

# THE POLITICAL PREACHER

THE PULPIT WARNED AGAINST THE YELLOW PERIL OF POLITICS.

A Consecrated Ministry Needed for the Rural Churches.

By Peter Radford.

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The farmers of this nation have on their payroll 95,000 preachers and this number applying themselves diligently and exclusively to the religious work at hand is sadly inadequate to properly serve their respective communities.

Those who put on ecclesiastical robes are in a measure free to unlock every door to the human heart and enter the secret chambers of reason and every person should submit their conduct to review and seek the counsel of those divinely appointed messengers of life, but the moment the minister closes the Bible and opens the law book, he becomes a menace to society.

The difficulty of keeping the preacher in the pulpit is as old as religion. Christ encountered it in the temple when he drove the priests from the bargain counter back to the pulpit. Our pilgrim fathers met it when, through the influence of the clergy, a witch court was established at Salem, Mass., in 1692, that precipitated a legal holocaust threatening to reduce the population to ashes and which was extinguished by the laymen uniting and forcing the preachers back to the pulpit.

The greatest peril to the church today is politics. The temptation of the ministry to throw down the cross of Christ and pick up the club of the policeman; to substitute the penalties of the law for the power of the altar and to legislate religion into human hearts, never was greater.

The world never needed a religious ministry more nor political preachers less than it does today. We need ministers to teach us how to live; we know how to vote.

The religious preacher is the most capable servant and the political preacher the sorriest master the world has ever known. Wherever power is placed in the hands of the latter they invariably become intolerant, bigoted and vicious and resort to the whip and the fagot to enforce their opinion.

Civilization has many times been compelled to drive incorrigible preachers back to the pulpit at the point of the bayonet. Many of the pages of history are wet with blood shed at the hands of political preachers who wrote laws on the statute books that committed arson upon mankind, maimed human beings with the hatchet and sent helpless women to the torture rack, all because they disagreed with their views. When in control of government, the pulpit politicians invariably undertake to perform legislative miracles such as casting out witches with the flame of a torch, suborning conscience with shackles and enforcing opinions with the guillotine.

### Mixing Politics and Religion.

Politics and religion will not blend. No free government can long exist or the church perform its mission to society while preachers and politicians temporarily exchange callings, and a civilization that will countenance such conduct will soon decay. Such a traffic in occupations is as unsound in principle as the white slave trade is immoral in practice.

The hand that passes the sacrament should not collect slush funds for political purposes. The gentle voice that comforts us in sorrow and pronounces the last sad rites upon our departed loved ones should not rave and rant on the hustings. I do not believe a preacher can manipulate political machinery and be righteous any more than he could become a burglar and be honest. I think it is immoral for a preacher to seek to lobby while he prays as it would be for him to gamble while he preaches.

A preacher can no more preach a political sermon without converting his pulpit into a political rostrum than he could sell intoxicating liquor from the altar without converting the church into a bar-room. He can no more purify politics by playing the game than he can sanctify gambling by running a lottery.

I join in the oft-repeated suggestion that a preacher has as much right in political brawls as a saloon keeper and we also admit that he has as much right to get drunk as anyone else, but we would rather he would not do so for the "greater the saint the greater the sin." I think a political bishop can turkey trot in the name of Christianity as consistently as he can enter into a mud-slinging political contest to the disgrace of his church.

It is my opinion that when this

world is saved it will be through religious sermons and not through political speeches. Salvation must come to us from the Bible and not from the statute book; it will come through holy councils of consecrated ministers and not from caucuses of political preachers.

### The Problem of the Laymen.

There never was a time when preachers and politicians formed an unholy alliance that civilization did not shriek out and Christianly cry aloud. Since the beginning of government, politicians have sought to decoy the ministry into the meshes of politics and make them carry banners in political processions. They have taken the ministry to the mountain-top of power and offered to make them monarch of all they surveyed, and while most of them have said, "get thee behind me Satan," a few have fallen with a crash that has shaken every pulpit in Christendom.

