

at Officer Sullivan observing he had wreaked so spontaneous a Justice upon the head of a clergyman, and fearing his unpremeditated act might gain him a suspension, at once started in pursuit of Pastor Versie, who, unconscious of the assault upon his colleague, was still walking rapidly along, gesticulating with his arms and declaring in a loud voice that he "perverted nothing."

At the moment, however, when Officer Sullivan was about to place the clergyman under arrest, the young Mr. S. Trundle-Dick on the steps of the Reconciliation glanced from his watch toward that section of the park in which he had last observed the two pastors. But seeing the Rt. Rev. Fundament stretched senseless on the walk and the Rt. Rev. Versie being pursued by a policeman, Mr. Trundle-Dick assumed the worst.

He dashed into church and scrambled into a pulpit.

—The debate has already ended! he cried. Pastor Versie forty one seconds ago shot down Pastor Fundament in cold blood!

Within the limits of human imagination it would be impossible to conceive of an announcement, timed and promulgated, to precipitate a more violent series of explosions in the minds of those assembled for the debate. Within less than two minutes the fighting had become general.

Under the furious feet of the combatants, women and little children were crushed to pulp. Hymn books whistled through the air. A hassock hurled by some deadly hand wiped everyone, including the organist, off the organ seat. The lectern was overthrown.

Adding to the pandemonium, the balcony cracking under the unaccustomed strain of battle, gave way and lowered its writhing mass of combatants onto the heads of those struggling below. While the microphone, having broadcast Mr. Trundle-Dick's terrifying announcement, now reported the struggle to its one hundred million silent listeners with such fragmentary remarks as: "slammin... leggo a her... kewjak dolton... etc. etc."

Which being correctly interpreted by the one hundred million silent listeners to mean that a physical, rather than a spiritual, debate was being celebrated in the Church of the Reconciliation, they at once abandoned their radios and by example fell to rioting in the streets.