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J. B. Chapman, Editor

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HOW TO USE THE PREACHER'S MAGAZINE

One preacher felt a little discouraged because he "found a sermon outline in This Preacher's Magazine which he could not use." Our idea is that if he found one that he could use, he was fortunate. Even if he found only one, say in each issue, that gave him "start" in the preparing of one sermon, we are proud of the efficient service that our magazine has rendered to him.

One preacher said, "These outlines are fine, but why do you give so many? Why, a preacher cannot find opportunity to use them all." Our answer is that only one outline that helps one preacher may have little or no value to another, so we give a number in the hope that every preacher will find at least one that will be serviceable to him. Even when one does not find an outline that gives him a "lead," he may get some little help in the working out of some text or theme that he had in his own mind, and that is a great service.

One preacher acknowledges that he is "too poor to buy all the books recommended in 'Here and There Among Books.'" Our idea is that by giving this review service we may be able to help preachers find the books that will best serve their purposes. Every preacher does not need every book, and to get an idea of what a book is like he may be able to tell whether he needs it or not. And suppose that our book review should keep a preacher from buying some book that he had intended to buy, well there is the price of his magazine for the whole year saved in one lump. But if it helps him find the book he needs, then there is a fortune which we cannot estimate in money.

One preacher wishes we had more illustrations on holiness. This is the most difficult sort of material to find, but we are on the hunt and in the market and are laboring to pass on all such that we come upon.

To summarize for all features and departments: our idea is not so much to furnish "ready made" service to the preachers, as to offer suggestions and furnish "leads." Perhaps our efforts are more or less affected by our own sense of need. Personally, it is not the mind of direct preparation which gives us the greatest concern. Our greatest need is something to give us a start. Sometimes a line has served us a better purpose than a library, for it "set us going," and after that was fairly easy.

One preacher suggested that the use of This Preacher's Magazine would tend to make our younger preachers dependent. He said he had no such help when he was beginning and that he had to "dig everything out for himself." To this preacher we suggest that we hope our young preachers will be able to begin about where he and I left off, and there is probably just as rich a mine for "digging" ahead of him and me as there are behind us, you know.

Our own advice is for every preacher to use This Preacher's Magazine all he can and in every way he can, and to use every other "preaching source" he can find. There are always a few people who seem to be afraid that a preacher, especially a young preacher, is going to preach too well. But the facts are that at our best and with all the help we can get, we are still poor preachers of a great Gospel. If the Gospel were not so great our poor preaching of it would make it ineffic. And every preacher, young and old, is excusable for being so poor a preacher as he is only when he has used every available means to be as good as possible.

We have not only been disappointed in ourselves as preachers, but frankly, we have been disappointed in about every other preacher we have ever heard. For when we have heard a
OR FREE NOE PAGEI CIEKES

The plan of presenting the picture of some noted preacher or missionary on the front cover of _The Preacher's Magazine_ each month was Mr. P. H. Lunn’s own idea, and it has proved to be a very interesting and profitable feature. Some preachers say that this has been quite as interesting as any other one thing which the magazine has brought to them.

Last month we presented the picture of Dr. E. F. Walker, once a well known Presbyterian preacher, who was early connected with the holiness movement, and was considered one of its very clearest and most forceful preachers. Dr. Bruce once said that Dr. Walker was in the front row of holiness preachers and that that row was a very short one. Some even estimated Dr. Walker as the greatest expository preacher of his day. He was elected as a General Superintendent of the Church of the Nazarene in 1911 and from then until his death served in an ever widening field of evangelism and administration.

As a preacher, he was logical, spiritual, forceful and unusually refreshing at all times. We heard his famous sermon on sanctification at Nashville, Tenn., in 1911, and still think of it as pathos. Then a preacher may be clased as “a big gun,” if he is past his tenth, if he has lost or losing his grip, if he shows signs of being on the drift, if his influence is waning, he is a poor buy at any price.

If we take it too literally when they say that the preacher was “at his best,” we may doubt whether the words are complimentary. For if he was at his best then, or if he is at his best now, tomorrow he will be on the teobogian slide. A preacher has not reached his best until he ceases to grow. If he is growing he will be bigger and better tomorrow.

This is too delicate a subject to permit of examples, but we have all seen preachers who were on the third rung and coming down, and we have all seen some who were no higher than the tenth rung from the top, but they were going up. And we have all seen a few who never did reach the top at all, for they were still going up when they had to stop for good. And applying the subject to ourselves, it should not be difficult for us to decide which direction we are traveling and which we shall continue to travel, although it is not within every man’s power, as men count, to really reach the top. But any way, the direction the preacher is traveling is more important both to himself and to others than the mere matter of how high he happens to be just now. Give me the preacher who is “climbing” every time. If he isn’t very high yet, no matter, he is going in the right direction.

Letters to Preachers

By A. M. Hulb

X. The Different Kinds of Sermons.

1. The topical sermon, in which the theme is chiefly prominent.

2. The textual sermon, in which the very words and phrases of the text are carefully and critically considered.

3. The expository sermon, in which several verses, perhaps an entire paragraph, or a unified section of a chapter, is considered verse by verse in their scriptural order.

Which method a preacher adopts is often decided by the constitution of his own mind. It is often, also, is decided by the sermons of the preachers, whom he most admires, and would be pleased to be like.

The wording of the text of a particular discourse may decide its nature in that one instance.

The occasion also which calls, for the pulpit address may determine its nature.

Some texts are so exalted in theme and so sublime in language that they can only be treated topically. Such an utterance is the sublime exclamation of Moses, “Who is like unto thee, O Jehovah, among the gods? Who is like thee, glorious in holiness, fearful in praises, doing wonders?” (Ex. 15:11, R. V.).

It would be a daring, presumptuous preacher who would choose such a text. He would need the mind and heart of Moses to treat it.

Or that song of Moses and the Lamb, sung by the redeemed in heaven: “Great and marvelous are thy works, O Lord God, the Almighty; righteous and true are thy ways, thou King of the nations” (R. V. Note, Old V, "Saints"). (Rev. 15: 3). Such a text scarcely admits of any other than a topical treatment, and few minds should even attempt that.

Such sublime language and exalted themes require, like "Paradise Lost," the exalted imagination and sublime genius of a John Milton to treat them appropriately, and the Christian ages have not abounded in John Miltons. The most of us humble preachers would better wait till we join the heavenly throng before attempting such efforts.

We have said the occasion demands the Topical sermon. When Henry Ward Beecher was called upon to preach the funeral sermon of Abraham Lincoln what other kind of a discourse could have been expected? Or when Masalon preached at the funeral of Louis XIV, or when President Eliphelet Nott preached at the funeral of our great statesman, Alexander Hamilton, or many other similar occasions, the topical sermon was the one that was natural and appropriate.

Also, on special occasions, as the opening address of a conference or assembly, or of a missionary convention, or a union Thanksgiving Day service, or a Fourth of July address, or an ordination sermon, or a Baccalaureate sermon of a college commencement, the sermon may properly be of this order. Dr. R. W. Dale of Birmingham, England, has given us a volume of "Sermons on Special Occasions," in which the topical method prevails.

We have noticed that men who have an abundant vocabulary and very ready utterance and are exceedingly gifted in imagination, and perhaps are deficient in the logical faculty, ordinarily adopted the topical form of discourse as their model. In such a mind the orator and not the reasoner is predominant. They revel in brilliant periods; abound in striking and impressive utterances and arguments. They coruscate and sparkle. They mount and soar, it matters not where, if only they are attracting and dazzling their audience and holding their hearers spellbound.

We have such an orator in mind, a veritable
golden-mouthed Chrysostom. After one of his brilliant sermons a scholarly preacher said to me: "He doesn't stick to his text, but he sticks, mighty close to his audience!" It was an exceedingly just observation. In a spirit of eloquence he would mount over the moon and halt and return to earth. In another paragraph he would take a vaulting somersault over the stary belt of Orion and then check himself, as if saying, "How did I get here?" and reluctantly return to earth. A few minutes later, in another oratorical flight, he would be wandering about in the Milky Way. His open-mouthed excited audience, lost to ordinary things, would follow him, panting with the efforts and filled with amazement at the orator's matchless power. When the wonderful address was ended they would take a long breath and exclaim, "What an orator!" And in half an hour they would wonder what it was all about!

We could describe others of this class. We have watched the effects of their "great discourses" upon college audiences for more than a quarter of a century, and have measured the results of such preaching, and have watched the abiding effects of such expositions.

In the light of history let us critically consider the topical sermon, its nature, advantages and disadvantages.

I. A topical sermon is one that is built up on a theme or a topic rather than on the words or utterances of God. It may have been at an early age of the Christian Church, a kind of exposition the prevalent fashion of Alligatorizing or of verbal quibbling which was wholly unworthy of pulpit address.

But it easily degenerated into a discussion of the theories and speculations of men rather than a proclamation of the express commands and teachings of God. It starts, like a textual sermon, with some truth of Scripture; but the topical sermon develops it in the thoughts and conceptions of men and human opinions, while the textual preacher builds solely on the inspired and express words of the living God.

II. Advantages of the topical sermon.

1. It furnishes an untrammeled opportunity for oratory. If the preacher wishes to build his sermon on the model of an oration and make it a finished work of art he will instinctively adopt the topical method. Pattison remarks: "In the history of preaching the enthusiasm of the rhetorician has often conquered the conscience of the preacher, and what are called 'great sermons' are the fruit of that pithy victory. "

2. It gives the preacher an opportunity for an exhaustive treatment of a subject. There are no notes or bounds, no restraints, or limitations, to the extent of investigation or discussion. The mind can roam at will over the whole plains of kindred thought. No regard for the text holds the preacher from any flight of fancy or ramble of imagination. He is intellectually free to write what he pleases or say what he will.

3. Topical preaching would tend to a wide outlook of truth and a breadth of view which is wholesome to the soul. Preachers are often very narrow in their mental conceptions of truth and views of life. But they need not be. There is a cure for it in the amplitude of the inspired Word, and in a large way of proclaiming it to the world. There are great conceptions of salvation, and the purposes of God, and His plan for the redemption of our race that should broaden the horizon of any man who is divinely called to preach, till he can see with far off vision, and see with Wesley: "The world is my parish.""}

III. There are still very serious objections to this kind of a sermon. "Of all methods," says Dr. Pattison, "it seems open to the greatest objections."

1. The topical method of preaching leads directly to an unpardonable neglect of the Word of God. Out of respect to custom a text is taken, which perhaps was not chosen at all till the sermon was finished. At any rate the preacher and his text part company at once, as the "disciples forsake Jesus and fed." The Scripture is forgotten and only the preacher remains before the minds of the audience. The people are listening to his voice instead of the voice of God, and the pens imitate the pulpit. They too speedily learn to imitate the Bible.

2. Topical preaching has not been highly successful in soul-winning. It does not start or promote revivals or make revival preachers. It develops a false conception of the purpose of the sermon, which is to win men from the service of Satan to the service of Christ. The topical sermon diverts the attention of the hearers from God's message to His messenger and thus grieves the Spirit of God.

Many of the great masters of topical preaching have confessed that their preaching was not fruitful in conversions. Revs. Bisegam and Munsey were famous transfer preachers, moved from one Southern Conference to another, to fill the leading city pulpits of the South. Their sermons are remarkable specimens of pulpit oratory. Yet one of them when dying mourned that his ministry was characterized by a dearth of souls. Both might have done so.

Dr. John Barrows was for years the pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Chicago. He was transcendentally eloquent and was in constant demand to go up and down the land to preach at the great national assemblies and Y. P. S. C. E. conventions and college commencements and dedications of great buildings. Yet he wrote to his aged mother and she confided to me that "he envied her pastor, his skill and success in winning souls." Whosoever would be a successful fisher of men must shape his sermons to that end. He must descend from the brilliant generalizations of truth which everybody can assent to with delight and come down to particulars, and make the text a "thus saith the Lord" to the individual conscience and heart of every hearer. It must be as pungent and direct and personal as Nathan's was to David, when he looked his royal auditor in the face and said, "Thou art the man;" or as Paul preached to Felix and Drusilla till they trembled at the awful touch of convicting truth. No distracting "brevity of oratory" and no disputing play of humor must be indulged in that will lessen the grip of God upon the guilty soul.

A few examples of topical outlines may be in place.

1. Justification by Faith. (Rom. V.1)
   b. Its Grounds.
   c. Its Results.

2. God is Immutable and Gloriously Perfect. (Deut. 4:35)
   Consider:
   a. God's Eternity.
   b. His Omnipresence.

3. His Impotence.
4. His Wisdom.

II. Subject: "Christ's Blood is Precious." Text, John 17:17.
   1. Comparatively.
   2. Intrinsically.
   3. Superficially.

   1. Ambition is blind in its aims.
   2. It is presumptuous in its disposition.
   3. It is absurd in its results.

These examples are taken from Kidders Homiletics. Take any of these or similar themes and soar as high as you like.

PREACHERS, CONSIDER THESE THINGS

BY A. W. ORWOD

Preaching Jesus

Has not a much more searching other themes are heard in some pulpits! Almost anything but Jesus! Or, if He dwelt upon, it is largely from a historical or merely ethical standpoint. He may be eloquently presented in numerous ways, and yet not really as the Word of God reveals Him. One reason doubts is because Jesus is not experimentally known by most of such men. They have never felt the pangs of the new birth nor the deep joys of a soul having truly passed from death unto life. They may know a great deal about Jesus, but not vitally know Him. The Rev. George Whitefield said he was "persuaded that the generality of preachers talk of an unknown and unfelt Christ."

How greatly some preachers, and among the number the so-called "big" preachers, need to follow the example of the apostles by "preaching the Lord Jesus." It is declared that "they ceased not to teach and preach Jesus Christ." And note these other divine statements: "He preached unto them Jesus and the resurrection;" "The Son of God, Jesus Christ, who was preached among you by us;" "And preached unto him Jesus." Would to God every preacher could truly say.
"Jesus only is our message, Jesus all our theme shall be; We will lift up Jesus ever, Jesus only will we see."

Very many souls are perishing everywhere because Jesus is not the real "message" of so great a number of preachers. He is not truly "lifted up" as the One willing and "mighty to save." A man said to a certain preacher that for years he had delighted to become a Christian, but that none of the preachers ever told him how really to find the Lord. He added: "They preach philosophy, science, current events, and the like, but don't tell a sinner how to be saved, and I have tried stone but always failed. If you will truly tell me how to become a Christian I will become one here and now." And together they knelt in earnest, believing prayer, the man soon finding Jesus precious to his soul.

And many Christians are starving spiritually because Jesus, in all his preciousness and power, is not preached to them. Often the pulpit deals put "a sermon" instead of "preaching." And people are compelled to say, "They have taken away my Lord." And, alas, sometimes "a serpent" or "a scorpion" is offered in the form of harangue, excited rebuke, or, it may be, in unscriptural and pernicious teaching, calculated to undermine the faith of some and of robbing others of their joy.

A preacher had been discussing, through a long series of sermons, "the relation of religion and science." One Sunday morning he found on the pulpit Bible a card with the following Scripture verse on it, "Sir, we would see Jesus." Feeling the rebuke somewhat keenly, he began to present Jesus to the hungry people, and soon afterward found another card on which was written, "Then were the disciples glad when they saw the Lord." Most certainly it is the chief business of the professing Gospel minister to seek the salvation of sinners and build up God's children in holiness and divine truth generally. Souls departures from this duty, however, are not infrequent. A bright young preacher one Sunday asked a veteran in the Gospel ministry how he liked his sermon. "I cannot say that I enjoyed it," was the frank reply. "Why? Did it lack logic, eloquence or rhetoric?" "No, but it had no Christ in it!" What an unscriptural and low conception the young man had of the real elements of a truly Gospel sermon! But there are others like him, and they cannot really say, "We preach not ourselves, but Christ Jesus, the Lord."

The great Daniel Webster, while spending a little while in a rural, district one summer, was asked why he went to a certain little church where he heard only very ordinary preaching. He replied, "In Washington they preach to Daniel Webster, the statesman, but this man has been telling Daniel Webster, the sinner, of Jesus of Nazareth."

Men sometimes say they cannot always be preaching Jesus. That depends on how vitally they are related to him, and how studiously and prayerfully they study the facts. He can be live, said in a multitude of ways, as the Holy Spirit continually reveals his charms and as the One who is the inestimable Source of every need of the entire man. There is an old saying that every road in England leads to London, and in Italy to Rome; and just so all preaching should lead to Jesus or be centered in him. Charles H. Spurgeon, in referring to his many years as pastor of one church, said, substantially, that if he had preached anything but Christ and related truths, he would have scattered his congregation to the winds of heaven.

A somewhat eminent preacher, while tarrying for a few days in the city of X, he was invited to a large company of ministers something like the following on preaching Jesus: "Oh my brethren, permit me to say I am persuaded that, if I had one thousand lives offered me this day by my Master, and told that I might do as I pleased with them, I should not hesitate to answer that every one of them would I do in publishing Jesus Christ to a lost world." That is indeed the sentiment of every divinely called Spirit-filled preacher of the glorious Gospel of the Son of God. Such a man knows no greater honor or higher joy. Everlastingness and fully preach Jesus.

Fed on Straw

I ONCE heard of a man whose horse broke down from sheer weakness, and could proceed no farther. Some one coming up to the man, asked him the cause of the misfortune. The answer was, "My horse was fed only on straw this morning, and now I cannot finish my journey."

The incident aptly illustrates the reason why some people often falter—by the way in the Christian life, and why they are unable to do any really valuable work for God. They do not, take proper spiritual nourishment, or at least so very little, as to leave them the least spiritual weaklings. Many, instead of feeding on the blessed Word of God, and on other wholesome religious literature, often read so much that is mere straw and stubble, as to be in a continual state of spiritual starvation. Just as those, who do not have sufficient nourishing food for the body, cannot do good and continuous physical or mental labor to the soul not nourished by the Bible cannot possess true spiritual ruggedness or be efficient in Christian work.

A pastor asked one of his members of his church how she was getting along in the Christian life. Her honest reply was, "Very poorly, and I don't understand why it is so." He then asked her, "Do you study your Bible every day?" To this she replied, "Oh no, but I study it occasionally, when I have time."

Possibly, however, that holy had time, or at least took time, to read other literature which was not food for her soul. And thus do many other Christians. Some read for mere pleasure or pastime, instead of for real mental profit and spiritual growth. Are like the poor horse who got only straw for his morning meal. And if some awakened sinner should come to them for instruction and to be led to Jesus, how little they could bring the blessed Bible to bear upon the case! And, knowing so little about the Book, how can they appropriate it to their daily spa? For the Bible is the great store-house from which every Christian must constantly draw if he would grow in grace and in spiritual knowledge and strength. We are thus taught in the Bible itself. We are exhorted to let the Word of Christ dwell in us richly in all wisdom. The Apostle John said to some, "Ye are strong, and the Word of God abideth in you, ye have overcome the wicked one." He gives us to understand that by having the Word abiding in us are made strong, and have a good weapon by which to put Satan to flight. That great and good man, the Rev. George Mueller, says that the "Word of God is the food for the inner man." According to the fact of his neglect of the Bible in his early ministerial life, he says: "I was a babe in knowledge and grace; I made no progress. I neglected God's own appointed means for nourishing the divine life."

