Bride-To-Be Refused to Take Vow at the Crucial Moment

Rev. William Fansher Recalls Incident in His Early Days of Preaching.

NOW RETIRED AT 85

Career Was Begun on Horseback, Pioneer Methodist Clergyman Tells People.

Special to The Advertiser.

Aylmer, Jan. 29.—Rev. William Fansher of Aylmer, one of the first Methodist divines in Western Ontario celebrated his 85th birthday, which occurred on Jan. 22, by delivering a remarkable sermon at St. Paul's Methodist Church. His voice still has its oldtime power, and his thoughts were clear cut and to the point. Truly he is a remarkable man for his years.

Rev. W. Fansher has been a Methodist clergyman nearly all his life. He was born in Euphemia Township, Lambton County, on Jan. 22, 1839, and entered the ministry in 1861. He began his career on horseback and now, he says, no one knows how to ride a horse, it is all trains, trolleys and motor cars.

He started out a Methodist Episcopal and saw the union of the various Methodist bodies; in fact, he was a delegate to the first union conference, and he says he hopes to see the Methodist and Presbyterian churches unite.

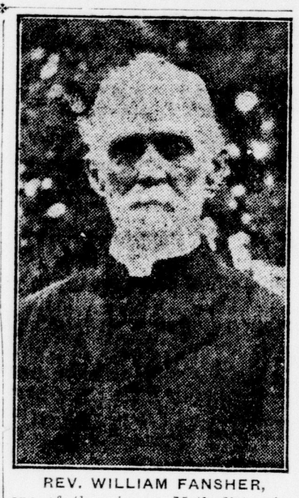
In his own words, Rev. Fansher comments: "Men are seeking now for circuits of but one or two, as few as may be, of appointments. Will you believe me when I tell you my first circuit included points in five townships? I got around it once in four weeks, preaching three times on Sundays, besides holding one to three week-night services every week. My salary the first year was the sum of $60, and out of this I was expected to board myself and keep a horse. I obtained a regular boarding-place, where I was charged something like 75 cents a week.

"I have had all sorts of experiences in my day, some of them striking enough for the plot of a novel. Once I had a marriage ceremony forbidden at that solemn moment when objectors are bidden to speak or forever hold their peace. The mother of the bridegroom objected because her son was too young. Another time a man came for me to perform a marriage some four miles out of town. The house was all decorated, the bridegroom had arrived, and several neighbors strolled in. When ready for the ceremony I began the solemn lines of the ritual, 'Wilt thou have this woman to be thy wedded wife—?' 'I will,' came in firm ready tones from the groom.

"'Eliza, wilt thou have this man to be thy wedded husband?'

"'I will not,' came in tones just as ready and firm from the bride-to-be.

"The young man had so repeatedly begged the young lady to marry him that she had to consent; this was the way she took to finally be rid of his attentions. She said he wouldn't take no for an answer, so she let him take his own head for it and settle the matter once and for all.



REV. WILLIAM FANSHER, one of the pioneer Methodist ministers of Ontario, now living retired in Aylmer at the age of 85.

COCKSHUTT FETES ONTARIO FARMERS

Is Official Recognition of High Place Won by Agriculturists.

Canadian Press Despatch.

Toronto, Jan. 29.—About four hundred representatives of Ontario agriculture and its allied interests were the guests at luncheon today of His Honor Lieutenant-Governor Cockshutt and Mrs. Cockshutt at Government House.

His honor's object was to recognize the high place which has been won by Ontario agriculturalists for their products and livestock in the great exhibitions within and outside of Canada in the past few years, and thus emphasize the important place occupied by first-class farming in the business life of the country.

With the lieutenant-governor were Hon. G. Howard Ferguson, premier; Hon. J. S. Martin, minister of agriculture, Hon. W. F. Nickel, Hon. W. F. Price, Hon. Lincoln Goldie and other members of the Legislature.

CHURCH UNION WOULD STRENGTHEN COLLEGE

Closing of Queen's Theological College May Be Avoided Through Union.

Canadian Press Despatch.

Kingston, Jan. 29.—It is believed in university circles that instead of causing the closing of Queen's Theological College, church union will tend to make this theological institution larger than ever. The reason given is that there will be a larger religious community from which to draw students for the ministry. Queen's Theological College is well endowed and it has cost the Presbyterian Church little to continue it. It is thought that the Montreal Presbyterian College will remain a Presbyterian institution when union takes place, and the United Church of Canada will have Queen's of Kingston, and Knox, Toronto.

SIBERIAN WHITE FORCES PROCLAIM AMUR STATE

Associated Press Despatch.

Tokio, Jan. 29.—White forces in Siberia have seized upon the occasion of the death of Nicolai Lenine to proclaim a free state in Amur Province, and have interrupted railway service to Vladivostok and eastward, according to advices received by the Japanese government from Mukden.

POOL TO HANDLE WHEAT CROP THIS YEAR IN MANITOBA

Farmers Reach Definite Decision At Winnipeg Committee Meeting.

BURNELL PRESIDENT

Canadian Press Despatch.

Winnipeg, Jan. 29.—Definite decison to establish a wheat pool for handling Manitoba's 1924 crop was announced tonight, following a meeting of the wheat pool committee of the United Farmers of Manitoba, which was appointed at the recent convention.

