



Then AND NOW by VICTOR MEEKINS

A WORD FOR THE PREACHERS

When one who is not a church communicant pauses amidst his daily labors to say a good word for the preachers, it should be accepted as sincere, because there is no axe to grind, and no favors sought. We are reminded today by the observations of a friend, and neighbor of how little is done for the preachers—or rather how few the persons, who do that little,—in return for all the good work they do a community. The friend calls our attention to the fact that the preacher's position is something like the home newspaper, which is often used when needed but forgotten for business purposes. Well, why not pass on a good word for all good preachers?

Come to think of it, the preacher has to have an almost fanatical zeal, certainly an intense devotion to stick to his calling amid all the discouragements of a usual barren field, as most of our small coastland charges are. It is true we have with us a lot of pastors who never could preach and never will, and whose presence in the church can no wise build it up, let alone hold what's there. Who continue to stay because no one in the congregation has enough spine to suggest that they get out of the way; too often because the congregation lacks the public spirit to pay a man of ability. This is all true, just as we have hypocrites and deadbeats in all churches

who under the pretense of religion lambast their honest neighbors outside. There are folks in the best of churches who pray and sing loud, with their eyes piously half closed so they can the better spot a neighbor's wife and figure the best way of getting her out for a ride the next evening, or how he can cook up a deal that will skin the fellow sitting alongside him.

Now all of these things keep a lot of people away from the church but even if a fellow doesn't go to church, and feels no need for its comforting influence to prop him up as he totters lazily along life's way, he ought to chip in something to help the preacher going. If in his heart he hasn't the love and desire to jump in and help the preacher, or to even encourage him by occasionally warming a bench during preaching service, he ought to once a year at least, dispense a little of that precious metal or the lovely green whose delightful tinkle or silky rustling maketh glad hearts the world around.

The preacher spends a lot of time preparing himself for his calling. What if a few of them never make the grade? We see a lot more jack-leg carpenters messing up wood and we see numerous bum automobile experts who only make your car a bigger repair job for the next shop you tow it to. And ye gods, the painters who would have you believe they are painters.

The preacher usually comes from a poor family and has to work his way through school, another proof of his zeal, and further that his youth fortunately lacked an avenue to lead his life to waste. He usually marries early; who wouldn't, surrounded as he is in church work with so many nice decent girls; and too often they have a big family, having scruples of course against doing things done by so many others to limit their offspring.

The preacher comes into a community to be a leader and teacher of the people, especially those people of his own faith who bring him there under the promise that he will be paid a decent livelihood. He may be of one faith, yet he serves all people, whether they have any faith whatever. He has to live in a decent house, he has to dress well enough to maintain the dignity of his calling in any home in the community; his children must be well clothed and not made ashamed among other children even of the richest and stingiest parishioner, some of whom make life miserable for the preacher's child, call him a "goody-goody," and poke fun at the strait-lacedness of his life.

People who never send a dime to church the whole year to encourage the minister, instantly think of him when they get steamed up on a spring night and decide the future of the whole world depends on their sleeping together forever. Death sweeps a damp hand across a whole household, but never strikes the bereaved so low they don't think first thing of a preacher to come with comfort as

ORGANIZATIONAL CALENDAR

Sunday
MT. OLIVET METHODIST CHURCH of Manteo: Sunday School, 10:00 a. m.; morning worship, 11:00; evening worship, 7:30 p. m. The Rev. R. R. Ashmore.
ROANOKE ISLAND BAPTIST CHURCH Sunday School, 10:00 a. m.; evening worship, 7:00 p. m. (Prayer meeting, 8:00 p. m. Wednesdays.) The Rev. Frank B. Dinwiddie.

WANCHESSE METHODIST CHURCH: Sunday School, 10 a. m.; Methodist Young People, 7:15 p. m.; evening worship, 8:00 p. m. The Rev. C. W. Guthrie.
ASSEMBLY OF GOD of Manteo: Sunday School, 10 a. m.; devotional service at 1:00 p. m. on Sunday. (Regular worship service, Friday, 7:30 p. m.) The Rev. D. E. Lawrence.

