DESTRUCTION MS CHURCH A SLEEPING GIANT

Dr. Martin D. Hardin, the popular pastor and eloquent preacher of the Second Presbyterian church, of this city, dealt in some plain talk before the congregation of Presbyterians who assembled at Tenth Avenue church Sunday night a week ago, His sermon was the talk of the tuwn for several days.

Therefore, yesterday morning when he spoke to his own people many of his most intimate friends were not surprised to hear him say some startling things. As the crowd filed out of the church the men and women were whispering one with another:

"That sermon will cause a senation." That sermen will cause a senation.

"That sermon will cause a senation." said some.

"Dr. Hardin will start a big religious revival in this town or be criven out by the people," declared a man who had heard and enjoyed his sermon.

"I would not have missed that sermon for \$106," said another.

Dr. Hardin took for his text "Seek ye first the kingdom of God and His Righteousness." Math. vi-23.

He said: "Here is one of the most simple fundamental and direct commands of Jesus Christ, but it is one that Christ's professed followers, often made and in practice virtually set aside. He has been talking of the needs, the physical life, the primary wants of the body, food, raiment and shelter. And He gives it as His deliberate judgment that even these necessities of life are secondary to filling the soul with God. The first duty of man, the duty which takes precedence of all others is to seek God, and become right with Him. Christ then adds that if we do find God, and become true members of His kingdom, and these legitimate though secondary. come true members of His kingdom, all these legitimate, though secondary needs, will be amply supplied by a kind, beavenly Father. And these or any other problems we need not spend one anxious day. But the first thing is to seek the kingdom of God.

"Now I have no doubt that many of us try to seek the kingdom of God first, but we have a mistaken idea of what it is to put God's kingdom and righteousness first. Judging from what

can be seen, many of us reason and act in the following way: "I am a sinful man. My Father in heaven has loved me, and offered to me eternal life in His Son, who has died to make atonement for my sins. It's the right thing for me to do, the prudent and safe thing for me to do, to accept this atonement, this offered eternal life. Now, while it is within my reach, therefore, I will do so.
"I stand before men, and make s

public profession of faith in Jesus Christ, as He taught that I should do. declare my faith in Him. I do trust His merits to take care of my soul. I believe that now after I have shown my faith in Him, by publicly promising His Church that when I die I am going to be carried to heaven and freely mitted all its privileges, not from any worth or worthiness of my own, but freely because of what Christ has done for me in His death. I have now put the getting into the kingdom of heav-en first, and am to a greater or less degree set free from this higher matter o look out for the secondary lower interests of my being. I am insured as it were against the great loss of without God, I am now unhamered to see that I lose nothing that also worth while in the present world. It is true that I ought to some legree keep alive my interest in religion, and the Church and spiritual things, but having attended to the Christ henceforth I can safely put the getting of a great many other things n a very important place in my thoughts, purposes and desires.

"My friends, when the matter is put in this light, it is not necessary for us to be told that this man, who has gone through the experiences that have been described, has not put the kingdom of God first at all. He has simply put his own selfishness first all the way through, and instead of allowing the thought of the infinite love of God to cure him of his selfish desire this world, he has used God's Word as to make him selfish enough to possess this world and the world to come all for himself. What is it to put the kingdom of God and his righteousness truly first in the