A person's life is very much like a man's stock of money. If he has little money to begin with, and every month draws out of his bank all he can spare, his money will not last long. And if a man neglects his spiritual nourishment, and daily study of the Word, the Bible will not last him long.
WHY SOME PREACHERS FAIL

A NY man divinely called to the sacred office of the ministry is assured success. "As I was with Moises, so I will be with thee: I will not fail thee, nor forsake thee" we believe is applicable to any of God's ambassadors as truly as it was to Joshua. Nevertheless there are many positive failures in the work of the ministry. Perhaps the examination of a few reasons why, will help some one.

1. Never Divinely-called. The old Methodist discipline mentions three qualifications for the ministry, namely, "grace, gifts and usefulness." A man may have grace without gifts. He may have both grace and gifts and still lack usefulness. Wesley thought and taught that a man could have gifts of a superb order that would qualify him for high positions in many of the walks of life, and yet wholly lack the ministerial qualifications. We believe Wesley was right in the matter.

When an individual is not wanted by any church for the pastorate, and no calls come in for the evangelistic field, and his services are not desired from any quarter, it might be advisable to ask why. The divine urge, the "woe is me if I preach not the gospel" should burden the preacher's soul. But to be without the gift of preaching while holding bold claim to be God's ambassador seems incongruous and inconsistent, and it would seem to reflect on an intelligent God.

2. Misfits. It would seem that there are several orders in the ministry. The hortatory gift is not to be despised. In the early Church it was an exalted and dignified gift, and any man endowed with the gift of exhortation, and using it for God's glory was honored of the Lord. Stephen, the deacon, had this gift, and his life and ministry are well known. We have men among us who are called as local preachers, and as such are very useful in their capacity. We could not dispense with them. May their tribe increase! But to put some of these men into the regular ministry to fill a pastorate, or to usher them into the evangelistic field, may be questionable as to its wisdom. We once heard a General Superintendent say, as long as Tom Brown is a local preacher he has an effective ministry, and is much beloved, but when you make Tom Brown an ordained elder in the Church you destroy his effectiveness and his influence as a minister. Be content to let him serve in his capacity. But here may be the explanation why some men are carrying credentials from the assemblies, and yet who do not succeed in the ministry are placed in a very embarrassing position when they pose as ministers.

3. Prayerlessness and Lack of Union. A brother minister said to us recently, "That man is a splendid preacher; he is a bright fellow, and a good sermonizer and has a fine delivery but his seems to be no power in his message; what he says is all right, but it has no teeth in it; his trouble is that he is not a praying man." The words of the eminent preacher are worthy of frequent repetition. He said, "It is the unction that makes the preacher." A preacher may be orthodox, but to be without the unction of the Lord in public ministration is a very serious lack. The preacher that prays much in private will have the unction when before the audience. Many good men are ineffective because of this great lack.

4. Inactivity. Some men can preach real well and acceptably, but as soon as this ministry is ended their effectiveness ceases. A pastor in particular must of necessity be a man of many parts if he would succeed. Pastoral calling is absolutely indispensable to success. The morpings should, as a rule, be given to thorough and assiduous study, and the afternoons to pastoral visitation among his people. Perhaps a good plan is to give fifty per cent of his time in the afternoons among his own church members, and the other fifty per cent of his time to new people. He should visit every member of his congregation, if at all possible, and thus acquaint himself with strangers. A note book will serve him well as he goes around. But for a pastor to sit around, and do nothing, and never really realize himself when souls are going to hell is irreconcilable, and it seems to us that God will hold such a pastor to account at the reckoning day.

5. Lack of Faith and Vision. The obstacles that confront the pastor are tremendous. The difficulties cannot be ignored. It will test the real mettle in any man if he would accomplish something worth while for God and holiness. The world, the flesh and the Devil are dead set against us. But we must rise above them and faith must utilize the seemingly insurmountable difficulties as a challenge. Bud Robinson says, "God cannot do anything with a discouraged man." If this is true of people generally, it is doubly true of the minister. To be discouraged is to be defeated. To believe God, and to be envisioned by Delity is to have victory. "Where is your faith, the people perish." A discouraged man will generate discouragement among his flock, but the man of mighty conquering faith will stimulate faith in others. Better look at your own back door if you see a failure. Be on your own. Then trust God, as though it all depended on Him, and then work as though it all depended on you. MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.
PERILS IN THE WAY OF THE YOUTH OF TODAY

By C. E. Cornell

1. Parental Indifference
2. Questionable Associates
3. Impure Literature
4. The unquenchable desire for amusement
5. Lack of spirituality—compromising
6. Christ and the Church
7. Strength of moral character.

HINTS TO FISHERMEN

By C. E. Cornell

A BAIT TO CATCH PREACHERS: BEWARE!

Rev. G. W. Ridout tells of receiving the following letter:

Dear Sir:

"Mr. D. W. Griffith has directed me to extend to you a most cordial invitation to witness his latest motion picture production, 'Dream Street,' now being shown at the Chestnut Street Opera House.

"It gives me great pleasure therefore, to extend this invitation for the Thursday and Friday afternoon or evening performance of this week. If you will kindly present this letter at the box office the treasurer will provide you with complimentary tickets for two seats.

"I hope that you will be able to accept the invitation and you will enjoy the performance.

Yours respectfully,

J. M. ASHCRAFT,
Special Representative, D. W. Griffith"

Dr. Ridout's reply is well to the point. Note it carefully.

Dear Sir:

1. I am a Methodist preacher.
2. When I became converted I quit worldly diversions.
3. The theater and movies I regard as a menace to godly living.
4. I would not like to be found in a theater if the Son of man should come.
5. If I should be found in a theater dead I think my friends would all regard it that I had backslidden, and played the hypocrite, and therefore forfeited my title and fitness for heaven and I would go to a backslider's hell.
6. To attend your movies would compromise my conscience and I could not condemn the wickedness of the thing with the openness that I do now.
7. It would be a bad example for me, a Methodist preacher holding the doctrines of John Wesley and preaching them, to be seen going to or coming from the movies.
8. The movies are playing havoc with the morals of America.

9. Methodists who frequent the movies are not much use at prayer meetings or in revivals.
10. Methodist preachers who go to the movies patronize a thing which Methodism in doctrine and spirit condemns.

What applies to Methodist preachers, pertinently applies to preachers of every denomination. Don't be caught by the Devil's bait.

SUGGESTIONS FOR A SERMON

"Life in a Dead Man's Bones" 2 Kings 13:21.
1. Acquaint yourself with the story, it is of thrilling interest.
2. The marvelous characters of Elijah and Elisha.
3. The influence and power of godly men.
4. Salvation, its effect upon those who find it.
5. Holiness—Partakers of the divine nature.
6. When Christ shall come, how-those in the grave will respond.
7. They will be "caught up" as by a magnet.

EVERYTHING BUT GOD AND THE BIBLE

The topics studied in the different classes of one Sunday school are given thus in the church bulletin:

The Mothers' Club Class talked about the social and religious conditions in the lumber camps of the northwest as shown in a recent report of an investigator.

A class of young men discussed, "How far can a man get in the business world and be a Christian?"

A newspaper gives a few sermon subjects which some ministers advertise as their Sunday themes:

VAIN REGRET

A man died some time since who was employed as a sheep-station hand. All along he had shown a disinclination for the company of his fellows, and would get away by himself. Often he would be heard saying earnestly, "I wish I had entered." The manager at last won from him his story.

As a lad he had been brought up in a Christian home in England, but became the companion of vicious youths who led him astray. One evening when they had planned a robbery he slipped away from them to the door of his home, not liking the enterprise. He was about to enter its security, but when he observed his father about to begin family worship he decided to avoid joining in that exercise and remained waiting outside till it was over.

Meanwhile, some of his companions came up and beckoned him away. He went with them. The robbery was committed; he was arrested and transported to Australia.

As time went on, he became gloomy under the strain of shame and regret, and often he would exclaim, as the memory revived of that fatal waiting outside his father's door, when he would sorrowfully exclaim, "O, I wish I had entered!"

And will it not be the regret of many a soul in the darkness of eternity, as memory recalls times when the foot was on the threshold of the kingdom of salvation, "I wish I had entered!"

THE WATER OF LIFE

Mr. C. J. Blanchard, of the Government Reclamation Service, talks inspiringly of the reclamation of the deserts by means of irrigation, of which the Government is doing so much in these days. He shows with the aetraphtographs pictures of land before and after reclamation; verify the desert blossoms as the rose. In many places this land produces fruit—apples especially—at the value of $1,300 per acre. This work is of immense value to our countrymen.

Jesus once spoke to the woman at the well of Samaria of the Water of Life. The reclamation of the desert is but a faint Illustration of a better reclamation. Jesus' Water of Life, brought into the life of any man not only gives him new life, but inspires to holy living. No one can estimate the possibilities of such a life. They are as wide and deep as God.

SIX MARKS OF A GOOD PASTOR

St. John 10.

1. He is divinely called to the ministry.
2. His labor is crowned with success. The Holy Spirit opens the way into the hearts of his hearers.
3. (V.3) The sheep hear his voice. He speaks so as to instruct the people.
4. (V.4) He calls his own sheep by name. He is well acquainted with his flock.
5. (V.4) He leads them out—Does not lord it over them.
6. (V.4) He goeth before them—He gives them a good example, etc.

I am the door, etc. (V.9).

He shall be saved and he shall be safe.

SUGGESTIVE SERMON OUTLINE

"The Main Road."

Text: John 10:27.

Peter and his relation to Jesus.

Men refuse to follow Jesus because:

1. They stumble over imaginary difficulties that do not exist.
2. There are so many different opinions.
3. They are not willing to conform to rightliving.
4. They fear backsliding.
5. They disregard the value of their souls.
6. They tried it once and failed.

They hope somehow to be finally saved.

GOD'S BOOKKEEPING

Three precious B's in God's Word.

God has a battle for our tears. Psa. 56:8.


Memory signifies intimate relations—pleasant ones.

Detail, Psa. 139:16.


Our tears. Psa. 56:3.

2. His Book of Life. Phil. 4:3.

1. Alive.
2. Worthy.
3. The Book of Judgment.

Memory.

Unconscious records.

Judgments.
HOMILETICAL

Jesus’ Intercessory Prayer
By A. M. Hills

TEXT: “Pray for them” (John 17:9)
This is one of the words of the greatest prayer that ever went from this wicked world to heaven. It was the intercessory prayer of Jesus for His infant Church, offered just a few hours before He died on the cross. Who are the fortunate ones for whom He prayed?

1. The Bible describes them plainly:
   1. Jesus had called them and they had forsaken all to follow Him;
   2. They had preached and cast out demons.
   3. They kept God’s word (v.6).
   4. They believed in Jesus (v.8).
   5. They were given to Jesus by the Father who owned them (v.9).
   6. Jesus was glorified in them (v.10).
   7. The world hated them, because they were not of the world (v.15).

II. Notice the precious things for which Jesus prayed.
   1. “I prayed that Thou shouldst keep them from the Evil One. So many who seemed to start well lose out. They fall by the wayside. They lose their way in the wanderings, lost in the wilderness. We should seek to know well the way we need divine keeping.”
   2. Jesus prayed, “Sanctify them,” They were already Christians and preachers and miracle workers, as we have seen; but they needed more, even the cleansing of sanctifying grace which only God could give. The verb “sanctify” is in the aorist tense, which means immediate action, not by a slow growth of development but instantaneously. The Century Dictionary defines: “Sanctify” thus, “The act of God’s grace whereby we are cleansed from sin.” One of God’s acts requires no more time than a flash of lightning. One Greek grammarian calls the “aorist” the “lightning tense.”
   3. He prayed for Christian unity (v.21).

Expositional Sermon
By C. E. Cornell

TEXT: 2 Peter 1:1-11.

1. INTRODUCTION.
The service of Christ is a love service. Not merely duty.
Christianity not based upon good works.

II. STRIKING AND IMPORTANT TRUTHS OF THE TEXT.
1. “All things that pertain to life and godliness.” Including all that pertains to raising us up to the sky, its wreck and ruin, to the fulness of God’s glory and heaven. How far did men fail?
2. “Be partakers of the divine nature.” The child like its parent. Has a resemblance, trait of character, nature. God’s children having escaped the corruption which is in the world are God-like.
3. The eight graces:
   Faith, virtue, knowledge, temperance, patience, godliness, brotherly kindness, charity (love). Wesley says: “Each preceding grace leads to the one following, each following temper and perfects the preceding. They are set down in the order of nature, rather than the order of time. For though every grace bears a relation to every other, yet here they are so nicely ranged that those which have the closest dependence on each other are placed together.”
4. “We shall never fail.” Our business to remain steadfast.

A Bible Reading on Satan
By J. E. Redmon

1. Luke 10:18. And he said unto them, I beheld Satan as lightning fall from heaven. He was once the bright and morning star of the celestial city, but he fell, landing in this earth a Devil.
2. Matt. 15:4. And when he sowed, some seeds fell by the wayside, and the fowls came and devoured them up.
3. John 17:15. This is the true declaration of his character.

III. SOME OF THE OLD PATHS:
1. Way of Holiness.
2. Way of Faith.
5. Way of Peace.

IV. REASONS FOR TRAVELING THEM:
1. That we may win Christ.
2. That we may influence others.
3. That we shall not miss God.

The New Testament Minister
By I. E. Miller

TEXT: 1 Pet. 5.

1. In Ministry.
   Shepherd—leader (v.1).
   Superintendent—leader (v.2).
   Sample—copy (v.3).
2. Final reward—“Crown of Glory” (v.4).

IN SPIRIT AND EXPERIENCE.
Clothed with humility (v.6).
Care free (v.7).
Conquest faith (v.8).

THE PREACHER’S MAGAZINE
III. IN PRESENT PROFIT.
Characterless service. (v.5).
*Exaltation in reproach. (v.6).
Provision, daily and detailed. (v.7).
IV. IN WORTH.
-“Sober.” (v.8).
-“Watchful.” (v.8).
-“Discern” and “Resist.” (v.9).
V. FOR FUTURE GROWTH AND MATURITY.
-All ministers institute in school.
* The course—“Perfection” (v.10) through
Suffering.
- From the “Capitain” down. (Heb. 2:10).
* “Stingless” in faith. (v.10).
* “Strengths” in fibre. (v.10).
- “Settle” in faithfulness. (v.10).
Shout! (v.11).

God’s Call to His Children
By D. Sheldon Colet.
Text: 1 Peter 1:14-15.
I. GOD’S CALL TO HOLINESS IS TO OBEDIENT CHILDREN.
1. They had been brought into the relationship of “children” by being “begotten again” as shown in vs. 3.
2. This call to holiness is to “obedient” children. Not those who are backslidden, cold or indifferent.

II. AS “OBEDIENT CHILDREN” GOD DEMANDS A SEPARATION.
-“Not fashioning yourselves according to the former lusts in your ignorance.”
1. The pattern of this separation is shown in 2 Cor. 6:14-18.
2. Strongly implies if they do not heed the call “to be holy,” they will go back to former desires.

III. TO WHAT DOES GOD CALL HIS OBEDIENT CHILDREN?
“Be holy, for I am holy.”
1. This call to be holy based upon His own character.
“Be holy.”
God is holy in his essential character, and desires that His children conform to His character.
“Holy” is the pattern of the age.
2. This call is “to be holy.”
Not to set it up as a goal to work toward; something to aim at; but a principle of the heart; an inward experience of the life by which the character is made holy.
3. As such an experience, it is worked out in our lives.
“Be ye holy in all manner of living” (R.V.). It is not something hidden in the heart alone; but an experience that permeates the whole character until it works out “in all manner of living.”

The Church Asleep
By D. Sheldon Colet.
Text: “Awake, awake, put on thy strength O Zion” (Isa. 52:1).
I. ZION, OR THE CHURCH IS REPRESENTED AS BEING ASLEEP.
Note some conditions of those asleep.
1. A self-satisfied spirit (Laodiceans).
   “I am rich and have need of nothing!” (Rev. 3:17).
2. An indifferent attitude toward the advancement of God’s kingdom, and the salvation of men.
   A sleeping nation puts forth no effort.
3. Is unconscious of his own danger and that of those around him.
   “Endow not that thou are wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked.” (Rev. 3:17).
4. Power lies dormant when asleep.
   Heartless prayers; intellectual service rather than spiritual service directed from the heart; inner spiritual consciousness deadened; all are indicative of a sleeping church.

II. CAUSES OF THIS CONDITION.
1. A wrong interpretation of prophetic statements may cause it. Such as: “Because thine iniquity is gathered together in the midst of all nations” (Isa. 5:16).
   “When the Son of man cometh shall he find faith on the earth?”
   “In the last days perilous times shall come.”
   These statements are given us as warnings and not to be magnified as conditions to dampen our ardor, or cool our zeal.
2. The present spirit of the age.
   This acts as a deadly opiate upon the Church. We must shut it, and keep up the fight against it in order to keep spiritual.
3. The cares of life pressing God’s people. Even legitimate things such as our work, our family duties, our intellectual advancement, etc. requires so much of our time and attention that they will unconsciously keep us from being spiritually awake.

III. NOTE GOD’S CALL—“AWAKE, AWAKE; PUT ON THY STRENGTH.”
1. Awake to the possibilities of the church.
   They are limitless. Baptized with the Holy Spirit, the Church is a mighty power. Should be the greatest power in the name of Christ.
2. Awake to our opportunities.
   They are boundless.
3. Awake to our responsibilities.
   Each opportunity brings added responsibilities.

The Glorious Gospel
By D. Sheldon Colet.
Text: Matt. 11:28-29
I. THE GOSPEL INVITATION—“COME.”
   This is the great word of the Gospel, it is used 445 times in the Bible.
   “And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that thirsteth, come. And he that thirsteth, let him come” (Rev. 22:17).
II. THE EXCELLENTNESS OF THE GOSPEL—“Unto Me.”
   A. Come to Christ, there is none other to save.
   B. “I am the door: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved” (John 10:9).
   C. “I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father but by me” (John 14:6).
   D. “Lord, is it good for us to go thus the pilgrims of eternal life?” (John 6:69).
   E. “There is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.” (Acts 4:12).
III. THE INEXCELLENTNESS OF THE GOSPEL—“All ye that labor and are heavy laden.”
   A. “Whosoever believeth in him should not perish” (John 3:16).
   B. “Whosoever will, let him take him of the water of life freely” (Rev. 22:17).
   C. “Him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out” (John 6:37).
IV. THE RELEVANCE OF THE GOSPEL “I will give you.”
   “Ho every one that thirsteth, come ye to the waters and he that hath no money; come ye, buy and eat; yea, come, buy, yea, and take of my waters without money and without price” (Isa. 55:1).
   “The Gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord” (Rom. 6:23).
V. THE ASSURANCE OF THE GOSPEL “REST.”
   “The wicked are like the troubled sea, when it cannot rest, whose waters cast up more and more” (Isa. 57:20).
   God assures the laboring, the heavy laden one, the one tired of sin and its bondage—“rest” from this sinful condition, this conformation.
VI. THE COMPLETENESS OF THE GOSPEL “And ye shall find rest to your souls.”
   “There remaineth therefore a rest to the people of God” (Heb. 4:9).

This is a “second rest” given to those who have come; have found rest from the sinful condition of unrest; have taken Christ’s yoke upon them; have learned of Him.

Must We Sin?
1 John 3:8
By E., E. Hale
I. WHERE DID SINNING RELIGION ORIGINATE?
1. Theologians of certain early organizers.
2. Professors of religion trying to justify sin in themselves.
3. Satan’s greatest attempt to disturb the work of Christ.
II. MUST WE SIN? LET US CONSIDER.
   a. Power of God—Creation, they why not full salvation.
   b. The mission of Christ into the world—“Come to destroy works of the Devil.”
   c. The Bible’s testimony.
   d. The verbal testimony of saints.
   e. Lives that we know they have changed.
III. MUST WE EXPLOIT NATURE? (ESRS?
1. Not if God commands that we live holy.
   a. Two duties never conflict.
   b. Not if full provision has been made through the atonement (Heb. 13:12).
   c. Not if others are enjoying the blessing of holiness.
IV. Not if the Holy Spirit now convicts of inbred sin and woes unto holiness.

