

Wife's Skirts Shield Petting Parson; Jail His Next Haven

CHICAGO, Feb. 11.—The Rev. Finis Jennings Dake, pastor of the Christian Assembly church of Zion, was sheltered yesterday behind the skirts of his wife, Dorothy, as he prepared to leave his congregation next Monday for a six months' stay in the Milwaukee house of correction. He was sentenced by Federal Judge F. A. Geiger in Milwaukee Tuesday for violating the Mann act. The petting parson pleaded guilty and asked mercy.

"I'm his guardian now, and there will be no more statements, pictures or interviews," asserted Mrs. Dake adamantly. "This is a close case now."

But it wasn't a close case to the Rev. Wilbur Glenn Voliva, overseer of the Christian Catholic church of Zion. As overseer of the church, Voliva for years has been head man of the city and he resents the intrusion of rival churchmen.

The overseer was amused and indignant by turns. What amused him most and caused him to laugh heartily for more than a minute, was Dake's assertion to his con-

gregation at a "vindication service" Tuesday night that he was disgusted with the devil and, if he could, he would grab the devil's tail and wrap it around a tree.

"It would be more fitting, Voliva told an interviewer, "if the devil would wrap Dake around a tree."

To Overseer Voliva, Dake's church is the "monkey house," and his congregation are "nitwits." No one but nitwits, said the overseer, would accept Dake's story that he had taken the 16-year-old Kenosha, Wis., high school girl to three hotels and to East St. Louis merely to pray for her.

The plump Mrs. Dake, who will take over her husband's pastorate during his incarceration, said Mr. Dake would conduct services Sunday morning and Sunday evening. Then Mrs. Dake will assume charge.

In a private meeting of the congregation, after all outsiders had been asked to leave, the church members Tuesday night individually and collectively reaffirmed their loyalty to the convicted pastor. There were many "amens" and "hallelujahs."