

## Duties of the President Makers

Methods Followed by the Electoral College in Choosing the Chief Executive and Vice President—Development of a System That Has Been the Center of Various Momentous Disagreements.

By FREDERICK R. TOOMBS.

THAT things are not always what they seem is very well exemplified by the manner in which the American people elect their president and vice president. If you were to tell the average experienced voter that he has never legally and technically voted for either a president or a vice president he would probably class you with the people who still believe the earth is flat like a pancake.

The fact that a candidate for the presidency is named at a national convention and that his name is placed at the top of the ballot on election day has no relation whatever to the constitutional provision regulating the mode of choosing a president. The name of the president or vice president would be left off the ballot if the actual intention of the framers of the constitution were followed, and in spite of the "unwritten law" which has developed the placing of the national candidates' names on the ballot it is in an actual legal sense done only as a guide to the voter to indicate in a simple and effective manner what set of members of the electoral college he is to vote for.

The electoral college, composed of prominent partisans termed electors and whose names appear on ballots in national elections, has become a sort of fifth wheel, a useless appendix, in

Union. After election the electors on the winning ticket are required to meet at some place designated by the legislature of the state on the second Monday in January and then and there cast their vote by ballot for president and vice president, one of which national candidates at least shall not be a resident of the same state as the electors themselves. As a result there never will be a national ticket made up of two men from the same state, for the electoral vote of the candidates' state would be lost to them. At the appointed time and place each body of electors makes up a list of all the candidates' names have for president and vice president, with the number of votes each receives. Every member of the college signs and certifies the list, the governor of the state certifies it, and the report is transmitted to the president of the United States senate. Both houses of congress assemble in the chamber of the lower house on the second Wednesday of February. The electoral votes are then counted, and the president of the senate then announces the result. If any person has received a majority of all the votes cast for president he is announced as elected president, and a candidate for vice president must also receive a majority of all votes cast for that office to be elected.

Should a tie occur in the electoral vote the house of representatives

shown in the latter day mode of electing the vice president. In the first national elections held the man receiving the largest number of votes in the electoral college became president, while the man who got the second largest number of votes became vice president regardless of party. Thus in the early days of our country we had a president from one party and a vice president from another. That system was terminated, however, at the opening of the last century, and today there is but the remotest possibility that the vice president will be of a different party than the president.

There is one phase of the electoral system that has been attracting considerable attention of late. That is the inequitable degree of representation had by various states in the electoral college. Some states have far greater proportionate representation than others in respect to population. Thus the citizens of those states so favored have a larger voice in the choosing of a president and vice president than the voters of less fortunate states. For instance, seventeen states can be grouped having a total popular vote of practically the same as that of New York, yet the electoral votes of these seventeen states are almost twice those of New York in number. Nevada, with a popular vote of 12,000 in 1904, has three electoral votes, or one to about every 4,000 voters. Indiana, with a popular vote of 682,000 in 1904, has only fifteen electoral votes, or one to every 45,467 voters. New York is an equally unfortunate state in this respect, having one electoral vote to every 41,400 voters.

Adopted after a prolonged and bitter dispute in the famous constitutional convention of 1787 in Philadelphia, the electoral college system has since its inception been the center of various momentous disagreements. When Washington was first elected to the presidency the legislatures of New York and New Hampshire were torn by dissensions which reached so far that no electors were chosen, and Washington consequently did not receive any votes from either of these states. At the second election, however, Washington received the unanimous vote of all the electors.

### Notable Historical Episode.

At the second election Jefferson and Burr appeared as candidates, Kentucky giving the former four votes and South Carolina giving the latter one. At the third election they appeared again and this time much more prominently, Jefferson receiving 68 votes and Burr 30. John Adams, with a vote of 71, just one over the requisite majority, carried off the presidency, and Jefferson became vice president. North Carolina, Pennsylvania and Virginia each gave Adams one vote, giving Jefferson the rest, and these three scattering votes made Adams president.

At the fourth election Jefferson and Burr appeared again, and the vote in the electoral colleges was a tie, 73 each, which led to the famous election by the house, an episode occupying a prominent place in American history. In 1825 there was another election by the house. For president Andrew Jackson had 99 electoral votes, John Quincy Adams 34, William H. Crawford 41 and Henry Clay 37, and neither candidate having a majority, it devolved upon the house to choose a president from the three highest. The election came off on Feb. 9, 1825, and on the first ballot Adams was elected—41 for Adams, 13 states; for Jackson, 7; for Crawford, 4. In this election Clay threw his vote to Adams, who in turn made him secretary of state, and the resultant cry of bargain and sale ruled the great Kentuckian's presidential prospects.

### A Celebrated Controversy.

The celebrated Samuel J. Tilden-Rutherford B. Hayes controversy occurred in 1876. A violent partisan dispute arose over the electoral votes of Florida, Louisiana, Oregon and South Carolina. The entire matter was referred by congress to an electoral commission composed of eight Republicans and seven Democrats. As a result by a strict party vote 185 electoral votes were awarded to Hayes and 184 to Tilden. Some of the supporters of Mr. Tilden became so aroused over the decision that they openly talked of "taking Tilden to Washington and seating him anyhow," and threats of bringing about a civil war were bruited about.

The ablest men of the newly born United States founded the electoral college, choosing a system that was but one of a dozen advanced for the purpose of deciding the presidency and vice presidency. To Alexander Hamilton is given most of the credit for bringing about the adoption of the system as originally created by the constitution.

Hamilton devoted the paper known as the "LXVIII Federalist" to the subject of the presidential election, and in it he urged many forcible reasons showing the advantage of submitting the choice to an independent body of men.

Among other things he said: "It is equally desirable that the immediate election should be made by men most capable of analyzing the qualities adapted to the station and acting under circumstances favorable to deliberation and to a judicious combination of all reasons and inducements that were proper to govern their choice."

"A small number of persons selected by their fellow citizens from the general mass will be most likely to possess the information and discernment requisite to so complicated an investigation."

George Washington was chairman of the convention, and active parts were taken by such men as Benjamin Franklin, James Madison, John Dickinson of New Jersey, Pinckney of South Carolina, Alexander Hamilton

## NEW YORK FOR TAFT AND HUGHES

Republican National and State Tickets Win.

### TAFT CARRIES THE BIG CITY

Metropolis Gives Its Vote to Republican Presidential Candidate for the First Time Since McKinley Carried It in 1896.—Buffalo Has Gone Democratic, but Other Cities Are Republican—Governor Hughes Expresses Gratification at Result of Election.

New York, Nov. 4.—As the result of Tuesday's election New York state's thirty-nine electoral votes will be cast for William H. Taft and James S. Sherman. Both the Republican national and state tickets are victorious, Charles Hughes being re-elected governor.

Greater New York has gone Republican for the first time since 1895. Reports from all parts of the state indicate that the vote was heavy. The efforts of both gubernatorial candidates to bring out the ballots being rewarded with success. Both the old parties polled fair votes, their strength not being seriously affected by the independence, Socialist and other minor parties. Shearn, Independence party candidate for governor, ran ahead of Wanhoop, the Socialist nominee.

