

MISSIONARY

The Needs of 1911.

READ AT THE EVANGELICAL CONF. STONEHAM, MASS., BY MRS ELMER RAMSEY.

Therefore said He unto them 'The harvest truly is plenteous, but the laborers are few; pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest that He would send forth laborers into His harvest.' These were the words which fell from the lips of our Saviour nearly two thousand years ago. He made no mistake when He said this His estimate was perfect. 'The harvest truly is great the laborers are few,' and as if to strengthen the statement we read in John's Gospel the words from the same gracious Speaker 'Lift up your eyes and look on the fields, for they are white already to harvest.'

These words are just as true to-day as when they were uttered, Jesus is speaking this very same message to His people to-day. I seem to hear Him in precious loving tones confiding the sad state of affairs into the very bosom of those who are telling Him they love Him, and saying to them 'the fields are white, ready to harvest!'

Then He says to us 'Go.' In Matt. Gospel we read, 'Go ye unto all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature! Go and deciple all nations' and in the old prophesies we have the precious verse backing us up. Blessed are ye that sow beside all waters.'

And as if to hurry His people He says, 'Say not ye there are yet four months and then cometh harvest? behold I say unto you, Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest.'

Meditation on this condition of things causes a heart in touch with God to exclaim O Christ why are we so slow to meet the need of lost souls, of suffering humanity in heathen lands? The church who are professing to know Thee, to love Thee with truest love, more yea vastly more than the things of earth, why are we so long in carrying out the thing that most interests our Lord, that for which He shed His blood on Calvary? Art Thou slow O Jesus? Art Thou satisfied that so many are dying without hearing of Thy love and desire for them? The answer comes back to us clear and true 'Say not ye, there are yet four months and then cometh harvest,' and behold now is the accepted time Behold, now is the day of salvation. The church is the ambassador of Christ.

What then is the need of the coming year that the gospel might go quicker, that mightier and farther-reaching success might be had in foreign lands? this is the cry of all true hearts in the church of God to-day. To use is given by the Devine Being the commission to 'disciple all nation.' So then—we are interested: so is God. I believe our one great need for the present year is faith. Faith in God. We are both interested in the one great purpose. We are co-workers with Him, One aim. Only to comprehend this, Caleb and Joshua both said we are well able to possess the land, Confidances in God beyond all obstacles. He hath said, I will give thee the heathen for thine inheritance. What a promise and with an Almighty God surely, 'we are able.' Praise Him!

Then we need the same zeal in sending the gospel to the heathen as characterises us in our own interests. Are we just as anxious to enlighten and relieve the heathen as we are to benefit our own country or to educate our children etc. Do we see any such zeal and earnestness in the

normal christian toward sending the gospel to the benighted as we see manifested when we save and slave year in and year out to accomplish that which pertains (mostly) to this life namely to get knowledge fame and culture for those we love? no sacrifice is too hard for that mother in behalf of that beautiful daughter to make her all she can be in this life, no hardship too painful to endure that she might attain to the highest heights and even be kept in ease and comfort. But listen! what about the blood of Jesus shed on Calvary two thousand years ago that every helpless creature might be saved from the darkness and penalty of sin and that souls are dying we are told without the efficacy of the shed blood availing anything to them and that the heart of Christ is being torn over the fact that His people are not obeying as they should His last and precious command Go ye! Do we love Him. Is the longing of His heart ours? Can he say to us with confidence from heart to heart. The fields are white ready to harvest?

WE NEED MORE SACRIFICE.

'The fundamental principal of the gospel of Jesus Christ is that of self-denial. It is the first plank in its platform, the first condition of discipleship. If any man will be my disciple let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me! Self must not only be removed and dethroned but crucified. It is said that a preacher once defined religion to be, having a good time in this life and a better time in the world to come. A self-indulgent Christ is unthinkable!

ANOTHER NEED IS PRAYER.

Intercessory prayer. Prayer in groaning which cannot be uttered, John Wesley says, 'God frequently conceals the part which His children have in the conversion of other souls, yet one may boldly say, that person who long groans before Him for the conversion of another, whenever that soul is converted to God, is one of the chief causes of it. Let us remember that work for the conversion of the heathen is subject to the same laws and conditions as that for the conversion of our neighbors. It is the privilege of each of us to long groan before Him for individuals on the other side of the globe. May the master open many eyes to this privilege and many hearts to share in the groans necessary for the conversion of millions of heathen.

WE NEED PRAYER IN THE HOLY GHOST.

