BLACK BILLY SUNDAY' THRILLS HIS CONVERTS TO 'STRIKE THE PIKE'

Negro Evangelist Has His Own Phrase for "Trail-Hitting" and Shows Ability to Exhort Without Acrobatics.

Willbanks Shows His Power as an Inimitable Storyteller and Softens His Hearers in Varick Temple to Tears of Penitence.

"BLACK BILLYISMS." "Open the front door of your heart and let God in; kick the devil out the back door and throw him over

Lop-sided, slew-footed, pusillanimous religion don't get you ony-

where."
"God wants the whole hop or sothing. He won't take the jittings."
"You need a little steam to run your train up the gospel track."
"You people are uncooked preserves, and you're spoiling right here in the church."
"The President only gets a four-year term, but God never takes his job away from a minister of the gospel."

gospel."
A man not called has no more right to preach than I have with a revolver shooting it into your faces."
"If they give out crowns for goodness in heaven a whole lot of you'll be barcheaded."

A remarkable demonstration of his ability to grip the attention of his hearers and make them "strike the pike" without aerobatics was given before 1500 persons last night at the Varick African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church, 19th and Catharine streets, by the Rev. Alexander Willbanks, the "Black Billy Sun-

Shorn of the action that characterizes most of his sermons, his talk last night made 35 men and women "pike strikers."

They started to line up outside the church at 6 o'clock, and it was more than two hours and a half later before Willbanks stepped out on the platform and started the long prayer with which he precedes all his sermons. The subject of the sermon was "A Child Sneezing Seven Times After Death."

Comparison of the big Negro's methods with those of "Billy" Sunday so far as his actions on the platform are concerned raused him to make up his mind to deliver one sermon without the customary gymnastics. He did not climb upon the organ last night; he did not charge down the sisles nor stand on the benches. Once or twice, as he got warmed up to his work, he forgot his determination to keep his feet still and bounded into the air and once he started to pull off his long frock coat, but otherwise he confined his action to a dignified pacing back and forth across the platform.

TELLS STORY INIMITABLY At least one of the secrets of his power to sway his people came to light in this unusual sermon. It is that he has developed to the "nth" power the natural gift of his race as story-tellers. He took the story of the healing of the Shunamite woman's son and told it inimitably. A big Bible served him to represent the dead child. He crooned to it as a mother

might in the plaintive tone and the slurred words of his native South. For thirty minutes as he told his story bls voice never rose above a certain key and there was no sound from the audience save that, occasionally, of a half stifled sob. And all the time he illus-

rae men and women in the oig audi-torium shot backward against the benches as though something had exploded in front of them. Some of them atood up and all of them joined in the gasping sigh that swept over the church, followed instantly by a running fire of fervid ejaculations.

TEARS TEST OF CONVERSION.

The most singular feature of the meeting last night, however, was staged after Wilbanks finished his sermon, after the "pike atrikers" had shaken hands with him and taken their places in "glory row." About 500 of the audience filed out while the others was and then the the others sang hymns, and then the doors were closed again and the real work of saving the sinners began.

of saving the einners began.

The thousand odd men and women in the church pressed forward around the Bulpit, jammen the aisles until they became impossable and started singing. The pentients draped to their knees and buried their leads in their arms. This was at 19 o'clock. It was 11 o'clock before the

was at 1º o'clock. It was 11 o'clock before the last of the "pike strikera" demonstrated his or her conversion in tears. The mere statement of repentance does not suffice in a negro revival. The penitent must shed tears. He must "get religion;" get it, in the language of Willbanks, in his hands and in his feet. Last night he told them that if they didn't have enough religion to make them dance, or sing, or shout, or pound their feet or at least keep time with their fingers, they didn't have any religion at all.

Then he tempered this statement by the tale of a Negro who tried to join a church. They sent him back to repent. He returned and was sent back again, and a third time. So he made a final plea, thus:

turned and was sent back again, and a third time. So he made a final plea, thus:

"Good Lord, I'm heartbroken I've tried three times to get into that church and they won't take me. I've shed tears and I'm sorry for my sins. Good Lord, please help me to get into that church."

