

### SIGN-BOARDS ON THE UP-ROAD

Hamilton B. Williams

If Jesus of Nazareth should come to "own town" unannounced how long would it be before the people would know that someone was taking an interest in affairs? The children would go home to tell of a stranger who stopped to do what anyone does who cares for children. The people generally passed by, would be comforted by the stranger's notice.

If a matter of principle were to be championed... if some gross wrong were being fought by the people of humanity... attend His to every conceivable human interest... and the stranger would be on the right side of all matters.

So the folk act who have been caught by the spirit of humanity. It is being recognized that in Jesus we see the finest gentleman that ever lent a hand, the most generous giver who ever contributed God's gifts, the greatest interpreter of the God-Who-Must-Be the flamingest light that ever blazed a straight trail, the brother of our most beautiful dream of a Friend — and more, an empire builder; and more, a way-maker to eternal life; and more the very Life of Life.

No superlative term of honor does

enough honor to Jesus. Anything we may define and label is not great enough to be supreme. Those who know all about Jesus and so categorically locate Him in the universe are doing a daring thing. If He is the Son of God He is many diameters bigger than any definition.

The church has never made enough of the power of Jesus or interpreted in community terms His social teachings. The primitive conception of the gospel made Jesus The Savior of the lucky individual who happened to be brought into touch with some magical spell or miraculous combination of circumstances. Salvation was occasional, catastrophes and unratifiable. Jesus came to make God king by the amalgamation of the human family into a reciprocal brotherhood.

The wrangling that is now disturbing religious circles over primitive theology is sheer waste of energy... the vision is being clouded. For in a world of clamoring need there is no time to wrangle.

Remember the Jericho Trail. It happens to pass by every house on the road.

Service has no debate.

### THREAT THAT IS EFFECTIVE

Ceylonese Creditors Have a Remarkably Effective Method of Enforcing Collections.

The native of Ceylon is an intractable creditor. He possesses an irresistible method of securing payment without recourse to the bailiffs, citations, judgments, duns or summonses which fall like hail about the ears of European debtors.

The Ceylonese creditor betakes him to the house of the man who owes him money, holding in his hand some leaves of the bougainvillee, an extremely poisonous plant, and declares that, unless he is paid on the spot he will poison himself.

The debtor pays up without hesitation. At home he would of course simply laugh in the face of the shoe-maker or tailor who made such a threat, and tell him to go ahead; but in Ceylon there is a local law which imposes an enormous fine on anyone who is the cause of the suicide of another. And there is no case on record in which a creditor was permitted to carry out his threat.

The question, however, seems to be whether in the face of an obstinate refusal to pay, the creditor would not be wiser to lose his money than his life.

### Ferocious British Guiana Fish

British Guiana is noted for a rare fish, the pranha, which, though hardly bigger than a herring, is ferocious to the point of incredibility. It will attack other fish and bite large pieces out of their fins and tail, will assault the steering paddles of a boat, and has been known, when in force, to kill men. The pranha is a notorious cannibal, devouring any of its comrades who may be wounded or in difficulties.

One traveler in British Guiana tells that in crossing the Essequibo his boat wounded a wild hog that was swimming across. A shoal of pranhas settled upon the unfortunate hog. In a minute the water seemed to be boiling, so great was the activity of the little demons as they tore away pieces of the flesh.

But even the pranha has its uses. Some Indian tribes leave their dead in the river for the pranhas to strip the bones, and then preserve the skeleton, dyed red, as a family heirloom.

### INSECTS FIRST IN THE FIELD

Many of Mankind's So-Called Inventions and Accomplishments Have Been Copied From Them.

One cannot read the work of M. Fabre without being struck by the fact that man in many of his inventions and mechanical accomplishments, has after all been preceded in those accomplishments by insects.

The bee and the wasp used hypodermic needles long before we thought of them, and the bee used formic acid as an antiseptic to preserve his honey from fermentation.

The spider made the first suspension bridge, and certain kinds of that insect have been able to construct their own airships and a workable sort of diving bell. The bee manufactures a wax that we cannot today even imitate, and a worm is still unrivaled in the manufacture of silk thread.