Governor Hughes came down to the city from up-state with an indicated plurality of about 121,000. Chanler's plurality south of High Bridge was approximately 68,000. The vote of two years ago was increased by about 150,000. Chanler surprised the Democratic leaders by an unexpectedly large vote in the rural districts, but lost tremendously in the city of Greater New York, where his followers had expected at least 100,000 plurality.

### MISSOURI MIGHTY CLOZE

Eighteen Electoral Votes Hang in the Balance.

St. Louis, Nov. 5.—Returns compiled this morning from every county in the state give Bryan a lead over Taft in Missouri of 67 votes. Complete returns from certain missing precincts may change the result one way or another, and it is probable that the official count alone can determine whether Missouri has given its eighteen electoral votes to Bryan or to Taft. The same tables which give Bryan a lead of 67 votes, give Hadley for governor a lead of 15,148, making his election over W. S. Cowherd an absolute certainty. This is the first time in nearly thirty-five years that Missouri has elected a Republican governor. Indications still are that the Democrats will control the legislature on joint ballot by four or five votes.

### Maryland.

Baltimore, Nov. 4.—Maryland's split electoral vote of four years ago, seven Democratic and one Republican, is this year solidly Republican. The election is close, Mr. Taft's plurality being under 200. The Democrats have gained one congressman. The state delegation in the Sixty-first congress will contain three Democratic representatives and three Republicans. This city has gone Democratic by a close vote.

### Texas.

Austin, Tex., Nov. 4.—William H. Taft did not make as good a showing in this state as President Roosevelt, who polled 51,242 votes in 1904. The vote this year is approximately as follows: Bryan, 220,000; Taft, 20,000. Thomas M. Campbell, Democrat, has been re-elected governor.

### Virginia.

Richmond, Va., Nov. 4.—The Old Dominion is still safely within the Democratic ranks by a majority of about 17,000, but lost one Republican congressman. Taft polled only 20,000 votes in a total of 130,000, a Republican loss of 17,883 since 1904.

### South Carolina.

Charleston, S. C., Nov. 4.—The Republican party polled only 2,000 of the 58,000 votes in this state, running slightly behind the figures of four years ago. M. F. Ansel has been re-elected governor without opposition.

### Florida.

Jacksonville, Fla., Nov. 4.—Albert W. Gilchrist, Democrat, has been elected governor of Florida, and the Democratic national ticket has carried the state by a majority of about 25,000.

### Arkansas.

Little Rock, Ark., Nov. 4.—Bryan carried Arkansas by a reduced majority, as a result of a heavy negro vote throughout the state. All Democratic congressmen were elected.

### Alabama.

Montgomery, Ala., Nov. 4.—Bryan, 90,000; Taft, 13,000, are the election figures in this state. Mr. Taft polled 9,472 fewer votes than Mr. Roosevelt did in 1904.

## A Nations Problems

The Curse of Race Prejudice the American Sin

Bishop Hamilton declared Mobocracy a Relic of Barbarism

The the American people are prejudiced on the "race" question, that all forms of foreigners are being solidified in the American race and that the entire population of the country, including even the Chinese and the Italian immigrant, is being made an inseparable part of the American Nation, were the declarations of Bishop J. W. Hamilton, member of the board of bishops of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in an address before a Freedman's Aid Society meeting at Roberts Park Church Sunday afternoon.

A large part of the audience was made up of colored people. At intervals when Bishop Hamilton touched particularly vital spots in his subject, he was loudly applauded. M. C. B. Mason, secretary of the Southern Freedman's Aid Society, was seated on the platform. Bishop Hamilton pointed to him several times during his address as "one of the few real survivors of the true type of African left in the United States." Secretary Mason substantiated this statement in his speech which followed.

Bishop Hamilton also included the "presumed extermination," as he called it, of the American Indian in his address. He denounced the "dying out of the redskin" as a flagrant untruth. The fact in the case, he declared, is that he has ceased to be a distinct type because he has been swallowed up by the white race through marriage. The scarcity of real Indian stock he attributed to "dying in" rather than "a dying out."

### INDIAN NOT EXTERMINATED

"There never was a greater untruth told about the extermination of a race," said Bishop Hamilton, "than the reasons given for the passing of the American Indian. It is impossible for the Indian to die out. He is merely becoming a part of another race. We find Indians, or at least part Indians, all along the Pacific coast. What is true about the Indian is equally true about the Chinaman, the dislike of the American to believe the truth notwithstanding. Of course our American girls look differently upon a Mandarin and a laundryman, but both are China men just the same."

"I was pastor of a church in Boston many years ago and had occasion to witness the marriage of a Chinaman with an American girl. People flocked to the ceremony as they would to a great event. Not long ago I returned to Boston. While riding on a street car in that city a beautiful young woman, who was sitting in an opposite spoke to me. I did not know who she was until she told me. She was the daughter of the Chinaman I saw married. But her eyes were not of the almond shape, her dress was immaculate and there was enough of the olive tint to her complexion to make her charming. The little girl beside her was one of the most beautiful children I ever saw."

### PROBLEM OF COLORED RACE.

"The problem of the colored race comes to us in the same way. But it is amazing to find how tender-footed we are, as a race, when our prejudices are enlisted in the controversy. It is amazing to see how the people squint their eyes and cast prejudiced glances when the name of a colored man is mentioned. More than thirty years ago I made a similar address in Indianapolis and the newspapers sent my views all over the country. I have since ceased to care what the public or the newspapers say have steered myself to face this prejudice."

"More than 100 years ago we had imported into our country Africans, pure and simple, without the tint of foreign blood in their veins. The purity of these Africans has been declining until now the last Government census report shows that only about one out of every fifteen so-called Africans is pure blooded. But such a report so shocked the Government that it decided not to make a mulatto census again."

"We are quickly arriving at our destiny, which will be to find that all form of foreigners will become solidified in our race. Solemnity of it all is involved in the question. (an we clear up our heredity so that we can be a race? It is inevitable that the black man is here and he is here to stay. We have no more right to try to put him out of the country than he has the right to try the same thing with us. There are those among us who talk about exporting the colored man. That is all folly of the sheerest sort. I have heard it said that it would take all of the vessels in the United States Navy to transport the normal increase, working all the time, which would till leave the old folks on our hands."

### RELICS OF BARBARISM.

"I see the Anglo-Saxon walking up and down the breadth of this land, keeping his skirts clear of the black man's touch. He thinks that he has the right to murder and cut to pieces this black man whenever he so feels. There is no greater stain upon the nation than that which comes with the use of mob violence and force. Such deeds are nothing short of relics of barbarism."

"In spite of these problems that have to be dealt with, the average American has more prejudice to the square inch than any foreigner in the world. He tells the immigrants that this is the best country in the world, and then after he arrives treats him in a way that makes him his mortal enemy within six months after touching American's shores."

