

AIMS AT THE MAYOR

Rev. Dr. Hill Preaches a Significant Sermon.

HINTS AT REFORM CRUSADE

He Alone of the Clergy Alludes to It in the Pulpit—Comparing the Mayor to Wicked Prophet Who Misled the Young.

Contrary to general expectation, the city pulpits did not thunder yesterday against the policy of the young man, so frankly espoused by Mayor Williams.

"It is not time," said the men who are in charge of the leading churches. "The committee which interviewed the Mayor has not made its report yet, and we have, therefore, no official knowledge of what the Mayor said. If our committee was not preparing a report, we might base some action upon the detailed statement which the Mayor made to the Oregonian regarding the matter, but, under the circumstances, we think any action should be based upon the report which our colleagues were appointed to make."

The committee of the Ministerial Association will meet this afternoon at 2 o'clock and complete its report. It will then present the document to the association, which has been called to meet at 3 P. M.

Regarding some published forecasts of this report, Dr. C. L. House, who is chairman of the committee, said yesterday:

Dr. House Makes Correction. "Fair play to all concerned demands that I correct some of the statements made in the public press as coming from me. I did not say that the Mayor's articles were to be written, but that they might be written in regard to the fact that revenue was being levied from vice, in order to beautify our city and put it in readiness for the coming fair."

"Neither did I say that the coming report would be a most scathing document. I did say that the one that was finally adopted last Monday by the preacher was a most scathing one, before it should be finally adopted by the ministry, the committee should once more see the Mayor of this city." As to the coming report, it will be the many one, such as one as ought to come from such a body of men. Neither did Mayor Williams say that every member of his official family was guilty of accepting money from the gambling interests of the city.

"The ministry, as far as I know anything about it, to a man, believe in the integrity of Mayor Williams, and no one will be in a position to bring aught against the character of the 'young man' of this city. It is his policy that we are now discussing and opposing."

Dr. Hill's Sermon.

The only exception to the rule of silence was made by Dr. E. F. Hill, of the First Presbyterian Church, and who was lauded by reference to the municipal association was indirect. He preached from Kings 1, 13:2-23.

"The sixth Jehovah, for as much as thou hast been disobedient unto the voice of Jehovah, thy body shall not come unto the sepulcher."

After giving the story of the unknown young prophet who rebuked King Jeroboam for his apostasy, and who was lauded to his ruin by the deception of an old man, the speaker said:

"This brave young man, whose name we do not know, who dared rebuke the King to his face, furnished us interesting material for the study of the strength and weakness and bewilderments of conscience. This unknown prophet was well on towards the heights of character, because he had a sensitive conscience. Some philosophers have named as the mark of distinction between man and beast that man walks upright, others that he has a hand, others that he laughs, but while we might question the validity of these distinctions, there is one which no one will question.

"Man has a conscience which gives him the power to discern right and wrong, and the more sensitive a man's conscience the farther removed he is from the brute creation. We never think of calling the act of a dumb beast immoral. We would not say that a hawk does dreadful things as it darts upon a helpless chick and carries it away. We would not attach any moral significance to the tragedy if a cougar were to leap upon a child and destroy its life. The beasts of the field and forest, the fowls of the barnyard and air have no conscience, and that is the reason they are only beasts. But as men ascend towards the summit peaks of character, their consciences are given a larger place in their lives. They draw back from certain paths as if a dragon were there breathing out fire and smoke, although the only reason they thus draw back is that they have heard a whisper. They move on into another way, though a line of bayonets glitters across it. And why? Simply because they have heard a whisper. And little things that would not be given a second thought become matters of supreme importance.

Old Prophet Led Young Astray. "The unknown prophet of Judah was not disturbed by the King's displeasure. That was one evidence of the strength of his character. And he was not willing to eat at the King's table; that was the second proof of his lofty character. How many of us would have even entertained this scruple which led this young man to decline to satisfy his hunger and his thirst in the royal palace?"

