

THOUSANDS STARVING.

Awful Tales of Suffering and Destitution in the Spanish Provinces.

ROOTS THE ONLY FOOD OF MANY.

Seville, Spain, Aug. 26.—Heart-rending reports continue to reach the provincial authorities from the outlying famine-stricken districts. The latest reports received are from Osuna and Almagro, the respective mayors of which notify the authorities that their resources are exhausted and that they are unable to further assist the famished laborers and the women and children, as the distress is too acute.

At Ecija the population has looted the bakers' stores.

The mortality among infants and aged persons is attaining terrifying proportions and in many localities the working people are living on roots. The government has organized public works on a small scale, employing about six hundred men, but this is a mere drop in the ocean of misery, as a moderate calculation shows that 200,000 are out of employment.

Cardinal Sancha, having exhausted the available charitable funds, is going from house to house in Seville begging for contributions, while the employees of several banks and commercial houses have decided to devote a portion of their wages toward the relief of the destitute.

Count Romanones, Minister of Agriculture, has just concluded an exhaustive personal inquiry in the distressed districts, following on the relief fund of eight hundred thousand dollars voted by the government. His report created the impression that heroic measures for relief are essential. The count journeyed from end to end of Andalusia and everywhere in the four provinces comprised therein he was confronted with pictures of desolation.

The territory most stricken forms a circle embracing Seville, Jerez, Cadiz, Malaga and Cordova, where

natural forces appear to have combined against the people's welfare. The rivers for years past have been gradually filling with sand, preventing navigation and hindering commerce. The district always has been dry, but this year a two months' drought, beginning in the spring, destroyed all hopes for the reaping of crops and rendered the landscape practically a desert, resembling portions of Morocco. The population is almost entirely composed of day laborers who depend on agricultural employment and when that fails, which is a frequent occurrence, though more marked this year than ever before, practically everybody is thrown into a condition of indigence.

It is calculated that a third of the population emigrated in recent years to South America, and these emigrants naturally included the most robust. The condition of the remainder, however, was not ameliorated thereby. The soil, owing to lack of irrigation, is becoming more and more unproductive and the patience of the people is now nearly exhausted.

The absence of the landlords and unfulfilled electioneering promises, added to the fact that women and children are suffering the agonies of slow starvation, have led the people to listen to agitators, who incited them to violence the result of which is seen in attacks on farms, the seizure and killing of flocks of sheep and the threat of armed invasion of the towns.

Murmurs of revolutions have awakened apprehension and the farmers everywhere are taking refuge in the cities, while the police regard acts of pillage with indifference, refusing to arrest men who frequently accuse themselves in order to obtain food.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL.

Is It Better Than the Home for Instructing the Young in Religion.

Professor Shailer Matthews, of the divinity school at the University of Chicago, delivered an address a few days ago before the Chicago Ministers Institute on the subject of the religious instruction of the young, to which, unless he was poorly reported, some objections may be offered.

"The idea that boys can sit at the knees of their parents before the family fireplace," he said, "and absorb a moral education is beautiful, but only a dream. The only institution that really gives religious instruction is the Sunday School. That is the place for children to learn a good code of morals, but it is not the only place."

Having disposed of the home and the Sunday school, the professor then explained how the religious instruction of the young could be secured. "If the public schools will not take this up," he said, "then every church should have an organization for the instruction of its youth. In this way we will have an organization giving religious instruction of some real importance."

The professor appears to speak of religious education and of learning a code of morals as the same thing, when no two things could be more different. Religion is a system of belief which furnishes the motive for right living. People do not lie, steal and commit murder because they have not studied ethics, but because their moral sense is not supported by any adequate motive.

The public schools cannot undertake to give religious instruction. They have more than they can do already, and this is a kind of instruction which can only be given by devout people and about which there is such a diversity of opinion that it could never be given peaceably.

