

THE RURAL CHURCH

THE FARMERS THE CUSTODIANS OF THE NATION'S MORALITY.

Co-operation of Church, School and Press Essential to Community Building.

By Peter Radford.

The church, the press and the school form a triple alliance of progress that guides the destiny of every community, state and nation. Without their civilization would wither and die and through their life may attain its greatest blessing, power and knowledge. The farmers of this nation are greatly indebted to this social triumvirate for their uplifting influence, and on behalf of the American plowman I want to thank those engaged in these high callings for their able and efficient service, and I shall offer to the press a series of articles on co-operation between these important influences and the farmers in the hope of increasing the efficiency of all by mutual understanding and organized effort. We will take up first the rural church.

The Farmers Are Great Church Builders.

The American farmer is the greatest church builder the world has ever known. He is the custodian of the nation's morality; upon his shoulders rests the "ark of the covenant" and he is more responsive to religious influences than any other class of citizenship.

The farmers of this nation have built 120,000 churches at a cost of \$750,000,000, and the annual contribution of the nation toward all church institutions approximates \$200,000,000 per annum. The farmers of the United States build 22 churches per day. There are 20,000,000 rural church communicants on the farm, and 54 per cent of the total membership of all churches reside in the country.

The farm is the power-house of all progress and the birthplace of all that is noble. The Garden of Eden was in the country and the man who would get close to God must first get close to nature.

The Functions of a Rural Church. If the rural churches today are going to render a service which this age demands, there must be co-operation between the religious, social and economic life of the community.

The church to attain its fullest measure of success must enrich the lives of the people in the community it serves; it must build character; develop thought and increase the efficiency of human life. It must serve the social, business and intellectual, as well as the spiritual and moral side of life. If religion does not make a man more capable, more useful and more just, what good is it? We want a practical religion, one we can live by and farm by, as well as die by.

Fewer and Better Churches.

Blessed is that rural community which has but one place of worship. While competition is the life of trade, it is death to the rural church and moral starvation to the community. Petty sectarianism is a scourge that blights the life, and church prejudice seps the vitality of many communities. An over-churching community is a crime against religion, a serious handicap to society and a useless tax upon agriculture.

While denominations are essential and church pride commendable, the high teaching of universal Christianity must prevail if the rural church is to fulfill its mission to agriculture.

We frequently have three or four churches in a community which is not able to adequately support one. Small congregations attend services once a month and all fail to perform the religious functions of the community. The division of religious forces and the breaking into fragments of moral effort is oftentimes little less than a calamity and defeats the very purpose they seek to promote.

The evils of too many churches can be minimized by co-operation. The social and economic life of a rural community are respectively units and cannot be successfully divided by denominational lines, and the churches can only occupy this important field by co-operation and co-ordination.

The efficient country church will definitely serve its community by leading in all worthy efforts at community building. In uniting the people in all co-operative endeavors for the general welfare of the community and in arousing a real love for country life and loyalty to the country home and these results can only be successfully accomplished by the united effort of the press, the school, the church and organized farmers.

Wrong Both Ways.

"You refused the seal, Amalie, dear?" Young Whlow—He's too old for me. "But his title?" "That too new for me!" Life Muskete, Vienna.

The farmers are in need of personal leadership. They have political leaders, but they need local industrial community and educational leaders.

Some of the world's first gentlemen and scholars and patriots were farmers and today some of the world's best thought is given to farming.

THE POLITICAL PREACHER

THE PULPIT WARNED AGAINST THE YELLOW PERIL OF POLITICS.

A Consecrated Ministry Needed for the Rural Churches.

By Peter Radford.

The farmers of this nation have on their payroll 95,000 preachers and this number applying themselves diligently and exclusively to the religious work at hand is sadly inadequate to properly serve their respective communities.

Those who put on ecclesiastical robes are in a measure free to unlock every door to the human heart and enter the secret chambers of reason and every person should submit their conduct to review and seek the counsel of those divinely appointed messengers of life, but the moment the minister closes the Bible and opens the law book, he becomes a menace to society.