Souls in heathen darkness lying Where no light has broken through, Souls that Jesus bought by dying, Whom His soul in travail knew, Thousand voices Call us o'er the waters blue. Christians, harken, none has taught them Of His love so deep and dear; Of the precious price that bought them; Of the nail, the thorn, the spear Ye who know Him, Guide them from their darkness drear Haste, oh haste, and spread the tidings Wide to earths remotest strand; Let no brothers bitter chidings Rise against us when we stand In the judgment, From some far, forgotten land.

A wealthy farmer, who cultivated some thousands of acres, had by his benevolence, endeared himself greatly to his large staff of laborers. He had occasion to leave the country in which his property was situated for some years, but before doing so, he gave his people clearly to understand, that he wished the whole of the cultivated land to be kept in hand, and all the unreclaimed moor and marsh lands to

be enclosed and drained brought into cultivation, and even the hills were to be terraced, and the poor mountain pasture manured, so that no single corner of the estate should remain neglected and barren.

Ample resources were left for the execution of these works, these were sufficient hands to have accomplished the whole within the first few years of the proprietors absence. He was detained in the country to which he had been called very many years. Those whom he left children were men and women when he came back, so that the number of his tenantry and laborers was vastly multiplied. Was the task he had given them to do accomplished? Alas, no, bog and moor and mountain waste in many places where only wilder and more desolate than ever. Fine, rich, virgin soil by thousands of acres was bearing only briars and thistles. Meadow after meadow was utterly barren for want of cultivation nay, by far the larger part of the farm never seemed to have been visited by his servants, Had the then been idle? Some had. But large numbers had been industrious enough. They had expended a vast amount of labor and skilled labor too, but they had bestowed it all around the park immediately around the house. This had been cultivated to such a pitch of perfection that the workmen had scores of times quarreled with each other because the operations of one interfered with his neighbors, and a vast amount of labor, two, had been lost in sowing the very same patch, for instance with corn fifty times over in one season, so that the seed never had time to germinate and grow and bear fruit; in caring for the forest trees as if they had been tender saplings; in manuring soils already to rich, and watering pastures already too wet.

The farmer was positively astonished at the misplaced ingenuity with which labor and seed and manure, skill and time and strength had been wasted for no result. The very same amount of toil and capital expended according to his directions would have bought the whole domain into culture and yielded a noble revenue. But season after season had rolled away in succession, leaving those unbounded acres of various, but all reclaimable soil, barren and useless; and as to the park it would have been far more productive and perfect had it been relieved of the extraordinary and unaccountable amount of energy expended on it.

Why did these laborers act so absurdly? Did they wish to labor in vain? on the contrary they were forever craving for fruit coveting good crops, longing for great results.

Did they not wish to carry out the farmers views about his property? Well, they seemed to have that desire for they were always reading the directions he wrote and said continually to each other You know we have to bring the whole property into order But they did not do it. Some few tried and ploughed up a little plot here and there and sowed corn and other crops. Perhaps these failed and so the rest got discouraged? Oh no; the yield was magnificent far richer in proportion than they got themselves. They clearly perceived that but yet they failed to follow a good example. Nay when the labors of a few in some distant valley had resulted in a crop they were unable to carry in by themselves the other would not even go and help them to bring home the sheaves They preferred watching for weeds among the roses in the over crowded garden, and counting the blades of grass in the park and the leaves on the trees.

Then they were fools surely not

wise men: Traitors not true Servants to their Lord? Ah! I cant tell. You must ask Him that! I only know that the Master said Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature—and 1910 years after they had not even mentioned that there was a Gospel to one half of the world.

Moving Pictures and Cigaretts

In a speech in Parliament on Tuesday last referring to the many volunteers for the Canadian Navy Hon Mr Boreur made the following remarkable statement: Both in British Columbia and in Nova Scotia there has been an astonishing amount of culling. The moving picture eye and the cigarette heart have resulted in the failure of seventy-five per cent of the men who offered failing to pass the doctor. though they were of lusty appearance. So far only men from the cities have sought places, but attractively illustrated announcements are being sent out by the naval department calling attention to the attractions of the navy and it is expected that a large number of young sailors from out of the towns will come forward without the eye and heart imperfections which the city produces.

Could anything emphasize more forcibly the evil of the cigarette and the moving picture shows These young men who offered were undoubtedly the very pick physically of the two cities, Vancouver and Halifax. And it should be borne in mind that this was not the mere guess of some half witted reform crank but the report of the actual results, made by one of Canada leading states men. Surely the warning should not be lightly passed over.

