

Sermon to the People

BY THE REV. G. G. BRUCE

PRESBYTERIAN BILLBOARD.

It is better to do good than to live and die useless.
"What is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?" Matt 16:26.

ALL OF GRACE: SAVED BY GRACE THROUGH FAITH.

"By grace are ye saved through faith." Eph. 2:8.

Grace is the foundation head of our salvation. It is not for anything that is in us, or ever can be in us, that we are saved, but because of the boundless love, goodness, pity, compassion, mercy and grace of God. God is gracious, therefore, sinners are pardoned, purified, and saved.

Oh, the vastness of the grace of God! Who can measure its breadth? Who can fathom its depth? Who can scale its height? Like all the rest of the divine attributes it is infinite. We find God full of love, for "God is love." God is full of goodness for the very name God is short for good. It is because "His mercy endureth forever" that men are not destroyed; because "His compassion faileth not" that sinners are brought to Himself and forgiven.

It is well to ever keep in mind the distinguishing features between grace and faith. Grace is the fountain head; faith the channel of salvation. Yes, and grace even the source of faith itself. Faith is the work of God's grace in us. On man can say that Jesus is the Christ except by the Holy Spirit. "No man cometh unto me except the Father which sent me draw him," said Jesus. So that even the faith that brings the soul to Christ is the result of divine drawing. Grace is the first and last moving cause of salvation; and faith, essential as it is, is only an important part of the machinery that grace employs. We are saved "through faith," but salvation is "by grace."

Above one of the towns in eastern Washington is a large spring whose sparkling waters are conveyed to the residents below by a conduit. The spring is never failing, but sometimes the conduit needs repairing. As long as the conduit is whole the residents are happy; let it get out of repair and serious trouble threatens those who drink of the clear waters. The spring represents God's grace, and the conduit represents man's faith. Grace is the fountain and the stream; faith is the conduit down through which the waters are conveyed to the thirsty souls of men. It is a great pity when the aqueduct is broken; grace continues as before, but not to those who had depended on the conduit to bring grace to them. One of the sad sights in life is a man with his faith broken.

Faith then being not the fountain head but the channel of blessing the soul must not exalt his faith above the divine source of the grace of God. It is a sad mistake to make a Christ out of your faith. The life is found in "looking unto Jesus," not in looking to our own faith. All things are possible "to him that believeth," but the power is not in the faith but in God from whom faith comes by grace. Grace is the locomotive engine, and faith is the chain that connects the cars to the locomotive wherein is found the power. The moral excellence of faith does not rest in its righteousness, but in the righteousness of Christ which faith grasps and appropriates. The peace that resides in the soul does not come from the contemplation of our own faith; but it comes to us from Him who is our peace. We touch the hem of His garment and virtue comes out of Him to our souls.

It would be impossible for the weakness of a soul's faith to destroy that soul. For a trembling hand can receive a golden gift, if the conduit is small it will carry water, and all that it can, but it will carry some water. If your faith is small it will bring you some blessings, but no faith will bring you no blessings, not because there are no blessings of grace, but because there is no conduit of faith. Great messages can be sent along slender wires, or with no wires at all, but there must always be a receiving station or the message will not reach you. It may be that thousands of others are getting that same message, and yet God is not impoverished if you also receive the same message. Look well to your receiving station. If you stop to think you will realize that your wires are down and have been down for years. Repair the wires and do it quickly. Stop to think how many messages that you might have received all these years, and remember that grace is waiting to use your faith.

But just what is faith? Many answers have been given and many are the more confounded by the

I will give him shall be a river of water, springing up into everlasting life." Whatsoever Christ has promised He will do, and we can look for pardon and peace and power by grace through faith.

My fear is only that you who read these lines will say, "Yes, that is true, but I will wait some future day." Better the poorest real faith at work than the greatest speculation in faith in lifeless. A hungry man eats though he does not understand how the food makes him strong. A scientific mind may understand more such a man must also eat to live; and if he does not eat he will die with all his knowledge. The last day will find many turned away not because they did not have intellectual faith, but because they did not have saving faith. Are you to be of that number? It is yours to choose.

DOINGS AT WASHINGTON

DYESTUFF WANTED.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 11.—Declaring that the dyestuff problem is rapidly approaching a critical stage, Congressman Hill of Illinois, appealed to his colleagues today to disregard party affiliations and cooperate in an effort to obtain the desired material from Germany.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 15.—The members of the lower house of congress have reached an agreement postponing action on the woman's suffrage amendments until December.

