

THE First National Bank

OXFORD, N. C.



Capital \$100,000
Surplus \$ 40,000

SATURDAY NIGHT SERMONS

BY
REV. SAMUEL W. PURVIS, D. D.

SAFETY FIRST!

Text, "Seek ye first the kingdom of God."—Matt. vi. 33.

First things ought to be first. But much depends on what we prize most, and what we think ought to be first. The railroads for years had one idea supreme. All else was sacrificed for that—speed had to be attained. Competition drove them to cut down distance. Thousands of dollars were paid to cut down a mile. Trainmen "took a chance." Now the motto of at least one of the greatest railroads of the United States is "Safety first!" Surprise tests are made with a record of 100 per cent efficiency. No man "runs by" a signal nowadays. We've had wrong emphasis in many ways. We put the cart before the horse, room before foundation, effect before cause, creation before Creator. We sought feathers and added the bird; bought a shoestring and then the shoe; issued our ad. and then arranged our stock; put college before kindergarten. We sought riches, honor and pleasure before the kingdom of God. Christ taught just the contrary. God first—that is the law of the kingdom. When you visit a country you must familiarize yourself with its laws. Anything else is dangerous, because "ignorance is no excuse for violation of law." Safety demands compliance with law. Obey the law. Safety first!

The House of God.

Seek his kingdom at church. If you are hunting a diamond dealer in New York you go in vicinity of Maiden lane; a broker, on Wall street. God is everywhere, of course, but the house of God is a good place to seek for him. "Is there no salvation except through the church?" Yes, indeed; there are men in glory today, I suppose, who never saw a church, but the church is the ordained way. It is the vehicle which God has chosen to carry his truth down through the ages. Go there, seek God, find him, give money, time and service to "the body of Jesus Christ on earth." I know folks who run after every new club, lodge, badge, password. I know folks who had to give up everything sacred because they wanted to "go through the chairs." "Seek ye first." After your Master's kingdom has had its own, what is left of time and strength and money you may give as you please. I know folks who think they are getting ahead of God, but they're losing every time.

The Prayer Gate.

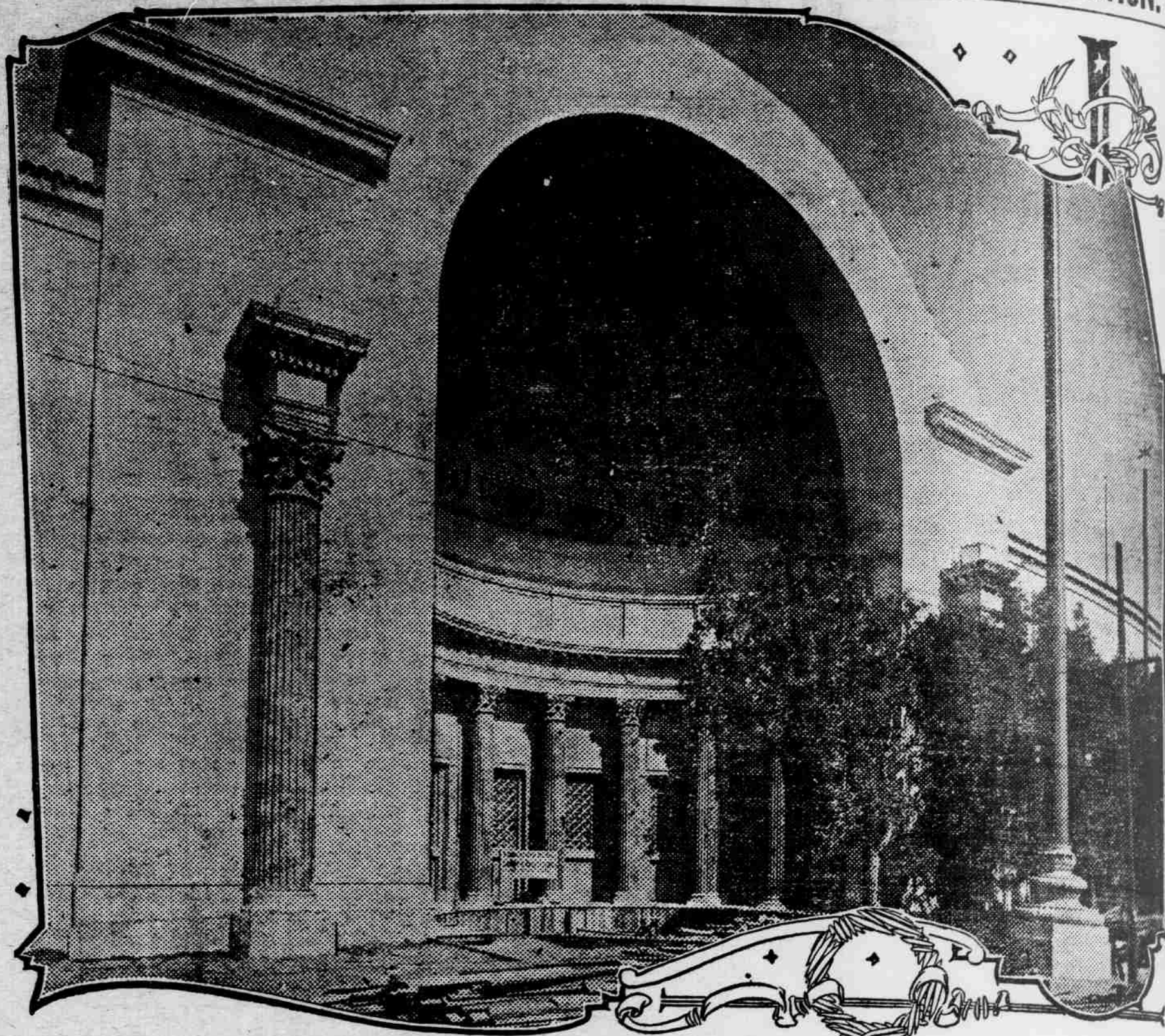
Go in person. Don't deputize your wife, your little child at Sunday school or the minister. Take your own cup and go to the well of living water. The promise is, "Seek and ye shall find." If health failed, how we would seek for it! We'd travel from seashore to mountain, from one coast to another, the summer in Maine, the winter in Florida. "Don't know how to pray?" It's a little child who lovingly and trustingly takes hold your hand and depends on you, knowing that you will see that it will get all it needs. Prayer is really common. Every breath is a prayer to the air to give the oxygen to cleanse the blood. Every bit of food eaten is a prayer for iron, sulphur, salt, potash, soda and any element needed to keep life going. Every book read or study mastered is a prayer for mental discipline or information. A boat comes to dock. Men throw out lines and cables. To hold the dock? No! All the strength of the machinery was set to work to bring the vessel up to the dock. We talk of bringing the Almighty to us instead of bringing ourselves to him. Prayer is not only petition, but conversation—a talk with God. Real prayer is restful. Some folks awake on a sleeper tired and aching because they brace their muscles against the motion of the train. If they could only relax they could sleep as well as at home in their room. We often pray as we sleep—braced.

