TOO MANY CHURCES

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regonian Intelligently Discuss-Duplication and Waste in Church Work.

etter to our lively contemporary orvallis Gazette-Times, on the ch Problem in War Time" conthe following paragraph:

s in Corvallis. If the average of the establishments is \$3000, nual charge for church opera-\$36,000. Now \$10,000 would run r baths, rest rooms for men and and all that, a real honest-tobe \$26,000 for real Christian

financial calculation might be a

it is certain to bear fruit. re is no economic justification in Lanc County. welve churches in a place which dequately support, say, not more four or five. The churches do so far as we know, assert that is a place for all of them. But it would seem, thinks that the n other ought to give way. The has long since passed, however, any denomination has dared to that it is the sole voice and dian of truth, and all or most of agree that the others are finding to the eternal kingdom; but justification for existence has that there is a variety of reis needs and, therefore, there is responding variety of religious ds and organizations. It is not purpose to assert that a single h, or a single designated group hurches, is enough, but to say that old rule of survival of the fittest solve the problem if the churches nselves do not take hold vigory, disinterestedly and consecray, and find a way out.

year or two ago there was a surof a single county of Oregon by roup of far-seeing clergy men unthe auspices of the interdenomional conference of ministers of gon. The investigation was made nstakingly and thoughtly, with a to ascertain the facts and to face n and to state them. Lane County, seat of the State University, with typical American population and characteristic distribution of town county life, was chosen. The rewere startling and not at all rering. It may be well to recapituthem, with the explanation that survey had to do with the terrioutside of Eugene, the largest

fajority of churches were estabed and located by guesswork, with actual knowledge of the comity needs.

fain in church membership during year was good, but with comparaely small churches,

Only 13.1 per cent of the population tside of Eugene) were church abers. Little country church dying out; big

church growing. Competitive religion" in small com-

rehend the "missionary states nship" necessary to lay out their adequately.

called for the observations of the lay CLASS ONE LISTINGS critic, was chiefly that there was needless duplication of religious endeavor by a dozen churches occupying a field where there was room for fewer. How did that come about? It arose mainly from the belief that creed was all important and must find expression the form of substantial works. But now it seems less important to both laity and clergy. Some

churches languish and all are hurt by en I last counted we had twelve duplication and competition. The problem may be, in part at

least, solved when churches are not located, in town or country, by guesswork or by a preacher-solicitor anxlass church plant, gymnasium, ious about his job, but only after an particularly excited over the discovactual determiniation by competent authority of its need. The authority ess seven day church, and there might well be furnished by an interdenominational organization, which

would decline to give its sanction to, construction or maintenance of a awary-we think it is; but the church in a community otherwise adtion that there should be a equately provided. It is not an imunity church, suitable to the re- practical suggestion; it could be made social and educational needs entirely practicable if such a solution smaller towns is being thought- were to be approached in the spirit discussed by clergy and laity, which led to the informative survey made by the combined denominations

In another editorial on the same subject, the Oregonian concludes, as follows:

Doubtless some of our doubting friends will be interested in the testimony of a preacher, Dr. Charles B. Taylor, of McArthur, Ohio, who has, as he says, been "ministering for forty years to the needs of various groups of country churches among the hills of Southwestern Ohio." Dr. Taylor offers this pointed assertion:

"The first thing to do is to get the church at large awake to the need of centralization of country churches, The present condition of these churches is a woeful waste of the Lord's money, the labors of his ministers and the energies of his people. It is a detriment to the spiritual life of the country community and a hindrance to the upbuilding of the kingdom of God in the souls of men. Whenever the church is ready awake to these truths, we will find a way to central-

A way is being found. The Oregonian is told that the interdenominational Committee in Oregon is making decided headway. A part of the plan is to agree that competition shall be eliminated when there is room for one and not for two. In some cases, one denomination will give way, in other cases another. So, in this way, there will be a better chance for the denominations as a whole to prosper, and the communities to be well served. A live church anywhere is better before February 15. As all questionthan no church, or two churches dying or nearly dead.

National Prohibition Nearer.

The vote on national prohibition in the house of representatives will hardly encourage the enemies of forced abstinence, who had been given cause to hope, from recent prohibition reverses, that a reaction against "dry' legislation had finally set in. By giving a margin of 25 votes over the necessary two-thirds the house substantiated the advance claims of the

prohibition leaders and put itself decisively on record of favoring the ities little better than proselyting submission to the states of a constitu-Churches generally have failed to tional amendment. Thus, while the final campaign has really just begun,

ONLY TEMPORARY

District Board Will Make Final Disposition of All Classifications.

Registrants of Multnomah County and, presumably, many in outside counties, who have based their sole claim of deferred classification on industrial or agricultural grounds, are much perturbed on receiving notification from their division exemption board that they have been assigned to division A of class 1. Several who have failed to note that this classification is but temporary have become ery that they are in class one. This is no occasion for perturbation

over this temporary classification, once the registrant acquaints himself with the procedure which must be followed by his division exemption board. This explanation by one of the chairman should allay all undue alarm on the part of the man seeking deferred classification on industrial grounds.