The Angel Hastened Lot
Gen. 19:15
By E. E. Hale
Introduction—1. Who Lot was. 2. How raised.
3. How he obtained his start. 4. Why did he choose the well watered plains?
5. Lot’s First Year in Sodom.
   a. No doubt was plow. 2. His plenty probably negative.
   b. To fail to give testimony means to lose the experience, 4. Mr. and Mrs.
   c. Lot tended into Sodom’s society, clubs, orders, etc.
II. YOUNG LADIES MARRIED Sodomites.
1. The curse of evil association.
   a. Lot probably was not prejudiced against angel’s visit, probably by Abraham.
   b. But he and wife were now in society.
   c. They now had grand children, no doubt.
   d. Single girls had friends and honors.
   e. Lot probably had large business interest.
III. Political prestige in his way too.
IV. Nepht Condition of Lot’s Life.
   a. Sons-in-law had no faith in him.
2. Deliverance had to be in answer to prayers of someone else.
3. Deliverance had to be supernatural.
4. Angels used persuasion and at last force.
V. Lot's Wife CONVINCED but not CONVERTED.
VI. SECRET OF TRUE RELIGIOUS CHARACTER includes RELIGIOUS SUBMIDIATION,
Complete—Lot's Warnings and our Warnings.
1. Explicit—City sure to be destroyed—hell is sure.
2. Merciful—Plans made for each to escape.
3. Timely—A time when mercy's doors will close.
4. Lot's wife nearly saved, but lost.

**Complete Consecration**
Rom. 12:1.
By E. E. Hale

**INTRODUCTION—INDEED SIN A REALITY.**
1. As indicated by testimony.
2. By doctrine of Christendom.
3. By the Scriptures.

**WORDS OF TEXT ADDRESSED TO CHRISTIANS.**
Hence, a second work.

**II. WHAT CONSECRATION IS NOT.**
1. Not merely a mental assent to holiness.
2. Not merely setting one's self apart for Christian service.
3. Not a determination to perform some laborious task against one's will.
4. Not strainning of the nervous system until a certain plane of emotion is reached, or certain signs are obtained.
5. Not a laborious pleading with God when the seeker is unwilling to pay the whole price.
6. Not, a straining to exercise faith before the price is paid.

**III. WHAT CONSECRATION IS.**
1. Consecration holds the same place in obtaining holiness that repentance holds in obtaining pardon.
2. The dedication of every future moment of the life to God.
3. Yielding the body with all its members.
4. Yielding the mind with all the sensibilities.
5. Putting all on the altar and taking our hands off.

IV. THE RESULTS OF CONSECRATION.
I. WHY NOT THERE:
1. Indifference.
2. Distaste.
3. Laziness.
4. Pleasure.
5. Business.
7. Pure Sple.
8. Shifting Responsibility.
9. Morbus Sabaticus or Sunday Sickness.

II. RESULT:
1. Lose more than we gain.
2. What do we gain?
3. What do we lose?
   a. Meeting Christ.
   b. Full faith, then belief is in.
   c. Confidence—will not believe.
   d. Unless recovered—heaven at last.

III. MEANS TO BRING US BACK:
1. The Word of God.
2. The Holy Spirit.
3. Preaching of the Word.
4. Providences of God.
5. Humble Repentance.

"Take heed" By R. W. Hertzstein.

I. TAKE HEED OF GOD:
1. To the Lord (Ios. 4:10).
2. For the Lord hath chosen thee (1 Chr. 28:10).

II. TAKE HEED WHAT YOU DO:
1. What ye do (2 Chr. 19:6).
2. And be quiet (Isa. 7:14).
3. That ye do not aims before men (Matt. 6:1).

III. TAKE HEED WHAT YOU HEAR:
1. What you hear (Le. 8:18).
2. Therefore how ye hear (Le. 8:18).

IV. TAKE HEED HOW YOU TREAT THE OTHER MAN:
1. Everyone his neighbor (Le. 9:4).
2. That ye desire not one of these (Matt. 18:10).
3. Ye be not consumed one of another (Gal. 5:15).

"The Double Cure" By R. W. Hertzstein.

"Cleanse your hands ye sinners Purify your hearts ye double-minded"—James.

I. Sinners—Dirty hands and unclean hearts.
II. Formalists—Full hands and an empty heart.
III. Justified—Clean hands and sin impure heart.
IV. Sanctified—Clean hands and a pure heart.
V. Sanctification in Action—Full hands and a full heart.

CONCLUSION.
1. Use our will—lead ourselves back.
2. In this age of carelessness and indifference—God forbid that we lose an interest in this means of grace.

The Three Men of Romans
By R. W. Hertzstein.

I. "NATURAL MAN"
1. Has sins unforgiven.
2. Has moral cowardice.
3. Has fear of hell.
4. Has no rest.
5. Has no experience.

II. "CARNAL MAN"
1. Has justification.
2. Has moral shrinkage.
3. Has unhealthy fears and anxiety.
4. Has rest.
5. Has a mixture of joy and carnal sorrow.

III. "SPIRITUAL MAN"
1. Has the Comforter.
2. Has moral steadiness.
3. Has perfect love.
4. Has holy rest.
5. Has the joy of gladness.

ILLUSTRATIONS

Years ago when still a lad in a Military School in England, I had a desire to live a military life, and so strong was that desire that at an early age I joined a well-known regiment of Highlanders.

On the second morning after arrival at the Barracks at Edinburgh, I, in company with a number of other recruits, was ordered to parade at a certain place that we might receive instructions.

We were lined up, a sorry looking lot compared with the smart trained soldiers around us, and the Sergeant-Major, having first taught us how to stand correctly, said, "Now, fellows, I am going to teach you the first duty of a soldier. The first duty of a soldier is obedience." That seemed a very easy lesson to learn, at all events it was easy to remember, and before dismissing us for the day the officer told us to parade again at the same place the following morning when we would be taught the second duty of a soldier.

We paraded the second morning and after asking us what was the first duty of a soldier the officer said, "Now, I will tell you what the second duty of a soldier is." Imagine our surprise when he said, "The second duty of a soldier is obedience."

We were then told to parade on the following day when we would be instructed as to the third duty of a soldier, and so on and so forth. We were told that the third duty of a soldier was obedience. In other words we were taught that a soldier has nothing else to do but to obey.

In after years I have gone into the Barracks at night and have heard young soldiers say in their sleep, "The first duty of a soldier is obedience." So strongly was it impressed upon their minds.

"It has often been helpful to me in my life as a Christian, to remember that the first duty of a Christian is obedience.

How much easier it would be for us all as Chechians if we would remember that to obey is better that sacrifice—E. T. Rowe.

HEART PURITY
(Acts 15:9-10).

Wesley tells of a lady by the name of Elizabeth Mann who was ill-tempered, peevish, irritable, and fretful by nature. One day the Holy Spirit laid the axe to the root of the tree and ever afterwards Wesley said, he saw her as a sweet, devout loving, tender, kind, peaceful woman. She had heart purity: a perfect cleansing—E. E. Worthington.

CARNAL DEATH
(Rom. 6:13).

A man got the idea into his head that he was physically dead, and so the boys thought the prudent thing to do was to give him a decent burial. A rough box was secured, and the man placed within, and the funeral procession started for the burying ground. A passerby, knowing the men who were taking the man to the burying ground, asked them what they were doing, and they replied that the man within the improvised coffin claimed to be dead physically and they believed that the advisable thing to do was to give him a place somewhere under the sod, and they were now taking him for burial.

Said the passerby, "Well, I am mighty glad to see you take him away, for he is a public nuisance anywhere and I suppose that the men arose in his coffin and said in reply, "If I wasn't dead I'd lick you to a frazzle." Evidently he was not quite dead yet. Some people claim to be dead carnally, but the movements of the old man in his coffin indicated the contrary.

Dr. Breese was so dead to fame, money, self and sin that he constantly prayed, "Lord, keep thee out of sight."

The Roman Church tried to bribe Luther with gold, position, power, and offered him the cardinal's hat, but he was dead to it all.

A tract peddler was so well converted and sanctified that when grossly insulted with the full expectation that he would revert and show anger of spirit, he calmly said, "Friend, the man you have been talking to has been dead for twenty years."

"Verily, verily, I say unto you, except a corn of wheat fall into the ground and die, it abideth alone; but if it die, it bringeth forth much fruit." (John 12:24)—E. E. Worthington.

SERMON SEED
By T. M. Anderson

FOREWORD: In this department we shall labor for the benefit of those who preach the Gospel of a Full Salvation. We shall follow the expository style of sermonizing which will hold us to the immediate context in most cases. Because of limited space we can only hope to be suggestive in thought. Every man must clothe these outlines in his own words and use them as best suits his taste and style of delivery. All are free to make any changes desired. Let all my readers accept these as their own.

our Motto: Study to show thyself approved unto God (2 Tim. 2:15).

TEXT: "Because he hath set his love upon me" (Ps. 4:3-4).

INTRODUCTION. This text shows the reward of affection when seen in the light of its context which is verses 14-16. Within scope of these verses is the seven-fold phase of the will of God. It is God's will expressed in seven promises. Those who would benefit by these promises must set their love upon Him. Let us consider then:

I. WHAT IT MEANS TO SET ONE'S LOVE UPON HIM.

1. I will say of the Lord, He is my refuge.
2. He is my fortress.
3. He is my God; in Him will I trust (v.2).

II. WHAT THE PROMISES MEAN TO ME.

1. I will deliver him. From all sin. All temptations. All trials.
PRACTICAL

THE MINISTER AND BIBLE STUDY
By Hazel W. Miller

Bible Study for Teaching

Fundamental to Christian activity is a knowledge of the Bible. As ministers our sermons must be rock-ribbed with truths. Our messages must respond with the authority of inspiration. Our congregation must be made sacred with the injunctions and commandments of Scripture. But after we have preached from the pulpit, and in clarion tones declared the judgments of God, Sunday after Sunday, there remains another phase of ministerial labor—the teaching process. Our sermons are pedagogical as well as inspirational—they must inform as well as inspire. Too often we emphasize the inspirational to the detriment of the informational. But in that institution for teaching the Bible—the Sunday school—the minister must play a leading role. Herein his talents shine. At present our greatest pastors are also teaching in the Sunday school. Some preachers are more at home with an adult class, while others find their place in the young people's classes, or with the children.

The training of the young is paramount to successful Christian work. The youth of today becomes the leader of tomorrow. The Church school of the present is the Church of the future. If we hope to build well, the firm foundation in the Sunday school must be well laid—the children trained in Christian habits, taught the truths of the Way of God, grounded in the fundamental verities of God's Oracles. In this the minister fills a useful part. But to do so, he should be trained, well informed concerning the Bible, accurate in his knowledge of its contents, its structure and its history. This phase is too many times considered unimportant and for it the pastor takes but little pains in preparation. He would not think of preaching with as little study as he does for teaching in the School. And as a result the children are being lost to the Church, lost to Christ, and lost to a vision of world evangelism.

For successful teaching the minister should be acquainted first with the doctrines of the Bible, its history, its geography, its great characters. He should be informed as to the gist of the different books, their particular messages, and an analysis of their contents. Too often the message of the separate lesson is lost because the teacher knows only the truths of that lesson, and is unable to illumine it with other passages, and to develop similar truths from other personalities of the Word. Moreover he should know how to make the application of the lesson to individual needs, and to different classes. The child ten years old needs a different form of biblical instruction from the older man or woman, and the teacher must be able to interpret each message in terms of the life, the interests and the development of the pupil. But to do so the Bible must be known thoroughly. How often a little lack of geographical facts hampers the lesson's application; or a lack of knowledge of historical passages or the structure of the transcendental or temple destroys the teacher's power to interest and attract the learner. To teach well, know the Bible. To interest the class, be filled with unusual facts concerning the Book and customs of Bible times and lands. The difference between mediocrity and success is due to the difference in such knowledge.

General material. There are numerous text books designed specifically for Sunday school teachers dealing with a general knowledge of the Bible deemed necessary for successful Sunday school work. In the various Teachers Training Courses books dealing with an analysis of the Old Testament, its books, and history, and the New Testament, its doctrines, the life and teachings of Jesus and Paul are included. Suffice it to say that every minister should be familiar with the general contents of these books, prepared by leading Sunday school workers with the explicit aim of furnishing materials needed to interest pupils. All denominations have such courses and hence the books along this line are too numerous to mention. No minister should feel equipped for work in the Bible school unless he is acquainted with this information.
Specific material. Along with this general knowledge of the Bible many Bible Teacher's Magazines are printed. Through the past few decades Frieden's Commentary for Sunday School Teachers has been a classic. With this in mind, Dr. Torrey of the Bible Institute has prepared, for several years what he terms "The Gift of the Lesson." Arnold's Sunday school lesson helps are also published yearly covering the several lessons in a practical manner. Then the material in our own Bible School Teacher's Journal is without equal from the standpoint of developing the spiritual messages from the various lessons during the year. Dr. Snowden, of the United Presbyterian Church, true to the fundamentals, who also prepares a Sunday School Teacher's Journal or book of lesson helps. In all these brief comments on the text of the lesson are found; then practical lessons, the gist of the lesson, the lesson outlined, light from Oriental lands on the lessons, the historical background, connecting links between the several lessons, and similar material follows. With the aid of such helps for teaching the minister, as well as the lay teachers, is fairly well equipped for the training of our youths in the things of Christianity.

We are taking the training of the child in religion entirely too lightly. No teacher in the public school with such a small amount of training in general education, and specifically in those subjects to be taught would be tolerated. We demand of our teachers who are to train the mind the best mental equipment possible, but those who are to train the soul, furnish the heart, are allowed to teach with little or no specific knowledge or general training. There is no reason why the twenty-seven million youth of the land are now without any form of religious instruction—the Church has failed to take seriously this matter of teacher training and preparation. As a result those who start in the Sunday school drop out by the thousands by the time they are from twelve to fifteen years of age.

The problem of how to hold pupils in the Bible school will be largely solved when we train our teachers efficiently. Discipline likewise becomes an easy matter when the teacher knows the art of teaching, making interesting the lesson. To captivate the attention of the class it is necessary first to know the lesson and by thus knowing and rightly applying the lesson there will be no trouble in discipline, attention, or scholars being absent.

To teach well, know the lesson; understand the Word of God; be grounded in its truths; point out its glories. The greatest lessons in righteousness are thus imbedded in the child's heart.

A NEGLECTED FIELD

By D. Shelby Corlett

We have a host of young people in our churches of the early teen age who are to a great extent being neglected. Generally speaking there is very little of the regular services of the church that will appeal to them, or that many of them will understand. The time of the average pastor is mostly given to the adult, but the youth of his congregation is largely neglected. He puts in his time preparing sermons for the adult mind; his preaching services, twice each Sabbath, are for the adult; the prayer meetings are for the adult; the children attend, many times because, their parents compel them to do so, still there is little in any of these services that appeals to them.

A pastor who had just within the past few months taken a certain church was telling me of the condition of his young people. He said it was very hard to get them to stay for the church services, and they seldom attended prayer meetings, excepting those who were spiritual and more mature. Upon investigation he said he found that a former pastor, through a splendid man and a good preacher, had felt called to preach such "deep" sermons that he entirely overshot the young people and children until they had lost interest in the church service. There may be occasions when such "deep" preaching is best, but when it is the custom to have sermons so deep that the young people and children do not understand them, we may well suppose that a great number of the older people have missed also. This condition was contrasted in a conversation with another pastor. He is probably one of the most successful soul winners of our church, and a pastor most successful with young people and children. In speaking of his new pastorate and speaking kindly of his predecessor he said: "I am here to preach the gospel in the simplest way I know." One pastor's ambition was to be a "deep" preacher; and he failed with his youth; the other's ambition was to preach the gospel in the simplest way he could, and he was successful. I have heard a number of the great preachers of our day, and most of their greatness has been marked by their simplicity. Very little comparison of the time used for the adult and the children may be helpful in this discussion. The pastor usually prepares two sermons each Sunday with the adult saint, or the hardened adult sinner in mind. He prepares his prayer meeting message for this group also. And gives the obligation of helping the children and youth to the Sunday school officers, the N.Y. P.S. leaders, with a possible Rally Day, Children's Day sermon, or an occasional "five-minute" sermon to the children, sandwiched in the service somewhere. We can safely say that one hundred and fifty sermons and addresses are prepared every year by our pastors, mostly with the needs of the adults of his congregation in view; while scarcely one tenth of this time has been given to the preparation of those sermons and addresses which will be helpful to the youth of his congregation.

Our revival meetings are usually conducted along the same lines, most of the work for the adult, with one or two or three services sandwiched in between the Sunday school hour and the morning preaching service. The evangelist proudly reports his meetings by saying, we took so many into the church, "most of them heads of families." But he would be somewhat ashamed to report, there were twenty-five converted or sanctified in the meeting. If he reports at all, his report would run something like this: "This meeting did not come up to our expectations, the results were not what we desired, only about twenty children were converted or sanctified." Or we have frequently read a report like this: "There were so many at the altar, including children." "Only" so many children, "including" children. But who are these children? They are to be our heads of families, they have, in the beginning of their lives, given the freshness and vigor of their lives to God; they have not spent their youthful days in sin and now come giving what is left of their lives to God. Their "souls" are not only saved, but their lives are saved for the service of God. God help us to have the proper conception of these youth and place a proper estimate upon their value to the church.

Where is there a more fertile field for the planting of the "word" by the "sower," the gospel preacher, than in the minds of the youth of his congregation? I think we can safely say that from one third to one half of our congregations are made up of young people under twenty years of age, and why should not these young people receive at least a proportionate amount of the pastor's time, that the older people receive. Here are the plastic minds of the youth, ready to receive the gospel message and more ready to respond to its appeal than the older one, so why should they neglect it?

There is no more fertile field in the work of the pastor than in the youth of his church; and sorry to say, there is scarcely a field so neglected.

It has been estimated by those who have made a careful study of the situation that most people who are converted, are saved before they are twenty-one years of age, and as the ages increase the percentage of those who are converted decreases. So this being the case, the youth of our church is the most fruitful field for the pastor's ministry. Life insurance agencies tell us that the average boy of fifteen may be expected to live forty-five years, and the man at fifty just expect to live another forty years. Suppose a wide awake pastor succeeds in getting twenty of his boys and girls converted and sanctified; what has he done? The aggregate of these lives is nine hundred years; which means that he has brought nine hundred years of service to Christ; nine hundred years of good influence to the community; nine hundred years of pure living and noble effort; nine hundred years of prayer and praise; nine hundred years is almost equal to the life time of Methuselah. He has saved twenty boys and girls, twenty men and women, twenty old men and women—twenty lives for Christ. Compare the fruitfulness of the lives of this twenty with twenty that may be saved at fifty, with less than twenty years each to live. Less than four hundred years of lives, mostly of men and women whose bodies have been wrecked because of the service of sin; men and women the useful part of whose lives have been spent in the service of sin. We are glad to see them saved, they should be saved; but we need not neglect our youth.

