

Two new members were received into the league and presented with pins—Mrs. R. W. Swindler and Miss Jennie Hubble.

Following the business hour a delightful program was rendered by Miss Helen Greener and Miss Margaret Dailey on the piano and a reading by Miss Helen Hughes which was greatly enjoyed by all present.

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—Adv.

Economy.

I want to touch upon a subject with which most of us are quite familiar, having had to deal with it more or less all of our lives, the subject of Economy. To some of us it has been a more rigid school than to others, but I doubt if anyone here has not been obliged to observe economy in some direction. Seasons of prosperity, however, relieve this necessity.

For some years now, the majority of the nations of the world have enjoyed increasing prosperity and wealth. The result has been increasing desires, and as history has repeated itself, greater wealth has brought greater expenditure, until all have lived beyond their income and drawn heavily upon their capital of money and health, until they are now facing bankruptcy. We can see the result of this in Europe today. The pendulum swings so far and no farther. It must swing back.

A very interesting editorial in a recent issue of the Saturday Evening Post bears the headline, "A Change in Fashions". Before the war, a citizen of England, France or Germany won social considera-

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tion by lavish expenditure. To maintain an expensive domestic establishment with many servants, several automobiles, prodigal dinners and so on—was the thing by which one gained the approval of the smart set. Now fashion points in the opposite direction. A man wins social consideration by economy. Giving his motors to the state and going afoot, gets him approbation, while extravagance is frowned upon in the highest circles. A shabby gown wins a lady more smiles from those whom Providence has placed a step higher on the ladder, than a splendid gown would.

America has enjoyed a prosperity for many years which the European war has raised far above the average. The result has been a prodigal waste. We are called a spendthrift nation. We even have a new disease called Americanitis, another name for burning the candle at both ends, and its inevitable result. We are so money mad and pleasure mad that we are overlooking some very important things, chief among them the conservation of our most vital and necessary force, the human element.

We have thought of ourselves as machines, indestructible, capable of perpetual motion. The engines which draw our trains must be cleaned and oiled and allowed to rest, in order to get from them the greatest amount of efficiency, but we have not had the same consideration for the human engine. Corporations are not alone to blame for this. It rests as well upon us, and upon society at large. The heads of the big firms work at the top notch of their energy until they reach the breaking point. Something snaps, and they are compelled to rest. The society woman goes to pieces under the strain of social engagements. The housewife, the mother, gives her best energy to her family, but wastes it by sapping her strength to keep up appearances, and give her children the things their wealthy

companions have, but which they cannot afford.

I am glad to note, however, the backward swing of the pendulum. All over our country today the watchword is conservation. We are beginning to realize that we are nearing the end of our rope, and that something must be done. The fact that big business recognizes this should encourage the workers, and it will be to their interest if they join heart and hand in any movement which has the conservation of human energy as its aim. In his address at the Safety First meeting held on September 28 at the Planters Hotel, St. Louis, Mr. C. W. Price, Field Secretary for the National Safety Council told of a conversation with Mr. Simmons, one of the largest manufacturers of iron beds in America. Mr. Simmons is a young man who inherited his business and his fortune, but who is a very shrewd, practical man. He said that in his estimation the great business development of the coming age would not be along the line of our great inventions or discoveries such as the automobile, wireless telegraphy, aircraft, etc., but would be the conservation of the human equipment.

Employers can inaugurate methods of conservation, but the co-operation of the employes is absolutely necessary to carry them out. Since 1906 the Safety First campaign of the United States Steel Corporation, who, by-the-way, were pioneers in this work, has resulted in saving from death or serious injury 14,960 men. This means, according to the size of the average family, a city of 100,000 people where the breadwinner in every household would have been killed or injured but for this movement of conservation.

Can we not get an idea of the added burden imposed upon society by this waste of life? When the breadwinner is killed or his earning power cut down by injury, someone has to pay the price. First of all it is the wife and children.

They pay in lack of education and impaired health. Their whole outlook upon life is changed. Business pays by losing an efficient worker. Society pays by bearing the burden of one more family of "leaners" instead of "lifters".