The difficulty of keeping the preacher in the pulpit is as old as religion. Christ encountered it in the temple when he drove the priests from the bargain counter back to the pulpit. Our pilgrim fathers met it when, through the influence of the clergy, a witch court was established at Salem, Mass., in 1692, that precipitated a legal holocaust threatening to reduce the population to ashes and which was extinguished by the laymen uniting and forcing the preachers back to the pulpit.

The greatest peril to the church today is politics. The temptation of the Christ and pick up the club of the policeman; to substitute the penalties of the law for the power of the altar and to legislate religion into human hearts, never was greater.

The world never needed a religious ministry more nor political preachers less than it does today. We need ministers to teach us how to live; we know how to vote.

The religious preacher is the most capable servant and the political preacher the sorriest master the world has ever known. Wherever power is placed in the hands of the latter they invariably become intolerant, bigoted and vicious and resort to the whip and the faggot to enforce their opinion.

Civilization has many times been compelled to drive incorrigible preachers back to the pulpit at the point of the bayonet. Many of the pages of history are wet with blood shed at the hands of political preachers who wrote laws on the statute books that committed arson upon mankind, maimed human beings with the hatchet and sent helpless women to the torture rack, all because they disagreed with their views. When in control of government, the pulpit politicians invariably undertake to perform legislative miracles such as casting out witches with the flame of a torch, suborning conscience with shackles and enforcing opinions with the guillotine.

Mixing Politics and Religion. Politics and religion will not blend. No free government can long exist or the church perform its mission to society when preachers and politicians temporarily exchange callings, and a civilization that will countenance such conduct will soon decay. Such a traffic in occupations is as unsound in principle as the white slave trade is immoral in practice.

The hand that passes the sacrament should not collect slush funds for political purposes. The gentle voice that comforts us in sorrow and pronounces the last sad rites upon our departed loved ones should not rave and rant on the hustings. I do not believe a preacher can manipulate political machinery and be righteous any more than he could become a burglar and be honest. I think it is immoral for a preacher to seek to lobby while he prays as it would be for him to gamble while he preaches.

A preacher can no more preach a political sermon without converting his pulpit into a political rostrum than he could sell intoxicating liquor from the altar without converting the church into a bar-room. He can no more purify politics by playing the game than he can sanctify gambling by running a lottery.

I join in the oft-repeated suggestion that a preacher has as much right in political halls as a carbon keeper and we also admit that he has as much right to get drunk as anyone else, but we would rather he would not do so for the "greater the saint the greater the sin." I think a political bishop can turkey trot in the name of Christianity as consistently as he can enter into a mud-slinging political contest to the disgrace of his church.

It is my opinion that when this

Take good roads for your text and go everywhere preaching the gospel of better farm conditions.

Soil is not a dead, inert substance, as many suppose. It is an active, virile force, full of energy and power and the farmer should know his soil if he would maintain its productiveness.

Agriculture is recognized as the greatest of all industries and a prosperous, progressive and enlightened agricultural population is the surest safeguard of civilization.

RAILROADS WILL HELP THE FARMER

Common Carriers Will Co-operate in Marketing Farm Products—Middle Men Charge Higher Rates for Handling Farm Than Factory Products.

By Peter Radford.

The leading railroad systems of the nation will establish market bureaus to assist the farmers along their lines in marketing their products. Many roads have acceded to the request of the Farmers' Union and announced their willingness to enter into active co-operation with the farmers in marketing their products.

The express companies have surveyed the field and the Federal Government, through the parcel post, has demonstrated the possibilities of the common carrier as a useful agency in marketing farm commodities.

I consider the action of these giant business concerns in determining to co-operate with the farmers in marketing their crops, to be the greatest product of human thought on the Western hemisphere during the past year, and it demonstrates that the educational work of the Farmers' Union has brought the nation to a clearer understanding of the real problem of the farmer.

To give information on marketing is far more valuable than to give advice on production. There is a mutual interest between the railroads and the farmer which cannot exist between any other lines of industry. The railroads are the teamsters of agriculture, and they are employed only when there is something to haul. Good prices will do more to increase tonnage than any other factor, and railroads want tonnage.

