

TIMELY TOPICS IN MANY PULPITS

DEATH WARRANT FACES SCOFFERS

REV. DR. IDLEMAN DISCUSSES BURNING QUESTIONS

New Assistant Rector of St. Paul's Pro-Cathedral Declares That History Condemns Those Who Answer Falsely

"What Think Ye of Christ, Whose Son Is He?" were the words of the text of Rev. L. M. Idleman, the new assistant rector of St. Paul's pro-cathedral, yesterday morning.

"If you and I would learn anything of value in our lives which we can live but once, we must make a careful and philosophical study of past history and also of present issues which go to make history for future generations."

History may be termed a tribunal before which every man is tried and sentenced to oblivion or eternal existence.

"But she was continually fitting out great armies for foreign conquest and when asked the question regarding her ideal, she pointed to her Pharaohs, her soldiers, her rulers, her despots and what is now left to tell of her wondrous glory, her power—the silent Sphinx and the pyramids, half buried in sand, like her history."

"In turning back the pages of history let us consider the period regarded as possessing the greatest amount of recorded civilization; that period dominated by Egyptian influence. Here was the forerunner of all art that followed; her astronomy was the foundation of all subsequent knowledge of the heavenly bodies, the movements and the laws governing them."

"Egypt and Her Army" "But she was continually fitting out great armies for foreign conquest and when asked the question regarding her ideal, she pointed to her Pharaohs, her soldiers, her rulers, her despots and what is now left to tell of her wondrous glory, her power—the silent Sphinx and the pyramids, half buried in sand, like her history."

"We turn to Greece and Rome with all their gorgeous splendor, wisdom and power. We think surely here in the home of patriotic Greece, in the ancient abode of philosophy, art and literature, where valor and many conquests were proclaimed in a hundred battles, we shall hear the true and satisfactory reply to the great question, 'What think ye of Christ?'"

"But this is an age of conquest and only those qualities which point to the end and are essential to the ideal of men. The histories of Greece and Rome read much the same—the names of Alexander and Caesar come to our minds again and again as the greatest of conquerors. The world cried out its need for a perfect man and Alexander and Caesar were the answer. Greece and Rome gave. Conquest, the subjection of others for the benefit of self, was the seal of their doom and today what do we find as a result of striving? Only monuments guarding the memory of a lost and decayed grandeur."

"Era of Crusades" "Let us turn to civilization, stirred with new life to a realization of something better and higher. It was the era of the crusades, the age of chivalry, when men were learning to forget personal ambition in fighting for a higher cause. It is indeed a step upward when men, bearing the cross of Christ, forsook homes, father, mother, wives and loved ones, and took up arms to defend and protect the faith they believed in. We think we shall find the great answer here. But again we are disappointed, for here we see men going forth with swords and spears to contend for Him who never used a sword against his fellow man, but love, gentleness and patience."

"We behold men going forth, haughty kings and armored knights in his name, who, when he was reviled, replied not again; who when he was stricken cried out in behalf of those who persecuted him, 'Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do.'"

"Medieval Age" "The medieval age in the glamour of its romance and chivalry also has answered falsely and today, instead of a vigorous, healthy, progressive civilization, we find as evidences of all the grandeur of this age, ivy-clad ruins of medieval castles and traces in literature of a once splendid reign."

"How clearly and fearfully does history show that doom has set its teeth deep into the neck of every man and every man who has dared to boldly, yet falsely, attempt to answer in this life, this great question, 'What think ye of Christ?'"

"History then, as a tribunal trying in turn the ages, the nations and the individuals by this eternal test of life, has proved her infallibility as a court in this world and has recorded so that the blind may see, the deaf may hear, the condescending and the arrogant have answered her great question falsely."

