

Hilyard Smith On

Ordination of Ministers.

Rev. W. Hilyard Smith of Lyndhurst Preaches Ordination Sermon in Christ's Church—Reason for and Function of the Ministry.

The honor of preaching the sermon at the ordination service in Christ's Church (Anglican) fell to Rev. W. Hilyard Smith, of Lyndhurst, the popular rector of Lyndhurst. It was a serious sermon that gave to the large congregation the views of the Church of England regarding the priesthood of the Christian religion. The Reporter publishes for the benefit of its readers a connected summary of his words:

Text—Ephesians 4: 11 and 12. "And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; for the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ."

The Christian ministry is that order of men who responding to the divine call of God the Holy Ghost to serve Him in a distinctive, special ministry in His church, offer themselves for trial and examination to the Christian body—the Church—and being found qualified and suitable, are approved, admitted, and commissioned in ordination by the Church—through her already existing ministry.

The necessity of a distinctive Christian ministry lies in the fact that Jesus Christ, having completed His own distinctive work of winning redemption and salvation for men, must commit the proclamation of that work and truth and the administering of that truth and holy sacraments and other spiritual aids to some others. He chose men rather than angels. There is something to minister, and it is not reasonable to suppose that it would be done unless certain men were definitely appointed to make that their work and the whole work of their lives.

It is true that all Christians are God's servants, expected to work for Him, and in this sense all are "ministers"; but the New Testament also distinguishes between Christians as to the precise forms and functions of their service, and in so doing teaches the fact of a special ministry.

There exists also a necessity of order in the sense of the lawful ordering of the ministers. When men, however sincere and zealous they may be, step aside from the Christian body—the Church—to publicly preach and to minister sacraments, they do wrong, and act against all order, wisdom, and expediency—and when men, presuming so to do, undertake to appoint other men as ministers, they commit further wrong against Christian order and authority. An individual member of the Church has not authority to ordain himself a minister. The commission to do Christ's work in the world, and to ordain ministers was given to the Church as a whole, acting through her chief ministers—her bishops—themselves given authority for that purpose, approves and admits men to the order and offices of the ministry. When men presume to act contrary to this true Christian Church order, we have the evil results of erroneous doctrines, fragments of truth wrenching off from the whole truth to which they belong but taught as the whole truth, truths distorted, crude, irreverent and unseemly modes in religious meetings and altogether and unworthy estimate and handling of the whole Christian cause and its life and worship.

Considering the function of those who are given the ministry we can see from the New Testament that they are twofold: evangelism and edification. For this twofold work the minister is made a messenger with a message. He is a messenger of the Lord of Hosts, or an ambassador sent with a message to each separate soul. The message is of great, moral grandeur, and of external, spiritual importance to men. It is one that enthralled and enthruses. It is a message that is intellectually satisfying. We do not put Reason behind our backs in holding the Christian truth. There have been earnest seekers after truth in all ages and as we read of them we find ourselves in the solemn position of the children,

"On whom the truth do rest
That they are telling all their lives
to find."

It would be almost enough honor merely to be told it, but to be commissioned to preach it ourselves—that and nothing else is our vocation. The minister's message is morally stimulating. If the messenger of Christ were instead the messenger of Mahomet, he would have to apologize somewhat for his master, but there is a great moral grandeur in being a Christian messenger because there is nothing to explain away. He has a character to preach—Jesus—as the expression of God, which satisfies the conscience and as it satisfies it educates it. The Christian message is extraordinarily comforting. All men have anxiety, sorrow and dread. But this is God's world, and nothing can happen to us by chance. The Christian messenger goes forth "to bind up the broken-hearted," to comfort all that mourn. Ministers go as "sons of consolation to a suffering world."

A minister is a watchman. He has to watch the flock of Christ as carefully as the watchman watched on the walls of the old walled cities. There are enemies, there are dangers, there are "grievous wolves" lurking around to destroy the sheep. The watchman is often solitary; he may feel his post is obscure, but he must remember that if the enemy pierces at the solitary spot he guards, the safety of the whole city is risked.

And a minister is a steward. One of the marks of a faithful steward was that he regarded the whole property that he managed as belonging entirely to his master, and that he was to administer it in the interests of his master and of his fellow servants—his master's household. He

was not to withhold from his fellow servants and to beat and injure them. And the minister, as a true steward, has to remember that nothing he has to minister belongs to himself but to the Christian household.

The people will esteem the Christian minister because of his office. The emphasis is upon his office. He will be esteemed and listened to because of Him who has sent him. They will co-operate with him. They will serve with him, for all are, in a general sense, ministers. The Church of Christ has not a priesthood in the Old Testament sense, but it is a priesthood, and the whole Church has a ministry of service to perform.

And so saying, they shall go forward together, officers and privates, ministers and people, realizing our citizenship, aware of our high destiny in the "city of God," living pure and strong lives, giving to every man in our day, in our home communities, and out in the great ignorant heathen nations, at least the chance of becoming a Christian, moulding the life of our Christian communities at home with the sweetness, the strong, high morality and the great spiritual ideals which are the very essence of the religion of Jesus, teaching and giving hope as we move forward, ministering, until "we all come in the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto a measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ." And then, we, "redeemed unto God" by the blood of Jesus, out of every tongue and nation but "one body" shall arrive at our high destiny, "the heavenly city" "which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God," where His servants shall serve Him in higher, holier and perfect service.