"Then the good Lord spoke to this sinner," said Willbanks, "and this is what he said: 'Look here, you've been trying to get into that church for two weeks. You went there a penitent three times and each time they turned you away. Sonny, I been trying to get into that church for four years, and I ain't in yet."

CALLS FOR "SOLDIERS." When the chuckling and laughter died

down, Willbanks continued:

"There's so much pride and selfishbess in that church I simply can't get in,
and I've tried hard, but they got me
locked out.' said the Lord. 'And, sonny,
you needn't worry if you don't get in
where I can't get in. You're all right.
Never mind 'bout gettin' into that church.
I can't do it myself."
When he called for converts, Willbanks told his people that Germany and
France and England and Russia want
all their soldiers, 'and so does God,' he
roared. He scored what he called the
spody-goody class" of people who think
they are better than orners.

"Reminds me," he said, "of a selfish
man who made a prayer. He said, 'Lord,
temember me and my wife, and my son
John and his wife; us fo' and no mo',
Lord."
Willbanks punctuates his sermons with down, Willbanks continued:

Wilbanks punctuates his sermone with mans of his fingers that ring out like sectors shots. When his people get to making so swuch noise that fins is no less effective, he shape his hands From passe of practice, he is able to make rice [his way that is nimes! dealan-

'HOME, FEELING FINE,' SUNDAY'S MESSAGE

Evangelist Cordially Greeted by His Neighbors at Winona

Word has been received here that Billy" and "Ma" Sunday arrived home at Winona Lake, Ind., safely last night, and that both are feeling fine. Their message to this city was:

We reached home safe, on time to the minute. It was a procession of compliments at every station where we stopped. Hundreds of our neighbors and friends were at the station to welcome us home. Mother was smilling and happy to see us, and insisted on siting up at the table and cating supper with us. Will and Paul are well.

We are really homesick for dear old Philadelphia, It all seems like a dream, but we would like to dream it all over again. Love to all.

NELL AND BILL There were many anxious to shake the hand of the evangelist, and, while he was tired, he was exceedingly happy and welcomed all his friends with open arms. The news that his mother is able to be up to sit at the supper table with "Billy" and "Ma" brings much happiness to the relatives and members of the Sunday party who remained in this city, as the aged Mrs. Sunday had been confined to her bed for a long time.

Sunday said last night that he was not worn out by the strenuous campaign here as he had expected to be. Although somewhat tired in body and although his voice was somewhat strained, he said that he felt in excellent physical condi-

He announced definitely that he would start his campaign in Paterson, N. J. on April 4, and that after it was finished he and "Ma" hoped to take a sailing vessel San Francisco through the Panama Canal. Upon their arrival there they expect to spend some time at the exposition, after which they will go to their

ranch in Oregon for a rest.
At the conclusion of their stay in the ountry he plans to conduct campaigns next winter in the following order: Omaha, Neb.; Trenton, N. J.; Baltimore and Louisville. In the autumn of 1916 he plans to open a revival campaign in

Billy's" grandson, who became ill yesterday just as his father, George M. Sunday, and mother were about to go to At-City, was about the same this morning, but is not thought to be in serious condition. As soon as the baby is well enough Mr. Sunday will go to Atlantic City, where he and his family will remain at John Wanamaker's cottage

until the Paterson campaign opens.

Bentley D. Ackley, "Billy" Sunday's private secretary and planist, is finishing his work today at the Spring Garden street headquarters, and plans to leave with Mrs. Ackley and his little daughter for Atlantic City tonight or tomorrow morning. Ben T. Welsh and Mrs. Welsh probably accompany Mr. and Mrs Ackley. After two or three days' reat at the shore, Mr. Ackley plans to go to Moscow, Pa, near Scranton, where he will remain until the Paterson campaign opens. Letters intended for "Billy" Sun-day should be sent to Mr. Ackley at

Cable news dispatches received by the American press today from London an-nounce that Henry Randall is anxious to have "Billy" Sunday conduct campaigns in Enstand to help in the efforts to ob-tain laws to prevent the sale of intoxicants until the war is ended.

