

Sermons By Local Minister.s

"The biography of Christ" was the subject of a sermon delivered by the Rev. Charles Curtis McIntyre at the Westminster Presbyterian church yesterday. For his text, the Rev. McIntyre took John 20:21. "Then said Jesus to them, again, as my Father has sent me, even so send I you." In his remarks were as follows:

Observe the singular disregard of Christ for a record of His life. Some strong men anticipate their biographies, either by furnishing material for such a work, as Confucius, or by selecting one of the most gifted of their disciples and preparing him by a special course of instruction for accomplishing the task, as Mohammed; while still others publish autobiographies. Yet, after all, the lives of the most lasting worth are known to future generations by no design of their own. Christ was too sublimely great for this. He was too occupied in answering the moral and spiritual needs of His age that He had neither time nor apparent interest for the thought of future ages. We have no account of His writing a single word, scratched on the ground in front of the sinful woman, while her accusers at His word, slunk away, one by one. Nor did He ever seek an opportunity to make an impression. It made no difference as to the character of His teaching, whether He spoke to only one, at Jacob's well, or to the thousands on the mount.

Yet He wrote an imperishable record. It was on the intellect and conscience and will of mankind, not for His age, but forever. A more youth, poor, uneducated, inexperienced, friendless, a Galilean mechanic, a carpenter of humanity, relieving the suffering, delivering the oppressed, preaching to the unfortunate, shattering the false and inhuman practices of prevailing faiths and inaugurating a religion on the simple and eternal forces of truth, purity, justice, love. And all the world has of His life is just what a Galilean mechanic, a carpenter, with His keen understanding of human nature He better knew than all how that only in His disinterestedness and unconcern for the story of His career accomplish in the world His greatest desire, not the admiration of men, but their inspiration for the same high moral attainments and pursuits in life.

Again, note the remarkable simplicity or naturalness of the accounts. Some biographers, desiring to make their subject conspicuous, relate only his loftiest transports of thought and his most prominent acts and we receive a sense that the record is overstrained, exaggerated, unnatural, and we are tempted to ask how this man would act in the experience of ordinary life. Of Christ, His writers chiefly relate the common things. We see Him entering a house, sitting at a well, walking along the road, taking little children up into his arms, producing the marvelous effect of nearness, seeing Christ actually living again before us, and our personal intimate acquaintance with Him. "The holiest among the mighty and the mightiest among the lowly." What wonder that Ewald, the great German student, while in conversation with Dean Stanley, seized a Greek Testament that lay on the table before them and exclaimed, "This little book contains all the wisdom of the world."

FIRST METHODIST CHURCH.

The Rev. F. B. Short, pastor of the First Methodist church, spoke yesterday upon the mission of the Methodist church, preaching a lengthy sermon on the growth of the Methodist church in the world. To a large congregation, he spoke in part as follows:

Yes, Methodism has always known its fields, and knows it now. John Wesley pointed the way when his prophetic vision and apostolic inspiration caused him to shout, "The World is my parish." Methodism, born in a monarchy, has crossed every sea and penetrated every continent. It has laid its influence upon every throne and government, until the entire earth enjoys a larger liberty and is led on by a nobler and purer life.

The world is our field. The salvation of the last man our object. Our abiding responsibilities are caring for our own, and holding those who come to us. This demands a ministry and a place for worship. It requires our great publishing houses, and our unparalleled desecrations, superintendents, pastors, deacons, and all the rest of the church. All of these are important, but the supreme importance of aggressive work is found in our benevolence—the chief among which is surely our board of home missions and church extension society. That statement is true because that society is the armory and arsenal, the base supply for carrying on the aggressive, never retreating, victorious church.

BEGINNING OF METHODISM.

Methodism began on this continent in 1776. The board of church extension began its work in 1865. The 39 years prior to the organization of this board gave the church 7,175 preachers, 19,841 churches and 929,000 members and a property valued at \$15,000,000. The 43 years since this benevolent board has increased the number of preachers to nearly 20,000, the churches to nearly 30,000 and the number of members to more than 3,300,000; the Sunday school has reached almost 3,500,000 scholars, and our property valuations reach \$150,000,000. Just for a moment, rejoice, Church and paragonage property, \$150,000,000; educational property, \$25,761,547; endowment, \$23,850,000. If to these sums there be added our publishing houses, equipment, etc., we shall approach the one-quarter billion dollar point.

Again: Our Sunday schools, scholars and church members will total 5,000,000. To them add our brothers-in-law and those who gravitate our way and you will have 10,000,000 sympathetic and loyal souls in the Methodist Episcopal army.

SPREAD OF THE GOSPEL.

In view of such facts, we must conclude that we have occasion for church pride. We are reaching the ends of the earth, and preaching the gospel every week in 130 different languages and dialects. Therefore, let us rejoice in the words of Bishop Goodsell: "The child of Buddhism gives way to the warmth of Christianity; the caste of the Brahmin surrenders to the brotherhood of Jesus Christ. In India, Siva gives way to the man of Galilee. In Africa, the fetish gives way to the

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lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world. In South America, Italy, Mexico and Russia, the prayers of saints are no longer necessary to secure the favor of Him who ever liveth above to make intercession for us."