Agriculture has many inherent disadvantages which require combined effort to overcome in marketing. There are millions of producing units working independently and selling without knowledge of market conditions. The harvest is once a year, while consumption is pretty evenly distributed throughout the entire year, and most of the farmers, through custom and necessity, dump their entire crop on the market as soon as it is gathered. The problem of organizing and systematizing the markets is one in which the farmers invite assistance of all lines of industry friendly to their interests.

Farmers Bear the Burden. The business of the manufacturer lends itself more readily to organization and the facilities for studying the markets are more easily available. The result is that the merchants are compelled to handle most staple manufactured articles at very little profit, and as a consequence the merchant must look to products which he buys direct from the farm for his profits.

The reports of the Federal Department of Agriculture show some very interesting information and enable a comparison between the cost of marketing products of the farm and those of the factory. A few items will serve to illustrate the general run. The cost of getting sugar from the refinery to the consumer is 9 cents on the dollar; the cost of getting tobacco from factory to consumer is 15 cents on the dollar. In selling a dollar's worth of eggs the middleman gets a profit of 50 cents in the dollar; in selling a dollar's worth of potatoes, the middleman gets 70 cents on the dollar; in selling a dollar's worth of fruit, the middleman gets 84 cents on the dollar, and on catanulopes 82 cents.

Farmers' Bulletin No. 570, published by the United States Department of Agriculture, in discussing this subject, said:

"The high price paid by consumers ranging from 5 to 500 per cent, in some cases, more than the farmer receives, indicates that there is plenty of room for lowering the cost of farm products to consumers and at the same time largely increasing the cash income per farm, without increasing farm production. This condition is undoubtedly a marketing problem which will have to be solved by better organization of farmers and improved methods of marketing."

Large Shippers Influence Rates. In railroad rates the inequalities are equally as glaring. Rate making in its primitive stages was largely influenced by demands and arguments of large shippers, but the farmers were unorganized and seldom appeared before rate-making bodies, and the burden of expense in transportation lies largely against the raw products of the farm.

In banking, our securities are discriminated against, as compared with the products of the factories and mines. The farmer is entitled to a square deal. The farmer is more interested in good prices and efficient service than he is in rates.

A Step Higher. The Delegate—I tell you, sir, that the root of trouble of the educational system of this nation is the teacher. The Listener—But, say, ain't you a teacher yourself? The Delegate (indignantly)—A teacher, sir? Certainly not. I am an educator!—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Guarage of Innocence. To dread to see and to suspect no source is the greatest prerogative of innocence or an exemption granted only to inevitable victims. Johnson.

RADFORD REAPPOINTED

Fort Worth, Texas.—President Chas. S. Barrett of the Farmers' Educational and Co-operative Union of America has announced the reappointment of Peter Radford as lecturer of the National Union during the coming year. Extensive plans have been outlined for publicity work throughout the nation to be carried on through Mr. Radford's department. This publicity work will be modeled on the lines of the educational work done in Texas on the subject of farm problems.

Snakes Fear This Bird.

Snakes in South Africa fear the secretary bird and will even crawl away from its shadow. This bird devours snakes and can easily kill a reptile twice its size.

He is unfortunate and on the road to ruin who will not do what he can, but is ambitious to do what he cannot.—Goethe.

Cutting it Short.

"Why are you fooling so long with that clock, Hortense?"

"I'm cleaning its hands, madam."

"Well, just wipe 'em. You needn't manœuvre 'em."—Judge.

Imperfect.

She—You love me like a novice. He—Do I? Then we are both imperfect. I should know more and you shouldn't know so much. Boston Transcript.

Notice of Final Settlement.

IN THE COUNTY COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON, FOR JACKSON COUNTY.

In the Matter of the Administration of the Estate of Frank A. Douglas, a Deceased Person. Notice is hereby given that Walter M. Clark, administrator of the estate of Frank A. Douglas has rendered and filed for settlement in the above entitled Court his final account and report of his administration of said estate; and that Monday, the 16th day of November, 1914, at the hour of 10 o'clock A. M. of said day at the Court room of said Court at the Court House in Jacksonville, Jackson County, State of Oregon, has been duly appointed and fixed by the order of the Judge of the above entitled Court as the time and place for hearing objections to said account and for the settlement thereof and of said estate.

