

spiritual religious childhood? May it not be true that modes of Christian worship which were the normal expression of the religious impulse of the past, are being unconsciously recognized as plays only, and thus as recreative in their function; while the work, the actual and substantial expression of religious states in the deeds of life, is now commanding the devotion of men? Is it not a rational supposition, that Christianity is approaching its puberty; that therefore its votaries are beginning to tire of the plays which were once the chief expressions of religious emotions; that the worship of God in ritual is, therefore, relegated with the spiritually-minded man or woman to its place as a recreative and spontaneous expression only, to be used for purposes of religious refreshment and rest; and that it has been succeeded by a more substantial religious expression in the life of justice and charity?

Looked at in this way, we may regard the religion of Christianity as having been passing through its childhood during the centuries of its history. Nineteen hundred years is not too long to think of as the childhood of so magnificent a movement as that of Christianity, and it may be a truth of vast significance that we are now approaching the adult life of Christianity? If this indeed be true, ceasing from going to church to worship God in ritual does not imply any loss of human interest in religion. It implies, rather, that men are demanding a more adult mode of worship

Man feels the need for withdrawing from the world as much as ever. But he is no longer satisfied with playing at such withdrawal by going off by himself and living as a hermit; he demands that actual withdrawal which is realized by a life in the world yet which is not subject to the greed of the world. The modern Christian needs as much of prayer and praise of God as did his ancestors. But he is no longer content with representing it by verbal utterances upon his knees and by songs of glorification; he demands that actual realization of it which is attained by loving one's neighbor as himself.

May not this be the real reason

for the falling off in church attendance? If so, it should be a hopeful, instead of a discouraging sign. Doubtless it is hopeful to men and women who, placing worshipful work above worshipful play, care less for religious form than for religious substance.

CHARLES H. MANN.

EDITORIAL CORRESPONDENCE

THE WOMAN'S SINGLE TAX LEAGUE.

Philadelphia, June 19.—The fifth annual convention of the Woman's National Single Tax League was held in this city on June 15, 16 and 17. It was called to order in Independence Club Hall by Mrs. John Sherwin Crosby, of New York city, president of the League, the business session being preceded by prayer by the Rev. Robert Long, of Philadelphia. The address of the first afternoon was made by Mrs. Margaret W. Hughan, of Brooklyn, on "The Origin of the Slums." The discussion that followed, led by Dr. Florence Leigh Jones, of Brooklyn, indicated that the women who attended this convention have more than a superficial knowledge of the causes and the remedy for slums. At the first evening's session Mr. Frank Stephens, of Philadelphia, made an address of welcome which was most happily responded to by Miss Grace Isabel Colbron, of New York city.

Friday afternoon's addresses were made by R. F. Powell, subject, "Fairhope;" by Miss Mary Hicks, of Georgia, subject, "Single Tax in Women's Clubs;" by Mrs. Jennie L. Munroe, Washington, D. C., subject: "Single Tax at the Capital." In the evening a banquet was tendered the visiting delegates at the Roosevelt hotel. Mrs. Florence A. Burrell, president of the Woman's Henry George League of Philadelphia, after brief remarks, introduced Mrs. Crosby, president of the National League, to preside. Addresses were made by Henry George, Jr., subject: "Mayor Weaver's Supreme Opportunity;" by Miss Jane Campbell, of Philadelphia, subject: "Woman's Progress;" by Miss Grace Isabel Colbron, of New York city, subject: "A Word from Abroad;" by Hon. John S. Crosby, of New York city, subject: "The Signs of the Times;" by Miss Amy M. Hicks, New York city, subject: "Some Ways of Working for the Single Tax;" by Mrs. Harry Coope, Washington, D. C., subject: "The Coming Portia." There were also impromptu addresses by H. V. Hetzell, of Philadelphia; Mrs. Mfnnie Ryan, of Brooklyn; Mrs. Jennie L. Munroe and Miss McGee, of Washington, D. C.

The final session on Saturday, was followed by a luncheon tendered to delegates by the Philadelphia League, at their club rooms, No. 1415 Locust street. The officers elected for the ensuing year are: Mrs. John Sherwin Crosby, New

York city, president; Mrs. Jennie L. Munroe, Washington, D. C., vice president; Mrs. Jane Dearborn Mills, Boston, third vice president; Mrs. Lizzie M. Scofield, Philadelphia, corresponding secretary; Mrs. Kate E. Freeman, Brooklyn, recording secretary; Dr. Mary D. Hussey, Orange, N. J., treasurer; Mrs. Minnie R. Ryan, Brooklyn, auditor; Mrs. Rose M. Helm, Adrian, Mich., and Dr. Anna M. Lund, Chicago, executive board.

Brooklyn was selected as the place, and the last week of May as the time, for holding the annual convention next year.

Before adjourning, the constitution was so amended as to admit men to associate membership, and the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That we, the members of the Woman's National Single Tax League, desire to heartily commend and indorse Mayor Weaver and his supporters for the stand taken by him in his fight for true and honest administration of the civic affairs of this great city.

Resolved, That we admire the bravery and sound common sense of the Swedish workmen who have refused to take up arms against Norway, and that we recommend their action to men in this and other countries, believing that when government officials realize that all men will refuse to fight war will cease.

Resolved, That we believe the single tax to be the fundamental reform, without which other reforms will be of no avail.

Resolved, That we ask President Roosevelt to appoint women as well as men on the proposed commission to investigate the divorce question, as women are even more vitally concerned than men; also that we join with other women's clubs to send him a similar request.

Resolved, That we believe that women should be allowed to exercise their right to the ballot.

If those who deprecate the activity of women in public affairs had listened to the addresses and discussions of this convention their views might well have been modified. It would not have required a visit to the homes of these women to convince fair-minded persons there can be no lack of familiarity there with all the requisites for ideal home-making—comfort, culture, contentment and happiness in the household. This was in evidence not only from the nature of the addresses and discussions, but from the appearance and demeanor of the women present. It was manifest that they have a thorough appreciation of the gravity of the social problems confronting the civilization of to-day, and the duty devolving on women to do their part in solving these problems. They evidently realize that for mothers to properly equip children for the duties of life, they must have knowledge of the social affairs that most affect their welfare and happiness in life.

D. S. LUTHER.

Will Heaven be partitioned and cut up into wards of Jim Crow apartments for white people and Negroes?—Voice of Missions.