CRIPPLE WALKS AFTER DREAM

MARION, Ind., Oct. 21.—Dreaming that several men were attacking him, George Gilpin of this city, who had been a cripple for years, unable to walk without the aid of crutches, struggled desperately, striking with his hands and kicking with his feet. When he awoke he was doing some exceedingly violent gymnastic stunts and, jumping out of bed, was astounded to learn that he could walk unaided.

Gilpin suffered a dislocation of the hip joint several years ago. Surgeons failed to join the dislocated parts properly and the injured leg became shortened. A few hours after the dream Gilpin walked about the business district of the city and greeted his old friends. Surgeons say that while Gilpin was asleep the muscles and tendons became relaxed and, in the violent exercise brought about by the dream, the dislocated hip joint dropped back into place. Gilpin is advanced in years.

CITY ENDEAVORERS HOLD THEIR THIRD INSTITUTE

Two Hundred Juniors Hold Their Rally and Five Hundred of the Intermediates Hold Theirs—Officers Are Elected for the Year

The third annual institute of the Los Angeles Christian Endeavor union closed its session yesterday afternoon, which was one of the most successful ever held in the history of the union. Rally services were held at 3 o'clock the juniors occupying the Sunday school room and the intermediates the main auditorium of the First Congregational church.

The junior rally consisted of about 200 members, including fifteen super-intendents, led by Miss Maybelle Austermell, the topic being "A Little Child Shall Lead Them." The intermediates rally of 500 members was led by Leon V. Shaw. This partook of an evangelistic service. The following are the names of the officers elected for the ensuing year: D. A. Schweitzer, president, First Congregational church; F. D. B. Moore, first vice president, Presbyterian; Fred P. Beach, second vice president, Congregational; Miss Clara P. Hassler, corresponding secretary, Christian; Miss Bertha M. Brooks, recording secretary, Baptist; Harry B. Tuttle, treasurer, Baptist.

OUR DUTY IS TO GROW IN VIRTUE

MGR HARNETT DISCOURSES ON PERSEVERANCE

Some Begin Their Lives Wrong, Others End Them in Sin—Practical Lessons for Catholics

"Perseverance in Virtue" was the topic of Rt. Rev. Mgr. Harnett, V. G., yesterday morning at the Cathedral of St. Vibiana in an able discourse on the desirability of perseverance in good deeds. The monsignor said:

"In the gospel today we are told that a certain ruler at Capernaum, having heard that Jesus had come down to Galilee, asked of him a favor. This favor consisted in the request to heal his son. Our Lord did not say that he would grant the request, but said 'Unless you see signs and wonders you believe not.' Apparently the ruler was convinced that this was a refusal, but the ruler said 'Come down before my son dies.' Our Lord said 'Go thy way; thy son liveth.'"

"Here we have perseverance of the ruler in order that a good work might be performed. Because of his perseverance and his prayer, the request is granted. If we desire to persevere in good works we ought to pray. 'You will perhaps ask, 'Are we obliged to continue in good work?' 'Our Lord says 'He that persevere to the end shall be saved,' and we read that 'He who persevere to the end shall receive the crown of life.' Therefore, perseverance is commanded by God."

"Dear brethren, our duty from time to time is to reflect particularly on God. We know he is a being infinitely perfect, holy, just, immutable and unchangeable. 'St. Paul, writing to the Hebrews, said of God: 'Thou art the same yesterday, today and forever.'"

"Let us cast a look at the love of God and see how he persevered in his love for man. He loved mankind from all eternity. Even in the garden where man sinned, he loved man. He sent his only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, to die for the redemption of the world. 'He promises his church that he will be with it until the end of time, and that no moment has passed since Jesus Christ instituted it that he has not been with her, and so she shall be until the consummation of the world.'"

"If we are to imitate God ought we not to be constant in our love of God as he is constant in his love for us? There are some people who start out in life well and end badly. And there are those who start out badly and end well. Solomon started out well and ended badly, while Mary Magdalen and St. Augustin started out badly and ended well."

