SYNOPSIS.

Harding Kent calls on Louise Farrish to propose marriage and finds the house in great excitement over the attempted suicide of her sister Katharine, Kent starts an investigation and finds that Hugh Crandail, suitor for Katharine, who had been forbidden the house by General Farrish, had talked with Katharine over the telephone just before she shot herself. A torn piece of yellow paper is found, at sight of which General Farrish is stricken with paralysia. Kent discovers that Crandail has left town hurriedly. Andrew Elser, an aged banker, commits suicide about the same time as Katharine stient per life. A yellow envelope is found in Elser's room. Post Office Inspector Davis, Kent's friend, takes up the case. Kent is convinced that Crandail is at the bottom of the mystery. Katharine's strange outery puzzles the detectives. Kent and Davis search Crandail's room and find an address. Lock Box II, Ardway, N. J. Kent goes to Ardway to investigate and becomes suspicious of a "Henry Cook." A woman commits suicide at the Ardway Hotel. A yellow letter also figures in this case. Kent calls Louise on the long distance telephone and finds that she had just been called by Crandail from the same booth. "Cook" disappears. The Ardway postmaster is missing. Inspector Davis arrives at Ardway and takes up the investigation. He discovers that the dead woman is Sarah Sacket of Bridgeport. Louise telephones Kent imploring him to drop the investigation.

Louise telephones Ken from the investigation. CHAPTER IX.

A New Mystery.

I was up with the dawn the next morning and down-stairs to find a train schedule. The only thought in my mind was that I must go to Louise at once. I could not understand her sudden amazing change of front. Why, after pledging me to solve the mystery, should she all at once be as insistent that I should immediately stop all inquiry? I had lain awake the whole night, pondering the situation and seeking a solution. What rea son could she have? Who could have influenced her to such action?

The first train, I found, left two minutes before six. I ordered breakfast, though in no mood for eating, and went to Davis' room. I felt that I needed his advice. I found him awake, smoking a cigarette in bed. Briefly I related to him the amazing telephone conversation I had had with Louise the night before.

"What possible reason could have influenced her to make such a strange request?" I concluded.

"A woman doesn't have to have a reason," he answered-flippantly, it seemed to me.

"You don't understand!" I cried "Louise is not the ordinary flighty girl. She has the finest, best-balanced mind of any woman I ever knew. She never acts on impulse."

Davis looked at me with that exas-

perating smile of his. "Kent," he replied, "when you have been married as long as I have, when you know women as well as I do, you will realize the folly of trying to find that had caused so many other tragreasons for the things women do. Their minds are not governed by reason, but by impulse. Every sane wom- closed, as if, even in death, she was n knew that the hobble skirt was an absurdity, yet when Fashion decided in favor of the hobble skirt it was worn. I doubt very much if Miss Farrish herself could tell you why she asked you to discontinue your investigation. Probably she acted on impulse. By this time she undoubtedly is just as eager as she ever was for you to go on."
"What would you advise?"

"I'd go on," said Davis laconically,

as he lighted another cigarette. For a moment I was almost shaken in my determination to do nothing until I had seen Louise. It seemed as if had acted only on impulse. Perhaps her love for me had made her feel that the investigation might lead me into danger. But I reconsidered. She confidence. She surely was entitled to full confidence from me. I could not honorably continue the investigation without first seeing her.

train," I said decisively. "I shall do nothing until I have seen her." "And I shall go on with the inves-tigation," said Davis with that exas-

perating smile of his.

Impatiently I turned and left him. I choked down a cup of coffee and hurried to the station. The journey seemed miles and miles long, though the train made few stops. As soon as the ferry landed me in New York I sprang into a taxi and ordered the driver to take me at once to the Farrish house. Not until we had turned into their street did I realize that it was still too early for me to try to see ise, even on such an urgent mison as mine. A few doors away from the house I stopped the chauffeur and bade him drive up the avenue to the

I dismissed him there and strolled mlessly into the park. I would wait atil ten o'clock before I tried to see Still pondering the situation, fung myself on a bench by the little lake where the swan boats are. and I was glad of it. I wanted alone and think.

