

## Is the Preacher Passing?

By Steele C. Smith

Frequently among unbelievers there is expressed the view that the church has outlived its day, is behind the times, and has nothing of value to offer the public.

Such people believe that it will soon be a thing of the past and the preacher, too, will be obsolete. Russia, believing this, is carrying on a systematic program designed to wipe the church and religion from the consciousness of its people. The final result of this experiment remains yet to be seen.



Rev. Steele C. Smith

In spite of gloomy predictions, there are strong reasons for believing that the institution of the church will remain and the preacher will occupy an increasingly important field of activity. There is no danger of the preacher becoming obsolete.

The preacher has filled an important place in past ages. The prophets who lived before Christ were preachers in a very real sense. They were men who caught glimpses of truths which the great majority of people had not yet seen. These truths they attempted to unveil to the people. Their manner of preaching was different from that of present-day preachers, their message was often different, but they served much the same purpose that preachers today serve. They were instruments through which God spoke to men. God still speaks to mankind through the ministry.

The prophet Hosea, through experiences in his own life, caught a vision of God's love for sinning mankind and so he tried to teach his fellowmen what he had learned of the "length and breadth and depth and height of the love of our God."

Amos was the prophet of justice. He preached to Israel that God is righteous and demands in his people not sacrifice but righteousness—honesty and fair dealing toward all men.

Isaiah is known as the prophet of holiness, and Habakkuk as the prophet of faith. These and all the other prophets were men who "blazed a trail by which God came to man, and man to God." They were preachers before the era of Christ and as such filled a place of great usefulness.

Jesus Christ laid the foundation for present-day preaching. He brought a new message to the world—a message which former preachers, seers and prophets, had hinted at. It is the gospel of Christ which forms the foundation for preaching today. "Other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ."

Preaching may be defined as the proclamation of the gospel in speech so as to persuade hearers to believe upon and follow Jesus Christ. Without Christ or his gospel there would be no preachers or preaching as we understand it today.

Since the time of Christ preachers have filled an important place in life. During the Middle Ages it was the clergy of the church who fostered learning.

The history of education in our own United States furnishes an excellent example of the educational importance of preachers. The first schools in our country were founded by pilgrim clergymen. It is said that wherever there was a clergyman in those early days there was almost certain to be a school, even if he had to teach it himself. And one of the first laws passed by these early settlers in Massachusetts provided that each Colony having fifty families should maintain a school to teach children to read and write.

In colonial days the clergymen were the natural leaders of the people. Ministers took somewhat the place of lawyers, physicians, and they were in charge of education. The power of the colonial clergy finally declined, but ministers still occupy a position of leadership. The preacher by his preaching and example can do much to shape public opinion. Ministers were certainly one factor in bringing about the passing of the Eighteenth Amendment. The preaching of many influential ministers regarding the elimination of war is doing much to bring about a state of mind favorable to world peace.

Changing conditions in the religious world today give the preacher an opportunity to fill a place of great usefulness and importance. An effort is being made among many religious bodies to make religious instruction more practical—more useful to mankind. Preachers are discovering anew Jesus' efforts in this respect.

Jesus made a practical application of his teachings. He brought religion home to the business and home of his hearers and made it as real to them as their familiar, ordinary tasks—sowing and reaping, baking and house building.

In His illustrations and parables Jesus made religion real. He used familiar, common things, such as the grass of the field, birds in the air, the lost sheep, fish, salt, bread, and water to teach spiritual truths. By such means He was able to bring truth home to the mind of his hearers with great vividness.

Today we find preachers realizing the need of following Jesus' method of preaching. Preachers do not indulge in hair-splitting controversies over minor theo-

(Continued on page 2)



(Continued from page 1)

logical points as formerly. Theologians of the Middle Ages argued heatedly about almost absurdly unimportant things, as, for instance how many angels could stand on the point of a needle. Today the world is desiring to hear the great essentials of religion, the fundamental truths. The minister of today has an opportunity, as never before, to preach simple gospel truths to a world that is becoming increasingly appreciative of them.