Saturday's Market.

One of the largest markets of the season was that of Saturday morning at the County Town, with a fine offering of good things to eat. The housewives were out in full force and quickly bought up the necessities. Butter and eggs sold at 45 to 50 cents; potatoes at 75 cents; tomatoes and apples at 50 cents a basket; corn, 10 cents; onions, beets, radishes, four bunches for 10 cents; chickens, \$1 to \$1.65 each.

Remounts for U.S. Army.

Large shipments of remounts for the American army are passing through Brockville daily via G.T.R.

Making Investigation.

Inspector Taber was in Jasper last week for the purpose of making an investigation about some boys indulging in intoxicants.

WE WANT NOW

A reliable agent in Leeds County to sell Pelham's Peerless Fruit and Ornamental trees during Fall and Winter months. Good pay, exclusive territory, free selling equipment.

Over 600 acres of the choicest Nursery stock, including new varieties controlled by us. Handsome, up-to-date selling equipment and a splendid Canadian grown stock to offer customers. We are not jobbers. Write now for agency terms to PELHAM NURSERY CO., Toronto, Ont. N.B.—Catalogue sent on request to applicants for agencies or purchasers of nursery stock.

Greenbush

Sept. 24.—Corn cutting is the order of the day, the heavy frost of Saturday night having hastened operations.

Rev. C. Baldwin and Mrs. Baldwin returned last week from their motor trip to Quebec.

A very quiet wedding was solemnized at the Addison parsonage, when Miss Cora Langdon, one of the most popular young ladies of Greenbush was married to Mr. John Astleford, Bellamy. They left by motor for Brockville, where they took the train for Toronto and Buffalo.

Miss Myrtle Loverin spent last week-end in Newboro.

Among those from here who attended Ottawa Fair were the following: Messrs. Wm. Gifford, C. Connel, J. Davis, Arthur Watts, Lewis Langdon, and B. W. Loverin.

Miss Winnie Olds, who has been engaged in the millinery business in Nakomis, Sask., has come home to spend the winter with her father.

Mrs. E. N. Smith continues to be in a very serious condition, and small hopes are held out for her recovery.

Much sympathy is felt for Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Blanchard, who lost by death their infant daughter on Sunday morning after a very short illness.

Miss Irene Johnston is at present nursing at Dundas.

Our school reopened in due time with Miss Leah Hough of North Augusta, as teacher.

Mr. and Mrs. Robinson, of Benson Mines, N.Y., visited Mr. and Mrs. A. Root, and while here they made a motor trip to Ottawa.

Miss Bernice Maud has gone to Peterborough to attend the Normal School.

Miss Reta Brayton spent a couple of weeks at Phillipsville.

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A small property with house and barn and 2 acres of land, 1/2 mile from Athens on the Charleston Road.

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SITUATION WANTED

Baker, 35, with two years experience on bread. Can come at once. 38-39p FRANK STERRY, Athens

Clerk's Notice of First Posting of Voters' List

Voters' List, 1917, Municipality of the Village of Athens.

Notice is hereby given that I have transmitted or delivered to the persons mentioned in section 9 of The Ontario Voters' Lists Act, the copies required by said section to be so transmitted or delivered of the list, made pursuant to said Act, of all persons appearing by the said Municipality to be entitled to vote in the said Municipality at elections for members of the Legislative Assembly and at Municipal Elections; and that said list was first posted up at my office at the Village of Athens on the 15th day of Sept. 1917, and remains there for inspection.

And I hereby call upon all voters to take immediate proceedings to have any errors or omissions corrected according to law.

Dated this 15th day of Sept. 1917.
A. M. LEE,
Clerk of the Village of Athens.

PROFESSIONAL CARDS

DR. H. R. BRIGHT
PHYSICIAN, SURGEON, ACCOUCHEUR

OFFICE HOURS: Until 8 a.m.
11 to 3 p.m.
7 to 8.30 p.m.
ATHENS

DR. C. M. B. CORNELL.
Cor. Pine and Garden Streets
BROCKVILLE
PHYSICIAN SURGEON & ACCOUCHEUR

DR. T. F. ROBERTSON
COR. VICTORIA AVE AND PINE ST
BROCKVILLE ONT.
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Soperton

Mr. and Mrs. Phillips, Forfar, spent Sunday with friends here.

Miss Gertrude Best has returned to her home at Glen Buell before leaving for Brantford to practise her profession.

Silo filling, has started.

Messrs. Berney and Davison have the foundation and concrete floor of their factory finished.

Two Men Fined.

On Saturday two residents of Portland were fined before Magistrate Pinkerton, at Elgin, for public intoxication. Each was fined \$20.

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NOTICE

To Entrance Candidates and to 1st year, 2nd year, and 3rd year High School Pupils:

You can take your place in the army of office workers at a salary of from \$25 to \$75 per month with less than a school year's preparation.

Book-keepers, Stenographers, Typists and Office Assistants, always in demand, but increasingly so just now.

Fall term opens September 4th.

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New Suits and Coats In Great Variety

Our mantle department is just filled with the season's newest models in

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Hundreds of styles to show you and scarcely two alike—We show all the new cloths, such as Velours, Broadcloths, Chinchillas, Kerseys, Scalettes, etc. Made up in the most approved styles.

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The showing is large and we want you to see them.

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