How long I sat there I do not know. was so deep in thought that there neither sight in my eyes nor hearin my ears. Yet the eyes will not
lenied their rights. A feeling came
r me that some part of my brain
trying to tell me something. It
more and more forcefully. My
were seeing something which
were trying to compel me to no

ther with a start

body of a woman.
"Other suicides, other suicides" Davis' remark of two days before kept jigging through my brain. Other suiides! Katharine, Elser, the woman at Ardway-his prophecy had been right-and was this another in the

terrible chain? I ran like a madman toward the park entrance, where I remembered I had passed a policeman. It was with relief that I found him still there.

"There's a woman-drowned-in the lake!" I gasped, pointing over my shoulder.

He ran back to the lake with me and together we waded out in the shallow water where the body lay. In my horror at the unexpected sight I had not stopped to note her appearance, nor could I have told whether she was young or old, dark or fair.

I looked at her now with more than interest-with a feeling of sorrow, of understanding. The deed of Katharine Farrish had brought me to a don't do a cop no good to have other closer sympathy with unfortunate per- people finding things on his post. If sons influenced to seek death. As I you ain't here when the wagon comes, saw that this poor girl was young and there ain't nobody to say it wasn't me fair I sadly wondered what tragedy that found the body. I want to thank had driven her to drowning.

the picture of this suicide made on me! She lay on her back, with long blonde tresses of well-kept hair floating out on either side of her shapely pression of neatness.

We grasped the body gently by the arms and drew it in to the bank, where after ten. we lifted it to the park bench on which I had been sitting.

"I wonder if there is anything about her to identify her by? said the policeman, and together we looked.

Apparently there was nothing. There were no rings on her hands, though the fingers were those of a woman of refinement. The officer turned back the collar of her coat, but the name of the maker had been cut away.

"She didn't want nobody to know who she was, I guess," he said after a hasty examination. "They generally try to hide their names."

"Yes, I suppose they do," I said apathetically.

"I've got to go over to the arsenal and report this and send for the wagon. Will you wait till I come back? I won't be long."

"I'll wait," I said. He disappeared up the path and l was left alone with the body. As I sat there, meditating on the mystery edies, I became conscious of the fact that one of this girl's hands was

Stooping over, I gently pressed back the stiffening fingers. An exclamation of horror came to my lips as I saw what had been concealed there.

It was a little scrap of yellow paper. I could hardly believe my eyes. It must be that this poor girl here was another of the victims in the baffling chain of crime I was seeking to unravel. I held the water-soaked fragment up to the light, but there was nothing on it-not a word. Yet there was no mistaking the color and texture of the paper. It was undoubtedly Davis might be right. Perhaps she the same that Louise and I had found in Katharine's room after she had tried to kill herself. It was the same that the police had discovered in Andrew Elsler's room. There was no had given me her love and trust and question in my mind but that it was the same that the woman in Ardway had torn up before she hanged herself in the little hotel. But what was the tle between them? What could be the "I am going to town on the first mysterious import of this yellow let-

ter that drove its recipients to death! Here was one fragment. Perhans could find other scraps-perhaps the whole letter. I ran down to the bank of the lake and began a systematic search of the water along shore. Foot by foot I studied it carefully. For ter minutes I searched unavailingly and then I caught a glimpse of something yellow half hidden by an overhanging tree. Carefully I parted the branches. Sure enough, submerged in six inches of water, were more of the yellow craps. I waded in and, scoopin them up carefully in my hands, laid them on the grass to dry, for they were all but falling apart and I hardly dared handle them. Meanwhile I con tinued my search for other yellow scraps-this time without avail. If she had carried a torn-up letter with her as she sprang to death, the other

pleces had floated away. At last, convinced that there was no possibility of recovering more of them, I gave up my search and recovered scraps on the grass. One by one I studied them. They were evi lently a part of a type-written letter but the ink had run so that it was impossible to read a single word on them. From their shape, too, it sppeared that they were not consecutive so there was little hope of learning unything from them.