"The problem of the colored race, Bishop Hamilton stated, is one to be solved through education and Christianity. It is education, he said, that will make of the colored man a new man, one able to contribute his share of good citizenship to the land in which he lives and owns property. With proper education, he said, respectability will come, which will be the cause of doing away with racial prejudices."

Bishop John M. Walden and Secretary M. C. B. Mason also made addresses, in which the work of the Freedman's Aid Society was outlined. Following Secretary Mason's address a collection was taken for work among the colored men the South.

### TAFT'S SERVICE TO LABOR.

Destroyed the Old Union Law Assumption that Union Labor is a Conspiracy.

(From the Emporia (Kan.) Gazette.) The simple fact is that no man has done more to place union labor on a sound, square, law-abiding, respected footing than William H. Taft by his decisions in labor cases. Both employers and employed have acknowledged the justice of his decisions and learned to abide by them, and to-day there is not an intelligent worker or fair-minded employer who would seek to abrogate them.

Judge Taft lifted union labor from the doubt and uncertainty as to its rights which had been prevented and gave it a standing which it has never since retained, and which has proved under his rulings, secure against all attack. The old assumption, derived from England, that union labor is a conspiracy, and that workers could be prevented from leaving railway or other employment at their will, was swept away forever by Judge Taft so far as the United States is concerned, and when an attempt was made, years later, to revive the principle, Judge Taft's decision was quoted successfully by the labor side to defeat the plea.

Mr. Taft was and is labor's friend, because he is absolutely just, and would no more permit wrong to be done to the poorest laborer in the land than he would to any one else. And the honest, law-abiding workers asks and expects no more than this.

Bryan, we learn from a Democratic contemporary, is giving the East a good scare. Bryan's scares, however, never hurt anybody but Bryan.—Philadelphia Press.

Mr. Taft says that he stands on his record. No particular credit to Taft in that. Anybody would be glad to stand on the kind of record he has.—Topeka Capital.

## Popularity Contest

With the Election Over Ministers Contest is Booming—Over 10,000 Votes Now In

Who is the most popular minister of the race in the state of Indiana? That's the question, who? What's his name? Where does he live? What church does he pastor? What's the story of his life's work, and why is he so popular? We might go on indefinitely asking questions, for you to answer, but each succeeding query depends upon an answer to the first one. Who is the most popular minister of the race in Indiana? The Recorder can't answer that question. It would be a big feather in our newspaper cap if we could. We would "run his picture" with the history of his life and the story of his life's work, and cause our news-paper competitors to hang their heads in shame and disgrace, and it would be a big thing for that preacher to learn that the thousands of Afro-American citizens of Indiana regard him so highly. Such an approbation coming from the people is indeed no small honor. Who is the most popular minister of the race in Indiana? We don't know, but our anxiety is so great if our readers and subscribers will say who the Recorder is ready to not only accord the honor, but to present a fine suit of clothes, at a cost of \$50.00 with our compliments and best wishes, and this brand new suit will be selected by the most popular minister and made to his order and style.

That looks easy doesn't it? Well it really is easier than it looks, for the plan is simply this: In each issue of the Recorder from now on until the holidays will be printed a voting ballot, which you will cut out, and write thereon the name of the most popular minister, according your judgment, and also sign your own name. These ballots must be left at or mailed to the Recorder office before the first of each month in order to be counted. The only condition that The Recorder imposes is that you must cast your ballot for an Indiana minister, residing in this State, at the present time.

There are over 200 ministers of the Race in Indiana, and you can take your choice. The result will be determined by the highest number of votes cast, and the ballots will be published weekly, showing the standing of the contestants.

### SPECIAL BALLOTS.

Every minister in the State has an equal chance at the hands of his admirers, for in addition to the ballot in each week's issue of The Recorder, special ballots will be given to all subscribers as follows:

For 1 years subscription, 100 votes.  
For 6 months " 50 votes.  
For 3 " " 25 votes.

These special ballots will be mailed to all persons on receipt of the price of the subscriptions, whether they are old or new subscriptions, and can be voted for your choice. The friends of the minister in the small charge can by securing new subscribers to The Recorder and getting the special ballots, easily win over the minister in the large cities, where the voting would be by the weekly ballot. This contest is open and fair to everyone.

The Recorder is the leading and best newspaper of the Race in Indiana. Its State circulation is larger than the combined circulation of all the other colored papers, and it publishes more news of interest to the Race than all of them. That's why it has a larger circulation, and that's why it deserves your support and confidence.

Now go to work for your minister. He labors in season as well as out of season for your temporal as well as your spiritual welfare. You now have a chance to show him a mark of appreciation by voting for him in this contest. Interest your church club at once and get every member and friend to save their ballots for you or agree to cast them for your pastor.

Write to your friends in other cities, asking the same support. Get the lead for your minister and then work hard to keep it. Remember that special ballots will win the day, so see your neighbor and friend to day about a subscription, and the most popular minister of the Race, in the State of Indiana will be your pastor, and while the glory will be his, the praise and honor will be for you and your friends.

### Standing In The Most Popular Minister Contest.

Rev. Chas. Hunter, Presiding Elder, 1825	
Rev. R. D. Lenard, Union Tabernacle Baptist Church, 1700	
Rev. Lemuel Stokes, city, 1491	
Rev. G. W. Ward, Mt. Zion Baptist church, 1306	
Rev. G. H. Shaffer, Bethel A. M. E. Church, 660	
Rev. G. C. Sampson, Allen Chapel Church, 580	
Rev. H. J. Callis, Jones Tabernacle, 250	
Rev. Chas. Johnson, city, 200	
Rev. H. L. Herod, 2d Christian church, 152	
Rev. G. A. Martin, Corinthian Baptist church, 151	
Rev. K. Warren, Olivet Baptist church, 131	
Rev. J. S. Bailey, Simpson Chapel church, 130	
Rev. H. H. Hinton, M. E. Church, Conville, 125	
Rev. J. C. Patton, Shiloh Baptist church, 125	
Rev. Chas. Williams, Cavalry Baptist church, 75	
Rev. White, Witherspoon Presbyterian church, 75	
Rev. Morris Lewis, Presiding Elder A. M. E. Church, 50	
Rev. Mitchell, Metropolitan Baptist church, 50	
Rev. J. Francis Robinson, 50	
Rev. J. C. Campbell, City, 50	
Rev. J. P. Wallace, Terre Haute, Ind., 50	
Rev. N. A. Seymour, New Bethel Baptist church, 50	
Rev. C. E. Hardmon, Franklin, Ind., 50	
Rev. W. M. Winfield, Penick Chapel, 39	
Rev. Patterson New Hope Baptist church, 25	
Rev. B. F. Farrell, Mt. Paron Baptist Church, 25	
Total Votes, 9280	

## THE MOST POPULAR MINISTER CONTEST

ONE Vote	REGULAR BALLOT.	NOV. 7
Name of Minister.....		
" of Church.....		
City or Town.....		
Name of Subscriber.....		
Address.....		
Date.....1908		

The Indianapolis RECORDER is conducting a voting contest to decide who is the most popular minister of the race in Indiana. Ballots will appear weekly and are good for one vote, if received at the Recorder Office before the first of next month.

