

EDITORIAL

A NEW DEPARTMENT OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY'S TRAINING SCHOOL

When the General Assembly founded the Training School in 1914 the following instructions were given in ref-erence to the Extension Department: "All courses of study, as far as practicable, should be made available by correspondence." (See Assembly Minutes for 1914, page 28, item 12). The aim of this lepartment is to reach with Bible Study and Christian Work courses, the leaders and workers of car Church who cannot attend any of our institutions; to carry Bible Study into the homes of our people; and to provide courses for those who have attended our institutions and desire further study. This department is now open and offers individual instruction to all who may be reached through the mails. A full description of each course is given in the following account.

"Biblical Geography" is the subject of a study course prepared by Dr. Walter W. Moore, President of Union Theological Seminary, Richmond, Va. The purpose of the course is an accurate knowledge of Bible lands, as an aid in understanding the Bible message. The course consists of twelve studies. The fee is \$1.00. This does not include the text-book, which costs \$1.25.

"The Gospel of Mark," by Dr. Chas

R. Erdman, of Princeton Theological Seminary, is the subject of the Bible study. The purpose of this course is two-fold. The mastery of the facts of the gospel and the meaning of the facts gospel. It consists of ten studies. The text-book costs 60 cents and the fee for the course is \$1.00.

"The Creed of Presbyterians," by Dr. Egbert W. Smith, is now used as a correspondence study by this department. Many are familiar with this inspiring book. The course consists of eleven studies. The book costs 40 cents and the fee is \$1.00.

A course on Christian Doctrine by Rev. Russell Cecil, D. D., pastor of the Second Presbyterian Church of Richmond, Va., is now ready for the printer, and will soon be ready for those who desire to study it by correspondence. The course was prepared from the viewpoint of one who is in the active pastorate and in touch with the problems of the day.

Other courses are now in process of preparation and will be announced just as soon as they are ready.

For further information write to Rev. O. E. Bucholz, Director of the Extension Department of the Assembly's Training School, 3218 Chamberlayne Ave., Richmond, Va.

BUSINESS AND RELIGION

S. L. Morris.

THIS month shall be unto you the beginning of months: it shall be the first month of the year to you." It was not the beginning of the calendar year but the ecclesiastical. To the Church the ecclesiastical year is the more important.

It is a singular coincidence that the

month "Nisan" of the Jew corresponds to April, the beginning of our church year. All beginnings are important. Each new year the Church faces a two-fold subject—Business and Religion. In the estimation of many they are supposed to be diametrically opposed. One is the sphere of the secular, the other



stands for the spiritual. As a matter of fact, they are as closely related as the Siamese Twins—inseparable except at the risk of death.

Scarcely does any Presbytery, Synod or Assembly meet without some laymen coming to the front—fortunately not a representative of the vast body of business men-and beginning his address with the words; "I am a business man." He could safely stop with this state-Everyone knows the rest. It has been heard dozens of times-"in season, out of season." Here is the analysis of his speech: 1. It will be an indictment of faith. Ministers will be reminded that they are visionary, impractical—inclined to undertake too much on faith. The "business man", on the contrary will not trust God any further than the cash in sight. 2. It will display a lack of moral values. Everything will be weighed and estimated in terms of the hard coin. 3. It will recommend worldly methods-"business sense"—as the condition of success. Satan promised Christ "all the kingdoms of the world" on that identical condition.

Religion has indeed its business side. Money has its place in the Kingdom. The Lord, who fed Elijah by means of the ravens, has in this dispensation "ordained that they which preach the gospel should live of the gospel." The attitude of a business man and of a church towards money and financial obligations is a test of moral character. Many a business man will carefully guard his personal integrity and yet allow his church to be delinquent in meeting its sacred obligations. latter situation is so notorious that banks ordinarily refuse to lend money to churches for building. The repayment of church loans has become a reproach to the cause of Christ.

churches would promptly repay their loans to the Home Mission Committee in Atlanta, twice as many new churches could be built each year. Lack of business integrity is not only damaging the character of the church itself, but it is standing in the way of the progress of the Kingdom in other communities.

Business has likewise its religious side. In an address before the Hom Mission Council in New York. Harry Emerson Fosdick said: "Nothing that Christian people can do outside of their business will make up for what they do in their business." Let the "business man" read carefully Isaiah 1:13-17 and 58:1-7. Unless business is conducted on religious principles, it will eventually go on the rocks; or else the soul will be lost in business. "What shall it profit a man if he shall gain the whole world and lose his own soul"?

A fair proportionate part of the profits of business belong to the Lord. He furnishes the capital: "The earth is the Lord's and the fulness thereof including its silver and gold—"and the cattle upon a thousand hills." God alone gives success. "Remember the Lord thy God, for it is He that giveth thee power to get wealth." It matters not what the business man may think of the tithe, there is no escaping the apostolic injunction and obligation of the New Testament: "Let everyone of you lay by him in store as God has prospered him."

Can the church, composed of professing Christian people, face any consideration more important, at the beginning of the church year, than the obligation of putting religion into one's business, and incorporating business in one's religion? Christianity stands for "righteousness," which means integrity alike in business and in religion.

KEEPING THE SABBATH

OME one has said: "We are losing our Sabbaths in America". Our christian people have realized this fact as evidenced in one way by the stand taken by the religious press of the country. With so many evil forces working to destroy the sanctity of the Sabbath with a special