"Our duty as children of God is to advance daily in virtue. If we have not set out well, let us endeavor to do so well now. 'Have you ever asked how virtue is defined? It is a habit in that thing in accord with right reason. How do you acquire habits? By repeated actions. The more frequent we perform an action, the more strong the habit. You cannot be virtuous unless you continually perform acts of virtue. We ought to perform repeated acts pleasing to the Most High."

"How true it is to get this strength of God? How did the ruler at Capernaum urge the Lord to heal his son? Was it not by prayer and did he not persevere? So should we. 'Sometimes we pray, but we are not in earnest, and we are not determined to work with the grace of God. When we are not in earnest it is almost useless to ask God for his graces.'"

SOCIETY FEAR OF UNBOUND FORCE

VAST MATERIAL ENERGIES LIE IDLE TODAY

Muscular Activities Are Doing No Good, Declares Dr. Northrop, Because They Are Not Harnessed

The sermon of Stephen A. Northrop, D.D., pastor of the First Baptist church, yesterday, was based on the text, "Canst thou bind the wild ox with his hand in the furrow? Or with the harness the wild ass? Job, 29:10. 'Unharnessed forces! The world is full of them! How vast the amount of muscular energy which is doing no good because it is not harnessed. What is the use of the wild ox and the wild ass if they are not harnessed? At man's creation he was granted dominion of the earth and was commanded to subdue it. Man's triumph over nature began when he put a yoke on the wild ox and turned enormous brute force into useful channels. And every step in advance has been by the same method. Take electricity. For what variety of uses is this agent put in our day. It carries our messages, it lights our cities, it drives our cars, it moves our machinery. It is indispensable to our civilization. It is only recently that this mighty force has been of practical service to humanity. Why? Because it was not harnessed. Must Be Controlled

"There is a plenty of electricity in the air today, sometimes in such abundance that it is a nuisance. But of what use is it? None, until bound and controlled. 'It is especially true of our gas belts underneath us. Doubtless it has smothered in their fires a considerable number of lives. But it has only been within the lifetime of the 16-year-old lad that it has been made practical and brought to surface, for light, locomotion and comfort. For thousands of years it was of no earthly benefit to man. Why? It was not harnessed."

"There stands a car on the track; no giant of a man can budge it; no bravey athlete can push it an inch. The united strength of a dozen men can only move it slowly. Now couple seventy-five of those cars together and call it a locomotive. It will move it; not a wheel turns around. Now attach an engine to this train. It gives a few puffs as it filling its iron lungs, picks up those cars and runs away on commercial errands across a continent. 'What inconceivable power is it that does this? Nothing but common steam, but there has been steam in the world ever since the first boiling water. Why hasn't it been doing the world's work? Simply because it was not harnessed. There is plenty of steam generated every day and hot air, too, that does no good whatever. Must Be Organized

"Unharnessed forces! Society is full of them, as is the church. There is a vast amount of good wholesome sentiment lying around loose in every community, but it does no good unless gathered up and organized. Things that are here, as a considerable anti-slavery sentiment in this country, enough in fact to wipe out that curse, but what would it ever have accomplished, if allowed to remain in that form? 'It was only when it was gathered up into organized sentiment and effort, when it was molded into mighty armies and navies, when it was crowded down cannon mounds in the shape of powder and ball, that it began to do any good. 'When you harness sentiment it becomes a mighty power in society; it turns things upside down. 'There is, I believe, enough anti-liquor sentiment in America to crush out this demon man-killer and home-destroyer if we could only harness it to the chariot of reform. 'If we could only harness it, we would run a race that would amount to something. Temperance Sentiment

