

God's Place in the Schoolroom

True education can not be limited by "hampering restrictions that permit the child to be taught geography, but not about the God who made the earth; botany, but not about the God who clothed the flower; physiology, but not about the God who built the man; history, but not about the divine providence in human affairs," writes Judge Thomas C. T. Crain, of the Court of General Sessions of New York City. This jurist was so moved by the need for religious training of the young, according to The Continent (Presbyterian), that he purchased three columns of space in New York papers in which to argue the thesis that no child is rightly educated if he is not taught religious faith with his secular instruction. He believes it perfectly possible, as our authority summarizes his argument, "to arrange for religious teaching in the public schools which shall not outrage any parent's conviction and which shall give, as he says, equal and ample protection to Jew and Gentile." We are told further that "Judge Crain asks for 'open-minded conferences' with all sorts of people favorable to this movement, and such conferences certainly should result from his appeal not only in New York City, but in many other places where this frank and bold speaking will awaken equal or greater response." Others, too, have voiced the view that religious instruction should go hand in hand with secular education. As was noticed in these pages on August 14 the New York Board of Education offered to give a half-day a week to religious instruction in schools to be conducted by the various sects and denominations; but a "divided" Protestantism found itself, as a Reformed Church editor admitted, "shamefully unprepared and utterly unequal to the task." Since then, however, the subject of religious training, by whatever agency, has received a further impetus, and is being broached in many religious journals as one of the questions of the hour. Every medium of religious education — day-school, Sunday-school, church, and college—has its advocate. But, we are warned by Dr. Harold McAfee Robinson in The Continent:

"Let us not be deceived by this array of agencies at the church's disposal; the situation is very bad. Merely multiplying organizations will not be sufficient. Nor will merely devising the best methods of instruction or adopting them from the methods of public instruction. Method is important, but content is far more important. Christianity must be taught in its native purity and power. Children of the coming generation must be given such an organized knowledge of Christian history as will enable them to understand the unfolding of the purposes of God. They must receive an organized knowledge of Christian truth to which, whatever their experiences in life, they may turn for interpretation and strength. They must be introduced to the power of Christianity to bring men into communion with the living God,

through Jesus Christ, and to keep them in it. They must be trained in the expression of Christian truth, in lives of service. All this must be done, and the Church must do it."

As the case stands against us, the very sort of education which was intended to make our system of government impregnable, writes Dr. Henry J. Herge, in The Intelligencer (Reformed), "has, in most of the states, been abolished because of the rivalry of sectarianism; and naturally our children have become excellent material for the most appalling skepticism of higher institutions. Our schools are barred from reading and teaching the Bible because on a world view of religions Christianity might itself be called a sect. Yet ten out of twelve State Supreme Courts have in recent years declared that prohibition of sectarianism does not exclude the Bible."

In this situation, 'as every one knows,' laments The Lutheran, "education has been thrust down from the high seat of power upon which it once sat enthroned when it was linked with Christian faith, and today the higher schools beyond the control or influence of the church are being manned more and more with a race of educators to whom the Gospel of Jesus Christ is foolishness just as much as it was to the learned Greeks." Therefore, additional emphasis must be placed on "the supreme importance and necessity of maintaining our church schools and bringing them to a higher state of efficiency than ever."—Literary Digest.

PRICES OF MEN'S CLOTHES DROP IN THE WEST

A Chicago, dispatch, dated Nov. 9, says: Men's clothing for immediate delivery was offered buyers today at prices 10 to 50 per cent, below present wholesale prices. Goods for spring and summer delivery were shown at prices 10 to 33 1-3 per cent under those of a year ago, and men's shirts and similar articles were shown at greatly reduced prices at the opening of the thirteenth semi-annual buying convention of the United National Clothiers.

The convention is being attended by retail clothing dealers from 17 middle western and western states, and has taken the form of a huge display of made-up garments.

"The public is not buying; manufacturers and dealers are overstocked," said W. L. Mohr, treasurer and general manager of the association, today. "The price must come down. We have passed the peak in high prices of wearing apparel. Men's clothing will be considerably cheaper from now on; the retailer can afford to sell at less for his costs are becoming lower.

"Here are some men's shirts," he said, indicating an exhibition, "which wholesaled at \$45 a dozen a few months ago. Now they are offered at \$16.50 a dozen. Here are 2,000 suits offered at \$16.50, suits that ordinarily wholesaled at \$47.50. The age of extravagance has passed, and, rather than let the goods rot on the shelves, the manufacturers are getting what they can out of them."

NOT THE SAME OLD BOWERY

A New York dispatch, dated Nov. 6, says: The famous Bowery mission, which for forty-one years has cared for the flotsam and jetsam of humanity on New York's lower east side, announced today that owing to prohibition, its activities have been limited and henceforth it would endeavor to help Americanize the city's immense foreign population.

"With the passing away of so

many saloons," the announcement said, "and with the ultimate total destruction of the liquor traffic clear-

ly in sight, this notorious thoroughfare has taken on utterly changed conditions."

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