Economy Of Men And Money In New American Islands.

Missionary Boards to "Invade" Cuba, Porto Rico and the Philippines—Episcopalian Force Will Be Led By the Rev. P. Duarte—Planning a Great Concerted Agitation.

In consideration of the moral and religious responsibility involved in the political and military relations into which this country has been forced with Cuba, Porto Rico and the Philippine Islands, Dr. Arthur J. Brown, secretary of the Board of Foreign Missions of the Presbyterian Church of the United States of America, a short time ago sent a letter to the foreign missionary bands of the various churches with a view to obtaining a frank mutual understanding and an agreement as to the most effective distribution of the work among the several Boards if it should be found expedient and practicable to undertake mission work in those fields.

Letters had come to the Presbyterian Board from persons in five different States urging the importance of taking up this work and offering to help furnish men and money, one minister having raised and paid over $1,000 for the support of the first missionary while the General Assembly itself gave strong approval in the report of the standing committee to the effect that "We cannot ignore the fact that God has given into the hands of the American Christians the Philippine Islands and thus opened a wide door to their population and by the guns of our battleships has summoned us to go in and possess the land."

Dr. Brown stated in his letter that the Presbyterian Board felt assured that this opinion was held by other denominations and that it would be unfortunate if several Boards should enter any one of these fields at the same time, thus unnecessarily duplicating expenses and perhaps introducing elements of rivalry.

TO PROMOTE COMITY.

"We have heard much in recent years of the principles of comity," he said, "and we are earnestly striving to promote that comity in lands that are already jointly occupied. We believe that the new situation thus providentially forced upon us affords an excellent opportunity, not only for beginning this work but for beginning it right from the view point of Christian fellowship and the economical use of men and money."

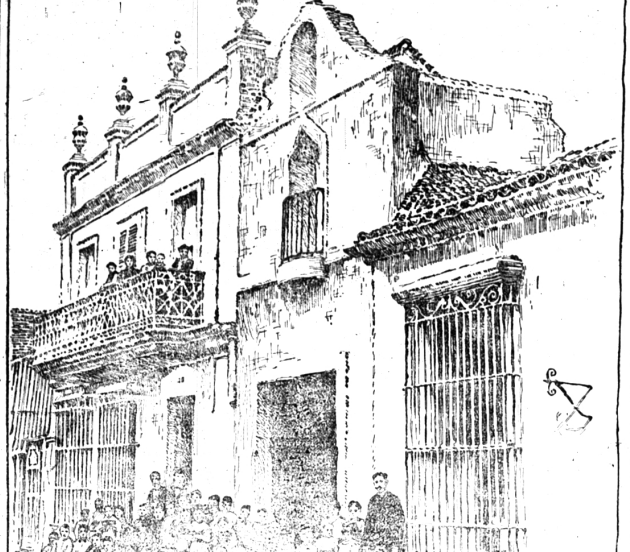
The invitation to this conference was sent to the American Board, the Baptist Missionary Union, the Missionary Society of the M. E. Church, the Board of Foreign and Domestic Missions of the P. E. Church and the Board of Foreign Missions of the Reformed Church in America.

The officers of the Protestant Episcopal Board expressed their sympathy with the object of the meeting, but held that it would be premature and impolitic for them to take action at present since their auxiliary, the American Church Missionary Society, has been conducting work in Cuba, since the Philippines and Porto Rico were not yet in possession of the United States and it was impossible to tell what their political status would be; and because the Board of Managers under whose province the work would come would not meet until September and the General Convention not until October.

"It is manifest," objected the Episcopal Board, "that an arrangement by which this Church would be restricted in its work to portions of the islands would interfere with the jurisdiction of missionary bishops who might be elected by the General Convention and would impede their efforts."

The American Church Missionary Society already has planned an invasion of Cuba under the Rev. Pedro Duarte, who is now in charge of the church at West Tampa, Florida, which is composed largely of Cubans, many of them eagerly waiting for an opportunity to return to the island. The Episcopalians had three chapels in Havana and its suburbs before the war but only one of these remains, Mr. Pena, a lay reader, conducts its services. The church missionary society has been unable to communicate with him by letter for several months, but money has been sent to him by cable to relieve distress among the Protestants.

In addition to the work in Havana the society supported a chapel and school in Mantanzas. This was the former field of labor of the Rev. Mr. Duarte, he having obtained permission from the Cortes to hold Protestant meetings in Cuba. It was through his efforts also that a cemetery was provided where Protestants could be decently buried. When the war broke out the chapel at Mantanzas had to be abandoned and was used for a vaudeville theater by the Spaniards. Mr. Duarte has hopes of regaining possession of it as soon as the Americans and Cubans can return to the island.