The Guidepost.

If we are anxious to find the kingdom we will. I never found a four leaf clover in my life. My wife can find a dozen crossing the lawn. But if my life depended on finding a four leaf clover you may depend on it I would find one before sundown tomorrow. Where may one seek? Through the Bible—naturally! You want to visit New York, Philadelphia, Boston? You buy a standard guide book. You spread out the map and find out the car line to Union square, City Hall square and Scollay square. With your Baedeker in hand you go through the kingdom of England, Germany or Russia, the kingdom of George, William or Nicholas. If you want to know of the mineral kingdom you consult a book on geology; vegetable kingdom, one on botany; animal kingdom, one on that subject. If you want to know of God's kingdom you get God's book, of course! There were many books issued from the publishing houses yesterday—but the Bible is the latest book. You say it is thousands of years old? It is not five minutes old. God by his spirit translates it for the human heart and human need every minute. I know it doesn't amount to much to some folks. It won't help them any more toward heaven than the constitution of the United States or Lincoln's speech at Gettysburg. They go to it simply for literature, history or poetry. Don't stand outside Congressional library looking at the doors. Step in and see the most marvelous building in America.

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VIEW OF HALF DOME IN THE WONDERFUL PALACE OF EDUCATION.



Copyright, 1914, by Panama-Pacific International Exposition Company.

This photograph shows a half-dome in the colossal Palace of Education at the Panama-Pacific International Exposition in San Francisco in 1915. The world's most noted artists, mural decorators and sculptors were engaged to decorate the exposition palaces and, as a result, the huge structures are indescribably beautiful. The interior of the dome is embellished with a superb mosaic of brilliant colors, designed under the supervision of Mr. Jules Guerin, the noted artist. The height to the top of the half-dome is 110 feet.

ENORMOUS GRAIN YIELDS.

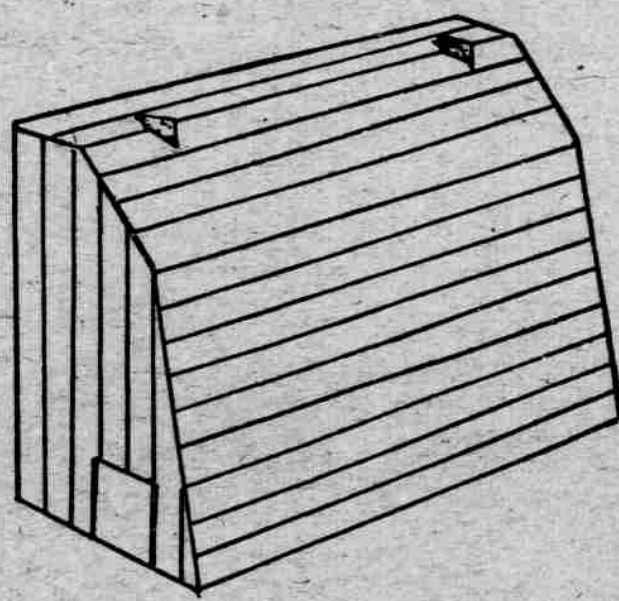
What French Agriculturists Are Doing to Increase the Crops.