Brethren, ours is a great church. Great in mind, in heart, in faith. Great in a holy passion for purity, for peace, for righteousness. Great in capacity to lead, in willingness to teach, in desire to serve. Walk around our Jerusalem. Behold her magnificent walls, and her majestic towers. Just for a moment, note, that Congregationalism came to America with the pilgrims 287 years ago. They have 700,000 members, but Methodism has increased more than three times that many during the life of our board of home missions and church extension society; that our Protestant Episcopal friends came to America 300 years ago, they exceed 800,000, but the past 43 years has seen our ranks more than double that. During the past 43 years we have nearly doubled the entire membership of the 12 Presbyterian bodies. Our Catholic brethren have been on this continent since the days of Columbus—415 years. They tabulate a following of about 10,000,000, but the Methodist Episcopal church has a following equally as large, and if we seek the aggregate constituency of all Methodist bodies we shall reach well toward 25,000,000 souls. Shall we be ashamed of our family—the family called Methodists?

CAUSES OF GROWTH.

What has been the chief cause for such a substantial growth? Many things have contributed—wise, aggressive, sanctified leadership as expressed through various agencies, but the real basis and source of our supplies comes from that society made famous by the labors of Kynett, McCabe, Spencer and King. There is surely healing in its leaves, and oil of gladness in its touch. It has surely meant help for the needy, and in many instances life for the dead. The world is its parish. Toward the common people it extends a brotherly hand. Methodism must reach the people. That is our task.

But we must not rest. Our victories and strength increase our responsibilities. We must be up and doing lest another take our crown. We boast of no innate superiority to our sister denominations, but under God our church

has been blessed and has proven a blessing to mankind.

TELLS OF ALASKAN TRIP.

The Rev. W. M. Paden, who has lately returned from a trip in Alaska, spoke to his flock yesterday of his trip, taking for his text Psalm 133:3: "The works of the Lord are great, sought out of all them that have pleasure therein. He hath made his wonderful works to be remembered." He said in part:

"It is seemly and right that we should seek out and learn to enjoy the wonderful works of our heavenly Father. What is more natural than that we should strive to become acquainted with our Father's mighty works, and that we should seek to see and appreciate the beauty and majesty, the grace and strength of our Father's house. Heaven is not the only house made with hands."

"My vacation has thrown open to me another corner of God's beautiful world. My 2,600 miles of sheltered voyaging from Seattle to Sitka, Glacier Bay, Skagway and back, has been full of visions of the beautiful and has not been without its glimpses towards the sublime. The lower reaches of this coast are full of color and charm. One rests easily, and enjoys Nature's God-given gifts. The scenery in Glacier Bay, at White Pass above Skagway, or amid the glaciated mountains, which glorify Lynn channel, is more like an apocalypse. The views near Davidson glacier are great. They rank with the views at Niagara, the Yellowstone canyon, the Grand canyon of Arizona and the Yosemite. Such works of the Lord are great; they are worth the cost of a pilgrimage, and to be held in lasting remembrance by those who take pleasure therein."

"The Psalmist was, however, thinking of God's gracious works for and through the children of men. There are such works in Alaska. Methlakatia, the island village of Indian Christians, is one of these marvels. William Duncan, the English missionary, the instrument God has used in creating this Christian community, is a marvel far beyond all Alaska's glaciers and mountains. He has been with these Indians, teaching, guiding, fashioning them, for 32 years, and is still their aid with Salt Lake Ministers."

LADIES FREE, SALT LAKE, Wednesday, Sept. 2nd.

UTAH MAKES GOOD SHOWING.

Eastern Summary of Commercial and Industrial Comment Speaks.

In the Crop Report and General Conditions, compiled by the Commercial Bank of Chicago and a criterion of business conditions throughout the United States, Utah makes its usual good showing. In general the report shows a tendency toward the return of national prosperity.

Utah, classified as a semi-arid state, is commented upon in the following terms:

"General trade conditions in Salt Lake city and tributary territory are fully as good or better than could be expected under existing circumstances. As a result of the panic which was particularly severe on the mining interests, business in most lines is not up to what it was this time a year ago. The situation, however, is improving gradually, and the jobbing business in some lines is about on a par with that of last year. This is owing largely to the fact that retailers and country merchants curtailed their fall and spring purchases as greatly as possible, and consequently their stocks were to some extent depleted, which necessitated a large volume of sorting orders which naturally would seek local Salt Lake and Ogden markets, as quick delivery was wanted. As a result of the panic eastern and coast houses both partly withdrew from the state, which also tended to increase the patronage of local wholesalers."

"Mining operations are on the increase, and reports of the resumption of activity at various camps are becoming more frequent."

"The number of sheep and cattle raised will be about the average, but lower prices for sheep and wool are current."

UTAH CROP CONDITIONS.

