the recommendation of the commissioners, and the advice of the Mobile (Alabama) convention which met in 1910. Under the plan the rates of members under 54 will be increased from 50 to 100 per cent. Many heated arguments and red-hot speeches made the Chicago meeting one long to be remembered in insurance circles.

In County Court.

The creditors of A. V. Wollen, the Elmwood implement dealer, who made an assignment a short time since, met at the county judge's office today. Judge Beeson was in bed with an attack of grippe and could not meet the creditors. Some of the interested parties failed to appear and those present could do little, as only half a dozen out of about twenty were on hand with their representatives. The estate is sufficient to pay all claims and have a considerable sum left. E. T. Comer, who has been in the pump and windmill business at Elmwood for some time, attended the meeting and will make arrangements to succeed Mr. Wollen in the implement business and combine his former business with the new line.

William Biel of Murray was called to Plattsmouth today to look after some important business matters.

Report Exaggerated.

Chancellor Avery has sent postcards to the parents of all students in the university and to prospective students, relative to the typhoid fever situation. The statement says: "False reports have been circulated in regard to typhoid conditions among students of the university. There have been about thirty-five cases; one death has occurred. The use of the N street well, the supposed source of contamination, has been discontinued. All water is now treated with hypochlorite, rendering it practically free from bacteria. Very few cases are being reported in the city. At no time has the percentage of people in the city ill with the disease been as great as in most of the smaller places in the country where typhoid is an epidemic. The total number of university students stricken is less than 1 per cent of the total registration."

No Defective Material.

In the news item appearing in the Journal regarding the injury of Val Burkel, while lettering a coach at the coach shop a few days ago, it was inadvertently stated that Mr. Burkel received his injury by having a scaffold break with him, precipitating him to the floor. The facts were, as the writer is informed by Mr. Burkel, that he was painting from a ladder and one which had a broken rung and not on a scaffold at all when the accident occurred. Mr. Burkel was descending the ladder, and forgetting for the moment that the rung was missing, stepped for it, without looking, and consequently fell to the floor, wrenching his back. He did not think much of it at the time and continued work for the rest of the day, but the next day the sprain was too sore to let him go to work and he has been off duty since.

Injured While Coasting.

Two small sons, 6 and 10 years of age, of Ferdinand Duda, yesterday afternoon met with quite a severe accident while coasting, requiring the services of a surgeon to stitch the wounds received from an overturn. The little fellows were on the long hill on Maiden lane, in the west part of the city, when two much larger and older boys coaxed the little chaps to ride down with them. When on a part of the hill where a deep ditch is located at the side the older boys conceived the notion that it would be great fun to have an up-set, and steered the sled into the ditch. The result was that each of the little ones was badly bruised and received scalp wounds which required five stitches in one instance and six in the other. It is lucky that one or both were not killed.

Has Leg Broke.

Mrs. William Miller returned from Omaha last evening, where she had been to visit her son, True Miller, who had the misfortune to get his leg broken one day last week. The young man had been teaming in Omaha this winter, and last Tuesday while watering his team, by some mischance, the horses got to kicking and one of them landed on True's leg, breaking both bones below the knee.

Mrs. Elsie Hedley and three children, who have been paying a two-weeks' visit to Mrs. Hedley's mother, Mrs. T. L. Shafer, departed for their home at Greeley, Neb., on the early train today.

ALL MANKIND TO BE BLESSED

The Glory of God Shall Fill the Whole Earth.

THE GOSPEL OF THE KINGDOM

Pastor Russell, at Singapore, Declares the First Work of the Messiah's Reign Will Be the Binding of Satan. Error, Ignorance and Superstition Will Be Scattered and Obliterated. Heathen and Christian Alike Shall Be Saved.



PASTOR RUSSELL

Singapore, Jan. 28.—Pastor Russell's text for today was, "Of a truth I perceive that God is no respecter of persons, but in every nation he that feareth Him and worketh righteousness is accepted of Him" (Acts x, 34, 35). A report of his address follows:—

Never before have I seen so cosmopolitan a city as Singapore. The swarms of Chinese, Malays, Hindoos, Javanese, Siamese, Singhaese, Burmese, Afghans, Madrass, Tamils and many other nationalities are here interspersed by representatives of practically every nation in the world. Henceforth New York City must in my mind take second place as respects cosmopolitan population. The sight of these commingled peoples, only a few of whom know of, worship, or in any wise acknowledge "the Only True God, and Jesus Christ whom He hath sent," stirs my heart, and my head as well. My heart goes out in sympathy for them. My head inquires respecting God's provision for the three-fourths of humanity who have never heard of Him and the salvation which He has provided in Christ.