"But in this loose, scattered condition it will effect nothing. There is in this magnificent state of California enough temperance sentiment to accomplish the abolition of the saloon from the state. 'A little social power, if properly organized, can do a great deal of good. There is here a considerable sentiment in this country—the refuse that has come to us from across the seas. 'Anarchism, for instance, which appears to all so large a space, simply because well organized, is stalking up and down our fair land in bold and aggressive defiance; but a pony harnessed will do more good than a wild ox not harnessed. 'It seems to realize the value of organization more than good; in fact the children of darkness are wiser in their generation than the children of light. 'A man is on a bad side he will identify himself with others on the same side. Treacherous men band together. 'There are doubtless more Christian people outside the membership of the 17 churches of Los Angeles than inside. 'Some of them have been leaders and workers in eastern churches. They claim to be the friends of morality and religion, but they stand aloof from the denominations; they sit on the fence of neutrality with their letters nicely folded away in the bottom of their trunks, and see us fighting in the thick of the conflict, but they never don the uniform of the Captain of our salvation and join our forces against the powers of hell and the minions of Satan. They are not in line of battle; they are not harnessed for service! 'Oh, how the church of Christ suffers today because her forces are not harnessed! Three-fourths of the membership are lying on their arms while the remainder do the fighting. There is therefore a frightful amount of waste energy in our churches. Sometimes when I think of it it is enough to make my hair stand on end or turn white in a night. The church should be alive, alert, aggressive, and every member doing something to be a drawing power and not leave the preacher to do it all. 'The financial, the social, the pulpit power of the modern church must be organized, utilized and centralized if she becomes fair as the moon, clear like the sun and terrible as an army with banners.' 'What does that mean—a six-horse power motor car? 'Why, one that requires six horses to drag it home when something goes wrong with the works.'—Stray Stories.

METHODIST PASTORS RECEIVE APPOINTMENTS

SAN JOSE, Oct. 21.—The Pacific conference Methodist Episcopal church south adjourned this evening after the announcement of the following appointments for the ensuing year. E. Colusa, district—Presiding elder, M. Hodgson; Colusa, J. R. Ward; Sacramento, C. T. Clark; Isleton and Walnut Grove, L. C. Smith; Galt and New Hope, A. L. Lindsay; El Dorado circuit, J. M. Brown; Elmira, T. Thomas; Winters, James Healey; Rockville circuit, to be supplied; Woodland, H. V. Moore; Arbuckle circuit, W. A. Wimmer; Knights Landing and Cranmore, to be supplied; Sulphur Creek, to be supplied; Maxwell circuit, G. H. Fraser; Willows and Orland, W. A. Whitmer (supply); Princeton circuit, C. C. Black; Honeyville circuit, H. W. Currier; Sutter City and Grace, J. D. Coffin; Yuba City, J. B. Neesham; Gildley and Pennington, C. C. Allen; Chico, M. L. Darby; Red Bluff and Kirkwood, S. W. Harrison; Anderson, P. P. Noble; Millville and Ono, C. W. Huff. Fresno district—J. N. Kenney, presiding elder; Fresno, J. E. Moore; Fresno circuit, to be supplied; Clovis, A. O. Dorris; Big Dry Creek, A. W. Walters; Selma, A. L. Paul; Sanger, J. Hedspeith; Kingsburg, to be supplied; Hanford and Lemoore, D. C. Williams; Bakersfield, T. G. Patterson; Visalia, W. A. Cook; Visalia circuit, to be supplied; Exeter, W. M. Armstrong; Woodville and Poplar, A. Adkinson; Dinuba, W. J. Fenton; Oroni, J. C. Cook (supply); Madera, P. F. Page; Merced, A. S. Lutz; Le Grand, W. P. Andrews; W. C. Cathy and Mt. Bullion, H. F. Beaver; Mariposa circuit, C. W. Lonn; Modesto, William Acton; Selling and Waterford, J. E. Bailey (supply); Carter circuit, G. W. Reubens; Los Banos, A. S. Cecil; Dos Palos, J. M. Parker (supply). San Francisco district—J. A. Batchelor, presiding elder; San Francisco, J. E. Squires; Oakland, J. W. Horn; Alameda, J. W. Taylor; Berkeley, to be supplied; Petaluma, Z. J. Neesham; Santa Rosa, Francis A. Downs; Healdsburg, L. P. Shearer; Boonville and Yorkville, S. T. Powell (supply); Potter Valley and Redwood, H. Nease; Rev. J. C. Thompson; Upper Lake, D. Harrison; Lakeport, R. L. Webb; Mountain View, W. A. Orr; San Jose, S. Jones; Gilroy, R. B. Davidson; Hollister, R. E. Nunn; San Benito circuit, to be supplied; Salinas, O. L. Russell; San Lucas and Bradley, S. C. Basham (supply); Stockton, J. A. Wallis; Linden, S. P. Pope; Milton, F. St. Clair (supply).