It has been estimated in recent years that the church is losing seventy-five per cent of her youth between the ages of twelve and eighteen, that out of every four children in the church and Sunday school at the age of twelve only one remains at the age of eighteen. Losing seventy-
five per cent of those who have an average of forty-five years each to live. These lives we are losing may be saved, at least a large percentage of them, if we would only take a more genuine and loving interest in them. Why will we permit our youth to slip through our fingers, practically unnoticed, and then expect to bring them back through revival effort as mature men and women? It is not being done. We must do something to save our youth.

Our responsibility in theupbringing of the lives of men who have been saved in our youth.

Polyacarp, we are told, was converted at the age of nine; Matthew Henry at eleven; Dr. Isaac Watts at nine; Bishop Hall at eleven; Robert Half at twelve; Alfred Cookman at ten; Francis Asbury at fourteen; Bishop McCabe at eight; John Imphal at sixteen; Adam Clarke at seventeen; Dr. P. F. Breece at eighteen; and many others who have been outstanding in leadership of the Christian Church have been converted in their youth.

It is indeed a fruitful field. Shall we neglect this very fruitful field? We must not. Let us become more seriously concerned for this neglected field—our youth.

THREE DANGERS

By A. E. Sanner

I WISH to name to you what I feel are three serious dangers confronting the Nazarene church. You will note that I do not mention fanaticism among these. Fanaticism is a danger, but I believe formality is a more serious danger. Everyone will have its own moral weakness and against these each soul must guard and watch for itself. It will be plainly obvious that no set rule of “three dangers” for all lives may be given. I only offer this observation that these three dangers have been the instrumental cause of multitudes of wretches, both of preachers and laymen. Everyone is wise to know its own moral weakness, and fortify that point by the grace of God, until no attack of Satan can hurt him from the sure ground of safety. But there are three serious dangers:

1. Compromise.
2. Professionalism.
3. Wrong attitude toward, the opposite sex.

Compromise! What subtle poison and death thou hast borne! “Shall we do evil that good may come?” God forbid!” Judas was not the last man who sold his Lord for money. For worldly gain, prestige, fame, place, hundreds of preachers have sold out—sold a good conscience, compromised principles, compromised convictions. When a man goes down morally, he usually goes out. But when a man compromises he usually goes on preaching, spreading the poison of death, blighting the lives of thousands and heaping upon his own head the greatest damnation.

A noted pastor in the West, a pastor of a large influential church in an influential city, recently visited and talked with one of our promising young pastors, taking charge of the new Church of the Nazarenes, organized in that city. He talked something as follows: “I have been observing your people in various places. You have some splendid plans people. And you boys are zealous in a commendable way. But you will learn as you grow older in years and experience that you cannot keep it up. In a few more years your church will be just like us. I used to preach holiness myself, preached it for many years, but I found it didn’t succeed. And you will find you will be able to do more good in the world when you quit placing the emphasis as does the writer who has done most of his work of twenty years in the West. And I can truthfully say the western woods are full of preachers in the various churches who once preached holiness. But now they mention it no more. In most instances the compromise has been (as the said) for bread and butter. Another sad fact I know. I have had years of acquaintance with various holiness schools, Loew Nazarenes and interdenominational, and it is a sad fact that a number who have gone through the holy fires of these institutions, have beter out on the fields, turned aside from the rugged way for the skeletons. The holiness way cannot be populated, and the easiest way is to die to this old world, and once for all take the safe way of being true to the Call and Vision given by the Lord.

Professionalism is perhaps the most subtle danger of all. One may not compromise doctrine nor lower the moral standard of his life, yet become a professional. This may not be an imminent danger for the young fellow, but I’m told it is an insidious foe to the preacher who is reaching middle age or older, and has added years of experience and acquaintance. There is after all a program followed, a sameness of form and ceremony. “So the holiness preacher, especially pastor, will have to make up his mind to fight formalism and professionalism. Determine to stay out of racks. Always be on the lookout for new texts, new messages, new thoughts, new illustrations. Keep ever determined to have fervent and unction in your own life and ministry and the goal always in view “to present every man perfect in Christ Jesus.”

Our third division is a delicate subject to discuss, but in mentioning dangers, this one must be spoken. No man, preachers of national reputation in the holiness movement, and scores of lesser lights have gone down because of questionable attitudes or relations with the opposite sex. On the other hand, many women called of God to some place in His work, have ruined their lives by giving them to ungodly men. I want to say a thing hard, so I’ll put it down in the next paragraph alone.

A preacher of either sex, who will permit or indulge any questionable acts with the other sex, is a fool.

The youth will do well to have a care in his home, at the altar, giving advice in the domestic troubles of others, etc. It is believed that the confessedly box ruined the morals of the priesthood of the Catholic Church. Well, if you are a well-beloved and respected pastor, there are, many who will make your ear another confident ear. You will be well-beloved, and you must sympathize with the needs of your people, and listen too, but not without care and proper reservation. Build a good fence beyond which you will not go. Let that fence be the line of propriety and safety. The married pastor is the safest and most useful, and has the advantages on his side. “It is not good for a man (and a pastor is a man) to live alone.”

THE PASTOR’S SUPER SIX

By N. B. Henreck

(To our first article we introduce the pastor’s super six. In the second we dealt with the starter, in the third with the spark plug.)

The spark plug in the pastor’s super six is faith. Just as the spark plugs in an automobile connect the electricity and gasoline in proper relation to give the greatest possible power for driving force—just so, faith connects the pentecostal fire and human devotion in such a manner as to give the super six church the necessary power for service.

Not long since we were driving across country in a first class auto and all at once she began to miss and splutter and fall in driving force. We examined the spark plugs and found one new connecting wire that runs from the timer to the spark plug, but to no avail, she continued to miss and splutter. We were trying to fix it ourselves. After all our pretensions we had to confess that we did not know where the trouble was and called a mechanic. He came in a hurry, listened a minute, tried out the spark plugs, and began to examine the timer box while we tried to tell him that the trouble was with the spark plugs. However, he went right on into the timer and began to tear it apart. We felt that he did not know his business, but having exhausted our ability we tried to keep still inasmuch as we had called him to fix it. Finally, after he had the timer off and all apart he said “This little piece is broken and we will have to replace it with a new one.” We felt foolish and no doubt felt our wise look and said “Yes—s.” He got the small piece and put it in and replaced the timer. He said “That’s all.” We did, she went and he said, “One dollar, please.” We paid gladly and went on our way with power for service. While the cause was in the timer the effect showed up in the spark plugs.

Pastors of super six churches will find similar trouble at times but the supplying of a mechanic (evangelist or District Superintendent) will soon locate the trouble and repair it though it takes some new parts.

Dirty spark plugs will cause a loss of power but this can soon be overcome by removing them and scraping off all the carbon. However, the church will have to stop while this is being done. But when the carbon is gone, and the difference, etc., gets on the spark plugs (faith) it requires a bone scraping revival to remove it. The process seems cruel but the effects are pleasing.

Again, when a spark plug breaks there is no cure aside from a new one. Trying to mend broken spark plugs is as trying as it is hopeless. We have watched some pastors tinker with old burned out spark plugs only to become discouraged and disgusted and quit the ministry. When spark plugs go bad throw them away and get new ones. Patching up old broken down church members is poor business. Either run them into a revival for a complete overhauling.
and reconditioning or junk them if they are beyond hope.

The revival is the best of all methods to clean spark plugs. However, if only one is missing personal work will many times repair it and save much expense and effort. Perhaps it would be well to call attention to the fact that spark plugs work best when they are hot. They are made for the fire and operate best when all ablaze, especially that part that is down in the heart of the engine. Hot heads, cool heads, and plenty of power is a fine thing for pastors who drive six church cars.

If you see six, my brother—

'Here's a hint—there's another one that's clean, 
Have plenty of juice and gasoline.'

HERE AND THERE AMONG BOOKS

By P. H. Lunn

In the foreword of her new book "Spiritual Adventuring" (Cokesbury, $1.00), the author Bertha Coode, gives a hint concerning the pre-dominating motif of the chapters that follow. She says, "The time has come to face the challenges of the living Christ. Every capacity of spirit, mind and body is needed to make vital to the world the triumphant personality of the Christ who freed men from sin by his death, and opened untold possibilities for spiritual adventure by his resurrection."

That's rather a bold interpretation of the quest of spiritual things—adventuring. It suggests romance—and by the way, didn't someone write a book entitled "The Romance of Right Living?" Adventuring requires the pioneer spirit, hardihood, courage; and now that we stop to consider a bit, the Apostles Paul did lead an adventurous life.

But rather strange it is—this book isn't a dynamic piece of writing—nothing martial or heroic in its atmosphere. It is deeply devotional and has a gentle, soothing note throughout. It gets hold of you though; with a quiet impulsion that leads to new resolves and higher ideals.

Chapter VIII is fraught with rich thoughts. The subject is Spiritual Alchemy and the theme is transformation. Early in the chapter we read this arresting statement: "Spiritual power is judged not by what people claim, but by what they use in transforming daily experience into spiritual values. A little farther on we find:

"This is such an unstable world that we are not sure of anything unless it is transmuted into spiritual treasure."

In another chapter speaking of "The Uniqueness of Jesus' Way" we read: "It is not surprising that some people are afraid to commit themselves utterly to Jesus' way of life. They fear it would involve them in a complete revolution."

This writer surely has a real insight into spiritual values. Her book is like a cool spring beside the traveler's dusty way.

To say that a certain book represents a real contribution to the literature on any subject at all, is great praise. If the book we have before us Catherine Booth-Chibnall's recent book "Love and Courtship" (Doran, $1.00), the author is the eldest daughter of the late General William Booth and a sister of General Bramwell Booth of the Salvation Army. One of her reasons for writing the book is found in the introduction: "On no subject, perhaps, have we zone so far astray as on the subject of love—love which results in marriage, home and children. The home is the most valuable asset of a nation and terms the foundation of an empire."

The book is written both from the formal and religious point of view. Her chapter headings are worthy of enumeration: Divine and Human Love; Parents and Relatives; Flirting; Conditions for Engagements; Engagements; Broken Engagements—Legitimate and Illegitimate Reasons; To the Disappointed and Brave

Most young people are sadly without ideals and a true estimate of values in this matter. This book will at least start them thinking. Here is a trenchant paragraph: "The highest factor in love and courtship is the spiritual; for marriage is more than a physical bond, deeper than an outward agreement. It involves spirit and soul, not body alone; nor is it spirit and soul without the body. It is the perfect mingling of the hopes, sentiments, and ideals of two beings. In this light all substitutes for marriage, however gilded, are prostitution. True marriage is in one word, all the rest in another; they differ by light from darkness."

"Church Administration" (Doran, $2.00) is credited to Rev. Wm. H. Leach, a Presbyterian minister who for some years has given particular attention to this subject. He founded and edited a Church Management, the minister's trade journal. The book is a survey of modern executive methods in church work. Whether it's a healthy indication or not is a much mooted question, but we must admit that a minister these days, in order to "put it over" must be an executive of no mean sort.

The book is divided into five parts with each part thoroughly covered: (I) The Church as a Leader: (II) The Church as the Church: (III) Special Programs; (IV) Publicity; (V) Administrative Detail

It is this reviewer's humble judgment that while the finest administrative machinery and the highest type of executive leadership will never produce a church "terrible as an army with banners" in the conflict with the powers of darkness, yet it is possible that a Spirit-baptized ministry and a zealous people will fail to produce the highest possible results on account of hit-or-miss planning and faulty administration in other respects.

Your reviewer goes a step farther and makes bold to say that if he were a pastor, this book would find a place in his working library. It is suggestive and filled with ideas and in this highly efficient book one must think, plan, undertake, write, and do today's business.

We thought it had all been said but now comes Frank E. Allen with another study of Evolution, "written to instruct, encourage and strengthen the faith of those who are troubled by intellect, by doubts growing out of today's discussion."

The book, "Evolution in the Balance" certainly has a decidedly practical turn: Its efforts to refute the evolution theory is based on a discussion of such subjects as: Are There New Species? Embryology; Comparative Anatomy; Human Fossils, etc. Testimony of the Monuments, etc.

We feel satisfied in our minds that a minister should decide either to let Evolution entirely alone and stick to the positive preaching of the gospel or he should make a thorough and intelligent study of both material and Theistic evolution. Nothing puts a minister in a more pitiful position or so much subjects him to the scorn of intelligent listeners as for him to launch an attack against the evolutionists and their claims ending up with saying, "But we know better; we believe the Bible." Again permit me to say, "If I were a pastor," if so, I would want to be able to discuss intelligently the teachings of evolution and to refute it with Scripture, science, and reason. The book we are discussing would furnish a good foundation for such an intelligent discussion.

The Free Methodist Publishing House has made a valuable contribution to missionary literature with "Life in Mozambique and South Africa," by Rev. J. W. Halsey (S.1.25). The book gives an intimate account of a missionary's life and experiments In the Dark Continent. We noted the absence of tiresome and easily forgotten statistics, and a special emphasis upon little everyday incidents that make the book so very readable and at the same time give the reader a "first hand" word picture of actual life on the mission field. The book is well and generously illustrated.

CHURCH PUBLICITY

By M. Lunn

In searching the Scriptures we find that Christ was a keen observer of the customs and activities of others than His own followers. "For the children of this world are in their generation wiser than the children of light." We are advised to be wise as serpents and harmless as doves. Has the Church shown wisdom in not using every possible avenue to appeal to men and women in order to win them for God and the Church? Evidently the Church of Jesus Christ is awakened to the possibility of printers' ink as evidenced by the report which, on account of the splendid suggestions, we publish.

Church Publicity Conference of the Chicago Church Federation.

By Laurence H. Howe

In the meeting of the Chicago Church Federation, held October 25, an address was given by Mr. Charles Stiehle, chairman of the Church Advertising Department of the International Advertising Association, on how to advertise the Church.

Among other things he said:

1. Assume that the public knows nothing about the Church. Take nothing for granted but begin at the very bottom in your advertising campaign.

2. Assume that the Church does not know its community. This will necessitate a survey to ascertain the status of the field occupied by any particular church, and this will of itself determine the nature of the advertising best adapted to that field.

3. The Church must create an atmosphere

THE PREACHER'S MAGAZINE

20
favorable to itself before effective advertising can be done.

4. The Church must believe in its work and be able to present it convincingly.

5. Advertise with sincerity and with positive- ness. (Do not knock the other fellow in your ads.)

Speaking of what the Church should advertise, Mr. Stekly said that the Church should advertise the one thing it holds a monopoly on, viz., The Cure for Sin. That is what a business house would do, tell about the thing it has that no one else can offer. He further suggested that the Church make known through its advertising:

1. The terms of admission—who is eligible to membership, etc. People fear membership committees and should be able to learn the qualifications of members without appearing before a committee.

2. The type of people belonging to a certain church make it known that you have ten carpenters, fourteen clerks, five stenographers, nine farmers, four store-keepers and the common people will say, "That is my crowd."

3. The financial consideration. Some may hesitate because they cannot contribute much. Let it be known how the church is supported and how much is contributed each week by various classes. Strangers will then not be embarrassed for they will be able to compare their giving with others.

4. The doctrines of the Church—what the Church believes and stands for.

Mr. Stekly advocated the selling of the advertising idea to the local church and the church board to such an extent that they will provide for all advertising expenses in the church budget rather than going out and trying to sell it to the business men of the community as is the case where business houses are solicited to sponsor advertising for the church or to buy space in hymn books, calendars, etc., in order that the Church may get its publicity "free." Unless the Church is sold to its own advertising program and willing to back it up, not much good will come from it.

The Chicago Church Federation is now assembling what is to be the largest display of church advertising in the world. The display will have headquarters in Chicago but will be made up of the most successful and carefully prepared advertising material from all parts of the United States. The display will be exhibited in various parts of the country.

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FACTS AND FIGURES

By E. J. Fleming

According to statistics furnished by an exchange, the Republic of Brazil, South America, in 1872 showed that in its vast population over 84 per cent could neither read nor write. In 1920 the census gave a population of 30,655,605, and of that number over fourteen years of age, only 78 per cent were illiterate. While the decrease in illiteracy is not much, it presents an encouraging outlook, and speaks well for Protestant missions.

The Presbyterian of September 2, gives the following statistics as the record for the past year of the Presbyterian Church:

Total communicant membership 1,909,111

Added on examination 110,735

Added by letter 71,959

Restored to roll 12,055

Loss by death 26,370

(from among sickness (At East Africa, 5,000)

Other losses 126,461

Net increase in membership 35,252

Total contributions $41,186,722

Congregational $4,473,002

Benevolence 16,063,741

Per capita gifts $32.57

The report of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions of the Congregational Church shows the following figures at the end of the fiscal year, August 1926:

Total Receipts (Exclusive of Women's Boards) $1,246,619.35

Disbursements 1,246,125.93

The receipts show a loss of $5,497.37 in gifts from individual friends over the preceding year. Sunday school and young people's societies fell off $2,538.51. The total debt of the Board is $213,242.14.

The following figures are gleaned from the tri-annual report of the United Presbyterian Church concerning its work in Egypt:

There are 106 churches besides 231 additional preaching places, and 45 congregations that are self-supporting. They report 17,520 members who contribute $109,039.00, equivalent to about $6.00 per member. These contributions paid over 90 per cent of the expenditures of the Church.

The United Presbyterian missionaries first visited Abyssinia in 1919 and in 1922 it was recognized by the Church as a chief mission field. Three cities are now occupied as stations. There are three hospitals and eight schools with over 200 pupils. Abyssinia has an estimated population of 10,000,000, one-half of whom belong to the Abyssinian Church.

In 1925 snakes caused the death of 19,308 persons in British India. The annual loss for many years has been approximated at 20,000. Wild serpents destroy 2,500 men. In the twelve months of 1925, there were reported killed 31,000 snakes and more than one-half that number of wild animals, including 4,660 leopards and 1,000 tigers.

The population of India is estimated at 318,000,000. In the average 1,000 of population, there are 386 Hindus, 217 Mohammedans, 37 Buddhists, 15 Christians, and 31 of different tribal religions.

Poland has a Jewish population of 4,000,0000; Russia, 3,600,000, while the United States has a larger Jewish population than any other country in the world as reported by an authority on Jewish statistics.

We gleaned from a recent exchange the following paragraph:

"Rev. A. A. Walsh, the passionate evangelist, baptized in the international waters of St. John's River, 100 persons in one hour on September 5. According to this, the 12 disciples could baptize 1,200 in one hour or 3,000 in less than three hours."

The following is taken from the Free Methodist:

"A liquor subsidized press is constantly harra- ging upon the demoralization of the students and youth of America through drink. The matter is stressed in order to create sentiment against the Eighteenth Amendment on the assumption that liquor drinking and lawlessness are worse under the Amendment than they were under the license system. As usual, the facts given the lie to the statement. At a recent hearing on prohibition before the Senate committee, Mr. R. H. Rolfsen, executive secretary of the Intercol- legiate Prohibition Association, submitted evidence proving the following facts:

1. That there is less drinking among college students today than there was prior to the coming of the Eighteenth Amendment.

2. That the spirit of adventure, for the most part, prompts such of the drinking as remains."

The conditions surrounding students in college communities today are more conducive to sobriety than they were previous to prohibition.

4. An overwhelming majority of college presidents, professors and students feel that prohibition has justified itself.

Under the last point the following surprising statistics were given. They are so significant that they deserve the widest publicity.