MANTO BAPTIST CHURCH: Sunday School, 10:00 a. m.; morning worship 11 a. m.; Baptist Training Union, 7:00 p. m.; evening worship, 7:30 p. m. (Mid-week prayer service, Wednesday, 8:00 p. m.) The Rev. H. V. Naylor.

ROTARY CLUB of Manteo: at Community Building, every Monday, 8:30 p. m.
LIONS CLUB of Manteo: at Ft. Raleigh Hotel, first and third Mondays, 8:15 p. m.
REBEKAHS, Manteo: at Masonic Hall, first and third Mondays, 8 p. m.
STORY HOUR at the library, 3 p. m. youngest children, 5:30, second and third grades.

THEATRA RHO GIRLS CLUB at Masonic Hall, second and fourth Mondays, 8 p. m.
SERENITY CLUB: at Manteo Airport, first Mondays, 8 p. m.
TOWN COMMISSIONERS of Manteo: Manteo town hall, second Monday, 4 p. m.
AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY: second Monday each month at the Community Building, 8 p. m.

WESLEYAN GUILD: third Monday each month in homes of members, 8:30 p. m.
WOMAN'S CLUB of Manteo: at Community Building, every second Tuesday, 8:15 p. m.
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS: at Dare County Courthouse, Tuesdays after first Monday each month.

A.B.C. BOARD: at Manteo store, Tuesday after first Monday, 11 a. m.
BOARD OF EDUCATION, Dare: Tuesday after first Monday, quarterly, 11 a. m.
MANTO P.T.A.: at Schoolhouse, second Tuesday each month, 8:15 p. m.
MANTO HOME DEMONSTRATION CLUB: at Community Building, last Tuesday, 7:30 p. m.
MUSIC CLUB (Roanoke Island): third Tuesday each month, 8:30 p. m.
ODD FELLOWS, Virginia Dare Lodge Manteo: at hall rear of school gym, first and third Tuesdays, 8 p. m.

RENA BAUM CIRCLE of W.B.C.S. Second Monday at members homes.
WANCHESSE P.T.A.: 1st Tuesday of every month, Wanchesse School.
MASONIC LODGE of Wanchesse: first and third Thursdays, 8 p. m.
EASTERN STAR: at Wanchesse Masonic Hall, second and fourth Thursdays, 8 p. m.
V.P.W. CLUB No. 998: at Manteo Airport, every Thursday, 8 p. m.
GARDEN CLUB: at Community Building, first Thursdays, 2:30 p. m.
Friday

AVON AMERICAN LEGION, POST No. 397 meets first Friday each month in the Legion Hall at the Avon School building at 8:30 p. m.
DAUGHTERS OF POCAHONTAS, Wanchesse, Tonnalake Council No. 28 meets 2nd and 4th Friday nights in Wanchesse Masonic Hall.

MANTO LODGE A.F. & A.M. No. 682: at Fire Hall, first and third Fridays, WANCHESSE RURIAN: 7 P. M. 3rd Friday; Schoolbuilding.

ready as the doctor's pills, pulled down from heaven out of the Bible, out of a hat for all they care, not being able to find comfort in anything else they know or understand. No matter what the life of the deceased may have been, the bereaved all want a lot of fine things said about him. He might have been a skin-flint or a wife beater, but the relatives get personal gratification and feel quite sure their neighbors all believe it if only the preacher comes and throws kind words upon the corpse as liberally as the chaff that flies from the threshing machine.

When a woman feels cold the precious cheek of the most-loved bundle of flesh she has ever touch-

CATFISH CORNER NEWS

MISS PINKIE PERRY Correspondent

Miss Filtrola Fulcher is visiting Miss Farisoke Foster in Bull Neck. Miss Wagonetta Walker of Frog Fork is visiting Miss Nautibel Norris.

Miss Pantagrilla Potter is visiting Miss Castelia Cox of Clam Point. Miss Pussy Parker is visiting Mrs. Axie Dennt Davis of Gar Creek.

Miss Spicey Mae Spencer of Wide Spot is visiting Miss Bozie Berry. Miss Corsica Culpepper of Cat Cove is visiting Miss Ferrie Belle Farrow.