The ministry, unsophisticated and confiding, is no match for the politician versed in artful persuasion and skilled in deceit, and it is the duty of the laymen to protect the ministry against the onslaught of these wolves in sheep's clothing and drive the politicians from the pulpit with the lash of public scorn. It is the laymen's problem to keep the ministry free from unholy alliances, for it is said on divine authority that we are our brother's keeper.

### Political Prayer Meetings.

It is a sad day for Christianity when the church bells call the communicants together for a political prayer meeting. Such gatherings mark the high tide of religious political fanaticism, put bitterness into the lives of men; fan the flame of class hatred and destroy Christian influence in the community. The spirit actuating such meetings is anarchic, un-Christian and dangerous to both church and state.

It must be said to the credit of the church that the political preacher is fast disappearing and may his influence ever wane and his shadow ever grow less is the prayer of the farmers of this nation.

# THE CALL OF THE COUNTRY

Rural life offers to young men days of toil and nights of study. It offers frugal fare and plain clothes. It offers lean bodies, hard muscles, horny hands and furrowed brows. It offers wholesome recreation to the extent necessary to maintain the highest efficiency. It offers the burden of bringing up large families and training them in the productive life. It offers the obligations of using all wealth as tools and not as means of self-gratification. It does not offer the insult of a life of ease, or aesthetic enjoyment, or graceful consumption or emotional ecstasy. It offers, instead, the joy of productive achievement, of participating in the building up of a higher rural civilization.

To young women also it offers toil, study, frugal fare and plain clothes such as befit those who are honored with a great and difficult task. It offers also the pains, the burdens and responsibilities of sacred motherhood. It offers the obligation and perpetuation in succeeding generations the principles of the productive life made manifest in themselves. It does not offer the insult of a life of pride and vanity. It offers the joys of achievement, of self-expression not alone in dead marble and canvas, but also in the plastic lives of children to be shaped and moulded into those ideal forms of mind and heart which their dreams have pictured.

Co-operative thinking is the biggest problem that confronts the farmer today.

### Too Fat For That.

Bacon—You say you and your wife are both taking a treatment to reduce your flesh?

Egbert—We certainly are.

"But neither of you needs to be any slimmer."

"Go away! You've never seen our flat!"—Yonkers Statesman.

### The Opals.

The opal used in jewelry is distinguished from other varieties of less value by calling it precious or noble opal. Opals differ very greatly in their color effects, and these are known as the pattern of the gem. The shape and size of the flashes of color vary from very small, when the stone is called pin's point opal, to larger, squarish spanles, when it is a harlequin opal.—New York Sun.

OUR

# Semi-Annual Clearance Sale COMMENCED

## MONDAY, JANUARY 4

As usual there are sweeping reductions throughout the entire store. You will be able to purchase new, seasonable merchandise at reduced prices.

Longcloth, 10 yard bolts, regular \$1.50, clearance price.....	98c
Bookfold Indian Head, 36 in. reg. 12c, clearance price.....	9c
Percale, 36 in. wide, reg 15c, clearance price.....	11c
Ginghams, all colors, reg 12c, clearance price.....	9c
Huck towels reg 25c, clearance.....	17c
Linen towels reg 35c, clearance.....	19c
Apron gingham reg 8 1/2c, clearance.....	6c
Hope muslin reg 10c, clearance.....	7 1/2c
Pillow tubing reg 22c and 25c, clearance price.....	19c
Bleached sheeting 9-4 reg 32c, clearance price.....	25c
Bleached sheeting 10-4 reg 35c, clearance price.....	26 1/2c