Just two of the inky smears seemed to have a possible meaning. On one of them I was alm tive that I could trace the word

hrases from a letter that had brought ointment to a loving woman. In all likelthood this suicide had no connection with the others. But why,

then, the yellow paper? So intent was I on my thoughts that did not observe the return of the policeman until I heard his voice.

"What have you got there?" There was suspicion in his tonethe natural suspicion of the representative of the law. It was on the tip of my tongue to say: "Another yellow

For once prudence restrained me. recalled how my too hasty speech at the coroner's inquest had led me into trouble. I could hardly expect a twelve-hundred-dollar policeman to house." assist in solving the mystery that was

still perplexing Davis. "Just some scraps of paper," I said carelessly. "After you had gone I notitced that she was clutching a bit of paper in one hand. I searched around the lake to see if I could find more. found these. It is evidently part of can make nothing out of them."

"Let's see them. I handed him all of them. "This," I explained, "I found in her

and and the others were over there under those bushes." One by one the policeman examined them, turning them carefully over and

over. "There's nothing to them," he finaly announced. "The wagon will be nere in a minute. I don't suppose

you'll want to be claiming any credit for finding the body?" I had feared that he would insist on my accompanying him to testify to its finding. It was quite a relief to hear him take this view of it.

"Of course not," I answered hastily. "Then," said he with utmost candor, "you might as well beat it. It you, though, for coming and telling Never shall I forget the impression me about it. There's a lot of fools would have gone and telephoned the arsenal and then I'd been on the carpet for not covering my post properly." I was glad indeed of the opportunity

head. Her eyes were closed, but her to get away. It was nearing ten shapely brows and long dark lashes o'clock. My trousers and shoes were made her face comely even in death. Her clothing, I observed, was well- to my apartments for a change before made, and though wet and soiled as it seeing Louise. I hastened to the was by the water it still gave the im- park entrance and halled a taxi. By the time I left my rooms and reached the Farrish home it was ten minutes

As my taxi turned into the street I saw another one stop before the Farrish door. At first I thought it must be the doctor or one of his assistants. but as the front door closed behind he began. the tall figure of a man who had been tors have conspired to throw me in admitted to the house I realized that the river.

where I had seen him I could not at the moment recall.

I was not three minutes behind him in reaching the door. Though the other visitor had been admitted at once, there was no immedialte response to my ring. I waited a while and rang again. It seemed minutes before any one answered, then one of the maids opened the door a trifle and peered out.

"Mr. Kent to see Miss Louise."

said. To my great amazement she did not open the door to me, but still holding it just barely enough to enable her to talk to me, said: "I'm sorry, but I have orders to admit no one to the

"Of course, I understand that you have your orders, but please tell Miss Louise that Mr. Kent is here. "I'll tell her, if you wish," she said

doubtfully, carefully closing the door

before she went on the mission. The shutting of the door in my face gave me an odd sense of desolation. letter, but the ink has run so you It seemed as if I were being shut out of the life of the woman I loved. Yet on second thought I smiled at my perturbation. The maid was only carrying out a necessary order. As soon as Louise knew I was there she would come running to the door herself. In a minute she would be folded in my arms and all misunderstanding would be cleared away. Undoubtedly she would have a good explanation for her telephone message of the night before. I told myself that it was only lack of sleep and the incident in the

park that had upset my nerves. My misgivings were utterly foolish. At length the door opened slowly. I had expected to see Louise herself behind it, but it was the same maid. This time she held the door hardly as wide as before.

"I'm sorry, sir, she said, "but Miss Louise says she can not see you now." "What?" I gasped.

She repeated her message while I stood there dazed. There must be some mistake. Louise must have misunderstood the name.

"Did you tell her it was Mr. Kent?" "Yes, sir, I told her." "What did she say?"

"She said she could not see you or any one clse now." (TO BE CONTINUED.)

What a Pity!

