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EASTERNERS DISCOVERED THE REV. FRANK HIGGINS

Norman Duncan Writes Wonderful Character Sketch of the "Sky Pilot" of the Minnesota Lumber Camps.— Higgins Well Known Here.

The following article, taken from the Duluth News-Tribune, will be of interest to the many local friends of Rev. Frank Higgins, the "Lumberjack Sky Pilot," who began his missionary work among the lumberjacks in Bemidji:

Duluth does not need to be introduced to the Rev. Frank Higgins, "the Sky Pilot of the Lumberjacks," though it may be surprised to learn that he has been discovered by the effete east and placed beside Dr. Wilfred Grenfell "in the gallery of master Christians of this epoch."

For years Mr. Higgins has been a member of the Duluth Presbytery and worked under the Presbyterian

"The Pioneer Press is doubtless right, but the point in question is that Higgins is discovered, for Norman Duncan knows how to write a character sketch. He gives a wonderfully vivid picture of the big-hearted, self-sacrificing man who straps a pack on his back in the winter and tramps the logging roads from camp to camp, preaching in bunk houses the simple gospel of Christ and in the spring living that same gospel when he becomes the brother of the drunken lumberjacks that he may save them from the horror and misery of the annual spring debauch. The thing about Higgins which seemed to have impressed Norman



REV. FRANK HIGGINS,
The "Lumberjack Sky Pilot."

board of missions, coming frequently to Duluth and telling the few people who gathered to hear him of his work in the lumber camps in this part of the state.

"Higgins is a good man and doing a splendid work," was a phrase frequently heard from his brothers in the faith but his name and fame ended with the commendation of the denomination he represented and the gratitude and devotion of the few hundred ignorant, unknown men to whom he ministered.

But all this is changed and though "Sky Pilot Higgins" worked in a most obscure corner, "the world has blazed a pathway to his door," and his good work is known to thousands of people. Norman Duncan, the man who discovered Dr. Wilfred Grenfell, the Labrador missionary, left New York last winter and journeyed to the Minnesota lumber camps to make a first hand study of Higgins and his methods.

The result is that the leading article of the July Harper's is entitled "Higgins—A man's Christian," and the modest missionary is being claimed in some way by the whole state, such is the people's desire to claim a man after the east has discovered him. The Minneapolis and St. Paul papers are delighted to remember that the Rev. Frank Higgins is known there and has received aid in carrying on his work from the churches in those cities.

The Pioneer Press says that "Minnesota discovered Higgins some years ago but repressive editors and most churchmen gave only scant space to printing his deeds or recounting his exploits. But the east has the courage of its convictions and never hesitates to proclaim its discoveries."

Duncan most is the fact that he is a man as well as a parson. "In the Minnesota woods," he tells us, "fighting is just as necessary as praying—just as tender a profession of Christ." The following extract shows his style in sketching Higgins:

"A big, clean, rosy-cheeked man in a Mackinaw coat and rubber boots—hardly distinguishable from the lumberjack crew except for his quick step and high glance and fine, resolute way—went swiftly through a Deer river saloon toward the snake-room in search of a lad from Toronto who had in the camps besought to be preserved from the vicissitudes of the town.

"There goes the Pilot," said a lumberjack at the bar. "Hello, Pilot."

"Lo, Tom!"

"Ain't you going to preach no more at Camp Six?"

"Sure, Tom!"

"Well, when the h—!"

"Week from Thursday, Tom," the vanishing man called back, "tell the boys I'm coming."

"Know the Pilot?" the lumberjack asked.

I nodded.

"Higgins' job," said he, earnestly, "is keeping us boys out o' hell; and he's the only man on the job."

Of this I had been informed.

"I want to tell ye, friend," the lumberjack added, with honest reverence, "that he's a d—d good Christian, if ever there was one. Ain't that right, Billy?"

"Higgins is a square man," the bartender rejoined,

"Hey, Bill! the lumberjack cried, severely, reverting to the previous interest, "where'd y' put the bottle?"

Higgins was then in the snake-room of the place—a foul compart-

ment into which the stupefied and delirious are thrown when they are penniless—searching the pockets of the drunken boy from Toronto for some leavings of his wages. "Not a cent," said he bitterly. "They haven't left him a cent! They've got every penny of three months' wages."

"Don't blame the boy," he pursued, in pain and infinite sympathy, easing the lad's head on the floor; "it isn't all his fault. He came out of the camps without telling me—and some cursed tin-horn gambler met him, I suppose—and he's only a boy—and they didn't give him a show—and oh, the pity of it, he's been here only two days!"

The boy was in a stupor of intoxication, but presently revived a little, and turned very sick.

"That you, pilot," he said.

"Yes, Jimmie."

"Feel a bit better now?"

"Uh-huh."

The boy sighed and collapsed, unconscious; Higgins remained in the weltering filth of the room to ease and care for him. "Don't wait for me, old man," said he, looking up from the task. "I'll be busy for a while."

