

GEN. REYES IN WASHINGTON

Colombian Peace Commissioners Confer With Dr. Herran. Washington, Nov. 30. — General Rafael Reyes, the Colombian peace commissioner, and his colleagues continued their conferences with Dr. Tomas Herran, the Colombian chargé d'affaires at Washington, regarding the Panama canal treaty and affairs on the Isthmus. As a preliminary to any action whatever, General Reyes is familiarizing himself with every feature of the Isthmian question about which Dr. Herran is able to give him information. There are many antecedent circumstances bearing on the negotiation of the defunct Hay-Herran convention of which it is desirable that General Reyes shall have knowledge before he proceeds with his mission. All these matters are being gone over very carefully by General Reyes and Dr. Herran, and it is expected that several days will elapse before developments take place. No plan as yet has been mapped out governing the mission of General Reyes," said Dr. Herran, "and we have no statement as yet to make to the public. At the first opportunity Dr. Herran will present General Reyes to Secretary Hay. At this meeting, it is expected there will be an informal discussion of the general's mission, the results of which in a measure at least will determine his future course.



What Shall We Have for Dessert? This question arises in the family every day. Let us answer it to-day. Try Jell-O, a delicious and healthful dessert. Prepared in two minutes. No boiling! No baking! Simply add boiling water and set to cool. Flavors—Lemon, Orange, Raspberry and Strawberry. Get a package at your grocery to-day. Jell-O.

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CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR.

Topic For the Week Beginning Dec. 13.—Comment by Rev. S. E. Doyle. Topic.—An anti-worship meeting.—John xiv, 1-31.

We are living in an age when worry and its pernicious effects are most prevalent. The contest for place and power and the strife of competition at a time when so much stress is laid upon material things are so great that the lives of many are filled with undue anxiety concerning the things of life. In addition to this, there are many other causes that produce worry—the afflictions, sorrows and bereavements of life as well as its duties and unnatural ambitions.

But worry is anti-Christian. Jesus Christ, the "author and finisher of our faith," was an optimist and not a pessimist. He recognized the fact that there were sorrows, adversities and tribulations in life, but in spite of them all He preached the gospel of good cheer. To the paralytic He said, "Be of good cheer, thy sins be forgiven thee." To the disciples on the stormy Galilee He said, "Be of good cheer, it is I, be not afraid." To them again when about to leave them in the world to have their word was, "In the world ye have tribulation, but he of good cheer, for I have overcome the world." To Paul, facing a perilous journey in the Mediterranean sea, He appeared at night with the comforting words, "Fear not, Paul." So it was heartily in the life of the Master. Recognizing the sorrows of life, He yet preached cheer, faith and trust. His disciples against undue anxiety about the things of this life, and when He saw that a better illustration of this truth than in the instance before us, when when about to leave His disciples in the world He said, "Let not your heart be troubled; ye believe in God, believe also in Me!"

Christ's practice and teaching make worry wrong for the Christian. It is a manifestation of lack of faith in Christ. Real, genuine faith in God and in Jesus Christ as the Son of God and our Saviour should exclude worry from our lives, and worry indulged in becomes a sin. But worry is worthless as well as wrong. It improves nothing. It makes bad worse instead of better. Nothing in the midst of trouble is more harmful than worry over it. Cheerfulness strengthens and encourages us, it helps us to endure, but worry weakens us at every point and makes us all the less able to stand against the trouble that assails us.

If not worry, what then? Trust—trust in God, trust in Jesus Christ. "Ye believe in God, believe also in Me." That Christ declares should be our attitude toward the troubles and adversities of life. We are not to fear, but believe; we are not to worry, but to trust. Christ Himself is the basis of Christian cheerfulness which should supplant worry. "Be of good cheer, it is I," He said to the disciples and again, "In the world ye have tribulations, but he of good cheer, for I have overcome the world." Christ has overcome, and in His name and power we can overcome. Therefore "let not your heart be troubled, neither be ye afraid."

THE WHITE HARVEST BELDS. Lift up your eyes and look upon the white harvest fields in all the world. India has enlarged her Christian Endeavor boundaries. China with her new secretary is at the beginning of a new era of great expansion. Japan has gained 30 per cent and has just enjoyed the best convention in her history. Great Britain has made steady progress. Germany has made substantial gains. France and Spain have had the best year in all their history, while since our last convention Switzerland, Italy, Portugal, Finland and Iceland have fairly entered the ranks of Christian Endeavor for the first time.—Rev. Dr. Francis E. Clark.

Let every society inaugurate a membership canvass. Search the Sunday school, go through the entire congregation, for recruits. Enlarge the associate list. Bring in the Christian young people who have not yet learned the joy of service for Christ. This will be a splendid preliminary to a campaign for souls further on.—Rev. Dr. Edwin Forrest Hallenbeck.

