

SINGLE COPY FIVE CENTS.

## REMOVED FROM THE PULPIT

End of an Exciting Episode in Colorado  
Church Circles.

F. E. PASSMORE REDUCED TO THE RANKS

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**Methodist Judicial Conference Passes  
Judgment Upon a Denver Clergy-  
man Who Dared Criticise the  
Conduct of His Bishop.**

There was a sensation in the judicial conference of the Methodist church, which has just concluded its labors in this city. It was kept a secret during the session, but some of the details have leaked out. It has been learned that Rev. Frank F. Passmore of Denver was convicted of immorality and unministerial and unchristian conduct and was excluded from the Methodist ministry. Something like two years ago the Colorado conference found Rev. Mr. Passmore guilty of

The most prominent of the specific charges against the pastor was that he had been involved in a sexual relationship with a woman who was not his wife. This charge was made public during a church conference in 1984. The pastor denied the charge and stated that he had never had a sexual relationship with the woman. The church conference voted to uphold the pastor's denial and to recommend that he remain in his position. The woman who was the subject of the charge later filed a lawsuit against the pastor, claiming that he had sexually abused her. The lawsuit was settled out of court in 1985.

brought against the preacher accused him almost of blasphemy in his utterances and in his attitude toward the church and the cattle queen of Denver, the Widow Hill, to Bishop Warren, whose episcopal residence in Fort Collins was over a mile away from about four years ago. It was made the occasion for one of the most magnificent displays of the power of the church in the local line. Money was spent lavishly and without stint and the affair was marked by the most magnificent display of luxury could dictate and wealth could obtain.

**TOOK THE BISHOP TO TASK.**

Rev. Mr. Passmore severely rebuked from his pulpit the letters and in newspapers and magazines this attitude and the attitude of his superior officer in the church. He called attention to the fact that hundreds of people were suffering from poverty, that there were freezing and destitute, while the bishop, their spiritual leader, was spending money in such a royal fashion. These utterances were so effective that a great deal of comment and gained wide circulation in the church.

Passmore was as severe in his treatment of other officials of the church. He

attended services at the most magnificent of churches, Denver, the Trinity Methodist church, which is headed by the pastor of Rev. Robert McIntyre. Mr. McIntyre preached on the topic, "The Modest and the Modest," and he was warmly denounced the services and the sermon, charging that they were more after the fashion of a theatrical show than an exposition.

As the Trinity congregation is composed of some of the richest and most prominent of the city, the matter raised a great sensation.

Other churches and ministers in Denver also were denounced as being too much after the recreation of the masses. McIntyre kept up a vigorous campaign against sensationalism in the church. He charged that the churches were too long and too ambitious to build up their churches for worldly display than to gain converts and work in the service of the Lord. He spoke in a number of places.

The chancellor of the Methodist university in Colorado was also rebuked by the vigorous McIntyre. He charged that the university, the president elder of Wyoming, which

a misfield, was another of those attacked by him. The minister denounced Rev. Mr. Chamberlain's practice of living in Denver, paying only occasional visits to his field, taking no interest in his people, and expending the money of the palace care at the expense of the church, as the elder received his expenses in addition to a big salary.

ARTICLES WIDELY READ.

Mr. Passmore wrote letters, not always private, regarding these men of the cloth. As he is brilliant, effective and plain, his words were widely read and were the occasion of much discussion. All the articles and many of the letters were introduced as evidence before the Colorado conference when

Mr. Passmore was first accused of immorality and unministerial and unchristian conduct. He was prosecuted then by a brother of Rev. Frank Crane, who was at one time pastor of the First Methodist church of this city. In his arguments Mr. Crane said:

"If Mr. Passmore is right in these matters, then all my sermons are damned."

After the conviction of the minister by the conference and his exclusion from the church, an appeal was taken to the judicial

conference which met in this city. Here again the letters and papers were introduced in evidence. The trial occurred before a jury of four men, one from each of the following states: Colorado, Iowa, South Dakota and Nebraska. The decision of the conference was affirmed. The only question that the minister now has is to the general conference, which meets in 1900, and it is considered that he has no chance for a reversal of the decision there.

It is considered by local Methodists that the denial of the trial conference was affirmed by the appellate court. This is superficially because his exclusion from the church has had no effect upon the minister.

Although his pastorate was taken away he spoke from other pulpits, many of which he found open to him. In these he continued to denounce the worldliness of the Methodist Church, drawing unpleasant comparisons between its policy and the strict and economical conduct of the early Methodists. As he is looked upon as a fighting minister it is believed that the appellate court's action will not deter him one iota, but that he will continue his crusade.

**THIS YOUNG WIFE TRIES SUICIDE.**  
**Married a Race Track Follower and**  
**Is Sorry for It.**  
KANSAS CITY, Dec. 18.—Mrs. Lillian Calhoun Turner, daughter of Rev. J. C. Russell, a Baptist minister at Dallas, Tex., attempted to commit suicide last night by taking a dose of arsenic, because her hus-

The Turner mentioned in the Kansas City dispatch is Holt Turner, one of the time and another well known in Omaha gambling and political circles. The last time he was here was as a pencil for one of the bookies at the Council Bluffs races two years ago. He came here early in March with a beautiful young girl whom he introduced to friends as his wife. He was in Minneapolis during the recent gambling investigation.

**Rich Man Goes to the Pen.**  
COLUMBUS, Dec. 15.—Allen Aay, who  
collected for half a million dollars, was  
sentenced to the penitentiary for eighteen  
months for borrowing money in a way which  
seemed to be secured by first mortgage when  
it was not.