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## CHRISTMAS SERMON BY REV. F. A. RENDER

### THE ANGEL'S CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

As Told in the Ebenezer Evangelical Church on Last Sunday Morning  
The Angel called Him "Christ the Lord"

"There is born to you this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord" (R. V.)  
The joy-day of the world is soon to dawn once more. This week we celebrate the anniversary of the birth of Christ, the gladdest, the brightest, and the best day of all the year. And altho this Christmas day will dawn on many thousands of God's loved ones in homes of sorrow, and on many more whose pleasant homes have been destroyed, yet in the battle-cursed lands of Europe, on this day, many a mother's hand, in love, will dry the tears that have dimmed her eyes for many a day, and her mother-heart will breathe a prayer for strength to make this one day a day of joy to those she loves as only a mother can. And what a thrill of joy is ours now if our brotherly love has prompted us to place in that mother's hand a little gift for baby's glee.

But lest we let the secular character of the day assume too large a place, it is well to get away for a while from the flash and sparkle and study the gem itself. It is well to pause and listen to the angel's message on the first Christmas morn.

The Messenger himself is worthy of a thot, for an important messenger always signifies a message of importance. "An angel of the Lord stood by" the shepherds on the Judean hills. Wonderful messenger indeed! And it was a wondrous worship too that he and his companions paid to the little Baby of Bethlehem's manger, nineteen centuries ago. There was grand beautiful singing; a magnificent service of praise which the angels began and then left it to us to perpetuate until He comes again in glory with all the holy angels with Him. A fitting conclusion too, was the angelic visitation, to the series of services which God's messengers had rendered in announcing God's greatest gift to man. The aged Zacharias attending to his priestly duties in the temple had had his holiness and faith rewarded by Gabriel's visit announcing the birth of the forerunner of our Lord. A vision of the same heavenly messenger had burst upon the astonished Mary and revealed the mystery of the conception of the Holy One. Joseph, too, had been guided in his happy lover's path by one of Heaven's shining ones. So it was fitting, when Bethlehem's star lit up the night to guide the wise-men to His manger-cradle, that the heavens should glow with glory and the angel choir should chant His praise.

The burden of the angel's message was, "There is born to you this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord". Surely the message was worthy of the glorious messenger. It was far more wonderful than He. We cannot comprehend it in its fullness, but we can and do enjoy its reality.

There is a strange old legend of a world that grew colorless in a single night. The sky lost its azure and the clouds were lifeless, spongy vapors; the waves turned pale and motionless; the sparkle fled from the diamond and light from every gem; the rosy tints of morn no more were known, and the jeweled orbs of night had faded away. The world was as a sculptor's world all of animated stone. The heart of man was heavy and his brain bewildered at the change. He mourned for the beauty of the flowers and the green fields and the sunlit glory of the evening clouds. Nevermore should dewdrops glisten in the sun, or the painted bow shine in the clouds. Nevermore should lake or ocean reflect blue heaven, or stars or sun. The earth had passed into eclipse—into the shadow of death. This old legend is more than legend. It is parable as well. It is a faint hint of the darkness in which we should dwell had Christ not come.

But He came. Heaven announced His advent and the world believes. It was a  
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## NEARBY NEWS ITEMS OF LOCAL INTEREST

### DR. PADEN BUYS BIG TRACT OF LAND

Agitate Commission Form for Evanston.  
John Gourley Wins Suit Against Henry Werner of North Chicago

**Agitate Commission Form for Evanston**  
In agitating the Commission Form of Government for Evanston the North Shore Review says:  
"If the Woman's Club of Evanston wishes to do something very worth while, as it frequently does, it could do nothing better than to carry on a campaign of education for commission form, beginning at once, and seeing it brought to a successful issue at the spring election. Women may vote upon propositions of this kind, and the bringing about of this new form of city government to take the place of the old, moth-eaten aldermanic form would be an achievement worthy their first efforts at citizenship. Commission form for municipal government has gained great favor since its adoption first at Galveston, Texas, which city resurrected itself from the desolation brought upon it by a tidal wave, from old debts and a horde of political employes under the new commission form, which was the product of this stricken city's necessity. Following Galveston's example, hundreds of other towns and cities in the United States have adopted the new form of government, and almost without exception herald it as an unmixt blessing. The classes with whom it is unpopular, as a rule, are political bosses and employes who have been "put out of commission" by the change. The best feature of commission form is that it makes each department head wholly responsible to the public for the work in his department, while with the aldermanic form it is never possible to locate the responsibility, which is easily shifted from one pair of shoulders to another."