Probably the term moving picture eye may strike many readers as something new. At present we can only conclude it is a defective vision caused by the lack of power of concentration due to frequent attendance at moving picture shows. Not many of us have realized that these cheap entertainments were productive of so much injury in this way; but the words of Hon Mr Brodeur would indicate that the danger is really serious. Is it not imperative that the people of this town should think seriously over this question?

In the past complaints have been made because the moving picture shows distracted the attention of school children from their work and the matter has been brought before the Town Council. That body wisely we believe declared by its action that the question was one that belonged to the home.

WHERE JESUS REIGNS

Where Jesus reigns there is no fear, No restless doubt, no hopeless tear, No base deceit nor faithless prayer, No angry strife or weak despair, No greed for gain nor selfish pride No bitterness for aught denied, No evil tongue, no cruel arm, No envy, hate, nor wish to harm, No wicked lust, nor trace of stains. But all is pure where Jesus reigns.

Where Jesus reigns there is no night—

For He is Wisdom, Love and Light; No raging sea nor tempest dread, But quietness and calm instead; No anxious care no blind unrest, No heavy heart no guilt oppressed, No discontent, no gloomy days— But highest hope and sweetest praise; Nostumbling off nor galling chains, No shame nor sin where Jesus reigns.

Where Jesus reigns there's joy untold.

There's wealth that's richer far than gold,

TEMPERANCE

Tobacco Using

Dr Harris, physician to the New York Dispensary says: 'The properties and effects of tobacco are of a curiously mixed character. Its power or property of stimulation is strangely interwoven with its more important and predominating one of sedation or depression. This complex and double action is peculiarly adapted to the work of fascinating and misleading those who submit themselves to its influence. It titillates the nerves and exhilarates the feelings, while it obtunds and stupefies the sensibility, and partially suspends the process of life. The appetite which it creates is a never ending gnawing that will not be denied; and under the most specious guise of absolute physical necessity it hides its insatiate and cruel demands. Its sedative influence acts as a damper to the bustling excitability which the nervous system acquires from deficient or excessive action; while at the same time it affords fresh and fascinating excitement that for a long time makes one forgetful of weariness, and promises to relieve the tedium of life. There is no other substance known that can induce such complex and various effects; but the ultimate results, are invariably the same. Its disastrous influence upon the functions of the nervous system and the action of the heart are felt throughout every tissue of the body; the blood moves sluggishly, and as it stagnates in delicate organs foundation is laid for every form of disease, while at the same time the poison of the drug is diffused throughout every tissue of the living frame, benumbing and impairing all the powers of life; so that the system is at once more liable to disease and less able to endure its consequences and resist its power.'

The Kaiser's Temperance Crusade

The German Emperors recently undertaken temperance crusade is having considerable effect on Germany, according to statistics that came out last month. In the navy, to which the Kaisers most recent temperance speech was addressed, the consumption of alcohol among the officers and men decreased, respectively, in 1906 1907, 1908, and 1909 by 8, 12, 19, and 30 per cent. The decrease in the army is not believed to have been so marked, but the Kaiser is doing his best to popularize the use of tea and milk, instead of beer, among the troops.

No Cigarette Smokers need Apply

The Sante Fe has issued an order that no one addicted to the use of cigarettes shall be given employment by that company and a number of cigarette smokers working for the company have been dismissed.

The crusade against cigarette has not yet formally reached the Indianapolis roads but is being quietly enforced on some of them. At present the rule against cigarettes is applied principally in the general departments, and a number of clerks who have been let out in order to 'reduce expenses are not aware that they were dismissed because they smoked cigarettes, and many applicants failed to get positions for the same reason.

Every applicant has to pass a written examination and, in addition to that his personal habits are investigated. An occasional drink is generally overlooked but if it is found that he in the habit of smoking cigarettes there is no chance for him: The rule against cigarettes on some of the local roads is applied also to applicants for positions in the train service though there is nothing in the blank application that announces the fact. Most of the officers, however, are determined that the employees shall not be cigarette fiends and it understood that by the first of the year the roads will issue formal orders on subject.—Indianapolis News.

There's service glad and courage true,

There's power to be and strength to do,

There's sacrifice and sweet content, There's grace Divine and mercy sent,

There's triumph over self and sin, And blessed peace abides within: There's truest faith that never wanes—

There's love supreme where Jesus reigns.—Selected