SPECIAL BALLOTS will be given with all subscriptions as follows: 1 year, 100 votes 6 months, 50 votes; 3 months, 25 votes. A \$50.00 suit of clothes will be presented to the successful minister by the Recorder. Watch the vote each week.



## The Recorder

PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY AT  
INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA.SUBSCRIPTION RATES:  
One Year, \$1.00  
Six Months, .50  
Three Months, .25

Money may be sent by postoffice registered letter.  
All communications for publication should be accompanied with the name of the writer, not necessarily for publication but as a guarantee of good faith.  
We solicit news, contributions, opinions and letters on all matters affecting the race. We will not pay for any matter, however, unless it is ordered by us. All matter intended for publication must reach this office not later than Wednesday of each week to insure insertion in the current issue.

## ADVERTISING RATES

Will be furnished on application.

Entered at the Postoffice as second-class matter.

All letters, communications and business matters should be addressed to THE RECORDER.

414 Indiana Avenue, New Phone 1563  
GEO. P. STEWART, Publisher

SATURDAY NOV. 7 1908

Mr. Booker T. Washington for the third time sends forth an appeal to the race concerning the educational conditions, especially in the south land. In some localities he finds that public schools for Negroes are open only two months in the year, and this fact coupled with poor facilities and poorly paid teachers makes this situation little less than appalling. Next to religion, education for the rising generations must next concern us. What is denied in the south in the way of public schools, is free in the North, and yet how many parents really appreciate it to the fullest extent such golden gifts? It is high time that we were wakening up to our possibilities, says Mr. Washington.

In order to impress our people with the truth of how far we are behind and with what remains to be done, let me make a comparison: Two years ago each child in the state of Massachusetts had spent upon him as per school population, in the free public schools \$26.42, while taking the South as a whole for the same year each Negro child had spent upon him as per school population from \$0 to \$1.50 in the different Southern states. At such rate does any one believe that we can educate our children? Ignorance will grow denser and crime, lawlessness and inefficiency will increase. Something must be done and that speedily.

We must, as a race, learn to make sacrifices. It is better that we go without proper clothing, that we go hungry, live on bread and water even if necessary, rather and neglect the education of our children. Let each person, teacher or minister, who reads these words, begin at once and stir the people to action in his immediate county.

The judgement of the Appellate Court of Indiana sustaining the minority faction of the Second Baptist church in its controversy over the retention of the Rev. Charles Johnson as pastor, was a well-earned and deserved victory for right and morality. The decision was clean-cut and decisive and will do a great deal in clarifying church conditions that have been in the past unsavory and unchristian like.

We believe that the Second Baptist church and her members will go back to the old landmarks of christian fidelity and fellowship, and there renew their trust one in another, so that she will again take rank as the mother of Indian baptist.

Go into business young man and young women.

Learn to patronize your own people in the business and the professions.

There are at least 6,000 Negro families in Indianapolis, and of \$5.00 per week represented the extent of their living expenses the total would reach \$30,000 each week. What a power for good it would be for a despised people if only used in the right channels. Had you ever thought about it?

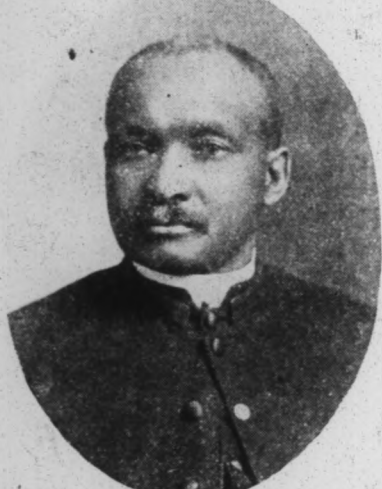
There are now signs that to the brewers' and saloon keepers' fund will be added a large contribution from the distillers. Governor Willson of Kentucky informed Indiana men who saw him at Cincinnati on Taft notification day that some of the Kentucky distillers are much concerned over the prospect of a county local option law in Indiana. From reliable authority it is learned that the brewers are expecting substantial aid from that source in their efforts to carry Indiana for the Democrats.

## PORTLAND.

Rev. T. Edwards, the Evangelist, preached at the A. M. E. church Monday evening. The K. of P. Lodge, gave an entertainment in which they had success. The Women's Improvement Club was entertained at the residence of Mrs. Nancy Smith in W. High, st. Business was transacted and afterwards a program was rendered. A delight time was spent. A Lunch was served later. The Bethel Christian Endeavor which has been on a stand still for some time was reorganized on Nov. the first. The ladies of the A. M. E. church are preparing for a rally on Nov. 15. The Missionary Society was reorganized on Oct. 25 by the new pastor under the leadership of the following new officers: Mrs. L. Kattliffe Pres. Mrs. L. L. Collins 1st vice Mrs. Tolbert Bridge 2nd vice Miss M. Robinson Sec'y Mrs. Mattie Assistant Sec'y. Mrs. Martha White, Treasurer. Membership 15.

## KOKOMO

Fridy night at Dreamland Skating rink. Miss Ada Harris entertained a number of friends Wednesday in honor of her birthday. All reported a good time; and elegant refreshments were served. Those present were: Misses Myrtle Wins, Ida Palmer, Rachel Bassett, Mable Johnson, Aletha Harris, Walter Toover, Edwin Chas. Stokes, Orval Lynch, Bradley and Walter Stevens.



Rev. Charles Hunter



## Straighten Your Hair

DEAR SIR:—I have used only one bottle of your pomade and now I would not be without it for it makes my hair soft and straight and easy to comb and also starts a new growth.

Miss W. F. Walker, 111 Harrison, Tenn.

## Ford's Hair Pomade

Formerly known as Oiled Ox Marrow. Fifty years of success has proved its merit. It uses makes the hair straight, glossy, soft and pliable, so you can comb it and arrange it in any style you wish consistent with its length. Removes and prevents dandruff, invigorates the scalp, stops the hair from falling out or breaking off and gives it new life and vigor. Absolutely harmless—used with splendid results even on the youngest children. Delicately perfumed, its use is a pleasure, as ladies of refinement everywhere declare. Ford's Hair Pomade has imitators. Don't buy anything else alleged to be "just as good." If you want the best results, buy the best Pomade—it will tell you. Look for this name.

Charles Ford, Prop.

If you are troubled with itching scalp, dandruff, or any other scalp trouble, use Ford's Hair Pomade. It will cure you. It is the only hair pomade made in Chicago, Ill. Agents Wanted Everywhere.

For Sale at Eureka Drug Store  
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QUESTIONS BRYAN  
PREFERS TO IGNORE

Seven Pointed Queries Propounded  
the Democratic Candidate.

Failed to Answer Any of the Questions.

Prior to his recent speech at Omaha Mr. Bryan had proposed to him the following pertinent questions by the Omaha Bee. Mr. Bryan did not see fit to attempt to answer any of them.