Churches of almost all denominations are attempting more and more to meet the actual needs of the people to whom they minister. They are attempting to meet the spiritual needs of mankind in a better way and also to meet the physical, mental, and social needs in as great a measure as possible. The minister leading a congregation with such a program to carry out is offered an almost endless opportunity for usefulness. To him come many problems for solution. He is asked for advice in business and financial matters. He is often requested to help in the solution of home and family problems, and numberless other problems. He has the opportunity to influence for the good the lives of those with whom he comes in contact. Last, but certainly not least, it is the minister's great privilege to give spiritual help. It is his privilege to impart inspiration and courage for right living to others. The world needs desperately to hear the story of Jesus Christ. It needs to hear the principles of life laid down by Christ and be taught the application of those principles to everyday living.

Life is very complex today and the minister who wishes to be a help to mankind will find an almost endless field of opportunity opening up for him. Perhaps in another age has the minister had the opportunities for service as he has today. With such a need to be filled the preacher is in

greater demand today than ever before.

The eminent writer and educator, Doctor Glenn Frank, made the following statement recently in a newspaper article: "I have been harboring for sometime the notion that a very genuine revival of religion may accompany our emergence from this phase of dire depression through which we have been passing."

This idea is of late being frequently expressed by thinking people. Men have been experiencing something of the insecurity of material things. Some of them have learned that material things alone cannot bring satisfaction and happiness. Too, our scientific research has brought us to the frontier of the material world. This naturally awakens curiosity about the possibilities of the spiritual laws and principles. A conclusion which scientific men are now reaching is that the world is not material but spiritual and we ourselves are also spiritual.

Dr. Haldane of Oxford University says: "The material world which has been taken for a world of blind mechanism is in reality the spiritual world seen very partially. The only real world is the spiritual world".

The great electrical wizard, Charles P. Steinmetz, was asked recently what line of research will see the greatest development during the next fifty years. He replied as follows: "I think the greatest discovery will be made along spiritual lines...Some day the world will learn that material things do not bring happiness and are of little use in making men and women creative and powerful. Then the scientists of the world will turn their laboratories over to the study of God and prayer and the spiritual forces which as yet have hardly been scratched."

If there should soon be a great revival of religion, if the scientists of the world turn their laboratories over to the study of God and spiritual forces, then there is no danger of the preacher being

(Continued on page 6)



WITH THE ALUMNI  
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION A GAIN

"Dear Alumni Editor:

How I enjoyed your write-up: 'Alumni Are Pioneering in Religious Education', which appeared in the January issue of the Broadcaster! I believe there is a great field open for the alumni in this important work, partly because of our technical training and partly because of the vision that such training gives one.

"The only fault that I could find with your article was that you failed to mention KANSAS! Perhaps that was our fault rather than yours. However, we are proud (in a humble way) of our State organization and work in Religious Education. Last year we had our first Kansas State Sunday School Convention, held in connection with the Liberal, Kansas, Camp-meeting. At this convention we adopted a constitution and by-laws and elected a State Board of Sunday-school and Religious Education. As President of this board, I. K. Dawson was elected; Miss Mary Shepherd, Vice-president; and Mrs. S. E. Dooty, Secretary-Treasurer. Prior to this convention Mrs. Dooty had served as State Sunday-School Secretary and it was largely due to her efforts in this capacity that we had the State Convention. The Board is to assist in holding leadership training schools, but so far we have not been very active in this work.

"I am quite active here in Salina in Religious Educational work. At present I am serving as Secretary-Treasurer to the Salina Board of Religious Education, also as publicity director for the Week-Day Religious Schools of the city and as a member of the committee for Leadership Training School for the city. Our city Leadership Training school, which is accredited by the International Council, is now in progress. I am taking the course of Worship in the Sunday-school. Last year I got a credit in the Study of Early Adolescence.

I believe we should continue as students in this great work.

--I. K. Dawson.

