

WHAT THE INTER-CHURCH MOVEMENT IS ACCOMPLISHING

Rev. Thos. J. Owens Tells Facts Learned in Big Chicago Conference Last Week.

Editor, The Reporter,

Many of your readers no doubt would be glad to know something about the Pastor's State Conference of the Interchurch World Movement that was held in Orchestra Hall on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of last week.

This conference was unique in a great many ways: It was the first time in the history of Illinois when all its Protestant ministers were called to meet under one roof to consider unitedly their common task. One can only wonder why it was not done long ago, and why it has not been done many times. There were thirty denominations represented, but you would never have known but that it was only one, except from an occasional reference.

The facts and information brought out by the Interchurch survey were presented in telling fashion by means of charts, slides, and moving pictures. Again and again the facts presented were a stinging rebuke of the ignorance we Protestants have indulged in regarding our own responsibilities, and it was well said at the Conference, that no man could go away from it and be the same man he was before.

It is significant that the Interchurch had its rise among our foreign missionaries. Those men, right up in the front line trenches, as it were, face to face with terrible odds, were the first to see the need for the elimination of wasteful and sinful competition and duplication; and they got together in a real cooperation. As an illustration of that situation the story was told of two missions stationed in one city of 500,000 people. They were of different denominations, situated in different parts of the city, and had no contact with each other. Both saw that the translation of the Bible was one of the great needs, so both missions set apart one missionary for one year to do that work. After it was all done they found out that they had both been doing a thing that one could have done alone, and in the face of that awful need, with a far from adequate force of workers, they had wasted a whole year of one missionary's time. As a result of such things our missionaries got together long ago. Then they began bombarding their mission boards to do the same thing; at last it came about, and through a proposal of some of our mission boards, the Interchurch came into existence.

Every side of modern mission work was presented and its worth to the world and humanity proven up to the hilt. The story was told of now a reunion of the old students of Robert College, that great mission college in Constantinople, was planned. The invitations were sent out, and acceptances quickly returned. But among them came a strange request from the Bulgarian Government, suggesting that the reunion be held in sections, because if all the graduates of Robert College who were in important positions in the Bulgarian Government should attend the reunion at the same time, the Bulgarian Government could not run.

The pitifully inadequate and stingy way in which our great churches have supported their missionary work was also impressively shown, but also that at last the churches are waking up: It was shown that the per capita contribution per year for benevolent purposes of one great denomination in 1916 was less than 89 cents, but that as a result of the financial drive connected with its forward movement, the per capita contribution jumped to \$6.25. That is much better, but is far behind the record set by the Seventh Day Adventists, who in spite of the fact that they do not work on Saturdays, and for the most part the humbler walks of life, nevertheless give \$42.00 per capita per year for their mission and humanitarian work. One of the speakers, referring to the still inadequate scale of most peoples, giving, spoke of the infamy of the people of Gadara who besought Jesus to leave their shores because his healing of the demoniac had involved the loss of a herd of hogs. They cared nothing apparently for the poor demoniac but of those precious hogs! "And if we are really to build up the kingdom of God, some people must be willing to lose a few hogs." \$6.25 is better than 89 cents, but it is still far from being the price of a single hog.

I must not take any more space. But the people of the village who are interested will be glad to know that it is hoped that before long all the slides pictures used at this great conference, which are being duplicated as fast as possible, may be shown here. The Interchurch has the biggest and best factory in the world for making stereopticon slides.

Thos. J. Owens.

NEWSY NOTES FROM LISLE AND BELMONT

Church Notes. Sunday School 10:00 a. m. Evening Service 7:45 p. m. Church Service, 11:00 a. m.

The Advance Bible Class will hold their regular business and social meeting Friday evening, March 26th, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. F. D. Burke.

The Ladies Aid will meet at the home of Mrs. T. Stanton Monday afternoon, March 22nd.

Miss Ethel Plumb left on Monday for Algona, Iowa, to be bridesmaid at the wedding of her brother, Fred to Miss Doretta Mitel which took place on Thursday, March 18th, at the home of the bride in Algona.

A caucus of the People Party of the town of Lisle was held at Naperville on Saturday the 13th of March. Adam Kohley for Supervisor and P. Correl for Highway Commissioner received the nomination.

A caucus of the Non-Partisan Party was also held and Charles Lacey for Supervisor and Louis Willard for Highway Commissioner received the nomination.

CANDIDATES FOR SCHOOL BOARD MUST FILE SOON

At the last session of the legislature the law governing school elections was amended to require candidates for membership on a board of education to file their petitions 20 days before the date of election instead of 10 days as heretofore.

School elections this year will be held on Saturday, April 17th and all candidates for members of boards of education are required to file petitions of nomination with the secretary of the board, who prepares the ballot.

M. E. MEN'S CLUB MET AT A. S. PHELPS HOME TUESDAY NITE

An enthusiastic and profitable business meeting of the club was held at the home of Mr. A. S. Phelps, on Middaugh avenue, Tuesday evening, March 16th, to discuss and formulate a method for increasing the membership.

To date thirty-five men have shown their interest by attending the club which holds its meetings every Sunday morning in the Methodist church at 9:45 a. m. and is lead by Mr. A. S. Phelps, whose instruction, modern ideas and sincere enthusiasm you cannot afford to miss.