1. You, Mr. Bryan, are making much of Democratic friendship for labor. Why is it that practically no legislation to protect labor has been enacted in the Southern States in which Democrats have absolute control? Why are there no child labor laws in the South? Why are there no laws to protect women wage earners in the South? You and your fusion friends had absolute executive and legislative control of Nebraska for several years. Why was no legislation to protect labor passed then? Why did the wage workers of Nebraska have to wait for succeeding Republican legislatures to remove the \$5,000 death damage limit, to get an equitable employer's liability act and to get a child labor law?

2. You, Mr. Bryan, are trying to make your paramount issue, "Shall the people rule?" The most advanced step toward popular rule has been through the direct primary. Why is it, Mr. Bryan, that your fusion friends when in complete control did not give Nebraska a direct primary law? Why is it that the Republicans of Nebraska had to secure the direct primary law over the opposition of the Democrats? Why is it that the progressive Republican States have enacted direct primary laws to bring the filling of offices closer to the people, while in the Democratic States of the South direct primary laws have been enacted avowedly to disfranchise the people?

3. You, Mr. Bryan, are bidding for office on your anti-trust remedies. Why is it that all the effective legislation against illegal combinations has been enacted by Republican congresses and for the most part by Republican State legislatures, while the Democratic States have no effective anti-trust legislation?

4. You, Mr. Bryan, are bidding for labor votes by promising to abolish the writ of injunction in labor disputes. Do you not know that injunction abuses have been chargeable as much to State courts as to federal courts? Can you name a single Democratic State which has passed a law to prevent the abuse of injunction by State courts? Why was no such law passed in Nebraska when your fusion friends were in complete control?

5. You, Mr. Bryan, are bidding for votes on your scheme of bank deposit guaranty. Oklahoma is the only State that has put such a law in its statute books. Why have none of the other Democratic States enacted deposit guaranty laws? You, especially, introduced such a bill into Congress in the early 90's. Why did you not get your fusion friends to enact the bill as a State law when they were in complete control of Nebraska? A deposit guaranty bill, which you endorsed, was offered in Congress last winter as a substitute for the Vreeland bill, but only a handful of the Democratic Congressmen voted for it, the remaining others voting against it or refusing to vote. The only Democratic Congressman from Nebraska was one of those who refused to vote. If your endorsement of that bill was unable to make these Democratic Congressmen vote for it last winter, how will you be able to make them vote for it next winter?

6. You, Mr. Bryan, are trying to make much of the popular election of United States Senators. We have the statement of Mr. Tibbles, made three years ago, that a large sum of money, said to be \$15,000 or \$20,000, was contributed by "Ryan, Belmont & Co." in 1904, through your brother-in-law toward your campaign for United States Senator in Nebraska. Is Mr. Tibbles mistaken in his assertions? If so, why did you not correct them long ago? If not, why did you not put your name on the ballot as a candidate for Senator and ask a vote of popular preference under the Nebraska law which gives you that right? Why did the Democrats refuse to submit candidates for United States Senator to popular vote in Nebraska in 1898, in 1900 and 1904?

7. You, Mr. Bryan, are making much of publicity of campaign contributions. Nebraska has a campaign publicity law, but it was enacted, as you know, by a Republican Legislature after your fusion State administration had failed to pass such a law. Why is it, Mr. Bryan, that your brother-in-law and Democratic campaign managers have persistently and willfully violated the Nebraska campaign publicity law? Why, if you are so devoted to campaign fund publicity, were you so insistent that the \$50,000 contribution to your campaign made by the Bennett will should be kept secret?

The Hon. John W. Kern, Democratic candidate for vice-president, who visited this city yesterday, was "starred" in large headlines in "The Evening Post" as "an optimist." Anybody who can travel these days on a railroad pass has good reason for being "an optimist."—New York Tribune.

## CHURCH NOTES.

Freemont Free Baptist church, 2124 Martindale avenue—Services: Sunday school 9:30 a. m.; preaching 10:45 a. m. and 7:30 p. m.; prayer meeting Tuesday evening; communion, fourth Sunday in each month. You are invited to attend our meetings. Rev. Jos. Anderson, pastor; Mrs. Emma Turner, cl'k. First Baptist Church of North Indianapolis, Sunday school at 9:00 a. m. Preaching at 11:00 a. m. By Rev. T. C. Bothic at 8:00 p. m. Pastor's collection \$8.75. A meeting for the in gathering of the souls, start next Sunday evening.

Quarterly meeting was last Sunday; Presiding Elder Lewis was present and preached during the day. At St Paul Temple.

Rev. McCull delivered the sacramental sermon. Rev. Mrs. Mary E. Wilson left Saturday morning for Danville, Ill.

Every Negro in Indianapolis should attend the opening of the colored Y. M. C. A. "Monster Meeting" when Rev. Joshua Stansfield will be the speaker. Rev. Joshua Stansfield has taken such a strong stand for the Negro; that it behooves every man to show his appreciation by turning in large numbers. Dr. Stansfield is a strong and forceful speaker. Mrs. Samuel Ratliffe will sing a solo and Y. M. C. A. Orchestra will render several selections. All men are welcome. The meeting is for men only, Jones Tabernacle is the place; at 3 p. m. is the time.

The Trustee Board of the Alpha Home will meet Nov. 11 at the home of Mrs. Ellen Lewis 430 W. Michigan, st.

The Association will meet at the Y. M. C. A. rooms Nov. 12. Business of importance.

The Ladies of the Alpha Home Association wish to keep before the public that on the 25th of Nov. the day before Thanksgiving, they will have representatives to visit all business places schools and ask all the teachers to go that day prepared to donate to them at the Denison House Barber Shop. Mesdames Lucy Pahlipatis and Laura Gains, at English Opera House Barber Shop. Mesdames Susie Donald, Ellen Lewis, Clara Jackson, Aletha Alexander and Mr. Sanders at the home. Mrs. Susie Williams President. Mesdames Mammie Shelton, Alce Frazier on the wagon. Mrs. Kerzia Butler the Superintendent, and solicited from the teachers. Mrs. Hulda Webb and Mrs. Julia Reed, walking committee Mesdames Mattie Griggby and Bertha Reed will start at Dr. Fieldings Barber Shop and go North. Anyone wishing to donate a good milk cow or chickens, sheep, pigs or at least anything for the home; can call phone 2025.

A grand entertainment to be given at the Flanner Guild by the board of Directors Nov. 26. A paper by W. R. Valentine. Subject: "The coming nation of Goodness." Reading by W. Gable from Paul Lawrence Dunbar and Frank L. Stanton; Paper by Dr. W. E. Brown. Special musical numbers assisted by the Fashion Quartet. Admission 25 cents. Come and help us.

Mr. Thomas Floyd, a well-known and respected citizen, the father of Mr. Charles Floyd died last Tuesday morning after a long illness. He was a member of the U. B. F. and of Montgomery Lodge K. of P. The funeral was held yesterday afternoon from Corinthian church Baptist church. Rev. Martin officiating. Undertaker O. W. Morgan was in charge of the funeral arrangements. A large number of friends sympathize with the family in their loss.