A member of the committee of a certain swimming club is very unpopular with his colleagues. Until recently the fact did not appear to trouble him greatly. On the eve of some aquatic sports, however, he made a startling discovery, and at once brought the matter before his fellowmembers.

"I have discovered a dastardly plot," "Certain of the competi-



I Gently Pressed Buck the Stiffening Fingers.

There was something reminiscent in ed a Scotsman on the committee. the broad shoulders, in the walk. It was some one I knew, or ought to have recognized, yet who it was or

it was some one I had seen before. | "Can you swim?" eagerly interrupt "Of course, I can swim; but-"Man," muttered the inters

"but that's a pity!"

Ever See a Stout Postman?

Ing Forty Pounds.

Has it ever struck you why a stout postman is such a rarity? The question is worth attention.

A postman who in a busy Londo ntial district walks from fouroroth." On another scrap was a teen to sixteen miles a day, starts out in the morning with malls weighing titon might decipher as "her."

"Youth" and "her."

"Youth" and "her." word that a little stretch of the imagination might decipher as "her."

"Youth" and "her."

They might mean much or nothing. They might have some bearing on the great mystery I was trying to solve. They might have none. Perhaps they were, after all, merely pound. A lo-quart pall weighs about

London, for Instance, Carriers twenty bounds, and the average weight the postman carries is equal weight the postman carries is equal to two of these. If you want to know why postmen are thin, try a 15-mile walk with a 10-quart pail of water in

The driver of a brewery wagon, or The driver of a brewery wagon, on the other hand, is usually fat. The reason is that he sits on the sent of his dray most of the day, and often consumes large quantities of liquid. Policemen, too, often grow fat through standing about on their beats.—Answers, London.

THE CONFERENCE AT

College, E. K. Creel.

D. C. Ballard; Elk Park, to be sup

plied, W. M. Bagby, supernumerary;

Helton, E. E. Yates; Jefferson, H. V.

Clark: Laurel Springs, S. W. Brown;

North Wilkesboro Station, Parker

Holmes; North Wilkesboro Circuit, J.

Watauga, I. Hickman; Wilkesboro

Station, A. P. Ratledge; Wilkes Cir-

cuit, J. G. W. Holloway; Missionary

Salisbury District.-W. R. Ware,

presiding elder; Albemarie, J. P. Rog-

ers, C. M. Gentry, supernumerary; Al-

bemarie Circuit, P. W. Tucker; Beth-

el and Big Lick, R. K. Brady; China

Grove, H. H. Robbins; Concord, Cen-

tral, Harold Turner; Concord, Forest

Hill, W. M. Robbins: Concord, Ep-

worth, G. G. Harley; Concord, West

Ford, J. M. Ridenhour, supply; West

Concord, G. A. B. Holderby; Concord

Circuit, W. T. Albright; Cottonville, S.

S. Higgins; Gold Hill, R. L. Forbis,

supply; Kannapolis, W. B. Shinn; Mr.

Pleasant, C. F. Sherrill; New, London,

S. L. Owen, supply; Norwood, J. W.

Clegg; Salem, T. S. Ellington; Salis-

bury, First Church, J. W. Moore;

Salisbury, Holmes New Memorial, J.

P. Lanning; Salisbury, South Main, G.

A. Stamper and A. H. Whisner, super-

numerary; Salisbury Circuit, E. M.

Avett; Spencer Station, H. C. Sprink-

le; East Spencer and North Main, C.

E. Steadman; Woodleaf, James Wil-

Shelby District,-S. B. Turrentine,

presiding elder; Belwood, W. V. Hun-

evcutt: H. G. Stamey, supernumerary;

Bessemer City, R. H. Rhinehart; Cher-

ryville, T. W. Ussery; J. F. Harrelson,

junior preacher; Crouse, W. M. Bor-

ing; Gastonia, Main Street, J. E. Ab-

ernethy; Gastonia, Ozark and West

Gastonia, N. C. Williams, supply;

King's Mountain and El Bethel, M. B.