heart?
It is to sink all thought of self in the love of Jesus Christ. It is to deny self. It is to take up a cross and follow Jesus Christ in a life of repunciation. It is to become a true lov-er of our fellow beings, an earnest worker like our Master for their uplifting. It is to see in God all that is beautiful, deservable and worthy. It is to open the whole life, through faith, to the love, life, the pure and holy life of God; it is to so believe in the righteousness of Jesus Christ that henceforth for us the greatest thing in the world is to do the will of Christ, to spread the wonderful news of His love to carry the influence of His divine personality to all men, to praise and magnify Him, until the life that was in the form of the dispensary system. This presictions were described by the dispensary system. This presictions were described by the dispensary system. We need personal workers in our churches, men and women who are consistent and spiritual in their lives, who will go out and seek others who may be consistent and spiritual in their lives, who will go out and seek others who may be consistent and spiritual in their lives, who will go out and seek others who may be consistent and spiritual in their lives, who will go out and seek others who may be consistent and spiritual in their lives, who will go out and seek others who may be consistent and spiritual in their lives, who will go out and seek others who may be consistent and spiritual in their lives, who will go out and seek others who may be consistent and spiritual in their lives, who will go out and seek others who may be consistent and spiritual in their lives, who will go out and seek others who may be consistent and spiritual in their lives, who will go out and seek others who may be consistent and spiritual in their lives, who will go out and seek others who will go out and seek others who will go out and seek others who will see the consistent and spiritual in their lives, who will go out and seek others who will go out and seek others who will be consistent and spiritual in their lives, who will go out and seek others who will be consistent and spiritual in their lives, who will go out and seek others who will be consistent and spiritual in their lives, who will go out and seek others who will be consistent and spiritual in their lives, who will go out and seek others who will be consistent and spiritual in their lives, who will be consistent and spiritual in thein lives. Him has found its way into all hu- the dispensary system. This predic-manity. This was what seeking the tion, which was finally and fully vermanity. This was what seeking the kingdom of God and His righteousness kingdom of God and His righteousness lifed today, was based on the belief meant to Jesus Christ Himself. This that the Senate would stick to the was what it meant to His apostles and this is what the writers of the New Testament said it should mean for all re to receive the full blessedness of God's promises. God and His stubborn for the abolishment of the righteousness before all business, all State dispensary, and that falling to leasures, all society. There never is agree, nothing would be done.

The least dispensary, and that falling agree, nothing would be done. is come a time when the believer can rightfully put anything in importance before the kingdom of God. The righteousness of God is to control and direct buying and selling, marrying and burying, pleasures and duties of all kinds. The merchant, the lawyer, the farmers, the doctor, the teacher, the preacher, the statesman and duy laborer are only to engage in those forms of activity which conduce to the God-life in men. They cannot put the getting of a living for themselves out of these spheres of life before the reign of God's righteousness. They are to be mindful of God, in the whole spirit of their life. They are to carry Him into everything that they think do plan and do, and whatever canbe done for the glory of God, cannot be done at all.

"It is manifest that here is a conception that many of us find it hard to realise. It demands sacrifices that are not easily made. It means the crucifixion of self. It requires faith and courage, and heroism. It means manhood and womanhood at its highest and we all find it a great deal easier not to exert ourselves, a great deal pleasanter not to be really aroused so that we take anything very strengular and the easier not to exert ourselves, a great deal pleasanter hot to be really aroused so that we take anything very strengular of the benetting sins of the Church of God to-day, ninety-nine men out of a hundred never live while they live.

The MOTHER'S FAVORFIE.

The control and went into the election of successors to Chairman H. H. Evans, of the directorate: Directors Jno. Bell Towlil and L. W. Boykin and L. W. Boykin and V. Evans was beaten by Representative of the directorate. Directors in the fallent conditions of self the teacher to carry Towlil and L. W. Boykin and V. Evans was beaten by Representative of the fallent of the surface of the fallent of the fallen rightfully put anything in importance at noon and went into the election of successors to Chairman H. H. Ev-

thither.

"Whatever the reason for our failure to realize it. I know that the Christian life which alone has found the kingdom of God, is never realized by the ease-loving, sailish men and women, who are content with themselves and their surroundings. The true kingdom of God has never been found by those whose hearts beat no faster before the highest truths they know than before the thoughts of dinner or the bed on which they sleep. Show me a body of men and women who are dull and lethargic and immoral by their thoughts of God, and I will tell you that they know not the God of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. For to see and know Him aright is to have the heart stirred to its profoundest depths, is to be carried away with feeling, is to be lifted out of all stupor and sleep, and made gloriously alive and active in His service. I came to you, my friends, with these direct measures.

you, my friends, with these direct questions: Are you striving to let God into the whole of your lives? Are you, in your heart, really unwilling to make the sacrifices that are inherent in your professions of faith, if they are true and real? Are you praying for more zeal in your religious? Are you striv-ing to let God have all that there is in you? Or, are your professions of faith a mere form? Or is your idea of the kingdom of God and His righteousness a thing so low that it does

ing?