It is remarkable that a man like Professor Matthews should deny that religious instruction can be given generally in the home, and even ridicule as a dream the idea of parental instruction in sacred things. If he had said that the only place on earth where religious instruction is ever successfully imparted was the home he would have been much nearer the truth. Let him inquire of his divinity students how and where they received their best religious instruction. Let him ask himself where it was that the foundations of religion were laid in his own mind and heart. We are much mistaken if it was not in the home and at his parents' knees.

The Sunday school, the professor says, is now the only place where young people are given religious instruction. This may be true and it may account for the fact that so little is received and that the present generation of children are almost ignorant of the Bible and the precepts of religion as they are of the Vedas.

The Sunday school was for a century or more after Robert Raikes originated it, in 1781, the most powerful agency for the teaching of religion that the world has ever seen. It would probably be so today but for the general decay in religious conviction and religious devotion. The stream cannot rise higher than the

fountain, and when the religion of "WE WILL BE BEATEN."

Sir Gilbert Parker's Opinion of Next British Elections.

Toronto, Aug. 29.—"I am sorry the elections were not held a year ago; we (the British Conservatives) would have been beaten, but not quite so badly as we will be when the elections do come," said Sir Gilbert Parker last night at the Queen's Hotel, for the constituency of Gravesend, England, and has taken an active part in British political affairs. He says he is to be opposed at the next election by a Mr. McPherson, who will run as a Labor and Liberal candidate. Mr. McPherson is the General Secretary of the clerks and shop employees' organization.

Sir Gilbert believes that the elections will not be held until next year, although he says some event might precipitate a contest. He is of opinion that Mr. Balfour will introduce a redistribution bill, to which there will be bitter opposition, and on that measure the Government may go to the country. He thinks there will be at least thirty Labor members in the next Parliament and these, with sixty or seventy home rulers, will be the real masters of the situation for a time. He believes that in Britain no party should have too big a majority or retain office too long. In either case it is bound to have internal troubles which will end in disaster.

Sir Gilbert is on his way to North Bay, where he will join Sir Wilfrid Laurier and the other Cabinet Ministers, who are to attend the ceremonies associated with the inauguration of the new Provinces of Alberta and Saskatchewan. He expects to be back in the city about September 11th.

The adults who conduct these schools have lost its power it is absurd to suppose that they can communicate spiritual life to the scholars. Strenuous efforts are made to substitute material advantages for this vital force. There are the nicely printed lesson sheet, the attractive music and the annual picnic, but they do not take the place of men and women whose hearts are all aglow with holy zeal and with whom religion is "the great concern."

The average Sunday school teacher of the present day is an immature person without any accurate knowledge of the Bible and without any special religious convictions or experience. The lesson consists of thirty minute conversation which is regarded as highly successful if it is even entertaining. How can such instruction on one day in the week make head against the influences of the other days and hours of the week?

Professor Matthews proposes a special school for religious instruction in every church, but this is hardly feasible. If this is to be a school of ethics never yet made anybody either religious or moral. If it is to be a school of instruction in the Bible it

would not be different from a Bible class and the young would not attend it.

Professor Matthews' address simply emphasizes the lamentable fact that many of the young of the present day are growing up in utter religious ignorance.

KNABENSHUE GOING ON STAGE

Airship Inventor Believes People are Thoroughly Interested in Aerial Navigation.

New York, Aug. 29.—A Roy Knabenshue, who made two successful ascents over New York in his airship, Toledo No. 2, last week, was the guest of the manager of the "Buster Brown" company, appearing at the Majestic theater last night. Mr. Knabenshue with a party of friends occupied a box.

Mr. Knabenshue during one of the intermissions talked with an Eagle reporter about his future plans. He is going to Columbus, O., to give an exhibition there next week, which will be followed by exhibitions at Detroit, Chicago, Minneapolis, Boston and may be Atlanta.