French agriculturists are paying a great deal of attention at present to possible methods of cultivation of grain crops to increase the yield. Instances have already been worked out where twenty seeds of grain yielded an increase of over 700,000 within a period of one year. The principle is simple. It consists in preparing the seed bed in widely spaced lines on mellow land. At the end of two months the tufts springing from each grain are divided and replanted. Finally earth is hoed up about the new plants in such a manner as to provoke growth from all points brought into intimate contact with the soil. Each of these numerous shoots bears an ear. In reality it is a combination of "slipping," transplanting and pruning.

The methods were practiced by the Chinese centuries ago, and the principle was worked out experimentally in England as early as 1776. An Algerian colonist has been planting wheat and oats in the same fields for five years without an application of manure. He makes his furrows thirty-six inches apart, and plants the seeds therein at a distance of twenty inches from each other. He harrows constantly. During the five years he has averaged 1,800 pounds of oats per acre and 1,600 of wheat, while a neighbor's yield under ordinary practice has been a scant 800 pounds of oats and 500 of wheat.

Uses For Piano Box.

A piano box may be profitably used for several purposes. By putting the slanting portion of the top on hinges, so that it can be lifted, it may be used for a corn or oat bin. This is placed in the hallway of the barn on blocks so that it will not rest on the floor and become a harbor for mice and rats. Covered with good roofing paper that will turn water, the piano box may be used for a coal bin. If it is set with the opening toward the south the snow



THE BOX WITH MANY USES.

or rain from the north or east will not beat into the box when the lid is lifted. The box has also been found useful as a hog house when covered to keep out wind and rain. The small sow with young pigs can find here a good shelter from the storms. The top may be hinged in order to put in straw and take out the old bed. A small door in the end will admit the sow and pigs. By putting one or two small windows in the piano box it can be used for a chicken house, in which a dozen chickens can be kept very comfortably. One can fix a few roosts and several nests in the box.

SEWING—THOSE DESIRING PLAIN and fancy sewing will please call on Messames John and D. T. Gooch, 45 Main street.

WHEN YOU THINK OF BUILDING that barn think of us. We have the material made especially for that purpose. MOORE LUMBER CO., Successors to L. B. Turner, 11

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FLORISTS
Carnations a Specialty.
Orders Promptly Filled
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EXTRAORDINARY ANNOUNCEMENT!

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One Car Load of Porch Rockers shipped to Oxford by mistake which I am directed to sell at manufacturer's cost.

Refrigerators

I have in stock one dozen slightly scared refrigerators which I will run out at cost.

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One dozen of the best Organs on the market. They take up too much room. I will dispose of them on time or for cash as customer may desire.

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Are you Insured?

Fires often come when and where least expected

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J. R. ROLLER & SON COMPANY.

JOHN R. HALL, Manager.

THE BIG DAY IN OXFORD!

Just remember the great 24th is coming and you can find us at the same old stand, with a new interior, in the center of Oxford, ready to serve you to the best Fountain Drinks in the city, and to do our part to keep you cool, in good humor and make you thoroughly enjoy the day.

Make Our Store Headquarters

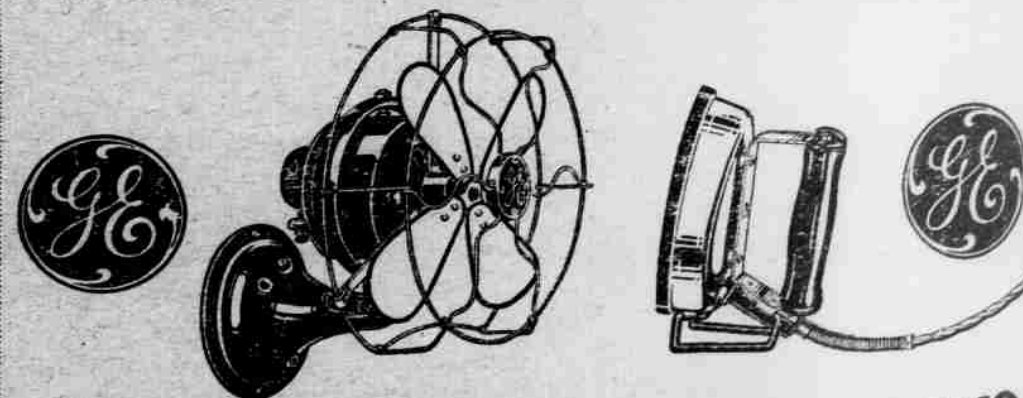
And we guarantee you will be pleased. The best Ice Cream, Refreshing Drinks and Delightful Smokes will be ready for you here, as will also anything you may need or want in

THE DRUG LINE

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