"I realize that I myself have came far short of my duties and privileges as an embassador of Jesus Christ, but, I say to you, that I would rather close my lips and never again attempt to preach a sermon than to be the pastor of a church where formalism had taken the place of genuine faith and true heart religion. I would rather see no church at all, than a church strong in members, but dead in spirit. Better no professions whatever than mere pretenses without content and reality in them, I do not in any sense want to be the means of destroying the souls of my fellow men; but it comes home to my heart at times with crushing power that my ministrations instead of going home to the hearts of my hear-ers simply hold up ideals which are going to make many of us poorer beings, because the truth is rejected. This church does not measure up to its opportunities. I know we all like to ongratulate ourselves on our big conregations and on the amounts of our penevolences, but these things are not in themselves necessary evidences of a leep spiritual life. Any minister that to our city can attract more people than assemble here, and if it happens to come on Wednesday night t can draw ten of you to where the rayer meeting cantreach one.

"Let me state you some things that are not pleasant, but. I believe that hey are true and ought to be said. I them not that I may offend you. but because I love you and with God's help want to lead you aright. The prayer meetings of this church are smaller in proportion to the size of the congregation than any that I ever at-There are fewer officers present in those meetings than in any church I have known. There are fewer men and women who seem to be full of zeal in doing personal work for Christ.
"I feel a lack of prayer in the life of

church which at times weighs heavily upon me. "I do not want to be unjustly critical and censorious. I fully realize that I myself am in no small degree responsible for these things, but I came to you to-day, and say that, by the grace of God, I will henceforth strive to meet every obligation to this church, to the full measure of my ability and ask you in your hearts to promise to do the same thing. Oh, if there can only be real consecration to God. Oh, if we can only let go of the miserable selfishness and vanities which enslave us and dedicate our hearts and lives to the kingdom of God and his rightebusness if we can put them first, where if there be any reality in them they belong. What power may not such a church as this wield over the life of this community!

"Brethren this church is a sleeping glant. We are not going to remain fettered. I believe that you are going to awaken to the calls of God. I believe that you are going to see what there is to be done, and do it in the might of a miracle working God."

CHAIRMAN' EVANS SHELVED.

Mr. J. M. Rawlinson His Successor-Other Members South Carolina Dispensary Board Messrs, Wylle, Black and Duke — General Assembly Adjourns.

Observer Bureau, 1209 Main street,

Columbia, S. C., Feb. 17. position that, though a purification measure should be adopted, the State dispensary should not be abolished, and that the House would be equally

The joint assembly met in the House

RECNAL WORK IS NEEDED. be Pastor, Rev. W. L. Nichelson, Emphasizes the Need of Personal Work by Christians and the Need of a Revival—His Sermon Was Based on the Account of Andrew Bringing Peter to Christ.

It is very probable that more than ne pastor in Charlotte emphasized at his service yesterday the need of a revival in the various churches of the city. This need is the subject that is much talked and discussed by the pastors in their meetings and their inerest in it is evident in their ser

Yesterday morning at Brevard Street Methodist church the pastor, Rev. W. L. Nicholson, spoke in his sermon of this need and used as his text these words: He first findeth his own brother Simon and saith unto him, we have found the Messiah, which is, being in-

terpreted, the Christ. And he brought him to Jesus. John 1:41-42.

In part he said: "In the latter part of this chapter we have accounts of incidents during three days in the life of Jesus Christ. The first of these was when Jesus came to John the Baptist, the first time, probably, after his baptism; the second incident was on the next day when John the Baptist seeing Jesus approach exclaimed: 'Be-hold the Lamb of God,' and two of his disciples left him and followed Jethe third incident was when on the day following the two disciples, Andrew and the other supposed to be John, the brother of James, came to Jesus and inquired of Him where He dwelt. Jesus answered them in these words: 'Come and see,' and they went and saw where He dwelt, and remained with Him that night, for it was then about the tenth hour.