CONDEMNNS BRANDEIS.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 16.—A former associate of Louis D. Brandeis, who appeared before the senate investigating committee today in response to an invitation to give his views regarding the appointment of the Boston attorney to a place on the supreme bench, admitted that Brandeis possessed more than ordinary ability, but lacked honesty. His reputation as such, he said, was the only thing that few people would have confidence in him as a justice of the supreme court.

SHORTAGE OF SHIPS.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 16.—The merchant marine committee of the lower house of congress is in receipt of a letter from Daniel Kibben, of Seattle, in which it is claimed that the shortage of ships on the Pacific coast prevented the movement of five hundred million feet of lumber from the Northwest to European ports during the past year.

COMPROMISE SUGGESTED.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 16.—As a compromise between several recent proposals of munition plants and the present system of operating such plants by individuals, Senator Ben Tillman, of South Carolina, has introduced a bill the purpose of which is to give the government protection in time of war without interfering with the business of private firms in time of peace in the United States. The measure authorizes the federal government to seize munition plants and those engaged in the manufacture of arms, while in case of national emergency by war, and it is provided that the owners of the seized plants shall have the right to appeal to the courts for adjustment of losses incurred through seizure.

PENSION BILL PASS.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 17.—Pension bills were passed by the lower house of congress today which provide for the additional expenditure of two and one-half million dollars annually among Washington Indian Indians.

HAS AN ATTORNEY.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 17.—Attorney Anderson, of Boston, is representing Louis D. Brandeis at the senate hearing which is being held to determine the advisability of confirming the nomination recently made by President Wilson.

Mrs. Charles Beam Sues George Wilson

In district court last Monday Mrs. Charles Beam, of the hotel at the Big Chena Hot Springs, filed a complaint in a suit instituted against George Wilson for the sum of \$10,000. The \$50 is asked for property alleged to be owned by Mr. and Mrs. Beam, which, the complaint says, Wilson converted to his own use. The \$10,000 is the amount sought to be recovered as damages.

The complaint recites that Mr. and Mrs. Charles Beam leased the Big Chena Hot Springs from George Wilson in May, 1913, for a period of eight years, together with a certain portion of land and the buildings thereon. It further states that the defendant has wrongfully entered upon a portion of the premises and that he has ruined the business the plaintiff has built up.

A temporary restraining order has been issued by the court. The matter will come up for a hearing as to why a permanent order should not be issued on March 21.

Miller Guilty of Assault on Lamb

Having been indicted by the grand jury on the charge of assault with a dangerous weapon on the person of John (Scotty) Lamb, Julius Miller pleaded guilty to the charge in court last Wednesday morning. The day of sentence set by the court is Saturday, February 25. Miller is one of the men freed by the grand jury of the charge of the murder of Mrs. W. E. Rowe.

Mrs. Sharp-Watkins, who left for the Outside last summer, is reported to be bringing her daughter to Fairbanks with her. They are now enroute from Chitina.

O'CONNOR AND MILLER FREED BY GRAND JURY

"NOT A TRUE BILL" RETURNED AGAINST MEN HELD FOR MRS. ROWE'S MURDER.

"Not a true bill." These were the words marked on the indictment handed into court Wednesday afternoon by the grand jury in relation to the charge of murder upon which William O'Connor and Julius Miller have been held in the federal jail here since last August. O'Connor is now a free man, while Miller is being held on two other charges.

The action of the grand jury was a great surprise to the federal officials. The principal evidence of guilt against the defendants was that of Ed (Baby) Cairns and, although the testimony offered before the grand jury is not known, it is stated upon good authority that it could not be substantiated.

The indictment against O'Connor and Miller was one of what is known as an Alaska criminal history. It was committed according to official records on the records of July 19, 1915, when Mrs. W. E. Rowe, with the face and head beaten to a pulp, lay on the ground between the tracks of the railroad track between Chitina and Little Eldorado.

The arrest of Miller and O'Connor, the effecting of a recovery of the sum of \$20,000 from the estate of Ed Cairns, having ascertained that Miller told him that they committed the deed. They were immediately taken into custody by federal officials and held in the federal jail.

