

# CONGREGATION HEARS PASTOR MAKE CRUCIAL TEST OF FAITH

### Belief in Works Related in Scriptures and Full Conception of God's Ownership of Life Declared Essential to Christian Living by Dr. Hinson.

BY DR. WALTER B. HINSON.  
"GOD, whose I am, and whom I serve."—Acts xxviii:23. Will you connect with that text this double affirmation: "I believe, and I belong?"

I believe God. To some men who firmly believed in God Jesus once said, "Believe also in me." And they familiarized themselves with Christ by living with him, listening to his speech, watching his manner of life, beholding him asleep and awake, when he was among friends and among foes; until they expressed themselves as believing him to be the Lord their God.

And what that belief did for those men we well know. For it took ordinary, humble fishermen of Galilee and made them the leaders of the world's religious thought for all time, setting them upon thrones of spiritual power and influence, at which all the world wonders tonight.

And the marvel of marvels is that they were enabled by Christ's grace to perpetuate that faith in the lives of men and women who had never seen the Lord, as they had done. So that people from every rank of life and every grade of society and every type of thought accepted the news of a crucified but risen and reigning Lord. And they hurled back all kinds of hostility and persecution and tried their heroic lives and finally surrendered those lives in martyrdom, because of their loyalty to the Son of God.

You remember how in the front rank of these stood Saul of Tarsus, the vindictive persecutor, who even unto strange things harassed the believers in Jesus Christ, but who was suddenly struck down by the power of God and so marvelous a transformation was wrought in that strong man's life that the persecutor became the preacher and the apostle. And under his influence by the hundred and thousand men forsook the old gods and the old faiths and came over to the new creed that Jesus Christ was the world's only Savior.

**Faith Gave Them Power.**  
And because of their faith in that risen and reigning Lord they were stronger than paganism and philosophy and they overcame all obstacles and lived the wonderful Christian life that is at once our inspiration and our despair. Yet it would be a marvel if faith in God did not enable men to thus heroically live. For what cares any man for power when he knows the omnipotence of God is being exercised in his support?

Or what cares any man for organized evil arrayed against him when he knows that God can make even the stars in their courses fight the battles of his elect? So I say it would be a greater marvel still if faith in God did not infuse men with a lofty courage that would despise all opposition and overcome all power.

Now have you this faith in God? I sometimes wonder if we people, whose names are on church rolls, and who sing these wonderful hymns of trust, and who say our prayers, and read our Bibles, I sometimes wonder if we should display like faith in God should persecution overtake us, as it raged in the centuries that are gone. For it is one thing to sit in a church, and give assent to the proclamation of a gospel; but think you that your faith in God would suffice you if you had to stand

alone where the great conflict raged? How much sacrifice could you make for your faith, think you?

Remember when in England, attending a service in a church, and seeing at the back of the pulpit a door, and I failed to understand the reason for that door, for apparently it led nowhere. So I asked the preacher, "Why have you a door at the back of your pulpit?" and he replied, "We need no door now; but this church is 500 years old; and when it was built, they took the wise precaution of appointing some means of escape for the preacher, should the enemies of the faith suddenly appear. And so with all the renovating this church has undergone, we have retained that old oaken door as a memento of the heroic days that are fled."

**Trials Then Test Worshipers.**  
Should I have been a preacher then? Would you have been gathered in pews then? Should that testing time return, would I still preach; and would you still worship? How about your faith in God? I have many times wondered how much of that same faith which you and I possess is allied to a tradition. We never thought it out. We never reasoned about it. We never held it tightly in our grip when the great winds blew, and the wild storms broke. We have worn it rather as men wear articles of raiment. And perhaps that is why it so slightly affects our conduct.

Do you young people believe in the God of Moses? A young woman came to me the other day to ask a belief in evolution excluded God from the universe, for so some professor had been hinting in his foolish speech. Do you—no matter what the method he employed may have been—do you stand and say, "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth?" Do you believe in Moses' God? Do you believe in the God Isaiah possessed? What are the dimensions of your God?

**Isaiah's God Cited.**  
A profitable inquiry in these days, when they tell us God originated certain laws, and now He is a slave to the very laws He created. Do you believe in the God Isaiah saw when he said, "He holdeth the waters in the hollow of his hand; and meteth out heaven with the span; and comprehendeth the dust of the earth in a measure; and weigheth the mountains in scales; and the hills in a balance; and calls all the stars by name." Do you believe in the God of Matthew? Mr. Aked, of San Francisco, informed us that he could not, well, do you?

Do you believe when Jesus was born into this world, there occurred the great break in human history; and He alone of all these born of women, possessed but one earthly parent? Do you believe in the God of Mark, the human Christ, who was bone of our bone and flesh of our flesh, who hungered, and thirsted, and fatigued, and bled, and died? Do you believe in the God of Luke, the universal Christ; the One dying for the sins of the whole world; the One who said he came to seek and to save the lost, everywhere, for all time? Do you believe in the God of John? "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God."