He who seeks shall find, and this is the man whom Minnesota permitted New York to have the glory of discovering. At the coming Christian Endeavor convention Higgins will take a prominent part in the evangelistic work, and it is quite probable that St. Paul will be ready then to acclaim him as its own and give to him the credit another state had to lead the way in bestowing.

Mr. Duncan devotes much space to Higgins' methods of handling men and also to an analysis of the characteristics which have crowned his work with success. But he tells practically nothing of the man or how he came to minister to the lumberjacks. One might easily infer from the article that Mr. Higgins was a graduate of a college and a theological seminary and in every way the conventionally prepared minister.

Even at that time he was determined to enter the ministry and his

"BIG 'GENE' GRADY WAS HAPPILY WED YESTERDAY

The Popular Cass Lake Pitcher Sprung a Surprise on His Many Friends.

Cass Lake, Aug. 20.—(Special to Pioneer.)—Big 'Gene Grady, the pitcher of the local baseball team, "went and done it" yesterday; and the surprising part of it was, nobody knew it until it was almost all over.

When the local ball team went to Walker yesterday to play the team at that place no one thought anything when 'Gene hopped on the train after assisting his lady friend. But when the big fellow made his way to the court house, the ball tossers thought they would follow and investigate.

'Gene made straight for the office of the Clerk of Court and soon had passed out to him a nice sheet of paper.

A little later the supporters of Grady on the diamond peeked through the key-hole of Judge Jamieson's office and saw the whole thing.

The lucky girl was Miss Maud Shoares, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. M. Shoares of this place.

'Gene pitched the game scheduled like a real man, winning by the score of 14 to 4.

Mr. and Mrs. Grady will make their home in Cass Lake.

But Mr. Higgins' many friends in Duluth know that he is wholly a self-made man and that he found it difficult to get his license to preach because he was not a graduate of a theological seminary. Over twenty years ago he came to Duluth as a friendless, penniless boy, got a room at the Bethel and did any honest odd jobs he could find to do until he had worked his way through high school.

Even at that time he was determined to enter the ministry and his

missionary zeal carried him to the lumber and mining camps around Duluth where he preached to his fellow men without money and without price. His earnestness and force aroused the interest of a few Duluthians among them Mr. Luke Marvin and Mr. Ropie, who was then superintendent of the Bethel and an effort was made to secure supply pulpits for the zealous young preacher. However, it was some years before he was regularly ordained.

His first charge was the Presbyterian church at Bemidji where he built up a thriving church and was in every way the successful pastor.

But the lumberjacks came to Bemidji to squander their winter's savings in the spring and an over-mastering desire to help them led Mr. Higgins to change his pulpit in a comfortable church edifice for a pine table in a bunkhouse and his title of Reverend for the less dignified but more meaningful sobriquet of "Sky Pilot."

During the recent Gypsy Smith revivals in St. Paul Higgins never missed a session and was often seen taking notes during the talks of the evangelist.

"Its too bad the boys in the woods cannot hear this man," he said one night after a particularly stirring appeal. "I only hope I am able to remember just a few of the mighty things this mighty man who has traveled every road from the Salvation Army street struggle up to the greatest auditoriums in the world has said during these days. It's just what my boys want. And I am going back right away to give it to them before it gets away from me."

Trap Shoot Sunday, 2 P. M.

The Bemidji Rod and Gun Club will hold their shoot at 2:00 o'clock Sunday afternoon instead of at 9 o'clock in the forenoon as formerly held. All members and friends of the Club are requested to be present.

—V. L. Ellis, Secretary.

AN AUTOMOBILE GARAGE WILL BE INSTALLED HERE

John Moberg Purchases Centrally-Located Site and Will Erect Suitable Block for Housing Autos.— Bemidji Becoming Automobile Center.

With nine automobiles now owned in Bemidji and five others being brought to the city overland, it is pleasing news to autoists here to know that a first-class garage is assured for Bemidji, and that the "auto stable" will be installed just as soon as contractors can erect the building.

John Moberg of this city, who was the first autoist to bring a high-grade "machine" to Bemidji, has purchased lots 21 and 22, block 12, in the block north of the Pioneer office, where he will have built a thoroughly up-to-date garage for automobiles.

The contract for the building has been let to G. E. Kretz, the local contractor, who will at once begin

the work of laying the foundation and rushing the building to completion, so that owners of autos may have a proper "house" for their machines.

The building will be one story high, and will have a frontage of fifty feet; will be constructed entirely of solid brick, with a concrete floor. The front will be of pressed brick, with stone trimmings, the whole to be finished in a modern and up-to-date manner. The front entrance will be large, and of glass, and an office will also be in front, the interior being so arranged as to make a fine, large commodious garage room.

It is estimated that the new building will cost about \$4,000.

