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C. P. R. Agent, Charlottetown But bookings must be made at once so we can make our arrangements.

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119 HOLLIS ST., HALIFAX Charlottetown Passengers can go by C. N. R. to St. John and meet our party there at the Halifax Price. We will arrange transportation.

Central Guardian

LARGE PARKING SPACE for cars on town side of Hospital during Exhibition Week. 7222-8-20-31

THE EVERBRITE SPOONS are proving a big success as a premium. Did you get yours? If not, do not delay, they are going fast.

COME TO LEAGUE OF CROSS HALL for delicious hot meals while visiting the Exhibition. 18-91-8-1111

IT IS RUMORED that Carol Asterdatt, a Rumanian Prince, who is visiting this country incognito, is touring the Island and passed through this City Saturday enroute to other points.

IMPORTANT NOTICE TO SUCCESSFUL ISLANDERS—Will all the successful Islanders now on the Island make a personal call on the Editor of the Patriot or the Editor of the Guardian and learn something about the School Days Library

PLEASED WITH VISIT—Mr. J. F. B. Livesay, general manager of the Canadian Press, and Mr. A. D. Merkel, Maritime Superintendent, were here for the week-end in connection with Canadian Press business. Both were delighted with the evidences of prosperity to be seen on all sides.

ON AUTO TRIP—Mr. and Mrs. John H. Morrow, accompanied by their son Irving, and daughter Ethel, motored from Boston last week, and are visiting relatives and friends in St. Catharines. Mr. Morrow has been in the service of the United States government for the past twenty-five years. His son is connected with the Boston Post Publishing Company.

HERE FROM TORONTO—Among the visitors at Mrs. Graham's, Bay View, for the past fortnight was Miss Sophie Livesay, daughter of Mr. J. F. B. Livesay, manager of the Canadian Press. Last year Miss Livesay spent an enjoyable holiday with her parents and sister at Mrs. Graham's and returned this year for another delightful holiday. This morning she leaves with her father who came here on Friday and spent the week end with his daughter.

C. G. I. T. GIRLS SEND DONATION TO JUNIOR RED CROSS.—The C. G. I. T. Girls who were camping at Canoe Cove have most generously donated the sum of \$7.93 to the Junior Red Cross. This was half the proceeds of their "Serve Others" box at the Lunch Shop, where fruit and candy were sold. Into this box they were asked to drop their spare pennies and the above donations is the result, there being enough to furnish another contribution of \$7.93 to the Protestant Orphanage.

PROMOTION.—Mr. Vernon R. P. MacDonald, son of Mr. D. J. MacDonald of Vernon, formerly manager of the National Life Assurance Company of Montreal has been appointed manager of the Canada Life Assurance Company at Detroit, Mich. This is the largest office of this company in the United States. Mr. MacDonald was formerly on the staff of the Royal Bank at Charlottetown and subsequently manager of that bank at Regina, Sask.

ISLANDER DEAD.—Word has been received here of the death of Alexander L. MacNeven of St. Louis, Missouri. He was a carpenter and leaves besides his wife, who was Miss Annie McNally of St. Louis, seven children. Mr. MacNeven was born in Bonshaw, P. E. I. and was 48 years old and was the son of the late Alexander L. and Mary Ann (MacPadyen) MacNeven. He also leaves one brother and four sisters. John C. MacNeven of Cornwall, P. E. I., Mrs. G. A. Anderson and Mrs. William H. Surgenor of Hartford, Conn.; Mrs. Austin T. Mason of Bristol, Conn., and Miss Jessie B. MacNeven, trained nurse of Providence, R. I. —(Mission please copy).

MR. J. F. B. LIVESAY, Toronto, General Manager of the Canadian Press who has been on a trip

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through the Maritime Provinces and Newfoundland was in the city on Saturday. It is his impression that not for a generation has the outlook in the Maritimes been so hopeful. A very striking thing is evident that young men who went to the United States during the past few years are now coming back in quite large numbers to their home country. Mr. Livesay's daughter, Miss Sophy has been summering at Cavendish at the home of Mrs. W. A. Graham where Mr. and Mrs. Livesay stayed last summer. She will accompany her father back to Toronto. They are leaving on return this morning.

PERSONALS

Mr. Guy F. Holland, Tryon, returned from Charlottetown where he spent the past week.

Mr. W. H. S. Ritchie, Manager of the Bank of Nova Scotia, Chatham, N. B., and daughter Miss Adele is visiting in the city.

Mrs. N. M. Stanley and Miss Edith Stanley of Montreal, P. Q., are spending the summer in Montague, guests of Mr and Mrs. C. C. Thompson.

Mrs. John McGuigan, Hope River, Mrs. Thos. Bolger and Miss Anne Fleming, Stanley, delegates from Sterling Institute, were in the city attending the Convention of Women's Institutes. They returned to their homes the latter part of the week.

