

30 DEDICATE LIVES AT CHURCH'S ALTAR

Young Folk Respond to Plea for Christian Workers.

UNION SERVICE IS HELD

Methodists Celebrate Junction of Centenary and Wilbur Flocks With Special Ceremony.

An important consolidation of two leading Portland churches was formally celebrated yesterday when the congregations of Wilbur Memorial and Centenary Methodist Episcopal churches joined in services at the Centenary-Wilbur church. The new organization was formed last week. Directors of Wilbur church took action on the plan for a union Tuesday evening, and the following night similar steps were taken by the Centenary leaders.

In response to an appeal made at the close of the sermon, 30 young men and women representing the membership of both churches presented themselves at the altar in token of their purpose to prepare themselves for definite Christian work as ministers, missionaries, deaconesses, social workers and in kindred fields.

Wilbur Pastor Speaks. Dr. E. C. Hickman, formerly pastor of Wilbur church, now associate pastor of the new Centenary-Wilbur church, preached yesterday morning at the service commemorating the union of the two downtown churches. Taking as his text the words of Christ, "What God hath joined together let no man put asunder," he spoke feelingly of the providential circumstances which had led to the union. In speaking of the spirit in which Wilbur church joined Centenary church and of the benefits to be derived from the union he said: "That Wilbur church had not disbanded and had no thought of disbanding."

Church Seeks Larger Opportunity. "We come not as those who have suffered defeat," the pastor declared. "Wilbur church was established for a purpose. That purpose has not been abandoned. We are only seeking larger opportunity for the expression of our vision. Wilbur church has made a distinctive contribution to the moral and spiritual life of the city. We join hand and heart to accomplish larger service than was possible for either organization alone.

We do not come to be your guests. We do not expect to be entertained and feasted. We will do our full share of the housework from the first day. We come to go out with you into the highways and byways to invite the strangers, the homeless, the heart-hungry, the sinful, and the ignorant to the gospel feast. The motto of Centenary church has been "The friendly church." The motto of Wilbur has been "Everybody's church." Your friendship and ours kindled by holy fires of zeal and consecration, must radiate out into the widening circles until it has encompassed the entire city.

Sympathetic Judgment Asked. "Not all will agree to the wisdom of this union. We ask you to temper your judgment with sympathy. Allow no unholy prejudice to mar your joy and Christmas fellowship. If God is not in this union, it must come to naught. But if he has inspired it, blessed fruit will come forth. Wait until the evidences of divine sanction are as clear to you as to us before passing final judgment.

"This union should mean that Portland Methodism will forever quit washing her dirty linen in public. This is no occasion to discuss who soiled the linen, nor to assert that the linen should never have been soiled. Any review of past unfortunate experiences either in public utterance or in private thinking can be of no possible avail. Let us move out with St. Paul and, forgetting the things that are behind, press on toward the kingdom and the glory of our Christ.

"This union will make possible a great downtown institutional plant. We look forward eagerly to the completion of plans for a Sunday school temple and a recreational hall from which we can minister effectively to the unchurched multitude in this section of the city. We see in vision an earnest band of Christian workers leading scores and hundreds into following with Christ and the church.

Young to Crown Efforts. "The crowning glory of any union is the children that come to bless the home. The crowning glory of Centenary-Wilbur will be the young people reared within her walls who will go forth to give themselves in kingdom service. Never did the call sound so loudly for life service recruits in this northwest as today. The records of three Methodist conferences in this area, the Oregon, the Puget sound, and the Columbia river, reveal the fact that 30 men dropped out of the active ranks of the ministry this fall by death, retirement, or withdrawal, and only six young men joined the conference to take their places. Ministers had to be called from eastern fields to man our pulpits. Centenary-Wilbur church will send forth her full share of young men and women

to take places of leadership in the church."

SPIRIT MESSAGE PROPHESED

Dr. W. T. McElveen Believes Communication Is Possible.

At the First Congregational church yesterday morning the pastor, Dr. W. T. McElveen, discussed Mr. Edison's proposal to invent a machine intended to enable the living on this earth to get into communication with the so-called dead. Dr. McElveen said: "Edison has done very many wonderful things. We are all his debtors. He has added much to the comfort and joy of living. We heartily congratulate him on his religious progress. Not many years ago he dogmatically asserted that there never had been and there was no such thing as spirit. He practically declared himself a materialist. He bowed the supernatural out of existence. Now he talks of the possibility of there being a spiritual world and of our coming into communication with it. He appears to affirm what he previously denied. Only a few years ago he indorsed what we thought was a discarded theory—that of materialism. Now he thinks he may get us a kind of a telephonic communication with the spiritual world. Mr. Edison, while he doesn't talk in cock-sure terms about the reality of the spiritual world, is no longer an agnostic. "Edison's change of view is symbolic of what is going on almost everywhere. At the beginning of the 19th century atheism was rampant and arrogant. We have now moved out of the age of doubt into the age of faith. There never were so few people who disbelieved in God. There never was a time when so many of mankind's foremost thinkers were simple-hearted believers in religion. No longer do we hear of attempts to reconcile science and religion. The scientists and the religionists recognize that they are not opponents but colleagues, that they are studying two different worlds. "I don't think Mr. Edison's endeavors to create a device to get into communication with the spiritual world will succeed. And for this reason: Psychology teaches that different departments of life are differently known. The organs of knowledge that we first use we call our physical senses. "I venture to prophesy that eventually we will be able to talk to and hear from the spiritual world but it will not be by means of tipping tables or material inventions, but by means of our own spirits, that at that time have been sufficiently educated to understand the things of the spirit."