MISSION HOUSE IN MATANZAS.

FRUITFUL FIELD IN HAWAII.

The Episcopal church has another fruitful missionary field opening up before it in Hawaii where a diocese was formed by the English church as early as 1861. This was at one time offered to an American bishop, by the Archbishop of Canterbury, but was refused, and the present incumbent, Rt. Rev. Alfred Willis, D. D., was consecrated in 1872. Now that the islands become American territory the Episcopal church will push the work there with vigor.

The American Board did not accept the invitations of the Presbyterians to the conference because they already have a field in the Micronesian islands, which include the Carolines, the Ladrones, the Marshall and the Gilbert Islands.

Before the missionaries appeared the men in these islands went nearly or quite naked and the women wore two mats belted at their waists. Both men and women were elaborately tattooed. The people worshipped the spirits of their ancestors and were extremely superstitious.

The American Board has been assisted in its island work by missionaries from Hawaii. A feature of the work is the use of missionary ships. Since the beginning of its work in 1852 there have been four of these, all bearing the same name, the "Morning Star." These ships make yearly trips among the islands of Micronesia carrying missionaries and supplies.

It is the intention of the American Board to confine its labors for the present to this work, and to leave the Philippines to other boards that are not represented in this part of the world. The work in Cuba and Porto Rico will probably come within the province of the Home Missionary society.

THE DOOR IS OPEN.

With the exception of the Episcopal and American boards, the other Protestant missionary boards sent representatives to the conference called by the Presbyterians and resolutions were adopted declaring it to be the judgment of the conference "that the Christian people of America should immediately and prayerfully consider the duty of entering the door which God in his providence is opening."

The fact was noted that "Seven boards have already undertaken work in Cuba or are expecting to undertake it—namely, the Home Mission Board of the Southern Baptist convention, the missionary society of the Methodist Episcopal church, the Board of Missions of the M. E. Church, South, the General Conference of Free Baptists, the Foreign Missionary society of the United Brethren in Christ, the American church Missionary society of the Protestant Episcopal church, and the New York and Indiana Yearly Meeting of Friends.

"That three Boards contemplate work in Porto Rico, the M. E. Church, the M. E. Church South and the Southern Baptist Convention.

"And three Boards are disposed to consider seriously the opening of missionary work in the Philippine Islands, namely, the Presbyterian, the Methodist Episcopal and the Baptist.

"We feel that it would be unfortunate if several Boards were to enter any one of these fields at the same time, except of course in large centers of population.

"We therefore recommend: (1) That each of the Boards mentioned appoint a committee of two on the field or fields which it thinks of entering, each group of committees to confer with a view to frank and mutual understanding of the most effective and equitable distribution of the territory, and work under the several Boards.

"(2) That the committee take early steps to secure all available information regarding these various islands as missionary fields, and that all information thus obtained be shared with the other committees concerned, with a view to subsequent action.

"(3) That the committee on the Philippine Islands be requested to inform the American board that our board has expressed an intention of undertaking work in the Ladrone Islands, and that the question was raised as to whether the equipment of the American Board in connection with the Caroline Islands does not fit it better for work in the Ladrones."

The American Board has signified its intention to care for the work in the Ladrones. The committees are gathering all possible information about the conditions in the different islands, but no definite plans will be made until their political future is determined upon.

CHURCH BUILT BY THE NATIVES OF THE CAROLINES.

Peach Sandwiches.

The strawberry sandwiches, so called, of the earlier season are now succeeded by a similar article with a peach filling. Bread made of baking-powder biscuit dough is rid of its crust and cut into oblongs. The peaches are sliced, then sprinkled with powdered sugar, and if to be specially good, a dessert spoonful of whipped cream is placed on each. They are of course served separately on small plates and eaten with a fork, not piled and handed around for the finger service so associated with a sandwich in its generic sense.

ARMY DESERTERS.

Speaking of deserters in the English army, a London exchange says:

"Statistics show that eighty per cent. of the desertions that occur in the regular army are perpetrated by recently joined recruits. This seems to imply that the treatment of the youthful Tommy Atkins is somewhat harsh, and that red tapeism is responsible for the loss to the country of many fine young men, who, under slightly different circumstances, would have been ornaments to our army. Unfortunately, the recruit's first impressions of the service are of a nature calculated to banish all enthusiasm for a military career. Just now we read a great deal about recruiting in Scotland for men to fill Scotch regiments but very little about the shameful way the young recruits are treated by the authorities.