Clegg; Lincolnton Station, T. J. Rodg-

ers; Lincoln Circuit, J. H. Robertson;

Lowell and Dallas, N. M. Modlin;

Lowesville, J. W. Strider; McAden-

ville, B. F. Fincher; Mountain Island,

D. W. Brown; Mount Holly and Bel-

mont, J. A. Bowles; Fallston, J. P.

Davis; Shelby, Central, E. E. William-

son, R. M. Hoyle, supernumerary;

Shelby Circuit, L. E. Stacy; South

Shelby and Sharon, L. F. Brothers;

South Fork, W. S. Cherry; Stanley

Statesville District .- L. T. Mann,

presiding elder; Alexander, M. T.

Smathers; Catawba, Beverly Wilson;

Cool Spring, J. J. Edwards; Davidson,

C. M. Campbell; Granite Falls and

Hudson, D. F. Carr; Hickory Station,

D. M. Litaker; Hickory Circuit, J. P.

Hornbuckle; Iredell, P. H. Brittian;

Lenoir Station, C. M. Pickens; Lenoir

Circuit, C. H. Curtis; Maiden, J. W.

Kennedy; Mooresville Station, C. S.

Kirkpatrick; Mooresville Circuit, E., Myers, J. W. Jones; Newton Station,

noir and Valmead, C. E. Dupont;

Statesville, Broad Street, J. F. Kirk;

Statesville, Race Street, J. J. Eads;

Statesville Circuit, J. C. Mock; Stony

Point, D. S. Richardson; Troutman, C.

L. McCain; President Davenport Col-

lege, J. B. Craven; Missionary secretary, H. K. Boyer; Conference mis-

Williams; James Occumma, supply;

Bethel Circuit, T. S. Coble; Canton, B.

F. Hargett; Clyde, W. C. Jones; Dills-

boro and Sylva, W. O. Davis; C. H.

Neal, supply; Fines Creek, J. A. Marr;

lin Circuit, D. P. Walters; Glenville,

F. O. Dryman; Hayesville, B. M. Jack-

son; Haywood, R. C. Kirk; Judson, J.

F. Usry; Jonathan, J. A. Fry; Macon

Circuit, J. L. Teague; Murphy Station,

H. H. Jordan; Murphy Circuit, W. I.

Hughes; Waynesville Station, M. F.

Moorse: Wester, D. R. Profit, L. B.

Abernethy, junior preacher; Mission-

Winston District .- P. T. Durham,

presiding elder; Advance, J. A. J. Far-

rington; Cooleemee, C. M. Short; Dav-

idson Circuit, J. T. Ratledge; Davie

Circuit, B. A. York: Farmington, J. B.

Taber; Forsyth, T. W. Vick; Jackson

Hill. P. L. Shore; Kernersville, C. P.

Goode; Lewisville, A. G. Loftin; Lex-

ington, A. W. Plyler; Linwood, W. F.

Elliott; Mocksville, E. W. Fox; Thom-

asville, Main Street, R. M. Courtney;

Thomasville Circuit, P. E. Parker;

Walkertown, O. J. Jones; Winston, Burkhead, W. L. Hutchins; Winston,

Centenary, E. L. Bain; Winston, Sal-

em Grace and Liberty, R. E. Atkin-

son; Winston, Southside and Salem, J.

S. Hyatt; Winston, West End, W. A.

Lambeth; Field agent Children's

Home, W. O. Goode; Missionary to

Cuba, H. W. Baker; Student Vander-

Transferred .- L. W. Collins to North

O. I. Hinson to Southwest Missouri

Conference; T. E. Weaver to Florida

Conference; B. Margeson to Arkansas

Conference; E. C. Glenn to North

E. A. Cole of Charlotte was elect-

ed Conference lay reader for the com-

The trains leaving High Point Mon-

day evening were crowded with mem-

bers of the Conference and visitors

who were returning to their homes.

The preachers who have received new

within the next two weeks.

intments will begin their work

bilt University, J. C. Harmon.

Carolina Conference

ing year.

ary to Cuba, M. B. Stokes.

Franklin Station, M. H. Tuttle; Frank-

sionary evangelist, D. H. Coman.