Mack M. Caldwell also submitted some items on the work of religious education in Iowa that may be interesting:

"Religious education work is going forward in Iowa. Clinton, Marshalltown, Madrid, Fort Dodge, and Cedar Rapids have Teacher Training classes now going on. This is about five times as much teacher training than we had this time last year. Here is the way we did it. Iowa has a Religious Education Committee of three members. Each member is specializing in a particular phase of the work. Mrs. R. N. Coolidge is Director of Vacation Schools; Mrs. M. O. Schutjer is Director of Teacher Training, and Mack M. Caldwell is Director of Leadership Training Camps.

"Mrs. Schutjer has done a good work in boosting teacher training classes in local churches. The state committee is collecting books for a circulating library. One congregation loans its used books to another congregation. Cooperation is a fine thing.

"Mrs. Coolidge is planning to have five or six vacation schools in 1933. The state had only two last year. She and Mrs. Schutjer have done much correspondence and they have given lectures in the general meetings.

"We are to have a camp at Cedar Rapids in July. Bro. T. Franklin Miller is the Assistant Camp Director.

"Mrs. Opal Davis Bengtson is teaching a class at Madrid."

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It appears as if the Religious Education Department of our Alma Mater has filled its students with inspiration and a will to work, whether or not they completed the entire course. Among these are Paul M. Cook who is teaching a

(Continued on page 5)



CAMPUS NEWS

--The Broadcaster--

Mr. and Mrs. George Blackwell visited in Anderson a few days recently. They are helping in a revival at Marion, Indiana.

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Wendell Byrd, Everett Reeder, Loren Owen, and Wilford Wood spent the week-end of May 20 at Ansonia, Ohio, where they sang and gave talks in the Sunday services. Rev. G. M. Byrd, father of Wendell Byrd, is pastor at Ansonia.

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Rev. Earl Wells, pastor at Fairmount, Ind., just returned from a two-weeks revival at Washington Park, Ill. Mrs. Oliver Patton is pastor at Washington Park.

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Rev. Ralph Brown, who for several years has pastored the Church of God at McMechan, W. Va., writes that he is giving up his pastorate and plans to enter the Seminary this fall.

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Rev. C.E. Bright, pastor of the Church of God at Wichita, Kans., father of Bernadine Bright a student in the College, writes that he plans to be at the camp-meeting.

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In a letter from Professor Carl Erdatzke we learn that he plans to reach Anderson in time for the commencement of Anderson College on the evening of June 16.

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Many letters are coming into the college office from prospective students.

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Rev. J. E. Sheefel of Bellefontaine, Ohio, father of Miss Ruth Sheefel, a student here, spoke to the students in chapel recently.

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Anderson College campus is at this time of year robed in gorgeous beauty. The fine old trees are full fresh foliage, the evergreens are greener than ever, the lawns like a velvet carpet, the low-balls are in bloom, and the birds make music all the while. Indiana has few prettier college campuses than the one at Anderson.

Rev. and Mrs. Ralph Poole stopped in Anderson the other day on their way from California to West Virginia, Brother Poole's old home. They plan to return for Commencement and camp meeting. Brother Poole was formerly a student here.

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Edgar William's father, from East St. Louis, Ill., visited a few days at school.

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Anderson College has one new tennis court. For many years we have used the courts of the Gospel Trumpet Company, but this spring a number of the boys got together and by hard work and good cooperation built a fine court in the grove north-east of the Main building. It is planned to build a couple more courts adjoining the one already made. Our boys deserve credit for their hard work, for hard work it was.

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Rev. Steele C. Smith, member of the College board of Trustees, writes from Oklahoma City that he will be unable to attend the annual meeting this year.

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Rev. and Mrs. Robert Abell of the class of '23 who are now pastors at Saskatoon, Canada, arrived in Anderson a few days ago on their way to Maryland where they will visit with relatives at Brother Abell's old home and then they will return to Anderson for the various conventions. They had their three children with them, who like their father are red-headed. It seems fine to see the Abell's around the School once more. Brother Abell is a member of the Gospel Trumpet Company.