Charmeuse silk reg \$1.50 and \$2.00, clearance price.....	\$1.33
Fancy silks reg 85c to \$1.00, clearance price.....	59c
Childrens shoes, sizes 5 1/2 to 8, reg \$2.00, at.....	\$ 1 48
Childrens shoes, sizes 6 1/2 to 11, reg \$2.25, at.....	1 69
Ladies shoes, tan, suede and patent, reg \$4.50, at.....	2 75
Ladies shoes, patent, kid and gun metal, reg \$3.50, at.....	2 39
Mens shoes, tan, gun metal and kid, reg \$5.00, at.....	3 85
Mens shoes, tan, gun metal and kid, reg \$4.00, at.....	3 35

# S. E. Young & Son ALBANY, OREGON

## Possibly About You

Picture show Sunday night. 10c and 15 cents.

Mr and Mrs R M Cain went to Salem this week to attend the poultry show.

Drs Lowe and Turner will be in Scio again in February. Watch for date later.

Mr and Mrs Harry Thompson of Monmouth visited at the home of H L Shelton last week. Mrs Thompson is best known to Scio people as Olea Shores.

Two incubators for sale—One Trusty, 150 egg capacity complete with brooder, and one Sure Hatch 150 egg capacity with brooder; \$10.00 each. Wm Brenner.

Mrs Smith aged 77 years, the mother of Matt Smith who lives four miles south of town, was brought to the Parker hospital last Sunday and underwent a serious surgical operation. She is getting along better than was expected from one of her age and her recovery is looked for at an early date.

The Northwest Farmstead, one of the Orange Judd publications which is advertised in connection with the News in another column is one of the best Clubbing bargains which has ever been offered to the public anywhere. This is a live farm and home paper and comes once a week, 52 times a year. This paper is yours for the asking when you pay one dollar for a year's subscription to the News. Be sure and ask for the Farmstead if you want it and your name will be entered for one year. This applies to either new subscribers or renewal. Don't put off subscribing too long as this offer may be withdrawn at any time.

## OUR GROCERY DEPARTMENT



Is complete and our stock fresh and clean.

We carry a full line of Tea, Coffee, Spices, Canned Goods, and in fact, everything needed for the table.

HIBLER & GILL CO.

## Watch This Space Next Week



Woodworth Drug Co. Albany Oregon

### NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATOR'S SALE

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned administrator of the estate of Matt Loberger, deceased, was on December 7, 1914, duly licensed to sell the following real property to-wit:

Beginning at a point 29.335 chains north from the southeast corner of the Donation Land Claim of Nathaniel Crank and Susannah Crank, his wife, being Notification No. 568 and Claim No. 49 and 51 in Township 10, South Range 1 and 2 West of the Willamette Meridian, Oregon, and running thence west 29.45 chains; thence south 9.78 chains; thence east 20.45 chains to the east boundary line of said Claim; thence north along the east boundary line of said claim 9.78 chains to the place of beginning, containing 20 acres more or less all lying and being in Linn County, state of Oregon.

That in pursuance of said order of sale the undersigned will on Saturday, the 16th day of January, 1915, at 1 o'clock in the afternoon, on said premises, proceed to sell the same at public auction to the highest bidder for cash.

First publication December 17, 1914, last January 14, 1915.

R. SHELTON, Administrator. C. C. Bryant, Attorney.

The Santiam Farm Topics were received this Thursday morning to late for this weeks issue.

### NOTICE OF HEARING OF FINAL ACCOUNT

Notice is hereby given that the final account of B F Darby, as administrator of the estate of Daisy D Darby, deceased, has been filed in the County Court of Linn County, State of Oregon, and that the 18th day of January, 1915, at the hour of 10:00 o'clock a m has been duly appointed by such Court for the hearing of objections to such final account and the settlement thereof, at which time any person interested in such estate may appear and file objections thereto in writing and contest the same.

Dated this 17th day of December, 1914.

B. F. DARBY, Administrator. S. H. Heltzel, Attorney for Estate.

Loggers and Dry Sox shoes sold at the People's Store cheaper than elsewhere.