Pleasant Party.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Parker of this city was the scene last evening of a happy party in honor of Miss Lucy Gilder of St. Paul, who is visiting in Bemidji as a guest of Mr. and Mrs. Parker's daughter, Ella.

The large lawn of the Parker home on Mississippi avenue was decorated with fancy Japanese lanterns and a large platform provided a convenient place for dancing, the music being furnished by a fine Edison phonograph. "J. C." himself, was a good crier for an old-fashioned Virginia reel, doing himself "proud" in the "yelling."

Miss McGarry of Chicago cleverly recited and Mrs. James Guthrie of this city added pleasure to the evening by rendering a beautiful song. Lunch was served and the guests departed after midnight; each well pleased with the hospitality of Mr. and Mrs. Parker and their daughter.

Wednesday evening a large number of married people congregated at the Parker residence in honor of Mesdames Bowser, Mayo and Ryan, who are expecting to leave the city in the near future. The guests had an excellent time and the honored guests were the recipients of many regrets at their departure.

Old Comrades Meet Again.

G. P. Irish, one of the veteran members of R. H. Carr Post, G. A. R., was a participant in a very pleasant event last night, when he had the opportunity to entertain William Wallace of Dayton, O., who is here on a visit.

The acquaintance between Messrs. Irish and Wallace began during the civil war, when both gentlemen were serving Uncle Sam in the Union army. Mr. Irish was a member of Co. T, Ninth Minnesota, and Mr. Wallace belonged to Battery M, Second Artillery.

Last night they celebrated their birthday anniversary, both being 61 years of age yesterday, and in honor of the event a supper was served at the home of Comrade Irish and the evening was spent delightfully in reminiscing.

Mr. Wallace will remain in Bemidji for a month, during which time he will be a guest at the home of Mr. Irish.

Band Concert Friday Night.

The following is the program of the concert which will be given by the Bemidji band, at the city band stand, on the dock Friday evening:

March—"Fillmore's Triumphal".....S. B. Stambaugh
Selection—"From 'The Honey-moon Trail'".....Joe E. Howard
Intermezzo—"Flashing Eyes".....L. W. Swanson
Overture—"Post and Pasant".....Suppe
Intermezzo—"Dublin Daisies".....Percy Wenrich
Selection—"Broken Idol".....Egbert VanAlstine
Medley March—"Down in Jungle Town".....L. W. Swanson
Fantasia on "My Old Kentucky Home".....Dalby
March—"Peacemakers" (Introducing Russia, Japan and America).....H. L. Allford
Good Night.

BIRD SEASON IS LATER MUCH COMPLAINT MADE

Date of Season Changed from September 1 to September 7.— Undesirable Change.

Many "kicks" have been made on the change which the last legislature made in the date of the beginning of the open season for killing ducks and chickens. The season formerly opened on September 1, but for several reasons known only to the supporters of the State Game & Fish commission, the date was changed to September 7th.

The St. Paul Pioneer Press contained the following concerning the change of date:

"The poor man is the chief sufferer from the legislative enactment changing the opening of the hunting season from Sept. 1 to 7," said James Drummond, chief deputy auditor, yesterday afternoon.

"Mr. Drummond, who greatly enjoys a hunt, and who says he believes in giving every man, rich or poor, a chance for at least a few days every season, is convinced that the change in the law was made through influence of well-to-do persons.

"Formerly, when the season opened on the first of the month, this office issued hundreds of hunter's licenses on the Saturday before Labor day. Working men availed themselves of the opportunity to hunt during Sunday and Monday. But now they have been robbed of this chance by legislative enactment."

"The scale of hunters' licenses was announced by hugs red-lettered posters on the county auditor's door yesterday."

Another reason given by some parties who pretend to know the reasons for some fool legislation is that the Game and Fish commission desired the date changed so as to please the twin city sportmen who did not care to hunt until after the close of the state fair, which is held this year from August 30-Sept. 4. At any rate, we fail to see wherein the change is at all beneficial to the birds in question.

Card of Thanks.

We wish to return our heartfelt thanks to the many generous friends who stood by us, with such unwearied kindness during the time our darling child was called upon to suffer before entering upon "the rest prepared for the children of God," and crossed to "the beautiful home over there." Seldom have any in need of sympathy and the most devoted friendship received so full a measure of the best fruits of the human heart.

Mr. and Mrs. Julius Dahl and Family.

SATURDAY BARGAINS AT THE BAZAAR STORE

Muslin Underwear

Handsome Muslin Gowns, 39c Skirts, well made and trimmed 89c only

Muslin Drawers 39c only

Gauze Underwear

Fancy Gauze Vests, regular 25c Gauze Pants, extra good grade 39c 30c and 35c grades

Fine Lisle Union Suits 89c only

Percalé

One lot 36 inch Percalé, special 8c only

Silk Waistings

The new Crystal Cords and Bengaline, in all the new shades, 50c Saturday only

Messalines, Saturday 89c only

SATURDAY, THE 21ST AT THE BAZAAR STORE