Creek, E. N. Crowder.

to Japan, W. A. Wilson.

E. McSwain; Sparta, T. J. Mouck;

THE APPOINTMENTS TO VARIOUS CHARGES FOR COMING YEAR ANNOUNCED.

MANY CHANGES ARE MADE

Methodist Session Adjourned After Much Important Work Had Been Done-Church Paper Takes Up Good Part of Time of Closing Day.

High Point.-The Western North Carolina Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, which has been in session here several days adjourned Monday. The reading of the appointments answers the forty-ninth and last of the minute questions, Where are the preachers stationed this year?" and immediately after Bishop Collins Denny concluded the reading of the appointments, he pronounced the benediction and the Conference adjourned.

The appointments for this year are as follows:

Charlotte District .- J. R. Scroggs, presiding elder; Ansonville, L. L. Smith; Charlotte, Belmont, J. H. Bradley; Charlotte, Brevard Street, L. A. Falls; Charlotte, Calvary, R. S. Howie; Charlotte, Chadwick and Seversville, N. R. Richardson; Charlotte, Dilworth and Big Spring, J. O. Irwin; Charlotte, Duncan Memorial, to be supplied; North Charlotte, W. B. Davis; Trinity, T. F. Marr; Tryon Street, E. K. Mc-Larty, W. L. Nicholson, supernumerary; Lilesville, T. C. Jordan; Marshville, A. L. Aycock; Matthews, S. T. Barber; Monroe, Central, J. H. Weaver; North Monroe, R. H. Kennington; Morven Circuit, J. E. Woosley; Mount Zion, Z. Paris; Pineville, W. L. Sherrill; Polkton, G. C. Brinckman; Prospect, S. E. Richardson; Unionville, M. T. Steele; Wadesboro, G. D. Herman; Waxhaw, W. F. Sandford; Weddington, Seymour Taylor; Principal South ern Industrial Institute, J. A. Baldwin; Missionary to Japan, S. A. Stewart; Missionary to Japan, N. S. Ogburn; Derita, P. L. Terrell.

Asheville District.-C. A. Wood, presiding elder; Asheville, Bethel, J. W. Ingle; Asheville, Central, J. C. Rowe; Asheville, Haywood Street, W. A. Newell; Asheville, North, W. E. Poovey; Biltmore and Mt. Pleasant, J. W. Campbell; Black Mountain, R. E. Hunt; Brevard, L. D. Thompson; Brevard Circuit, C. M. Carpenter, supply; Fairview, T. A. Groce; Elk Mountain, to be supplied; Flat Rock and Tuxedo, W. R. Shelton; Hendersonville, A. L. Stanford; Hendersonville Circuit, A. L. Latham; Hot Springs, R. N. Hasty; Leicester, J. H. Green; Marshall, E. B. W. M. Biles; North Lenoir, J. C. Keev-Stabler; Mars Hill, L. H. Griffith; Mills er; Rhodhiss, G. W. Fink, supply; River, J. C. Postell; Spring Creek, R. Rock Springs, T. E. Wagg; South Le-E. Wellons, supply; Sulphur Springs, J. P. Bross; Swannanoa, R. F. Huneycutt; Tryon and Saluda, R. L. Ferguson; Walnut Circuit, A. C. Gibbs; Weaverville, F. A. Hawley; Weaverville Circuit, J. R. Warren; West Asheville, Z. E. Barnhardt; vice president Weaverville College, W. B. West; Missionary to Cuba, R. J. Parker.