DISCOURSES ON HIS YOGI TEACHER

Baba Bharati Tells of the Teachings That Influence Him—A Personality That Staggered Him

Baba Bharati discoursed last night in the Krishna temple, talking for his pupils the "Yogi Teacher, 160 Years Old," illustrating the discourse by a picture of his Grand-Gooroo. He said in part: "It is to talk to you about my Grand-Gooroo, that is to say, the spiritual development of my spiritual teacher, that I have invited you all to talk mostly of my grand-teacher and, incidentally, of my immediate teacher. My own spiritual teacher's life and spiritual development would be very interesting, in some respects much more interesting than those of his teacher, especially because my gooroo is still in the flesh. But people in the west want so much to hear of a Yogi with perfect powers and extraordinary longevity, so I have selected on this occasion to tell you of my grand-gooroo, of his life and powers, and some day I may talk of my gooroo."

"The Theosophical society speaks of mahatmas, which means great souls. All spiritual souls, especially ascetics, are called great souls in India, and these great souls can be met by hundreds of thousands in that land where renunciation and asceticism are still in full force. To the skipping globe-trotter these saints seem to be lazy idiots. But if they knew what these seemingly lazy idiots think of them, these trotters and trash-scribblers would stop before writing their incompetent opinions about them. If they knew that these Hindu saints, from the standpoint of their own poisoned mind, dwelling incessantly in the inmost essence of life within them, regarded their western visitors of restless body and restless mind, as no better than human monkeys, it might stop many of the airy opinions about Hindu men and manners and induce a spirit of introspective reflection within them."

"My grand-gooroo was a saint and a Yogi of the highest type. It was the proudest privilege of my life that I saw him before he gave up his body at his own will, a wonderful scene of which I was a privileged witness. He was 160 years old when he gave up his body and this people found out by inquiry from his descendants, whom he never invited after he had renounced the world at the age of 11, when he accompanied his gooroo to the jungle. This picture, though it reveals very remarkable traits and expressions of his individuality, is nothing compared to the picture which his personality presented to one who cast his eyes upon him when in the flesh. That personality staggered me when I first saw him. A pair of eyes—large, lustrous, wide-open, winkless. The light which shone from those eyes expressed an absolute poise of the mind's forces, which seemed to be the forces of nothing else but love and kindness which gleamed through every pore of his body. With the wonderfully handsome and radiant features of his face crowned by the dark brown matted locks, coiled upon his head and with the bright, molten gold color of his complexion, he looked a veritable god on earth. Though he had human-looking limbs and features, he did not seem to me to be human; there was nothing about him that was human, nothing that denoted flesh, nothing that expressed dirt. 'That was the Yogi of Baradi, my grand-gooroo. I first saw him in Baradi, a village about thirty miles from Dacca, the capital of East Bengal—Baradi, one of the fortunate places on earth where he fixed his seat for thirty years and which he sanctified by his presence. He was every day very remarkable traits and expressions of his individuality, is nothing compared to the picture which his personality presented to one who cast his eyes upon him when in the flesh. That personality staggered me when I first saw him. A pair of eyes—large, lustrous, wide-open, winkless. 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