

The King's Highway

An Advocate of Scriptural Holiness

THE ORGAN OF THE
REFORMED BAPTISTS OF CANADA

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Editor and Business Manager - Rev. H. S. Dow
— Committee —

Revs. H. S. Dow, H. C. Archer, H. C. Mullen
F. A. Watson P. J. Trafton

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SPECIAL NOTICE

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Rev. H. S. Dow, 45 Archibald St., Moncton, N. B.

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EDITORIAL

THE CHANGES WE NEED

The desire for changes is a very outstanding characteristic of mankind. And changes in many things that we have to do with in life seem to be very beneficial at times. Changes in food, clothing, environment, are often necessary to good health. Yet a mere change in itself may not be enough, it must be a change for the better. When doctors recommend a change of diet they also prescribe the kind of diet that the patient needs, because if the patient were allowed to follow his own desire for food it might not be for his best good. Now what we have said is just the preface to what I am going to say about the changes which we sometimes need in our Church work.

At this time of the year our churches are calling their pastors for another year, and some are thinking of having a change. Some of the pastors also are thinking of making a change, and going to new fields of labor. Now in many cases these desires are of an unselfish nature. For both pastors, and people think that a change would prove beneficial to the Lord's work. Of course it is possible that in some cases these desires by either pastor or people might be selfish ones. I mean we might be thinking of our own interests perhaps, more than the work of the Lord. The pastor might want to make a change because he could get more money in some other field, and no doubt he may need more than he is getting where he is. Or he may think that he would have less work to do on another field. The church also which wants a change might think that if they got another pastor with a smaller family or no family at all, that they could support him without so much cost to themselves, or they might think that a different pastor would not require quite so much of them in his preaching, that is he might not lift the standard of Christian living quite so high, so some members who are inclined to be a little worldly minded could hobnob with worldly society, and yet feel comfortable under his preaching, or another preacher might not preach quite so definite on the subject of holiness, and urge all members to observe their church covenant, and go on to perfection. Some members might think that the present pastor is not giving them quite enough attention and for that reason they would like a change. And what is more, many of these desires on the part of both pastor and people might be realized if the desired changes were made; but the question we wish to discuss here is, if these changes which are prompted by selfish motives were made, would they prove beneficial to either pas-

tor or people. Now if the work in our churches is not making reasonable progress, then it is obvious of course that some changes should be made; but the question that both pastors and churches should pray much about is, where should the changes be made or what kind of changes do we need?

Perhaps the pastor could make some changes without involving the expense, and work of moving to another field which would prove very helpful to the work in general on his present charge. Or perhaps the church members, or some of them could likewise make some changes in their lives, or attitude toward the work of the Lord, or toward the pastor which would solve many or all of their problems without calling a new pastor. And furthermore if we have found the places where changes should be made, then our success as pastors, and people is contingent upon these changes, because it is possible that the thing which has hindered the pastor from having success on his present, or past charges would hinder him again should he move to another field of labor. Or to put the shoe on the other foot, let us say that the thing which has hindered the present pastor from having success in your church would hinder another pastor if you should call one unless these church members made some changes. What I am trying to say is this, if the pastor who is inclined to always blame the church for his lack of success would look carefully and prayerfully at himself, he might see that the change which is most needed is in himself. He might need to pray more, or study more, or do more of both. I think it was Dr. Jowett who said that a preacher should pray as if he thought that success depended wholly upon God and then study as if it depended altogether on himself. He might need to call more and work harder. He might need to change his manner of preaching some. Perhaps his spirit is hard, and he is unsympathetic while he preaches the letter of truth. "The letter killeth but the spirit giveth life." He might not preach quite so loud which would be easier on old heads and weak ear drums. He might make his sermons a little shorter, that is, give the people a little less for their money, and perhaps he would get more money, for it is a fact that the less gospel you give some people the more money they will pay you.

That is why some preachers draw large salaries while they preach so little gospel. They give the people what they want, instead of what they need. However let us preach the truth in love and always maintain a kindly attitude toward all men. Love finds a way to the heart when nothing else will. If the church members prayed more for their pastor and the work of the Lord and talked and knocked less, they might find that instead of a change of pastors they need to make some changes in themselves. Perhaps they could give their pastor a little more money without distressing themselves too much even if they had to do without a radio; perhaps they could go to church more to hear him. They might be able to do without a new Easter bonnet especially where the one they have is not worn out, or they might be able to do without many things that they buy just to be in style, for the sake of having more money for the Lord's work. Yes, if some people who have been church members a long time, and have not made much progress spiritually, would pray through and get the blessing of a clean heart they would be a great help to the church and pastor, and they would not see nearly as many faults in other people or be the first al-

ways to want a change of pastors if they but had a change of heart.

Well these are only some suggestions, but it might be well for us all to think them over and pray about them before we change pastors or fields of labor.

QUARTERLY MEETING DISTRICT NO. 2

The Quarterly Meeting of District No. 2 convened with the Church at Saint John Thursday, March 12th, and continued over Sunday, March 15th. Rev. H. S. Mullen had charge and the meeting opened with singing and prayer. Rev. H. E. Mullen brought the message from 1 Samuel 1-8. Friday night Rev. H. C. Archer spoke on Sunday Schools. Saturday 2.30 p. m. the business meeting was held. In the absence of the president, Rev. H. S. Mullen took the chair. The meeting opened with singing and prayer. Roll call found the following ministers present: Revs. H. S. Mullen, H. E. Mullen, H. C. Archer, Lic. E. R. Watson, Lic. Miriam Sanders. Delegates from Saint John, Head of Millstream, Moncton, Grey's Mills, Lower Millstream, Mercer Settlement.

Following officers were elected: President, Rev. H. S. Mullen; vice-president, Bro. Bickerton; secretary, Sister Mary Cosman; treasurer, Sister Ella McCarthy; Highway Agent, Rev. H. S. Mullen.

Encouraging reports were read from different churches, also verbal reports were given. While the devotional committee was engaged there were encouraging testimonies of God's saving and sanctifying power. A vote of thanks was tendered the people of Saint John for entertainment.

An invitation from the Head of Millstream Church for the next quarterly was accepted. Saturday evening Rev. H. E. Mullen preached a splendid sermon on "Save Yourselves", taken from Acts 2-40. Sunday morning the love feast began at 10 o'clock and was in charge of Lic. Earl Watson. At 11 o'clock Rev. H. C. Archer brought the message. At 3 p. m. Miriam Sanders preached from the text Psalm 112-7, "His heart is fixed". The altar call was given and one soul went forward and was reclaimed. At 6 o'clock the Young People held their service and were richly blessed. Sister Sanders had charge of this service. In the evening at 7 o'clock the closing service was in charge of Rev. H. E. Mullen. He gave a fine sermon from Isa. 5-4. At the close of this service one soul was sanctified.

God blessed in all of these services. The meetings closed with everyone joining hands and singing "Blest Be The Tie That Binds" and "God Be With You Till We Meet Again". Rev. H. S. Mullen pronounced the benediction.

Respectfully submitted,

MARY E. COSMAN, Secy.

WORKERS WITH GOD

When we depend upon organization, we get what organization can do; when we depend upon education, we get what education can do; when we depend upon man, we get what man can do; but when we depend upon prayer, we get what God can do.—A. C. Dixon, D. D.

THE SACRED BOOK

Some of our "modern thinkers" might well ponder the question propounded by Benjamin Harrison: "If you take out of your statues, your constitution, your family life, all that is taken from the Sacred Book, what would there be left to bind society together?"—Selected.