Greensboro District .- G. T. Rowe, presiding elder: Asheboro Station, E. Thompson; Asheboro Circuit, L. T. er; Bryson City and Whittier, J. W. Hendren, supply; Coleridge Circuit, R. L. Melton; Deep River, J. D. Gibson; Denton, J. A. Holmes, supply; Greensboro Circuit, F. L. Townsend; Greensboro, Centenary, R. D. Sherrill; Greensboro, Spring Garden, W. E. Abernethy: Greensboro, Walnut Street and Caraway Memorial, G. H. Christenberry; Greensboro, West Market Street, C. W. Byrd; West Greensboro Circuit, W. L. Dawson; High Point, South Main Street, H. C. Byrum; High Point, Washington Street, J. H. Barnhardt: Gibsonville, W. S. Hales; Pleasant Garden, J. A. Sharp; Ramseur and Franklinville, O. P. Ader: Randleman and Naomi, R. A. Taylor; Randolph, A. S. Raper: Reidsville, W. F. Worble; Ruffin, L. P. Bogle; Uwharrie, A. T. Bell; Wentworth, A. J. Burrus; Editor North Carolina Christian Advocate, H. M. Blair; secretary and treasurer Greensboro Female College, W. M. Curtis; Missionary to Korea, J. R. Moose; State Sunday school secretary

J. W. Long. Mount Airy District.-R. M. Taylor, presiding elder; Danbury, T. J. Folger; Dobson, J. M. Price; Elkin Station, R. G. Tuttle; Jonesville, Z. V. Johnston; Leaksville, J. H. West; Madison and Stoneville, A. R. Surratt; Mount Airy Station, W. H. Willis; Mount Airy Circuit, C. R. Allison; Lamsburg, J. W. Combs, supply; Pilot Mountain, J. H. Vestal, supply; Rural Hall, J. M. Folger; Spray and Draper, J. P. Hipps; Stokesdale, G. W. Wil-Hams; Summerfield, T. B. Johnson; Walnut Cove, J. H. Brendell; Yadkin-

ville, J. T. Stover. Morganton District .- J. E. Gay, presiding elder; Bald Creek, W. L. Edwards; Broad River, J. E. Womack; Burnsville, W. M. Smith; Cliffside, A. C. Swafford; Connelly Springs, E. J. Poe; Forest City, J. F. Moser; Green River, J. C. Richardson; Henrietta, J. F. Armstrong; Huntdale, R. F. Mock; Marion, Ira Ervin; McDowell, O. P. Routh; Micaville, H. H. Mitchell, supply; Morganton Station, D. Atkins; Morganton Circuit, H. L. Powell; North Catawba, J. L. Smith, supply; Old Fort, R. L. Doggett; Rutherford

Forest Fire Doing Much Damage Asheville.-Fire is devastating the Pink Beds, one of the timber tracts of the George W. Vanderbilt estate at re, and an extra force of over a hundred men has been employed to fight the flames, which are sweeping through this choice piece of timber land. The fire had been in progress for three days, but had not been made public, the managers of the state preferring to fight it out alone without any publicity. The fire started on the Asheville side of the tract, and has eaten steadily into the forcest hundred men has been employed to

To Serve Murder Sentences Greensboro.-Sheriff Hanes of Sur ry county was in Greensboro recently en route to Raleigh with two prisners to serve 15 and three-years terms for murder. One of the prisoners was a 19-year-old girl who was entenced to serve three years for the murder of Jerry Willard of Mount Airy; the other a middle-aged man who is to serve 15 years for the mur-der of Strauder Cooke, a land owner of Surry county. The girl was nie Humphries and in the station she talked freely to people. phries and in the station here

Bakersville, J. P. Morris, suply; Table Rock, Elmer Simpson; Thermal City F. W. Dibble; Porfessor Rutherford North Wilkesboro District.-M. H. Vestal, presiding elder; Avery, J. W. Hall, supply; Boone, J. F. Starnes, J. M. Downum, junior preacher; Creston,

y E. O. BELLERS. Director of Ev ning Department The Moody Bible I stitute of Chicago.)

LESSON FOR DECEMBER, 8 THE CHILD IN THE MIDST.

LESSON TEXT—Matthew 18:1-14.
GOLDEN TEXT—"In heaven their angels do always behold the face of my Father which is in heaven."—Matthew 10:10 R. V.