## LOCALS

Mrs. Mammie Stewart of Minneapolis, is in the city, the guest of Mr. Katie Bazel, in N. West, St.

The Halloween entertainment given at U. B. F. Hall was quite a success. A very pleasing feature was a colonial drill by a number of girls under directions of Mrs. Charles Rice. First prize won by Mrs. Patsy McGruden, a gold head umbrella. Second prize by Mrs. Aletha Floyd, 25 lbs of sugar. Mrs. Mary J. Scottson in charge of the affair.

The Gold Star Club will be entertained at the home of Mrs. Sophia Butler, 1430 Mill street, Thursday evening; hostess, Miss Nellie Butler. All members are requested to be present.

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A special meeting of the State officials of the International Order of Twelve, was held Thursday at the Realty Hall to transact important business. Among those present were Mrs. Mary E. Lewis, G. O. M., Mrs. Emma Taylor, Chief Recorder, and Mrs. Paris H. P. of Crawfordville.

Mr. J. H. Daman is confined to his bed at his home 526 Roan ke, str. He is a member of the Montgomery Lodge, No. 6, K. of P.

Instead of Rev. J. C. Patton, superintendent of the State Missionary, Rev. J. R. Averett.

## Waiters Banquet

One of the largest number of hotel waiters that ever came together in the history of Indianapolis, met at 327 Indiana Avenue, last Friday night, October 30. After some three or four popular selections, which was rendered by the orchestra, composed of Miss Katie Francis, pianist, Prof. G. W. Gray, violinist, and an artist on a saxophone, Mr. Ben Hoiman, who was toastmaster of the evening, made a nice little speech by way of introduction, explaining the idea of the meeting and then gave away to Mr. Eugene Armstrong, who was host and speaker of the evening. As Mr. Armstrong arose he was greeted by much cheering, which lasted nearly five minutes. When all had subsided Mr. Armstrong explained the object of the meeting, by saying that it was high time that the waiters of this city had come together to think and act for the good of the whole race. He sighted, where if each waiter would spare \$1 each week toward forming and building a stock company, in a little time a large capital could be raised and a department store or factory of some kind could be established which would be a monument of praise to the Negro waiters. He spoke of cleanliness and the building of an appetite to read and be studious among his fellow workers. We should have a club, he said, that will have push and energy in its efforts the motive of building, and be less ambitious about the pursuit of politics. When Mr. Armstrong had finished Mr. Holliman and Mr. Harvey Taylor proposed three cheers, which were given in a way that fairly shook the building.

After the body had posed for a flash light picture, Mr. Knox, who is a prominent waiter at the English hotel, blessed the table with well chosen remarks. Soon after a dainty repast was served. During this hour humorist and witty sayings, mingled with jolly laughter, took up a greater part of the interest.

The man who furnished the fun of the evening was indomitable "Mitt" Mills. He was found guilty of being a very jovial afternoon speaker, a stumble buck and wing dancer, and a high classed scoist.

Mr. Adams, a well known waiter of Louisville, Ky., made a short address, in which he said that he hoped that this would not be the final meeting, and asked that they organize. He could not speak further, he said, because had taken on too much of the repast.

Some of the best speakers of the evening arrived late, and they were: Mr. William Jackson, Attorney J. H. Lott and Mr. Charles Humble. Mr. Jackson stated that he was an old waiter and that he was glad of the opportunity to speak to his former co-workers. He also stated that he would give his assistance toward any movement for good that the hotel boys' club should ask were it in his power. He was applauded loudly. Mr. Charles Humble was cheered to the echo as he arose and said, "I am one you, and am glad of it." He pledged himself as being one who would do everything necessary and possible to promote a strong organization of waiters.

J. H. Lott said the nearest he had been to a waiter was as a root black around a hotel but that he had always had the waiter's interest at heart and was always ready to offer assistance toward the welfare of the waiter.

The banquet was served by Mr. Frank Duerson, owner of the Parker house. The guests did not depart for their homes until late in the evening of the morning.

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# OUR CORRESPONDENTS,

News, Incident, Social + and + Personal Activities

## PLAINFIELD,

Our pastor, Rev. Cottman, who lives in Indianapolis, was accompanied last Sunday by his son Howard, who joined our church. Rev. Alex McCulley filled his pulpit in Danville Sunday. Mrs. Cora Kellar visited in Indianapolis Thursday of last week. Cary and Roy Swan, John Dautley, Rob. Miller, Mr. and Mrs. Thos. Poston, Mrs. Carrie Churchfield, Mrs. Lotie and Eugene Patton heard Mr. Vernon last Tuesday evening, a week. Rev. W. R. Hutchison spent last week in Lost Creek. He preached to a large audience Sunday morning and evening. Mrs. Carrie Davis Dandridge entertained Rev. Cottman and son last Sunday at dinner. Mrs. Lucy Minor attended the monthly meeting at Bridgeport Sunday afternoon.

## FT. WAYNE,

Mr. Lawrence Levi, a student of the Duokirk high school, composed a beautiful new piece, entitled "Peaceful Ocean," meditation for the piano. It is the latest out. Mrs. Minnie Adams entertained Mrs. Sadie Wallace and Mrs. R. K. Jones and daughter at 4 o'clock dinner, Oct. 24th. Mrs. Dora Smith of Grand Rapids, Mich., was taken to the St. Joseph hospital last Monday to be operated upon. Mrs. Noah Green died suddenly last Tuesday morning. The physician was unable to tell what caused her sudden death. She had been a resident of this city many years. Rev. Allen, the new Presiding Elder, was in Ft. Wayne last week and held conference Tuesday evening. Rev. Allen delivered a splendid sermon. The Young People's Society Beta Delta Byways, gave a Halloween progressive party, Friday evening, Oct. 30th, their center being the home of Mrs. Katherine Smith, at the residence of her sister, Mrs. Odos Ward. Miss Williams of Springfield, O., is in the city visiting her sister Mrs. Roaland. The Fall Festival, given by the ladies of the order of Eastern Star the 22nd, was a grand success. Mrs. Theodora Smith of Grand Rapids, Mich., passed away at St. Joe hospital of this city at 8:15 p. m. Saturday, where she was operated upon for tumor. Her home was at Grand Rapids, Mich. Mrs. Smith was a member of the M. E. Church of Grand Rapids and a member of the Household of Ruth. The funeral services were held at the A. M. E. Church Wednesday morning at 10:00, from thence the funeral proceeded to Cherubusco. Miss Pearl Redwood of Lodis, O., and Mr. Alfred Fox of this city, were married at Paulding, O. Monday, Oct. 27th. Mr. C. C. Powell has returned from a business trip through Ohio the first of the week. Mr. J. Brown has been suffering lately from rheumatism in his feet. Mr. and Mrs. Franklin paid a visit to Mr. and Mrs. J. Brown last Sunday. Mrs. Franklin had a delightful time on her trip to Cincinnati last week. The first entertainment of the Willing Workers society met with crowning success last Friday night at the home of Mrs. Nettie Davis. The Willing Workers gave a reception Thursday night, Nov. 5th, in honor of the return of Rev. C. L. Pettford and wife to this city for the ensuing year, at the church. Miss Ada Williams and mother are in the city visiting Mrs. Roland of E. Washington, Bl., where they expect to spend the winter. Mrs. Daisie Boon of Van Wert, and Mrs. Kaper of Des Moines, were entertained by Mrs. Allen Wilson last Saturday, Oct. 31st. The Calanthe Court will give a supper at their hall, Tuesday evening, Nov. 10th. The young men's fraternity B. D. B. will give a party at the home of Mrs. M. Tabbott, tonight, Nov. 7th.

