A City Without Churches

FEW PERSONS THINK THINGS THROUGH.

If everybody reasoned the matter of church support to its logical conclusion, immediately there would arise in this city a group of beautiful churches.

The reason is simple. People do not fail to back up the Christian Church because they are opposed to the religion of the church. Far from it. **Nearly everybody believes that the Christian Church is necessary to our civilization. If its existence as an institution were threatened, the great mass of the people would fight for it.**

But by some curious kink in their mental processes, many non-church supporters fail to perceive that if everybody else followed their example---and every honest person grants others the right to do as he does---the church would quickly pass out of existence.

EVERY NON-SUPPORTER OF THE CHURCH VIRTUALLY VOTES FOR ELIMINATION OF THE INSTITUTION FROM SOCIETY.

If a person believes that the community needs the church, he has but one clear, unmistakable, unanswerable way of stating his position. That is by openly supporting it. The man who supports the church stands for an indispensable institution, even as a good citizen stands for the state by voting.

FAILURE TO VOTE AND FAILURE TO SUPPORT THE CHURCH ARE KINDRED FAILURES IN DUTY TO SOCIETY.

Of course, that is not the best reason for church support. We support the church primarily to express our belief in God and to do Him reverence. The loftiest truth about man is that he is made in the image of the Divine and has a capacity for fellowship with the infinite.

Worship is the highest function of which human nature is capable.

The world does not know much about creeds, but when it sees a person standing for the church it understands him to say, by his action, "I believe in God."

Thoughtful persons stand for the church, also, because *the church stands for the best things.* The church supporter lines up with the forces which make for righteousness. He is on the side of the people who want to live the noblest lives themselves, and who are trying to help this needy world to do the same.

The most efficient agency of human service on earth is the Christian Church. The church supporter is a sharer in all the world-wide good of the organization.

They who would make their lives count should be counted among those upon whom the church may count.

Just now, the outstanding feature of local church development is the Methodist Program for a splendid, modern church edifice. Give liberally towards its success.

You will probably be approached by one of the canvassing teams. If not, R. M. Smith, at Smith's Grocery; J. O. Gibson, at the Union Grocery; or George Childs at the Bend Hardware, will gladly receive your subscription.

The Methodist Episcopal Church $40,000.00 Building Campaign, March 8 to 22