"How many of us are quite willing to say, even now, that it would have been a trifling thing, if the man from Judah had eaten bread with King Jeroboam? Yes, we do sometimes find it difficult to take seriously such tests of character as these. It seems almost like condemnation the eating of a piece of fruit by the father of the race. How preposterous! Such things seem silly because we are so far below the mountain top of moral achievement. We fail to see the far-reaching significance of the little act, which, while on the surface seems no more than the eating of an apple instead of a pear, but in reality is treason against God, as the firing of a shot at a flag, although it kills no one, proclaims the beginning of a rebellion.

The old prophet of this incident is in a sense the villain of the story. He is the cause of the tragedy. He, though a real prophet, and though he may have been actuated by good motives, prepared the way into which the youth fell.

"Suppose we assume that the old prophet was prompted by right motives. Then he probably argued like this:

"I must see this young reformer and have an understanding with him concerning this new movement. He has acted rashly. I must caution him and explain to him that he must not give offense to the King and the leading people of the empire. He must conciliate them and win their co-operation."

"With some such thoughts in mind, the aged prophet hastened after the young man. Then when the young man refused to return, explaining his refusal by saying that God had told him not to touch bread until he had recrossed the border into Judah, the white-haired man, disappointed at the prospect of being balked in his plans, feels almost compelled to resort to a measure which his heart condemns. He tells the young man a lie. He says that God has told him to bring the

young man back to sit at meat with him—a man of age and reputation doing that which he knows is wrong, excusing himself for it with the old Jesuitical argument that it is sometimes necessary to do wrong in order that good may follow.

Influence of Honored Old Age.

"There is no man who has it within his power to do such injury to the cause of good morals in a community as the man with a life of honor back of him. Other men may commit the blackest crimes and the result to the community be comparatively harmless. But when a man who has the confidence and admiration of the people deviates from the way of righteousness, ever so little, the effect on the morals of a community is far-reaching and calamitous. Good men become discouraged; wicked men plunge into sin more recklessly than before. The young are led to doubt goodness altogether and to take that demoralizing position that the best of men are hypocrites at heart. This is the reason for peculiar anxiety when a minister of the gospel is accused of misappropriating funds, or any officer of the church is charged with tricky business methods, or a man who has occupied positions of honor and responsibility begins to apologize for corruption in civic affairs. That white-haired prophet standing before the unknown youth from Judah holds in his keeping the young man's future."

GERMANS WILL HEAR HIM SING.



L. CHARLES SPARKS.

VANCOUVER, Wash., Sept. 19.—(Special.)—L. Charles Sparks, of this city, will leave for Germany in a few days, probably about September 21, where he has accepted engagements during the coming season. He completed a five-year course in vocal music last year in Europe, and goes there again at the solicitation of his many friends in Germany, who give him every assurance of a hearty welcome upon his return. Mr. Sparks is a Vancouver son, and his success is admired by every one. Tonight Mr. Sparks gave a farewell recital in the Auditorium in this city.

Each Man's Conscience His Guide.

"Wherein, think you, was the young man to blame? He was deceived by another in whom he had confidence. He thought he was doing God's will, when in reality he was following a misguided man. Was he to blame at all? If a man honestly turns against righteousness and allies himself to the forces of evil, is he exempt from blame because he is sincere in his attitude? For an answer, look at the lifeless body of the victim of his own blunder. Will the fact that a man takes carbolic acid because he thinks it is Pond's Extract save him from the effects of the poison? When a man steps over a cliff at night, thinking he is on a safe road, will his life be spared simply because he is honestly mistaken? These consciences are given us for our guidance, and we always should follow them implicitly, but it is just as important that we make them true as that we should follow them at all. Every engineer on a passenger train finds it necessary to consult his watch in order to regulate the speed of his engine. But if such a man should be neglectful in keeping his watch in order, he would be most awfully at fault if an error in time should cause a fatal accident, and he should prepare to enlist newspaper support and welcome the incoming delegations. Then a strong representation from this state must be had. It will take good, hard work, but we can win out. I think the effort should be made. The meeting is certainly one that the state needs."