## CHARLESTON,

Misses Lula B. Smith and Bessie S. of Princeton, and Mr. Harper of New Albany, were the guests of Miss Musetta Smith Sunday. Mr. Smith's Briscoe spent Saturday in Louisville. Mr. Frank Roodus was the guest of Miss Clara Green Sunday. The A. M. E. Church and Sabbath school are progressing nicely. Rev. Crossland, the pastor, is doing good work here. Elder Michem, the pastor of the A. M. E. Church at Madison, spent Monday here. Miss Musetta Smith spent Saturday in Louisville. Mr. George Paynter of Louisville, was up to see his parents and children Sunday. Mrs. Fannie Parker and Miss Mary Montgomery spent Sunday in Watson. The young folks of the A. M. E. Church are preparing to give a concert Thanksgiving night. Supper will be served at the church. Mrs. Fannie Green and her little son Robert, spent Sunday in Watson as the guest of Mrs. Pitts. Mr. Thompson, the principal of the Charlestown school left Monday evening for Lexington, the home of his father, to vote. Mrs. Cora Caldwell and Cora Joiner are on the sick list. Mr. Bailey of Cincinnati, was the guest of Miss Serena Douglas Sunday. Mr. Josh Tricker of Indianapolis, is visiting his family this week.

## NOBLESVILLE,

Mrs. Lydia Brown of Ft. Wayne was the guest of Mrs. Lizie Townsen last Saturday and Sunday. Rev. Lewis and wife and Mrs. S. R. Roberts attended quarterly meeting at Allen Chapel, Indianapolis, last Sunday. Rev. Lewis preached the communion sermon. Rev. Evert of Indianapolis, conducted services at the First Baptist church last Sunday. Mr. Brown of Alexander, state organizer of the B. Y. P. U., was in the city last Sunday. Miss Ida M. Williams was visiting in Indianapolis last Sunday. Don't forget the harvest home and fall festival, to be given by the ladies of Bethel A. M. E. Church, at the K. of P. hall, the 25th and 26th of this month. Each person purchasing an admission ticket will be given a chance on a half barrel of flour. Mr. Thomas Phelps and Mrs. Author Kelly were visiting in the city last Sunday. Mrs. Woodard Stewart, Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Scott are on the list. The services at Bethel A. M. E. Church are quite interesting, and are improving. All persons who are interested in the work of the young people, are requested to meet the pastor at the Bethel church tomorrow evening at 6 o'clock. Mr. Harry J. Carter was visiting in the city last Sunday.

## CEMENTVILLE,

Mr. Enoch Kellar of Muncie, arrived home Sunday night, and remained until Wednesday. Rev. J. Bowen held services at the M. E. Church Sunday morning. A Halloween mask house party was given by the Misses Jones Saturday evening. Everyone enjoyed themselves immensely. Mrs. Lucinda Jones, Sen. is convalescent. Miss Fannie L. Jones spent Wednesday in Jeffersonville. Mr. George Fox has gone to Horse Cave, Ky., to spend the winter. Mr. James Mackie of Louisville, has moved here since Tuesday. Mr. and Mrs. George Herford entertained guests at dinner Sunday.

## VINCENNES,

The Household of Ruth gave a leap year social last Friday night. The Second Baptist church gave candidate supper last Saturday night. Quarterly meeting will be held at the A. M. E. Church, Sunday, Nov. 8th. The Odd Fellows gave a candidate supper Monday night, also the S. M. T's. at their hall, on 1st street. The B. Y. P. U. of the Second Baptist church gave a campaign social last Tuesday night, which was a great success. The stewards of the A. M. E. Church gave a social last Tuesday night for to help raise the money due the Presiding Elder. Little Helen Anthony, who has been quite ill, is improving. Mrs. Maggie Gordon is on the sick list. The Sewing Circle met at the home of Mrs. Elvira Carter Thursday evening.

## NORWOOD

One of the sadest incidents that has shocked the suburb of Norwood for some time, was the sudden death of Mrs. Josie Mayes. She died with a very virulent case of diphtheria having been in bed only one day. She leaves a husband, two children, a mother and a host of friends, both white and colored, to mourn her loss. She was 39 years old, and belonged to the charitable and the Western Star Temple No. 11, and was buried under her own name. Mrs. Emma Shirley has left her home on Maderia ave. to Mr. Hunter and wife. She will reside in Indianapolis this winter. Mr. and Mrs. Walker Durett have purchased a five room cottage, with large grounds in Earhart street. Mr. Thomas Twyman, who was seriously hurt by an interurban car, is convalescing. Mr. Theodore Trubue has opened a first class barber shop at 326 Prospect street. Mrs. James Mitchell will entertain the children and parents today Saturday, Nov. 7th, afternoon and evening at the Gymnasium hall, with a donkey party. Retirements will be sold and ice cream given away. The board of managers of the Boys' Club and Miss Ada B. Harris extend thanks to the public for their support at the Halloween entertainment, which cleared \$30. Mr. Minger Kennedy and Mr. Edward Smith were the two colored men employed in precinct No. 4, Center st., outside as inspector and poll book keeper, respectively.

## RUSHVILLE

The young ladies of the Second Baptist church will give an entertainment Thursday night, Nov. 12th. Mrs. Jane Overton continues quite ill at her home, on east 7th street. Mrs. J. T. Leggett left Oct. 21st to attend the Woman's Home Missionary Convention at Philadelphia, Penn., and from there to Washington, D. C., to visit her sister. Mrs. A. H. Sumake returned home Tuesday night from an extended visit in Kentucky. The Second Baptist church will give a rally Sunday, Nov. 8th. The Second Baptist church of Connorsville and the 2nd M. E. Church of this city are invited to attend. Mr. Harvey Pruitt and Nona Mitchell of this city, were quietly married Thursday night, Oct. 28th. Mr. Jones of Connorsville, and Mrs. Lucinda Pettiford of this city, were united in marriage Wednesday night. Our Rushville boys who are employed in other parts of the state, returned home to vote. Sunday school at Baptist church at 9:00 a. m. Services at 10:30 a. m. Speaking meeting 3:00 p. m. B. Y. P. U. at 6:00 p. m. Services at 7:50.

