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## INCIDENTAL SUGGESTIONS

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### PROF. FOSTER'S CASE.

New Salem, Mass.

In the issue of July 16 (p. 678), Mr. J. P. Cadman suggests that Prof. G. B. Foster should go out of the Baptist church if he would teach something not believed by that denomination; and that so to teach within it is to destroy it. Wickliffe, Luther and Wesley did not so think when they taught within the Church; and we do not call them dishonorable men. It will develop and not destroy the Baptist church to know the truth.

Mr. Cadman teaches things social that are not in accord with this nation's usages. Does honor require him therefore to go out? The early Baptists were forward lookers. Roger Williams was not content to live only in the past.

PERRY MARSHALL.

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## NEWS NARRATIVE

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To use the reference figures of this Department for obtaining continuous news narratives:

Observe the reference figures in any article; turn back to the page they indicate and find there the next preceding article, on the same subject; observe the reference figures in that article, and turn back as before; continue until you come to the earliest article on the subject; then retrace your course through the indicated pages, reading each article in chronological order, and you will have a continuous news narrative of the subject from its historical beginnings to date. ♣

Week ending Tuesday July 27, 1909.

### The British Financial Bill.

A better outlook for the British budget (p. 709) is reported by T. P. O'Conner in his London cable letter of the 24th to the Chicago Tribune. "A sign of exhaustion in the Tory ranks," he says, "are the two clauses passed in two days, which means lightning speed compared to the previous slow progress. Meantime the budget, while alarming in many sections, undoubtedly is rousing enthusiasm among the masses. Hatred of the great landlords for exactions on town tenants and despotism in villages has become almost as violent a passion among the English masses as formerly among the Irishmen. The government, too, is reinforcing its forces by making severe rules of closure and increasing the powers of the chairman to curtail debate. Whatever differences, personal and private, exist among the Ministers have had to be healed up in the presence of such a gigantic fight, and altogether the Liberal party is consolidated by the ferocity of the opposition and by the presence of common danger. Lloyd-George's position, therefore, has improved since last week, and when he returns after a week or two's vacation his immense power of rapid recuperation and lion-hearted courage and adroitness may pull him through. Rela-

tions between the Liberals and Irish party have been much improved by concessions on the budget and also by two by-elections. In both cases the Irish party supported the Liberal candidates as good home rulers and tolerant Catholics, while the English Tory ecclesiastics worked with enormous energy for the Tory candidate. This new assault on the Irish party, after the successful and repeated defense of the Catholic schools, aroused bitter resentment in the Irish ranks, especially as the assault was led by the Duke of Norfolk, Ireland's bitterest enemy, and the Irish were delighted when John Dillon and others brought Norfolk's conduct before the House of Commons. Debate further demonstrated that Norfolk, who is one of the biggest town landlords in England, made Catholic schools the pretence for attacking the budget, which imposes an increment of tax on his huge possessions. The Liberal victory in the two by-elections largely was due to the Irish voters, who obeyed loyally the advice of their leaders to support the Liberals. These victories greatly strengthen the chances of the budget and the prestige of the Government.

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A popular demonstration in favor of the budget (p. 610) was made at Hyde Park on the 24th. Associated Press dispatches of that date from London say of it that—

no Hyde Park demonstration of recent years has been able to boast of such an array of members of Parliament as spoke this afternoon from the platforms erected in London's great open-air meeting place in support of Chancellor of the Exchequer Lloyd-George's budget. The crowd in the park probably approximated 500,000 people. The demonstration, which has been preparing for several weeks, drew people from all parts of the country, and immense enthusiasm marked the proceedings. Prior to the speeches a part of a great procession, estimated at 200,000 persons, formed at the Victoria Embankment, with its ranks extending from Charing Cross to Black Friars' Bridge, and marched through the principal thoroughfares of the city to the park. Ninety bands and thousands of banners enlivened the march. "The Earth is the Lord's," "Land for the Landless," "Abolish Poverty," "The Commons Must Rule," and "Tax the Land and Not Food," were typical mottoes inscribed on the banners.

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### The Tariff in Congress.

