

ness with its fight and power and clearness and victory and glory. "Let us go unto him. . . bearing his reproach."

"The cross for Christ I'll cherish,
Its crucifixion bear;
All hail reproach or sorrow,
If Jesus leads me there."
The Christian Witness.

INTERESTING ITEMS

WHY THEY DRANK

New York hospitals asked 246 patients whose condition was blamed on alcohol, why they first took to drinking. The reasons, according to the "Boy's World," were: sociability 52 per cent; trouble, 13 per cent; for medicine, 9 per cent; occupation, 7 per cent; taught by elders, 7 per cent; out of work, 5 per cent; thought it was sporty, 1 per cent.—Pathfinder.

PROHIBITION IN KANSAS

Kansas, a pioneer state, in the cause of Prohibition, has a record unsurpassed by any state. It has 54 counties without any insane or feeble-minded person; 96 counties without any habitual drunkards; 38 counties without any poor-house; 53 counties without a single person in jail; and 56 counties without a single person in the State Penitentiary. With that record, it can afford to be the object of the jibes of the "Wets."—Clipped from a paper published prior to Roosevelt's Administration.

ANOTHER LOCUST PLAGUE

In recent years the giant locust have been invading the countryside in eastern countries, similar to those swarms of which we read in the Bible, during the time of the bondage of the children of Israel in Egypt. A current magazine tells of three different swarms of these locusts having descended upon territory in India, in the Bombay presidency. It states that one "army of locusts was twenty miles long and thirty yards wide. When the insects had settled, heavy gunfire was directed upon them, but it did not dislodge them, and several fertile tracts of ground were devastated. Another swarm was five miles long and half a mile wide."—The Church Herald.

HEATHEN SUPERSTITION

What happens when the sun is eclipsed? We who live in America, and have had the privilege of going to school, have learned that the eclipse is caused by the passing of the moon between the earth and sun, hiding a part or all of the sun from our sight. It is said that in China, many of the heathen and untaught Chinese think the reason for the eclipse of the sun is that a spirit, or god, called the "Black Dog" at times begins to eat a part of the sun. The part of the sun that is black, or hidden, is the part that "Black Dog" has eaten. When they see that a part of the sun is gone, they quickly pray and fire off fire-crackers to drive away "Black Dog" or he will eat the sun all up.

When we consider that eight out of ten in China cannot even read, one can easily believe this idea of the eclipse is quite general.—From a Missionary Paper.

Man is certainly stark mad; he cannot make a worm, and yet he will be making gods by dozens.—Montaigne.

SELF-CONTROL

"I remember once," said the late Henry Ward Beecher, "that a man came to our house, red with wrath. He was boiling with rage. He had, or supposed he had, a grievance to complain of. My father listened to him with attention and perfect quietness until he got it all out, and then said to him in a soft and low tone, 'Well, I suppose you only want what is just and right?' The man said, 'Yes,' but went on to state the case over again.

"Very gently father said to him, 'If you have been misinformed, I presume you would be perfectly willing to know what the truth is?' He said he would. Then father very quietly and gently made a statement of the other side; and when he was through, the man got up and said, 'Forgive me, Doctor, forgive me!' Father had beaten him by his quiet, gentle way. I saw it, and it gave me an insight into the power of self-control. It was a striking illustration of the passage of Scripture, 'He that ruleth his spirit is better than he that taketh a city.'"—Publisher Unknown.

TAKE TIME TO BE HOLY

"Take time to be holy," sang the poet. What! Does "being holy" take time? Why not? Does it not take time to become rich? One must spend days and nights in planning and working. Does it not take time to become a great surgeon? One must apply himself to the study of the human body with all diligence. Does it not take time to acquire a high office? With studied application the leaders of men, "while their companions slept, were toiling upward in the night."

Well, "being holy" demands a price, too. One must pay the price to have sin removed. He must pay the price to keep it out of his life, and he will find that not only sin, but secular things, good in themselves, but a lesser good, will demand time that should be given to soul development. After holiness is begun in the heart—after holiness is received—it will need attention. It will take culture, but the time will be well spent—oh, so profitably spent, as compared with most of our time-spending. For out of a holy heart can come a "fruit unto holiness, and the end everlasting life."—The Free Methodist.

EVIL-SPEAKING

There is some confusion apparently between evil-speaking, lying and slander. Telling an untruth to the defamation of another is slander. All slander is evil-speaking, of course. But not all evil speaking is slander. One may tell nothing but the truth and yet be an evil-speaker.

Evil-speaking is the telling of anything derogatory to another, whether true or false, when there is no necessity for telling the thing or when there is no good purpose, such as would be approved by the Lord, for the telling of it. To tell an evil thing about another may be a duty. Wesley admits this, but warns that the thing must be taken and handled as a medicine and not as a food.

However, it is to be feared that many are evil-speakers because they enjoy the telling—because the one spoken of is an enemy or a rival or because he is not liked by the speaker. Churches have been damaged and some almost ruined by the deadly, unruly member, concerning which we are so faithfully warned by James. Perhaps evil-speaking is the most common outer sin of professors of religion. How favored is the person who has not been a victim of some evil tongue. And happy is the one who is not an evil-

speaker, for all such shall be brought to judgment.

It is wonderful to have the grace of restraint so that when tempted to tell the evil thing we refrain. But greater and better by far is the condition where the love of God so fills the heart that we would do good and not evil to every one. This is the safer place.—Editor, Free Methodist.

"BE NOT DECEIVED"

Paul H. McGehee

"Be not deceived: God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap."—Galatians 6:7.

It is reported that a certain gentlemen asked John D. Rockefeller if he could say, in a few words, to what he attributed the success of the Standard Oil Company. He was silent for a few moments, and then said, "We have never deceived ourselves."

Deception, corrupt practices, and venturing into doubtful territory have been the commonest causes of failure in business. Take the case of Samuel Insull, the now-fallen utilities magnate. At one time he was the czar of a great utilities empire, but through speculation and corrupt business practices, he deceived himself, hoping to get by, and thus invited ruin. The day of reckoning always comes.

So it is in living the Christian life. We are building character daily by our every act. The plans for building a righteous character in God's Word are plain and unmistakable, and we have no excuse for failure. We may try to deceive ourselves into thinking we can do just any way we please and still be children of God; but if we fail to build according to the Pattern, we will be the loser, and will finally wake up only to realize we have willingly deceived ourselves. "Be ye doers of the word and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves."—Jas. 1:22.

"WE SHALL BE LIKE HIM"

"Beloved, now are we the sons of God," writes Saint John, "And it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that when he shall appear, we shall be like Him, for we shall see His face." It is plainly difficult to describe the heavenly state in the languages of earth, and so we find it when we attempt to speak of resurrection in the light of the things we know. Spring-time suggests it, but spring awakenings in the lands where winter prevails fail to tell the story of the eternal security, the celestial light and the fullness of joy that are realized by the saints that are at home with God after the resurrection morning. "It doth not yet appear," Saint John says, in acknowledgment of the greatness of the task of opening up the mystery of the resurrection.

When we read "we shall be like Him," we enter into a world of new meaning. Several descriptions appear of our Lord in His glorified state which, aside from their regal power, are full of interest to the follower of Jesus as a type of our future state. If we are truly like Jesus in soul in this life, we shall be like Him in the indescribable glory and safety of the eternal world.—The Wesleyan Methodist.

To youth I have but three words of council—Work! Work! Work!—Bismarck.

It is not enough to do good; one must do it in a good way.—John Morley.