1. Should the Eighteenth Amendment be rig- idly enforced?

- Mt. Holyoke College group 97% YES
- Stanford University group 94% YES
- University of Minnesota group 88% YES
- Connecticut College group 87% YES
- University of Michigan group 84% YES
- Washington Square, N. Y. U. group 80% YES
- Smith College group 76% YES
- Education, N. Y. U. group 68% YES
- Amherst College group 64% YES
- University of Texas group 64% YES
- University of North Carolina 72% YES
- Commerce N. Y. U. group 55% YES
- Average of all college groups surveyed 77% YES

2. Should the Eighteenth Amendment be abol- ished?

- University of Minnesota group 90% NO
- Mt. Holyoke college group 83% NO
- University of Michigan group 82% NO
- University of N. C. group 79% NO
- Connecticut College group 70% NO
- Smith College group 70% NO
- Stanford University group 69% NO
- Education, N. Y. U. group 68% NO
- University of Texas group 68% NO
- Commerce, N. Y. U. group 56% NO
- Average of all college groups surveyed 69% NO

"In all the expressions of opinion by student bodies in the past two years only four colleges, so far as is known, have voted for a return of beer and wine, and none for stronger drinks. These four are all east of the Hudson river. 'One university daily', this year, and a few others previously, have taken a similar position; these, too, are in the East. But the overwhelming opinion of the American students so far as editorial comment, straw votes, resolutions and other public expressions go, is in favor of retaining and observing the present prohibition law."
A PREACHER'S Working Library

A preacher will to a certain extent follow his own tastes and inclinations in selecting books to use as source material for sermon, study, and general reading. A list of books that every preacher should have at his elbow to use constantly as a Reference or Working Library follows. A list of such books is given here.

Clarke's Commentaries (6 vols.) $15.00
Matthew Henry's Commentaries (6 vols.) $17.50
Bible Commentary by J. F. B. 3.50
Strong's Exhaustive Concordance 7.50
Cradle's Concordance 2.55
Treasury of Scripture Knowledge 3.00
Finkelstein's Bible Dictionary 2.50
Nave's Topical Bible 7.50
One Thousand Evangelistic Illustrations 1.50
Funeral Sermons and Outlines 1.50
Pastor's Funeral Manual 1.75
Advertising the Church 1.25
Historical Geography of Holy Land 2.00

Preacher's Requisites

We have here some of the items in which preachers may be interested either for personal or church use. If you do not find in this list the particular article you have in mind, please drop us a line about it. We can furnish anything on the market at manufacturer's or publisher's prices.

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THE MASTER PREACHER
"Lovedst thou me... feed my sheep."

NAZARENE PUBLISHING HOUSE, KANSAS CITY, MO.
The Preacher's Magazine

A monthly journal devoted to the interests of those who preach the full gospel

J. B. Chapman, Editor

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THE PREACHING SPIRIT

Tired for the completion of the "preliminaries," I suddenly awakened one morning to the "proper spirit" to preach on the subject of the morning. 

I had no doubt that I would preach a "good sermon," as such matters are commonly measured among us. But I was pained at the reminder that my theme was much "beyond" me, from the standpoint of preparation and preparation of spirit. I should soon be preaching on love, but my own heart was rather cool. I would not "talk about" the fulness of the Holy Spirit, but my own situation was somewhat "common place." What was I to do? If I had been utterly without any thing to say, as I was without the "proper spirit" for saying it, I would have asked that the time be given to testimonies and the preaching be postponed for some other occasion. But as it was, I could not very well say that. I lifted my heart in earnest prayer and supplication, and promised of better conduct for the future, and God did hear me and help me to a goodly measure of the same.

Describing my experience, of two weeks ago, I would not think of my sense of lack in terms of guilt, but I simply felt "secular" and "earthy" and "professional." I felt more like a sermon deliverer than like a message bearer. I was more of a preacher than a prophet.

But one day last week I was exceedingly busy all day and came up to the time when I was to preach to a small group in a cottage meeting, and I came there uncertain as to what I should say. However, I was in "the preaching spirit." I was not haphazard, rather I was burdened and careful and almost depressed. Nevertheless, I felt like preaching, and I did preach the simple substance of my quickly gathered sermon effectively.

And all this has set me to thinking. Many times I have been asked to preach a certain sermon which I have preached somewhere else and have mentally agreed to do so, but when the hour arrived I found I was not in the spirit to preach on that theme at all. But by some attention to my "feelings" in such matters, I have found that I must never preach on hell when I feel at all indifferent, that I must never preach on the Judgment when I have the slightest semblance of resentment, that I cannot preach on repentance when I am in any thing of a light vein, and that I cannot preach on sin when I am unawed. As a matter of fact, "the spirit" I find myself in at preaching time has many times decided me as to the theme I should use. I can preach on doctrine—especially on the doctrine of holiness—when I cannot preach on any thing else; so I have just about decided to preach holiness all the times I preach except those times when I especially "feel like" preaching on something else.

But our main thought here is to emphasize the importance of "the preaching spirit," and to suggest that aside from material, texts, outlines and illustrations, it takes lots of prayer, lots of genuine praying through, and lots of holy living to qualify one for preaching the Gospel as it ought to be preached. The preacher must not only be saved from wicked things, but he must keep away from the smell of materialism and secularism and keep the odor of devotion, heavenly-mindedness, and the personal sense of prophetic ordination upon him in order to be a real preacher.
THE PREACHER'S GRAVEYARD

LOVE and appreciation for one's work are elements which make for success, no matter what the calling in life; but these factors are indispensably with the preacher. We sometimes at the enthusiasm of "the young preacher," who thinks his people the finest there are and who thinks there are opportunities in his little village beyond those claimed for the metropolis. But his enamourment for his work will produce a zeal and freshness which will make him succeed, while the staid old pulpiteer to whom preaching is a common place occupation will lose his crowd and lose his crown. When the romance dies the preacher dies. Romance is to the preacher what oil is to the machinery, and when it dies the preacher will feel the friction and the wear and tear of his life. He will be conscious of his sacrifices and will be hurt by his disappointments. He will be exacting in his requirements and dissatisfied with his remunerations. He will never be "at his best" any more, because he will never find a situation that is fully deserving of his best. The romance of the preacher's calling never dies in those preachers who served well their own day and generation. "Past the aged" never ceased to marvel that "to me, who am less than the least of all saints this grace is given." Spurgeon testified that he never entered the pulpit without being so affected as that his knees smote together. Whitefield arose from his bed of final sickness and preached until the candle which he held in his hand burned low, the time realizing that this would be his last time to speak to men on any subject. And the most used "soldiers of the cross" have asked for nothing better than that they should be privileged to "die in the harness." These men were so enamored of their work that they asked for no better companion in death than that they should be allowed to preach and die during the same hour. Preacher, young or old, if your work as a preacher of the Gospel no longer thrills you, you better select your graveyard, for you will need one, typically, if not physically, very soon.

HOW MANY BOOKS DO YOU READ IN A YEAR?

The Eastern Oklahoma District of the Church of the Nazarene in its recent annual Assembly passed resolutions requiring ministers to report at the next Assembly the number of books read during the year. And in discussing the matter, one minister was heard to voice objections to the requirement and to assert that he himself had not read any books during the year. Fortunately we do not know who the minister was who made this remark, for on that account we can speak the more freely about the matter. But any way, all we were going to say is that we think that a minister who can go a year without reading any books is already a long way on the road to permanent failure and that when the church sets him aside while he is yet in the prime of his physical life, because, like a passing tree, he is "dead at the top," he will have no one to blame but himself.

But as we have thought of the matter today, it has occurred to us that it might be just a little embarrassing if every preacher were required to report the number of books read each year, for many who read some do not read very much. We have heard it said that a writer who does not read will soon cease to be read, and we believe that a preacher who does not read and hear will soon cease to be heard.

Of course the question of what books the preacher should read is a difficult one, and with the best of care, he will have to read a good many books which will not yield much profit but these considerations call for more, rather than for less reading.

It does look like any preacher ought to be able to buy or borrow one book a month and read it thoroughly. One young preacher read twenty-one books last year and was ashamed that he had read no more. Two preachers of our acquaintance make it a rule to read a book a week, and we know two who have set themselves to read four books every week of the year. We are not anxious to set a certain standard. Some will naturally read more than others. But we are anxious that no preacher should be satisfied who does not make some worthwhile efforts along this line.

THE PARABLE OF THE SOWER


We heard a very able female preacher in England, Mary A. Hatch, discourse from the text Ps. 145:16, "Thou openest thine hand and satisfieth the desire of every living thing," 

TRUST—"God's Providential Care.

1. It is God's own personal care—"Thou,"

2. He does it easily—"Openest thy hand.

3. How easily we can do that!

III. Abundantly provides—"Satisfieth the desire of every living thing:"

"Enough for each; enough for all, Enough forevermore.

What could be more appropriate or scriptural?

Take the remarkable words of Jesus in Matt. 11:28-30. "Come unto me all ye that labor etc."

Thome, Christ's Rest for a Sin-burdened Humanity.

I. All humanity is bearing the crushing burden of sin. "Labour"—"Heavy laden."

II. An infinite, divine Person is the world's only hope—"Conf. unto me." "I will give." No other religion like that. No other founder of a religion ever did or could speak so.

III. The Savior offers Himself to all humanity. "Come unto me." "Learn of me." "All ye."

IV. "Take my yoke upon you," all must serve some superior being—God or Satan. Which?

V. Only in Christ's service can rest be found. "Ye shall find rest to your souls."

Each of these preachers was direct in its purpose, calculated to introduce a spiritual idea to God. If the text is skillfully treated the divine Voice is heard in every paragraph.
THE PREACHER'S MAGAZINE

This kind of sermonizing depends in a general way upon the nature of the text. Not all texts can be so developed; but multitudes can be, and ought to be.

1. On the preacher's analytical skill. He must be able to discern the different lines of truth, and which should precede, and which should follow in the natural sequence of thought. The text, the theme and the sermon should be a harmonious whole. The mine of truth must not be "salted" with some extraneous matter, some foreign element, which God did not put there.

2. The preacher should have a spiritual perception, a certain divine insight which only the Holy Spirit can give to "sear the mind of God," and know what He would teach to men. This is no far-fetched and human notion. The true preacher ought to be able to say with St. Paul: "Now we have not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things which are freely given to us of God. Which things also we speak, not in words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Spirit teacheth, comparing spiritual things with spiritual." - I Cor. 2:12-16.

Really Spirit-filled preachers will not be likely to read into texts of Scripture wild fads and foolish vagaries of their own invention. They have too profound and reverent a respect for the Word of God to allow themselves to do it.

II. The textual-inferential sermon is an advance upon the proper textual sermon.

1. It holds fast to the thought and spirit of the text and many of the words, but at times draws logical inferences which, when stated, are undeniable and irresistible. The force of this kind of sermon depends upon the elegance and cogency of the reasoning. It is, in the hands of an acute reasoner, and a keenly logical mind, a mighty weapon of truth.

2. Not all texts admit of this kind of treatment. In many texts the truths are stated so plainly and completely that there is left no call nor necessity for inferences. But this is not always so, as we shall see.

3. When the text is of the right order and the preacher has an astute and legal mind, such as Charles G. Finney had in an eminent degree, this kind of sermon is most impressive. We listened to that spiritual giant four years when a student in college, and some of the impressions of awe which he produced, like the voice of God on Sinai, linger with us yet after fifty-eight years and will go with us into eternity.

Dr. Pattock, in his Homiletica, mentions "the tremendous force of Jonathan Edwards in 'warm upon the subject' that which lay in the resolutio basis of a series of conclusions, drawn straight from the text." He adds, "The same holds true of the addresses of C. G. Finney, in which the passionate emotion of the preacher quenches his logical acumen no more than the opening wind of spring quenches the fires burning at its height." Well do we remember such scenes. He would discuss a text in all its bearings, and then close with "a few remarks" in which he would draw his logical inferences like chain-lightning, which were sometimes indescribable in their effects.

An illustration of logical inferences may be given in the last text from which John Wesley preached—Isaiah 55:6-7, "Seek ye the Lord while he may be found: Call ye upon him while he is near," etc.

1. The logical inference is that by nature we are all-away from God. Else, why are we commanded to "seek Him?" This is true of all human history and all saving truth. Sin separates us from God and "all have sinned." II. Seek God while He may be found. The irresistible inference is that there is a time in every man's being's career when God cannot be found. The dead line will be crossed and mercy will be gone forever. When, then, shall we seek God? (a) In early life. I saw a boy yesterday who was converted at four years of age. He is just twelve, and two weeks ago had a definite call to the ministry. That is God's time and way. (b) Seek God when God is seeking you. (c) Seek God when others are finding Him.

III. In what way shall we seek Him?

(a) By repentance, v. 7.
(b) By faith, v. 7.

IV. In what Spirit?

"With all your heart."—Appeal.

I know this outline is in harmony with God's truth and will work, for I have won six hundred and eighty-six souls by the use of it myself.

III. The textual-topical sermon combines a close adherence to the thought of the text in the sermon-outline with a freedom in range of discussion. There is a careful analysis of the text to find the mind of God; and then a synthesis of the arrangement of the thoughts suggested in that form most adapted to the preacher's mental constitution. No two pulpit orators are alike, either in their original endowments or their reading and education, or in their experiences and observations. So there will be a large human element in their sermons and no two will be alike.

In this kind of sermon often the thought rather than the words of the text receive the chief attention, and there is a large liberty in the discussion. "The thoughts which constitute the divisions are found partly in the text and partly elsewhere."

In such a sermon there should be a steady and purposeful progress and development of the divine thought to a definite and intended conclusion, toward which the whole sermon moves from the beginning to the end.

A preacher who is drifting over the seas of human thought in his address, with no intended part in view or purpose, beginning anywhere, and ending nowhere, is not preaching at all. He is simply wasting time, making some vague remarks, himself a disgrace to his profession and an insult to Christ.

Dr. Pattock thinks that more than any other, "the textual-topical method ensures freshness and variety in the sermon. The mind of the preacher is indeed held in wholesome subjection to the words of the text and yet at the same time it ranges freely about the central thought." There is an ample opportunity for eloquence in this method combined with a marked regard for and adherence to the message of God.

We may conclude by saying that textual preaching is to be most heartily commended. It tends to keep the preacher in his true place as an ambassador for Christ. It cultivates in him a profound reverence for the truth of God's Word. It makes the people feel that God is speaking to them through the preacher's lips. It furnishes a vast variety and freshness in the pulpit ministration; for the texts are innumerable with an ever-changing setting in the contexts. The Bible, carefully, lovingly studied and faithfully preached, is inexhaustible, and the prayerful servant of God will never lack for messages from the King to His people.

The famous Dr. A. A. Alexander wrote: "Learn to preach textual sermons. The mistake of my early ministry was preaching almost solely on topics. If you preach textual sermons you won't be apt to preach out. Faithful, prayerful textual preaching is the royal road to long pastorates and a fruitful ministry.

HINTS TO FISHERMEN

By C. E. Cornell

Bishop Edgar Blake, writing from Europe, to the Christian Advocate, New York, on "its Protestantism Dying in Europe," makes some startling statements that ought to be carefully noted by the readers of this Magazine:

"The religious situation of Europe, as a whole, is a situation without a parallel in the world today. So far as I know, there has never been anything quite like it in the history of organized Christianity."

"The World War profoundly altered the whole life and outlook of Europe. The awful holocaust that swept the continent from 1914 to 1918 left it broken and bankrupt. The people were impoverished, their morale broken, and their hopes blighted. The total political, economic, and social fabric was, weakened and worn to the breaking point. Loads that before the war were undreamed of, were laid upon the people. It may interest you to know that the nations that were our allies in the war must now pay the United States a million dollars a day every day for the next sixty-two years. This is only a bagatelle of the burdens the coming generations of Europe must bear."

"The middle classes of Europe were ruined through financial reverses brought about by the war. Their salaries lost their purchasing power; their savings were swept away. Their station in life was permanently reversed. No social class has suffered so immeasurably as they. The middle classes were the backbone of Europe Protestantism. Financial reverses have resulted in a depression of spirit, a lowered morale, and a loss.
of spiritual vision and vitality. There were 781,000 withdrawals from the membership of the Protestant churches in Germany in three years. There were 60,000 such withdrawals in Berlin alone in twelve months. The number of theological students in the schools of Germany has been reduced to less than one half of what it was in 1913.

The Roman Catholics contribute one of the most compact and powerful political blocs in the Balkans. The land of Rome is now one of the most powerful forces in southeastern Europe.

"Before the war the Polish people were distributed among Protestant Germany, Orthodox Russian, and Catholic Austria. As a result of the war the Polish republic was created with a population of 30,000,000 people, almost entirely Roman Catholic. Poland is now the largest Roman Catholic country in Europe.

THREE STRIKING DEFINITIONS

The Standard Dictionary gives the following: 

**REMEMBER**—To retain possession of by paying a price; purchase back, repurchase. To recover from captivity or from a liability to be wholly lost or alienated. Hence to rescue in any way to rescue from sin and its consequences.

**SACRIFICATION**—The act or process of sacrificing, or the state of being sanctified; especially, in theology, the gracious work of the Holy Spirit whereby the believer is freed from sin and exalted to holiness of heart and life; distinguished from regeneration and justification.

In Roman Catholic theology it is the cleansing of the soul from sin together with the purifying power of sanctifying grace, and the three theological virtues—faith, hope, charity.

**PURIFY**—To free from admixture with foreign or vitiating elements. To make clean or pure, as to purify the blood, to purify silver. In theology, to free from sin or its delitement as to purify the heart. (Synonyms) cleanse, cleanse, purify, make pure, refine. (Antonyms) Contaminate, corrupt, defile, deprave, infect, make foul, poison, taint, vitiate.

**CHARISM**

There are seven distinct charisms named in the Scriptures. Prophecy, ministry, teaching, exhortation, giving, ruling, and showing mercy. All these functions were inspired, and were exercised, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, in the service of the church.

A "charism" is a gift of power bestowed by the Holy Spirit for use in the propagation of truth or the edification of the church. Sometimes added to, and heightening natural endowments.

NEVER GRASP A HOT POKER.

There's a time to part and a time to meet,
There's a time to sleep and a time to eat,
There's a time to work and a time to play,
There's a time to sing and a time to pray,
There's a time that's glad and a time that's blue.
There's a time to plan and a time to do,
There's a time to grin and to show your grit,
But there never was a time to quit.

-FIORDA Power and Light Magazine

WRITE BEFORE IT IS TOO LATE.

The following suggestive poem can be memorized and repeated with telling effect in connection with a Sunday night evangelistic sermon. If you have a gray-haired mother.

In the old home far away,
Sit down and write the letter.
You put off day by day,
Don't wait until her third steps
Reach the prescriptive rate.
But show her that you think of her,
Before it is too late.

If you have a tender message,
Or a loving word to say,
Don't wait till you forget it,
But whisper it to-day.
Who knows what bitter memories
May haunt you if you wait?
So make your loved ones happy
Before it is too late.

We live but in the present,
The Future is unknown—
Tomorrow is a mystery.
To-day is all our own.
The chance that fortune lends to us
May vanish while we wait,
So spend your life's rich treasure
Before it is too late.

The tender words unspoken,
The letter never sent,
The long-forgotten messages,
The wealth of love unspent.

**IN THAT NIGHT**

Dan. 3:30.

The very night of the Pentecost, feasts, the Medians under Darius and the Persians under Cyrus, had, by digging a canal, turned the river Euphrates from its bed and, passing along the dry channel, turned towards the city, and, passing through the open gates along the water side, the great Babylon was taken. It did not seem that there was any resistance. The inspired prophet Jeremiah predicted the outcome: "The mighty men of Babylon have foreborne to fight, they have remained in their huts; their might hath failed; they became as women; they have burned their dwelling places; her bars are broken. One post shall run to meet another, to show the king of Babylon that his city is taken at one end" (Jeremiah 51:30, 31).

