

MINISTER PLEADS FOR UNIFICATION OF MANY CHURCHES

New York, Feb. 2.—Charging that "the competitions and rivalries of evangelical denominations in the United States have resulted in astounding waste and inefficiency" and that 36 per cent of the Protestant churches have a total seating capacity of more than \$3,000,000, or three times their requirement, the Rev. Dr. Robert Westly Peach, pastor of a Reformed Episcopal church in Newark, N. J., makes a plea for organic union of 22 national church bodies.

Dr. Peach's recommendations, together with others, will be discussed by the Interchurch Council on Organic Union in Philadelphia today. The Newark clergyman is one of 150 composing the Ad Interim committee representing various Protestant denominations which was appointed last December upon an invitation by the Presbyterian church, to approve a plan for bringing about a merger. In his statement, a minority report, he declared that Protestants had built perhaps "100,000 superfluous churches at a cost of \$500,000,000."

Too Many Churches.

"If not a single church had been built in the past 13 years," he said, "those standing in 1906 would accommodate a single service every Protestant communicant of the year 1919 and every Roman Catholic in our country, baptized infants included, and, besides, every man, woman and child in Canada, Cuba, and Porto Rico and there would still be much room to spare."

"These 88 per cent of our churches reported over three sittings for every communicant. At the same time, the Roman Catholic churches reported had one sitting for every two and one-fourth members—a ratio of nearly seven to one in our disfavor. The Roman churches are crowded, ours, on an average less than one-quarter filled—for it is the exceptional church which, at its principal Sunday service, has an attendance equaling 80 per cent of its communicant roll."

The upkeep and the salaries incident to maintaining services in Protestant churches, Dr. Peach said, "make necessary the raising annually of millions of wasted dollars, make necessary, moreover, grueling efforts to raise this money. Inevitably there has arisen the Great Protestant Order of Mendicant Pastors and Sisters, unincorporated. Inevitably also has followed a widespread defection of church members, weary of continual solicitation to give outright and to buy tickets for suppers, entertainments, bazaars, etc. Not the giving has stopped, in most instances," continued Dr. Peach, "for the American people are generous—but the needless calls for uneconomical giving."

Burdens Grow Heavy.

"Upon members who remain steadfast have fallen the heavier burdens," he said. "This defection also is mainly responsible for increasing the two out of three empty pews caused by over-churching to three out of four. Let not the pastors and members of exceptional congregations blindly question the general validity of these estimates. Withal, we have thousands of unsettled communities without a single church. In Ohio, for example, the recent Methodist Episcopal survey has discovered scores of townships, six miles square, without a single resident minister. To wicked waste we add woeful inefficiency."

"In our division," said Dr. Peach, "our people are groaning under the burdens caused thereby, and under the reproach of incompetency, not only, but the unchurched masses ignore our weakened testimony and reject our appeal; our problems are multiplied, our fellowship is marred, our Lord is dishonored. These are the conditions organic unity is set to cure."

Single Teaching Sought.

The Rev. William H. Black, D. D., of the Presbyterian church, Marshall, Mo., another member of the Ad Interim committee, in a minority report, advocated the use of the terminology of the United States government for characterizing the proposed new united church and opposed a "restatement of the fundamental doctrines of Christian belief," declaring that "all evangelical churches recognize and teach that the holy scriptures are the inspired word of God and are the only infallible rule of faith and practice."

MUCH IMPROVEMENT NOTED UPON VISIT TO RURAL SCHOOLS

A. N. Arnold, supervisor of schools, reported improved conditions in many of the districts. Directors have utilized the winter months in inaugurating necessary additions to school equipment. Teachers and directors aided by many broad-minded patrons of these schools are found to be working together for community good in several of the districts. Brief observations regarding some of the schools is given.

Rosedale School.

The Rosedale school has the posts set for a new fence around the school grounds. One new room has been built and equipped. A new Waterman heating plant has been installed besides many other minor improvements. Miss Frazier and Miss Anderson are the teachers.

Illice School.

The black boards have been refinished, and a new lunch table for the convenience of the teachers and pupils in serving hot lunch has been added. New outbuildings and yard improvements are noted. Two sets of supplementary readers have been supplied.

Miss Edna Jenkinson is teacher.

Liberty School.

A large oak tree that had become dangerous by age has been removed from the school grounds.

A baseball team organized with Charles Stevenson as captain is working out as much as the weather will permit.

China painting is being taught by Miss Parkhurst, the primary teacher, in connection with her other work.

Fruitland School.

A good live club was organized by the pupils. The purpose is to promote the general welfare of the school. The society has appointed committees to look after various school enterprises. Other improvements are a new well, the resurfacing of the outbuildings and the removal of some trees that obstructed the playground. Mr. Harry Todd is teacher.

ITALIAN SHIP FORCED TO HAUL DOWN COLORS

Rome, Feb. 2.—Reports have reached this city that the Italian steamer Danubio has been attacked at the city of Trau on the Dalmatian coast and that she was forced to lower her Italian flag. It is said passengers on the vessel were insulted and some were wounded during the attack. Considerable excitement has been caused by this report which follows rumors of similar incidents at Spalato and other cities on the eastern shore of the Adriatic.