Like two mighty mountain peaks there stand before us in this lesson two tremendously vital lessons. The first and the foremost is that of discipleship as suggested by the ques-tion in verse one, "Who is the great-est in the kingdom?" And the second lesson is that of Christ's attitude towards children. Jesus again reveals himself as the world's greatest teacher. He teaches by example—setting a child before them, and by exhortation, "Except ye become as children,

by contrast, etc. The very form of the disciples' question revealed their coarse ambition for power and clearly indicated that they were as yet far from comprehending the principles of his kingdom. One of the most insidious temptations that comes to the Christian worker is the ambitious desire for place and power. It is hard to reconcile church politics with the principles of the kingdom of God.

Jesus answers their question by the use of objective teaching that always has such an advantage over the purely metaphysical method of answering such a question. Placing a child in their midst he answered in the words found in verse two of the

What He Meant.

The word "verily" is tremendous with emphasts. "I say," again reveals his authority to answer. "Except ye turn," what does he mean? To become childish? No, but to become childlike; there is a vast deal of difference. There the child stands, trustful, obedient, submissive, unselfish, pure, potential, imperfect, ready to receive impressions as wax and as tenacious to retain those impressions as granite. Pride, self-confidence, disobedience, selfishness, impurity, assumed perfectness, and an unwillingness to learn will effectually keep us out of the kingdom of heaven. What a rebuke his answer implied, viz., not who is greatest but rather, "are you sure you are really in the kingdom?" The true disciple who really comprehends the essence of Christ's teaching is far less concerned with his rank in the kingdom than he is to "know him" and thus make sure of a place in the kingdom. Ever after this, when wrong ambitions arose, these disciples must have recalled that sweet child and Jesus'

saying, "be like that." Does this lesson then teach us that all children are by nature children of the kingdom? Hardly, though we certainly do not believe that a child dying in infancy is lost. Rather we incline to the belief that they have that spirit of teachableness and trust that fits them to "enter" (v. 3) the kingdom (see John 3:6). Therefore, the added significance of verse six. The responsibility of parents and Waynesville District.-L. T. Cordell, | teachers to lead them into the kingom at this early age when

trustfulness has not been destroyed. Let us look at some of the conditions whereby we enter the kingdom. John 10:9, "I am the door, by me shall ye enter." John 3:3, "Except ye be born again." Heb. 3:19, "They could not enter because of unbelief." Read also 2 Peter 1:5-11 and other passages.

How to Become Great.

Having thus struck at the primary question involved, Jesus then tells them how, once being in the kingdom, to become great, "whose humbleth himself, etc." To humble yourself is voluntarily to choose the humble, the lowly, place for yourself; that place removed from the admiration and the adulation of men. Paul learned this lesson and constantly refers to him-self as the "bond slave" and wishes that he might be accursed for the sake of his brethren Israel. Moses found this place when he pleaded with God to blot him out of the book of his remembrance but to save the children of Israel. Jesus is himself the greatest illustration of this principle. (See Phil. 2:6-11.)

Jesus goes on to teach by contrast what is to be our attitude toward those who are in the kingdom. There is an incidental illumination of the attitude of little children to Jesus. They were never afraid of him. It is true that he might have meant here humble men who have childlike hearts, but we are inclined to feel that it was real children of which he is speaking. Our treatment of them is our treatment of him, for Georgia Conference; L. A. Palmer and he completely identifies himself with them. To cause such an one to stumble it were better for the offender to have a millstone hanged about his neck and he be drowned in the depth

of the sea. How often as we look at a child do we see Jesus? How often do we re-member that as we reecive such we are receiving him? To despise one of them is to despise him, for "in heaven their angels do always behold the face of my Father which is in heaven." Notice, also, how he brings into this connection the matter of shepherding. Men are lost born so. and it is to seek these that the son of man came into the world. Is it possible that this very child that stood in their midst was lost? If so, remember it was for such that God is seeking. The conversion of a child is of far greater importance potentially to the kingdom of God than the conversion of the greatest of earth. The loss of a child is terrible in its consequences. Murder, drunken robbery and licentiousness are ram-pant upon the streets of all of our great cities, and the chief offenders are the boys and girls in the "tee ages. Economically the conversion one boy is of incalculable value.