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SPECIAL NOTICE.	

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MONCTON, N. B., APRIL 30TH, 1924

EDITORIAL.

PRAYER.

O Lord, amid the varied activities of life, be Thou our Peace. Forbid that we should become so absorbed in the affairs of men and the occupations and pleasures of this world that we neglect the things that are real and eternal. Reveal to us, by Thy ever-present Spirit, Thy gracious will concerning us, and make us Thy willing and obedient children. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen!-Sel.

THE GREATEST NEED OF THE CHURCH

It is not money nor influence but spiritua! life that is the great need of the church today.

This only will bring all good things in its train. This need is apparent from many considerations. Many churches depend upon spasmodic revivals to increase their spiritual life, but are unable to assimilate the fruits of the revival because of the lukewarm state of the membership. So many members never take any part in evangelistic work, or even attend any of the means of grace except on Sabbath evening, and too many do not even attend then, except at intervals. They can attend the lodge, go to the movies, attend card parties, or even dance, but never attend the prayer meeting.

The moral tone of the church also is unsatisfactory, and many churches would be reduced to a few pious women, aged persons, or children, if the discipline of the primitive church were enforced.

The religious and moral condition of many official members sugests serious problems, where office-bearers violate the rules of the church and never engage in its aggressive spiritual work and are the ruling influence of the church, and the pastor finds his social life with these inconsistent members.

It is a sad fact that many evangelical denominations are scarcely holding their own membership in the cities, notwithstanding the increase in population and the accessions received by letter from many country churches. Various superficial explanations are offered to excuse this

humiliating condition. But whatever influence these conditions may have, it is certain that if the ministry and laity were living according to the New Testament teachings, matters would be altogether different.

We must suppose that the virtues and devotion that exist in many hearts and lives are not recognized, or that any sympathy exists with the railing accusations of the censorious or the slanders of the openly ungodly when speaking of the Church.

But we must recognize tendencies and conditions, and aid everyone who feels that God has called him to the work of the ministry and is living a consecrated life, to see how great is the need of efforts to rkevive the church, to recall those who have lost their first love, to alarm the backsliders, to strengthen the things that remain, and to use their personal influence to change the office holders and superintendents whom the Church and the young cannot safely imitate.

Such things may not be suitable for public declaration, as men so often shield themselves behind a general tendency; and when a pastor publicly denounces his members, he only advertises the barrenness of the situation to the unobserving and unsuspecting, that may not help but hurt.

It is the preaching of the truth of a full salvation, and living it, and earnest personal appeals, by which the spiritual tone of the Church can be elevated.

The chief difficulty with pastor and people is a lax view of the law of God and an exaggerated view of the provisions of salvation. So many seem to believe that connection with the Church and a general consent to the fact that Christ died to save, and that He is an Almighty Saviour, are sufficient for salvation. But the Holy Scriptures teach the contrary. A mere religious profession is an abomination in the sight of God, and a belief in Christ, without an earnest and constant attempt to keep His commandments, insures one, the reward of the foolish virgins, and of the man who built his house on the sand and not upon the rock.

If Spiritual life be really and earnestly sought it will be obtained, and then a purified conscience and gratitude will open the purses of the Church. Gifts will be a means of grace. A renewal of spirituality will bring liberality in connection with all the aims of the Church both at home and foreign.

THE REVIVAL NEEDED.

We need—we must have—and by the grace of God we may have a revival. A revival of the New Testament and early Methodist type. A revival that will change the hearts and transform the lives of sinners. A revival that will lessen the amount of profanity and Sabbath desecration and decrease the attendance at theatres, balls, card-parties, etc. A revival clearly Godsent, Holy Spirit wrought and through which souls are happily converted to God. A revival that will empty hearts of sin and fill them with the love of God. A revival that will bring into the church and the official board, people who are saved. A revival that will increase the number of family altars and attendance upon all ap- the troubled and distressed.

pointed means of grace. A revival that will enable people to live as they go about their daily tasks with the consciousness of the Spirit of Jesus filling and permeating their lives. A revival that will decrease the number of sinners and increase the number of saints. A revival that will bring heaven and earth and God and man together as on the day of pentecost, leaving the results now that were left then-people filled with the Holy Ghost.

Such a revival is a five-fold necessity, as follows:

- 1. For the individual soul. "Ye must be born again." In Jesus and in him alone the soul is safe.
- 2. The family. Jesus is the Saviour of the family the same as of the individual. Too much emphasis cannot be placed on family religion. The family altar is a mighty fortress of defense against the devil in his atempts to deceive, blight and destroy the family. Oh, for a revival of family religion! In Jesus and in him alone the family is safe.
- 3. For the community. The community is a big family ,and what the community needs the family needs, and what will save the family will save the community. Oh, for a community revival! In Jesus and in him alone the community will be safe.
- 4. For the nation. The nation is as a family or community except on a larger scale. Oh, for a nation-wide revival! How much the United States and Canada need a revival! In Jesus and in him only will we be safe.
- 5. For all nations. But for sin the earth would be a Garden of Eden today. Peace, plenty, prosperity, happiness and contentment would be our inheritance, and lot. Oh, for a world-wide revival of the religion of Jesus Christ! How much this old world needs such a revival! In Jesus and in him alone will our world be safe.

The revival needed must begin in the individual heart and work outward and upward; it will never begin at the top and work downward and inward.—Robert L. Selle.

ALSO NEEDED

We would be much pleased if one hundred of the subscribers to the Highway would send in their renewals. Please do not forget, beloved .- Editor.

Those who claim that we are entirely sanctified at the time of conversion should give some reason for their belief, as it is contrary to the theology of all the churches that have spoken on this subject. When one would lead us out of the beaten pathway he should give us a good reason for it.

We pity the man who thinks that the Bible is an old-fashioned book and not fit for this or any age of the world. While the world stands the great facts of sin and our need of salvation from it will ever be the need and thought of man.

The same Jesus who forgave sins and comforted the sorrowing when He was here upon earth, is just the same today. He will forgive the penitent and comfort