

IF PENTECOST WERE REPEATED
IN 1930

By D. Shelby Corlett

One is greatly impressed with the success of the early church following Pentecost. There has never been a group of men so poorly qualified from every worldly standpoint, that has faced such a stupendous task and has had the success that these disciples of the Lord had. From every human consideration they were not equal to their task. Their nationality was against them; their intellectual attainments were meager; their financial backing was nothing; their world contacts and sympathies were very small; their conception of the world was very limited; their message was of a despised, rejected and crucified Nazarene. Their field of labor was not conducive to success. It was hostile Jerusalem, where they had cruelly crucified their Savior; Judea, equally, as unfriendly and hostile; Samaria, a prejudiced people; and the world, resting in Greek cultural philosophy, a pagan, heathen people. But the fires kindled in their hearts by the first Pentecost overcame all their lack of human qualifications and enabled them to surmount these impassable barriers, until no group of men has achieved the success in such a short time as these people and their immediate followers. There is only one cause for their success, that is the mighty pentecostal experience.

We stand now nineteen hundred years since the day of the first Pentecost. What would happen if the entire Christian Church should meet the conditions met on this first Pentecost, and should God suddenly send from heaven another surging, rolling torrent of the Holy Spirit as these disciples received nineteen hundred years ago?

Let us contrast first the human qualifications of the Christian Church today to that which they had at Pentecost. The ministry of the Christian Church commands the respect and attention of the present world; they are able to measure arms with the most brilliantly educated of the day; the church has never had more wealth at her command; the world-vision of the Church was never more in keeping with the commission of the Master than today. So from all natural reasons the Church should be more successful today than ever before.

Contrast the Church presented to the world today to that Christ which the apostles preached. Essentially He is "the same yesterday, and today, and forever;" but in the eyes of the world He is a much different Christ. He has risen from an obscure, despised, rejected and crucified Nazarene to the place of the greatest leader of men. He is recognized as the world's outstanding Teacher, and the influence of His teachings and life has permeated present day civilization until it has affected the thinking of the entire world. So we present a Christ today who largely has the sympathy of the entire world.

Contrast the world in which we must minister to that in which they ministered. It is no longer a hostile world which persecutes and puts to death the ministers of Christ. The world today has been honeycombed with the preaching of the gospel. Only in the very remotest portions of this earth have they not heard of Jesus Christ as a Saviour of men. Nominally the Church has planted the banner of the cross in every nation under the sun, until the world has felt the impact of the gospel

power. This power of the gospel has not always brought those influenced into a personal relation to Christ as Saviour, but it has influenced their manner of living for the better. The lines of activity of the Christian Church are spread world-wide and its centres of promotion are dotted over the face of the globe.

It is much like military leaders who have held a strategic mountain in time of war; they have tunneled through this mountain and have placed their mines everywhere with wires leading to the source of control. All it requires to level the mountain and wipe out the advancing army is to touch the switch which controls the current and the mountain is leveled. If Pentecost were repeated in 1930 and God should pour out His Spirit in pentecostal tides upon all the agencies of the Christian Church at work for Him throughout the world, it would start the greatest spiritual conflagration one can imagine. Every place in the Eastern and Western Hemispheres, where are the workers of the Church of Christ, would feel His divine power surging through their souls, their activities would be doubled, their spiritual powers increased. Modernism, infidelity, atheism, paganism, dead formality, heathenism, idolatry, opposition, all would melt before it like wax in a tropical sun. Is this a fanciful picture? It is impossible? Surely this is within the realm of the possible. There are surely enough sincere, conscientious Christian believers scattered throughout the church, world-wide, that if they would humble themselves and cry to God as did these early disciples we could have tides of Pentecost sweeping over the world. It is surely not amiss that we should pray for such a recurrence of Pentecost in this the nineteen hundredth anniversary of the advent of the Holy Spirit upon the Church.—Herald of Holiness.

QUARTERLY MEETING OF DISTRICT
NO. 2

Quarterly meeting of District No. 2, convened at Amherst 7th to 10th November, with Young People's Rally on the 11th, Monday.