PASTOR URGES CO-OPERATION

Thinks Individual Should Keep in Closer Touch With Church.

Closer touch with the churches on the part of the individual and more active co-operation were urged by the Rev. John W. Walker, who was the principal speaker today at the noonday services in St. Peter's Protestant Episcopal Church, 3d and Pine streets. The speaker took for his topic "Our Opposition to Learn the

Lesson of Love."
"We err in Christian life," he said, ence save that, occasion the fillustrated, covering the Bible that represented the child with a handkerchief, trotting slowly over the platform to indicate how the mother hurried to the prophet, and staiking back slowly to show how Gehazi returned with the staff.

"We can also with the suppose that Heaven is a position rather than a condition. But men object to Christian teaching because there is nothing personal in it and because they say 'God has favorites.' Our Lord shows the very opposite, seeking out the harlot, the publican and the sinner. There seems to be a danger of the church losing interesting the suppose that Heaven is a position rather than a condition. But men object to Christian teaching because there is nothing personal in it and because they say 'God has favorites.' Our Lord shows the very opposite, seeking out the harlot, the publican and the sinner. There seems to be a danger of the church losing into be a danger of the church losing in-dividual touch, but Baptism and Confirmation emphasize this. To believe that 'God loves me' is an incentive for an active life.

Glenside Firemen Elect

The Glenside Fire Company has elected the following officers for the ensuing year: President, W. A. Levis; vice presi-dent, P. A. Alteneder; secretary, J. Donner; treasurer. Sylvester Stout: chief, Howard Foster. The yearly report shows the company to be in a prosperous condi-

HOUSEWIVES OF M'NABBTOWN RALLY TO DEFEND TOWN PUMP



McNabbtown with cold water

Recently the Water Bureau ordered the McNalib estate, owner of the land, to instal more water connections. Then it

insial more water connections. Then it was found the town pump water was poliuted. This the residents denied vigorously. The order will be strenuously resisted. According to McNabbtown residents, the water is so good that people come from miles around to get it.

Furthermore, it is so cold that in summer the save to bill be used in

mer they save ice bills by using it to cool milk, they declare. There was talk of arming the housewives with rolling

oins and mops to resist the invasion of Water Bureau workers when they come to take the pump away. This may be some time during the week.

INSANITARY CEMETERY WILL

Old Christian Street Burying Ground

Dumping Place for Rubbish.

years old live in the four blocks sur-

rounding the unhealthy dumping ground

in the Christian Street Cemetery, ac-

cording to a census taken by the South

Philadelphia Branch of the Child Fed-

The insanitary condition of the cem-

etery, which has served as a receptacle

for trash and refuse for years, has

caused the Bureau of Health to co-op-

erate with the Child Federation in the

plan to clean it up and convert it into

H. Honsal, chairman of the board of

trustees of the cemetery, work will com-mence within the next few days. Wil-liam Stecher, director of physical educa-

tion in schools; W. D. Champlin, secre-

tary of the Board of Recreation, and Al-

bert Cross, of the Child Federation, will

meet tomorrow morning to formulate plans for converting the cemetery into a playground. All the graves have been opened and the bodies removed, so that the work of leveling the ground will be

are considered by the Bureau of

he first step in the work.

streets.

More than 1500 children less than eight

BE MADE INTO PLAYGROUND

NEUTRALITY A SHAM IN FIGHT WITH EVIL

Preacher Uses War in Europe as Example of Struggle Between Antagonistic Forces.

Neutrality in Europe was declared to be absolutely impossible except as an abstract theory by the Rev. Charles J Smith, of Trinity Lutheran Church, New York, at the noonday Lenten services at St. John's Lutheran Church, Race below 6th street, today. Not even in the case of Belgium, Mr. Smith asserted, could neutrality be more than an empty sham. With this as the basis of his sermon the preacher pointed out there could be no neutrality in the unending conflict between the forces of good and evil that enter into every human life.

