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## "Fifty have Gift of Tongues at Zion City" Daily Sun (Nov 15, 1906)

Charles F. Parham

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## FIFTY HAVE GIFT OF TONGUES AT ZION CITY

*Nov. 15  
1906  
Daily Sun*

### In Midst of Prayer Break Furth Into Strange Languages and Speak

HOW THEY LOOK AND HOW  
THEY ACT UNDER THE SPELL

People Who Have Investigated in  
Scoffing Mood Have Some of Them  
Received the Gift They Doubt-  
ed in Others.

On a moderate estimate fifty peo-  
ple of Zion City are gifted with the  
Pentecostal spirit and speak strange  
tongues when moved of the Spirit.

The city is in the throes of a re-  
ligious excitement that it lacked in  
the best days of Dowie The Great and  
slowly but surely the deposed First  
Apostle is taking on in the eyes of his  
quondam followers the respect due a  
true prophet.

This is by reason of a prophecy  
that Dowie made in his palmy days:  
That a day was coming when his peo-  
ple would speak strange languages  
for the gospel's sake. It has come  
true, and Zion City gasps.

#### Two Who Talk in Chinese.

The SUN today interviewed one of  
the leading business men of Zion  
City, one who has extensive business  
interests in Waukegan also. He told  
of attending a meeting at which  
strange and almost unbelievable  
things happened, and because they  
are a part of the day's work and took  
place in Lake county, the SUN is re-  
counting them.

At this meeting, one of the usual  
Parham type, held in a residence, 300  
had been present. Fifty stayed to  
the after meeting. All were praying,  
kneeling on the floor, with rapt faces  
upturned. Some mumbled. Others  
spoke aloud. Others kept silence.

#### The Gift of the Tongues.

Then, without warning, something  
happened.

"The Holy Ghost descended upon  
us," the people who prayed will tell  
you.

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us," the people who prayed will tell  
you.

However true that is, Deacon Rogers  
never saw the people speak in Chinese.  
He never saw China and does not know the lan-  
guage to a normal state. He prayed  
in the language of the pig-tailed peo-  
ple.

By his side knelt 20-year-old Jessie  
Campbell, daughter to Dugald Camp-  
bell, hard-headed Scotchman. The  
girl began to speak in Chinese soon  
also and after a time the two, Deacon  
Rogers and the pretty Scotch girl,  
were conversing in a tongue unknown  
to them, the lingo that the chop suey  
folk talk.

"I know it was Chinese, because I  
used to teach a Chinese Sunday  
school class," said the witness simply.

#### How the Speakers Looked.

The people who had the "gift" are  
described as having rapt and happy  
expressions on their faces.

"There was nothing but joy to be  
noted," says the witness. "They did  
not look at all unnatural, simply sub-  
limely happy."

The gift ordinarily lasts about an  
hour. Deacon Rogers claims to have  
prayed and spoken in tongues all  
night.

Elder Fockler came over from  
Michigan to investigate the strange  
sect and was completely converted,  
the last heard of him being that he  
was addressing audiences in strange  
tongues.

Jessie Campbell is now speaking in  
a Chicago Parham mission and is said  
to have addressed the gathering in  
Arabic the other night and to have  
sung in Greek, neither language  
known to her before.

One lady, Miss Mabel Smith, of  
Houston, Texas, pronounced address-  
es in divers tongues, branching off from  
English into Holland Dutch for in-  
stance. She is an educated woman  
and an ex-school teacher.

#### What the Theory is.

Parhamites believe that the Chris-  
tian can become possessed of nine  
gifts as spoken in Corinthians 12, the  
seventh, eighth and ninth being re-  
spectively the gift of tongues, the in-  
terpretation of tongues and the see-  
ing of spirits.

They believe that first one must re-  
pent and beg forgiveness, which act if  
sincere brings a sense that one's sins  
have been forgiven, a state called  
sanctification, which is followed if it  
is seen fit, by the bestowal of the gift  
of the tongues.