Thursday night, at the Parsonage, the service was led by Lic. Charley Sanders, who brought us a deep and timely message on prayer, from 1 Tim. 2:8. "I will therefore that men pray everywhere, lifting up holy hands, without wrath and doubting."

Friday night we had four fifteen minute sermons, by Sister H. C. Sanders, Lic. Miriam, Lic. Judson, and Bro. H. C. Sanders, followed by testimony meeting.

Saturday afternoon at 2:30 p. m. at the Parsonage, the Quarterly Business Meeting held session.

The following officers were elected:

President—Rev. H. C. Sanders.

Vice-President—Mrs. H. C. Sanders.

Secretary pro tem—Lic. Judson Sanders.

Treasurer—Mrs. M. McBrien.

Highway Agent—Mr. Francis Dubee.

Corresponding Secretary — Miss Muriel Wright.

At Roll Call the following ministers and Licentiates were found present.

Rev. H. C. Sanders, Rev. Mrs. H. C. Sanders, Lic. Miriam, and Lic. Judson.

The following delegates were found present: From Westchester, Mrs. V. Rushton; Moncton, Miss Maryellen MacCallum; Amherst, Mrs. M. McBrien and Mr. T. Reid.

Visiting members were then voted a seat in the Quarterly.

The devotional committee was then appointed by vote, as follows: Mr. Abner Hopper, Mr. T. Locke, Mrs. V. Rushton. They retired and after deliberation brought in their report as follows:

Preaching Saturday night by Miss Mariam Sanders.

Sunday Morning Love-feast—Mrs. Sanders or Mr. E. Webb.

Sunday Morning Preaching Service — Mr. Arthur Deadman

Sunday afternoon, Miss Grace Sanders.

Evening Service—Rev. H. C. Sanders.

Report of Moncton Church was read and approved.

Report of Amherst Church also read and approved. Both these reports very encouraging.

Verbal report of Westchester church was given by Mrs. V. Rushton.

Mr. Earl Webb then gave verbal report of a new started work at Atkinson's Siding, about 4 miles from Westchester. These reports were voted adopted.

Mr. Donald Charters, visiting from Marysville, gave a good report of God's work under Rev. F. A. Dunlap there.

The work at Wood's Harbour was interestingly described by Lic. Grace Sanders, visiting from there.

Lic. Miriam Sanders gave a report of the work at Mercers Settlement.

A vote of thanks was tendered to the Church at Amherst for entertainment of the Quarterly.

Mrs. H. C. Sanders gave a report of her stay at Westchester. She supplied there while Lic. Charles Sanders was helping out in fixing up the R. B. Parsonage at Amherst.

It was voted that the place and time for the next Quarterly Meeting be fixed later.

It was then moved that the meeting be adjourned.

Saturday evening Lic. Miriam Sanders brought us a stirring message on "so great salvation" (Heb. 2:3).

Sunday morning, Mrs. Sanders led the love feast. There was a good testimony meeting. The speaker in the morning preaching service was Lic. Arthur Deadman, choosing for his text, Song of Sol. 4:16. "Blow, O north wind; and come thou south; blow upon my garden, that the spices thereof may flow out. Once again both Brother Deadman and his listeners had a good time.

Lic. Grace Sanders talked to us in the afternoon about "cisterns, broken cisterns, that can hold no water" and "forsaken fountains", Jeremiah 2:13. The message was deep and earnest, was delivered with unction.

At the evening service, the message was brought by our pastor, Rev. H. C. Sanders. He spoke from Paul's prayer in Eph. 1:16-23. "The hope of His calling," verse 18, shows that God has His eternal purpose for us. This refreshing and edifying service closed the Quarterly. One of our Amherst church members, in commenting, said: "They were all good services, but not better than we have been having all along." Truly we are having good meetings here, seekers at the altar right along, and an increasing number who testify. There were none to the altar through the Quarterly, probably because all those "ripened unto the harvest," for the time, had been already gathered in. So we feel much encouraged in the Lord, and are eager to press on and possess more territory in grace.

JUDSON SANDERS

Richard Cecil: "Be much in retirement and prayer."