DEATH OF CHRIST IS TOPIC Description of Death of Savior Is Read to Congregation.

Rev. Lewis Sperry Chaffer of New York city, now lecturing here on the themes in connection with the Moody Bible institute, in progress this month at the White Temple, spoke yesterday morning at the Central Presbyterian church on the subject, "Why Was It Necessary for Christ to Die?"

"Only men who remain true to the word of God, as Mr. Moody did," said the speaker, "are those who can teach the Bible teaching Mr. Moody founded. I am in fullest agreement with this form of doctrine as my word to you this morning will disclose." After reading the 23d Psalm, which the speaker stated, is a description of the life of Christ, he fully determined our eternal destiny. This is the teaching of the Bible. Because men live that as important as they have sometimes been disposed to evade the issue by assigning some other reason than the sin of man and only reason given in the Bible.

No one can say Christ died because of his own sinfulness. Some say that he died to show how sin hurts God, and so to discourage men from sin. This theory, the speaker said, is not now to get men simply to cease from sinning, but that they may be born again and become children of God by nature. One is reformation; the other regeneration. Nor did Christ die to give us an example. He died to show us how to die gracefully. He died that we might not die. He got things done which we have not done again. It is, therefore, offered to all men that they by believing in Christ as their Savior, may have the gift of God which is eternal life and all the blessings which were purchased by Christ for us on the cross."

BISHOP PLEADS FOR SOLDIERS

Dignitary Fears U. S. Has Not Lived Up to Promises.

"My text contains a striking coincidence. It is a national warning to those of us who do not practice and live the principles of true brotherhood to our fellow man. "My text has a special meaning for Armistice Sunday. "You will remember that the armistice was declared in the battle lines in France at the eleventh hour, of the eleventh day, of the eleventh month. "My text is taken from the eleventh verse, of the eleventh chapter, of the eleventh book of the Bible, to-wit, First Kings, verse 11, chapter 11: "For as much as this is done of thee, and thou hast not kept my covenant and my statutes, which I have commanded thee, I will surely rend thy kingdom from thee, and will give it to thy servant."

The preacher was Bishop Walter Taylor Sumner, speaking yesterday morning at St. David's Episcopal church, on the meaning and purpose of Armistice day, and especially with reference to the men from St. David's parish who died or were killed in the late world war. "If we do not do as we wish to be done by, if we do not live and practice the real brotherhood of service

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LIVESTOCK OFFICIAL TELLS OF EXHIBITION NEED.

Editor Declares Livestock Show Big Factor in Bringing Prosperous Conditions.

"I wonder if the people of the Pacific coast country appreciate the importance of the Pacific International Livestock exposition as it relates to the building up of a more prosperous condition throughout this extensive section?" was the query made yesterday by Frank D. Tomson of Lincoln, Neb., editor of The Short-horn in America and special representative of the American Short-horn Breeders' association.

Mr. Tomson has been in close contact with the development of the pure-bred livestock for more than 20 years and is familiar with the growth of the fairs and shows and their close identity with business expansion. "The remarkable increase in the exhibits in all divisions in your show this year over the 1919 event, which far surpassed all previous shows held here," said Mr. Tomson, "is an impressive assurance of the responsive attitude of the fine stock breeders over the 'inter-mountain and coast country.' Your people should not fail to grasp the fact that the Pacific International is second only to the great international at Chicago in point of numbers, breeds and quality rep-

resented in the exhibits. And here is a significant fact: Your exhibits represent only the western mountain and coast states, the products of western herds and western skill. Yet you are only beginning out here in this displaying of the farm and ranch animals before the public in an educational way on a broad scale. This is the second show to be held in the great pavilion and already it has reached far beyond the capacity of the structure. "In the shorthorn cattle section alone there are 330 entries, not including the calf club entries. I am proud to say that the American Short-horn Breeders' association has offered in this show, as cash prizes, the sum of \$800 as a co-operative effort in the building up of your western livestock interests. This is the largest amount offered by any breed association, but our association recognizes the identity which Short-horns have had with the betterment of agriculture here in the west and cannot ignore the general inclination of the stock growers to this resourceful breed.

"As a suggestion of the quality of the display of Short-horns there are entered and quartered now in the exposition building, champion winners from Montana, Colorado, Idaho, Utah, California, Oregon, Washington and several winners at the Chicago International last year, among them the grand champion female. They have come here to enter the final contest of the year. It is significant, too, that a judge widely known on three continents as an expert will decide the contests. I refer to William Hartnett, a leading importer and exporter, just returned from Argentina and the British Isles. "I would not detract from other breeds. They are all contributing to the wealth and betterment of this country. They are here in larger numbers than ever before, and of better character as a whole. "It is a great constructive institution that has become established

Here, having no less useful relation to the banking, mercantile and manufacturing interests than to agriculture. It invites the support of all and contributes to the best interests of all."

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