We recognize the clear statement of the Apostle that "Without faith it is impossible to please God" (Hebrews xi, 6); and his question, "How shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard?" (Romans x, 14) and also the commission: "This Gospel of the Kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness; and then shall the end come" (Matthew xxiv, 14). Properly enough we ask, What kind of an end is coming, and what will it mean to the twelve millions who know not God and to the thousands of millions of their ancestors who died similarly ignorant of Him?

I am, of course, familiar with the diverse theories of the various denominations of Christians, voiced by their creeds. I defer to these to the extent of saying that many noble men are today and have in time past been associated with these Christian denominations and their differing presentations. On account of their piety and learning these men deserve respectful attention, but we cannot admit that they were inspired nor that their conclusions are infallible. It is our privilege, nay, it is our duty, to try their suggestions as we would test a gold coin. First, we would ring it. If the ring were unsatisfactory, we would apply the acid test and thus demonstrate it. Similarly, no human creed should be accepted as infallibly correct without the application of tests. Does it have the right ring? Does its teaching comport with the Divine character? Is it reasonable, just, etc? Secondly, will it stand the acid test of the Word of God? If not, it must be rejected, even though its baser metal be covered with a plating of the gold of Truth.

Tried and Found Wanting. It will not do for us to say what we guess or what is our opinion or what is somebody else's guess, while at the same time we acknowledge the Bible to be the Divine Message. If the Bible be the Divine Message, as St. Paul says, "It is worthy of all acceptance." (1 Timothy iv, 9) If not worthy of all acceptance, it is not worthy of acceptance at all, and all Christian hopes built upon the Bible would correspondingly fall. The lesson of this is the solidarity of the Truth—the Bible. What does it say about the heathen? We ask this question of the various creeds of Christendom and hearken to their reply.

A considerable class of very good people by their creeds tell us that if God had foreordained the heathen to salvation He would have seen to it that the Gospel would be preached to them; and that their not hearing the Gospel signifies that God "passed them by" as "non-elect"; that the "elect" are to be found only amongst those who have been favored of God and who accept that favor and are "sanctified by the Truth" and "made meet for the inheritance of the saints in light." (Colossians i, 12.)

Another class of people by their creeds, which no longer truly represent them, tell us that they believe as above, only that they add another condition, namely, that "the elect," in order to be of "the elect," must be brought to a knowledge of water baptism—complete immersion—and must obey this teaching; otherwise they are not the truly "elect." Thus these agree with the former that the heathen masses are completely passed by, have no hope for the future, that they are lost—and by lost they mean

enroute for an eternity of very torture—most horrible suffering.

Another theory held by equally good Christian people denies that there is any "election" in respect to the matter, and denies that any particular amount of water is necessary, although it does recommend a little. This creed or theory declares God's love for the heathen, but says that He made faith in Jesus' sacrificial death a condition of salvation and that the responsibility for the heathen's not knowing, and consequently their going to eternal torment, rests with Christians themselves. They say that God did His part in providing the Savior and that the carrying of this knowledge is wholly dependent upon Christians. One would think that with this view few Christians would be able to sleep a single night after once assenting to such a responsibility and realizing how little they have done or have been able to do to meet the responsibility.

Some dear people holding the views last mentioned have started a "Men and Religion Forward Movement." They propose to use about two million dollars in starting the movement and thereby to collect a fund of thirty million dollars (six million pounds). Dear people! How I love them for their zeal, even though it be as the Apostle said, "not according to knowledge"—Romans x, 2.