Mr. J. J. Flynn and wife, accompanied by Master Raymond Heatherton, have been visiting his brother, Messrs W. M. Flynn and Frank Flynn, Sydney St., left on return to New York last Thursday. Master Heatherton is baritone lead and soloist of the famous Paulist Church of New York City, and is a nephew of Mr. J. J. Flynn.

WHAT IS THE MATTER WITH PREACHING?

Condensed from Harper's Magazine (July, '28).

Harry Emerson Fosdick.

Every sermon should have for its main business the solving of some problem—a vital problem, puzzling minds, burdening consciences—and any sermon which does tackle a real problem, and throw even a little light on it, cannot be altogether uninteresting. Any preacher who even with moderate skill is helping folk to solve their real problems is functioning. He never will lack an audience. He may have neither eloquence nor learning, but he is doing the one thing that is a preacher's business.

Many preachers indulge habitually in what they call expository sermons. They take a passage from Scripture and, proceeding on the assumption that the people attending church that morning are deeply concerned about what the passage means, they spend their time in a historical exposition, ending with some appended practical application to the auditors. Could any procedure be more surely predestined to dullness and futility? Every agency dealing with the public recognizes that contact with the actual life of the auditor is the one place to begin if his interest is to be stirred. Only the preacher proceeds still on the idea that folk come to church desperately anxious to discover what happened to the Jesuites.

This does not mean that the value of the Bible to the preacher is lessened. It means that preachers who pick out texts and then proceed to give their historic settings and meanings, with a few practical reflections added, are grossly misusing the Bible. The Bible is a searchlight, so much intended to be looked at as to be thrown upon a shadowed spot. Let the preacher start with the auditors' vital need, and throw all the light he can on it. An increasing number of preachers too modern to use the old, textual method, do not even attempt to light on a better one. Then turn to what is called topical preaching. They search contemporary life in general for subjects. They find that such subjects as divorce, Bolshevism, or the latest book have such attractive vividness that they enjoy their own preaching better and more people come to hear it.

The nemesis of such a method, however, is not far off. Watch the records of any considerable number of those who try it and see how many of them peter out and leave the ministry altogether. Instead of starting with a text, they start with their own ideas on some subject of their own choice, but their own

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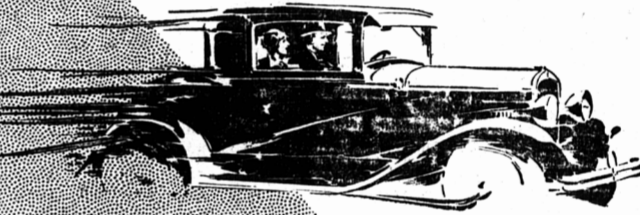
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ideas on that subject may be much less vitally interesting to the people than a great text from the Bible. One who listens to such preaching knows that the preacher is starting at the wrong end. He is thinking first of his ideas, when he should think first of his people. He is starting with a subject where he should start with an object. The wise preacher, even though we may have planned a far more momentous use of sermon time.

A good sermon should take it into account that we never really get an idea until we have thought it for ourselves. The wise preacher, then, must see clearly and state fairly what people other than himself are thinking on the matter in hand. Such preaching when it is well done will always possess an important quality. It is not mere sentimentality and pugnacious but ironic, kindly, and constructively helpful. How much the churches need such discourses!

Not only is such preaching the most useful; it is the most interesting. This is the only way I know to achieve excitement without sensationalism. Constructively to state the problem of meeting trouble victoriously, or of living above the mediocre moral level of a modern city, or of believing in God in the face of the world's evil, or of making Christ's principles triumphant against the present international prejudice is surely not sensationalism, but it is vitally interesting.

Yet this is not the full requirement. The best sermons, I believe, are preached on the project method, plus. When a preacher deals with joy, let us say, he ought to start, not with joy in the fifth century B. C. nor with joy as a subject to be lectured on, but with the concrete difficulties in living joyfully that his people actually experience. He should have in mind their mistaken ideas of joy, their false attempts to get it, and their general problem of victorious and happy living in the face of puzzling experiences. But the real sermon must do more than discuss joy—it must produce it. All powerful preaching is creative. It actually brings to pass in lives the things it talks about. So to tackle the problem of joy that the whole congregation goes out more joyful than it came in—that is the mark of a genuine sermon.

Here lies the basic distinction between a sermon and an essay. It is easy to preach about repentance

without making anybody feel like repenting, or to deliver an accomplished discourse on peace without producing any of that valuable article in the auditors. The true preacher produces the thing itself in the people who hear it. As an English bishop said about Phillips Brooks, "He makes one feel so strong."

Obviously, personal quality is the major factor in producing spiritual power. There is a real reason for the halo which painters have put about the heads of saints. They are symbols of something intangible but in the people who hear it. As an English bishop said about Phillips Brooks, "He makes one feel so strong."

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