"Under our working rules we exemption board members have absolutely nothing to do with the claims for deferred classification based solely on industrial or agricultural status of the registrant, except that we may make recommendation.

Case Goes to District Board.

"Where an unmarried man presents only a claim that he is a skilled worker in a necessary war enterprise, or is the directing head of a necessary agricultural enterprise, in asking deferred classification his case rests in the ands of the district draft board.

'We are bound by the rules to notify men of this status that they are temporarly listed in Class 1, final decision as to where they shall be classed being entirely out of our hands. If the man's claims seem to justify it we may, in the proper space on the questionnair, note a recommendation that he be placed in class 2 or class 4. It is seldom, however, that we do this.

"I cannot emphasize too strongly the fact that the district draft board must pass on all claims of men who think themselves skilled laborers or managing or engaged in a necessary industrial or agricultural industry. The draft board, not the exemption boards, classifies all such registrants and, while the higher board is probing into their status these men are temporally placed in class one.

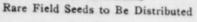
Information for Registered Men

Except to fill vacancies in calls already made, no more men will be drafted from Oregon or other states naires will be completed before that date, this will give men taken hereafter, except such few as may be needed prior to February 15 to fill vacancies, the advantage of the new classification system.

Very few men would have been taken from Oregon in any event prior to the next draft, which it is now announced will not be earlier than February 15. This is one of only 10 states that have already filled their quotas in the first draft, barring a few vacancies caused by rejections at the training camps.

Future draft quotas are to be filled first from Class 1, comprising men without dependents. They will be drafted from deferred classifications only when Class 1 is exhausted thus

age who has taken out his first pa pers declaring his intention to be ome a citizen of the United States, is subject to draft. It makes no difference how long or how short a time ago he may have taken out his first papers.



Representative W. C. Hawley has just been advised by the Department of Agriculture that there have been allotted to him for distribution in his district a limited number of packages of new and rare field seeds. Those available for testing this year are Kansas alfalfa, Kaiser field peas,

Bangalia field peas and white sweet clover. Each package contains enough seed for making a careful test and cultural directions accompany the seed. The department would prefer that a farmer experiment with but one kind of seed at a time, as the supply is so small that the demand for it is never supplied and as general a distribution as is possible to secure is desired. Mr. Hawley will glad-

ly supply a package of such seed to such of his constituents as may write him for it so long as the seed may be available. It is suggested that an order of preference be made when writing for the seed, so that if a certain variety is no longer available another desirable kind may be substituted. He expects his quota to be exhausted by

the demand before the first of Febru-

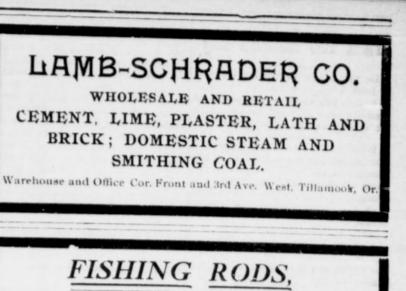
Keeping it Out of The Paper.

ary.

Where is the editor who has not been importuned with tears to keep the name of some offender against the law out of his paper? Many there are who can also remember the threats of dire vengeance if the request to "kill" a certain story was not complied with. The average publisher does not take pleasure in parading the misfortune of some men of wom en in the columns of his newspaper, but as a purveyor of the news of the day he is often called upon to print things he would much prefer not to. Here is a reply of John L. Sullivan, editor of the Evening Leader, St. Mary, O., to those who try to prevail upon him to overlook certain matters of news: "Life would be much more pleasant to the average newspaper publisher

if everyone would walk in the straight and narrow way. One of the real painful duties of the publisher is to print the news concerning people's wrongdoings. That may appear almost incredible to the reading public, but it is a fact, just the same. It is the good that men and women do that we like to publish, and not the evil they do. Although the evil doings make more spicy reading matter and are received with more apparent relish by those who delight in the sensational side of human life, we always try to put ourselves in the other fellow's place

"There are very few households but that have their family skelton,' very few homes were misfortunes of some kind or other have not caused heartaches and humiliation. It is not be coming, therefore, for one person to gloat over the misfortunes of another person, or laugh in derision when the shadow of scandal hangs like a pall over the other fellows home. It would be pleasing to us if there were a law



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Professional revivalist is, on the le, not helpful.

