

MARRIED

A beautiful wedding took place at 2 p. m. on Tuesday, September 23rd, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Allen Maine, Crystal, Me., when their oldest son, Alfred William, was united in marriage to Doris Claire Grant, daughter of Norman Grant and the late Phoebe Hersey Grant. The single ring was used. The writer performed the ceremony in the presence of a few relatives. On the evening of the wedding a splendid reception was given at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Allen Maine. Their many friends wish them a long and happy life.

G. A. ROGERS.

BE NOT CONFORMED TO THIS WORLD

We must influence the world or the world will influence us. We must act or we shall be acted upon. If we do not try to straighten the world to the standard of right, the world will bend us to the standard of wrong. The fashions, the follies, the maxims, the customs, the practices of the world exercise a molding influence on all who yield to their power. If we are to withstand these influences, we must plant our feet on the Eternal Rock, we must oppose the current of worldly influences, even though we resist unto blood, striving against sin; and we must be steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord. If we are passives and listless we shall be overcome; we must actively oppose those influences which seduce us or assail us; we must neither be beguiled by earth's blandishments nor swept away by its rushing tide. We must stand fast in the faith.

The spirit of the world is the spirit of concession, compromise, and conformity; but "all that is in the world" "is not of the Father," and is contrary to the truth of God and to the word of Christ. If we are to be Christians we are "not of the world," if we are followers of Christ the world will hate us as it hated our Master. Let us learn to take His yoke, knowing that if we do follow Him, the world will reject us and despise us, but God will honor and bless us, and if the world shall crucify us here, the Master will crown us by and by.—H. L. Hastings, in *Wesleyan Methodist*.

WHY ARE SIN AND CRIME INCREASING?

What is the cause of the increase of crime throughout the land?

Why are the penitentiaries being enlarged? Why is it necessary, in some instances, to release prisoners before they have served their sentence, to make room for new ones to enter?

Is not the world growing better and better? The Modernist preachers and teachers say that it is. They say that we are now at peace with all the world and that all nations are planning to love each other! But—there is more crime in the world today than ever before, according to reliable statistics.

What is the reason? Where shall we turn for an explanation? Well, sometimes the good old Book gives an explanation of current events. "Back to the Bible!" is not a senseless phrase, but a practical recommendation to go to the source of all wisdom for a solution of one of the most serious problems that could confront any nation—the "crime craze."

The "crime craze" is rampant in every section of our country. Men and women, boys and girls are committing crimes that once would have caused a shudder of horror but now are so common that they create hardly a ripple of interest.

The most dastardly doings are published and passed by as a matter of no significance.

Our forefathers looked forward to an age of freedom from outbreking sin. They had the Bible and a holy aspiration for relief from crime. They anticipated not only a land of liberty but a land free from corruption. They enacted laws of great value and then settled down to enjoy a happy, beautiful life. But they failed to recognize and realize that the Bible prophesied that human nature would grow "worse and worse" and it has.

Human nature cannot be improved morally no matter how much effort is expended to that end. We have made many marvelous improvements along mechanical lines. We have better facilities for transacting the affairs that have to do with our daily lives. We have better houses, though not better homes; better schools, though without a Bible; better churches, but many of them have no place for the Bible as the very Word of God; amusement centers, dance halls, movie palaces, autos, radios, flying machines, and the like. Business is good. Many are very rich, and many are poor. But all of these things only seem to accentuate the restless, Christless condition predicted in the Word.

The old fashioned home life is gone. The sins of boys and girls are increasingly bad. Decency and order have surrendered to indecency and disorder. In California last December a young man was arrested for stealing a young girl and demanding a price for her return, which was paid, upon which he delivered her mutilated body to her father, stole an auto and drove into Canada where he was arrested. He confessed the horrible crime and was put into jail. He was also guilty of other crimes, including another murder. A young attorney, seeking the limelight, took up his case and succeeded in having it delayed until nine months passed, involving the State in an expense of thousands of dollars, before the young man was executed.

And the end is not yet! Another crime, of the same character, but still more atrocious, was committed in Southern California. Four young boys were tortured and butchered by a young man who, when the crime was discovered, fled over the border into Canada. He, too, was arrested, brought back, imprisoned, and now has begun the long drawn out court procedure, involving the expenditure of large sums of money which the taxpayers will have to stand.

What is the solution, if there is any? *Back to the Bible!* Hear its testimony: "Because sentence against an evil work is not executed speedily, therefore the heart of the sons of men is fully set in them to do evil" (Eccles. 8:11).

Have you ever noticed that God's laws are definite and unchangeable, and violation of them brings swift results? Fire burns, and if a little child puts his finger on a red-hot stove, it will be burned! God does not change that law even for the little child. But—the child learns to avoid the fire!

Notice the two words from the verse quoted: "Sentence—speedily"! These are God's words. God is love. God is life. God is long-suffering. Yes, but God is a God of law, and will not permit His laws to be trifled with.

Crime is on the increase because the law of punishment is not put into operation speedily! Fear of punishment should be put into the heart of every child and every young person, and every older person, as well. There is a silly, sentimental women?

The tide is on in full force and few there are who have the courage of their convictions and who will stand in defense of Christ and His

tal, unscriptural prejudice abroad in this age against punishing children. Their "instincts and natural desires must not be suppressed" say the psychologists, and they apply the same reasoning to adults as well. But how quickly these same persons resent a wrong done to themselves!

And how about the most insidious and atrocious crimes committed in the name of our Lord? How about the stealing of schools and seminaries and churches, built by the sacrificial gifts of the Lord's people for the propagation of the pure Gospel, but now being used to deny the virgin birth of Jesus Christ, the verbal inspiration and authority of the Bible, and the blood atonement of Jesus Christ as the only hope of lost men and Church. Why have people been able to accomplish these dastardly deeds? Because sentence against their unjust deeds has not been executed speedily!

Lawless men in the world and lawless men in the church are trifling with God's Word and work, but God's eyes are open! His laws are unchangeable! There is a time for everything and there is a time for judgment. It will be swift and sure.

We should use the rod more in the home! Speed up the conviction of criminals—old and young!

Speed up the demand of the citizens for immediate and drastic punishment for crime, and thus help save the nation from the pit toward which it is reeling! Speed up the work of exposing and repudiating the dishonest men in the church who no longer have any conscience about violating their most solemn vows and obligations, but who seem to glory in their ability to transform themselves into angels of light in order to deceive, if it were possible, even the very elect!

Remember—"Because sentence. . . is not executed speedily," therefore these enemies of God and man increase in their bold and blatant determination to destroy the fundamental foundations of the faith once for all delivered!

Let the men and women in the Church rise in holy indignation and cry aloud against the betrayers of the trust that was committed to them by the fathers, and do it now, in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and the cause of righteousness.—T. C. Horton in *S. S. Times*.
Good Tidings.

PEARLS OF THOUGHT

Without enthusiasm, without action.

Leisure works more harm than labor.

A man apt to promise is apt to forget.

Whom a man injures he also learns to hate.

For clearest light, hunt a dark prayer closet.

Heaven must enter us before we enter heaven.

To make enemies, talk; to make friends, listen.

Heaven cares more for what we are than for what we do.

The blood of the soldier makes the glory of the general.

The costliest things are those for which one sells his soul.

Man has his will, woman her way. He reigns, she controls. God planned it so.

A watch without a maker would be less strange than a universe without a Creator.—*Author Unknown.*

The prodigal son's brother is still living. He believes conservatively in the father's house, but he does not realize the rights of his inheritance, and never asks for a feast for himself and friends. His poverty is in his prayer life.—*The Christian Witness.*