

**CIVIC
RIGHTEOUSNESS AND
CIVIC PRIDE, PP. 1-196**

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Civic Righteousness and Civic Pride, pp. 1-196 by Newton Marshall Hall

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Municipal Buildings, Springfield, Massachusetts



CIVIC RIGHTEOUSNESS AND CIVIC PRIDE

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TO THE MEMORY OF MY BELOVED WIFE

LOUISE

WHOSE LIFE IS THE INSPIRATION OF MY LIFE

"This is the same voice: can thy soul know change?
Hail then, and hearken from the realms of help!
. . . That still, despite the distance and the dark,
What was, again may be: some interchange
Of grace, some splendor once thy very thought,
Some benediction anciently thy smile."

gc.
Victor F. Brown.
6-12-30

PREFACE

The problems which are the most vital and most interesting to the great mass of our people are civic problems. National questions are more remote and unreal. Life centers in the city; its governmental functions concern the family, the individual, our own flesh and blood, directly. The education of children, the righteous administration of the business of the community, communal rights, the preservation of law and order, the housing of the population, the care of the poor, the suppression of vice, the treatment of the alien, the inter-relation of men and women, all these matters and many others come home to us with directness and force. These questions are absorbing the attention of very many thoughtful men and women; they are the concern of such great organizations as the National Municipal League and the National Economic League. Much literature is in existence upon the technical and administrative aspects of these problems; very little has been written upon the moral side.

Yet these questions are all at bottom, moral questions. They cannot be settled by schemes

PREFACE

and projects, however well thought out, nor by model city charters, nor by the referendum, nor by any other similar device alone. The final factor is the human factor, the redeemed man in the redeemed city, and no solution is possible which does not take into consideration the teaching of the Master of Men. The sermons contained in this volume were prepared with this belief profoundly in view. They aim to discuss civic questions from the old prophetic standpoint modified by the vision of Jesus as it must be worked out in terms of every day living. At the time they were delivered they were widely quoted by the daily press. And they are now printed upon the insistence on the part of many friends that they will be helpful to others than those to whom they were immediately addressed.