

# Girl Rises from Kentucky Farm to Bishop

MARKABLE STORY OF MOLLIE ALMA BRIDWELL WHICH BEGINS IN OBSCURITY AND ITS CLIMAX IN FOUNDING OF A CHURCH



VIEW OF ZAREPHATH, NEW JERSEY, FOUNDED BY BISHOP WHITE



BISHOP ALMA WHITE THE FAMOUS ZAREPHATH BAND OF WOMEN PLAYERS

Gilliams Service

Do you believe in God, don't let Him know it. Political conventions get themselves when a nominee is mentioned, not shout in ecstasy when the Lord is called. You are happy, let the whole world know it. Don't keep your joy up. Show pep! Lift up your work your arms, shake your feet and shuffle your feet with the holy dance and save soul!

Alma took this as a great hardship, as she had a strong desire for an education. Finally, however, she was enabled to go to school for a short time, and though affected with abnormal bashfulness, to the surprise of her friends and the chagrin of her sisters, made enviable progress. When she was about 17 years of age she received a high school certificate to teach in the public schools and a few months later the family moved from Knoxville, Lewis county, Ky., to Bourbon county, where she entered the Millersburg Female college.

At the age of 19 Miss Bridwell received an invitation from an aunt living in what was then the wilds of Montana territory to visit her on a more or less protracted stay. By the strange irony of fate, the aunt, on giving her the invitation, had made a last resort to the one girl of all the sisters whom she liked the least; the one, in fact, for whom she confessed positive dislike. The other sisters, being afraid and unwilling to venture out into the land of Jesse James, cowboys and Indians, had one after another refused to go.

What would she do? It was one of the great crises of her life. Characteristic of what proved in later years to be the most dauntless of pioneer spirits, Alma determined to accept the invitation and three months previous to her twentieth birthday started on her long journey. Breaking of home ties was by no means easy. The hardest person to leave was her mother. But Alma had that some-

bishop and presiding elders, feeling that she was getting out of her place, frowned upon her, and look steps for the suppression of her work. But she continued to preach the gospel in the apostolic fashion, notwithstanding all that was said and done to stop her. In time she began to establish missions of an independent character.

At this she soon acquired a considerable following and in 1901 organized her constituency into a regular society. This point, to put it briefly, was reached through most unorthodox means for her friends and convictions. For years she had been pioneering almost alone the way for woman's ministry in her life she was inclined to push herself forward as a woman. Quite the contrary, she was a retiring disposition, slow over, she had two sons, Arthur and Ray, that required a mother's care and she could not neglect them, but she was impelled by a relentless purpose to save souls and felt a definite call to preach. With it had come a degree of faith in God and that has ever staggered her friends and followers as well as her enemies.

In 1902 this little society was incorporated under the state laws of Colorado. No one felt that much would come of it. Even her husband was of a doubtful mind. He on many occasions had opposed her most intently in her work. In fact, at times he was so opposed that she was nearly driven to despair. Never did he dream when he, a Methodist preacher of strong will and talent, married the untalented young woman from the hills of Kentucky, that he was trying up to what would prove to be a personally more powerful and more natural ally than his own. And afterwards when he saw it he was, perhaps, not just inclined to a little encouragement to her.

Surfaced it is to say, the little society has outstripped every other church in the west and through the years Mrs. White with an amazing faith in God and undaunted purpose has been steadily increasing the number of her converts. People are naturally interested in Bishop White as a personality, and are conscious of the fact that the secret of her success. She gives God the glory for what she has done, maintaining that she is only a poor instrument in His hands. Her work has been and continues to be a baffling puzzle to even her most intimate friends.

She has a way of thinking that distinguishes her from the majority of people to act accordingly. Once possessed with a purpose to do this or that she somehow succeeded in getting the mind of the Lord on any particular project, she proceeds as though nothing else, including the putting up of buildings, on two or three occasions, for instance, she had asked the manager and carpenter of the organization to start work on some new building without a dollar in sight to do it with, saying that if they hesitated on account of lack of funds she would begin excavating with pick and shovel herself. At one time she actually started digging ground for a new barn and garage that had been needed for some time at Zarephath, N. J., the headquarters of the Pillar of Fire. It is not necessary to add that the building went up. Bishop White has proved to her satisfaction that there is a will, plus some faith, there is a way.

There seems to be scarcely anything to which Bishop White was not or will not turn her hand. She has

planned buildings, directed in the laying of campus grounds and the planting of trees, built roads, written books, composed songs, edited papers, managed finances, and interested herself in politics even to the extent in the past presidential election, for instance, of proposing in one of her papers the nomination of Harding and attending the republican convention at Chicago to see that it was done—all in addition to her regular work as evangelist and bishop. One of the chief objects of Mrs. White's ministry is the championing of the cause of women.

At a time when such trepidation she learned to drive automobiles and passed the New Jersey state examination for drivers licenses. About the same time she secured her hand at swimming and succeeded a thing which she had never done before because she was afraid of the water, and later took to horseback riding, all of which, though perfectly consistent with her way of doing things, greatly surprised her friends.