"Suppose, for instance, a number of young men present themselves to the recruiting sergeant at Aberdeen and wish to join the Scots Guards. They pass a rough preliminary medical examination, and are next sent on to the regimental depot at London to be sworn in. Until this swearing process is completed, they are not regarded as "soldiers of the queen," and consequently receive neither pay nor rations. It is quite a common thing for twenty-five or thirty young men to be sent as deck passengers from Aberdeen to London by the authorities to be enlisted. The passage, in fine weather, occupies thirty-six hours, and unless they can purchase it out of their own money, which very few recruits are able to, not a particle of food passes their lips from the time they leave Aberdeen until after they arrive in London, march to barracks, pass the doctor and complete their enlistment, a period of at least forty hours.

Owing to this stupid system, numerous young men are lost to the service, for, disgusted with their treatment, some recruits refuse to be sworn in, and walk away directly the boat arrives. Habitual loafers, also, when they wish to move from one town to another, pretend to enlist and so obtain a free passage. It would be surely quite easy to devise a measure that would make it a punishable offence to obtain a free passage at the taxpayers' expense under false pretences, and then it would be only just to furnish the men on their journey with refreshments and rations.

The reason why the authorities decline to do so at present is because in their usual blundering way they argue that an immense number of objectionable characters would pretend to be willing to enlist in order to obtain a free passage and a "feed" en route; obviously a childish argument to advance in support of starving and disgusting scores of honest and excellent men, when it would be so easy to make fraud punishable.

On his arrival at barracks the recruit again finds that soldiering "aint all lavender." For the purposes of the medical examination he has, of course, to strip, but it is monstrous to think that men should be kept shivering for hours in an unwarmed room.

Owing to the ingenuity of the recruiting sergeants, recruits who are an inch or so short of the minimum stature contrive to pass. A favorite device is for the men to be instructed to stick pieces of soap on their heels, and so add an inch or so to their height. On one occasion a sergeant, after critically surveying a youth who was about to go before the doctor, struck him a tremendous blow on the crown of the head with a walking stick.

"What did you do that for?" inquired the recruit, rubbing the injured spot.

"Silence, you fool," replied the sergeant. "You wish to become a soldier? Well, you're at least half an inch too short, so I've just raised a bump on your head with my cane. Right turn, march!"

It seems to be the rule in most regiments for the non-commissioned officers to vie with each other in abusing recruits. They are never under any circumstances addressed with civility by their superiors, fault is perpetually found with them, and any complaints they make are laughed at.

For the purpose of maintaining discipline a non-com's word is nearly always taken before a private's, especially if he is a young soldier, and this leads sometimes to ludicrous results. A recruit one night was about to go into barracks, when he was met by the lieutenant, and requested to take in a note to the captain. On entering the barracks he happened to stumble, and the sergeant on guard immediately put him in the guard room on a charge of being drunk.

The recruit, naturally enough, protested bitterly, and when he was brought up before the colonel, called the lieutenant as a witness to his sobriety, and above all proved that he was a lifelong teetotaller!

The colonel was in an awkward position.

"The sergeant says you were drunk," said the warrior at length, "and the lieutenant says you were sober. Under these circumstances I shall order you to be discharged. In future, sir, however, remember that when a sergeant says you're drunk, you are drunk, no matter whether you're a teetotaller or no. Go away, sir, and don't come here again!"

"I've had a delightful time on my holidays. No regular hours for meals. A large, airy room. No charge for hot and cold baths. All kinds of fruit and vegetables. A well-stocked wine cellar and no charge for corkage, and, above all, no fees for the servants."

"Delicious! Where is this ideal spot?"

"I stayed at home."

OUR BUDGET OF FUN.

SOME GOOD JOKES, ORIGINAL AND SELECTED.

How the Poets Keep Cool—Inauspicious Moment — Shoplifting Illustrated — Enough to Make Her Blue—More Important Service.

How the Poets Keep Cool.

The snow is falling fast today,
The icebergs are in bloom,
The hail and sleet with rapture beat
On housetop, tree and tomb!
The wild wind whistles fancy free
With fierce and cutting force;
Old Boreas howls so merrily—
'Tis winter time, of course!
And, oh! — — — — —

The poet wipes his brow and says:
"I feel must cooler now!"
—Max Scher.

An Inauspicious Moment.

"I am going away to kill myself!" cried the heartbroken young man as the beautiful maiden slammed the door after him.

"Just my luck!" growled the footpad, who had been waiting in the shadow. "What's the use askin' him for his money or his life now?"

Shop Lifting.

More Important Service.

She—"You're a big, able-bodied fellow. Why aren't you away fighting for your country?"

