

"MAGNETISM OF THE CROSS" IS SUBJECT OF FAREWELL SERMON

**Rev. W. C. Wauchope Ends Charge as
Pastor of Second Presbyterian Church
to Go to Whiteville.**

"When a group of navigators sailed in Straights of Magellan and into the broad expanse of water to the west of them, they gave the name Pacific to the ocean, for, said they, this water has peace under the sign of the Southern Cross. In like manner, there is peace for the Christian under the Cross of Christ. No matter where we seek, there is no other place where that perfect peace may be found. All have sinned against the eternal God and dare not meet Him and there is only one chance to 'get right' and that is beneath the cross.

"Friends, has the cross drawn you? Has that magnet pulled you from your worldly ways? Has Jesus come into your life? If so then there is rest—peace."

In these words, Rev. W. C. Wauchope concluded his last Sunday morning service at the Second Presbyterian Church yesterday morning on "The Magnetism of the Cross." Mr. Wauchope has recently resigned his charge here and goes this week to Whiteville, where he has accepted a pastorate.

Before the service Mr. Wauchope was presented by his members with a handsomely fitted leather bag and a number of socks and Mrs. Wauchope was given a beautiful beaded bag and a set of silver ice-tea spoons. The following verses were attached to the presents:

"Sobebody cares! what a world of woe
Lifts from our hearts when we really
 know
That somebody really and truly cares,
And we want you to know and we feel
 that you do
That somebody always is caring for you".

and—

"There are friends whose worth is more
 than gold,
And you are such to us
In our heart of hearts a place you hold
Hallowed with love untold."

In the introduction, Mr. Wauchope said that he would not preach a farewell sermon. His aim, he said, had always been to preach Jesus and Him crucified and that he had always tried to put Bill Wauchope as much out of the pulpit as possible. The text for the sermon was taken from St. John 12:32: "And if I be lifted up from the earth I will draw all men to me."

"These were strange words to fall from the founder of a religion. Empires and kingdoms have fallen when the founders died. The Jews could not understand the words of Jesus. They wanted a king to come with the blare of trumpets and the waving of banners and they could not see how their king should be born lowly and be crucified."

Jesus had the temptation, Mr. Wauchope said, of taking the easy way. All the people followed Him in hope of crowning Him and one of His disciples said: "Master, do not all men follow you." He might have been crowned king and taken the easy path. The same temptation came in the wilderness but the presence of the Greek Gentiles encouraged Him. Whilst He might alienate His own people, still others would accept and today there are millions who follow Him and multitudes who bow at His name.

Why is it? questioned Mr. Wauchope. Let us think for a while about the magnetism of the cross.

"The cross is a powerful magnet. It has a tremendous pulling power. It draws men contrary to their natural inclinations." At this point Mr. Wauchope told of the powerful electro magnets he had seen in Canada and how they pulled heavy loads from part of the shop to another. The pull was much the same in the case of Christianity. The Cross had a pull which made men leave the path of their natural inclinations. It was no trouble for a person to get a following if he appealed to the natural desires of self-indulgence and love of ease.

"Jesus draws men contrary to their natural inclinations," stated Mr. Wauchope. "He draws them to a life of self-denial, of self restraint. He calls us from a life of lust. The world calls us to pleasure. There are those who will not play cards, go to the theatre and dance because of their love for Jesus. Those people are denying themselves lives of self-indulgence. They are among the multitudes who are working overtime for Jesus. They are in the army of workers with no thought of gain. The world calls to a love of money. There are followers of Christ who are denying themselves not only money but even the necessities."

For a brief period, Mr. Wauchope questioned his hearers directly, asking them how much pull the Cross had on them and how much they were denying and sacrificing. Then he ascribed several reasons why it was that the Cross was so attractive. It set forth, he said, in a dramatic way a life of love. It demonstrated the fact that "No man has greater love than this, that he lay down his life for his friend." Jesus used this truth. Where Napoleon built his empire on force, Jesus built his on love. Then too, continued Mr. Wauchope, the Cross manifested the love of God. It shows that God has come down to meet us.

At one place in the service, the report from the treasurer of the building committee was heard. This report gave in detail the account of the money spent in the recent construction of the hut which the church put up for recreational purposes. A sum of almost \$5,000 was spent in the building. Among the principal contributors to the building were the Citizens Bank and Trust Co., which gave to the church \$2,000, and C. A. Cannon, who also gave \$2,000.

Mr. Wauchope, who is concluding his pastorate at the Second Presbyterian Church, has been pastor for almost seven years. During this time, he has not only been very popular with his own congregation but also with the church-people throughout Concord. Members of the congregation expressed themselves as being very sorry that Mr. and Mrs. Wauchope had seen fit to leave Concord.