Another secret of her success is to be seen in her personal appearance. Having a strong constitution and being rather tall and stoutly built, she makes a marked impression on the mind of the ordinary man. But a little acquaintance readily proves her to be a woman of a most affable and tender-hearted nature.

Although she claims that what she has accomplished has only been through God's blessing, both physical and mental, she admits that she has a weak heart and is a devoted patient for her health and has often given her attention to the study of the human mechanism of the body. Notwithstanding her physical weakness she has overcome a day for thirty years. She has simply defied sickness and pushed ahead.

In addition to founding the Pillar of Fire church with its splendid missionary staff, she has written 16 books, composed over 100 hymns, edited six papers in America and England, and has founded schools, among which are Alma college in New Jersey and the new Westminster college in Denver, Colo. She has traversed the continent for years and has made thirty trips across the ocean.

Mrs. White was recently consecrated first bishop of the Pillar of Fire church, in accordance with provisions made in the constitution of the denomination, having been ordained an elder nearly twenty years ago previous by the same denomination.

Though absolutely independent as a church itself, the Pillar of Fire is essentially an offshoot of Methodism and holds to the same fundamentals both in doctrine and administration. Mrs. White, as founder and general superintendent, has to all intents and purposes acted in the capacity of a

ride in a tourist sleeper to California

How to Make Pine Cough Syrup at Home

It is as equal for prompt relief. Takes but a moment to prepare, and saves you about \$1.

Pine is used in nearly all prescriptions and remedies for coughs. The reason is that pine contains several elements that have a remarkable effect in soothing the throat and chest. Pine cough syrups are combinations of pine and syrup. The "syrup" part is usually plain sugar syrup.

To make the most powerful remedy that money can buy, put 2 1/2 ounces of Pinex in a pint bottle, and fill up with home-made sugar syrup. Or you can use clarified molasses, honey, or corn syrup, instead of sugar syrup. Either way, you make a full pint—more than you can buy ready-made for three times the money. It is pure, good and tastes very pleasant. You can feel this take hold of a cough or cold in a way that means business. The cough may be dry, hoarse and tight, or may be persistent, or may be accompanied by inflammation of the membranes—and this Pinex and Syrup combination will stop it—usually in 24 hours or less. Splendid, too, for bronchial asthma, hoarseness, or any ordinary throat ailment.

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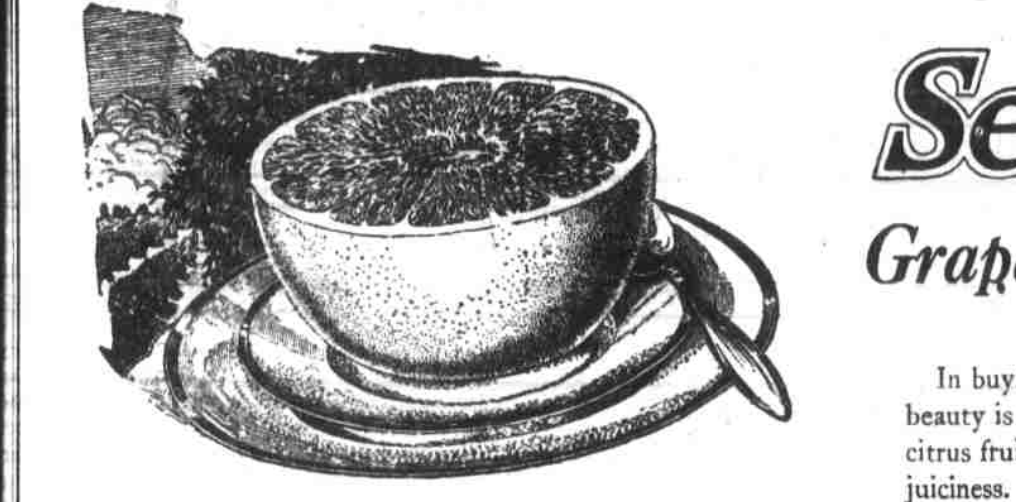
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## Rich in Food and Health Values

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Grapefruit or oranges that are russet or golden will be found just as juicy and sweet as fruits which are bright on the outside. Whatever the color, tree-ripened Sealdsweet grapefruit and oranges are good to eat.

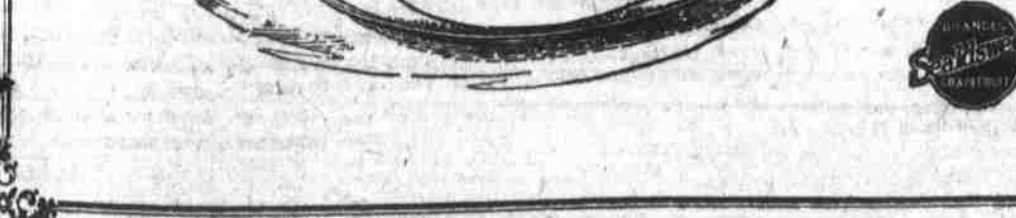
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