Incorporation will be sought by special act of the legislative assembly now in session, and the pool will be officially known as the Manitoba Co-Operative Wheat Producers, Limited.

Colin. H. Burnell, head of the United Farmers of Manitoba, was elected president of the new organization, and Peter Broadfoot of Gladstone, vice-president; F. W. Ramedson of Mountainside will be scretary, and D. G. McKenzie, secretary of the United Farmers of Manitoba, treasurer.

The contract, which has been adopted, is not radically different from the Alberta pool contract.

CHINESE, CAUCASIAN LAUNDRIES FACE PROBE

C. of C. Directors Feel Oriental Businesses Constitute Unfair Competition.

An investigation into the economic relations of Chinese and Caucasian laundries is about to be started by the London Chamber of Commerce, the directors decided at their meeting yesterday. Figures were presented to show that in Ontario n 1921 there were 3,500 Chinese laundries to 241 laundries run by whites. There were 12,000 Chinamen employed in this industry and 2,539 white men and women. The receipts were: Chinese laundries, $16,250,000; and white laundries, $5,117,828.

The chamber feels that the Chinese laundry constitutes an unfair competition for the white establishments. It also wishes to find out whether there is any unfair discrimination against the white laundries in the interpretation of the factory act, or any of the provincial health acts.

Ald. Greer, who attended the meeting on behalf of the city council, told the directors that there was great difficulty in renaming streets and numbering houses in those streets which lie partly in the city and partly in the county. The directors decided to refer the matter to the Ontario Town Planning Commission and to ask its advice.

Sewage disposal as part of the scheme to purify the Thames is an item of great interest to the chamber. Ald. Greer pointed out that the city council was deeply interested in this question, and that as far as finances would allow, would do all in its power in 1924 to advance this line of civic health.

The directors will suggest to the city council that the building of the rest room be proceeded with in spite of the fact that the county council has shelved the question until June. If the city council will go ahead with the rest room, the chamber will undertake to raise the remaining 30 per cent of the cost.

The directors are arranging a plan whereby representatives will go down to Toronto, together with representatives of the Retailers' Association and the Wholesalers' Association to register a complaint at the administration of the transient traders' act.

PREMIER VENIZELOS TAKES ILL AGAIN DURING DEBATE

Associated Press Despatch.

Athens, Jan. 29.—For the second time since his return to Greece Premier Venizelos became ill today during a heated debate in the National Assembly, and was obliged to leave the chamber. He was taken to his home.

HERE'S A PAGE that puts "U" IN HUMOR

THE GUMPS—NEW ANTIQUES

BARNEY GOOGLE AND SPARK PLUG

Yes, Barney's a Sick Man, All Right.

BY BILLY DE BECK

TOOTS AND CASPER

Casper's Dream Is Very Realistic.

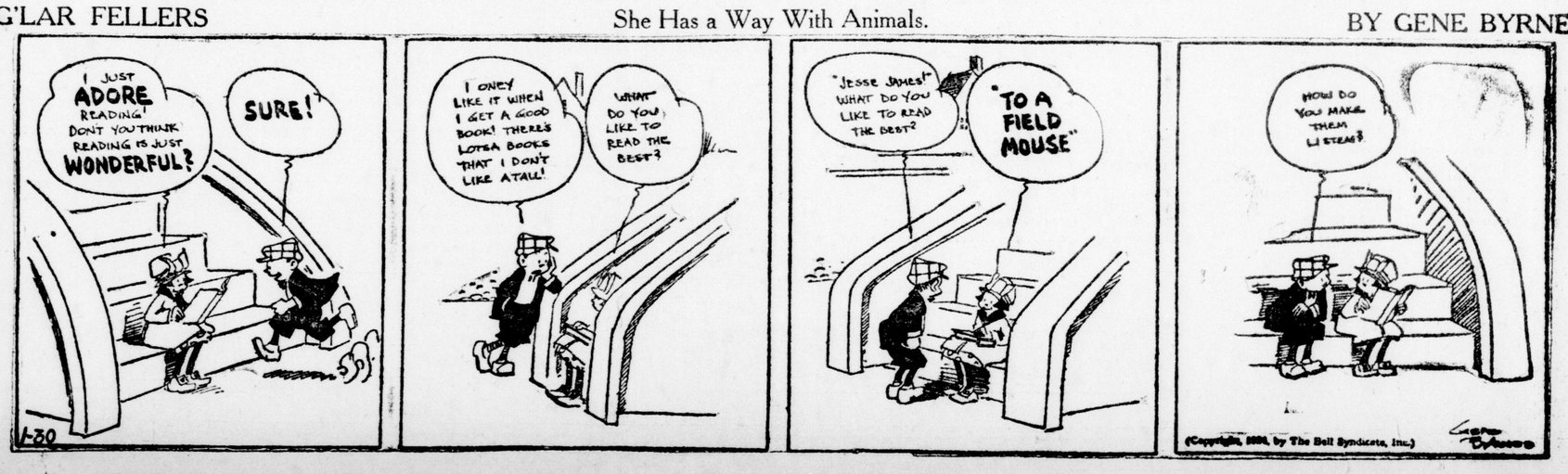
BY JIMMY MURPHY

MUTT AND JEFF

Mutt Gets An Earful Outside the Lion Tamers' Broadcasting R oom.

BY BUD FISHER

REG'LAR FELLERS

She Has a Way With Animals.

BY GENE BYRNES