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Dr. Richards Resigns

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weeks I have been guided and sustained by correspondence with a great many of you, a correspondence which for beauty and significance I believe must surpass any other that has ever come to a minister from his people—voluminous, warm, large-minded, Christian.

“What are the questions that a minister asks at such a time? He asks, first of all, whether it is honorable for him even to think of leaving. Twice I have cheerfully refused invitations that in the thinking of the world were considered considerable promotions, because this question found a negative reply. But now I am forced to recognize that our local situation has greatly altered. I have been here over ten years. One great enterprise, which for a long time remained dubious is now assured of success. By the secure pledging of large sums of money it has been irrevocably determined that you are soon to build a new and worthy House of Worship, commodious and in keeping with the dignity of religion. Secondary questions remain to be answered, but you are in the way and the spirit to answer them. Hard work remains to be done, but you have the strength and the will to do it. It can

To the many friends and patrons of the Barbereux System of Educational Improvement in Winnetka we wish to announce that our “baby school” which has been held in the community house for several years will be discontinued this season. We deeply appreciate the continued patronage and loyalty to this new approach to education.

Most sincerely,
M. Barbereux Parry, director.

fairly be said that what remains is in the nature of reaping the difficult sowing you have already accomplished.

Bright Future for Church Here

“With the passing of the weeks certain further considerations have had increasing weight with me. It has impressed me that just now you would be in a remarkably strong position to attract any man of your choice into your service. In addition to the attractiveness of service in a community like this you could assure him that he would presently have, what for years this church has lacked, an adequate church plant with all the accession of appeal that it will bring. Moreover, I have become convinced that if I go now you will be in a mood to think through all the questions of your staff organization, freshly and fearlessly. From this, great strengthening of the work may come.

“The second, and in some ways the more fundamental question that a minister asks, is in which of the two fields he may honestly expect to make his little life count for the most for the Kingdom. I know perhaps, as well as any how much Winnetka needs the church, for during ten years I have been doing my best to help the church meet that need. I want to tell you something of Oberlin.

A Field of Opportunity

“The United Church of Oberlin represents the recent combination of two strong Congregational churches. It is a community church in almost exactly the same sense that this is. One who loves the ordinary parish ministry as I do would find it difficult to go to a position that was purely collegiate. But there is Oberlin college besides. There is no formal connection between it and the church. But the college has no intention of conducting its own church worship. For this and much other service to its students and faculty it looks to the churches of the community, and most of all, to the United church. Here is the traditional college church. It is the religious home of the president and faculty and the church to which the large student body most naturally turns. Its choir of a hundred is led by the head of the college Music department. As few churches in America, it calls its minister to live and try to serve in the midst of a great stream of selected, promising, needy young life that flows in to it from the ends of the earth and to the ends of the earth goes out again.

Supreme Spiritual Adventure

“I have no illusion about the difficulties of such a task and certainly none about the sacrifices involved in accepting such a call. It shapes itself as a supreme spiritual adventure in which I shall need all your friendship and your prayers. But it shapes itself in such a way that fidelity to the very ideals that for ten years I have feebly tried to hold up among you requires me to make the venture.

“Therefore, with a heart full of love for you and full of the brightest expectations for you, I present this resignation, not of my friendship, but of my office as your minister to take effect on October 15. At the earliest feasible date I shall call a business meeting of the church to accept this resignation and to take any action relative to the future of this pulpit that may seem wise.”

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School Board Buys Tract; Plan to Build in 3 Years

The Winnetka school board has recently purchased a three and a half acre tract at the southwest corner of Edgewood lane extended and Grove street as a part of its general program to provide for the future growth of the school system in the village. It is proposed to build an elementary school there in about three years. Purchase of the property was authorized in a bond issue vote last spring.