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Another one of our good Board members who will be unable to reach Anderson this year is Rev. L. W. Guilford, of Oakland, Calif. We are sorry for his wise council is always appreciated.

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Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Bennet, students, plan a trip to California by automobile during the vacation. They expect to visit some congregations enroute.

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Rev. and Mrs. W. B. Crowell of St. Louis, Mo., will be among Anderson alumni who will attend Commencement this year.

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Mr. and Mrs. Arlie Adcock, former students, of Union City, Ind., visited in Anderson a few days ago.

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Esther Laucamp Johnson of Athens Pa., is visiting her home folks in Anderson. She will be joined at Campmeeting time by her husband, Emil R. Johnson who is pastor at Athens. They are both graduates of the Seminary.

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Miss Anna Koglin who is retiring from the faculty this year to take up religious education work in Germany will not sail for that country before fall.

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Rev. R. D. Howell, '21', pastor of the Belden Ave., Church of God in Chicago will be at the Commencement and Camp meeting.

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Former students and alumni should not forget to leave their name and address at the college booth at the camp ground.

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Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Benson, students, are looking forward to a visit from Mr. Benson's mother who lives at Modesto, Calif. This will be her first trip to Anderson.

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Students of Professor Clausen gave a musical program in chapel recently.

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Rev. W. E. Monk was here a few days going in and out among his friends, the students.

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With the Alumni

teacher training class of about forty members at Bluefield, W.Va.; Mrs. Orlan Carte, who has conducted teacher training classes at Charleston, W. Va., for some time; Mrs. Ada Pope Pearson who is organizing a large class at Marion, Ind.

Mary K. Hunter is doing church work at New Albany, Ind. She does visitation work, sells literature, and teaches a class of Intermediate girls in Sunday School. Her pupils are very interested in their Sunday School work. She also wrote a play which was given at the young people's meeting. After the play an offering was taken for the Anderson College. Mary says, "I wish more of the Alumni would send in reports. Doubtless many of you think that you have nothing interesting to report. But anything from a former student is interesting. We think Mary is quite right."

C. W. Treffry writes as follows:

"Since graduating from the Seminary in 1923. I have pastored three congregations. The first in Crystal, Mich. The next in Flint, Mich. And at present I am pastoring the Church of God in Boyne City Mich."

"The work here is on the forward move. We held a revival from Sept. 3--23 with Brother Wm. L. Cox of Pontiac, as our evangelist. There were seventeen consecrations. Afterwards we started a young people's choir which is adding to our crowds. The young peoples work has shown a marked gain lately."

A.K.

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#### THE BROADCASTER

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(Continued from page 2)

coming unnecessary and obsolete. He will be needed then more than ever.

There is another reason why the preacher will always be needed. And that is the fact that it is Christ's plan to use men as a medium through which to reach other human beings. Jesus Christ chose the twelve apostles to carry His message after his ascension to Heaven, and He calls men and women today as His ministers. God still loves the world with an ever-lasting love. His heart still yearns for His wandering children, and He still uses ministers as instruments to bring them to Him. The main object of preaching is to convert men and make them Christian in character, conduct, spirit, and service. As long as the world stands, as long as there are sinners to be won back to Christ and Christians to be guided in the way, there will be a great need for preachers. The world can never have too many preachers whose main object in preaching is to convert men and make them Christlike.

So none need fear that the preacher is doomed to pass out of existence. Christ, Himself, needs the preacher for the establishment of His kingdom on earth. Indications of a spiritual awakening and revival of religion assure the preacher of an increasing field of usefulness. The attempt to make the church as an institution of practical benefit to its adherents gives the minister an opportunity to minister to a great variety of human needs. No other agency can ever fill the place of the preacher. "Preachers are filling a place that never can be taken by newspapers, radio, or books."

The world will ever need preachers who "first see, and then get others to see, the visions of life." Things of the spirit are of far more importance than the things of the flesh, but the world is largely blind to them. The high

Professor E. L. Martin will spend the summer doing supply pastoral work at Atlanta, Ga. He will also take some work at Emory University. Rev. Chas. Richardson is the regular pastor and will be away on leave of absence.