Miller was held over to the grand jury by Commissioner John A. Hearn without bail, having been held in the federal jail.

Sullivan Creek To Have Hospital

Owing to the fact that several hundred men are employed in that section of country every summer and for the reason that, when any of them sustain an injury it is necessary to send them to the military hospital at Fort Gibbon for treatment, the residents of Sullivan creek and the Forty lodge of Moose have decided that a hospital is necessary. Accordingly, preparations for the hospital are now being made. Dr. L. C. Smith has been employed to take charge and will leave for the river camp within the next few days. He is to receive a stipulated annual sum in payment for his services. Sylvester Howell, the well known mining man, has been a prime mover in the establishment of the hospital.

Marshal Erwin Returns Home

Faithful States Marshal L. T. Erwin is home again after an extended trip on the Outside. He arrived in Fairbanks on the stage last Thursday evening, after having spent more than a month on the trail. For two weeks of the time, however, he was ill in a hotel at Chitina as the result of freezing his lungs when he started out from the Copper River railroad terminal town the first time.

The marshal is bringing in a number of mules for use here. He is also bringing in a quantity of perishables for disposal on the local market. The outfit will arrive here tomorrow or next day in charge of Fred Douze. Marshal Erwin says that the trail is worse at the present time than he has ever seen it.

The marshal says that Alaska is at the present very much in the limelight on account of the railroad. While at Washington, D. C., he had a talk with Secretary of the Interior Lane regarding the starting of construction work on both ends of the line this summer, but is unable to state just what the result will be. Commissioner Kluge, he says, is fighting hard to have work started on this end of the route, while Commissioner Ebes favors the Seard end alone. The marshal was encouraged in the belief, however, that work will start on both ends.

About 90 couples were in attendance at the Eagle barn dance last Wednesday night. The hall was decorated in a novel manner for the occasion, bales and stacks of hay being in evidence everywhere. For the most part the women who attended the dance were attired in kingly aprons, while the men came garbed in the usual farm costume.

Word received in Fairbanks is to the effect that John Long, the well known old timer, is near death's door. He is suffering from paralysis. It is said that he has lost all idea of money, being unable to tell one coin from another.

ENTERTAINMENT OF PIONEERS IS THIS EVENING

THE ANNUAL RECEPTION OF PIONEERS IS TO BE HELD TONIGHT.

If the plans of the entertainment committee of the local league of Pioneers materialize, and it is expected that they will, the reception, which is to be held tonight at Eagle hall for the Native Sons & Daughters of the Golden North and their parents will be one of the most successful of the winter's social events. The reception is also for the families and lady friends of Pioneers and, when all are gathered together, it is expected that the hall will be well crowded. The reception is the annual affair given by the Pioneers.

The entertainment which has been provided for the reception this evening will be of both a musical and literary nature, according to the announcement made by the entertainment committee. Judge Charles E. Harnell has consented to make the opening address. James Moore, the youthful president of the Native Sons & Daughters of the Golden North, will also deliver an address. And in his own inimitable manner George W. Pennington will tell a story. Those three number will form the chief part of the literary program.

Mrs. Frank Scott will open the musical part of the program. A song will also be sung by Miss Margaret Brodhead. The particular features of the musical part of the program, however, will be the songs "The Burial" written by Ed Harnell, the first president of the N. S. & D. of the G. N. It will be sung by Miss Iva Carey, a native daughter of the Golden North. Therefore nearly everything about this evening will be "pioneery" in a spirit.

The program will commence at a o'clock sharp.

ARRANGEMENTS FOR PRIMARIES ARE COMPLETED

INSTRUCTIONS AS TO PRIMARIES SENT TO DEMOCRATS IN VARIOUS PRECINCTS.

Last week the committee of Democrats appointed by Territorial Commissioner A. F. Roth held a meeting and arranged for the sending of instructions regarding the coming Democratic primaries to prominent Democrats in the various voting precincts of the Fourth judicial division. The committee is composed of G. A. Olson, L. F. Protzman and T. H. Paul. The primaries are to be held all over the Fourth division on March 25, at which time the Democrats of the various precincts will vote on delegates to the Democratic territorial convention.

Each precinct is to be allowed one delegate for every ten Democratic votes cast at the last election for delegate from Alaska. Brooks is to be allowed eight delegates, as a careful consideration of the men in the new Tolovana voting precinct shows that it contains in the neighborhood of 80 Democrats.