"The idea of neutrality." said the peaker, "is good; the realization impossible. The reason for this is that neu-trality has to do with human nature, and human nature is always prejudiced. The lips may smugly profess neutrality, but

the heart can never be impartial.

"Two lads may be fighting in the street. We feel the shame of it and we try the role of peacemaker; but if one happens to land a skilful blow we can scarcely re-frain from applauding. Neutrality is only name, unless it is based upon the posssion of the power to use it. "Little Beigium, set in the very midst

of three great contending nations, would be declared neutral by international con-vention, but it could never be kept neutral in the face of the great conflict. This is the shame and the sham of neutrality. his laner life man cannot be neu-He is set in the midst of two great antagonistic powers—God and the devil. He may declare himself neutral, out he has not the power to enforce his declara-

THE FRUITS OF THE SPIRIT

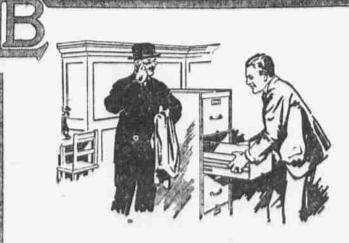
The Rev. A. R. Berkley Preaches Lenten Sermon.

"The Fruits of the Spirit" was the topic of a sermon delivered today by the Rev. Alfred R. Berkley at a noonday Lenten service at Old St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 3d street below Walnut street.

Two points which the speaker emphasized were that fruit-bearing, in religious as well as in the material life, is a gradual process, and that it is contingent on the maintenance of our relation with God.

God. God.
"Our relation to our fellow men," he said, "should be similar to that of our Lord in the matter of long suffering, patience, kindliness better example could have been given us than Christ, whose life may be summed up in the words. 'He went about doing

Open House at Manufacturers' Club This is open house day at the Manufacturers' Club, where many of the city's facturers' Club, where many of the city's most prominent business men are celebrating the first anniversary of the occupancy of the new headquarters at Broad and Walnut street. This afternoon there will be a billiard match and several interesting musical programs. Tonight the performers appearing this week at Keith's will give an entertainment in the club. The club has been attractively decorated with palms and potted plants for the occasion.



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SUNDAY BAFFLED BY SCRIBES' OBSTINACY

Evangelist Could Not Understand Why Reporters Refused to "Hit the Trail."

"Billy" Sunday's "goat" is not an easy

one to get, as any one who knows the

evangelist will readily admit. He hates

noise and coughing while preaching. He

is a bundle of nerves, but it takes something unusual to phase or disappoint him. The Philadelphia newspapermen certainly disappointed both "Billy" and "Ma" Sun fay in one respect and, perhaps, in two. For some reason unknown to members of the Sunday party, the 30-odd reporters "covering" the revival, with one exception, would not be induced to "hit "the far-famed "sawdust trail," although inducements in the form of coaxing and gentle words were certainly not lacking. "Ma" frankly admitted that the news-papermen here were beyond her under-atanding. "In other cities," she said, "practically all the newspapermen came Some needed a little persuasion

and held out for some weeks, but they were finally convinced."

Another little misunderstanding or Another little misunderstanding on "Ma's" part was evinced when she wished to give the reporters a little parting token of remembrance in the form of money. She explained that in other cities "Billy" had always given the reporters some little gift to show his appreciation of their work and support, and that he wished to do the same in Philadelphia. Not having time to buy individual gifts, gold pieces were produced, which "Ma" said she hoped the newspapermen would accept.