How could there have been any resistance when a thousand leaders were drinking themselves drunk, debauching themselves in profanity against the God of heaven? And here too we have the fulfillment of the prophecy: and I will make drunk her princes and her wise men, her captains, and her rulers, and her mighty men; and they shall sleep a perpetual sleep, and not wake, saith the king, whose name is the Lord of Hosts" (Jeremiah 51:57).

The record of the end is terse—"Was Belshazzar the king of the Chaldeans slain." By whose hand and in what manner we know not; but it is probable that it was while he was in the festal hall, and it may be, while he was intoxicated with excess of wine with the curse of God upon him: "No drunkard shall inherit

THE KINGDOM OF GOD." He was suddenly destroyed, and that without remedy. That night they slew him upon his father's throne. The deed unnoticed, and the hand unknown: Crowns and sceptres, Belshazzar lay.

A robe of purple round a form of clay.

**DIED, OF PRELIMINARIES**

I wonder how they will start a meeting in heaven? Will they do it always the same way? If not, a lot of Methodists are going to have a hard time.

Night after night, hope springs afresh in the human heart, burning, with a message and a chance to speak it to waiting audiences. Ask any missionary or other special speaker. I hopefully approach the pastor. "May we not make the introduction very brief tonight, brother?" I suggest.

"Certainly, certainly." And then he waits, fifteen minutes to be sure they are all there, sings three hymns to give the stragglers a chance, has a long prayer, a responsive reading, a solo and an introductory address. Forty-five minutes gone, a week-night audience weary and longing for home, a message disconnected, any message fifty per cent before the first word is uttered.

I implored a pastor at a Sunday evening meeting to please, please make it short. I really had something to say. Certainly he would make it short, but it took him fifty-five minutes to do so, and when I arose the people were beginning to go out. I wanted to myself. "Not many came at night," he said. I should think not.

I remember how when a young pastor, occasional lecturers expressed profound gratitude for opportunity to begin after preliminaries that never occupied more than five minutes. I have come to understand it since I have become the victim of the pastor's propensity for form.

I have hinted, requested, begged and implored, and I have felt like lacking the preacher in the pulpit and taking charge myself, but to no purpose. It has to be done. And tonight I will hopefully ask the brother if he can't make it short, and he will cheerfully promise to do so, and then use up a half hour of my time.

Some time I will find somewhere a man who can really put across a short preliminary and I will mention him most favorably to Saint Peter, if I ever get a chance, after the preliminaries are over.

-BISHOP GEORGE A. MILLER.
AN OUTLINE OF SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY

Thou, O Christ, art all I want;
More than all in Thee I find;
Raise the fallen, cheer the faint;
Heal the sick, and lead the blind.

When we think of various massive two-volume tomes of systematic theology which—ornament and generally gathered dust upon ministerial book shelves throughout the country, the above outline may seem rather short. It is short. It is also sufficient. In fact, it is considerably longer than the outline of systematic theology drawn up by one of the Church's greatest theologians—Saint Paul. He produced a sufficient outline of theology in eleven words—"Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved."—H. E. Luccock.

THE THRILL OF A HAND-CLASP

Jesus "took him by the hand!" This was one of the wonderful secrets of the Redeemer's power over human hearts. Touch—a personal touch, symbol of heart-sympathy—is a key which unlocks many an imprisoned life. A sweet example of this was seen in the Earl of Shaftesbury, as he went on his ministry of love among London criminals. One who was reformed dated his uplift to his intercourse with the Earl.

"What did he say to you?" asked one.

"Oh, it was not so much what he said, as what he did. He took my hand, and said: 'Jack, we'll make a man of you yet.' It was the touch that did it."

Daniel Webster went out from his country home to Boston to study law. He entered, without invitation, the office of Christopher Gore, then at the head of the Massachusetts bar. He was regarded as an intruder, and nobody paid him any attention. One day, Rufus King took the solitary student, and shook him warmly by the hand, and said:

"I know your father well. Be studious, and you will win. If you want any assistance or advice, come to me."

Webster said when he was sixty years old that he still felt the warm pressure of the hand. When Peter took the lame man "by the right hand, and lifted him up, immediately his feet and ankles received strength; and, leaping up, stood and walked, and entered with them into the temple, walking, and leaping, and praising God" (Acts 3:7, 8).

It was an easy thing to take a man by the hand, and if the hand has a heart behind it, and the heart is of the heart as well as hand, what wonder if it by men are uplifted and helped and saved?

CIVILIZATION AND WILDERNESS

The epic task of the nineteenth century in America was to make a path for civilization across the wilderness. The ironical discovery of the twentieth century is that civilization itself may be a wilderness. It inevitably becomes a wilderness when it is merely a standardized, mechanical industrialism with no dominant spiritual ideal or purpose.—H. E. Luccock.

"WAIT TILL TOMORROW"

A bush fell on Hades. A silence intense. While Imps stood in wonder and horrid suspense; For Satan, the arch-fiend, in anger most dire, Had summoned a council—from them did require Some method unique; all up-to-date plan, Whereby he might conquer the downfall of man. They gazed on his visage in fear they heard Their leader confessing the power of the Word; That Salvation Armies were marchingbold; Inward his Kingdom with drum, sword and shield;

Of missions; of churches; of women and men; Dowting the mantle of peril and grace.

Their wealth, their position to spreading false views,

"Thus daily cheating me out of my dues." Quoth he, "I went forth o'er the earth in great glide Expecting my trip would bring profit to me; Instead, I return like a chilly lurch, Pursuaded by the blasts of a nosly Rand's horn. Now don't stand like dummies; pet your own fright.

Make use of your cunning, hear me, this night These regions infernal, in less than a train. Though tortured, I'll make them far colder than ice.

He ceased, and at once there arose a great din Of tongues harsh and strident; for each Imp of sin Had something to offer. Some new evil way To trap the unwary; to lead them astray. Said one, "I will tell them their Bible's a lie. And souls that love evil shall live and not die. To live for the day; make the best of the show. And as for the future—I'll say I don't know."

"Too late!" said the Devil. "The job has been let To men who are ready in striking a note. They plead on that line, their tongues tipped with honey.

They that have built the temple, walking, and leaping, and praising God!"

THEME—GOD'S CALL DISREGARDED

"Bravo," said Satan. "Now to work. Hastel fly! begone! Let none dare shirk. The problem's solved. Back to your task, Deceive, betray, use any mask. If some'er sin are in a flurry, Plead lots of lies; no need to hurry; Use every will to make them wait, The morrow is ever too late."

The above poem can be used with thrilling effect at the close of an earnest exhortation or sermon appeal.

HOMILETICAL

ALAS! they are making, not converts, but money,
And that did they argue, plan, plot, and propose.
While darker the brow of his majesty grows.
At last comes a voice. Such triumph is in it.
The label is hushed, at least for a minute.
"I have it! I have it! No longer look blue.
Admit that their Bible, their story is true.
That He, whose sacred name none dare here dare to speak.
Has suffered and died for the hopeless and weak,
That conquering, He rose over death and grave.
And now reigned in triumph, with power to save.
Admit there is rest and suercence of sorrow.
If only they'll wait and accept it tomorrow."

"Forty," said Satan. "Now to work. Hastel fly! begone! Let none dare shirk. The problem's solved. Back to your task, Deceive, betray, use any mask. If some'er sin are in a flurry, Plead lots of lies; no need to hurry; Use every will to make them wait, The morrow is ever too late."

The above poem can be used with thrilling effect at the close of an earnest exhortation or sermon appeal.

4. God calls by His providences.

Illustration: An officer of my church told me he lost a fortune and six children. On the way to the cemetery with the sixth casket his heart broke and he accepted Christ.

Illustration: The death of a mother has stopped the wandering feet of many a wayward boy or girl.

5. God calls by the means of grace.

Church services, open-air services, prayer, song.
Illustration: In Southport, England, a rector of the English Church told me that his wife died from drink and his bishop had warned him for the last time to stop his drunkenness or he would be expelled from the ministry. In dignified and sorrowful he was on the way to the bay to drown himself. He passed by where the Salvation Army was holding a street meeting and singing, "Come to Jesus." He threw up his hands and cried, "O Jesus, I come," and he was saved. He came to my meeting and was sanctified. In how many ways God calls the sinner ready to perish.

II. MEN OFTEN TURN A DEEP EAR TO THESE BLESSED CALLS.

They love the delights of sin and are bent on having them.

They suborn reason to justify their insane conduct.

They stifle conscience to make it cease its chidings.

They will not hear the Word of God.

They brace up against all admonitions of providence.

They turn their back upon all means of grace.

They virtually say, "Who is God that I should serve Him?"

"They set at nought all my counsels and counsel despise of my reproach?"

III. NOTICE THE END OF SUCH A COURSE OF CONDUCT.

No earthly king would suffer himself to be continually mocked and derided and disobeyed by his subjects. How much less will the omnipotent, infinitely holy God? A day will come when His forbearance will be at an end. Punishment will then come on apace.

1. Sin always brings calamity. And God said, "I will laugh at your calamity." Sin always brought a harvest of retribution upon ancient Israel. God has not changed. He does so yet.

The people of San Francisco were pleasure mad and money mad and desperately wicked. The papers boasted that the previous Sunday was the most wide open and flagrantly wicked Sunday the city had ever seen. One paper declared: "San Francisco has no use for God." That issue of the paper was not sold before God appeared upon the scene with an earthquake, and $600,000,000.00 of property went up in flames!

2. I will mock when you fear cometh.

In San Francisco in 1906, when God destroyed the city, godless worldlings and defiant unbelievers and profane blasphemers ran out of their falling houses half dressed and leat on the streets and screamed and cried to God. Men that said there was no God cried for mercy. But screams of terror from wicked lips are not prayer and God does not answer. "I will mock when your fear cometh."

3. Unanswered prayer. Tom Paine wrote his "Age of Reason" and boasted that the infamious book had destroyed the Bible, and in fifty years whosoever desired to see a copy of it would have, to go to a museum and pay 25c to see an exploited relic of an exploded superstition. When he came to die he did not dare to be left alone. He declared that the Devil inspired his book, and he kept crying for days: "O Christ, have mercy on my soul,"--a mercy he never found! There comes a time when prayers for mercy go unanswered. "Then will they call upon me, but I will not answer. They will seek me diligently; but they will not find me."

4. They shall eat the fruit of their own way.

"Whosoever believeth shall be saved. He that believeth shall also reap," Illustration: Robespierre, who sent so many to the guillotine in the French Revolution, had his own head chopped off by the same means.

Illustration: When Charles I, who had destroyed Strafford, was about to be beheaded, he said, "I basely ratified an unjust sentence and the similar injustice I am now to undergo is a sensible retribution for the punishment I inflicted on an innocent man."

Illustration: Lord Jeffreys imprisoned a multitude of good and innocent people in London Tower. He was finally imprisoned in the same place. The shades of his own victims seemed to haunt him. He kept crying to his attendants: "Keep them off, gentlemen, for God's sake keep them off!" He was "eating the fruit of his own way." So men will reap the fruit of sin and rejection of Christ instead of joy and conscious rejection by Christ.

4. "They shall be filled with their own devices." The sinner says over and over: "I will not have Christ." In time God says: "Very well, my Son, leave him alone, he shall not have Thee." The sinner says: "I want a wicked heart." Finally God will say: "O drunken, why may you have your choice and it will be your eternal damnation."

O fellow mortals, before this awful harvest of evil comes repent and, turn to Christ. Before He ceases to plead and begins to laugh at your calamity and mock at your fears turn to the only Savior who can forgive your sins, give you a clean heart and fit you for heaven. Do it and do it quickly.

THEME—THE PRODIGAL SON

By R. J. Smeltzer


I. THE STATE OF THE SINNER.

1. A sinful state is a state of departure and distance from God (vs. 13).

2. A sinful state is a spending state (vs. 13).

3. A sinful state is wandering state (vs. 14).

4. A sinful state is a wise-savvy state (vs. 15).

5. A sinful state is a state of perpetual dis-satisfaction (vs. 15).

6. A sinful state is a state which cannot expect help from any creature (vs. 16).

7. A sinful state is a state of death (vs. 24).

8. A sinful state is a lost state (vs. 24, 32).

9. A sinful state is a state of madness and frenzy (vs. 17).

II. NOTICE THE OCCASION OF HIS RETURN AND RECEPTION.

1. His affliction (vs. 14-17).

2. He considers his condition (vs. 17).

He considered how bad his condition was and how much hunger.

3. He considered how much better it might be made if he would return (vs. 17).

(a) In our Father's house there is bread for all.

(b) There is enough and to spare.

(c) Even the hired servants in God's family are well provided for.

II. HIS PURPOSE.

1. He determined what to do, "I will arise and go." He determined to confess his sin and folly.

2. He determined to confess his sin and folly.

A. "I have sinned."

B. He would take the load upon himself. "I have sinned against—"

C. He would judge and condemn himself. "I am no more worthy—"

D. However he would sue for admission into the family.

III. THE RECIPROCATION AND ENTERTAINMENT WHICH HIS FATHER GAVE HIM.

1. The great love and affection with which his father received him.

A. Lips of mercy—"He kissed him."

B. The entertainment.

A. He came home in rags, and his father not only clothed him, but adorned him (vs. 22).

B. He came home hungry, and his father not only fed him, but feasted him (vs. 23).

C. The way in which the father received and entertained him not only brought rejoicing to the returned prodigal, but to all in the house.

THEME—HEAVEN

By R. J. Smeltzer


INTRODUCTION: Heaven is used in the Scriptures in three senses.

1. The aerial or atmospheric heaven, where the birds fly, the winds blow, and the rain is formed.

2. The heaven of firmament, the place of the sun, moon, and stars.

3. The heaven of heavens, or third heaven, which is the place of God's residence, the dwelling of the angels and the home of the blessed.

I. HEAVEN BEGINS ON EARTH.

1. Heaven is both a condition and a place.


B. We hold our citizenship in heaven (Heb. 12:23; 1 Peter 2:11).

(a) "Stranger and pilgrim,--"—Greck, Paroik-ay-os, an alien, a resident foreigner.

C. The citizen of heaven is different:

a. In appearance.

b. In clothing.


d. In our calling.

e. In our dealings.

f. In our objective.

II. HEAVEN IS A PLACE.

a. A commodious place.

b. A permanent place.

c. A place of employment.

d. A place of happy reunion.

(1). Reunion of blood relation.

(2). Reunion of all blood washed and regenerated.

II. TWO WAYS OF GOING TO HEAVEN.

1. Death.

2. Translation.

III. NOT EVERYBODY THAT DIES IS GOING TO HEAVEN.
THEME—THE GREAT DAY
By George Harper.


I. INTRODUCTION.
1. There are some days which were great days in life—the day God saved me, the day God sanctified me and the day I was ordained; but the day I stand before God at the Judgment will be the greatest of all days.
2. In the Bible God tells of a great wickedness, a great salvation, a great joy and a great wrath.

II. THE JUDGMENT DAY WILL BE A GREAT DAY BECAUSE THERE WILL BE A GREAT PREPARATION.
1. Abraham praying for Sodom, Jacob at Peniel and Daniel for three weeks, were great prayer meetings.
2. The prayer meeting in Gethsemane and the prayer meeting of the disciples where they prayed and the place was shaken was a great prayer meeting, but John said they cried for the rocks and the mountains to hide from God.
3. Illustration:
   Millions crying, screaming and praying, but their prayers are too late.

III. A GREAT DAY BECAUSE THERE WILL BE A GREAT EXAMINATION.
1. The books will be opened.
2. We will give an account.
3. When in school, I passed examinations, and when called into the army, I passed an examination, but this examination will be the greatest of all.

IV. IT WILL BE A GREAT DAY BECAUSE OF THE GREAT SECRETS THAT WILL BE REVEALED.
1. Nothing covered that will not be revealed.
2. God will bring every work into judgment.
3. If man can make an X-ray, what can God do?
4. If man can make a phonograph to reproduce the human voice, don’t you think God can reveal all the curses and ungodly stories told in secret?
5. If man can make a moving picture, I believe God could reproduce ten of the most awful scenes of the human life and show them like a movie in action at the Judgment.

V. THE JUDGMENT DAY WILL BE A GREAT DAY BECAUSE OF THE GREAT DISAPPOINTMENTS.
1. Not everyone that smileth unto me, Lord, Lord.
2. The parable of the ten virgins shows that five out of ten were disappointed.

VI. A GREAT DAY BECAUSE THERE WILL BE A GREAT SEPARATION.
1. The wheat and chaff (Matt. 3:12).
2. The wheat and tares (Matt. 13:24-31).
4. Sheep and goats (Matt. 25).
5. At nightfall of the Titanic there was a separation.

Illustrations:
A shelf family of four—father, mother, son and daughter—sold at auction and each taken to a different part of the country. Describe a separation at a funeral.

THEME—THE IMPORTANCE OF SOUL WINNING
By G. Howard Rowe.

I. SOUL WINNING WILL HASTEN CHRIST’S RETURN.
Mission of Church (Matt. 28:19-20).
Prepares the bride (Rev. 19:7).
A witness to world (Matt. 24:14).

II. SOUL WINNING SHOULD THEN BE PRIORITIZED.
1. Salvation of men, one and only program of the Church.
2. Includes whole world. Missionary spirit needed.
3. Will raise the budget. Inspire loyalty.

III. SOUL WINNING INCLUDES:
1. Vision and purpose (Prov. 29:18; 11:30).
2. Soul travail (Isa. 66).
3. Unity in prayer in the church (Matt. 18:19).
4. Prayer and fasting by the individual as well as church (Matt. 17:21).

IV. SOUL WINNING WILL HASTEN CHRIST’S RETURN.
1. Carry a burden for souls.
2. Be a soul winner.
3. Be at unity and harmony with my brethren in church.
4. To carry on church’s program—missions, budget, tithing, revivals.
5. Woe to them that are at ease in Zion (Amos 6:1).

THEME—THE WIDE AND NARROW GATES
By G. Howard Rowe.

Text: Matt. 7:13, 14.

I. THERE IS A WAY THAT LEADETH BRIGHT.
(Prov. 14:12; 12:15).
The only way is God’s way. His way is best.

His way is a narrow way.
A gate is an entrance to a way.

II. WERE IS THE GATE AND WIDE IS THE WAY—
Leadeth to destruction.
1. The Wide Gate.
Easy of access. Multitudes going.
Many incentives.
All choses going.
2. The Narrow Way.
Day way of fast company.
Way of careness.
Way of unpleasing.

III. STRAIT IS THE GATE AND NARROW IS THE WAY—
Leadeth unto life.
1. The straight gate.
Not so easy of access. Few going.
Against the life.
Must pick your crowd.
2. The Narrow Way.
Way of self-discipline.

IV. ENTER YE.
Laya says, “strive (agonize) to enter.
Many will seek to enter in, and shall not be able.
Children of kingdom cast out (Matt. 8:11, 12).

THEME—THE SANCTIFICATION
By C. E. Cornell.

Text: Acts 7:60.

I. Sanctification used so frequently, throughout the Scriptures, is from the Greek word Hagiadzo.

II. The word holiness is also frequently used.
1. From the Greek word Hagiazo.
2. Are precisely synonymous and mean whole-some-ness, soul-healing.

III. Another common word throughout the Scriptures is perfection. It is from the Latin word perfectus, perfect, peer-through, face-to-face to make: to make through and through, to finish, to complete.

