

LEARNED DIVINE DR. WILSON.

The Accomplishments of Lamented Minister Told.

The following notice of the death of Dr. James Herbert Wilson, of South Carolina, is taken from The Lutheran of Philadelphia.

"The death of Dr. James Herbert Wilson, D. D., removed from earthly activities one of the foremost leaders in our church in the South. He was taken suddenly ill while apparently enjoying his usual good health, and died within a few hours of a severe heart attack, July 8, at Sumter.

"Dr. Wilson was born April 16, 1854, at Williamston. His parents, Delaney Lane Wilson, M. D., and Hannah Barrett Wilson, both died in 1857, leaving their younger children to the care of foster parents. James, at the age of three, was cared for in the home of Mrs. Kerr, in Saluda (then Edgefield) county. Although his parents had been Baptists, he grew to manhood amid Lutheran faith, and was ever its staunch defender. His desire for an education was gratified by his foster parents sending him to Newberry College as a member of the class of '77. He was awarded the college oratorical medal for an address on 'The Human Face,' unexcelled in college annals for uniqueness, beauty of thought and eloquence. He completed his course at the Theological seminary, Salem, Va., in 1880, and was ordained by the South Carolina Synod in November of the same year. His ministry of 39 years included the following pastorates: Early Branch, 1880-83; Cameron, 1883-88; Ehrhardt 1888-1902; Salisbury, 1902-07; Orangeburg, 1910-13; Sumter, 1914-19. He also served as the financial agent of the Salem Orphan Home, 1907-08, in the canvass for the cancellation of a debt of \$17,000; and in a similar connection with Marion College, 1913-14. He was a member of the board of trustees of Newberry College, and also served on the board of Mont Amoenia Seminary while he was a member of the North Carolina synod. As a member of the board of directors of the Southern Theological Seminary he served as its president. Newberry College conferred on him the A. M. degree in 1880, and that of doctor of divinity in 1905.

"Dr. Wilson was president of the

South Carolina Synod for two terms. On the floor of synod no member surpassed him in his grasp of conditions, and he carried his knowledge into effect along with his splendid executive ability. He was able to narrate with marvelous accuracy the most minute details of complex issues and difficult questions which concerned the synod. He was firm but fair in his convictions and commanded the respect and confidence of the entire synod. His influence extended beyond synodical bounds to the general body, to which he was sent as a delegate more often, perhaps, than any other pastor.

"Companionship with Dr. Wilson was the delight of his friends and parishoners. Modesty was one of his chief virtues as a minister and a man. His sermons bore the imprint of earnest preparation and thoughtfulness of the needs of the people. The gospel of his Lord and Savior was his theme, and he made it the pattern of his own life.

"In 1879 he married Miss Mary L. Dunlop, of Salem, Va. She died in 1898. He also lost a son, Robert Dunlop, in 1917. One son and three daughters survive—Lawrence L., of Palmetto, Fla.; Mrs. C. E. Betts and Miss Harriett B. Wilson, Atlanta, Ga., and Miss Pauline Wilson, Northfield, Mass. Services were held at his late home in Sumter, July 11, where he was pastor of St. James' church. Addresses were made by M. O. J. Kreps, D. D., president of the board of directors of the Southern Theological Seminary; A. G. Voigt, D. D., LL. D., dean of the seminary, and H. A. McCullough, D. D., pastor of St. Paul's church, Columbia, all of whom testified to the character and eminent services of Dr. Wilson. Dr. Brunson, of the Sumter Baptist church, paid a beautiful tribute on behalf of the Sumter Ministerial Association of which Dr. Wilson was president at the time of his death, declaring that he was loved and admired by the entire community without regard to creed, and that his simple faith in Christ had made a profound impression upon the entire city.

"The final service was held Sunday, July 13, at Mt. Pleasant church, Ehrhardt, S. C., amidst the scenes of his longest pastorate. The service was in charge of Dr. Kreps, assisted by the pastor loci, P. D. Risinger. S. W. Copeland, a former parishoner, bore tender testimony to the virtues of his pastor and friend. Here in the

church yard the mortal remains of Dr. Wilson were laid to rest beside those of his wife and his son, and in the presence of a large congregation of sorrowing friends."

