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Not Taking Orders.

An exchange relates the following interview between a layman and a minister:

"Doctor, I heard you preach last Sunday. I was greatly moved by your sermon. But, if you will permit me, I would like to offer this criticism: I am a business man, at the head of a large concern. We send out many salesmen. If one of my salesmen went into a prospective customer's place of business, talked as convincingly for one hour as you did last Sunday about the fine qualities of our goods, and then walked out without trying to get an order, we would discharge him."

And the minister, afterward relating the incident, added:

"I was rebuked. The layman was right. I was pleading for a verdict. I sought no announcement of it. I was selling goods. I did not try to get an order."

The rebuke was, of course, due. The marked lack in most sermons is the absence of appeal for immediate results. The effort to please, to interest, to inform, is apparent; but to seek for and expect the sermon to come back in renewed consecration is quite beyond the intent or hope of many preachers.—NORTHWESTERN CHRISTIAN ADVOCATE.