

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

THE SITUATION in China does not become more encouraging. The revolutionary spirit is still dominant, and the Christian converts of China are not escaping altogether the hatred of the revolutionists. A dispatch from Peking under date of March 5th says: "A letter from a missionary at Hwang-Hsion, near Che-Fu, received here to-day, states that the imperial troops put out the eyes of forty Christian converts, then beheaded them, saying that they were naturally rebels. Heads still hang warningly on tripods here and there in the streets of Peking, although some of the bodies have been removed and buried." In other parts of China the disturbances are equally great, and appearances would seem to indicate that it is a long way to settled conditions again among these multitudinous people.

THE ARBITRATION TREATIES have been ratified by the Senate, but in an emasculated form. There is said to have been keen disappointment in London over the result, not because they passed, but because they did not pass in their unamended form. We trust there is enough of force felt in them to constitute a distinct step forward toward the goal of universal peace.

A MOTHER in South Carolina has written to the Southern Christian Advocate in hearty endorsement of the position of Bishop Kilgo in his article on "Methodist Preachers and Sporting Clubs." She utters these truthful words: "Billiard tables and cards somehow belong to Satan, and so does dancing—at least some dancing. They can't be redeemed. Any game that is used in gambling must not be learned by our boys and girls." That is good mother sense—say what you will.

CHEERING WORDS are as refreshing to the worn out and tired toilers in the path of life as are the summer breezes. We have seldom given our readers a peep into our letters, but here is a short extract from one that did our heart good, and we pass it along: "I thoroughly enjoy reading the 'Dear Old Raleigh,' for I gather from its sacred pages so much comfort and spiritual food. Do you realize, dear brother, what a good paper you are giving us? It seems to me that it is the very best we have ever had. I pray to our Father to make you stronger in His work." And that last sentence is appreciated most of all. The editor needs the constant prayers of his brethren.

THE SOUTH POLE has now been discovered, according to the press dispatches, by the Norwegian Captain Roald Amundsen. The Norwegians are naturally very much elated. The feeling of the people was voted in the Storting by President Frederick Konow, who said: "We can't begin our day's work without expressing our thankful joy and the admiration and pride with which we are all filled by the news that Captain Amundsen and his comrades have reached the South Pole and planted the Norwegian flag there." It is to be hoped that there will not be another dispute over the question of the reality of the discovery, or by whom it was first made. The country has had enough of "faked" discoveries.

THAT LIQUORITE who assaulted R. L. Davis, Superintendent of the State Anti-Saloon League, on the streets of Wilson will not profit by his bravado. The courts have required him to pay a fine of \$25 for the assault, but that is the least of the penalty that he and his like will have to pay. Every such manifestation of viciousness on the part of the liquor forces will drive honorable and law-abiding citizens into a more relentless warfare against lawlessness. This method of attack has had much to do with signing the death warrant of the saloon. This method of iniquity, this cancer upon the body politic, must be destroyed. The "tiger" must be driven out, whether "open-eyed" or "blind."

THE MEN AND RELIGION FORWARD MOVEMENT took a religious census of Raleigh last Sunday as to church attendance on the part of men and boys. Twelve hundred and ninety-nine of these were found in the various churches at 11:30 a. m., and four hundred and eighty-six were found on the streets and in the drug stores and other lounging places. We do not know how this will compare with other cities, but we think that this sort of investigation will do good. It puts into a practical form the situation that exists, and will hold up to public view the task that is before the churches.

THE ADVOCATE CAMPAIGN is progressing nicely considering the difficulties with which the preachers have had to contend up to this time. Most of the Sundays of the year have been such that congregations have been limited to the faithful few who brave all difficulties, and during the week days conditions have been unfavorable for getting around among the people. Owing to the pressure upon our columns for space, we are not giving the exhibit this week, but it will appear again next week. Magnolia Circuit, Rev. C. T. Rogers, pastor, has gained its position upon the honor roll. We greatly appreciate the work the brethren are doing, and confidently expect a largely increased response as soon as the spring properly opens.

THE SALVATION ARMY is moving to establish a post in Raleigh. A number of their commissioned officers have been here, and several pulpits of the city were occupied by these people on Sunday evening, March 10. We understand that a commissioned officer of the army has been put in charge of the work in this city, and that it will be steadily prosecuted from this time on. These people have done a great work among the poor and the deeply fallen in other places, and in this they have followed closely the example of the Master. One may not be attracted by some of their methods, and there is a large class of people to whom we do not think their methods will ever appeal; still there is another class that is reached by them who are not attracted by the usual methods of the church. We sincerely trust that their labors in Raleigh may result in the salvation of many souls.