Miss Hexapettie Harris is visiting Miss Spottie Lee Spencer at Wide Spot. Miss Hershbar Beasley of Gar Creek is visiting Miss Aurora Dawn Davis.

Mrs. Bristolene Brinn, and Miss Wisteria Wise recently motored to Columbia. Miss Osprelita Owens and Miss Madagascar Mann motored to Gulkrock Sunday.

Miss Nimfie Mae Morris is visiting Miss Wandaleena Williams of Vinegar Hill. Miss Dessibelle Dowdy is visiting Miss Parabola Perkins in Sasafra Center.

Miss Bombay Bratten is visiting Miss Vassie Lean Vendor of Square Hill Creek. Miss Nimfie Perry recently spent several days with Miss Larkileen Lewis in Bay Level.

Catalettie Cahoon of Cat Cove is now going with Miss Bastobel Bray of Gar Creek. Miss Dinah Flo Dowdy spent last week end with Miss Spicey Mae Spencer of Wide Spot.

Miss Addie Pose Price and Rev. Peppercorn Parker of Square Hill Creek motored here Saturday. Miss Fancy Farrow is spending several days with Miss Snatchie Belle Snell of Square Hill Creek.

Miss Pussy Parker spent several days last week with Mrs. Callie

ed, and for which she went down into the valley of the shadow of death that it might enter this world, there is no pain to compare—there is no like despair in this life. It is then that only the prayers and the comforting of the minister with his assurance of a better land, and the kindly promise of a blissful reunion there comes nearest to deadening the pain, until the greater healing influences of time and meditation bring that solace and comfort that makes life endurable again.

Month in and month out, year in and year out, everybody takes the preacher for granted. Of those who are in the church, it is only the smaller number of faithful ones who carry on and keep things going. But, that is their business and not our affair, being that we are not one of them, so we have no complaint to offer. Our remarks are about the folks of the community in general of which we are one; we take no credit for saying what we have said, because it took the thoughtfulness of someone else to remind us to do so. We repeat, that because the preacher is always at hand; because he is there at all times to be called upon by one and all when needed;—any of us might be most unhappy indeed, if a loved one died and there wasn't a single living preacher around for us to get to conduct the funeral rites, a procedure that is the heritage of centuries of communal living.

MIDDLETOWN NEWS

Cpl. Sherwood J. Selby, Mrs. Dennis Selby, Mrs. Hugh McKenney, and Colleen visited Miss Camilla Selby in Vanceboro Friday. Miss Selby accompanied them back.

Miss Alice Montgomery and Marian Wingo of Richmond, Va., visited the Selby's and McKenney's last week end.

Mrs. Lillie Cox, Mrs. Joe Cox and Richard, spent Wednesday night in Washington with Mr. and Mrs. Jessie Rowls.

Miss Joy Spencer of Raleigh spent the week end with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Archie Spencer. Mrs. Thaxton Selby and Wade spent Friday in Washington.

Mr. and Mrs. Hugh McKinney and Colleen, Alice Montgomery, Marion Wingo, Camilla Selby, and Cpl. Sherwood Selby, were the dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Selby Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Mann, Janie Mann, and Julia Cox were the Sunday dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Mann in Washington.

Mr. and Mrs. Rhodes Lupton and Mr. and Mrs. Carl Cuthrell visited Mrs. Lillie Cox Sunday. Mr. and Mrs. Huron Gibbs, Mrs. Kate Burrus, George T. Gibbs,

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Spate and C. W. Burrus, Jr., attended the funeral of Charlie Fulcher Saturday at Manns Harbor. Mrs. Ella Gibbs is spending some time in New York with Mr. and Mrs. Chalner Jennette. Mr. and Mrs. Hyler Cox visited Mr. and Mrs. Hugh McKinney Sunday.

Rich Americans go to Europe to get culture and cultured Europeans come to America to get themselves rich.

PIONEER MANTO, N. C. SATURDAY, MARCH 15 DANE CLARK in "FORT DEFIANCE" In Color SUNDAY, MONDAY DICK POWELL in "YOU NEVER CAN TELL" TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY CLAUDETTE COLBERT in "THUNDER ON THE HILL" THURSDAY, FRIDAY "ANNE OF THE INDIES" With JEAN PETERS In Technicolor

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