

RELIGIOUS.

# SERMONS ON UNION ETHICS?

*Request With a Questionable  
Laborite Motive.*

*Twenty-second Milestone of  
Popular Church.*

*New Pastor of First Baptist  
Church Arrives.*

Apropos of the announcement by a number of ministers that they will preach sermons tomorrow, in response to the request of the Labor Day Committee of the Federation of Labor, it would seem pertinent to call their attention to some recent events.

It would be an easy matter to cite instances in Los Angeles where ministers have been misled into a wrong course of action, just because some designing persons have set up false premises and demanded their affirmation of it, inasmuch as the desire of ministers to avoid even a semblance of wrong would prevent their taking the opposite course. Everybody gives them credit for sincerity, and they are held in universal respect, so that there is no one who desires to impugn their motives. This very belief in them makes them more easily the prey of designing persons, who would use them for selfish ends.

On the threshold of this day upon which they have been asked to preach labor sermons, on the ground that "union ethics are sound," the labor union strikers of Los Angeles, heartlessly and with brutality unbelievable, attacked free mechanics as they were bearing the body of their dead comrade from the building in which he was accidentally killed.

Every day for weeks these strikers have openly defied the laws of the city and beaten innocent and defenseless men, who were earning bread for their families, and for which the brutal unionists have been tried and punished, only to repeat the offense.

If labor sermons are preached, men of the cloth should be just as careful to condemn in the strongest language fitting to the pulpit these unlawful acts of hateful brutality, as to laud the virtues of organized labor.

There is a covert threat in the words the Labor Day Committee has addressed to the ministers, when it says: "Ministers should say what they think on the occasion, in order that their trade-union hearers may put the right estimate as to where the church stands on the question of organized labor."

It surely would be well for a minister to give careful thought to what he says, when he is asked to laud an organization that creates turmoil, strikes and boycotts in the city of Los Angeles and hesitates not at violence of any sort.

Every reasonable man is in favor of peaceable and decent organization among laborers, as well as among others who strive for personal betterment, and no decent man, even by inference, should trifle with the thugs and law-breakers.