## KOKOMO,

Mr. Otis Braboy returned home Tuesday from Ft. Wayne, to vote. We have on our sick list Mr. Thomas Gaskin, Mrs. Mattie Griffin and Mrs. Horace Johnson. Mrs. Housy Huper and Chas. Haper spent Sunday with home folks in New London. Mrs. J. Gospin is the guest of her parents in Carthage, Ind. Mrs. William Gaikin will enter in the Zenith Club Wednesday afternoon. Rose of Sharon Tabernacle gave a supper at Palmer hall Wednesday evening. The ladies of the A. M. E. church held a market in the lecture room of the church Saturday evening. The Zenith Club is preparing to give a grand musical cantata in the near future. Miss Sadonia Bird returned to her home in Indianapolis, the first of the week, after a brief visit with Chas. Winburn and family. Messrs. Kennedys gave a dance.

## JEFFERSONVILLE,

Miss Nannie Burroughs, the great missionary, gave an interesting talk at the Indiana Avenue church Wednesday evening, in behalf of the missionary society. Miss Blanche Parker continues on the sick list. Rev. H. H. Palmer preached at Rose Hill Baptist church Sunday morning and evening. Rev. G. Redd and members hope to begin a ten days meeting, beginning Nov. 9th. The hobbles proved quite enjoyable Halloween night, as the young ladies and gentlemen lined up moved onto Spook Hollow. Miss Sophronia Johnson is on the sick list. Mr. Cole is seriously ill at his home on Illinois avenue. The B. Y. P. U. of the Indiana Avenue church had an interesting topic Sunday afternoon. It was, "what is sin?" It was ably discussed by the workers of the Union. The Sunday schools of the city are preparing for Thanksgiving exercises.

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LAFAYETTE.

Miss Josie Hall of Springfield,

Ill, is the guest of Mrs. Lydia

Smith. Rev. A. Adams of the

Second Baptist church, has tendered

his resignation, to take effect

immediately. Mrs. Carrie Tay-

lor has returned from a pleasant

visit in Terre Haute. Mrs. Mil-

lie Webb is visiting her sister, Mrs.

M. L. Huffman. Rev. Samuel

Andrews gave a very delightful

reception in honor of his daughter

Carrie, last Saturday night. Lunch

was served in four courses.

Messrs. Willis, Drake and W. F.

Anderson visited in Indianapolis

last Sunday. Mr. Lowell W.

Baker, who so ably superintended

the remodeling of our post office,

has been transferred to Youngs-

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ing the construction of a new half

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der. Mrs. Bessie Wilson is ill at

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## THE SUNDAY SCHOOL.

Lesson VI.—Fourth Quarter, For  
Nov. 8, 1908.

## THE INTERNATIONAL SERIES

Text of the Lesson, II Sam. xviii, 24-33  
Memory Verse, 33—Golden Text  
Prov. xvii, 25—Commentary Prepared  
by Rev. D. M. Stearns.

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In the last lesson we left David fleeing from Absalom because of the rebellion, but it was still manifestly true "the Lord preserved David whithersoever he went" (viii, 6, 14). The counsel of Ahithophel, who left David to join Absalom, was as if a man had inquired at the oracle of God, but in answer to David's prayer that God would turn the counsel of Ahithophel into foolishness God saw fit to do it through Hushai, David's friend (xv, 31, 34, 37; xvi, 23; xvii, 14). There is great comfort to a believer in the words of Ps. xxxiii, 10, 11, "The counsel of the Lord standeth forever, the thoughts of his heart to all generations." See also Isa. xiv, 24, and it is our privilege to rest in the assurance of the "all things" of Rom. viii, 28; II Cor. iv, 15, and to take even the cursing of a Shimei (xvi, 5, 12) as permitted by God to show His power in due time and change the curse to a blessing. See the sequel to this event in chapter xix, 16, 20. If we would have perfect rest we must believe firmly that the Lord is roundabout His people, as the mountains, as a hedge, as a fire, and that nothing can possibly come through without His permission, not even the barking of a dog (Ex. x, 7).

The phrase "David's friend" (xv, 37, xvi, 16) reminds us of Abraham, the friend of God (II Chron. xx, 7; Isa. xli, 8; Jas. ii, 23), and of the Lord's words, "I have called you friends" (John xv, 15). Why not be more worthy of such a royal friend? The friendship of this world is enmity with God, and it is impossible to be a friend of the world and of God too (Jas. iv, 4). The manner of Ahithophel's going out of this world (xv, 23) has grown to be the common thing in our day, not hanging, but the taking of his own life, another indication that the return of the King draweth near. Mahanaim, where Shobi and Machir and Barzillai met David and his people with so much kindness, makes us remember the kindness of God to Jacob in some of the dark days and that we, too, have the ministry of angels as well as of visible friends (xvii, 27, 29; Gen. xxxiii, 2).

Our lesson chapter opens with the going forth of David's army under Joab, Abishai and Ittai, with the words of David ringing in their ears, "Deal gently for my sake with the young man, even with Absalom" (verse 5). The armies met, and David's followers were victorious. There was a great slaughter of Absalom's followers, and Absalom himself was slain miserably by the hand of Joab and thrown into a pit and covered with a heap of stones (17). His beautiful head of hair was seemingly his ruin (verse 9, chapter xiv, 26). How often it is that what one prizes most becomes the undoing of such a one! Pride of any kind always leads to a fall. David was prevented from going out with the army, the people saying that it would not matter if half of them died, but that David was worth ten thousand of them (verse 3), so he remained in the city and sat between the two gates to wait and watch for tidings, while the watchman went up to the roof over the gate that he might see afar off and advise the king. David hoped for good tidings, but it must have been with a sorrowful heart and some forebodings. The two prominent words in our lesson verses, "watchman" and "tidings," suggest to us many things and give us a whole study in themselves. Because of a well beloved Son given for us, the only begotten Son of God, the angel said to the shepherds, "Behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people" (Luke ii, 10), but the majority of those to whom the good news has come seem not to care whether others hear or not. The lopers outside of Samaria put us to shame, who said in the midst of plenty, while others were perishing, "We do not well; this day is a day of good tidings, and we hold our peace."

A common question asked by those who hear for the first time of the wonderful love of God, as to how long we have known it and why we did not come sooner to tell their friends who have died without hearing, ought to search us to the very heart. Do we believe the cry of the watchman, "The morning cometh, and also the night," and, as we think of Israel's blindness, what about obedience to the command in Isa. xl, 9, margin? Alas, there are many who, like Ahimaz, the son of Zadok, insist on running, but have no tidings, and therefore their running is in vain. The message is plain, but we must receive it before we can run and tell it. See Hab. ii, 2, "Make it plain that he may run that readeth it," not, as often quoted, that he that runs may read, which is not in the Scripture. We see in our lesson the grief of a loving father over the untimely death of a wayward son, and our hearts are touched by the cry of the broken hearted father.

What about the heart of God as He gave up His only Son, the holy one, to become a sacrifice for our sins, a sin bearer, a curse for us? Let each one say "bearing my sins in His own body on the tree." Might he not say to us as He beholds our indifference, "Is it nothing to you all ye that pass by?"

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