To these skilled artisans might be added the ant, which makes tunnels, and subways; the mason bee with its cement work and the great peacock moth which was able to call its kind from a long distance by means of some invisible agency, long before man had dreamed of the possibility of wireless telegraphy.

### Monsters of Old

From a page of "The Life of the Weevil," a newly translated Fabre nature book:

"In the beginning, life fashioned oddities which would be screaming discords in the present harmony of things. When I invented the surlian it revealed at first in monsters fifteen to twenty yards long. It placed horns upon their noses and above their eyes, paved their backs with fantastic scales and hollowed their necks into spiny pouches wherein their heads withdrew as into a hood.

"It even tried, though with no great success, to give them wings.

"After these horrors, the precreating ardor calmed down and produced the charming green lizards of our hedges."

### Curious Way of Mining

The increasing depth to which it is necessary to go in following the vein of kaolin, or potters' clay, mined near the Housatonic river in Connecticut, some time ago caused the introduction of a novel method of mining. Wells from 50 to nearly 200 feet in depth are driven, and two pipes, the outer four inches and the inner two inches in diameter, are introduced. Water at a pressure of forty pounds per square inch is forced down through the smaller pipe, and rises through the larger one, bringing with it about 5 per cent of solid matter, of which 75 per cent is pure kaolin.

### Got in Word, at Least

A brilliant actress and a brilliant author met at a supper party. The author talked and talked and talked. At last the actress felt she had done her share of listening.

"Humph!" she said suddenly, adding confidently to the whole table, "that's a word in edgeways!"

The table roared.

### The Tailored Green Coat

By CLARISSA MACKIE

Eleanor saw the broken chain of her shopping bag dangling from the pocket of a smartly tailored green topcoat. Buttoned inside the topcoat was a tall man, who seemed in a hurry.

She did not cry out—that was not the Bradley way. She simply left the crowded car and followed the man in the green coat. He walked rapidly, and the girl was ready to cry with vexation and alarm as she saw the money vanishing. Eleanor's quick pattering feet stopped short as the man suddenly paused under a lamp post and whirled about. His right hand thrust into his pocket as if in search of a weapon, and then remained there. His other hand awkwardly went up to remove his hat at sight of the girl lingering timidly by.

"You were following me?" he asked.

"I was pursuing you," she said in an uncertain tone.

"Well?" As he waited for answer to this inquiry, Eleanor had the impression that he was surprised about something else. His rather good-looking young face wore an amazed look.

"I want my handbag, if you please," she said, just as Grandmother Bradley would have done under like circumstances.

"What have I got to do with it?"

"You should be ashamed of yourself!" she cried in sudden indignation. "You know, it is in your coat pocket this very moment."

Then his right hand came out of his pocket and with it came Eleanor's pretty beaded bag with the cut and broken chain dangling. His face was a study in angry astonishment—he saw that his gray eyes flashed like steel as he faced her.

"I don't know who you are, madam," he said slowly, "but from what you



"Come Across!"

say you seem to be the owner of this bag. Have you formed any idea of how it came to be in my pocket?"

Eleanor laughed sarcastically. Grandmother Bradley would have done that with just that little dip of the pretty dark head. "The car was crowded," she murmured reminiscently, "and it was easy for anyone who wanted to—a pickpocket. I meant to cut the handle of the bag and put it into the side pocket of his big coat. And when the owner discovered the loss of the bag, the car was stopping and she saw a man in a green overcoat alighting, and she saw the handle

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## To Secretaries of Local Organizations

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This is what you have been doing for years — wasting your time and energy in sending out separate notices of meeting regarding your lodge to each member. This means that you have to address from 50 to 100 postal cards or envelopes in addition to preparing the notices for mailing out.

Why not put your notice in an advertisement under "Lodge Notices" in this paper? You could do it for \$1.25 and save all that labor.

It's the modern way. It's the way most lodges are doing in the up-to-date communities.

What would be more interesting in this paper than a column or two of such notices? Your members would look for this feature in every issue. And then, THINK OF THE LABOR IT WOULD SAVE YOU.

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