"Let us for a little while this morning study the character of Andrew. and as a guide in this study let us take these three words, 'findeth,' 'sa-

ith' and 'brought.' "Andrew was a personal worker for lesus, and the first thing he did after meeting Jesus was to go and find His own brother Peter and bring him to Jesus. Andrew was not then especially commissioned to do this personal work but he did not wait for a special commission; as soon as he came in contact with the Lord he wanted to tell others of Him so that they might have in their hearts the same blessing which he had in his. This was proof that that spirit of God was dwelling in his heart, for in every heart where His spirit dwells that heart yearns to share that blessing with some one else. There are some things—material things—which diminish by division with others, but this was not so with spiritual blessings, for these increase by division with others. "Later on Andrew was commissioned

by our Lord and sent out as a special worker for Him, but he was not so commissioned at the time of which we are speaking. He had just found the Lord, and he did not wait for any special commission to tell the good news to others. So many of us when for not becoming personal workers for Jesus that we are not gifted in speech, and plead other excuses that are just as poor and just as futile, but Andrew made no such excuses as these; he was anxious to share the blessing which had come to him with others at once. He went and found first his brother Peter and told him that he had found Jesus. He did not wait until he could speak eloquently and learnedly, but he went in his simplicity and carried the good news to his brother. He did not speak eloquently, but he spoke earnestly, and that meant far more than eloquence without earnestness. Again, he spoke with assurance, assurance which confirmed the truth of his every word. This assur-ance in the heart of any personal worker for Christ is of invaluable assistance for his heart commands conspeaking on the all-important subject

"Andrew spoke to his brother about the Saviour and told his own experience; his effort was to win his brother to the Lord, and the method used was the best he could have used. He did not stop to discuss creed of doctrine with him, but just told him the simple story of Jesus and what He had done for him. It is not denominational creeds that save men, but the power of Jesus Christ. A man can be a good Twelve hundred men and women, full of the Holy Ghost. What can stand Christian and be an Armenian in belief, or he may be a Calvanist and be Christian; he can be a Presbyterian a Baptist or a member of any other denomination and be a Christian, for it is not the Church but Christ who

saves a man. "The result of Andrew's finding his brother and speaking to him of Jesus was that he brought him to Jesus and this result will crown the efforts of any man or woman who does personal work for Jesus in the spirit and with the earnestness of Andrew; for such

a spirit and such earnestness must result in suchess in soul winning.
"We need a revival in all of our churches in Charlotte; we need a great spiritual awakening, and God grant that such an awakening, such Columbia, S. C., Feb. 17.

It has been frequently pointed out to this correspondence, for several churches, men and women who are sary or in any way radically changing like Andrew, bring them to Jesus. Unthe dispensary system. This prediction, which was finally and fully verticed today, was based on the belief followers. Let us think of this, and realize the responsibility reating upon us as Christian people, and discharge this responsibility as we should, by doing real personal work."

Mr. Nicholson spoke earnestly, and the appeal he made for a more con-secrated and active church was felt by his congregation. He is doing faith-ful work as pastor of this church.

CIVIC IMPROVEMENT.

Written for The Observer, shown on every hand and those who are sceptical of this truth need but to look around and acquaint themselves with the movements in many of the towns, villages, and cities of our great

Commonwealth.

The General Assembly adjourned to realise. It demands sacrifices that are not easily made. It means the crucification of self. It requires faith and courage, and heroism. It means the and courage, and heroism. It means the southing to indicate that he is not a man of character, a quality that is believed to exert ourselves, a great deal case are not to exert ourselves, a great deal on the short of exert ourselves, a great deal on the short of exert ourselves, a great deal on the short of a man of character, a quality that is believed to be gatached to the other outsily. I have spoken here to you on the short of laxiness. I believe that it is on the short of laxiness. I believe that it is on the short of laxiness. I believe that it is on the short of dod to-day, ninety-nine mut of conditions of the course of God to-day, ninety-nine mut of this present that and the phone poles' should some outsile.