Mr. Wilson returned from Ogden last night. He was accompanied by A. M. Drake, of Portland; E. M. Brannick, of this city, had departed from Ogden before Mr. Wilson left, and A. H. Devers, of this city, decided to spend several days in Salt Lake before coming home. Other members of the Oregon delegation who returned yesterday to their homes are: J. M. Johns, Arlington; John T. Whistler, State Engineer; J. M. Church, La Grande; Thomas G. Halley, Fendleton; William Shaw, Freewater; O. P. Thompson, Echo; R. B. Stanfield, Echo.

Oregon's Big Delegation.

"The interest taken by Oregon in the irrigation work is indicated by the fact that, while the delegation of 1902 consisted of but five persons, there were 55 from this state at Ogden last week," said Mr. Wilson, discussing the work of the congress. "The Ogden meeting showed throughout an increase in the interest in irrigation. The town was filled by members of Congress, Governors and leading men from the 36 states represented. The attendance reached 1300, while at the preceding session but 800 were present."

"The debate over the repeal of the timber and stone act, the desert act, and the elimination of the commutation clause in the homestead act was the most interesting held during the sessions. The debate was conducted by the best informed men in the country, and the compromise effected indicates the close division in sentiment which existed. The congress decided to ask that Congress amend the laws so as to benefit the actual settler more."

"Oregon showed that more money was turned into the irrigation fund from this state than was received from any other section. This was a showing that opened the eyes of the people who attended the Ogden meeting, and our interests were in safe hands after that. There was no arid land legislation proposed at Ogden which affects Oregon any more than any other section of the country, but we hope to be able to secure a decision that irrigation work shall be commenced here soon."

Wary of Being Stood Off.

"Personally, I would not have been sorry if the congress had decided in favor of the repeal of the three land laws. We are getting weary here of being told whenever we ask for certain improvements that the officials are hedged in by laws that will not permit the work. If the law will allow nothing to be done, let us have laws that will allow the Federal officials to act, and perhaps then we may discover whether the law or the officials are really at fault."

"The adoption of a resolution indorsing the Lewis and Clark Centennial, which was introduced by Judge W. R. Ellis, is

MUST BEGIN EARLY

Hard Work Needed to Capture Irrigation Congress.

PORTLAND HAS MANY FRIENDS

But Determined Effort is Needed to Win at El Paso—Large Increase in Oregon Delegations Shows Enhanced Interest.

If Portland wants the 1906 convention of the National Irrigation Congress, a determined effort should be made next year to capture it. A systematic fight will

a significant recognition of a Portland enterprise. "One of the most interesting addresses delivered during the congress came from Commander Booth-Tucker, of the Salvation Army, who spoke of the experience of the army upon irrigated lands. The army had been very successful, and Mr. Booth-Tucker enthusiastically urged progress in the work. He was followed with close attention. "A chorus of 300 voices gave a concert during our stay, which filled the largest hall in Ogden. People of Utah remained away from the entertainment, in order that the visitors could enjoy the affair, and this courtesy was appreciated by every one in attendance at the congress."

COURSES IN ENGINEERING

Important Addition to Studies at Columbia University. The introduction of courses in civil engineering, mechanical engineering and electrical engineering accounts considerably for this year's increased attendance at Columbia University. Until these courses were opened at University Park, Portland was without home facilities for these branches of college work. This year only students entitled to freshman standing are admitted to these courses. Those who being this term will be advanced regularly until graduation, four years hence. The young men of Portland who are unable to leave their homes during the school year are welcoming the opportunity to take up these standard courses so convenient to their homes. Freshman work is also introduced in classics, English, general science, history and economics, finance and commerce in addition to the engineering courses above mentioned. These courses are open to high school graduates and all applicants who have attained a corresponding grade in reputable preparatory schools. The academic courses at Columbia University are attended by a large number of students who are doing their preparatory work for these collegiate courses. The expansion of the school in this respect is looked upon as a principal cause for the large increase in attendance this year. The indications are that this increase will reach 60 per cent, as it has now passed the 57 per cent mark.