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Bert James who graduates this year will leave at the close of school for Melvern, Kansas, where he has been chosen pastor.

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Many communications are being received from those who plan to be present at the Commencement June 13. Dr. Charles E. Brown will give the address on the subject: "Liberty Within The Law".

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"The Wet Parade", a four-act play, advocating prohibition was given on Sunday evening May 21, in Park Place Church of God. More than one thousand people attended. The church was filled to its utmost capacity. Miss Bernadine Bright, a student, coached the play which was put on under the auspices of the Madison County Dry Federation of which Dr. A.T. Rowe is President.

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Dr. E. A. Reardon of Denver, Colo., who has been chosen as pastor of Park Place Church of God to succeed Dr. A. F. Gray, for seven years pastor, will arrive in Anderson for Dr. Gray's farewell sermon on Sunday June 11. Brother Reardon has been chosen by the Seniors to preach the baccalaureate sermon. These services in honor of the class will be held on the evening of June 11 at Park Place Church.

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calling of every minister is to get others to see the importance of things of the spirit for "where there is no vision, the people perish."



### SENIORS PLAN TO LEAVE

(Taken from Orange and Black)

The underclassmen of Anderson College and Theological Seminary wish to offer their best wishes for success to the eighteen students who are being graduated from our school this year.

Some of the graduates will go North, some South, some East or West, but wherever they go we predict the highest kind of success for them. In the following article will be found the personnel of the graduating class and some of their plans for the immediate future.

Melvin Miller expects to sing this summer with the Jubilee Quartet.

Laude Hays also will sing with the Quartet this summer, after which he may take a pastorate, do evangelistic work, or return to school.

Gabriel Dixon plans on doing evangelistic work this summer, after which he plans to help the Reverend Dunn in Chicago, Ill.

Betty Truman plans on returning to her home in Modesto, Calif.

Mazie DeArmond is to be assistant pastor to Melissa Olhham, and Religious Education Director in Marion, Indiana.

A. G. Kinzer plans to engage in evangelistic singing.

Louis Turner plans, if possible to get a pastorate in a college town and attend college partime.

Ruth Dayton, although not completely decided, may attend college next year, where she will take up medical missionary training.

Bert James is to take the pastorate at Melvern, Kansas.

Earl Rawlings plans to keep busy this summer by gardening.

Blanche Seasholtz, although undecided, may continue her teaching here this summer.

Max Gaulke plans to be in Grand Forks or Minneapolis and says he would like to get married.

Oliver Yerden expects to return to his home in Allegan, Mich.

Paul Froehlich plans to take some work in Columbia University this summer, and informs us, with tears in his eyes, that he may never see these halls again.

Anna Koglin expects to go to Germany this fall where she will engage in religious education work.

Alvina Koglin will work at the Gospel Trumpet Company this summer.

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Mrs. Rolla Shultz, dining-hall manager, is making preparation to open the college restaurant on June 16.

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There are still a few rooms available in the main building for camp meeting guests. Those interested should write Mrs. Lura Reynolds.

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Rev. and Mrs. John S. Ludwig, class of '22, write very interestingly of their work in far away Africa. They are looking forward to being joined in their work by Mr. and Mrs. Sidney Rogers '32, of Walla Walla, Washington. Mrs. Rogers was Miss Fern Ludwig.

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Mrs. E. F. Adcock, '24, has been visiting her husband's relatives in Iowa for several weeks.

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Rev. and Mrs. A. G. Hartwig, pastors at Tulsa, Oklahoma, and former students, will be in Anderson for the meetings.

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During the week of May 29--June 3 the College is having a Spiritual Emphasis Week. President Morrison will give talks in chapel during chapel period urging a greater application to spiritual life among the students.