**John Gourley Wins Suit**  
After a deliberation of several hours, the jury in the case of John Gourley vs Henry Werner, heard before Judge Edwards, returned a verdict at 9 o'clock Wednesday evening, granting the plaintiff \$338.87. The case involved a purchase of lumber made by Werner of North Chicago from Gourley, formerly a Waukegan lumber dealer. The lumber was used in constructing Werner hall on State St., North Chicago. The structure was erected in 1910. The two men differed on the amount of the bill, when Gourley filed suit. Gourley is now engaged in the lumber and coal business at Highland Park.—Waukegan Sun.

**Dr. Paden Buys Tract of Land**  
The Spirit Fruit Society, which, some ten years ago purchased a site on Wooster Lake, near Ingleside where, under the leadership of Jacob Beilhart the society thrived until his death six years ago, has sold its property and the fourteen members are to move to California. The purchaser of this 90 acre tract and enormous house which contains over 30 rooms, is Dr. C. M. Paden of Evanston, owner of the Lake Shore Sanitarium in that city. It is admitted that Dr. Paden is to operate a country sanitarium at Wooster Lake on the property he has just purchased from the Spirit Fruit society. The house in question in which all members of the society have lived is easily 100x90 feet in dimensions and is made of cement blocks. The members of the cult themselves erected the big house when Beilhart led his followers to that little secluded spot some ten years ago.—Waukegan Sun.

### LOCAL REAL ESTATE TRANSFERS

**Property Exchanges Recorded During Past Two Weeks**  
W. M. Inman and wf to G. S. Schwalbach, lot 5, blk 6, Exmoor Add, Highland Park. W. D. \$1000.00.  
Leo Delhaye and wf to Frank May, lot 1, Pease's sub, Highwood. W. D. \$1200.00.  
Frank May to Leo Delhaye, lot 4, Pease's sub, Highwood. W. D. \$1200.00.  
Master in Chancery to Fred Rudolph, lot 8, sub of blk 3, Exmoor Add, Highland Park. Certificate of sale \$424.95.

## EDW. J. BOCK QUILS MILWAUKEE ELECTRIC

### GEORGE S. HENRY TO FILL PLACE

C. E. Thompson Promoted to General Agent for Receiver and Joseph Simmons to Superintendent of Transportation

The resignation of Edward J. Bock as General Superintendent of the Chicago & Milwaukee Electric, last Thursday, brought about a number of changes among the officials of the road. Mr. George S. Henry of W. Park Ave., who has held the position as Superintendent of Transportation, succeeds Mr. Bock while Mr. Joseph Simmons has been promoted to fill the position left open by Mr. Henry.

Mr. C. E. Thompson, who has held the position as auditor for a number of years, has been made General Agent for the Receiver.  
Although his many friends, and employees of the company, regret to see Mr. Bock leave, they are also glad to see the advancement of those who have worked hard for the interest of the road.

The reason for Mr. Bock's retirement is given as ill health. After a period of rest he will probably resume railroad work.

### JUNK ORDINANCE VOID

#### Test Case Held Before Police Magistrate Boylan Last Thursday

The ordinance for the licensing and otherwise regulating junk dealers, which was passed by the city council October 6, 1914, was declared unconstitutional in Police Magistrate Boylan's court last Thursday. The ordinance provides that "no person or persons shall set up or keep any place where any second hand furniture, clothing, jewelry, rags, old metal, etc., are purchased or sold without first having obtained a license, and provided further that the mayor may grant license to such persons as shall produce to him satisfactory evidence of good character."

A test of the validity of this ordinance was made last Thursday when Moses Steinberg was arrested for its violation. Attorney E. S. Gail, for Mr. Steinberg, pointed out the fact that according to the ordinance no person could purchase any second hand article without securing a license and in so doing he must give evidence of good character to the mayor. He further pointed out that when it came to "character" there is a great difference of opinion and a deserving man at one time, may be denied a license thus prohibiting from earning an honest living. Also that any person living in the city limits and paying taxes has a right to buy any article he sees fit, whether second handed or not.

