

a special week-end meeting. We found a state of revival in the church there. In fact, the church at Black's Harbour has been in a state of revival for months. On Sunday afternoon in a great service fourteen believers sought the sanctifying grace of the Spirit and gave ringing testimonies to victory through the cleansing power of Calvary's blood. In the evening service there were nine more seekers at the altar, eight to be saved and one more for sanctification. As you may imagine, a great time of blessing climaxed this week-end meeting. God is moving wonderfully in Black's Harbour saving young people, talented and promising, and giving them the incomparable joy of salvation. One of the seekers Sunday night was a mother of twelve or more children. Thank God for these evidences that He still lives to bless and help those who will believe! The Black's Harbour people have a fine new parsonage and they are giving Brother and Sister Fernley fine support.

For the Christmas season I have had the great joy of being at home with Mrs. Cochrane and Margaret. The Lord has given us a wonderful Christmas and we appreciate all our blessings and especially His great Gift. We have had a "green Christmas" but we have been all but "snowed under" with beautiful card greetings and lovely gifts. To all our friends who remembered us we send a fervent and sincere "thank you!" Your friendship is valued very highly. May the blessing of the Lord be upon all in rich measure during 1950!

### GUEST EDITORIAL

#### PREPARATION FOR PROGRESS

E. W. Roy, "Holiness Banner"

In God's plan for the Church, as it is revealed in the Bible, there is a clear pattern of progress indicated. The Church of God is composed of saved believers, each of whom is travelling toward heaven. On that journey each one is directed by way of the Cross, through the mystery of Blood, along the road of suffering, and after having suffered a while in the faithful walk with God, he will be brought to the land where there is no night. Such is the plan of progress for the individual who would live godly in Christ Jesus.

Isaiah indicated that there was a necessity of making preparation if progress were to become a reality in the realm of spiritual achievements. His pen heralded the message, "The voice of him that crieth in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord," (Isa. 40:3). The very expression of the Prophet causes one to realize that there is a note of extreme urgency, preparation, and advance. The Bible faithfully calls for the attention of every devout man and woman that it may declare the same message to them.

The wilderness to which Isaiah directed attention here was very small, reaching from the Euphrates to Judah, but there is no violence to the Scriptures if the reference is applied to the moral wilderness that stretches from pole to pole around the earth. The Church has been planted upon the earth and has been charged with the responsibility of carrying the Gospel light to those who sit in moral and spiritual darkness.

Surely, this day is one that challenges the Church of the living God! There are many voices in the world today, and some of them urge one to go this direction, and some urge

another; but the Bible carries one message, even though different voices are used to herald it. That message remains ever the same—it is: "Prepare; advance!" The Church is not going to hear God say, "Retreat!" His kingdom is an expanding kingdom, and its law centers in growth, development, expansion, progress, and ever enlarging identities.

The Old Testament, written under the inspiration of the Holy Ghost prior to the Dispensation of Grace, is not primarily a universal book in every respect; it is a book for the Jews, and it records God's special dealings with them as He led them and instructed them in spiritual things that prepared the way for the expansion of His cause until it would include every nation under the sun. However, there are occasional outbursts within the Old Testament that reveal God's great love for the whole of humanity. In these, there is a revelation of God's great love that yearned to redeem all flesh from the bondage of sin, darkness and superstition. Therefore, it would be unfair to declare that the Old Testament is a book for one people—the Jews. Actually, the Old Testament makes for itself a point of origin from which its enlarged action is to proceed with greater force.

Isaiah introduces the dawn of evangelism, and the forward march of the cause of God from that hour has given the world full salvation; and the New Testament records the expansion as well as challenges every succeeding generation to even greater achievements. The Bible makes it clear that the Gospel of Jesus Christ is not to be hidden and kept secret. Rather, the exhortations all make it plain that the "Bread of life" is to be shared with those who are less fortunate. The Church is ordained as God's institution for the spreading of the Gospel. That is the way that "the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together: for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it."

The Church is in danger of being weakened by the romance of the foreign missionary enterprise drawing the vision away from the immediate needs near at hand. By this, we do not mean to minimize the work of the Church on heathen soil. God bless every faithful missionary and native worker on the far-flung battlefields! However, we face an hour in which there is dire need of a strengthening of the "home base," or collapse is certain to prevail on foreign fields in the not-too-far-distant future. The prevalent need in the Church of God today is aggressive evangelism at home as well as abroad.

We rejoice in the fact that there are some who have the vision, and are moving out to establish new churches. There is something about seeing a new church established that blesses the heart and inspires to greater activity. May God hasten the day when the scores of cities lying across this nation shall have strong churches established that will proclaim a full salvation. There is no place to slow down as long as the "regions beyond" do not have opportunity to hear the full Gospel message.

God is looking for a man today. There is great need for consecrated men who are ready to sacrifice to the limit in order to see God's cause prosper. Too many folk are waiting for something to be handed to them on a "silver platter." God's choice saints and faithful soul winners come up by another route. It is toil and labor in the Church, the same as in the

physical realm. If one is to eat the "bread of satisfaction," it must be earned by faithful labor in spiritual activities.

If we could see new churches being established in the homeland, faith would be increased for greater activities abroad; but the fact remains that unless such takes place, there is little hope of progress. "O Zion, that bringest good tidings," quickly publish the Gospel to the world!

### "TO GO WHERE THE FISH ARE"

Dr. Torrey tells how some of the Christian people of Minneapolis engaged a local theatre for a series of Sunday afternoon meetings. Some good people thought it unwise to take the Gospel into such a den of iniquity. One of the leading business men of the city stood on the street corner, giving out invitations for the Theatre Comique meetings. A young fellow came along and took an invitation. He read it, and then said to the business man: "Do you know what sort of a place the Theatre Comique is?"

Mr. G. replied: "Do you suppose I have been in Minneapolis twenty years not to know?"

"Well," said the young fellow, "what are you having the Gospel preached in such a place as that for?"

"When you go fishing," replied Mr. G., "where do you go?"

"Oh," the young fellow replied: "I see! I go where the fish are."

The first meeting was held on New Year's Day. The fish were there in abundance, and many were caught. A few days after the first meeting, Dr. Torrey received a letter from Ottumwa, Iowa. The letter was anonymous, but the writer said: "I was at your meeting in the Theatre Comique on New Year's Day. Years ago in England I was a Christian, but the first thing I did when I walked off the gang plank of the steamer in New York was to go to a saloon, and I have been going down ever since. I had squandered \$300 in the Theatre Comique the week preceeding your meeting, but as I sat there on the first day of the New Year and listened to you preach the Gospel, the Spirit of God touched my heart, and I accepted Christ as my Saviour and have started a new life."

A year passed by. On the following New Year's Day a reception was held in the mission hall on Washington Avenue. Several months before, a man had come into the fellowship and had proved himself a very earnest, active Christian, and had so won the confidence of the people that he had been elected a deacon in the church and was filling the office with great acceptance. As he was sitting in the reception room of the mission, he turned to Dr. Torrey suddenly and said:

"Did you receive a letter from Ottumwa, Iowa, from a man who was converted in the Theatre Comique on New Year's Day last year?"

"Yes, I did."

"Well," he said, "I am the man." And now this man who had squandered \$300 in one of the vilest dens in Minneapolis a year before, was an acceptable and honoured office-bearer in a Christian church.—The Evangelist.

"God's priceless Gift, the Son of Man, was given not only on that first Christmas Day, but on every day, at any time!"