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# EDITORIAL

## THE CROWELLS IN ST. LOUIS

It has been a long time since I enjoyed myself more than I did during the last two weeks of April when I held a meeting for Walter Crowell in St. Louis. Life here at Anderson is rather drab to one who is a preacher and longs occasionally for the firing line. It takes God and a staff of teachers many years to make a preacher. God can make a pumpkin in a few weeks and he can make a mushroom in just a few hours. But preachers can't be made so soon as that. Years are required. First, years of schooling. Second, years of experience. So we here in the Seminary grow weary betimes and a bit discouraged. But when sit upon the platform of a pastor's church like Crowell's church in St. Louis and look out over the faces of the eager happy trusting people whom he serves I am ashamed that I ever did get discouraged. I do not mean to flatter when I state that the Crowells are doing a real work. They have a vision of what a church should mean to its pastor and of what a pastor should mean to his church. An official member of the church said to me: "Brother Crowell is a wonderful pastor," and that seemed to be the general feeling among his people. And Mrs. Crowell is a true helper. It seems only a short while since back in '20 these young people were working their way through school here at Anderson and now they are carrying the responsibilities of this large church.

The church in St. Louis is looking enthusiastically forward to entertaining the International Young People's Convention in 1934. They are planning to care for two thousand delegates. It is not too soon to begin to plan to go. St. Louis will welcome you.

## BE SEEIN' YOU AT ANDERSON

When the warm and mellow days of May and June come ten thousand eyes look toward Anderson. For more than a quarter of a century this little Hoosier town here on the peaceful banks of White River has been a hallowed spot to a multitude of souls. Beneath the bending branches of these friendly old trees our brethren gather to give consideration to the religious life. The pastor leaves his parish to come and greet his brethren whose kindly smile and firm friendly hand-clasp will send him home with a new courage and a fuller faith. The farmer trusts his fields to the sun and showers of June and backs his car out upon the big highway that leads off toward Anderson where he wants to spend, even in this busy season, a couple or three days hearing what the church in its larger and more general aspect has to say to him. The busy business man will trust his business for a few days in the hands of business associates while he comes to Anderson because as a Christian he has learned that life is not all in making money. The tired teacher and

weary student, happy for a brief respite from books and schedules, will come to Anderson to have the heart warmed by social contact and spiritual exercise.

Young people will be here—joyous, vibrant youth. And how fine it is that religion is made for young people as well as for the aged. Hundreds of young men and women with smiling faces but serious hearts will attend this great convention. They will sing in the choir. They will act as usher. They will give addresses. They will sing special numbers. They will lend general inspiration and hope to the whole convention.

And the old people will come by the hundreds. Some very old will come. These dear old saints with tottering step will walk up and down these wide walks. For many a year their lives have been a benediction to the church and to this gathering and we shall be glad if they are spared to be with us one more year. But some who were here last year and the other years will not come this year. They have been called to a greater meeting on the eternal shore.

But above all and best of all our blessed Master will be here in our midst. His is the great Presence which will pervade these grounds and make this place akin to heaven. Let us come in His name. Let us work and worship in His name. Let us enjoy the fellowship of His spirit and we shall not have met in vain.

—J.A.M.

## THE PASSING PARSON

"The preacher is just about a thing of the past. He is passing and almost passed. We have education. We have printing. We have the radio. We have the airplane. We don't need the preacher much longer with his sermon song and psalm. He shall soon have to shut up his Bible, his hymnal, and his mouth and go home."

Who said that? A lot of people are saying that. A lot of people have been saying that ever since I can remember. They said it before I can remember. But they did not know what they were talking about. They do not know now what they are talking about. To be sure we have education. To be sure we have printing. We have the airplane. We have the radio. And we are glad. But we also have sin. We also have sorrow. We also have death. These ancient enemies of ours have not been driven out by the modern invention. In the face of these enemies the preacher offers more comfort than any other. He offers more comfort than the teacher, the lawyer, the doctor. Yes, the preacher is still an important member of our modern life.

Rev. Steele C. Smith in this issue of our little paper makes out a good case for the preacher. I hope you have read it.

—J.A.M.