

THE KING'S HIGHWAY

An Advocate of Scriptural Holiness

— THE ORGAN OF THE —
REFORMED BAPTISTS OF CANADA

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SPECIAL NOTICE

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EDITORIAL

HOW ARE THE MIGHTY FALLEN!

A news item in a Maritime daily of recent date reads: "Beginning next Sunday, at 12.05 p.m., movies of a religious and educational nature will be shown at——church. After the first of October the adult portion of the congregation will see movies following the evening service."

A few months ago the pastor of the same church called on his members to support a move to introduce dancing as a regular part of the church's activities. He suggested that young people of to-day cannot be won by methods of yesterday and advocated a programme which would be adapted to the times and the desires of young people of this generation.

This is a trend that is quite general in some denominations. In one Maritime community the feature of a certain church is a movie show, while that of another is a weekly dance. Reading the advertisements of many churches one might conclude, if the identity of the organization were not revealed, that they were the announcements of a social club, or an amateur theatrical company. Suppers, sales, bridge and bingo parties, and plays are regular features. You never hear of their having a special prayer meeting or revival campaign. Even the Sunday services are largely of the "musicale" type, anthems, solos, etc., and a brief sermonette which has no spiritual light or life for the congregation.

The tragedy of this situation is more grotesque when we realize that the very churches which sponsor these worldly programmes, at least some of them, were once "alive unto God" and were performing a great spiritual service. The founders and early leaders of some of these groups shine brightly in the constellation of translated saints. Their churches once led the way in soul saving effort, strongly opposing sin and worldliness, sounding the call of the Gospel to repentance and faith unto salvation, and holiness of heart and life as a prerequisite to fellowship with God in earth or heaven. The very church buildings which are now being used for movies, dances, and worldly entertainment, once echoed with the earnest prayers and victorious testimonies of those who walked in

intimate association with the Lord. Scenes of great revival power are remembered by those who can recall the events of thirty or forty years ago. Now the preacher says the prayers (we could hardly say "does the praying"), testimonies are never tolerated, and revival campaigns have been outlawed.

"How are the mighty fallen, and the weapons of war perished." What a pity that churches once strong to do exploits for the Lord have been reduced to the status of a social organization, and worst of all, they "wist not that the Lord has departed from them." Reckoning their status by numerical increase and financial gain they say, "We are rich and increased with goods and have need of nothing" while a divine inventory produces the charge "thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind and naked."

May the Lord keep our churches keenly alert to the danger of spiritual decline and its fearful consequences!

EDITORIAL GLEANINGS

INTO THE HIGHWAYS

Evangelists, pastors, and devout laymen are alarmed over the indifference of the masses of unconverted men. Some churches are putting on four revivals a year, but only reach some children in the Sunday school, and occasionally an outsider will attend one of the Sunday services. In a large city where the writer was pastor of a church with one hundred members, a new family was brought in during a revival. The next special meeting another family—father, mother and children made their peace with God. It was so unusual the evangelist made a note of it. At the same time a young man teaching high school won eight young men to Christ during the school year. A hundred of us worked in the church, while the young man worked alone.

The plan that Jesus laid down for His workmen to follow in reaching the lost was to go to where they could be found. His plan for catching fish was to "Launch out into the deep, and let down the net." We waste time praying for the Lord to send people into our meetings. Such prayers are unfounded in truth. The Lord said we must go—"go over into the village against you—go into all the world." The early church went to Samaria, they went to Caesarea, they went to Antioch. Paul said he preached publicly and "from house to house."

—Editor, "Pilgrim Holiness Advocate."

WAITING FOR THE EVANGELIST?

Generally speaking, the churches which wait until an evangelist comes to expect converts and members are the churches that have the fewest converts and gain the fewest members. People are attracted to a "going concern." Even rats are said to desert a sinking ship. Is yours a going, growing church?

When pastors wait for the evangelists to present doctrinal truths and our Church's standards, they are paving the way for trouble. No evangelist can overcome a year's accumulation of objections in the short space of a few days' ministry. The need is for constant presentation of these truths. A manifestation of indifference now will reap a crop of hostility tomorrow. If a pastor is indifferent before a revival, will he be otherwise afterward?

The fastest-growing, most spiritually-alert and sacrificially-giving groups are those who expect converts in their regular services, and whose evangelistic spirit prevails the year round instead of during two two-weeks' periods in the year. There is no greater opportunity to render a real service to the Cause than through a ministry of pastoral evangelism. One does not have to enter the field of general evangelism to render this service. In fact, a fruitful ministry of pastoral evangelism during which one learns the pastor's problems is a preparation for evangelism in the larger sphere.

—Editor, "Wesleyan Methodist."

WHEN MEN PRAY GOD WORKS

Satan knows prayer is the greatest weapon that God has put into our hands against the enemy. He knows if he can keep God's people from praying that he will stop revival, and, knowing this, he does all that he can to choke down a real spirit of Holy Ghost praying. The enemy knows that if we recognize that prayer is the real battle that we would be willing to fight in the battle of prayer and not give up because of pressure. For that reason Satan camouflages his movements and makes the battle ground appear in another place. We see the sweep of Modernism and Hollywood Evangelism and most people today are spending a great deal of their time fighting on that line. The devil gets us controverting over doctrines and fighting over other things to sidetrack us from the real place of battle. THERE IS ONLY ONE REAL BATTLE GROUND TODAY AND THAT IS THE BATTLE GROUND OF PRAYER.

Shall we face the responsibility for God's holding Himself aloof? Brother, Sister, face the battle and fight it through to a finish. Get on your face before God and stay there until you have taken hold of God. If you feel yourself weakening, take an attitude against your own flesh. Like Daniel set your face unto the Lord and with purpose of heart and all the determination of your soul STIR YOURSELF UP TO TAKE HOLD OF GOD.

—Editor, "Herald of His Coming."

OBITUARY

On Monday, August 22nd **Mr. Hallett Crowell**, of Knowles P. O., Shelburne, N. S., passed away. The funeral service was held on Thursday following and conducted by Rev. L. T. Sabine and assisted by Rev. Mr. Ainsworth.

To the sorrowing widow and large family the community extends sympathy.

The community of Woods Harbour was saddened when on Sunday, August 21st, **Mrs. Chester Malone** passed quietly away.

The funeral service was held at her home on Thursday by Rev. Mr. Ainsworth, of the United Baptist Church. He was assisted by Rev. L. T. Sabine, pastor of the Reformed Baptist Church at Wood's Harbour.

Sincere sympathy is extended to the sorrowing.

On Sept. 21 the funeral of **Timothy Joseph Moses**, infant son of Lic. and Mrs. J. A. Moses, was conducted in the Methodist cemetery, Woodstock, by Lic. H. R. Ingersoll. To the bereaved parents we extend sympathy.