

NOTES AND OBSERVATIONS

W. Edmund Smith

Beulah Camp of '49 is history, and it is history worth reading. Many things conspired to make this a very successful meeting. The weather was ideal, while we missed the river boats, nevertheless the attendance all through was good, especially on Sundays. The preaching by Dr. Williamson, General Superintendent of the Church of the Nazarene, was spiritual, forceful and effective. Dr. Williamson was an indefatigable worker—strong in the altar call, and patient and persistent around the altar. Mrs. Williamson added to the interest in the Camp by giving two beautiful readings. Both the Dr. and she captured our people, and I think it was generally agreed that they would make excellent Reformed Baptists.

The service in the dining room was most satisfactory; the food was wholesome, abundant and palatable.

A new feature of the Camp was a half-hour broadcast on the last Sunday afternoon. Some said this would advertise Beulah Camp; But already the attendance of all-through Camps, and to those who came Sundays is so great that facilities for entertainment are taxed to the limit. Beulah needs an enlarged tabernacle, an enlarged dining hall, and a large new dormitory. Some stay away because they say "we can't get accommodations."

The young people were present in large numbers. For the younger ones there was a daily Bible School, taught by experts in Juvenile work. The school gave a demonstration of what they had learned to the edification of all.

Beulah enjoyed splendid musical talent. The celebrated Mullen Quartette, and solos by Deverne; the Fredericton trio; the Owens trio; the Sanford quartette, and the Jenny Lind of the Maritimes, Sister Hilyard, and there were others, truly the blessing of the Holy Spirit in the hearts of God's people, does bring out and develop the latent talents.

We must speak of Dr. Culver, who represented the Oriental Missionary Society, founded by Cowman and Kilbourn. This brother has had a wonderful experience. Born on a Western farm, he went deep into sin, but was wonderfully saved, when a little Methodist Church, led by his brother, spent a day in prayer and fasting in his behalf. He became a high-school teacher when he received a call from God for foreign service. He landed in China with a wife and two children, and small prospects of support. God brought him through. He has twice circled the world; has five children, all of whom are either in the foreign field or headed that way. At the close of one of Dr. Culver's addresses nearly one hundred young men and women knelt at the altar and sang with upraised hands, "I'll go where you want me to go dear God, I'll be what You want me to be!"

This does not imply that they all expect to be foreign missionaries, but expressed their willingness to accept God's plan for their lives. When I attended this Camp for the first time, fifty-two years ago, it reminded me of a sanctuary for the aged; but now what a throng of young people is here! And they are a happy looking group. They are beautified with salvation and not with rouge and lipstick.

I must speak especially of the closing service of the last Sunday. The tabernacle was crowded, the altar was well filled with seekers,

and after the last one had trusted God to meet his or her need, the closing jubilation took place, with the venerable Brother P. J. Fulton in charge. God has given him special strength all through the Camp.

I remember when we encircled the tabernacle in a single line, clasping hands; then we had double line, at this closing there must have been a quintuple circle. It was a throng circling that tabernacle, testifying, singing and praising God. Of course the dear modernists would have called it superficial emotionalism. Well this emotionalism began way back there at Pentecost, and has been kept more or less alive through all the ages. The world's crowd goes wild at ball games, hockey games and horse races, etc., etc., etc. But the children of the Lord have a right to shout and sing "Over the satisfying position they been found in Jesus. Brother Trafton expects all of us younger ones to be faithful and to shine for Jesus, and with prayer, and praise and thanksgiving Beulah Camp for '49 came to a close at 11.00 p. m. I have a little rhyme I made on Beulah:

A Beulah Song

How beautiful is Beulah
On the banks of the St. John!
The river and the rolling hills
So fair to look upon;
God crowned this place with loveliness;
His mind wrought out the plan.
Through the silent force of nature
And the industry of man.

From near and far God's people come
To worship at this place;
To magnify the power of God
Who saved them by His grace.
From all of sin's polluting stains
His spirit sets us free,
So tune your harp my brother
And sing His praise with me.

Our watchword it is Holiness;
Our banner is God's love;
Our power is the Holy Ghost
Poured on us from above.
Oh not with carnal weapons
We give ourselves to fight,
But in the armour of the Lord
We battle for the right.

The word goes forth both near and far
E'en to dark Africa's land,
Where rivers from their mountain source
Roll down the golden sand.
Those black-skinned saints know Beulah,
And more—they know the Lord.
They too can sing of holiness
Because they trust the word.

Roll on! Roll on old river;
And let salvation roll
From sea to sea, from shore to shore,
From pole to frozen pole!
Christ is the King all-glorious,
And we're all saved from sin,
This World would be a Beulah
With Christ enthroned within.

I wrote this history in my room at Beulah when we were enjoying the Youth's Camp. We shall remain here for a few days after the camp and then head for Riverside Camp, Maine, Aug. 12—19. From there we may send a few more observations.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL REFORM

"The heart is deceitful above all things and desperately wicked". One has only to look at world conditions today to realize this to be too true. The civilization which we thought so permanent is now threatened. The hearts of millions are fainting for the fear from the expectation of the dread things which may come upon the earth. Wickedness and vice of every kind are on the increase. New inventions to make living more comfortable, the use of atomic power and all other great scientific achievements have failed to remove sin from the heart of man—the sin that causes all the trouble. Surely the day of the Lord is at hand. All these things should make the child of God more alert and spur him on to a consistent effort against the evils that have taken so many to hell.

Let us for a moment look into some of these wicked practises that are so prevalent today. The first to come to our notice is the curse of alcohol. Do you know that the National Safety Council of America estimates the cost of preventable accidents due to drunkenness reaches an annual figure of one hundred twenty million? Do you know that it costs industry a half billion dollars annually in loss of time and efficiency? Do you know that one Canadian province alone made a profit of thirty-five million dollars from the sale of liquor in 1948? We can all tell of many other such startling facts I am sure. But this product that is the cause of such things as I have mentioned is generally accepted in our nation. High revenues are received from it by our government—a high place is given it in the social life of our nation—and sad to say even the church shares in the compromise.

Alcohol is placed before the people by means of skillful advertising, which often pictures some beautiful phase of nature, hints on how to drive carefully or some other such thing is used to attract people who at first would not be attracted by the product itself. Such pictures give the impression that alcohol is the servant of mankind—when it will only bring ruin.

The worldly wise have decided that alcoholism is a disease—a form of illness, we hear. True it is a disease affecting the body, soul and spirit—but it is more than that. It is the work of the devil himself who coils himself about our whole nation and seeks to damn us all. Thank God there is help for the needy soul in Christ who taketh away the sin of the world.

There are many other things that could be mentioned. There is the corrupting of our youth by means of seductive magazines and publications such as crime comics sections by which fascinated children are unconsciously taught in the arts of the devil. There were one hundred twenty new crime comic titles added in 1948. Who can estimate the damage done by such things?

We think also of the moving picture business which creates national idols out of drunken, adulterous men and women. It is estimated that two billion five hundred and four million dollars flow into the coffers of the film industry every year. There are some two hundred million that attend the theatre every week. A moving picture producer was paid the highest salary in America this year. What facts to be true of an industry that glorifies such things as broken marriage vows, indecency, drunken-

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