"Blame the Devil" Topeka Daily Herald (July 30, 1906)

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BLAME THE DEVIL

Parham Says He Caused San Francisco Disaster.

SAYS HARRIS WILL WIN

But Tells People Not to "Lay It on to God."

Also Says Church Fairs With Fish Ponds Are Sending Many Souls to Punishment.

Charles F. Parham told the people who assembled to hear him preach at the Auditorium yesterday that the San Francisco disaster was the work of the devil after God had removed his protecting arm from the city on account of its wickedness. "If God would remove his protecting arm from Topeka," he said ominously, "the devil would wipe it out before tomorrow."

In another address in the afternoon Mr. Parham said that the next Governor of Kansas would be W. A. Harris and the next President of the United States Teddy Roosevelt. "You need not lay this onto God," he said, although he did not place the blame. He also predicted a repetition of the French Revolution in America and said Roosevelt would assume dictatorship. This same Mr. Parham said that prohibition in Kansas is a farce and that liquor will be sold in Topeka Gabriel blows his horn.

In his evening talk he declared hired ministers are grafters and said that "church fairs with their fish ponds and all that rot are sending more souls to Hell than all the vice in the world."

Charles F. Parham is the man who conducted a Bible school at Stone's Folly west of Washburn college six years ago. At that time his school claimed to have received the "gift of tongues" and the members claimed to be able to talk in various languages without having studied them. Their conversation in any but the
English language was not very intelligible at that time. Parham has been preaching on the street corners since coming back to Topeka and yesterday used the Auditorium. About 100 people attended each one of his meetings.

The pipe organ was not used at any of the meetings yesterday. Mr. Parham said that he wished to dispense with the instrumental music and reduce religion to as much simplicity as possible.

In the morning's talk he made very little reference to his announced subject. Beyond referring to what is said in the Bible about the matter he left the audience in the dark as to Cain's wife and the place of his courtship.

The morning's talk was prefaced with a description of the sufferings of the Jews in Russia. He maintained that these conditions, as well as the in confirmation of the biblical prophesy of the approach of the last days. The Jews returning to Jerusalem, were greater part of the remainder of his morning's talk was taken up with a description of the creation and formation of the earth as he interprets it from study of the Bible and geology. According to his idea the different crusts of the earth were formed by the rolling of boiling lava, breaking out the interior of the earth.

in the afternoon he stuck pretty close to his subject. He predicted a great struggle between capital and labor. "The French Revolution will be repeated in America," he declared.
During this calamitous period he predicted that Roosevelt would assume dictatorship. Continuing his talk about socialism he said that the socialistic form of government which would be in control would be the last form of rule before the second coming of Christ. In speaking along this thought he said that the laboring classes were opposed to the modern church organization with their "settled, salaried ministers." In connection with modern preachers he said: "The preachers are telling that the world is getting better and better just as a graft for getting their salaries. In some factory towns the preachers are hired by the factory owners and are paid to tell the working men that the obeying of the magnates in the whole thing. Civilization reached its acme in 1892, but society has been retrograding ever since. The modern church will not save the world and if Christ does not come soon the next century will relapse into civilized barbarism and from that into savagery."

In speaking of the retrogression of society he said that the Thaw-White case, instead of being an exception, was the rule in high life--only that this instance was found out because it came to the surface. Coming closer to home he said, "I could tell some warm things about Topeka, but I haven't the time."

Concluding, he took up the temperance question. He thinks that prohibition is of no avail and that temperance societies are a graft.

In support of these ideas he said: "If men are to drink they
will get it some way. There is no such thing as prohibition in Kansas. Prohibition is a farce. There will be liquor sold in Topeka when Gabriel blows his horn if Topeka is existing then. If God will send a wave of salvation over Kansas it will do more good than prohibition. If men will foolishly drink themselves to death after the price of liquor has been lowered by the removal of taxes and license, why let them. Then a new generation can be raised. The entire temperance society is merely a graft for a salary."