All persons interested in said estate are hereby notified that all objections to said account and report or any item thereof must be filed or made on or before the aforesaid time fixed for the hearing and settlement thereof.

Date of the first publication hereof is October 17, 1914, and date of last publication is November 14, 1914.

WALTER M. CLARK.

Administrator of the Estate of above named Decedent.

H. K. HANNA, Attorney for Administrator.

Notice to Creditors.

IN THE COUNTY COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON, IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF JACKSON.

In the Matter of the Estate of Peter Nicholas Fleck, a Deceased Person.

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned, by an order of the County Court of Jackson County, State of Oregon has been duly appointed and now is the duly qualified and acting administrator of the estate of the above named decedent.

All creditors and persons having claims against said decedent or his estate are hereby notified and required to present the same duly verified with proper vouchers, to the undersigned at his residence in Jacksonville, Jackson County, Oregon, or at his place of business, corner Third and "C" Street in said city, within six months from the date hereof.

Date hereof and of the first publication hereof is October 17th, 1914.

FRIDJ. FLK.

Administrator.

H. K. HANNA, Attorney for Administrator.

Summons.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON, FOR THE COUNTY OF JACKSON.

Charles A. Warren, Plaintiff

vs.

Lottie V. Warren, Defendant. Suit for Divorce.

To Lottie V. Warren: the above named defendant. In the Name of the State of Oregon: You are hereby commanded to appear and answer the plaintiff's amended complaint against you now on file in the above entitled Court and cause on or before the 15th day prescribed in the publication of summons herein, to wit on or before the 28th day of November, 1914, said date being the expiration of six weeks from the date of the first publication of this summons. And you are hereby notified that if you fail to appear and answer for want thereof, plaintiff will apply to the above entitled Court for the relief prayed for in his amended complaint, namely, for a decree forever dissolving the marital vows now existing between the plaintiff and defendant, and for the care and custody of the minor child, the said C. Warren.

This summons is published in the Jacksonville Post, a weekly newspaper of general circulation, published in Jacksonville, Jackson County, Oregon, by order of Honorable F. M. Calkins, Judge of the Circuit Court of Jackson County, Oregon, which said order was made and entered of record on the 15th day of October, 1914, and which said order requires you to appear and answer said amended complaint on or before the last day prescribed in said order for publication of summons. Date of first publication is the 17th day of October, 1914, and date of last publication is the 28th day of November, 1914.

H. L. DEARMOND,

Attorney for Plaintiff.

Notice to Creditors.

IN THE COUNTY COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON, FOR THE COUNTY OF JACKSON.

In the Matter of the Estate of Francis M. Grainger, Deceased.

Notice is hereby given by the undersigned, administrator of the estate of Francis M. Grainger, Decedent, to the creditors of, and all persons having claims against the said decedent, or his estate, to present such claims with the proper vouchers within six months from the date of this notice to the said said administrator, at the law office of W. J. Moore, in the city of Ashland, Oregon.

Dated and first published this 13th day of October, 1914.

MAYNIE GRAINGER,

Administratrix of the Estate of Francis M. Grainger, deceased.

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| | |
|---|-------------------|
| 14 Portland Passenger..... | 5:27 A.M. |
| 24 Grants Pass Motor..... | 10:22 A.M. |
| 32 Grants Pass Motor..... | 4:27 P.M. |
| 16 Oregon Express..... | 5:20 P.M. |
| 12 Shasta Limited (Mail only) 2:44 A.M. | Extra fare train. |

SOUTH BOUND TRAINS.

| | |
|---|-------------------|
| 23 Ashland Motor..... | 5:35 A.M. |
| 13 California Express..... | 10:52 A.M. |
| 31 Ashland Motor..... | 2:24 P.M. |
| 15 San Francisco Express..... | 4:04 P.M. |
| 11 Shasta Limited (Mail only) 5:22 A.M. | Extra fare train. |



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