Do you believe in Jesus Christ as God? Do you believe when he stroked the hair of those little children, it was God touching the child? Do you believe Him when He said, "Whoso has seen me hath seen the Father; for I and the Father are one?" Do you really believe God?

**God's Ownership Discussed.**  
And then pass to the second question. Do I belong to God? What do you think is the marvel in the conversion of Saul of Tarsus? The being struck down on the Damascus Road; the blinding light from heaven; the voice that spoke; the answer that went back to Christ; not the most wonderful thing about that marvelous conversion was the size of the Christ whom Paul, with blinded earthly eyes, saw with the eyes of the spirit on that eventful day. A Christ so large that he said "Lord" to the Nazarene. Have we said "Lord" to that Savior?

So often I catch myself thinking of the treasurer of a church I once served, who after I had preached to him for years, stood up one night in the service, and said, "Mr. Hinson, let me say a word!" And we all marveled, for he was a man slow of speech. And he said, "You have just now caused the light to break in on my life. I have had little peace, or joy, or power, in my religious life. But just now, when you said, 'It is not enough to take Jesus as a Savior, you must go on to take him as the Lord of your life, from whom you receive your marching orders, and whose will is the rule of all your conduct; I saw my fault; for I took him as a Savior, as best I could. But I have lived my own life, according to my own will."

But he said, "I here and now surrender that life to Christ; and so for the first time I say, Jesus, my Savior, and my Lord." Brother, have you done it? Have you gone on to say, "I believe, and I belong?" You can easily see how Christ became the passion of Paul's heart, when he saw in that Christ, the Son of God dying for him, rising for him, living for him, so that he could regard all the prizes of the world as being but dung in comparison with the "Well done" of Jesus Christ; and declared that his highest ambition in life was to know Christ, and the power of his resurrection, and to have fellowship in his suffering. This is where all these little reformers are like men striving to propel a boat with one oar. For if you lack the faith in Christ, you will lack the dynamic that makes your life like a power to overcome sin, and eradicate selfishness, and inspire you to deeds of high and holy daring, for Christ's sake, "I belong."

**Gifts Not Ours.**  
O! people, have we looked at all the possessions that we hold under God, and said, "They are not ours. They belong to him." Has he given you power of speech or of song; organizing power; business power; ability to make wealth; or the higher gifts of sympathy, and influence? Are you using all these gifts with the realization that you are accountable to God for every one of them? "I belong" for it is God whom I serve. Do we thus belong to God?

How many hours of this day set apart for the worship of Jehovah, have you and I lived under the high consciousness that the hours of the day belong to God? "The idea," said a woman not many days ago, "that I am asked to give a tenth of all I possess to God." A tenth? Why don't you know the whole of it is the possession of God, and that you are only his steward? And on that day when the mountains are rocking, and the great seas are being licked up, you will have to give in to God an account of that stewardship of yours. "I believe." That is not enough! Let that belted evidence itself in your conduct, as you say, "And I belong."

Now sometimes the surrender of the soul to God that enables the man to say, "I belong," is a slow process. Hear me carefully, lest you misunderstand me. Sometimes the soul by a series of visions and revelations, comes to the final surrender of the life. Do you remember that wonderful hymn of Monod's?

O the bitter shame and sorrow,  
That a time could ever be,  
When I proudly said to Jesus,  
"All of self, and none of thee."

Yet he sought me, I beheld him,  
Bleeding on the accursed tree,  
And my sinful heart said faintly,  
"Give me self, and some of thee."

Day by day his tender mercy,  
Healing, helpful, kind and free,  
Brought me lower, till I whispered,  
"Give me self, and some of thee."

Higher than the highest heaven,  
Deeper than the deepest sea,  
Lord, thy life at last has conquered,  
Give me self, and some of thee.

**Light Sometimes Comes Slowly.**  
Yes, sometimes by a series of slow processes the soul come into the light and makes the complete surrender to God. But I believe it can be done immediately, if one will but do it so. Paul did it! Thrown in the dust, he said, "Who art thou, Lord?" and the Lord said, "I am Jesus, whom thou persecutest. It is hard for thee to kick against the pricks." And in that same moment the man made a complete surrender of his life, as he said, "Lord, what wilt thou have me to do?" And afterward he rounded out an entire life of unselfish, unwavering, devoted service to Jesus Christ.

Now for the conclusion, ere we separate. In the light of this truth, am I a Christian? In the light of this truth, are you a Christian? Do I believe God? Do I belong to God? Does my calmness in the midst of strife; my strength amid the surrounding weakness; my confidence when the hearts of men are dismayed; does it evidence the fact that I believe God and that my life has anchorage within the veil?