IV. The God of the Bible loves holiness and hates sin.
1. The Devil of the Bible loves sin and hates holiness.
2. In the soul is like fever in the blood, it indicates an unhealthy condition.
3. Regeneration, its significance. Regeneration changes our inward nature a work by which the spiritual life is infused into the soul.

EVIDENCES OF REGENERATION.
(a) Does not commit sin.
(b) Loves the salvation of souls.
(c) Separates from the world.
(d) Follows the Spirit.
(e) Desires holiness—follows after.

THEME—ETERNITY
By C. E. Cornell.

Text: “Forever and ever!” (Rev. 22:5).

I. Eternity, serious to contemplate.
2. How long is eternity?
Illustration: If all space could be filled with water, and it would require a thousand years to annihilate one drop, to dispose of the whole one drop at a time, would be only the morning of eternity.

II. Immutability, in boundless space.
3. The immortal spirit.—Its relation to eternity.
4. The foolishness of men to choose temporal things.
Most men are choosing the things of time.

V. The question of all questions.
Where will you spend eternity?

THEME—THE TRUMPHANT DEATH OF A HOLY MAN
By C. E. Cornell.

Text: Acts 7:60.

I. Stephen, the first martyr.
1. His symmetrical Christian character.
2. Compare him with Moses.

Illustration: See tract, “Almost a Martyr.”

II. Holiness in its relation to character.
1. The great central idea of Christianity.
2. A command.
3. A necessity.
4. Heaven’s gates barred against the ungodly.

III. THE HOLY DEED.
1. They die well because they live well.
2. They live well because they believe the Bible.

Illustration: Unbelief kept the children of Israel out of Canaan.

IV. THOSE WHO DIED IN TRUMP.
1. John Wesley.
2. John Fletcher.
3. Alfred Cookman.
4. S. A. Keene.
THEM—SIX THINGS THAT GOD SAYS HE WILL DO

Text: Ezek. 36:24-28

I. SEPARATIVITY.
"I will take you among the heathen, and will set you in the land that was not your land; and I will make you my people, and will be your God. I will also put my Spirit within you, and cause you to enter the heart of the heathen, and make you a name, and you shall know that I am the Lord." (Ezek. 36:24-27)

II. COMPLETE CLEANSING.
"You shall be clean; you shall be pure. Your guilt shall be removed, and you shall have my Spirit within you." (Ezek. 36:27)

III. RESTORATION.
"The windows of heaven opened." (Ezek. 36:28)

IV. CLEANSE ALL THE PEOPLE.
"To me this people that go out of Egypt, and not all the people of the land of Egypt; the whole spiritual people." (Ezek. 36:29)

V. CLEANSE THE NATION.
"The race of the righteous shall be the race of life; and the race of the wicked shall be the race of death." (Ezek. 36:30)

VI. CLEANSE THE NATION.
"When I have made you a People, and you shall have known all my commandments, and walk in them; then I will make a covenant with you; neither shall I be an enemy to you; and I will not break my covenant with you." (Ezek. 36:31-32)

THEME—THE PEOPLE WHO ARE BLESSED

Text: By R. W. HERBERTSTEIN.

I. THE SPIRITUAL KINGDOM.
"In the day ye seek for me with all your heart I shall be found." (Isa. 55:6)

II. THE SPIRITUAL KINGDOM.
"Wherein we have boldness and free access unto the throne of grace; through our great High Priest." (Heb. 4:16)

III. THE SPIRITUAL KINGDOM.
"God is a Spirit, and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth." (John 4:24)

IV. THE SPIRITUAL KINGDOM.
"The kingdom of God is not meat and drink; but righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost." (Rom. 14:17)

V. THE SPIRITUAL KINGDOM.
"And the Spirit and the Bride say, Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus." (Rev. 21:27)

VI. THE SPIRITUAL KINGDOM.
"And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea." (Rev. 21:1)

THEME—THE SINNER.

Text: By W. D. SHIELDS.

I. SINNER.
"For this is the judgment of this world; judge you of this world." (John 9:39)

II. SINNER.
"Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven." (Matt. 5:3)

III. SINNER.
"Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth." (Matt. 5:5)

IV. SINNER.
"Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God." (Matt. 5:8)

V. SINNER.
"Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God." (Matt. 5:9)

VI. SINNER.
"Blessed are the persecuted for righteousness' sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven." (Matt. 5:10)

THEME—THE SINNER.

Text: By W. D. SHIELDS.

I. SINNER.
"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." (John 3:16)

II. SINNER.
"For I came down from heaven, not to do my will, but the will of him that sent me." (John 6:38)

III. SINNER.
"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son..." (John 3:16)

IV. SINNER.
"For God so loved the world..." (John 3:16)

V. SINNER.
"For God so loved the world..." (John 3:16)

VI. SINNER.
"For God so loved the world..." (John 3:16)
II. The way to keep in the love of God.
1. Building yourself up on your most holy faith (Verse 20).
(a) To build up ourselves means to add useful material. Become rich in faith; abounding in love; shining in patience.
In a word, every grace belonging to a latter day must be developed. God is not pleased with any who do not advance.
(b) To build one must reject all that God’s people died for. Persons whose conversation is not holy can destroy our souls. Refuse them, even if we make them angry or critical. Literature to God does not edify can harm us. The Movie with its curse is refused.
2. Praying in the Holy Ghost (Verse 20). To pray delights the Lord. To neglect prayer grieves Him. Prayer is petition for needed grace. It is intercession for others. It is an act of worship. It is a kind of conference with God. The Spirit is necessary to help in prayer. If all Christians will heed this praying in the Spirit God will ever fall.
3. Looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life (Verse 21). Those who expect His return will guard themselves lest he be among the unready.
Who expect Him will give proof of their love for Him. To love His appearing so paces Him that we remain in His love.
4. Others save (Verses 22, 23).
(a) In saving others have compassion; and discriminate with care as how best to approach them (Verse 22). Do not be rough or unwise. Be loving with His lost sheep.
(b) Others save with fear. Like pulling them out of the fire. One must watch lest he be burned. We cannot be too careful of ourselves while we can save others. Many preachers have gone down while they were conducting salvation meetings. Holy persons are wise in compounding in their efforts to save their loved ones.
III. The great assurance we have from Him.
1. He is able to keep you from falling: God will do His part. Let us be sure to do ours.
2. He will present you faultless before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy (Verse 24).
Text: "Do not err, my beloved brethren" (Jas. 1:16).
1. Do not err regarding the value of trial of your faith (Verses 2-4).
2. Do not err while enduring temptation (Verses 12-15).
3. Do not err concerning the source of all that is good and all that is perfect. This means all good for this life and for spiritual life. God gives all. The Devil gives nothing good (Verse 17).
4. Do not err regarding the importance of laying apart the remains of sin in the heart after regeneration (Verses 18-21).
5. Do not err by being a hearer and not a doer of the Word (Verses 22-25).
6. Do not err in the matter of vain religion and pure religion. Each has its proof (Verses 26, 27).

THEMES, TEXTS AND SUGGESTIONS
By D. S. Corlett

FOR THE CHRISTMAS SERMON

Theme: The Message of Christmas. Text: "For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord" (Luke, 2:10).
Theme: The Word in the World. Text: "The Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us" (John 1:14).
Theme: The Greatest Christmas Gift. Text: "(2 Cor. 9:15).
Theme: The Meaning of Christmas. Text: "For even the Son of Man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many" (Mark 10:45).
Theme: The Joy Christmas Brings. Text: "For behold I bring you good tidings of great joy" (Luke 2:10).
Theme: The Missionary Message of Christmas. Text: "Good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people" (Luke 2:10).
Theme: The Saving Name. Text: "Thou shalt call his name Jesus; for he shall save his people from their sins" (Matt. 1:21).
Theme: The First Christmas Tragedy—No Room for Christ. Text: "Because there was no room for them in the inn" (Luke 2:7).
Theme—The Day Star. Text: "Whereby the daystar from on high hath visited us, to give light to them that sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace" (Luke 1:78-79).

1. The condition of the world at the time of Christ's birth. "Sitting in Darkness." There had been no prophetic utterances to Israel for over four hundred years. They were in the throes of a religious controversy, but spiritually they were in darkness when Christ came. This was evidenced by 10,000 tons of distilled water. The final product being pure radium bromide, of a bulk sufficient to half fill an ordinary thimble, worth $55,000.00 per gram.
Although radium is of such immense value, yet it is so powerful that it is put on the hands and figure of a 1:20 watch, so you can see the time in the dark. The secret is that these hands and dials are simply brought into the presence of this radium, under a certain treatment when it throws off part of its own. Then they shine in the dark.
How like God's salvation, just a few moments in the presence of God, in confession and prayer and faith, and we come out "porters of the divine nature" and will shine as "lights of the world" in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation and in sin's darkest night until people can see Jesus and the way to God.

Theme—The Glad Tidings of Christmas
Text: "For behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy." 1. Tidings of Joy—"great joy" (Lk. 2:10; 16:23, 51; 1 Pet. 5:1).
2. Tidings of Peace—"Peace on Earth" (Lk. 18:79; John 14:27; Romans 15:13).
3. Tidings of Salvation—"A Saviour, which is Christ the Lord" (Titus 2:11-14; 1 Timothy 1:15).
THEME—THE MAGIC OF CHRIST'S BIRTH

TEXT: "To give light to them that sit in darkness (Luke 1:79).

An artist once drew a picture of a wintry twilight, the trees heavily laden with snow, and a dreary, dark house, lonely and desolate. In the midst of the storm, it was a sad picture indeed. Then, with a quick stroke of yellow crayon, he put a light in one window. The effect was magical. The entire scene was transformed into a vision of comfort and good cheer. The birth of Christ was just such a light to a dark world.—SELECTED.

THE FIRST CHRISTMAS SERVICE

The first Christmas service was not held in a great cathedral or temple, but in the temple of God's great "out of doors." The time of the first Christmas service was in the night; but the temple was lighted with the glory of the Lord shining round about them. The music of the first Christmas service was furnished by a "multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, goodwill toward men." The preacher of the first Christmas service was the angel who said, "Fear not."

The congregation of the first Christmas service was the shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock. The Message of the first Christmas service was a message of salvation, "For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is the Lord." The First Christmas Service was fruitful, and accomplished all that services should aim to accomplish—"Let us go now even unto Bethany; and so it was, and they made haste, and found it." THERE IS NO "IF" IN CHRISTMAS

When preaching a Christmas sermon, the Rev. Daniel H. Martin brought out a striking fact that has escaped many. He called attention to what the shepherds in the field said to one another after the angel had brought them definite word about the birth of a "Saviour who is Christ the Lord." They did not say, "Let us go and see if this thing is true." They said, "Let us go and see if this thing is come to pass." They said, "Let us go and see if this thing is come to pass." What a world of difference between the two ways of taking God's word.

BORN IN ME

Tis not enough that Christ was born, beneath the star that shone, and earth was set that morn within a golden ear.

He must be born within the heart, before He finds His throne, and bring the day of love and good, the reign of Christ, and His Kingdom. —Mary T. Latimer.

BABE OF BETHLEHEM

Christ has elevated the ideals of mankind from the earthly to the heavenly, from the selfish to self-sacrifice, from selfishness to holiness, from war to peace. He changed the date of the world's history, beginning a new reckoning of years. "B. C." and "A. D." have the pre-eminence over "In the beginning." He has put his stamp upon history, literature, science, reforms and civilisation for all the years of time and the cycles of eternity. Why such influences exerted by the Son of God?—Because he was God-manifested in the flesh, therefore great names were given him—The Prince of Peace, Immanuel, the Mighty God, the Everlasting Father, the Lord Jesus Christ; Saved that Redeemer of men, Conqueror and Intercessor. But none are sweeter than the Babe of Bethlehem and the Lamb of God.—SELECTED.

PASTORAL CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

Many pastors have made a practice of sending special pastoral Christmas greetings to the members of their church and in the congregations. This has proven to be a very satisfactory way to keep the members and friends interested in the progress of the church and to strengthen Christmas letter heads; special holiday greetings in letter form or they will print your own letter on these letter heads at a moderate price. Curriers group your cards, specially prepared for pastors and leaders with ample space to have your name printed or written, then making it a personal message. All of these are very moderately priced and are carried especially for the use of our pastors and people. The essential thing is to get your order in early so it will not be delayed in the Christmas rush, but this will have it in plenty of time to use for Christmas.

A little colored boy, having watched his old mammy's success in bleaching clothes, covered his face with soapsuds, and lay down on the lawn in the hot sun with the hope of turning white. It was a very uncomfortable and disappointed boy, whose mother admonished him with a laugh, "Lads, that's right. Christ! Don't you know you can't make white folks out of yourself by basking from the outside?" she asked. And yet that is an experience the world has never ceased trying. But Christianity is not a change wrought from the outside but from within. This is a truth that needs new emphasis in our day. A Christmas service in a good year to give it new emphasis; for the Christmas Child saves from without and within.—SELECTED.

A little Jewish girl from the East Side of New York, who worked regular in a store during the holidays of the East, with an accident, and was ministered to in her sufferings by a trained nurse. She looked appealingly to the face of the nurse, and asked incredulously, "Is it true that you are a Christian?" Upon being answered in the affirmative, she replied, "You are so polite and gentle, I didn't think you could be; but then only the Christians I've seen are Christmas shoppers."—SELECTED.

FOR THE NEW YEAR SERMON

Theme: Trust For the New Year. Text: "Take no thought; saying, What shall we eat or drink, or what shall we wear? (Matt. 6:31-32).

Theme: Strength For Our Days. Text: "As one dieth, so dieth his strength; (Deut. 31:21).

Theme: The Venture of Faith. Text: "For ye have not passed this way heretofore" (Josh. 3:4).

Theme: The New Year Crowned. Text: "Thou crownest the year with thy goodness" (Psalm 65:11).

Theme: The Secret of a Happy New Year. Text: "If ye obey and serve him, they shall spend their days in prosperity, and their years in pleasure" (Job 35:11).

Theme: The Right Use of the Passing Years. Text: "So teach us to number our days that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom" (Psalm 127:1).

Theme: A New Year's Prayers. Text: "Hold up my going in thy paths, that my footsteps slip not" (Psalm 119:53).

Theme: Renewed Though Decaying. Text: "But though the outward man perish, yet the inward man is renewed day by day" (2 Cor. 4:17).

Theme: The Changing Year and the Unchanging Christ. Text: "Jesus Christ the same yesterday, today, and forever" (Heb. 13:8).

Theme: The Comfort of the Past and the Challenge of the New Year. Text: "He hath hitherto helped us" (1 Sam. 7:12).
spent one's time complimenting with the barber's pretty wife; he was always at his books, studying. Years later, when he was commander of the army, the way to Mantua he stopped at the door of the barber's shop, and asked his former hostess if she remembered a young officer by the name of Bonaparte who was once quartered in her family. "Indeed I do," was her pettish reply, "and a very disagreeable inmate he was. He was always shut up in his room; or, if he walked out, he never condescended to speak to anyone." "Ah, my good woman," Napoleon rejoined, "had I passed my time as you wished to have me, I should not now have been in command of the army of Italy."

FROM A PREACHER'S SCRAPP BOOK
Be Yourself
"If God wanted two people to pray alike or be alike, He would have made them alike. Never let the Devil trouble you because you do not pray or testify like some one else. Be yourself."

"Did God make man out of a monkey or did man make a monkey out of himself?"

"Where Christian Perfection is not strongly and explicitly preached, there is seldom any remarkable blessing from God."—John Wesley.

Man's highest wisdom is in understanding what the will of the Lord is—J. H. Smith.

"God's will for us, by us, and through us is greater and better than anything we can will for God's cause or for ourselves. Hence, our own enterprise or our ambitions, even when we have truly sanctified hearts, will not lift in so high a place, nor do so much for ourselves or for others, as will the apprehending of God's own will for us."—J. H. Smith.

THE OLD TIME RELATION NEEDED
"It's the old, old day of a world gone yellin' to the Devil, a world that will never and can never be saved except by the old, old cross. . . . The fires of hell are old. The sin of man is old. The helplessness of the human heart to cleanse itself is old. The pitiful weakness of the flesh, human flesh, flesh under which the white hot furnace of appetite and passion burns, is an old, old weakness. Thank God, the Gospel is also old. The Christ, the Cross, the empty tomb, the fountain filled with blood—glory to God, they are old, as old as ah. It is an old way to hell, starting from the garden. It is an old route to heaven, beginning at the foot of the cross."—Thos. Shriver.

ON GOD'S SIDE
"The voice of the majority is not always the voice of God. One man and God have often changed the course of history and the map of an empire. . . . John Wesley said, 'The best of all is, God is with us.' He could say that because he knew that he was with God. And Lincoln, was it not he, who said, 'I am not concerned whether God is on our side, but I am concerned whether we are on God's side? When man forms partnership with God, he is on the side of the winning party."

"We are apt to think concerning our everyday trials that they are of too homely a sort to work out anything beautiful in our character, but they are not more homely than the chisel in the hands of the sculptor."—George Muller.

"The only way to learn strong faith is to endure great trials. I have learned my faith by standing firm amid severe testings."—George Muller.

BELIEVING HIS WORD
One day when Napoleon was reviewing troops, the bridle of his horse slipped from his hand and his horse galloped off. A private soldier ran, and laying hold of the bridle brought back the horse to the emperor's hand, when he said, "Well done, captain."

"Of what regiment, sir?" inquired the soldier.

"Of the guards," answered Napoleon, pleased with his instant belief in his word.

The emperor rode away, but the soldier threw down his musket, and though he had no epaulet on his shoulder, no sword by his side nor any other mark of his advancement than the word of the emperor, he ran and rejoined the staff of commanding officers. They laughed at him, and said, "What have you to do here?"

He replied, "I am captain of the guards."

They were amazed, but he said, "The emperor said so, and therefore I am."

And he was.

THINGS TO FORGET
"If you would increase happiness forget your neighbor's faults. Forget all the slander you ever heard. Forget the fault-finding and give but little thought to the cause which provoked it. Forget the peculiarities of your friends, and only remember the good points which make you fond of them. Forget all personal quarrels or history you may have heard by accident, and which if repeated, would seem worse than they are. Blot out as far as possible all disagreeables of life. They will come, but will only增长 greater. Change the center of your thoughts; let the constant thought of the acts of meanness—or worse still, malice will tend to make you more familiar with them. Start out with a clean sheet today, and write upon it only those things which are lovely and lovable."

"Carnality allowed will soon be carnality excused. Indulged sin excused will lead to the excusing of actual sin. The excusing of the one is no worse than the excusing of the other. If we excuse the fruit we will excuse the root, and vice versa."

"In 1725 I resolved to dedicate my life to God; all my thoughts, words, and actions, being thoroughly convinced there was no other medium, but that every part of my life must, be either a sacrifice to God or to myself—that is, in effect, to the Devil."—John Wesley.

DEPOSITING OUR LIVES
"When we go to the bank as a depositor, we hand our money over to the bankers. We leave it in their hands. They use it as they think wise, paying us regular interest. God is a great Banker. He asks Christians to deposit their lives in His bank, to place all in His hands, and leave it there. He must be absolutely free to use our lives as He will. It must be a real deposit. Then what good care he takes of us, and what wonderful interest he pays. What peace and joy He returns to us. When we deposit all, He gives His own Life to us in the abiding presence of the Holy Spirit. He makes our lives useful and safely keeps that which we commit unto Him against that day."