Practically without an exception, the reporters thanked both "Ma" and "Billy" for their kindness, but refused the gift. Autographed "photos" of Sunday were

"I am sorry you will not accept money," "Ma" said. "You Philadelphia money," "Ma" said. "You Philadelphia newspapernien are certainly different from others we have met." The Sunday household, while at meals.

vould often wonder why or how the re-sorters could resist "Billy's" pleading sermons. Some one suggested that many reporters covering the revival were pro-fessed Christians and churchgoers. "That is no reason why they should not come forward and take their stand for Jesus et," was the prompt reply. Philadelphia newspapermen are different from those in other cities, local 'scribes' are inclined to wonder

many newspapermen will "hit the trail in New York. Students as Fire Fighters

Several hundred students of the Uni versity of Pennsylvania, many of them scantily clothed, assembled at 38th and Walnut streets at an early hour this morning to watch firemen extinguish a blaze in a garage at 3801 Walnut street. Many of the students acted as volunteer men in removing furniture and lead-horses from a storage house and stables owned by James Drummond, whose property is directly behind the arage. The fire was extinguished after had damaged the building and auto-nobiles to the extent of \$700. According to the owner of the building, Abel Bottom, the flame in the garage. the flames originated in a car stored

Protest Against Dismissal

A petition signed by more than 100 men Cemetery is said to start a general plan ers of the West Branch, Y. M. C. A. has been sent to the board of manage whereby the city will take over all the descrited cemeteries, clean them up and put them to some use. These cemeteries ment protesting against the dismissal o three of the directing staff and urging that they be reinstated. Officials of the are used as dumping grounds, and as branch say that a \$6000 deficit and conse Health to be a menace to health. An ordinance was passed in Councils last Thursday providing that the city take over the Christian Street Cemetery. ment retrenchment policy necessitated the removal of Frank D. Getty, conducto of services; Jerome Messenger, assistant aihletic director, and Harry Waring, director of boys' activities. The three men were popular among the members. which is bounded by Christian, 2d and 3d

BOOZ BOTTLES BOUGHT

Fancy Prices Paid for Glass Receptacles With a History.

Tradition has passed a shaking hand across her wrinkled brow again and recalled one of her most interesting stories for the benefit of the present generation It is the yarn of E. C. Booz, a Philadel phia distiller of the vintage of 1840, who blew his name in his whisky bottles and so gave birth to a slang term for his

product that goes marching on long after ils body has ceased to. It all came to light yesterday when two collectors paid \$25 and \$20 respectively for two of his original bottles at a sale of the curio collection of Harry B. Harmer, of this city, in the Merwin Galleries, New

Book made his whisky so good that many Philadelphians of the time would recognize no other. To the bartender's classic "Whatllyuave?" they simply replied "Book," and let it go at that.

In "pits of the fact that the old English word "bouse" meant the same thing, and that recognize the same thing. and that some characters in Sheridan's "School for Scandal" "boozed," tradition holds to her story.

There is no question, however, that if the origin of the word is shrouded in doubt its meaning is not.

BATTLE WITH THIEVES WAKES UP MOVIE MEN

Trio of Robbers in Street Duel With Two Watchmen on Lehigh Ave.

A trio of housebreakers emptied two revolvers at Joseph Mohr, a watchman who caught two of the intruders in the home of William Brendsley, at 208 Stella street, early today, and after engaging in running exchange of shots when rein forcements arrived two of the desper-adoes escaped. Brendsley, with John B. Cadiz, another watchman, succeeded in capturing a man who said he was Andrew Semail, 21 years old, 818 Delhi street, who was held at the Ridge and Midvale avewas held at the Ridge and Midvale avenue station house, as an accomplice.

In the chase which followed the attempt to capture the housebreakers many shots were fired and residents in the vicinity rushed from their heds in alarm. Many of the houses on Stella street, near Lehigh avenue, are occupied by actors connected with the Lubin Moving Picture Studio pensity, and few vicinity is a stationary of the station of the statio Studio nearby, and from windows and doorways many of them got pointers on a genuine thief chase.

BROTHER ARRESTS BROTHER

Young Man Disappeared With Money and Jewelry.

and Jewelry.