Do I belong to God? Do those who know me best regard me as a man of God? Do they regard you as a woman of God? Does your household believe in the Bible because it believes in you, and has perceived the astounding fact

that your life is shaped by the truth of the holy record? Do the men who associate with you connect you with religion, with Christ, with God? And do they feel unable to suggest the business deal that is crooked if you are near, because the holiness of your life seals their lips in your presence?

**Isaiah's Definition Recalled.**  
O, more and more I am growing in love with Isaiah's definition of a man. Do you recall it? A man should be as a hiding place from the wind, and a covert from the tempest; as rivers of water in a dry place, and as the shadow of a great rock in a weary land.

Preacher in this church now, are you that kind of a man? Deacon in this church now, are you that kind of a man? Officer-bearer in this church now, are you that kind of a man? Business man in this church now, are you that kind of a man? Professor of religion, can you say tonight with a cheek uncolored by shame, "I believe, and I belong?" If not, your profession is inadequate, and it becomes you to repent in earnestness, and humility and at the foot of the cross get right with God Almighty.

Now sometimes God's help to leave with you a final sentence that will make upon you an indelible impression. Do

## MUSIC-LOVING COYOTES FALL PREY TO TRAPPER

### Wild Dogs Answer Phonograph's Call When Orchestral Numbers Are Played but Vocal Selections Found More Alluring to Cat Family.

SILVER LAKE, Or., Dec. 18.—(Special.)—Luring wild beasts to their death by music is a new trick in the trapper's trade successfully applied by Lloyd S. Allen, who exhibits the pelts of four coyotes, one bob cat and a cougar to back his assertions. A weather-beaten phonograph is exhibited in Mr. Allen's array of evidence.

Another discovery made by Mr. Allen is that only vocal music lures the cat family, while wild dogs are attracted more readily by Paderewski, Kubelik or Sousa than by Caruso, Melba or Nordica.

The bobcat trapped by Mr. Allen fell for a Southern melody. It took a series of "Ben Bolt," "Annie Laurie" and other oldtimers to draw the cougar into a snare; Sousa is responsible for the death of two coyotes, and Kubelik gets credit for one and Paderewski one.

Experiments will be continued by Mr. Allen in the hope of finding a voice and tune that cannot be resisted by cats, and an instrumental selection equally deadly to wild dogs.

you really believe in God? Would much go out of your life if you lost God? Would you stand like some poor bereaved orphan if God went away? Would you regard it direr than loss of business, loss of money, loss of health, loss of friends, loss of life, if you lost God? How large a place in your life is occupied by God? Do you believe? Then do you belong. Have you consecrated the members of your body to the service of God?

Have you set apart the faculties of your mind to the glory of God? Can you really say, "Whose I am and whom I serve?" Such a life as that knows no failure, and can sustain no loss, and can suffer no defeat. Christ Jesus help each one of us to live that life! For then shall we be calm and strong here; and when we are passing away, having reached the place where the two seas meet, we shall serenely say, as did the Apostle Paul, "I am ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand."

And on the other side we shall see the King and hear him declare, "Well done." The Lord God add his blessing to this searching truth and these solemn vows, and may our lives during this week and the rest of our time in this world give evidence that we have not only heard, but also heeded this message of God to our souls.

**New Records Ordered.**  
Mr. Allen's next experiment was in the Junipers on the slope of Table Mountain. He made camp in the forest, setting a semi-circle of traps about the place at a distance of 200 yards. A camp fire was started as night fell and Sousa was summoned from the disc box as an entertainer. The strains of "El Capitan" floated from the horn the sides of Table Mountain echoed to the yelp of scores of wild dogs. Over and over the selection was reached out until there was a break in the harmony of the coyote chorus. Suddenly ceased. There was an interval of snarling that soon became a moaning whine. A trap had been sprung, and all the wild dogs, save the one entrapped, had scurried to a safe distance.

Joe Wendling and Karl C. Allen, a brother of the musical trapper, accompanied Mr. Allen on his following night excursions to the Juniper woods, and in a week this trio took six pelts.

