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# The Daily Record

and THE DRESDEN DAILY.

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## PULPIT AND STAGE.

### DR. AKED AND THE ACTORS.

The Rev. C. F. Aked, commonly known as "Rockefeller's chaplain," of whom we recently published a character sketch by our Paris correspondent, has been getting himself into very hot water indeed by some plain speaking in regard to people behind the footlights. In the course of a sermon at the Fifth Avenue Baptist Church, New York, he said: "Take the case of actors and actresses. All Christian people put them under the ban. All Christian people regard them as unclean, and I tell you that Christian people have no right to be surprised if they act as though they were unclean."

This statement has aroused the leading figures of the stage as few such utterances have done in recent years. The New York papers state that wherever theatrical persons gathered on the following day, Dr. Aked's assertion was the subject of heated or satirical comment. The general attitude was that Dr. Aked's sermon belonged to the time when the English statutes classed actors as vagabonds.

E. H. Sothern talked with a reporter in the New Theatre after a rehearsal. Miss Julia Marlowe was there and smiled frequent approval of the actor's satirical remarks.

"Until I read Dr. Aked's statement I did not know actors and actresses as a class had been placed under a ban by all Christian people and that 'all Christian people regard them as unclean,'" said Sothern. "But if we are, it is eminently proper for him to plead our cause in the pulpit, that we may get a fair chance."

"But this occurs to me. Though one continually hears of eccentric conduct on the part of persons connected with the church, there has not been, so far as I am aware, any unkindly criticism of those persons by the men and women of the stage. We have looked charitably upon these backslidings as the result of ordinary human frailties. We have never thought of ostracising these church people as a class. I have some delightful friends among the clergy."

"I have had in my companies three clergymen and we found them very well behaved. There really was nothing objectionable about them. One clergyman came to me while I was preparing 'The Proud Prince' and asked for an engagement. He said he wished to exchange the pulpit for the stage, for just what reason I cannot now recollect. Perhaps it was his voice."

"I thought of taking him and he hastened to friends to tell of his good luck. He returned next day and said his friends thought he had better withdraw, because he might not find the people in the company proper persons to associate with. I replied in all good humour that he need not let that deter him from earning his living with us, as the important thing might prove to be whether the people in the company would wish to associate with him. 'Besides,' said I, 'admitting we are a depraved lot, this is the place for you, a clergyman, right here in our sinful midst.'

"He was a good natured, stupid looking sort of fellow, and he laughed and went away and left us to our wickedness. Well, he meant well. Dr. Aked means well. We all mean well. It is good to know that we are unclean—we can now begin to reform."

"Some time ago a clergyman started some such discussion as this and the next day there appeared in the records of a legislative debate a statement that 4,000 churchmen were confined in jails, inebriate asylums or kindred institutions. At that time there were but three actors in the country confined in like places."

Miss Rose Coghlan, also of the New Theatre company, and a distinguished member of an old stage family, was incensed by Dr. Aked's sermon.

"Perhaps Dr. Aked got his idea from the fact that actors and actresses are continually before the public and their troubles are thoroughly aired. Considerable space is given by newspapers to the troubles of society folk, and if newspaper interest continues to increase in them it won't be long before Dr. Aked will be able to get up in the pulpit and say that all Christians put society men and women under the ban and regard them as unclean. It is merely a matter of publicity; that's all."

"All these years I've had an idea that a lot of actors were Christians, and that really they were quite respectable people. It is naturally a shock to



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wake up in the morning to find we aren't fit to associate with the members of Dr. Aked's flock.

"Dr. Aked's statements could have been inspired only by a desire for notoriety," said Robert Edeson in the Criterion Theatre. It is strange that a people so low in the eyes of Christians should continually be besieged by these very Christians with pleas for financial aid for charities. I know of no other class of men and women who give so freely to all worthy charities, not only of their money, but their art and their time, as do the people of the stage."

## TAMMANY'S DEFEAT.

### THE COMPLETE FIGURES.

The cablegram we published on Thursday, giving the result of the New York elections, lacked definite figures, which are contained in the following further despatches:—

NEW YORK.—The latest returns give the following totals of votes polled in the elections by the three candidates for the position of Mayor.

Judge Gaynor (Tammany and Democrat)	246,715
Mr. Bannard (Fusionist and Republican)	175,052
Hearst (Independent)	150,560

These figures are practically complete, as the returns for only a few districts remain to be received.