Commenting on the incident the Viennale D'Italia, after citing other recent "Jugo-Slav" provocations, again urges the government to insist upon the application of the treaty of London.

FAMOUS PAINTING TO BE EXHIBITED HERE

One of the most valuable paintings in the world—"Old Derby"—painted by the famous artist, Rosa Bonheur, will be on display in the ready-to-wear department of the Meyers store, Liberty and Court streets, beginning Thursday morning. The picture is owned by the Fine Arts Puberty Syndicate, of New York and Toronto, and is valued at \$65,000.

Invitations have been prepared and are being sent out into all parts of the country inviting the public to come and see the painting. There will be no admission fee, and any person may view the canvass without cost.

COUNCIL NAMES WELSH AS CHIEF

(Continued from page one)

memory of every other councilman here does."

Volk did not reply.

Councilmen Scott, Utter, Weist and McClelland said that they voted for Traffic Officer Moffitt. This leaves Mayor Otto Wilson, Councilmen Hager, Simeral, Volk, Schunke, Johnson, Moore and Buckner who supported Mr. Welsh. Councilmen Craig and Halvorsen were not present and Councilman Vandevort, who was named teller, did not vote.

War Record Cited.

In nominating Moffitt, Vandevort made a plea for consideration of the traffic officer's war record.

"I would like to place the nomination for Mr. Moffitt," Vandevort said. "A man whom the business men have asked appointed, and whom the people of Salem wish to head their police department. He is a man who has crossed the water to defend us, who willingly offered his life that we might live and prosper here. It is our duty; there is nothing more that we should do than to give him this job he asks for."

A motion made by Councilman Utter to suspend the appointment of chief for two weeks lost.

Following the appointment of the chief considerable discussion centered on the matter of changing ward boundaries in the city to conform with the precinct boundaries established by the county court. A motion for the council to go into a committee as a whole to settle the ward question failed. Councilman Volk, who has been chairman of the committee delegated to work with the county court in re-

INJUNCTION SOUGHT TO END ENFORCEMENT

(Continued from page one)

state of Oregon, in that its effects is to amend and restrict the general governmental powers conferred upon the city of Salem, Oregon, by section 6 of its present charter.

(3) That said act attempts to deprive a person of his property without due process of law contrary to and in violation of the fourteenth amendment to the constitution of the United States of America;

(4) That said act is in violation of and contrary to section 1 article 9 of the constitution of Oregon, in that it fails to provide for a uniform and equal rate of assessment and taxation and further in that it fails to secure a just valuation for taxation of the personal property subject to taxation under its provisions, and further in that it burdens such personal property with double taxation;

(5) That said act is in violation of section 20, article 1, of the constitution of the state of Oregon, in that it is unequal in its operation."

Arrow wort from Montevideo is one of the plants best fitted for an aquarium.

WELSH WANTS ACTION

Suggestions by Welsh that the boundaries be definitely established at that meeting were waived by the council. Weist said that he would like to see the matter settled "no matter what councilman shall have to go," and he said he recalled the fact that "they are afraid of their little jobs and will keep this mess waiting in vain hopes that they might find some way to retain their positions."

An offer of the county to purchase a city asphalt plant was heard. The council authorized the sale of the plant for \$4900.

HOSPITAL FEE DISCUSSED

An ordinance, drawn by Councilman Schunke, authorizing the city health officer to collect from patients in the city isolation hospital \$1.50 a day for all the time they are confined there was defeated. Schunke said he understood that the persons confined there were "able to pay that amount, and I thought we ought to try to get the money before they close the hospital next week."

"What if they haven't got money enough to pay that?" Utter asked.

"Of course if they haven't got the money," Schunke explained, "we won't ask them for it."

There was no provision in the ordinance, however, exempting any individual from paying.

Inventory Reported.

An inventory of the holdings of the police department and a report of expenditures for 1919, that was taken by the police committee two weeks ago, was read, with the recommendation that the "new chief try to keep down expenses."

An item of \$295 for taxi hire during the year was cited by Utter as a reason "that I have maintained all along" that the city should buy a car for the police department. "Maybe some day we'll become wise enough and get a car and save all this," he declared.

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Clemenceau to Visit on Nile and Perhaps Japan

Paris, Feb. 2.—Dr. Vleard, who is accompanying former Premier Clemenceau on his trip to Egypt, is quoted by the Excelsior as saying the itinerary will include Cairo, Khartoum, a trip up the Nile and probably a visit to Syria, Persia and India. It is also said the former premier may visit Japan before returning to France.

North Bend, Or., Feb. 2.—A monthly increase of \$10 in the salaries of all grade teachers receiving less than \$100 per month and a like increase in the salaries of all high school teachers, including Superintendent Robert Goetz, has been authorized by the board of education here. The increase will become effective at once.

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