If they could stand in Singapore's streets and journey with us a little the eyes of their understanding would be opened. They would begin to figure out that the sum they expect to spend in converting the world would be little over half a penny per soul! They must indeed think the heathens cheap when they reflect that the estimates on the work of the Rev. Billy Sunday a year after his meetings show a cost of about six hundred dollars per soul, with doubts entertained respecting the saintship of even these. The United States Government statistics and the British Government statistics show that a century ago the numbers of heathen were six hundred millions and that today the number is double that, namely, twelve hundred millions.

A Better Hope Found. Whichever of the foregoing views might seem to us less objectionable than the others, surely none of them could satisfy our heads or our hearts. Surely the good men of the past who wrote these creeds in the light of the tallow candle, if writing them today in the light of the arc lamp, would amend them considerably, or else leave them unwritten and merely say, "We know not the fate of the heathen."

Some, repudiating the creeds of the past as no longer tenable, fault the Bible with being the basis for those creeds and throw it away with the creeds. These are becoming Agnostics, Higher Critics, Evolutionists, Spiritists, etc. And because of their worldly wisdom and social standing these Higher Critics are rapidly undermining all faith in the Bible as an inspired Message from God to His people. They are adrift, some sailing in one direction and some in another—they have lost their Chart of the Ages and the great Compass of Divine Truth in the depths of the sea of human wisdom, which, from the Divine standpoint, is declared to be foolishness. Let us not take their course.

Let us, on the contrary, declare that the difficulty with the creeds of the past has been that they divided up the Word of God amongst them, and that each creed has a certain amount of gold as well as a large accumulation of dross. It would be too serious an undertaking for *finics* to put all the creeds into a crucible and separate the gold from the dross. Besides, all the sectarian prejudices of our natures would contend against us in such a procedure. Let us take the easier, the simpler method, to which all Christian people should be willing to accede, namely, to wholly cast aside our creeds and go back to the Word of God—to the Bible—to the utterances of Jesus and His Apostles and Prophets. Thus doing many will find to their surprise that, while the creeds have gathered precious jewels of Truth from the Bible, they have given these *false settings* by which they misrepresented the Truth which they profess to illuminate.

St. Paul's declaration is that the Word of God is sufficient that the man of God may be fully furnished. (1 Timothy iii, 17.) His further suggestion is that we "rightly divide the Word of Truth" and that "it is able to make us wise unto salvation." Let us follow this course and allow God's Word to be its own interpreter—allow one passage to throw light upon another; and thus let us reject none of the Divine testimony, but, bringing the whole together, find therein the Wisdom of God, the Justice of God, the Love of God, the Power of God unto salvation, to every one that believeth—to Jew and Gentile.

All Mankind to Be Blessed.

St. Peter, by birth a Jew, understood that the promise made to Abraham—that his posterity should bless the world—meant that the Jewish nation should have this honor. He did, indeed, know that in all the centuries from Moses to Christ the Jew was not accepted to the honorable position nor given the privilege of blessing the world. He realized that this was because, being imperfect through the fall, they could not keep God's perfect Law. He realized also what St. Paul expressed, saying, Israel hath not obtained that which he seeketh for, but the election hath obtained it and the rest were blinded.—Romans xi, 7.

Peter supposed that the entire number of "the elect" would be Jews. He had overlooked the prophecies which declare that only a remnant of Israel would be found worthy and that Gentiles would be called in to complete the number of "the elect." Consequent-

ly, it was a surprise to him when the Lord sent him to preach the Gospel to Cornelius, a Gentile. He did not think of the Gentiles as being under condemnation to eternal torment, but he did assume that the privileges of being of the elect seed of Abraham to bless the world belonged to Jews only.

When, therefore, the Holy Spirit came upon Cornelius, begetting him as a son of God and a joint-heir with Jesus, the astonished St. Peter, in the words of our text, said, "I perceive that God is no respecter of persons, but in every nation he that feareth Him and worketh righteousness is accepted with Him." We have had evidences of this same Truth throughout this Gospel Age, for now more than eighteen centuries, God has been accepting people of all nationalities to be members of this "elect" class. To these, as soon as they are consecrated to God, on a basis of faith in Jesus' atoning work, the Holy Spirit is given. They become members of the School of Christ—"disciples." Incidentally they become co-laborers with God in searching out others who have the hearing ear and responsiveness of heart.