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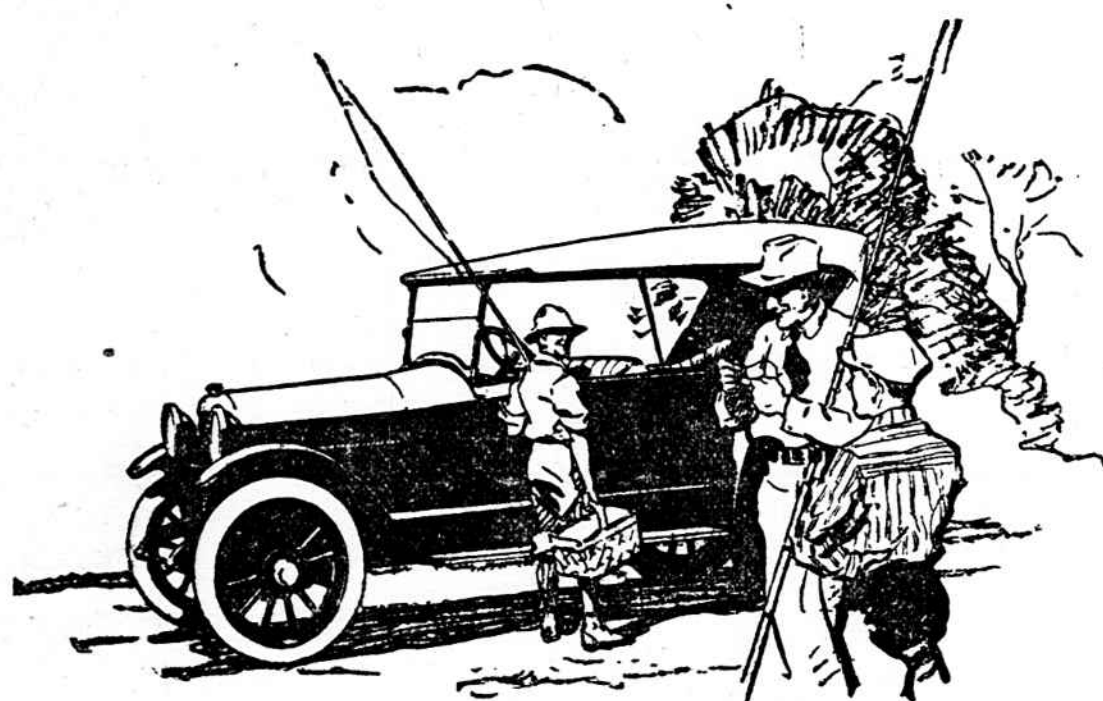
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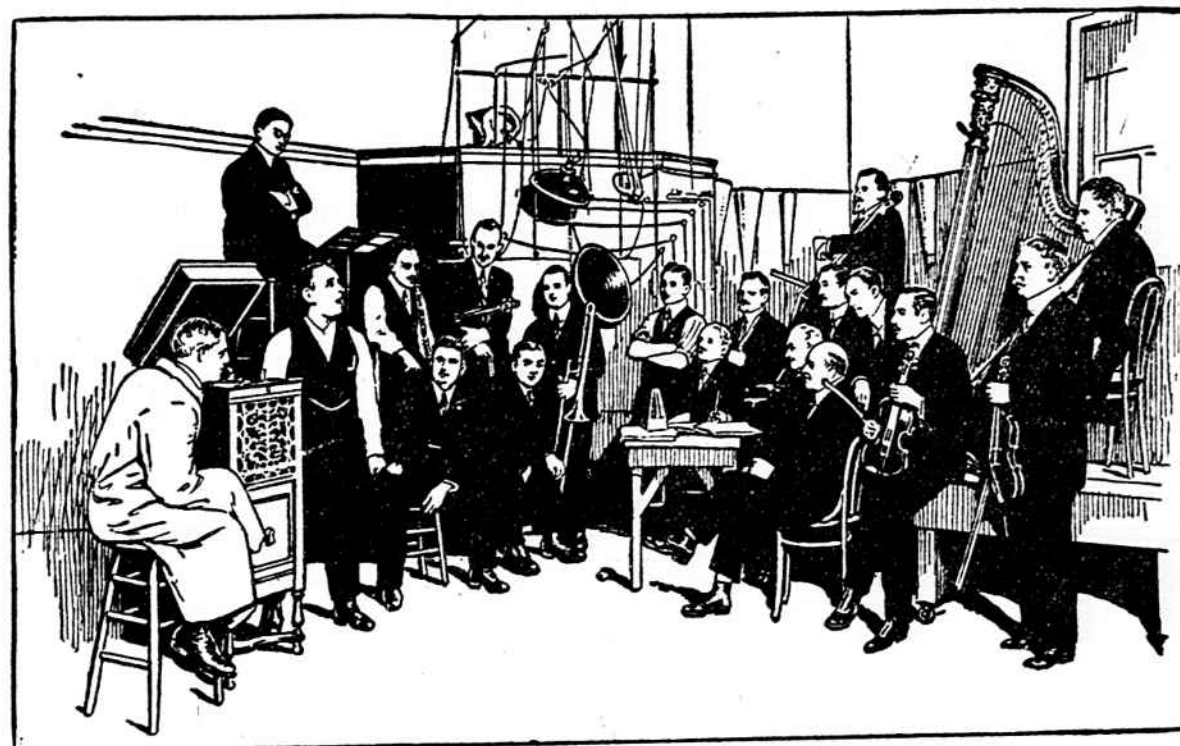
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