Mr. Carl Carlson is chairman of the club and under him are four men, with their assistants, one for each ward of the village, who will put forth their efforts to enroll new members.

Don't wait to be called upon, come with us and bring a friend.

TWENTY-TWO YEARS AGO IN THE REPORTER

From the issue of Mar 17, 1920.

A birthday in the Paul family was celebrated at the home of Mrs. Levi Mertz, Monday afternoon, it being a complete surprise to her. The ladies present were: Mesdames Marsh, Curtiss, DeGroot, Miller, Rutherford, Colwell, C. G. Graves, Brown, Cressey, Farrar, Worley, Bradbury, McNaught Graham, Stanger, Escher, Puffer, F. Paul, John Stanley, and Miss Susan Paul, Mr. Henry Paul.

The Pajewski family are building a nice cottage in Gostyn in place of their house which burned several weeks ago.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Foster and baby are here from Michigan visiting his father and friends.

Mrs. Howard Randall and daughter, Bessie, spent Sunday with Mrs. Chas. Ward and family. Mrs. Randall will

return soon to her home in New Orleans.

Mrs. Chas. Carpenter and Mrs. R. W. Bond were guests at a luncheon given by Mrs. Raffree at her home in Hinsdale Tuesday.

Martha Hunt, wife of Clark Hunt of Aurora, died at her home, Tuesday morning, March 14th. She was a daughter of G. D. and Lucina G. Downer and was a sister of M. B. Downer.

Mrs. Emrich, 75 No. Forest Ave., represents the Victor Ladies Tailoring of Chicago.

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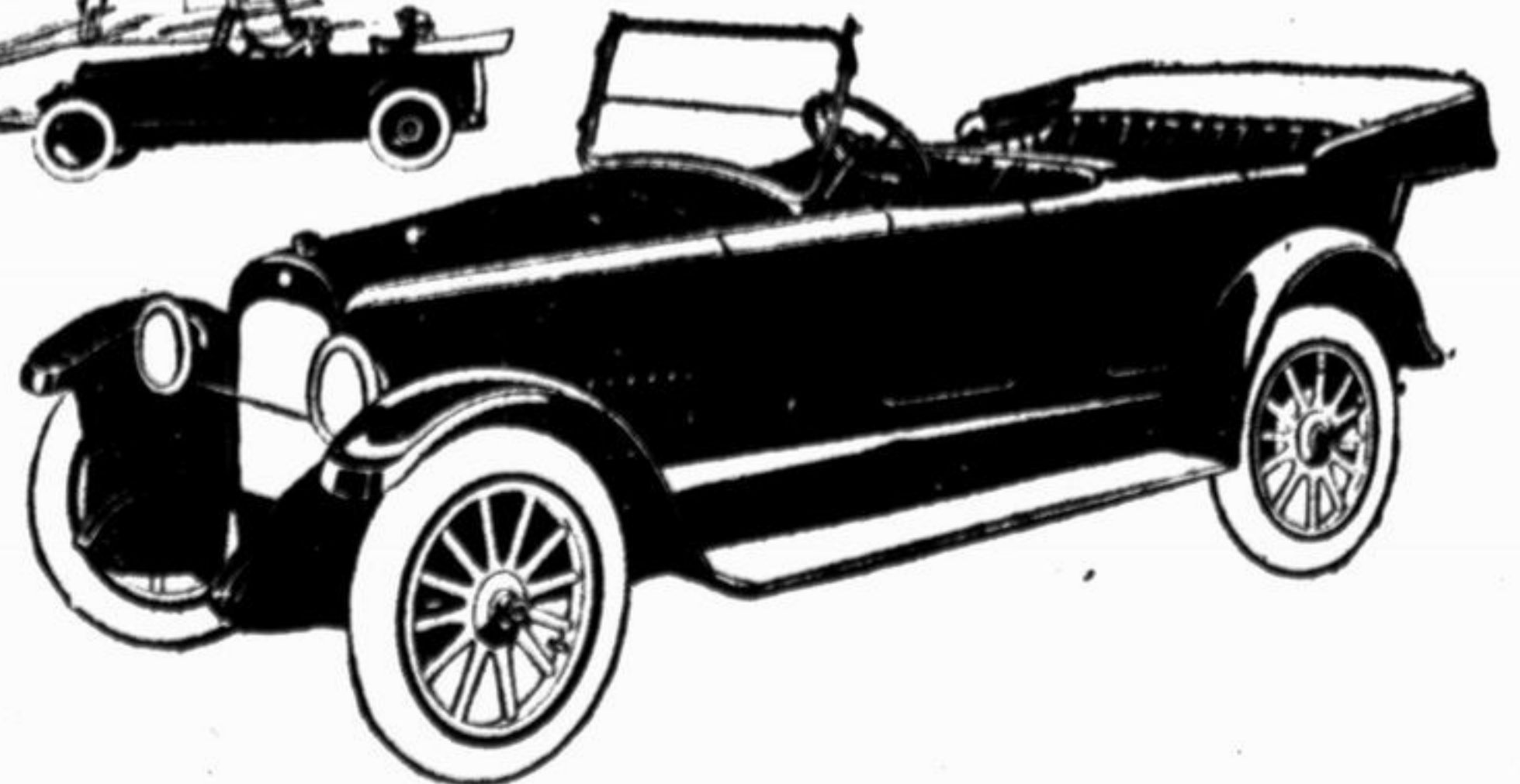


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