"When alone, a man's rights may be his own; when he meets others, they become relationships, and must be adjusted."

"Dis Darwinian theory don't worry me none," said Uncle Eben, "Tain' what you come from dat count, but what you g'ine to."

"God never lets His children go where they can do nothing for Him. The imprisonment of two Christians in a jail at Philippi means the salvation of a household and the founding of a church."
THE MINISTER AND BIBLE STUDY

A Literary Study of the Bible

By J. Henry W. Mical

As the storehouse of truth the Bible is inexhaustible. Expressing in its pages the fullness of the fundamental teachings of the ages, it is a fountain of knowledge and wisdom, a storehouse of riches that can never be exhausted.

In a study of the Bible it is essential to have a correct understanding of its contents and a clear appreciation of its message. This can be achieved through careful study and application of the principles of the Bible.

The study of the Bible involves more than merely reading its pages. It requires a systematic approach to understanding its meanings and principles. This can be achieved through the use of various tools and techniques, such as the study of historical context, the use of critical analysis, and the application of the principles of doctrine and ethics.

A study of the Bible should be based on a careful and thorough examination of its contents, with a focus on understanding the message and the significance of its teachings.

In conclusion, the study of the Bible is a vital aspect of Christian education and personal growth. It requires a commitment to understanding its message and applying its principles in daily life.

THE PREACHER'S MAGAZINE
when he does not get to preaching until noon or after. Last Sunday I timed him, and he spent twenty-three minutes in the announcements. Some few of the announcements were long, and quite generally the people were tired out before the sermon began."

Dr. Lovejoy nodded his head. "I have heard that same story many times in the past, and I think it is time to let the people know that preaching over the folks' heads doesn't help them. Sermons ought to be short, but ought to go direct to the heart to be helpful. The people the preacher is addressing are no taller than a dado and put it on the lower shelf. A preacher can be well educated and yet not know how to adapt his instruction and uplifting of his people. The world inside the preacher's head is the great truths so simply that a child can understand them."

Dr. Lovejoy was getting tired and weary and thought he would better go home, but he decided in his own mind to stop and see the Sunday-school superintendent. So he stopped in the store where Mr. Woodman and Jane worked. After a cordial greeting, Dr. Lovejoy stated that there was some agitation in favor of a new pastor, he said, "What is your candid and honest opinion?"

Brother Woodman was silent for a minute or so, and then he thought of the boys and girls in his Sunday school, and he desired to be fair to them and the pastor. Finally he said: "There is some criticism of our pastor, but there is always criticism of every pastor. Our pastor is not a younger pastor, but as far as I can judge, the boys and girls like him. He is not particularly a Sunday school man, but he usually comes in late on Sunday. He is a little faster than the preaching services. He is not what you might call a man of social intercourse, he seems a man of study. Then the stop, and I think that is general criticism, is this: Our pastor doesn't quit when he is through. He preaches remarkably well for half an hour, he reaches a superb place to stop, but he doesn't stop. He goes on, flourishes himself, and don't seem to be able to land on his feet and tie up shore. A high-school boy said that he so sized up a fellow three or four fine places for him to stop, and he missed them and went on. My only complaint is that our pastor does not quit preaching is through."

The District Assembly came in due course of time. The General Superintendent, the District Superintendent and the Advisory Board met several times to make pastoral adjustments. Bridg-

igeville had a new pastor sent to them. The man who was moved left against his wishes. He spoke unhappily of the District Superintendent as a man with a cotton string for a backbone; he bitterly criticized the "autocracy" of Naranc \- e's codrascism, and talked about a man not having an opportunity, and was generally disgruntled.

He was moved, to a smaller charge where he would make long announcements, whisper his ex- planations, preach the same old gospel, and never stop when he was through. At the end of the year, the church was about "dead and he was asked to move again."

THE PASTOR'S SUPER SIX

By N. B. Herrell

In this article we shall endeavor to deal with the lights on the pastor's super six, the tall lights, the tall light and the parking lights.

1. The necessity of the lights.
2. The use and misuse of the lights.
3. The highway signal lights.

The necessity for a full living system on the pastor's super six lies in the fact that he is driven through a land of darkness. Spiritual darkness is the blackest of all forms of darkness. There are no suns, moons or stars in sin's sky. It is like the awful darkness of Egypt that could be felt.

Not only is spiritual darkness black but it is filled with heavy fog clouds that rise from the swamps of unbelief and drift across the highways obscuring vision; and without powerful head lights, it would be impossible to travel at all without danger to the super six as well as all others. The head lights on the pastor's super six are of vast importance.

The tall lights on the pastor's super six are made necessary for two reasons. If any other driver of a super six is driving faster than others the tall lights reveal the slow-going church and permits the faster super six to go around the slower one without danger. Then the stop light is, a general criticism, is this: Our pastor doesn't quit when he is through. He preaches remarkably well for half an hour, he reaches a superb place to stop, but he doesn't stop. He goes on, flourishes himself, and don't seem to be able to land on his feet and tie up shore. A high-school boy said that he so sized up a fellow three or four fine places for him to stop, and he missed them and went on. My only complaint is that our pastor does not quit preaching is through."

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THE PERPENDICULAR PRONOUN

By A. W. Orwin

THE title of this article are words used by a certain bishop, years ago, at a prominent camp-meeting. In referring to some preachers he said that "the perpendicular prono-

nouns spoil all they do." Well, truly, it often spoils a great deal of what they do. But the same is also true of many who are not preachers. Poor human nature seems to be impropriated

THE PREACHER'S MAGAZINE
with the spirit of self-importance. Often self manifested even in sermons, prayers, testimonies, letters, and other relations in life. How self likes to parade its own achievements, and sometimes even at the expense of the good deeds of others! The "big shot" and the "little you" pervade society in general.

A few years ago I heard a very excellent and useful man say, "Oh, there, now, I guess I have been saying too much about myself. Please pardon." But the nature of his remarks justified a frequent allusion to himself. And yet he may have, in a degree, felt that he needed to guard against the manifestations of self.

Verify the "perpendicular pronoun" loves to be in the eye of the public. And good men are sometimes ensnared. The beautiful spirit accompanying the publication of sermon tracts, and the highly dramatic posture of their portraits in the papers seem to indicate more or less of self-glorification. The desire always to keep one's self before the public is illustrated by the following incident: A prominent and wealthy businessman was told by a friend that a certain noted politician had "turned Baptist." The reply was, "I couldn't believe the man was a Baptist, but one must be immersed, and he would never consent to disappear from public view long enough for the performance of the rite." Somewhat amusing, but not without a lesson. The incident recites the old fable of the frog which wished to migrate with some wild geese by holding on to a stick which one of them held in its mouth. The sight evoked the question by some persons as to who could have conceived such a clever idea. Upon this the silly replies, "It did." And in truth opening its mouth in self-praise it, of course, fell to the ground and to its death.

Thus some persons who are troubled with the "great, I," spirit, sooner or later come to grief. It is still true that pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall. Christ warns against self-exaltation by declaring, "Whoever shall exalt himself shall be abased." And in thus opening its mouth in self-praise it, of course, fell to the ground and to its death.

A LAYMAN ON PREACHING

MY MESSAGE to the preachers is that nothing in your ministry is so important as the earnestness born of living faith. The people will forgive anything else in a minister except the sense that he is professional. Unless back of his learning and diction and eloquence they feel that he is dominated by a faith that lifts him to its heights, his sermons are as sounding brain and a flinting sword.

"The reason I go to hear that man preach," said a prosperous and virile successful lumberman, "is that I cannot be saving lumber while he is preaching." Men and women, to use an overworked word, are "fed up" with the things that pertain to trade and business and sports and science and literature. They go to church—when it is not from habit, and the older I grow the more I believe that not only is the birth of a new thing, that good things that come to us are the result of a habit that it gives strength to the week and weary. It can advertise no greater facts than these, for

have their walks brightened by the light that never was on sea or land.

The conception that there may be a religion in the heart separate from the religion in the head, and that one may be substituted for the other, is found in the Scriptures. It is so.

At times I am in for a thin discourse. Often the impression is justified. People go to church to be as well as comforted and strengthened. You will observe that even Billy Sunday, believed to disregard the conventions, writes all his sermons, even if he seems to drive our people home with a baseball bat.

It may be because of my upbringing in the old-time Methodist faith, but I feel a sense of being denied bread, if I go to church and in the learned discourse, enriched with classical lore, I find nothing that gives warmth and cheer to the heart. Between the preacher who is short on learning and long on experience, and the one whose sermon is a cold ethical essay, give me the first. I can go to the sympathy and the lyre for the classical preacher. But if the Church has no message or no influence that warms the heart and sends one forth to love and help his fellows, from what source is the essential to happiness and usefulness to come?—John Hay, Secretary of the navy in the cabinet of President Wilson in The Christian Advocate, New York.

ATTRACTIVE CHURCH PUBLICITY

By ALLEN M. BOWERS

This caption has been chosen for my article as most significant because it suggests the secret of the merits of effective advertising. Advertising is a profession in itself, and not everyone possesses this rare genius of making advertising attractive, yet every minister may learn much for his benefit by observation.

Advertising, when attractive, has a very significant place in the Church, if we have anything of merit to advertise. And the more impressive, noticeable, convincing character of the publicity the more its influence in attracting the attention and interest of the public. If we are to reach the public with our great message of Full Salvation, we must get the people into our service and we should not neglect to utilize every possible available means to obtain the attendance of the people.

The "children of this world are wiser in their generation than the children of light." They invest large sums in the most attractive and fascinating display possible, to catch the attention of the people and draw the crowds to their performances. Of course, we are not catering to the crowds and to the spectacular, but it is common sense to expect more blessing and more gratitude upon our work according to the extent of our mission to the public.

To conclude that advertising is superfluous and unnecessary, because, if we have a deficiency of the Glory of God upon our services, that will attract the people, may be only presumption. Unquestionably, there is nothing so attractive and impressive as the wonderful outpouring of the Spirit of God upon our meeting. Nothing can be substituted for this, and in reality, the more of the genuine we possess in our services, the more truthful and meritorious will be our advertising.

But it must be borne in mind that our publicity, consequently we must, of necessity, have something worth while to offer the public. A very significant article in the press has come to my attention, from which I quote in this regard:

A few lines of the following given by Charles Strode, New York, told to the Eighteenth Annual Conference on Church Publicity:

"In advertising the Church the same principle of psychology must be used that the business man employs in selling goods. One great principle is to be safe in advertising the public knows nothing whatever about the church. In advertising the church it should be made plain that it is not a reform organization, a quarum, a social service league, a political party; nor its preachers supposed to be economic experts. The church has the Church for self and publicity, it is not very excited about offering this sure cure to the people. The church must let a borrowing world know that it offers comfort to the desolate, that it heals the broken hearted, that it gives strength to the week and weary. It can advertise no greater facts than these, for
Our Lord said in the parable of the great supper, "Go out into the highways and hedges and compel them to come in." That may include street sermons under its interpretation, but it may as consistently include a compelling advertisement in the newspaper, on the bulletin board, on the electric sign, etc.

In regard to the amount of advertising to be done or the character of the publicity, we must distinguish between the country church, the suburban city church, and the larger city church. It will not be profitable to do as extensive advertising in the former as in the latter instance. However, some kind of publicity of the right character, is always helpful.

We have gained a great victory in publicity if we have discovered the secret of attractive, compelling advertising. Publicity is not, as some seem to infer, a useless, extravagant expense, if it actually brings people to our services; for if we communicate the people to our services, we will have more people, who, at our altar, more quickly convert to welcome into our churches, more inspiration upon the people, and, as a consequence, an increased offering in our treasury.

It is difficult to suggest any set method of publicity applicable to all churches, yet I would offer for consideration such publicity as: The weekly bulletin, (this the members may read and pass on to others) an attractive church card, (to be kept in your pockets for ready use) the newspaper display; the bulletin board, (something neat and attractive) a running advertisement on some pages in the telephone directory; the hotel directory; an easily read bulletin board at some conspicuous corner on each road leading into the city; a flood-light to illuminate the front of the church; etc.

It has been my experience that no publicity reaches the people more nearly to an entirely or more effectively than a newspaper advertisement, by discrimination, many news items may be published.

If we were not for the lack of space I would be delighted to give some samples of the hundreds of advertisements which I have collected from many sources in my twenty years in the ministry, but I can only give a brief statement here.

A series of special revival services affords every pastor a wonderful opportunity for advertising his church. It has been my method to visit the City Editor of the newspaper and get personally acquainted with him. Then a week or two before a revival, visit him, with a short story of the Evangelist's life and his picture, which he would gladly publish as news. Then follow this with some display advertisements which reach every home in the city. Then we use a large banner over the church entrance, and banners stretched across several leading streets. Also, either cards or circulars for general distribution during the services and distributed systematically to the employees of factories and department stores; cards on the front of street cars; large cards mounted on frames placed on prominent vacant lots; and announcements, if possible, over the Radio. Our effort has been to entice and awaken the people until they are talking Revival everywhere. It may not be necessary to use such an extensive program of publicity everywhere and in every revival, but experience will prove what advertising God will bless most out of our services.

What a Convention we preachers would do if we could get together and discuss the question, "How would advertise the Church?"

HERE AND THERE AMONG BOOKS

By P. H. Lunn

Of special interest to preachers at this particular time of the year is Doran's Minister's Manual for 1027. (Doran $2.00) I am informed that the first volume published last year, met with an acceptance even beyond the publisher's expectations. The Minister's Manual really is a remarkable publication. It would be unreasonable to expect every suggestion contained in its 729 pages to be adaptable to every minister's program. But it does unquestionably contain enough usable material to make it well worth the price and more. Even to list its different divisions requires considerable space. The book contains sermons and illustrations for the following special occasions: Armistice Sunday, Christmas, Cemetery, Communion, Easter, Holy Week, Independence Day, Labor Day, Memorial Day, Mother's Day, New Year's Sunday, Old People's Service, Palm Sunday, Thanksgiving, Washington's Birthday. Also ceremonies for weddings, funerals, baptisms of infants and adults. Another feature is about

THE PREACHER'S MAGAZINE
very strikingly the fallacies of Modernism giving birth to the False Prophet. Part four places emphasis upon the divine inspiration of the Word of God; calls attention to Scripture prophecies already fulfilled until traces the hand of God in history down through the ages. The book is not unaided speculative and furnishes much food for sober thought and careful study.

The idea is current that many business men take the attitude that religion and all that goes with it—church attendance, prayer, Bible—\textit{is} well enough for women and children but it has no appeal to the practical, hard-headed man of business and affairs. Perhaps even the careful Bible student will be astounded to know how much the Scriptures have to say on the subject of business—vocations, merchandising, etc. W. O. Barnes, evidently after exhaustive research has compiled a modest little volume, classifying all Scriptures alluding in any way to business and its allied subjects. "Business in the Bible" (Vir. 56c) is a handy, pocket-size book of 86 pages, with nineteen chapters, each one covering some classification of Scripture references. We mention just a few, Maxims for Business Men; Occupations Mentioned in the Bible; Occupations for Women; Arts and Crafts; Merchants; Farmers; Workers and Wages; Manufacturers.

It requires no great stretch of the imagination to picture great possibilities for this little volume. Christian business men will enjoy it, other business men need its enlightening message, the preacher in preparing a sermon for business men will find it of inestimable value; the minister called upon to address a group of business men will find here just the material he needs; the teacher of a man's Bible class will constantly refer to it. It's a big little book. Why hasn't someone done this before?

For the twenty-second time Revell is offering Tarbell's Teachers' Guide, by Martha Tarbell, Ph. D. ($2.00). This annual volume needs no introduction to church and Sunday school workers. Neither the author nor the book needs an introduction to Christian workers. After handling hundreds of books and reviewing scores of them the sense of wonder at the material which one can procure for a mere srand is in no sense abated. This particular volume struck us especially as an example of what modern inventions have made possible in the way of getting your money's worth in the book line. Here we have 415 pages, filled with information and suggestions that must have taken months to gather and to write. A Sunday school lesson commentary is not only valuable for the current year, but for a preacher or teacher it makes a worthwhile reference book to be referred to again and again. There are other good commentaries on the Sunday school lessons but we are sure that there is none better than Tarbell's.

The Fleming R. Revell Co. also have submitted a copy of R. A. Torrey's "The Gift of the Leoson" ($5c) for 1927. This is a neat well-portioned volume giving a concise exposition of the International lessons. Dr. Torrey enjoys the reputation of being one of the foremost Bible scholars of this day and as such he is well qualified for the difficult task of condensing the great amount of material that might be written on any of the lessons into a nutshell as it were. For a busy pastor or superintendent, especially, this little volume is worth many times its price.

**FACTS AND FIGURES**

By E. J. Flemming

Nuisance, noxious insects cause a great deal of trouble and destruction in this world. The United States is foremost in the fight against them. Dr. L. O. Howard, chief of the Bureau of Entomology, has a personnel in his bureau of 575, of whom 209 are scientific experts. Scientists from many other nations come to the United States to see how we handle this problem.

In 1925 the Methodist Episcopal Church through its home missionary work spent more than $2,500,000 in the United States and its territories in the interest of home mission work.

Late reports from the great disaster in Florida caused by the hurricane, show that nearly 365 persons were killed or fatally injured, 150 are missing, 1,100 injured, and 20,000 homeless. Property was damaged to the amount of $165,000,000.

The World Zionist organization will spend $10,000,000 in the agricultural industrial development of Palestine during the next year. The Jews of the United States contribute $7,500,000 of this amount.

Oil wells in the United States appear to have a great attraction for many who desire to acquire sudden wealth. It is reported that on December 31, 1925, there were 306,100 producing oil wells in the United States which was an increase of 7,000 over the number reported for 1924. The average daily production per well was six and five-tenths barrels. In 1925 there were 25,623 wells drilled, distributed as follows: Oil wells 16,559; gas wells 2,300 and 6,734 were dry holes. We are led to wonder if churches organized within the last twelve months could be characterized as "oil wells," "gas wells" and "dry holes."

The Way of Faith carries the following: "The dry swept the slate in Illinois, Indiana and Oregon primaries. Here is an incident worth noting: Ward B. Helmer of Indiana, toured the state in a $12,000 automobile, displaying a sign in big red letters, 'I am wet.' Roblinson, his opponent, 'dry,' received 216,489 votes and Helmer received 30,343. But the wet newspapers are playing with the soft pedal when this feature is mentioned. Prohibition, the greatest boon to this country, marches on."

Before prohibition America was paying $2,438,000 annually for drink and in 1916 $753,670,000 for education. In 1922 the situation had so changed that we spent $1,783,970,000 for public education but not one cent was spent for liquor by public permission.

Prof. Irving Fisher, of Yale University, estimates that prohibition is netting the United States $6,000,000,000 a year in values.

The largest church organ in the world has been built in the Liverpool Cathedral at a cost of $175,000. It was dedicated on October 18. Work on the organ was started before the war, but was abandoned during the war, or until peace came. The lowest note weighs more than a ton and is thirty-seven inches in diameter. The instrument has five rows of keys, 222 draw knobs, 168 stops and 10,014 pipes. The electric motors that operate the mechanism have 35 horsepower. The organ is so large that it requires 17 telephones in various parts of the instrument to enable workmen to communicate with the assistant at the keys when the organ is being tuned.
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SPECIMEN OF TYPE

follow me, and I will make you "to be a lamp to their feet and a light to the path of their ways."

So and they straightway left their nets and followed him.

Ah, then, what sweetness in the thought, One soul to glory to have brought!

Nazeerene Publishing House, Kansas City, Mo.