

DR. ADAMS RESIGNS TO SHIELD OTHERS

Former Pastor Here Quits Mt. Vernon, N. Y., Church to Protect Philadelphians

DENIES HE IS "FALSIFIER"

The Rev. George D. Adams, former pastor of the Chestnut Street Baptist Church, Fortieth and Chestnut streets, divorced and remarried within a month, has resigned his pastorate of the First Baptist Church, at Mount Vernon, N. Y.

In a sermon he announced his decision was final and that it followed circumstances which caused him to be unjustly termed a falsifier. He said in concluding something very necessary he was defending two prominent Philadelphians, "high in the service of the Master."

"Some day the facts will be perfectly clear," he continued. "I seem to stand before you an untruthful man, but God Almighty knows that I am not. My lips have been sealed. I have suffered and I am abiding some people high up in the service of the Master who would have to step down and out. I have not done what I have been doing, and I am not going to name the people."

"It would clear the atmosphere, but I would be a traitor as a man. So forget me, and don't quarrel about me. Don't try to defend me. I need no defense. You don't have to defend Jesus, Paul or the Saints. If you love me, don't sign about me. Please drop it. I am thinking of the wonderful possibilities of the Church."

Dr. Adams did not go into any detail, but he said he had entered the pulpit with a broken heart, at a time when a word would have cleared everything, but would have damned some one.

The announcement came upon the heels of reported differences of opinion among the congregation over their pastor's matrimonial adventures. The superintendent of the Sunday school had resigned and there was a falling out in attendance at the church.

Dr. Adams declined to discuss the matter today. "I have nothing more to say," he said, "and will not go into the matter any further at this time."

The Rev. Dr. William H. Main, 1618 North Sixteenth street, who was one of Dr. Adams' closest friends when he was at the Chestnut Street Baptist Church, said he could not imagine what Dr. Adams meant by his remarks. "He was holding two persons high up in the service of the Master in Philadelphia," Dr. Adams never told me of any trouble he had with Philadelphia ministers," said Dr. Main. "and I am at a loss to explain his statements."

Dr. Adams was pastor of the Chestnut Street Baptist Church from 1908 until 1918. He then went to the Mount Vernon Church. It was after he had been there a year that rumors of divorce action were first heard. Suddenly, after a prayer meeting, he asked the women members of the congregation to go to one room and the men to go to another. To the women one of the female ushers announced their pastor was seeking a divorce from his wife, based on conduct alleged to have been confessed to him and their twenty-two-year-old son. At the same time a similar announcement was made to the men.

In March he got the divorce. His wife was living in Atlantic City, and in interviews denied she had done anything more than flirt with men who were in a position to advance her husband.

A month after the divorce, Dr.

Pastor as Martyr



THE REV. GEORGE D. ADAMS
Dr. Adams, former pastor of the Chestnut Street Baptist Church here, has resigned the pastorate of the First Baptist Church of Mount Vernon, N. Y., rather than explain a position which makes him apparently a falsifier. He says to explain would harm two Philadelphians.

Adams was married to Mrs. Cora V. Killen, widow of M. N. Killen, 4511 Pine street, this city. The ceremony was performed in New York. Dr. Adams gave his age as fifty-six and Mrs. Killen gave hers as fifty-one. When news was first made public

that Dr. Adams was seeking a divorce, last December, his first wife asserted that the real reason behind it was his friendship for Mrs. Killen, who had been an influential member of the West Philadelphia congregation. The pastor and Mrs. Killen both denied this.

It was stated later, after the divorce was granted, that Dr. Adams had had some sort of an agreement with the board of his church at Mt. Vernon not to remarry for two years. But his remarriage came a month after the divorce decree.

WOMEN BACK CANDIDATE

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The Delaware County Association of Women's Clubs has indorsed the candidacy of Mrs. Annie Mallick, of Swarthmore, for State Representative from the Second Legislative District. An active canvass is now being made for her election.

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