A FREE OFFERING.

THE TIME is now approaching to beautify your yards and gardens with flowers. The Advocate wishes to offer to all of its patrons and friends a package of seeds, containing at least forty mixed varieties of flower and vine seed, as a free gift. The only requirement is that you send us ten cents in stamps to pay for packing and postage, and we will do the rest.

Personal & Otherwise

Rev. R. L. Carraway writes: "We will begin a series of meetings at East Lumberton March 24. Bro. E. C. Glenn will do the preaching."

Rev. R. W. Bailey preached a splendid sermon at the Methodist Church on last Sunday morning. He devoted much of his time to the local conditions.—Franklin Times.

Rev. C. W. Robinson, Clayton, was in our office a few minutes Tuesday morning and reported progress on his work. They are planning to begin the erection of a new church soon to cost \$12,000 or \$15,000.

On March 5, Montpelier, the capital city of Vermont, returned to the no-license ranks. It had been in the "wet" column for one year. Six towns also changed to no-license. As a result there will be but twenty-two of the two hundred and forty-six cities and towns in the State where the open saloon is legalized during the coming year.

We regret to note the death of Mrs. J. T. Thorne, of Farmville, N. C. He represented his county in the last Legislature, and his wife attended at least a part of the session with him as a bride. Our sympathies are extended to the sorrowing husband.

During the past two weeks Rev. J. J. Boone of the Mount Olive Circuit has been holding a series of meetings at Elm Street Methodist Chapel. He is a spiritual man of marked enthusiasm, and his practical sermons have been uplifting to his large congregations. The meeting closed Sunday afternoon, at which time there were sixteen accessions to the church. Fourteen of this number came from the Sunday-school.—Goldsboro Daily Argus.

A note from Rev. R. H. Broom brings the following information: "We are making steady progress. Sixteen new members have been received, one on profession of faith. Twenty-five children have been baptized. More than two hundred pastoral visits have been made. The Advocate is commended privately and publicly. Our monthly sacraments and church conferences are well attended, and renewed interest is shown in the music."

In sending in a renewal to the Advocate, Rev. S. E. Mercer says: "We are in the midst of a fine revival. I am assisted by Rev. A. L. Stanford, of Hendersonville. We are having fine congregations. There has already been a number of conversions, and the interest continues to deepen with every service." We are getting hungry for reports of this kind. We have had very unfavorable weather for anything this winter, but we trust that our columns will soon be carrying the news of many gracious revivals.

Mr. J. A. Hartness, President of the State Anti-Saloon League, returned yesterday afternoon from Washington, where he appeared before the judiciary committee of Congress in behalf of the Webb bill to prevent the shipment of liquor into dry territory. The Kenyon bill of the same nature was also considered by the committee during the three days' hearing and the many delegates who appeared in the interest of the bill were much encouraged by the prospect of one or both of them being favorably reported. Mr. Webb believes his bill will be favorably reported and feels sure it will pass the House.—Statesville Landmark.

Dr. Edwin Mims, well known in North Carolina, delivered one of his characteristic addresses before a Durham audience at the city high school recently. In speaking of the occasion, one of our exchanges said: "One could not have heard the address of Dr. Mims last night without wanting to know something of the great poems suggested in the different views of life he sketched for the audience. The address was just the kind needed by the pupils of the city. It was no exhortation, no dogmatic annunciation that the very finest things in life were to be found in the great poetry of the world. There was no plea for a study of poetry, but rather a suggestion of the hidden beauties, a partial showing of the thought treasures that made the hearers hungry for more. It awoke the half forgotten memories of many and strengthened a resolution to read more and better literature of real worth."

Along with a renewal for the Advocate Brother Wyche, Bailey, N. C., sends the following note: "While sitting quietly reading my home paper, 'The Stanley Enterprise,' I was startled by hearing the sound of many feet coming upon the front porch. Rushing into the house, they went straight for the dining room and called for a light. I went out there to see what the trouble was, and found the dining table—which, by the way, is a long one—completely covered with packages, consisting of butter, eggs, sausage, canned fruit, dried fruit, ham, pickles, beans, peas, Coffee, potatoes, soap, meal, molasses, crackers, rice, baking powders, canned corn, cracklings and sugar, and the hall and room full of the good people of Bailey. There were about forty of them, and they consisted of every denomination in town. They were a lively and happy crowd, and I could do nothing but stand with my mouth wide open and grin. May God's blessings rest upon and abide with every one of them!"