"Every Knee Shall Bow"

Under this arrangement the Lord has gradually been completing the fore-ordained number of His spirit-begotten children of the New Creation. Of these He declares, "They shall be Mine, saith the Lord, in that day when I make up My Jewels." (Malachi iii, 17.) But when these Jewels shall have been made up or completed—when the First Resurrection shall have ushered them into their promised estate of glory, honor and immortality, then will come the next feature of the work—the use of this class, "the Seed of Abraham," for the blessing of all the families of the earth. Natural Israel will be the first to receive the benefits, as the Scriptures clearly point out (Romans xi, 25-34). They will in turn be used in extending the blessing far and wide.

As a result "the knowledge of the glory of God shall fill the whole earth as the waters cover the sea." Then will be the trial or testing time to the non-elect world. So many as will accept Divine favor and seek to walk in the ways of righteousness will be helped and uplifted out of their weaknesses, physical, mental, moral, to all that was lost in Eden and redeemed at Calvary.

Finally, all the unwilling and disobedient will be destroyed in the Second Death—without hope of recovery. As St. Peter declared, they shall perish like the brute beast, hopelessly. On the other hand, the willing and obedient shall be blessed and "shall eat the good of the land." "They shall build houses and inhabit them. They shall plant vineyards and eat the fruit of them" and long enjoy the work of their hands. Eventually, "every knee shall bow and every tongue confess," to the glory of God—in loyalty. (Isaiah lxv, 21, 22.) The earth shall become the everlasting habitation of saintly men redeemed by the precious blood of Christ and restored to human perfection during the period of His Reign.

As, therefore, I looked at the composite population of Singapore, I said to myself, Quite probably, from all these peoples, God has selected a few through the Message of the Gospel—a few saints to be joint-heirs with His Son in the Kingdom. But at all events, even if none of the elect class were taken from amongst the heathen peoples, surely the riches of God's grace is about to be abundantly manifested to all the families of the earth through "the elect"—through their administration of the Kingdom.

The Gospel of the Kingdom.

Ah! how much meaning there is in this expression, "The Gospel of the Kingdom"—the good news that God will have a Kingdom under the whole heavens! It will not be a Kingdom merely in name, but in power, in influence. "He shall reign from sea to sea and from the river to the ends of the earth." (Psalm lxxii, 8.) He must reign until He shall have put down all in subordination. "The last enemy that shall be destroyed is death." (1 Corinthians xv, 25, 26.) And as for the elect, the Church, the Bride class, to her belongs the glorious promise—"To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with Me in my throne;" "To him that overcometh will I grant power over the nations." (Revelation iii, 21; ii, 26.)

One of the first works of the Kingdom will be the binding of Satan. Then will follow the scattering of the darkness of error, ignorance and superstition, which now beclouds mankind. Then the Sun of Righteousness and Truth will enlighten the world and fill it with the blessings and joys of the Lord. Well did the angels proclaim this same Message, saying, "Fear not! Behold, we bring you tidings of great joy, which shall be unto all people!" a glorious message it is now to thousands who have the hearing ears and who make their election sure to the spirit plane and a share in the First Resurrection! A glorious message it will be by and by to the sin-cursed world of mankind, to learn of the blessings and privileges of restitution which will then be opened, with the broadest of free grace to every creature! (Acts iii, 19-21.)

Let me exhort, then, to choose earnestly the *best thing*, the privileges and opportunities of the present time. If you hear the Gospel, harden not your hearts, but esteem that you are living in the blessed time in which God is willing to accept your little *all* through the merit of Jesus. But if you cannot understand or appreciate all of my message, at least take this little to your comfort—There is a *better day coming*—"the day of Jesus Christ." And to the extent that you seek to live soberly and righteously, you will be the better prepared for that glorious Epoch and make the more rapid advances back to full harmony with God.

ANNOUNCEMENT

To the People of Cass and Sarpy Counties:

I wish to announce that I have taken charge of the Singer Sewing Machine business and repair work, held for 12 years by Mr. W. L. Street, with office in Plattsmouth. Those who contemplate purchasing new machines or desire to have the old one repaired will be courteously treated and expert attention will be given your machine needs.

Singer Sewing Machine Company

W. J. BROWN, Agent.

Telephone No. 342.

Plattsmouth, Neb.