

THE KING'S HIGHWAY

An Advocate of Scriptural Holiness

— THE ORGAN OF THE —
REFORMED BAPTISTS OF CANADA

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EDITORIAL

SEND THE LIGHT

In this Highway we have the annual appeal from the President of our Foreign Mission Board for financial support of our foreign missionary enterprise.

The need of world evangelization is most urgent.

The cry for help issues from the distressed hearts of the world's unenlightened millions. Modern science has enabled the missionary to carry the message of the heathen's plight from Africa, China, India, South America and elsewhere straight to the hearts of the people of God in lands where the Gospel banner has been unfurled. The church is well supplied with books which contain the graphic descriptions of the pitious state of those who wait for light. Men and women who have seen and left the horror of darkness which tortures and torments the soul without salvation's message of hope and grace, have written impassioned appeals for help. These God-called ambassadors are the mouth-piece of the unevangelized hosts who sit in darkness and cry for aid.

Perhaps no human being shares the spirit of divine compassion more than the true missionary. Having severed ties with home and homeland to carry the light to lands afar, they participate in the spirit of Him who "became poor that we through His poverty might be made rich." With hearts thus prepared in purity of devotion, these heralds of the Cross are keenly sensitive to the moral and spiritual ills which they discover on the field. I think the one who, filled with the love of Christ is brought face to face and heart to heart with the tragedy of human lostness, must get very close to Him who "gave His only begotten Son that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish. This is the explanation of the missionary's fervent and heart-moving plea for assistance in the great task of bringing relief to the souls distressed. Even as I write I seem to hear the pathos and plea which filled the voice of a missionary whom I heard singing—

"Perishing, perishing, thronging our pathway,
Hearts break with burdens too heavy to bear;
Jesus would save, but there's no one to tell them,

No one to lift them from sin and despair."

The missionary sang with the others, for it was congregational singing, but her voice stood out from the rest, not because of volume or peculiar tone quality, but because it throb-

bed with love and longing for the dying souls of dark Africa.

Modern photography has brought the heathen from the heart of the jungle to the cities of America. Pictures, still and moving, have silently portrayed the anguish and bitterness of sin's awful harvest. Faces of men of many races come before me as I write, faces I have seen on the screen displayed by missionaries, faces I can't forget. One does not wonder that the missionary speaks with such fervency when the photographic reproduction of what they have seen in the flesh stirs us so much.

What the church is going to do to spread the Gospel she must do quickly. The shadows of oncoming events are cast upon us and the day of grace hastens to a close. Every person whom God has called to lands afar should prepare themselves for service with all speed and those who pray and give should employ all available resources to expedite the work of seeking the lost. Oh Christian friend, let us heed the call of the perishing and answer to the limit of our ability! There is no time for delay.

"On the darkest side of the road,
Where the sick and wounded lie:
They're calling for help and for mercy,
Oh, how can you pass them by?
The Saviour asks your love,
In the service of want and pain,
And anything more that thou spendest,
He'll pay when He comes again."

EDITORIAL GLEANINGS

A NEW DAY OF OPPORTUNITY

The war just passed has had lessons for God's people which they do well to take to heart. There is a sense, I believe, in which it came as a rebuke to the Church for its negligence in carrying out its Lord's last command.

The burden of missionary appeal a generation ago was for prayer, that God would open closed doors for the Gospel. God abundantly answered those prayers and flung wide open the door into field after field. But the Church was slow to enter and make good those open doors, whereupon, "He that openeth, and no man shutteth, and shutteth, and no man openeth," allowed the awful World War II to close door after door, and for the time being the opportunity was gone.

It was a time of reflection and heart-searching for many. During the dark night of the war we said—to use the words of the Prophet Isaiah — "Watchman, what of the night?" Presently the Lord's gracious answer—"The morning cometh, and also the night." The morning came, the morning of restored peace and renewed opportunity. How we have praised God for it! But it is only for another day, whether long or short, no one knows. And the words of warning follow — "And also the night."

Another night is surely coming, dark with calamity for the world and with no further morning of light and opportunity to follow. May we all do our utmost to arouse the Church of Christ to make the fullest possible use of this new day of opportunity while it lasts.

As to the relation of Missions to the second advent of Christ, this much is clear, that we are to "redeem the time"—literally, buy up the opportunity—in the evil days that precede His return and to occupy till He comes. In what possible way can we better do this than by

consecrating every talent and resource we possess to the task enjoined by our blessed Lord? Let us spread quickly the glad tidings to the ends of the earth and win the last souls that will make up the "people for His name" in whom "He shall see of the travail of His soul, and shall be satisfied."—R. H. G.

—Editor, "South African Pioneer."

OPEN DOORS

We are in the early morning of 1948! Our golden sun of opportunity is just rising—and we MUST go forth to world-evangelism! We cannot escape the responsibility placed upon us. The need of the gospel is down to the famine point. The world never before furnished a harvest so white for the gospel! The doors are widely open! OUR opportunity confronts us!

Open doors. No, not doors; Not measured openings, marked on the edges of gaping hinges—not doors! God has knocked off the very sides of the world," says a world-known missionary traveler, "and has uncovered and exposed hundreds of millions, who stand in their helplessness, waiting for Someone!"

Talk about opportunities and chances to work in the Master's vineyard! Talk about investments that will pay one-hundred percent! "Son, go work today in My vineyard!" There never was such an era before! We live in days more augustly awful than any in previous history. But I would rather live in the year 1948, than to have lived when Christ walked the earth! It thrills one's very being to be alive and alert to God's call in this, "the eleventh hour" in the history of the world, and to have a task assigned us and to be able to respond to His every command! Am I justified in saying that we must get beyond and behind all the illusive glamour of ignorance and imagination; beyond effervescent touches of sympathy, and DO SOMETHING FOR SOULS WHO ARE DYING WITHOUT CHRIST!

—Editor, O.M.S. "Standard".

SOULS IN THE FIRE

Jude uses a gruesome figure to describe the condition of souls away from God—"pulling them out of the fire." This is the picture of a desperate situation. No soft measures are employed and time is a factor to be reckoned with. In such an emergency, a few minutes may be the difference between life and death. Every second must be improved and extreme measures attempted.

This is Jude's description of the lost men all about us. He cannot be referring to the fires of damnation in this phrase, "pulling them out of the fire," for all who are so unfortunate as to stumble into the "lake of fire that burneth with brimstone" are forever hopelessly lost. This impassioned writer refers to the fires of greed, of lust, of malice, of hate, fires which consume every noble aspiration and turn all moral beauty into rottenness.

This graphically describes the soul caught in the meshes of sin. There are a number of parallels such as: fire increases rapidly; fire spreads destruction in every direction; fire hardens the pliable clay into flinty bricks and leaves life-long scars on whatever it touches. One need not be much of a student of human nature to have seen all of these effects follow a course of sinful indulgence.

Here is stated, in vivid language, the business of the Church—"pulling men out of the