The conference committee of the two Houses of Congress sitting on the tariff bill (p. 709) is not yet ready to report. On the 20th the President called a special cabinet meeting on the subject. Newspaper explanations of this call were to the effect that it was issued after a White House conference between the President, Senator Aldrich and Speaker Cannon, which had followed interviews between the President and Senators representing certain special interests. In all these interviews the President is reported as having de-

clared his determination, in unequivocal language, in favor of free hides, coal, iron ore and oil, and for reductions of duty on products into the manufacture of which those raw materials enter. A caucus of downward-revision Republicans of the Senate was organized on the same day, consisting of Senators Nelson and Clapp of Minnesota, Dooliver and Cummins of Iowa, Beveridge of Indiana, Burkett and Brown of Nebraska, Bristow of Kansas, Crawford of South Dakota, and La Follette of Wisconsin. On the 20th there was a tariff conference at a White House dinner, assembled for the purpose, but no agreement was reached. The downward-revisionists were not invited. Newspaper gossip of the 24th had it that the President had been obliged to recede from some of his demands, and that although hides and oil would be placed on the free list there would be duties on iron ore and coal. In this connection it was reported as significant that the President called off a dinner to the downward-revisionists, at which he had hoped to be in position to reconcile the opposing factions of his party. Washington correspondents stated on the 26th that a conference report had then been perfected, placing hides and oil in the free list, but imposing tariffs on iron ore and coal. One of the President's callers is reported as saying that the President realized that this will not be satisfactory to the people, and that he unquestionably could gain a great deal of popularity by its veto; but, as he looks at the situation, such action would be injurious to the business interests of the country, would wreck the Republican party and his own administration, and therefore he proposes to approve it.

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#### Steel Trust Strikes.

The reports of last week to the effect that work was resumed on the 19th without disturbance at the plant of the Pressed Steel Car Company at McKees Rocks, Pennsylvania, near Pittsburg (p. 709) turn out to have been false. Dispatches of the 21st from Pittsburg stated that 6,000 strikers were then surrounding the plant, excited by rumors that strike-breakers were to be brought in from Chicago and Eastern cities. No employes had yet been induced by the company to re-enter the plant. Only about 200 men were then at work, and these were not the company's employes, but were tunnel workmen from New York. Scores of eviction notices were served upon strikers on the 22d, their homes being the property of a land company subsidiary to the steel company. Although the strikers are unorganized, they are receiving the support of organized labor in and about Pittsburg and the directorate of the company is being condemned. Work had not been resumed on the 26th.

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As to the causes of this strike but little has ap-

peared in the telegraphic dispatches. We therefore give the version of the daily Leader, one of the old papers of Pittsburg. The Leader of the 16th said: "Strikers are making a final appeal to the Pressed Steel Car Company for justice. In spite of repeated refusals on the part of the company officials to listen to their grievances, or better the terrible working conditions, the men have appointed an executive committee of four, representing the American, Russian, Italian and Slav workmen, who will present a formal demand to their employers this afternoon for the abolishment of the pooling system." We also make quotations from a printed statement by the Rev. Father Toner of St. Mary's Catholic Church of Pittsburg, which appeared in the Chicago Examiner of the 21st:

Men are persecuted, robbed and killed, and their wives are abused in a manner worse than death—all to obtain or retain positions that barely keep starvation from the door. The place is a pit of infamy, where men are driven lower than the degradation of slaves and compelled to sacrifice their wives or daughters to the villainous foremen and little bosses to be allowed to work. I was allowed to enter the plant at my will a few years ago, but I saw too much of the malicious crime perpetrated daily and the gates were closed on me. It is too horrible to discuss. It is a disgrace to a civilized country. A man is given less consideration than a dog, and dead bodies are simply kicked aside, while the men are literally driven on to their death. The grafting and stealing by the bosses and other higher officials is not paralleled to my knowledge. For a few years after the plant was opened members of the company visited me, had meals at my house and we were on the most friendly terms. But men were being killed daily. Their bodies simply disappeared, and when I began to make some comment I was denied admission to the grounds.

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A strike in the Standard Steel Car Company's plant at Butler, Pa., ended on the 26th on the company's terms, except that officials of the company stated that hereafter American workmen will be given the preference in all departments, particularly in the construction of cars.

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A general crusade has set in on the part of the steel trust in the neighborhood of Pittsburg, to oust American workmen and substitute freshly arrived foreigners speaking unfamiliar tongues. According to the Pittsburg Leader of the 16th the following advertisement of the steel trust has been published in the local papers:

Men Wanted—Tinnerns, catchers and helpers to work in open shops. Syr'ians, Poles and Roumanians preferred. Steady employment and good wages to men willing to work. Fare paid and no fees charged. Commenting upon this advertisement, the Leader said:

The steel trust wants foreigners to work in its