After a days deliberation Magistrate Boylan declared the ordinance void.

### CORRECT ERRONEOUS STATEMENT

#### Relief and Aid Society Deny Report That They Have Plenty for Highland Park's Poor

The story which has been circulated about Highland Park stating that the local Relief and Aid Society do not need any more supplies for the city's poor is an erroneous statement which the society wishes to correct. There is a big call for help and all who have any articles to donate such as clothing, bedding, furniture, money for coal, etc., will please notify Mrs. Maud H. Shannon, chairman of the Executive committee.

### FLAG PRESENTED TO CITY

#### Business Men and Citizens of Highland Park Make Donation

Through the subscription of the Business Men and Citizens, the city of Highland Park is now the possessor of a large new flag, 15x30 ft. to be used on the flag pole on E. Central Avenue. The flag was presented as a Christmas gift, to the Mayor and City Council last Friday, together with the names of twenty-five donors.

## RESIDENCE DESTROYED BY STUBBORN FIRE

### BUILDING BELONGED TO D. H. ERSKINE

Department Delayed by Telephone Message Saying that Fire was Out, and They Need Not Respond to Alarm

One of the most stubborn fires ever fought in Highland Park completely destroyed the ten-room home at 215 E. Central Ave. Tuesday evening at 5:20. The property belongs to Mr. D. H. Erskine and was occupied by Frank Klein and family and Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Mead.

While the origin of the fire is unknown it is believed to have started either from an overheated furnace or an incubator in the basement. Nobody was at home at the time, and when the fire was discovered it had gained considerable headway. By the time the fire department arrived the basement was a seething furnace and the fire was climbing up between the partitions and walls.

The great clouds of smoke which hung close to the ground made it almost impossible for the firemen to get near the building. After fighting the fire in the basement with two good streams of water for about thirty minutes, the fire appeared to have been checked but all this time it had been climbing between the walls to the upper stories and burst forth afresh with greater fury than ever. It was then the firemen realized it was useless to try to save the building and were forced only to keep the fire in check.

The building was worth about \$5,000 on which Mr. Erskine carried \$2,000 insurance. Mr. Klein carried \$2,000 insurance on the contents, which he says covers about half of the valuation of the furniture which was completely destroyed. Besides this loss Mrs. Klein is said to have lost a purse containing \$57, while Mr. Klein had \$632 hidden in the basement which has not yet been found.

The late arrival of the fire department was due to the fact that a telephone message was received at the station that the fire was out and they need not respond to the alarm which had been turned in. It was nearly ten minutes before the second alarm was received and during this delay the fire was making great headway.

### MORE TREES PLANTED

#### Nineteen Evergreens Put in at Hazel Park, at Laurel and Prospect Avenues

The park and roadside planting campaign inaugurated last spring has been wound up for the year by putting in a group of 19 evergreens in Hazel Park, at Laurel and Prospect Avenues. This was done out of an unexpended balance of subscriptions for the purpose, in the hands of Mr. Everett L. Millard, aided by a generous donation of trees by Mr. F. D. Clavey. Advantage was taken of the open spaces toward Prospect Ave. to plant a drift of white pines, arborvitae and red cedars, ranging from three to seven feet in height, in a natural manner, at such intervals as these native trees may be found in some places along the shore, where the railroad man's axe spared our original timber. This planting will enliven the vegetation of the park, particularly in winter, and as the trees grow older, it should furnish some handsome snow effects.

### "SAFETY FIRST" CAMPAIGN SUCCESS

#### Report of C. & N. W. for a Period of 53 Months Shows Decrease in Accidents

Six years ago the Chicago and North Western railroad inaugurated the first "Safety First" campaign in the country. Friday, E. C. Richards, who has been in charge of the movement since its beginning, made his report for the fifty-three months ending June 30, 1914, showing that there had been 369 fewer deaths and 11,258 fewer accidents among the employees of the road as compared with the corresponding period before the adoption of the slogan.