MEN OF CAMERA TO MEET

Convention of Pacific Northwest Photographers Wednesday.

The annual convention of the Photographers' Association of the Pacific Northwest, comprising the states of Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Montana and the Province of British Columbia will be held at Salem beginning next Wednesday. The meeting will occupy three days, and promises to be one of unusual interest. The association, although young, stands third in importance among similar organizations in the United States.

An especially fine exhibit of art photography is promised from all parts of the country, in competition for the gold and silver medals offered by the association to prize-winning foreign exhibitors. This competition is open to photographers all over the country except in the territory covered by the association.

The convention will elect officers for the ensuing year and transact other business of importance. It will conclude Friday night with an elaborate banquet. Charles Butterworth, of this city, is president, and Milton Loryes, of Seattle, secretary.

All the local studios will be closed Wednesday and Thursday in consequence of the meeting.

Oregon Sugar Company Interested.

OLYMPIA, Wash., Sept. 20.—(Special.)—A case in which was involved the importation of 100 Japanese laborers into Oregon by the Oregon Sugar Company, of La Grande, has just been decided by the Supreme Court, although the sugar company is not a party to the action. The point in controversy was the commission claimed by W. J. Corbin, of Seattle, from the Oriental Trading Company for his services in securing the labor contract from the

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Today's Store News A condensed list of what's going on at Portland's "Big Store." The establishment is filled to overflowing with new desirable merchandise at special low prices. For full details of the special offering for this week, see your yesterday's Oregonian. The Greatest Cloak and Silk Display in the West. Sale Extraordinary of Guaranteed Black Taffeta Silks. Great offering of Venise Applique Laces, 50c value 14c yard. Continuation of the Great School Sale. All lines of Apparel for Boys and Girls at special prices. Also School Supplies. Great September Sale of Blankets and Comforters. Haviland China, Semi-Vitreous and Decorated China Dinner Sets Greatly Reduced. Also Lamps. "Fasso" Corsets, Entire Stock at Half Price. New Popular Priced Millinery. Children's School Hats. Meier & Frank Company Meier & Frank Company Meier & Frank Company

sugar company. By the terms of the agreement, the sugar company was to take any number of laborers up to 200, who were to be paid \$1.25 per day and railroad fare from Seattle, the men to be furnished by the Oriental Trading Company. For his services in bringing about this contract Corbin was to receive from the trading company 10 cents per day for each laborer for each day employed. About 100 laborers were furnished, and Corbin sued the trading company for \$1500 as his commission. The lower court gave him judgment for \$60, which is now affirmed by the Supreme Court. Capitol Commission Rescinded Order. OLYMPIA, Wash., Sept. 20.—(Special.)—The State Capitol Commission, at a meeting held yesterday, rescinded, upon advice of the Attorney-General, the award recently made to the Kilbourne-Clarke Company of the contract for installing the electric light and power plant in the Capitol building. The commission was so advised by the Attorney-General because all bidders were not given an opportunity to bid on the system adopted. The board will open new bids for the work on October 10. The cancelled award named a consideration of \$10,500. HAVE YOUR READ The particulars of the dress goods sale at McAllen & McDonnell's. Back of the solid block of masonry on Morrison street the shelving contains the finest stock of black and colored dress goods in the city. The wall will fall with a crash on Friday at high noon. The entire stock of dress goods will be placed on sale this morning. Thirty-fifth streets, which has been occupied by the Sunnyside Boys' Brigade, now a branch of the Portland Y. M. C. A., will be fitted up with baths, lockers, classrooms and gymnasium for physical training. J. P. Newell, who is chairman of the board which is looking after the Sunnyside branch, said yesterday that these changes will be made within the next six weeks. More extensive improvement will be made next Spring. However, classes will be organized this Fall, which will be under teachers from the new Y. M. C. A. Membership in the Sunnyside branch will carry with it many of the advantages of the main organization. BORQUIST & REFLING Importation of exclusive Winter wools all received, 221 Washington street. Fit Up Branch Y. M. C. A. The building on East Yamhill and East

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