To the man it means better working conditions, better health, a longer stay with the wife whom he swore to protect, and the children who are dependent upon him. It has been said before—and it is so good that I shall quote again—this is what Safety First, being careful, means: "And the end is that the workman shall live to enjoy the fruits of his labor; that his mother shall have the comfort of his arm in her age; that his wife shall not be untimely a widow; that his children have a father, and that cripples and helpless wrecks who were once strong men shall not longer be a by-product of industry."

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A New Year Meditation.

By W. F. Morrison, Safety Inspector.

"But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ."—*2nd Peter*, 3:8.

At the dawning of the New Year we will have reached another mile post in life, another opportunity of possessing the New Life. The rolling years are but so many cycles of probation to those who have not accepted the New Life in Christ.

I venture to say that many are thinking of the profits and losses of the old year, and how we stand with the world. This is a time when we take stock of ourselves. Will the result show advancement or disappointment, profit or loss, triumph or defeat in our efforts the last year in the social or financial world. This has been a year of struggles, hardships, heartaches and disappointments just like other years.

Naturally our thoughts turn to finances in thinking of success. We must live; food, clothes, shelter, character building recreation, benevolence, our mission in life—all these require money. Thousands consider the old year a failure because they have had to practice a little more economy, some were barely able to keep afloat, others have actually suffered for the necessities of life. Perhaps the latter reluctant to think the situation through will forego the usual stock-taking. Whatever the temporal standing may be the automatic accountant within our breast will do its work.

Self—the ego, the soul, or the immortal part of us—not the temporal or physical—is the Supreme thing. Wise people are examining self. We may be able to invoice our financial gains on the thumb nail and yet be among the wealthy in soul growth, and vice versa we may have losses in the spiritual life and gain in the financial world. And there may be some who have gained in both. God gave us the power of introspection and retrospection that we might be able to take stock of our spiritual gains. He set up the automatic judgment seat, in the human

mind, that we might be able to judge between true wealth and the wealth that is perishable. Self is going on to judgment, to account to God for the gift of life, the privilege of living.

The supreme question is, Are we better today than we were a year ago? That is of greater importance than Are we richer? Has the struggle developed backbone and character, has disappointment, hopelessness and despair developed conquering faith in our divine Lord? Have we in our extremity had a greater vision of our Heavenly Father and in our human weakness, have we felt the touch of "The Everlasting Arms?" If so, then we have grown in 1916.

Are we kinder in the home circle, kinder to our friends, more patient with the short-comings of our fellow men and more charitable in our judgments, more sympathetic? Are we braver and stronger in the defense and promotion of the right, are we cultivating that forgiving spirit which slays the giants Malice and Revenge? Does sin make us love immortal man more and confirm our convictions that sinful man needs the gospel of our Christ, that that is the world's greatest need, and with that conviction are we determined to redouble our efforts in the promotion of this true gospel? Can we answer yes? Then we have not failed; we close the year with wealth imperishable, and with eternity enduring prosperity. We have been growing into the likeness of our great Master.

We have been growing in grace. Grace is the element in which growing people are living, the result of having the transforming power of the Holy Spirit in us, producing a loving sympathetic character. The study of God's word is to the spiritual health, what bread and water is to the physical life.

If we have been growing, we have nothing to complain about. Let us keep on growing; let the New Year resolution be, Let me grow in the grace and knowl-

edge of Him who was divine and gave
His all for the betterment of man-kind.

"God grant a happier New Year
May gladden this dear earth,
Because in your heart and in mine
Kind thoughts have gentle birth,
I trust that when the year shall wane
Our lips may safely say:
Some sweet joy thrives in other lives
Because we passed their way."

—Selected.

Bad Water.

The bad waters used in the western part of the country—because they are the only available supplies—have been improved so much by scientific treatment, that officials operating in the eastern or

good water belts are often surprised to find that roads operating in the bad water districts are beating their boiler performance, both as to life and cost of maintenance.

Investigation of the subject brings out the fact that there is very little water being used for steam purposes that cannot be improved by scientific treatment, the only problem being whether or not the cost of the treatment is greater than the savings effected.

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