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### "Former Galena Preacher May Oust Overseer Voliva" Daily Waukegan (Sept 26, 1906)

Charles F. Parham

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FORMER GALENA PREACHER  
MAY OUST OVERSEER VOLIVA

CHAS. F. PARHAM, FOUNDER OF THE APOSTOLIC FAITH IN  
GALENA, IS CAUSING FORMER FOLLOWERS OF DOWIE TO  
TURN FROM THE LEADERSHIP OF OVERSEER VOLIVA.

Chas. F. Parham, leader of the Apostolic faith, and who two years ago created quite a stir in religious circles in this city, has come into the limelight of publicity again in his seeming easy conquest of Zion City, late home of John Alexander Dowie. And in his short and swift crusade, he has placed General Overseer Voliva on the defensive.

Rev. Chas. F. Parham of Kansas announces that God has directed him to lead the former followers of Zion away from the paths of commercialism in which they are being guided by General Overseer Voliva. Although Parham went to Zion City only ten days ago from Topeka without a friend in the city, he now has a following of more than 300 members of the church who hail him as their leader.

General Overseer Voliva, who succeeded in ousting John Alexander Dowie from control of the church at the recent elections, has taken steps to combat the influence of the new leader. He has rented the tabernacle the college building and the four school buildings in order to secure control of all halls where Parham may seek to hold meetings. As a result the Kansas prophet has been compelled to preach in the homes of his followers, but the crowds have increased to such an extent that he now is compelled to preach in the open air.

Parham claims that he has taken a deep interest in the Zionist movement since its inception, and has followed the teachings of Dowie. He asserts that God appeared to him

in a dream two weeks ago and told him that Voliva was a false prophet and would lead the people of Zion City into ruin. Ten days ago Parham says that 'the spirit' again appeared to him at Topeka and commanded him to go at once to Zion and combat the evil influence of Voliva. Parham claims to hold his appointment as 'spiritual adviser of the church of Zion' direct from the supreme being.

It is declared should Parham succeed in winning over the majority of the members of the church he can call an election and oust Voliva from his position as general overseer according to the ruling of Judge Landis.

Rev. Parham is a short man with glossy black hair and black eyes, having a weak voice and not a very strong speaker, but his emotion and evidence sincerity, is claimed to carry conviction and that he is rapidly making converts.

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The Daily Sun, Waukegan, Ill., Wednesday, Sept. 26, 1906

"KINGDOM COME"  
PARHAM MAKES  
BIG CONVERTS

Evangelist who Recently Invaded  
Zion has A.F. Lee, Formerly of Waukegan

VOLIVA REGARDS HIM  
AS MENACE--WILL FIGHT.

Says That He is Winning People at a  
Critical Time in the History of  
the Church; People Volatile  
is Charged.

A new leader has arisen in Zion City. He is Charles F. Parham, an evangelist of the Apostolic Faith, a sect that has 5,000 followers, chiefly in Kansas and California. In a single

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week he has attracted several hundred followers, and last night General Overseer Voliva held a special meeting of officers of the church to see if some prompt and effective measures could not be taken against the proselyter. His converts include some of the prominent elders.

"You must choose either me or this intruder who has stolen into our church," said Voliva at the meeting at Zion college.

"You can not serve two leaders. This man is winning some of our most faithful people from their allegiance at a critical time. The only thing that will enable us to wether the present storm, is unity. I fear that this unity is threatened."

Meanwhile Parham was holding an enthusiastic meeting at the residence of John Clarr not more than a block away from the college. The house was crowded and the congregation covered the lawn.

"I have come to save the people of Zion from the selfishness and bigotry of their leaders," said the evangelist, boldly.

"Four months ago I saw Zion City in a vision, and the troubles of its people were made clear to me. 'Arise and go to Zion and take up the burden of an oppressed people,' a voice said to me. I am here and will bring you out of all your difficulties if you will trust in me."

"We will," shouted more than 300 people with the vim that formerly greeted the utterance of John Alexander Dowie.

Parham's most important convert is A.F. Lee, who resigned during the day his position as general ecclesisatical secretary of the church. W.H. Peckham, who was manager of the Zion City bank until two weeks ago, is another, and George A. Rogers, manager of Elijah Hospice, is another.

### Zion Near Collapse

Zion City is said by the few faithful who still kneel at Dowie's feet to be on the verge of collapse before an onslaught by two score of prophets, evangelists, mormons, free love advocates and personal religious leaders who descended on the city when Dowie was set aside. A prophecy made by Dowie himself that false leaders alone could bring wreck to Zion's kingdom is said to be nearing fulfillment.

Decisive action to cut the weeds of religious discontent out of Zion and the lopping of many official heads are said to be under contemplation by Overseer Voliva. He has given public indication of his purpose of a general house cleaning by denunciation in the tabernacle of Deacon G.A. Rogers, manager of Elijah hospice, who is a leading follower of Charles F. Parham, by many regarded as a possible rival of Voliva for religious premiership.

Nest to the teaching of Parham, the influence of Mrs. Lucy Crosby, a prophetess who has a large following, especially among the men of Zion City, is said to have brought the schism to a crisis.

### Rogers May be Removed.

Deacon Rogers startled Zion City by allowing Parham to use the chapel of Elijah hospice for one of his first meetings. This act brought two public drubbings for Rogers from Voliva and, it is said, will result in his removal from the charge of the hospice.