More Quiet Hour Thoughts. If each man had the spirit of self surrender, the spirit of the cross, it would not matter to him whether he were doing the work of the mainspring or of one of the inferior parts.—F. W. Robertson. For grounding our young people in fundamental truth, for quickening the spiritual life and for developing in them a love and a power for Christian service nothing can be more effectual than day by day feeding on the word of God.—Rev. Edwin F. Hallenbeck, D. D., President New York State Union.

The daily study of the Bible, if possible at some regular time each day, as in the Quiet Hour in the morning or in the evening, and in systematic way, is the substantial way of making progress daily in a mastery of the Bible and of deeply impressing on the mind and heart the life molding truths of the Bible.—Robert E. Spoor. Five minutes spent in the companionship of Christ every morning—aye, two minutes, if it is face to face and heart to heart—will change the whole day. It will make every thought and feeling different, will enable you to do for His sake what you would not have done for your own or for any one's sake.—Henry Drummond.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL.

Lesson in the International Series for December 13, 1903.—The Dedication of the Temple.

THE LESSON TEXT. (1 Kings vi-ii, 6, 8.) 1. Then Solomon assembled the elders of Israel, and all the heads of the tribes, the chief of the fathers of the nation of Israel, unto King Solomon in Jerusalem, that they might bring up the ark of the covenant of the Lord out of the city of David, which is Zion.

2. And all the men of Israel assembled themselves unto King Solomon at the feast in the month Ethanim, which is the seventh month. 3. And all the elders of Israel came, and the priests took up the ark. 4. And they brought up the ark of the Lord, and the tables of the covenant, and all the holy vessels that were in the tabernacle, even those that the priests and the Levites bring up.

5. And King Solomon, and all the congregation of Israel, that were assembled unto him, were with him before the ark, sacrificing sheep and oxen, that could not be told nor numbered nor measured. 6. And the priests brought in the ark of the covenant of the Lord unto the place which King Solomon had builded for the Lord, as King Solomon had commanded the priests.

7. Then King Solomon said unto all the people, "The Lord has chosen David, and he has made Solomon his servant. The Lord has chosen me, and he has made me his servant. The Lord has chosen this place, and he has made this place his sanctuary. The Lord has chosen me, and he has made me his servant. The Lord has chosen this place, and he has made this place his sanctuary. The Lord has chosen me, and he has made me his servant. The Lord has chosen this place, and he has made this place his sanctuary."

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NOTES AND COMMENTS. (1 Kings vi.) When in his fourth year, Solomon began to build the temple, he found that the preparations of David had made the work very much lighter than it would otherwise have been. Immense quantities of gold and silver and brass and iron had been stored away. Just how great these quantities were and how much they were worth in our money we have no way of knowing, for the numbers, especially in the Books of Chronicles seem to be greatly exaggerated, owing perhaps to the confusion arising from the use of letters of the Hebrew alphabet for numbers.

(Chs. 5, 7.) In these chapters is given an interesting and detailed description of this most magnificent building. The choir was about 25 inches. As we saw in Lesson ix, the site of the temple was the threshing-floor of Ornan, just outside the city. The temple walls were of burnt bricks of brown stone. "Lave the masonry the masonry consisted of two orders; the outer being of burnt bricks, which formed a certain cube of cubits. The interior was of white stones, and the walls were built with stones of the same size and shape as the stones of the outside wall, but the use of the priests and other officials. The place of worship assigned to the people was the large outer court, containing a brazen sea, or laver intended for the ceremonial ablutions of the priests, and doubtless also a wash-basin expressly mentioned, the great brazen altar of burnt offerings, and other more details of the temple see any good Bible dictionary.

(Ch. vi-ii.) Solomon assembled the elders of Israel, etc. Solomon believed in the impracticability of great pageants. The dedication ceremonies covered an entire week, and were immediately followed by the regular Feast of Tabernacles. "To bring up the ark," which David had established temporarily on Zion (the "City of David"), one of the two principal hills of Jerusalem. "And the tent of meeting," the old tabernacle dating from the days of Moses. It had been standing of late at Gibeon, but was now brought to be preserved as a sacred relic in the new temple. "The holy vessels," the candlestick, table for showbread, altar of incense, the brazen serpent and perhaps the great brazen altar. "Before the ark, sacrificing." The whole ceremonial was religious and the most impressive part of it to the people was the sacrificing. It expressed their gratitude and praise, but also their confession of sin and their faith that Jehovah might be approached in penitence and would gladly pardon the sin. The animals sacrificed provided food for the immense crowds that thronged the city. "The oracle," better, the most holy place. (Vs. 12-48.) After the priests had placed the ark in the most holy place the singers (2 Chron. 5:12) burst forth with what has been called the national anthem of the Hebrews. "For He is good; for His loving-kindness endureth for ever."

Flies and Thistles. The heathen have no monopoly on vain repetitions. Character is the only permanent capital in business. Perfection is a glorious prospect but a sad boast. The fruit that will keep for eternity does not ripen in a moment. The influence of a nation depends on the influence of its manhood. A man's religion in the shop is worth twice his religion in the church. God will not give you power until you have some purpose to hitch it to.—Sam's Horn.

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