Churches negative attitude toward amusement problem is outstandreason for its small social influ-

bsentee pastor is a prevailing evil. Only twenty-two out of ninety-four al churches have regular services. lost flourishing institution in counis rural dancehall.

ommunity church believed to be of vital needs.

et it not be overlooked that these ngs were the product of the study investigation of clergymen from denominations-Christian, Congational, Methodist, Baptist and sbyterian. Their predictions and udices, if they had any, naturally ald have led them to favor the sent institution; but they could not conscientious men, anxious to w and to be of service, get away a the facts.

is a commonplace observation the unwillingness of the church | recognize and attempt to solve raally the amusement problem is great reason of its failure to grow be in accord with the spirit of times. On the contrary, it has ight that its mission was not dly but purely spiritual, and that work was ended when its message delivered, Is that so? Or is that Probably it will be found that y men who have heard the call to ne preachers have no adaptitude social work or service, and decline fail on that account to leave the ways or modify the old formulas. is true, too, that many of them ern amusements and many modly, and they feel that they have in on such things. Let us not say

it has begun in a manner propitious to prohibition, which now occupies a sound strategic position.

To make valid the amendment three fourths of the states, that is, 36, must ratify it. The issue is now-assuming that the two houses can agree on one remaining point of difference-out of

the hands of congress and definitely up to the individual states, into which we may expect the battle to be carried next year with the election of legislatures. Twenty-six states have voted themselves dry, and though in some instances the law has not yet taken effect, public sentiment in those states is decisively against the saloon. In some other states, such as Ohio and California, the wet forces have retained their hold only with difficulty, and new elections may easily change their situation. Given six or

seven years in which to ratify the national amendment, the anti-saloon organizations need only a continuation of the present trend of sentiment to accomplish their end.

Sentiment is not changing, noticeably, at least. Among recent declarants for national prohibition is Governor Whitman of New York, known not only as an able and far sceing politician, but as a shrewd student of national affairs, Federal regulation of liquor selling as a war measure is a factor for prohibition, for of late years liquor has shown decreasing ability to recover ground once lost. A "dry" nation seems now more than ever to be principally a matter of time .- Spokesman Review.

This Might Help Some.

A South Carolina man claims to a deep conviction that most have made a substantial contribution the second question is "Yes." to the movement for the conservation occupations are frivolous and un- of human life, through the invention of a device which will positively prescience no alternative but to make vent accident to autonobiles at grade crossings. The working- of the atthey are right or wrong; but it tachment is simple, and is explained waive his exemption, the local board not be disputed that there are by the inventor as follows: "While has no choice but to put him in class ul occupations and harmless the car is running 15 miles an hour a V. However, he must answer his usements which the church has white bulb shows on the radiator, at questionnaire and return it within the arned that it cannot and should not 25 miles a green bulb appears, at 40 a seven day limit to his local exemption board, just as a citizen must do, or take made in This is only one aspect of the prob-m. The situation at Corvallis, which plays "Nearer My God to Thee.!"

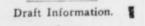
making it necessary to go to the next quota.

An exception to this will be made in the case of experts and men highly skilled in agricultural or industries. It is announced that the government

will soon call for a large number of men of this special class. They will be taken as needed for such special work from whatever classification they may have been granted.

A limited number of officers not now in active service, and retired officers of the Oregon National Guard, who are physically fit and between the ages of 23 and 47, are eligible for enlistment as privates first class for attendance at the next Officers' Training Camps, which begin January 15. Official word to this effect has just been received by John M. Williams, Acting Adjutant General, from the Chief of the Bureau of Militia Affairs at Washington, with the request that it be given publicity.

Applications for the camps by such officers must be approved by the Bureau. Those qualifying at the camps, which will be held in Southern California and the Southern States, will receive commissions.



Is an alien of draft age (not an an alien enemy) subject to draft? Is a man of draft age who has taken out only his first papers subject to draft?

These questions have been asked of ocal exemption boards time and again since the sending our of questionnaires began. The answer to the first question is "No." The answer to

An alien of draft age who has not declared his intention to become a citizen of the United States may waive exemption on the ground of his hot water. alienage, but if he does not want to and formed gas. Dieting did no good, waive his exemption, the local board I was miserable until I tried buck-

any sort whatsoever from appearing class for enough men to fill up the in the public prints. But it would seem that the welfare of society demands that such things should be published, and we cannot have our way as long as such is the case.

"There are very few days of the week when some one does not call up and request that this, that and the other thing shall be kept out of the paper. Reference is had, of course, to matters affecting the morals of people and there is only one answer that we can give, which is: 'We cannot make fish of the one and flesh of the other.' That is to signify that if we keep one offenders name out of the paper, we must keep the other offener's name out of the paper, and vice versa. Furthermore, if we kept all of their names out of the paper, the whole community would be 'on our back,' figuratively speaking, because the community is not so charitable as may seem upon the surface.

"Now, there is only one way by which you can keep the names of of fenders against the laws of the commonwealth out of the newspapers and that is to turn their footsteps into the paths which lead to rightcousness and not to the police court. Whenever a man or a woman is so unfortunate as to get his or her name into the police court blotter, the news paper's duty to the public is to publish the facts, no matter whether the offender be high or low, rich or poor learned or unlearned. So it is a waste of time and energy to give the editor

curtain lectures over the 'phone simply because he has performed a duty that is everything but pleasant to him.

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