"Crop conditions are excellent, and the State of Utah will probably have the largest crop of dry land wheat ever harvested, owing to the excess

of rainfall over previous years. A very large crop of sugar beets will be harvested, much larger than that of 1907, which brought in a total of \$4,991,000. Tomatoes, which are quite important in the territory around Ogden, will not be more than 25 per cent of an average crop, and the tomato canning factories will have a small year. Fruit canners will be very busy as the fruit crop promises to be very large."

"On the whole, the situation, with its promises for improvement, is quite encouraging, and while normal conditions are probably several months distant yet it is generally believed this is to some extent due to the presidential campaign."

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MAY BEGIN WORK SOON.

Rumors of Changes in Salt Lake Public Service Company's Lineup.

It is reported that the Salt Lake Public Service company contemplates the actual beginning of work within a very short time and once upon the road to completion the plant will be pushed with as little delay as possible. Some two months ago the company was financed through a sale of bonds, to a syndicate representing English capital. Local officials are reticent in expressing opinion concerning the possible outcome of the change of ownership. It has been rumored that J. J. Chambers, president and manager of the institution, sent in his resignation some time ago and so far as the latest reports go no one has been appointed to fill the position.

It is believed upon good authority that the entire management of construction will be in the hands of the Schott company of Chicago. That company is represented here by Engineer J. C. Hanning.

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THREE ROBBERIES LAST NIGHT.

Three robberies were noted on the "squeal book" at police headquarters last night. Carl Kilstrass, residing at 108 west South Temple street, reported that his premises entered and a suit of clothes stolen.

E. Scherpfeld, 132 west South Temple, is mourning the loss of a gold watch that was pilfered from his room last night.

The Western Novelty Works, 122 west Second South street was broken into and two revolvers and a shot gun stolen. The thief gained entrance by prying open a rear window.

RAIDS BOX CAR HOME.

Special Officer G. F. Short of the O. S. L., made a raid early this morning on a box car in the north yards and placed under arrest three young men who were using the car as a lodging house. The car had been broken into along the line near Cheyenne and, although it contained considerable merchandise, nothing was taken so far as known. The officer found asleep in the car George Brown, Carl Duncan and Francis Gentil, the latter only 17 years of age. The youth hailed from Chicago and beat his way to Salt Lake from Cheyenne in the box car. He was given binding fast at the city jail and then turned over to the juvenile court authorities.

NO MORNING COURT.

There was a disappointed mob about police headquarters this morning because of the fact that there was no morning court. The hangmen-on, who have not missed a session of police court for many years, expressed great disgust when they were informed that court would not be held until 2 o'clock. During the summer the city cases, the cases that so interest the usual spectators, are heard during the morning beginning at 9 o'clock but now that cold weather is about to make its advent, the city cases will be heard at 2 p. m. Word was received from Judge C. B. Fitch this morning that he would arrive from Island Park, Idaho, in time to hold court this afternoon. Assistant City Attorney E. A. Rogers returned with Mrs. Rogers yesterday from the

Idaho camp, and stated that they all had a most enjoyable time. During the absence of Judge Fitch, Judge J. J. Whiteaker occupied the bench.

OLD HACKDRIVER ARRESTED.

Clint Almsworth, an old time hackdriver who has been taken into custody several times on the charge of insanity, was taken to the county jail this morning by Patrolman Price and Patrol Driver Moore. The man was arrested last night and lodged in the city jail and this morning was transferred to the county jail. He has been tried several times for insanity, but has never been committed to the state mental hospital. The authorities will make another effort to have him committed.

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SCHOOL DISCIPLINE.

A city superintendent of schools stated at one of the meetings of the Playground Association of America that it took several weeks of hard work every fall to bring discipline in the schools up to the point where it was at the close of school in the spring. He suggested supervised playgrounds as a remedy.

The average city child looks upon all out-of-doors as the enemy's country, and therefore abuses the privileges and blessings that he has never been taught to use. When he learns that to him as a member of that crowd, his attitude is likely to change and he to become a partner instead of a competitor. The boy who plays a game with the policeman by seeing how far he can get into mischief and not get caught is not likely to hesitate to play the same game on a larger scale with the officers of the law when he comes to be a man.

This, however, is the preventive side of playgrounds only. There is a positive side also that is coming to be recognized these days, and it stands for education and morality; for the formation of good habits and the development of character; and makes for citizenship of a higher order.—Leo Lanner in *Charities and The Commons*.

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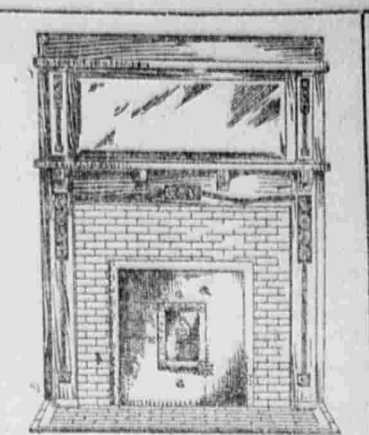
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