

THE KING'S HIGHWAY

An Advocate of Scriptural Holiness

— THE ORGAN OF THE —
REFORMED BAPTISTS OF CANADA

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EDITORIAL

SOLVING AN ACUTE PROBLEM

The problem of juvenile delinquency is a favourite topic of legal authorities and social workers. Leaders of church and state are greatly disturbed over the increase of crime among minors.

Children of teen age, and even younger, are in the news in the role of law-breakers. The murder of a ten-year-old girl by a thirteen-year-old boy, a tragedy which occurred in the United States, is typical of the trend. Juniors who should tremble to hear of the cruel deeds of hardened criminals are in the headlines of our newspapers as the chief characters in stories of violence, theft, cruelty, murder, etc.

In quest of the answer to the cause of this crime wave among juniors, investigators have been led to this astounding conclusion: "Homes Breeding Place for Juvenile Delinquency."

The above is a news headline which introduces to readers some findings of a nationwide study of this problem in United States. The story runs: "Most juvenile delinquents are started wrong before they begin going to kindergarten. Most juvenile delinquency is born in the home."

These charges are made after careful investigation and consideration. They are based on facts which cannot be denied. Viewed in this light they pronounce a solemn verdict against the parents of the youthful criminals who appear in the courts.

An obvious need of our time is vital home religion. Godly influence and example, the family altar, and faithful teaching of the Word of God will mould the character of the child and lead him in the right paths. And the task of character building should begin while the child is in infancy. Before they walk or talk, they can be affected by prayer. Hymns sung by parents to the babe in arms often lodge in the heart and remain there for life. Scripture taught as soon as the child can repeat the words we speak, will sink into the soul and establish standards which time and experience will hardly remove.

If the task of spiritual instruction in the life of our boys and girls is left to the Sunday School teacher, precious time and opportunity will be lost. The mother and father are first in line in this important work.

God's command to ancient Israel applies to us: "These words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart: and thou

shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up." Deut. 6:6-7.

Faithful obedience to this counsel would lead to a revival of home religion and a subsequent prevention of juvenile delinquency.

THE CHURCH IN THE WORLD

ROCKWOOD LEAVES PRESBYTERIANS

In one of the most widely publicised cases in Canadian church history of modern times, Rev. Perry Rockwood resigned as minister of St. James' Presbyterian Church of Truro, N. S., March 4th.

Accused of "divisive action" by the Halifax-Lunenburg Presbytery, Rockwood refused to accept the decision of the church court which demanded of the youthful minister "burning all printed sermons dealing with the church and preaching no more sermons criticizing the church in any way; showing due repentance to all fellow ministers for remarks made against them; returning to the church in Truro and adopting an entirely new policy . . ." "which," says Rockwood, "meant that I was to uphold the Presbyterian church at all costs."

The controversy began over a series of four sermons preached by Mr. Rockwood under the general title, "What is Wrong with the Protestant Church?" in which he described the church as "sick unto death."

In his own defence Rockwood declares: "The Presbytery found me guilty, not of failing to preach the gospel, but of criticizing the policy of church boards, courts and colleges which were taking a stand that was not true to the foundation faith."

"The devil today is destroying the church from within," he declared, "by influencing the church to preach a gospel which is not the true gospel message at all."

"The cause for this doctrinal decline is to be found in the theological colleges where many of the professors no longer believe in the essentials of the faith."

Rev. Rockwood plans to establish an independent church in Truro and already has several thousand dollars toward the project.

DR. BUTLER RESIGNS

Dr. C. W. Butler has retired as editor of the "Christian Witness" after nearly fourteen years of splendid work with this full salvation weekly. Dr. Butler's writings have been read with profit by thousands, and news of his resignation will be received with regret. He deals with the great subjects of the Bible and spiritual life in classic fashion, and perusal of his writings is like study of a course in the fundamentals of the faith. One of the most able full-salvation preachers of our time, Dr. Butler is now giving the last years of service to Convention, Camp Meetings and Evangelistic work and his ministry is enriching to those who appreciate the deep things of God.

We would like in this column to express personal appreciation, and a like sentiment which we believe our Highway readers share, of the fine ministry which Dr. Butler has performed for the "Christian Witness" and its many readers.

(We hope to have contributions from this able minister of the Word for our readers in the future.)

MY MOTHER PRAYED

I knew my mother lived very close to God. I recognized something great in her. And I believe that my childhood training influenced me greatly, even though I was more or less rebellious at the time. It must often have grieved my beloved mother that I found family prayers tiresome and frequently found myself conveniently thirsty at the moment, so that I had to slip out of the room. Like my brothers and sisters, I always had to go to church, and I hated the long sermons. But today I feel that this church-going habit established something, a kind of stability, for which I am grateful to my parents.

My mother was not a sentimental parent. In many ways she was a Spartan. But one of my strongest childhood impressions is of mother going to a room she kept for the purpose on the third floor to pray. She spent hours in prayer, often beginning before dawn. When we asked her advice about anything she would say, "I must ask God first."

And we could not hurry her. Asking God was not a matter of spending five minutes to ask Him to bless her child and grant the request. It meant waiting upon God until she felt His leading. And I must say that whenever mother prayed and trusted God for her decision, the undertaking invariably turned out well.

So long as mother lived I had a feeling that, whatever I did, or failed to do, mother would pray me through. Though she insisted that she was not our intercessor, that we must pray ourselves, yet I know for a certainty that many of her long hours of prayer were spent interceding for us. Perhaps it is because religion in my mind is associated with such a mother that I have never been able to turn from it entirely.—Madame Chiang Kai-Shek, in The Link.

THE LORD'S DAY

R. Barclay Warren

"On the seventh day God ended His work which He had made; and He rested on the seventh day from all His work which He had made. And God blessed the seventh day, and sanctified it: because that in it He had rested from all His work which God created and made." Gen. 2:2, 3. Here is the account of the origin of the Sabbath.

Our Lord arose on the first day of the week. He appeared to various of His disciples on that day. On the eighth day, i. e., one week later He appeared to the eleven. The first day of the week came to be known as the Lord's Day. It was on that day that the Holy Spirit was given to the waiting disciples in the upper room. There are several scriptural references which indicate that the disciples henceforth met on the first day of the week.

It is appropriate that Christians should observe this day.

"Twas great to speak a world from nought,
Twas greater to redeem."

When we keep the Lord's day we are still observing a seventh day but we are keeping it, not in remembrance only of creation, but in commemoration of the glorious redemption accomplished by our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. He died for us and rose again the third day; the first day of the week. Let us honour the Lord in observing the Lord's Day.