

# HEROISM GONE FROM RELIGION

**North Shore Pastor Sees Modern Religion Fighting a Losing Battle**

## FEAR OUSTS COURAGE

**Kindergartners Told to Take Up Fight**

In an address to the students of the National Kindergarten and Elementary college this week, Rev. James A. Richards of the Winnetka Congregational church brought home most forcefully the fact that there is something wrong with the religion of today—not in the religion itself, but in its human expression. "The religion that ought to supply the world with its joy and power is doing little more than fight a losing rear-guard engagement," said Mr. Richards.

### No Shout of Battle

In answer to the question "What is wrong with religion?" Mr. Richards pointed out that it is largely a matter of loss of heroism. "The first Christian years are vibrant with the shout of battle," said he, "but since then Christianity has not been so much a thing of heroism as of fear. Its message has been one of escape from ills present, rather than an attempt to destroy these ills. The present colorlessness of religious life is not due to the time in which we live. The difference lies in the fact that the early Christians were thorough about their religion. We are not. They were not afraid to face the facts, to live a self-directed life. We drift. We allow the pleasure of an extra half hour in bed, or to the temptation to tinkle our palate with an unusually good dinner to chase us from the field of Sunday observance."

### Silence is "Cowardice"

Mr. Richards pointed out the fact that one of the greatest powers in every religious movement has been religious conversation. Not the "I am better than thou" monologue, but simple, earnest conversation. "Eighty percent of the spiritual silence of our more cultured classes is sheer cowardice," said Dr. Richards. "It is only as true religious experiences are universalized and carried through conversation from one individual to another that they will ever be carried into the larger group and built into the corporate life of the nation; the political and intellectual life of the world."

### Must Regain Heroism

"Many so-called Christians believe that life can be divided into compartments," said Mr. Richards. "They say that the ethics of Jesus are magnificent for the home and possibly for the school and the community, but they have nothing to do with politics or business or the clash of governments that fill the world with war."

He challenged the students to take out their ideals, brush off the dust or tarnish and set them up where they could see them, for the Christian of today is called to a quest as heroic as that of the early Christians. He is called to fight against all the inertia, the partisanship, the greed and selfish sloth of things as they are, but the fight must begin with the individual. "There is something wrong with religion, and will be until we regain the lost heroism of Christianity," he concluded.

There is now one telephone for every seven people in the United States. Ten years ago there was one telephone for every 10 people; and in 1900 there was only one telephone for every 57 people in this country.

# BALANCE OF ROOM AND PICTURES IMPORTANT

There must always be a proper and natural balance between the size of a room and the size of the picture that is to hang in it. This is so obvious a statement that it hardly seems necessary to make it. Still it is surprising the number of violations one sees of this simple rule of decorative art. Often people move from a large house into a small apartment and without giving the matter a second thought, upon the wall of the living room they hang the large, heavily-framed picture that formerly adorned the spacious wall of a wide, high-ceiled room. There it delighted the vision with a perfect blending of colors and subject, due to the atmospheric witchery of distance. In the



# MEMORIES

**EVEN** when they have become dimmed, half forgotten, the impressions of childhood continue always to influence our lives. What then is more important than that we strive to create environment for our children that will cause their memories to be precious—that will rightly affect their impressionable minds.

Just now we are thinking particularly of a stately hall clock. Above all else that enters into house furnishing, it expresses the dignity, the security, the permanence of home. In later years the impression picture "the tall clock on the stair" and the meaningful sound of deep melodious chimes may be etched deep in the minds of those in your family whose memories are now in the molding. To you we present beautiful hall clocks of every type—one of them is perfectly suited to your home, and its cost well within sensible limits.

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small fit the perturbed members of the family are at a loss to know what is the matter with the picture. They think it has suddenly grown ugly or old-fashioned! The fact is that it annoys them because its entity is crushed in that small space. As a decoration it is too heavy and insistent—an unforgivable offense in the interest of good taste.

The small or medium-sized room should be adorned with pictures of like proportion having frames that are not too heavy nor deep. Pictures should never be crowded on a wall. The size of a picture in proper rela-

tion to the wall space that it occupies usually is such that there is a comfortable sense of roominess all around it.

The Kenilworth Union church announces a series of illustrated lectures by Dr. F. R. Moulton of the department of astronomy of the University of Chicago. The general title of the lectures will be "Other Worlds than Ours." These lectures will be held in the Church Guild room on the following Friday evenings at 8 o'clock: November 21, subject, "Our

System of Worlds;" November 28, "The Starry Heavens;" December 5, "The Birth, Growth and Destruction of Worlds." Tickets for the course can be secured at the door or by phoning Mrs. Farley, Kenilworth 1392.

The number of telephone conversations that take place annually in the United States averages over 174 for every man, woman and child in the country. Germany has fewer than 36 telephones talks annually per inhabitant, and France and Great Britain each have less than 18.

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