GRAMMERIAINS COUGH REMEDY THE MOCHER'S PAVORTIE.

The soothing and healing properties of this present tasts and prompts and permanent cures have made it a soorties will people everywhere. It is a source will people everywhere it is a flavorite will people everywhere. It is a source will be supplied to the course of course of course of course of course of the special properties of this present cures have made it as a flavorite will people everywhere. It is a substant that and prompts and as it contains no optim or either instructions and as it contains no optim or either instructions. And the properties of the people is sufficiently aroused, the interior of course in the substant as an adult. For simply drained to colds, ground as it contains no optim or either instructions are instructions. The properties of the people is sufficiently aroused, the interior of colds, ground as it contains no optim or either instructions are instructions. The properties of the people is sufficiently aroused, the interior of the properties of the people is sufficient and prompts of the properties of the people is sufficiently aroused. Th

when the sentiment of the people is so aroused as to demand it.

Why not also finaugurate a crusade against the biliboard? One only needs to take a drive through the city and its suburbs to fully realize the necessity either for its removal or, regulation. So objectionable has it become in many places that the American Civic Association has taken up the question of its removal. If the plea

question of its removal. If the plea be made that it is a most effective method of advertising, we would quote you the words of an astute and ex-perienced advertising agent: "Billboard advertising is of the poorest quality, so far as results are concerned and no se far as results are concerned and no critical advertisers, who require tests to show value, continue to use the signs along railroads and in other so-called good localifies. I believe sign money is mostly wasted." What a bad impression too must be given a prospective resident as he steps from the train to behold these signs, some of them almost offensive. How inof them almost offensive. finitely better it would be if the eye

could rest upon some attractive grass plot or "parking strip."
Good work always breeds other good work; and to rid a city of the ob-jectionable billboard will almost surely bring about a general improvement. The signboard is often nothing more bish, and with its removal will come also the removal of the filth and trash it conceals. Who of us that can not call up a picture of some vacant lot that had become a public dumping ground, unkept premises with an accumulation of ashes, tin cans and all manner of rubbish? Not only is this true of private residences, but the lots in the rear of many of the stores need a thorough cleaning up. The piles of old boxes, decayed vegetables, etc. are neither attractive to the eye nor conducive to health. Numbers would welcome a more frequent cleaning of the streets. Let me cite you what done in one city. In Harrisburg, Pa., the ladies of the Civic Club paid a man to keep three blocks of a paved street clear for one month. Apparently the work was lost, for it became dirty again and it was but three blocks out of two miles of paved streets. But the effort was not in streets. vain, for later another member of the same organization succeeded in inaugurating a systematic plan for doing the work and now, although there are 25 miles of paved streets, a "white wing" brigade paid by the city keeps these perfectly clean and no one would dream of returning to the old way.

The whole city has a share in this

matter of civic improvement. If the heads of the different departments will rigidly enforce ordinances relating to garbage disposal and subject violators to the ordeal of appearing in the city courts, a speedy reform will be noted. We appeal to the people to give their support to those in authority both in enforcing ordinances already existing and in creating new regulations wherever needed.

It is not sporadic attempts that we beg for, but vigorous, persistent, well sustained efforts on the part of the municipal authorities and the cordial support of every citizen. ANOTHER WOMAN.

CHINA PREFERS THE CASH.

Mexico's Proposal for Money Order and Parcels Post Arrange-

Mexico City, Feb. 18.-The Mexican Postoffice Department has endeavored to perfect arrangements with the Chinese government whereby a packet post and postal money order business could be established for mutual benefit of both countries and especially in aid of Chinese subjects here who make continuous remittances to China, but the reply is that as China does not belong to the Postal Union nothing can prefers direct shipments of cash to that country.

Death of W. H. Sapp, of Guilford. Correspondence of The Observer.