Daniel McGuckin, an 18-year-old youth from Baltimore, visited his brother-in-law, Joseph Mayer, of 2549 Corlies street, last month. When he had gone Mayer discovered that \$137 in money and \$60 in jewelry had also disappeared. Acting Detective Kiett, of the 35th and York streets police station, found Daniel at 5th and Vine streets late last night, and arrested him on a warrant obtained by Mayer. He will be given a chance to explain at Ceutral station this morning. According to Klett, Daniel admits that he helped himself to the money and jewhe helped himself to the money and fewelry, after which he went to Allentown with a "pall." They were enjoying life there, he said, when he awoke one morning to flad that the "pal" and all that was left of the \$137 were gone. Dan-iel traveled back to Philadelphia on a brake beam. He says he never cared much for Allentown, anyhow

To Mark Bridge Opening With Feast The opening of Passyunk bridge, April , will be celebrated by a joint banquet of the Woodland Avenue Business Men's Association and the Elmwood Avenue Husiness Men's Association. Three repre-sentatives from each organization are now making plans for the dinner.

POLICE SURPRISE YEGGS; CAPTURE AFTER CHASE

Men Drop Diamonds and Jewelry in Street as Bluecoats Pursue Them.

A thick steel door, erected a year ago, after a robbery, failed to hamper two alleged yeggmen, who sawed their way into the jewelry store of Leon Goldstein, at 703 Girard avenue, early today and left a trail of gems in their wake when Policemen Schmidt and Franze surprized them and captured the pair, after firing several shots.

The men were arraigned before Magistrate Emely at the 8th and Jefferson streets police station, where they feigned ignorance of English. They made known. nowever, that they were Joe Anirimowsky, 324 Newmarket street, and Joe Pawi-lowksi, 1212 Poplar street. More than \$1000 worth of Jewelry which they dropped in their flight was produced as evidence against them and they were held without

GORDON'S LOVE GROWS COLD: JILTED WIDOW ASKS \$5000

Comely Fiancee Enters Suit for Heart Balm.

Yetta Rosenblatt, a young widow, has entered suit against Isadore Gordon, of 1718 South 5th street, to recover \$5000 damages for breach of promise of mar-

Gordon was a close friend of the plaintiff's husband, who died four years ago. The defendant is engaged in the ago. The defendant is engaged in the business of collecting and selling antiques and old furniture. He is alleged to have started paying marked attentions to Mrs. Rosenblatt in the early part of 1914. He was very attentive to the widow, who frequently assisted him at his place of business, and when he proposed marriage in April of last year Mrs. Rosenblatt readily accepted him as her future husband. Their intimate relationship continued until January when, the plaintiff says, Gordon evinced a feeling of indifference and expressed himself as unwilling to marry Mrs. Rosenblatt. as unwilling to marry Mrs. Rosenblatt. Charles L. Smyth, who represents the charles it. Smyth, who represents the illted widow, presented her affidavit in Court of Common Pleas No. 4 today, with the result that Judge Audenried ailowed a capias for the arrest of Gordon fixing ball at \$1000.

Going to the Expositions? Don't Miss Colorado Scenery

No one can be indifferent to the beauty and grandeur of the Colorado Rocky Mountain scenery, and visitors to the California expositions make a point of seeing it. Also Denver. Colorado Springs, Pueblo, the Royal Gorge, and Salt Lake City.

Now there's no extra charge for all this if you go via Burlington Route (C., B. & Q.), because it so happens that the through service of that line has been planned so that you pass all

has been planned so that you pass all of these points by daylight, and you can view from the train a panorama of mountain scenery that is as celebrated as any in the world.

Surely on your way, you will not miss this opportunity and I would like to send you, free, some pictures, maps and printed matter, not only of the Colorado wonders, but also of Glacier Park or Yellowstone Park, which, by all means, you should visit on the return trip. Please make use of me—let me help plan the trip for you. Call on or write

write Wm. Austin, General Agent Passen-ger Dept., C., B. & Q. R. R. Co., 836 Chestnut St., Philadelphia. Phone Wal-nut 765.

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"I got an idea: made a suggestion, carried it out, and now our income is \$5000 a year and steadily increasing. Our name is beginning to stand for something."

The wife herself tells the idea (that other wives can copy) in the great series, "How I Helped My Husband to Make More Money," in the April

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