

**EVER EVER GREEN**

(Continued from Page 7.)

"I'm going to advertise you, too, kiddo. You got a running start on press stuff already that'll make you a feature on any bill."

"Gawd, Lee, I—I feel right scared."

"Sure you do. It's a wonder nine months in a tank like this ain't sent you to a padded cell."

"It ain't that, Lee. Honest, you'll laugh, but I've kinda got to liking it. It—honest, it's a great little town, Lee."

"Sure."

"We lived here so quiet together—him and me, Lee; so—so quiet."

"One week on Broadway and you'll have your sea legs back."

"It ain't like I was forgetting him, is it, Lee? God knows I ain't."

"Sure you ain't. He—"

"Honest, Lee, it's just like I had dug a grave for him right—right down deep in my heart and put the same kind of evergreen on it that there is out—out where he lays."

"Sure."

"That's how I remember him, Lee, that's how the remembrance of him is ever ever green inside of me. But—but like you say, I—I can't go on living here off—off—"

Her lips quivered like wounded flesh.

He shifted uneasily.

"That's the idea, girl. But looka, five to eight! I gotta beat it, Lo."

"Leven-seven. I gotta get a few things together, Lee. I—I wonder what time the meeting will—"

"Leven-seven is right! Leven-seven train and ten-forty curtain. Can you beat it? Thirty minutes to pack up a show as big as a circus. Be down at the train, kiddo, and I'll be there with bells on to take care of you. I got to beat it now; you know better'n me how that gang needs watchin'."

"Leven-seven, kiddo."

"—Lee, I—"

"Eleven-seven! You can make the station from here in three minutes. So long, peaches. You're one great little kid and the girls will throw a fit to see you on the job again."

(To Be Concluded.)

**LAST OF SERMON SERIES ON THE DANCE**

(Continued from Page 1)

nothing else against it, that would stamp it with the seal of condemnation."

Dr. John Roach Stratton of Calvary Baptist church, New York, states that while the Baptist church is congregational in its policy, that the overwhelming sentiment of the church has always been in strong opposition to dancing, and that many Baptist churches expel members who dance.

In the Congregational church, the general association meeting in Iowa a few years ago, passed this resolution: "Resolved, that in opinion of this association, the practice of dancing by members of our churches is inconsistent with the profession of religion and ought to be made a subject of discipline."

**Episcopal Bishops Oppose**

A number of the bishops of the Episcopal church have spoken out against the evil. Bishop Hopkins of Vermont says, "Dancing is chargeable with a waste of time, the interruption of useful study, the indulgence of personal vanity and display, and the premature excitement of the passions. No argument can make it consistent with baptism."

Bishop Meade of Virginia says the only line he would draw is entire exclusion.

Bishop Cox, of western New York, in a pastoral letter, speaking of the sin of dancing warns communicants "who run with the world to the excess of riot in these things, that they presume not to come to the holy. Classes preparing for confirmation are informed that I will not lay hands knowingly or any one who is not prepared to renounce such things, with other abominations of the world, the flesh, and the devil."

At a plenary council of the Catholic church held in Baltimore, a pastoral letter was issued by the archbishops and bishops which said: "We consider it to be our duty to warn our people against those amusements which may easily become to them an occasion to sin, and especially against the fashionable dances which, as at present carried on, are revolting to every feeling of delicacy and propriety, and are fraught with the gravest dangers to morals."

And only this month, the Denver Ministerial association passed a resolution condemning the dance as a part of the church activities and social program.

**Chills the Spiritual Life**

For many Christians who dance, that amusement may never become an

occasion for actual sin, but it seldom fails to have a chilling effect on the spiritual life. A light frost may fall upon the apple tree in springtime. It does not kill the tree, and most of its green foliage will remain unharmed, but the blossoms will be so chilled that there will be no fruit that year. You remember the occasion when Jesus cursed the barren tree. We were created for communion with God, for the development of the spiritual nature, and Christian people should not do that which will defeat God's highest purpose for them, even though they never fall into actual sin. Dancing Christians seldom attend prayer meetings with regularity. Evangelist Sunday, who has trained more personal workers than any other man, says a dancing Christian never was a soul winner.

Experienced soul winners tell us that the most difficult person to reach is the devotee of the dance. Evangelist Biederwolf said he had had scores and scores of people tell him that if they must quit dancing they would not become Christians, and that when not a word had been said about the dance. His conclusions was that it was the promptings of a guilty conscience.

While some Christians tell us they see no harm in the dance, many unconverted frankly say they know it is wrong, and expect to give it up if they are ever converted. This was put as a question by Evangelist Hamilton in union tabernacle meeting in David City, and 600 unconverted people arose, giving an affirmative answer.

**Sets a Bad Example**

Christians should not dance for another reason, that while some can do it without falling into sin themselves, their example will lead others into this amusement, for whom it may become an occasion for sin. And St. Paul said, "If meat make my brother to offend, I will eat no meat while the world standeth." Dr. Russell Conwell, famous Baptist preacher, writer and lecturer, who has cheered millions with his lecture on "Acres of Diamonds," speaking of dancing in his pulpit of the Baptist Temple of Philadelphia, one of the greatest churches of America, said: "Young women, you are doing the most wicked thing this side of murder when you dance with young men in places like that under those circumstances, embraced as you are in the modern dances. Beware! God will hold you responsible for the temptations you put in his way."

How much better to have the spirit of the small boy who was walking in the woods with his boy companion and little sister. They came to a stream over which a log had fallen, and his companion said, "Come on, you can walk across it." He replied, "I can, but little sister can't."

**Not Right Christian Type**

It has been suggested that we ought to permit dancing in our new community hall, that young people will dance any way, so better let them do it in the church. No, this church is built to save young people, not to place temptation in their way. The young people who could not be won to the church nor held to it except through a church dance, is not of the heroic type required to win the world for Christ. Jesus did not say, "Follow me and I will give you an exciting time," but "If any man would come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross."

The call of Christ has always been to the heroic rather than to a place of entertainment. Perhaps one cause for the dearth of spiritual religion in our modern churches is that in our enthusiasm for numbers we have tried to draw crowds by entertaining them, rather than by challenging them to heroic service. We must again take up the clarion call of Jesus Christ, summoning men to self denial, cross bearing and service in his name.

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