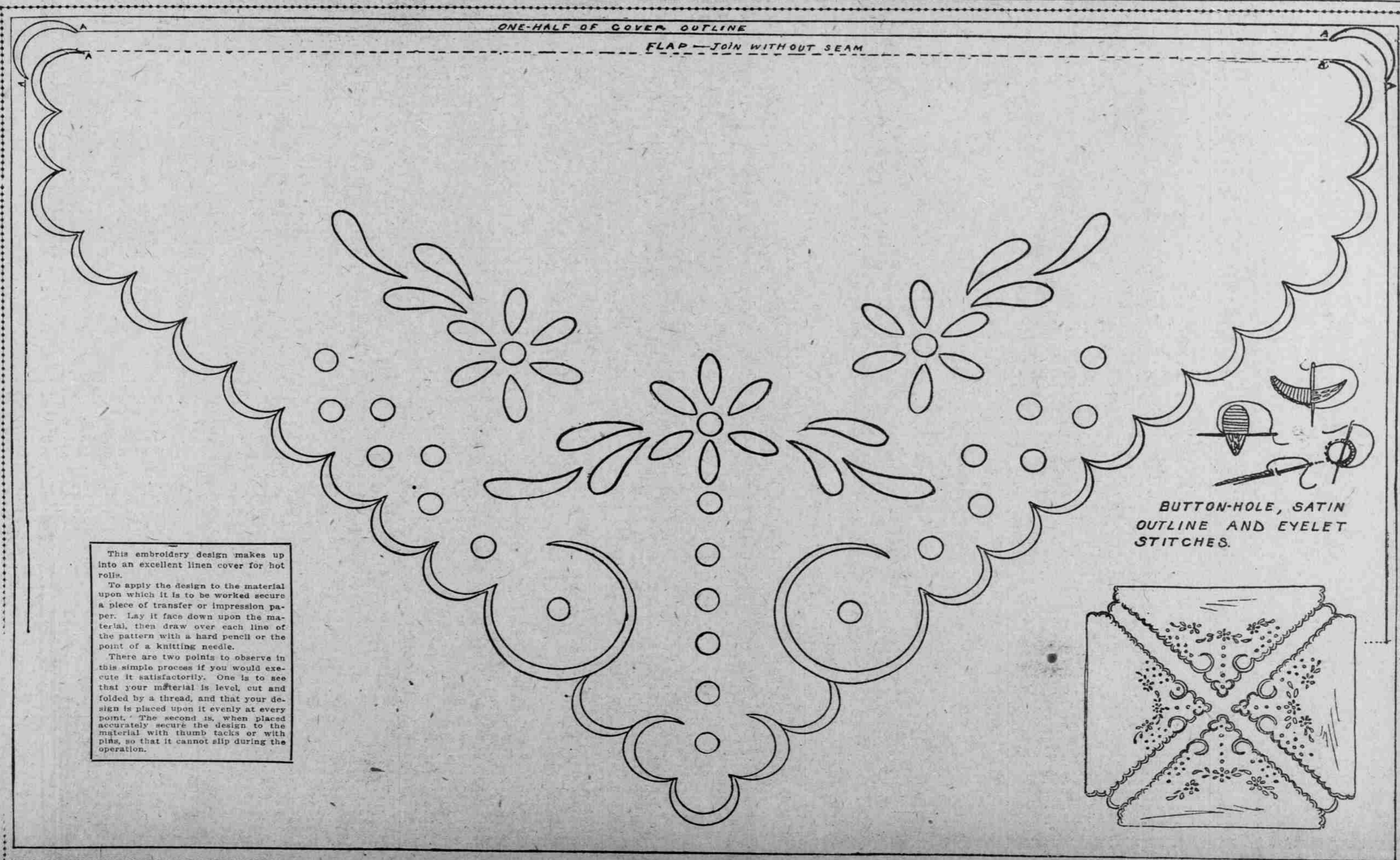
New records have been ordered in an effort to find something more to the liking of the cat family.

Lloyd S. and K. C. Allen own the Allen ranch of 1000 acres in the Thorn Lake district. They came to Central Oregon from Spokane and are sons of Rev. J. W. Allen, a retired pastor, of that city.

**2 DRINKS ENOUGH, MAYBE**  
Expert Says Nervous Susceptibility Governs Men's Capacity.  
NEW YORK, Dec. 12.—"One man may take two drinks and be seized with a wild mania, while another may drink a quart and go peacefully about his business. It is a question of nervous susceptibility," testified Dr. John W. Doherty, called as a medical expert in a murder case yesterday in Jersey City.

The doctor insisted that the defendant, August Martin, by constant drinking had reached a state where he was incapable of an intent to willfully kill. Martin killed two brothers-in-law, George and Raymond Leonard.

# EMBROIDERED LINEN COVER FOR HOT ROLLS AN APPROPRIATE GIFT



This embroidery design makes up into an excellent linen cover for hot rolls.

To apply the design to the material upon which it is to be worked secure a piece of transfer or impression paper. Lay it face down upon the material, then draw over each line of the pattern with a hard pencil or the point of a knitting needle.

There are two points to observe in this simple process if you would execute it satisfactorily. One is to see that your material is level, out and folded by a thread, and that your design is placed upon it evenly at every point. The second is, when placed the material with thumb tacks or with pins, so that it cannot slip during the operation.

BUTTON-HOLE, SATIN OUTLINE AND EYELET STITCHES.