He—"Gracious, goodness! I guess you don't keep very well posted. Didn't you know that I had been chosen as one of the members of the team that is to represent our golf club in the match game against the Huxegoa next month?"

A Slow Method.

Wilberforce—"Poor Dawkins has committed suicide, did you say? When did it happen?"

Tillinghast—"Well, it hasn't taken effect yet. The method he chose is rather slow."

Wilberforce—"What method did he choose?"

Tillinghast—"He has gone to Klondike after gold."

Enough to Make Her Blue.

Mrs. O'Brien—"Phwat's t'e matther, Misthress O'Toole, thot makes you luk so blue?"

Mrs. O'Toole—"An' it's bad luck to me, Misthress O'Brien, Pat's supper is gittin' cowld, an' worrud has jist been brought from t'e quarry thot Pat was biewed oop, an' has not come down till yit. Pat is so t'ortless bad cess to him."

A Naval Hero.

Skates—"If Germany ever goes to war with this country, I'll enlist in the navy. I am confident I should become distinguished."

Winks—"Why?"

Skates—"I have such a great capacity for downing those German schooners."

Unable to Proceed.

"What made you turn back when you were within 500 miles of the Klondike?"

"My bicycle broke down, and there wasn't a repair shop in the entire region."

Of Course.

"Yes," said the country parson, "I have enlisted; I'm going to fight for the flag."

"You'll be our minister of war, then," remarked the man who thinks he's funny.

Both of Them.

The One—"And so they are to be married?"

The Other—"Yes; and it's really a love match."

The One—"What queer tastes they have!"

A Fair Angler's Triumph.

Rose—"That count doesn't seem to be used to meeting summer girls. He acts like a fish out of water."

Mary—"That is only natural. Ethel has just landed him."

Quite True.

Convict—"What makes you think I am a golf enthusiast?"

Visitor—"You are so attached to the links."—Up-to-Date.

Uncomfortable to Think of.

It remained for an Iowa editor to announce that "We have a Spanish war in our midst."

WORKS OF ART.

How a Business House Has Made It Possible for Every One to Possess Them.

Probably at no time in the world's history has so much attention been paid to the interior decoration of homes as at present. No home, no matter how humble, is without its handiwork that helps to beautify the apartments and make the surroundings more cheerful. The taste of the American people has kept pace with the age, and almost every day brings forth something new in the way of a picture, a draping, a piece of furniture or some form of mural decoration. One of the latest of these has been given to the world by the celebrated artist, Huville, in a series of four handsome porcelain game plaques. Not for years has anything so handsome in this line been seen. The subjects represented by these plaques are American Wild Ducks, American Pheasant, American Quail and English Snipe. They are handsome paintings and are especially designed for hanging on dining-room walls, though their richness and beauty entitles them to a place in the parlor of any home. These original plaques have been purchased at a cost of $30,000 by J. C. Hubinger Bros. Co., manufacturers of the celebrated Elastic Starch, and in order to enable their numerous customers to become possessors of these handsome works of art they have had them reproduced by a special process in all the rich colors and beauty of the original. They are finished on heavy cardboard, pressed and embossed in the shape of a plaque and trimmed with a heavy band of gold. They measure forty inches in circumference and contain no reading matter or advertisement whatever.

Until October 1 Messrs. J. C. Hubinger Bros. Co. propose to distribute these plaques free to their customers. Every purchaser of three ten-cent packages of Elastic Starch, Bat-iron brand, manufactured by J. C. Hubinger Bros. Co., is entitled to receive one of these handsome plaques free from their grocer. Old and new customers alike are entitled to the benefits of this offer. These plaques will not be sent through the mail, the only way to obtain them being from your grocer. Every grocery store in the country has Elastic Starch for sale. It is the oldest and best laundry starch on the market, and is the most perfect cold process starch ever invented. It is the only starch made by men who thoroughly understand the laundry business, and the only starch that will not injure the finest fabric. It has been the standard for a quarter of a century, and as an evidence of how good it is twenty-two million packages were sold last year. Ask your dealer to show you the plaques and tell you about Elastic Starch. Accept no substitute. Bear in mind that this offer holds good a short time only, and should be taken advantage of without delay.

LAST OF A PARIS PRISON.

Structure Rich in Historic Interest at Last Torn Down.