A perusal of the list of delegates to be chosen shows that they will number 82 in the fourth division. Of this number 23 will be from Fairbanks.

The election officers for Fairbanks as appointed by the committee, will be Ralph T. Kubon, Fred Regan and A. Van Sant. The business of calling the election and seeing that an election board is appointed in voting districts, has been delegated by the committee to those to whom the call for the primary has been sent.

With the exception of Fairbanks, the number of delegates which will be allowed each voting precinct and the Democrats to whom the call was sent in each place are as follows:

Circle, 2, F. C. Spengler; Eagle, 1, J. B. Bowers; Chena, 2, F. C. Spengler, Eber, 2, J. P. Norris; Gravel, 2, J. S. Kennedy; Gilman, 2, James McKillop; Upper Clear, 1, Al Hilley; Lower Clear, 1, Pete McKillop; Upper and Lower Done, 1 each, Pete McKillop; Fox, 2, A. Barlett; Lower Gilman, 1, O. W. Fisher; Little Eldorado, 1, H. Conter; Nenana, 1, W. B. Rarburn; Tanana, 3, Joseph C. Dehn; Chitina, Franklin Jack Wade and Steel creeks, 1 in aggregate, Captain J. J. Donovan; Hot Springs, 1, J. L. Anders; Eureka, 1, Ed Johnston; Woodchopper, 2, Louis Anderson; Wiseman, 3, B. J. McGinnis; Rampart, 1, F. J. Lehman; Ruby, 4, Thos. DeVane; Long, 3, Thos. DeVane; Flat, 4, William Thomas; Iditarod, 1, J. C. Moody; Otter, 1, William Thomas; Richardson, 1, Ed Hearn; Ft. Yukon, 2, T.

R. Winecoff; Brooks, 8, H. J. Atwell.

There are several voting precincts in the Fourth division not named in the above for the reason that they failed to show Democratic strength at the last delegate election. Among them are Ophir, in the Inupiat district and Beres and Goldfort in the Koyukuk district.

OF INTEREST TO ALASKANS

MAIL PLANS ANNOUNCED.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 12.—According to the announcement of Postmaster General Bullman, the bids for the airmail service in Alaska will be opened May 12, and the contracts will be let as soon after that as is practicable. The new mail for the delivery of mail three times a week from Valdez to Fairbanks, all the year around; from Fairbanks to Tanana three times per week, the year around; Tanana to Khatanga twice each week, the year around; Khatanga to Nome twice each week, the year around. From Seward the mail will go to Iditarod twice each week, from Iditarod to Nome twice each week, the year around.

The stipulated time for the runs, according to the bids will be: From Valdez to Fairbanks, not more than two days; Fairbanks to Tanana, 21 hours; Khatanga to Nome, two days; Seward to Iditarod, two days; Iditarod to Nome, 24 hours.

MONEY AVAILABLE.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 15.—The urgent deficiency bill, which includes an item of two million dollars for immediate use by the Alaska Development commission for construction work on the government railway in the northern territory was finally approved by the senate today and the money will become available as soon as the president has attached his signature to the measure.

TO SPEND BIG SUM.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 15.—Forty million dollars will be expended by the government in Washington and Alaska for the improvement of rivers and harbors, if the appropriation contemplated by the committee receives the endorsement of congress. Included in the amount is one item to cover the cost of investigating conditions on the Tolovana river, with a view to improving navigation on that stream.

AFTER THE MONEY.

SEATTLE, Feb. 18.—Alaska is receiving much advertising through the United States this winter, practically all of the railroads operating through trains having featured the Northern territory as a desirable place to spend the summer. A large part of the tourist travel during the coming season, it is believed, will be diverted to Alaska as the result of the widespread campaign which is now being made.

RANCHERS MURDERED.

EL PASO, Tex., Feb. 17.—Advices received in this city today from the state of Durango tell of the murder of a score of Mexican ranchers by bandits. The entire region is said to be at the mercy of the outlaws, looting and murder being included in without fear of punishment.

REPORTS ON MEXICO.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 15.—President Wilson has complied fully with the request of the senate for information regarding the situation in Mexico. In a statement read in the upper house of congress this afternoon, Secretary of State Lansing informed the lawmakers that seventy-six Americans have been killed in the southern republic during the past three years.

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