Mr. Knabenshue is going on the vaudeville stage in the fall. He expects to tour the country with an airship built on the same lines as the Toledo II., but of smaller dimensions, and to explain its mechanism. He will open in Manhattan, where he is booked to appear for six weeks. He will then come to Brooklyn and show his airship here for three weeks. "There are millions of people who are curious to know the principle of aerial navigation," said Mr. Knabenshue. "All of them can't see a practical demonstration of the workings of the ship and I believe that, by appearing on the stage with a ship built on the same lines as the Toledo II., I can give those who want to know what a real airship looks like an opportunity to learn the principle on which it is built and navigated."

Regarding Leo Stevens' challenge to a race, Mr. Knabenshue said:

"I have notified Mr. Stevens that if he has an airship like mine I will accept his challenge, but not until then."

Mr. Knabenshue is very proud of his airship. He expressed the opinion that it would be of great utility in warfare.

"But," he added, "if they want to use it in warfare they will have to get some one else to steer it. I'd prefer not to have the job."

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Mrs. E. J. Richardson, Manotick, Ont., tells as follows of her enormous gain in health from Ferrozone: "For two years I was not well. I was thin and anemic. Towards spring I fell into a condition of nervous exhaustion. A dead tiredness hung over me like a load of lead. Household work of any kind I simply couldn't do. A bad cough developed that worried me greatly. For I thought it might be tubercular. When I first read of Ferrozone I was convinced it was good. I took it regularly for eight weeks and the change in my condition was wonderful. My cheeks filled out and became clear and rosy. I gained eight pounds and now am strong and vigorous as possible."

Ferrozone feeds, nourishes and tones up the body—it sends the thrill and vim of robust health from head to foot—makes you feel better at once. Won't you use Ferrozone? Price 50c. per box, or six boxes for \$2.50, at all dealers, or N. C. Polson & Co., Hartford, Conn., U.S.A., and Kingston, Ont.

VALUE OF EDUCATED PIG.

Trained Animals Insured for a Hundred Thousand.

New York, Aug. 29.—Insurance to the amount of \$100,000 was yesterday placed by a local agency on the bird and beast performers which are to appear at the Hippodrome at its opening. Included in the group was Dick, a goose; Phoebe, an educated pig, his chum, and Tubby, a trained Connecticut turkey.

Clyde W. Powers insured Dick for \$2,000. Dick was thirteen years old yesterday, and, with his master, has appeared in every inaugural parade in Washington since he was old enough to waddle. He has paddled in nearly every river in the western hemisphere and it is Mr. Powers' ambition to have him swim in the River Jordan and the Dead Sea before he goes the way of all geese. Phoebe, the pig, was insured for \$300, and Tubby for \$200.

THE WORST OF A COLD.

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MAY BRING LEPERS TO TRACADIE.

Proposition on Foot to Remove the Entire D'Arcy Island Colony.

Vancouver World: A proposition is now on foot looking toward the abolishment of the provincial leper colony at D'Arcy island and the transportation of the unfortunates who are now there to the Molokai of Eastern Canada at Tracadie, New Brunswick.

Hon. R. G. Tatlow recently said: "Dr. Fagan and myself about a week ago paid a visit to D'Arcy island to investigate the condition of the lepers, and whilst we found them well housed and well fed, we felt that they should receive more attention than it was possible to afford them there, when it was impossible to get any responsible person to go and look after them. Some of them appeared to be in a very sad condition, and certainly required some attention. We have therefore approached the Dominion government on the subject with a view to having them transferred to Tracadie, the lazaretto in New Brunswick, where they will be under proper supervision and where it will be possible to give them the humane attention their condition demands."

Underhill said this morning that the idea was one which he has long advocated. The conditions under which the lepers are now kept at D'Arcy island are of the worst possible character. They are put there and practically left to die, no attention of a medical character being given them such as they should receive. They were left without anything to occupy their minds, which was most unfortunate. Personally, he was in favor of transporting the whole crowd back to China if it were possible, but the suggestion of the transportation to the east was a much better course than was now being pursued.

Silesian glassmakers are turning out glass bricks for all kinds of building purposes and glass houses of a very substantial kind can now be built.

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