Judge Gaynor is the only successful candidate on the Democratic ticket, thus absolutely ensuring to the Republican-Fusionist forces the control of the Board of Estimate and Apportionment, which has to authorise all expenditure. Of the sixteen votes on the Board the Democrats will have only three, all of which belong to Judge Gaynor.

Later

The complete returns published on Thursday show that Judge Gaynor was elected to the Mayoralty with a plurality of 73,016 votes.

NEW YORK.—The election has been fought with extraordinary keenness, owing to the entry of Mr. W. R. Hearst into the fight. He stood as an Independent, but as his avowed object was to destroy the rule of Tammany, his appearance was welcomed by the Fusionists as likely to promote the chances of their candidate, Mr. Otto J. Bannard, President of the New York Trust Company, who is little known to the public at large, but whose business reputation stands high.

The Tammany candidate, Judge Gaynor, of Brooklyn, has won fame as a severe critic of municipal corruption, his most recent achievement being his campaign against the New York Police Force, ending in the dismissal of General Bingham, its Republican Chief. His nomination by Tammany Hall was attributed to the desire to retain the administration of the affairs of the city, the patronage of which, in terms of money, is second only to that of the Federal Government itself at Washington.

(From the *Globe*) NEW YORK.—Tammany's claws have been clipped at last. The unexpected has happened. Boss Murphy had aspired to that the Fusionists and Republicans were so busy fighting over the Mayoralty that they would fail to realise, until too late, the importance of the Board of Estimate and Apportionment, the control of which is vitally important to any party desiring real power over the city's vast expenditure. Murphy, it is now seen, made the biggest mistake of his life. Judge Gaynor has been elected Mayor with the majority of between fifty and sixty thousand predicted by your correspondent, but Tammany has failed to elect any other candidate having a vote on the Board of Estimate. It has lost the Comptrollership and everyone of the five borough presidents, so that the voting on the Board will be Tammany three, anti-Tammany 13. This is indeed a débâcle which absolutely not one politician of standing had ventured to predict. It was not until the small hours of Wednesday morning that Murphy admitted defeat. Beyond such admission he would say nothing. His followers are disconcerted and dispirited, for the charm of money in politics has for them disappeared. Whether Murphy will be able to retain his influence nobody can for the moment say. It is certain that Boss Croker would not have made the mistakes which it is now seen Murphy has made, and there comment among the professional politicians ends for the present.

## NEWS OF THE WORLD.

LONDON, Friday.—Yesterday was the last day of the debate on the Budget in the House of Commons. The Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr. Lloyd George, made a long speech in which he powerfully defended his standpoint and that of the Government, for whom he claimed that it had dealt carefully and thoroughly with the nation's finances and had proposed an increase of revenue commensurate with the interests of national security and the welfare of the people. The measures proposed by the Government, he affirmed, would finally eliminate the difficulties which at present hampered industry, and would contribute largely to the welfare of all classes of the majority.

In the further course of the debate, Mr. Balfour, leader of the Opposition, characterised the Finance Bill as Socialistic.

The Prime Minister, Mr. Asquith, declared that the Budget would receive approval by an overwhelming majority in the first instance. The House of Commons was constitutionally authorised to deal with and regulate the financial business of the country, and would permit no interference with its prerogative. This challenge to the House of Lords was greeted with enthusiastic applause from the Ministerialists.

The division took place late last night, the result being that the Finance Bill passed the third reading by 379 votes against 149. The Nationalist members did not vote. When the result of the division was announced, the Liberal members got up an impromptu demonstration, and repeated rounds of cheering were given in honour of Mr. Asquith and Mr. Lloyd George, who were heartily congratulated on this termination of a long drawn-out campaign.

MADRID, Friday.—The Minister for Foreign Affairs has transmitted to the Moroccan Mission in Madrid Spain's answer to the last note of Sultan Muley Hafid, in which a continuation of the negotiations, so far as they affect the scope to be allowed the Sultan's envoys in their attempts to tranquillise the Riff tribesmen, is declared to be necessary. From a good source it is reported that the Kabyles in the vicinity of Lalla Marnia had so many wounded in the last battle with the Spaniards that they appealed to the French Consul for medical aid. This appeal was referred to General Liauthey, the French commander-in-chief, who refused it.

(Continued on page 2.)