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King's Highway

An Advocate of Scriptural Holiness.

THE ORGAN OF THE

REFORMED BAPTISTS OF CANADA

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SPECIAL NOTICE.

All correspondence for the Highway should reach us before the 12th and 25th of each month. Address to Rev. S. A. Baker, Moncton, N. B.

MONCTON, N. B., OCT. 31ST, 1918

EDITORIAL.

WANT TO STOP NATION SMOKING.

The above was a headline of a daily paper on the 21st inst., followed by a statement that the Methodist conference was in an uproar over the proposal.

We copy the following:

Hamilton, Ont., Oct. 21.—A feature of the Methodist Conference was the passing of a resolution that the Federal Government be requested to pass legislation making smoking in public unlawful. This paragraph caused much discussion, some of which was of a decidedly warm character.

Numerous speakers expressed their views on the subject, one stigmatizing it as "petty legislation."

The Rev. Dr. Rose, of Ottawa, came out bodily on the question, stating emphatically that it was futile to ask for legislation that would probably not be granted, and which, even if put in force, would not be enforced.

"We talk a lot of what we are going to do for the returned men," said the Rev. Dr. Sanford, New Westminster, "and we must not be too picky in our judgments. If you do this thing, what about the boys when they return? You can't stop two-thirds of the men of the country smoking, and we must not put ourselves in an indefensible position."

The lengthy and heated discussion resulted in an amendment scoring the discourtesy of public smoking being voted down, and the original recommendation sustained by a standing vote of 67 to 55.

We are glad to note that there is such a strong feeling against smoking in public places in the Methodist conference, and there are those who have the courage to take a public stand against it, and it is only to be regretted that strong leaders should place themselves in opposition to any measure that would create public sentiment against a habit so debasing, and enslaving to men for whom Christ died that he might create them anew into the

likeness of God, that they might "cleanse themselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit perfecting holiness in the fear of God."

The tobacco smokers can again settle down without fear from the danger that threatened their comfort from the great Methodist body.

The Christian Guardian of the 23rd inst. gives the following report of the short lived tempest:

"Quite a little furore arose over the resolution that it be made unlawful to smoke in public places. Some rather warm arguments were used, and it was evident that the Conference was greatly divided in relation to the matter. A resolution discountenancing the use of tobacco might have gone through almost without debate, but such a resolution as was presented had never before been passed by a General Conference, and its wisdom was much in doubt. However, the vote was taken, and it passed the Conference by 67 to 55. But at the beginning of the next session a substitute motion was adopted, and the Conference practically, if not legally, rescinded its former resolution. Methodists have little use for tobacco, but just at this juncture it is well to walk warily."

We clipped the following editorial comment from the Maritime Baptist, and we are glad to note the editor's position on this tobacco smoking imposition, inflicted on clean people at every point of contact with smokers, who very rarely recognize any persons rights, but force them to breathe their noxious fumes. Doubtless many hundreds of the members of the churches of the large body that the Maritime Baptist represents, will say to their editor, "In speaking thus, you condemn us also."

(From the Maritime Baptist)

"At a recent meeting of the Methodist Conference at Hamilton, Ont., a resolution was passed requesting the Federal Government to make smoking in public places an unlawful act. The resolution provoked much discussion and not a little opposition. Some characterized the proposal as "petty legislation." We must confess to much sympathy with the resolution. We cannot see what inalienable right the smoker has to pollute the atmosphere which must be breathed by those to whom tobacco smoke is offensive. We have often had occasion to notice with what sang froid a smoker would stand in line before the ticket window in the depot and puff the fumes of a villainous cigar into the faces of those next in line, without any regard for their wishes or comfort. Many smokers apparently forget that what is pleasant to them may be offensive to others. And some can be taught consideration for the rights of others only by the stern tutoring of the law."

If the evangelistic Christian churches would unitedly place the ban on use of tobacco in every form as inconsistent with the Christian life and profession, and teach that "the Lion of Judah" will break every chain of bondage, and set every captive free, soul, spirit, and body, there would be a greater and more effective in-

fluence sweep over the country than a law placed on the statute books by the government. As a denomination of Christians we placed in our covenant, which is subscribed to by every person who becomes a member. "And as far as possible, we will discountenance, both by precept and example, the use and sale of tobacco."

And after thirty years experience our people have no disposition to erase it from our covenant.

We still believe and preach complete deliverance to every child of God who will consecrate himself entirely to God, "For whom the Son maketh free, shall be free indeed."

MONCTON R. B. CHURCH.

The following bit of history of the Moncton Reformed Baptist Church is from the Moncton number of "The Busy East," written by Rev. H. E. Thomas, who wrote sketches of the Moncton churches:

The Reformed Baptist Church was organized on Feb. 12th, 1889. Pastor, Rev. W. B. Wiggins; Deacons, John Good and George B. Storey; Clerk, A. L. Bubar; Treasurer, Mrs. Jeffrey Rushton. Meetings were held in the W. C. T. U. Hall from February 12th, 1889, until June 13th, 1889, when they were begun in the new but unfinished church. The new building was completed September 6th, 1889, and dedicated on Sept. 7th of that year. Rev. Wm. Kinghorn, of Fredericton, preached the dedicatory sermon from Hebrews 3:6. In the afternoon Rev. G. W. MacDonald preached from I. Tim. 3:15. In the evening Rev. A. Kinnie preached from I. Tim., 4-15. Good music was furnished at all the services. Rev. W. B. Wiggins remained pastor of the church until June 30th, 1893. The church was then without a minister until February, 1894, when Rev. A. Kinnie was engaged, but on account of illness he only remained for three months. The next pastor was Rev. W. H. Sherwood, who remained one year. In August, 1895 Licentiate H. C. Archer was invited to become pastor and he remained until June 30th, 1899. For two years following Licentiate A. L. Bubar was the pastor, and Rev. Samuel Greenlaw followed him for a term of two years. The next pastor was Rev. Z. B. Grass, who remained four years. In the autumn of 1907 Rev. W. B. Wiggins again became pastor of the church and remained nine years ending his pastorate in June, 1916. The present pastor is Rev. S. A. Baker, who has about completed his second year. The present officers are: Deacons, Jacob Maddison, Chas. C. MacCallum, D. H. Berry; Treasurer, W. A. MacCallum; Clerk, A. G. Good; Trustees, M. L. Somers, D. H. Berry, W. A. MacCallum.

A CHANGE IN THE METHODIST DISCIPLINE.

"A very significant change in the Discipline was made when the question, "Have you been converted to God?" was replaced by the other question, "Have you a vital Christian experience of Christ as your Saviour?" which each candidate for our ministry will now be asked."