Greensboro, Feb. 17.-Mr. William H. Sapp died this morning at the home of his father, Mr. W. G. Sapp, at Jamestown at the age of 36 years. The funeral will be conducted by Rev. A. G. Kirkman to morrow at 1 o'clock at Deep River church. Deceased had been a telegraph operator ever since he was a small boy, learning the business here under Mr. G. W. Alley. He worked here, at Concord, Nortolk and other places and was said to be an exceptionally fine operator. Up to a year ago he was joint agent for the Atlantic Coast Line and Southern Railway at Jessup, Ga., but the work was too hard for him and he gave it up, returning to Charlotte and working for the Western Union until last fall, when he contracted a deep cold, which developed into consumption, the disease that caused his death. He is survived by a widow and two children, father and one brother, Mr. Alfred Sapp. His mother, two sisters and one brother all

died from consumption. Mr. Tillman May be Up To-Day. Washington, Feb. 18.—Senator Till-man, who has been fill with a severe cold, was better to-day and expects to get out of bed to-morrow. He hopes to be able to attend the sessions of the Senate Tuesday. Senator Mallory, of Florida, who al-

OLD AGE

so has been Ill, is better to-night.

DEPENDS NOT UPON YEARS, BUT UPON VITAL FORCE.

In Charlotte lately there has been a good deal of discussion in regard to old people. Some at fifty years call themselves old, and really appear so, while others at seventy years seem active, vigorous and young. It is not years, but it, is loss of That the spirit of civic progress is vital force that makes a person old. country-wide in its manifestation is Weakened digestion, thin blood and poor circulation soon start functional powers and vitality on the wane, and then the symptoms of old age quickly

appear. A member of the firm of R. H. Jordan & Co., well known druggists, I know of no place where the citizens, says "that old feeling may be warded take a greater pride in the beauty and progress of their city than do the progressive citizens of Charlotte. This being so, the question of civic improvement is largely one of individual in that the provement is largely one of individual in that the provement is largely one of individual in the provement in the provement is largely one of individual in the provement in the provement is largely one of individual in the provement in the provement is largely one of individual in the provement in the provement is largely one of individual in the provement in the provement is largely one of individual individual in the provement in the pro The planting of trees, as suggested send rich, red blood coursing through by a recent contributor, is a much needed improvement, even in Charlotto strength to every organ of the body, where many of the streets are already and this is what makes the old feel natural manner strengthen digestion

RECRUITS FOR ROADS.

Winston-Salem, Feb. 17.-Judge Peebles, who is holding court here, does not believe in short sentences to the roads. All of the defendants committed at this term have been Miss Inez Grimes, of Trenton, Ill., who sent up for terms ranging from three is spending a short time here, the guest months to four years. It is also no- of Miss Claudie Rierson. The Neal Ho ted that when his honor does not believe a defendant to be a bad man or woman, or as guilty as the verdict of the jury might indicate, he either and Miss Anna Elizabeth Britt, of releases them upon payment of cost Philadelphia, took place in that city a or suspends judgment. The court has short time ago. Mr. Fulp is the son made fine progress this week. Only of Dr. E. Fulp, of Fulp, who is well a few jail cases remain to be tried. known. The son holds the responsible plete its work about Wednesday. Yesterday the police arrested John

Clinard and wife, Laura, wanted in Danville for larceny of a quantity of clothing. When Laura reached the jail she proceeded to have a "fit" but a physician who examined her pronounced the affair a shear. pronounced the affair a sham, so Laura was locked up. To-day an officer from the Virginia city arrived and took the couple back with him to-night, they agreeing to go without requitition pa-

Last night the young men of Waltel was the eventful place where the many young people "tripped the light fantastic" till past the midnight hour. The marriage of Mr. Walton Fulp is thought that court will com- position of foreman in the Baldwin locomotive shops, at Philadelphia. Engineer A. G. Barnes, of the Nor-

In Superior Court to-day F Nichols, a white girl, about 19 old, plead guilty to the charge stealing clothing from a Mrs. Ch with whom she boarded. Judge bles gave the defendant 12 mont

he penitentlary. Mr. R. N. Hackett, of North Wil boro, who was here to day, stated tha he had not filed any charges agains District Attorney Holton and had n idea of doing such a thing. I Hackett was in Washington seve days ago, but the purpose of his was not to file charges

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