That salutation sometimes heard on the boulevards: "So you have at last come out of Mazas, old boy!" will have to be abandoned forever. The famous prison near the Gare de Lyon, which may be compared to the Holloway citadel in London, has been condemned, after having long existed as the place of condemnation of lawbreakers, says the London Telegraph. Every day exactly eighty prisoners out of the 900 confined in it are carefully handcuffed, placed in a black van and removed to the Sante, which is to be demolished hereafter. Mazas was built in 1846, and took the place of the La Force prison. It was for patriotic reasons called after Col. Mazas, who was shot at Austerlitz, but his family protested against so equivocal an honor. Hence the jail was officially known as the house of cellular confinement. The public, however, continued to refer to it as Mazas, and the appellation will stick to it in history. It was originally given because it was on the Boulevard d'Austerlitz, and the memory of the brave colonel was thus sought to be perpetuated. Of late years the prison chiefly contained persons condemned to one year or less, and was far more comfortable than in the old days, when the system of solitary confinement in cells was rigorously practiced. Mazas has a few habitual offenders, who purposely broke the law in order to be sent there for the winter. One of these had contrived to make himself so agreeable and popular in his cell that the governor used to shake hands with the fellow when he came to pass the rough weather inside the hospital walls of the old house of cellular confinement. In a year or so hence the prisons of the Seine will be established at Fresne, a short distance from Paris, where large monumental constructions are now in course of erection.

Boston Strategy.

"Yes, they had a Boston woman's phalanx all picked out to annihilate the Spanish warships." "How were they going to do it?" "By standing in a row along the wharf and letting the blazing sun strike against their spectacles. Then they would concentrate the rays upon the Spanish ships and set the magazines on fire."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Explained.

May—"When you ask for another lot of drinks at the roof garden, why do you say, 'Give us another round?'" Tom—"Well, balls are usually round, aren't they?"—New York Journal.

"Here's a curious marriage notice from a Missouri paper, George. A Mr. Clay has just married a Miss Mud." "Happy Clay. He knows that mud occasionally dries up."

Educate Your Bowels With Cascarets.

Candy cathartic, cure constipation forever. 10c, 25c. If C. C. C. fail, druggists refund money.

It is a poor actress whose picture never graces a cigarette package.

Dr. Carter's K. & B. Tea

does what other medicines do not do. It regulates the four important organs of the body—the Stomach, Liver, Kidneys and Bowels. 25c package.

Many a man starves to-day while feeding on to-morrow's hopes.

Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup

For children teething, softens the gums, reduces inflammation, allays pain, cures wind colic. 25 cents bottle.

Any fool can fall in love. It takes a wise man to fall on his feet.

No-To-Bac for Fifty Cents.

Guaranteed tobacco habit cure, makes weak men strong, blood pure. 50c, $1. All druggists.

It is always a tragedy when a young girl marries an old man.

When Answering Advertisements Kindly

BRAZIL'S COMMERCE.

The Average American Overlooks the Opportunities That Lie at His Threshold.

While seeking in the Far East for consumers of his surplus products of farm and factory, the average American overlooks the opportunities open to his enterprise and sagacity in a continent which lies, comparatively speaking, at the threshold of his factory and the gateway of his farm. At the same time, he fails utterly to realize that the United States the chief consumer of South American products is paying, by way of exchange, a vast tribute to Europe, not merly on what is taken from her nearest and most natural market for her own products, but on all she sells there. If intelligently utilized, not only would the semi-home markets of South America save to the American consumer what he now pays in exchange to his more enterprising European competitor, who has forestalled him in the exploration and development of the vast resources of the southern republics, but they would in time turn the overwhelmingly adverse balance of trade to the credit of the United States.

To-day the leading commercial city of Brazil, Rio de Janeiro, with a population of nearly 750,000 souls, contains but one strictly American mercantile house supported by any considerable amount of capital. In the entire republic, with a population of 16,000,000, only two such houses exist. The American colony, registered, numbers probably 1,500, embracing a few coffee buyers, agents only, farmers, clerks, mechanics, dentists, and other professional men scattered over the country; while the British, French, German, Portugese and Spanish colonies number respectively, in the order named, many thousand inhabitants, representing hundreds of millions of dollars placed in mercantile, banking, mining, transportation, and other pursuits, which yield remunerative dividends.

It is obvious that a large number of energetic and intelligent Americans engaged in industrial pursuits in Brazil would have an enormous influence in developing the natural resources, and, consequently, in increasing the purchasing power of the country, as well as in directing trade toward the United States.—Hon. T. L. Thompson

After all, the best "school for the soldier" is in the field when strenuous fighting is on. Gen. Miles, the head of the army, was a clerk in Boston when he began his military career. Gen. Shafter was a farmer when he went into the army during the civil war. The best place to learn how to fight appears to be not in a military school, though that has its advantages, but on the lines where real fighting is in progress.