Editorial

Let's Enquire Rather Than Wait

I am not "stuck" for words as I write a trite statement: This is a day of opportunity, especially for Christian young people. The religious awakening of our generation, the apparent shortness of time, the scarcity of Christian workers make this a momentous period for us.

Surely God must have something for each of us to do. I cannot consider the need of the world, the attitude of a sincere Christian heart, the teaching of God's Word and believe otherwise. The world, my heart, and God's Word all say, "Get busy; redeem the time for the days are evil."

Perhaps some of us are waiting for God to tell us what to do. We are quite satisfied to do nothing until He tells us. Let's become concerned. Why not seek His will? We can rightfully enquire as Paul, "Lord, what wilt thou have me to do?"

Is it not surprising that God is not calling more of us to be missionaries, preachers, and teachers? But is it not more surprising that some of us who are not called to full-time work (but called) see nothing more to do than to go to church and pay our tithe? Emperor Nero, it is said, fiddled while Rome burned. Is it not more alarming that many Christians "fiddle" while—not Rome—but the world perishes?

C. E. S.

Not Called?

Dr. R. A. Torrey, conducting an evangelistic campaign in Minneapolis, asked a gentleman, "Are you a Christian?"

"I consider so."

"Good, are you bringing men to Christ?"

"That's not my business, I am a lawyer; it is your business to bring men to Christ."

Dr. Torrey opened his Bible to Acts 8:4. "Read this," said Dr. Torrey to his friend—"They that were scattered abroad went everywhere preaching the word."

He replied, "Yes, but they were apostles, ministers like yourself."

Dr. Torrey replied: "I think you are mistaken, sir; read this"—pointing to verse one—"They were all scattered abroad, except the apostles."

It was the final word for the lawyer.

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Lord, end our wishy-washy, lukewarm, mumbling religion. Lord, set us on fire! Put the divine fire in us before the atomic fire destroys us and our world. Take away our small, selfish thoughts and make us—in vision—as big as the world's need. Take away our weakness and fill us with Your power!

Help the sleeping might of Britain and America to be awakened into glorious action by the power of the Holy Spirit. We are sick of our disgusting indifference, and Thou art sick of us. Do not spue us out of Thy mouth—but set us on fire!

Lord, send a Pentecost at any cost! Send a Pentecost—and begin in me! Keep Thy promise, Lord, and baptize us with the Holy Spirit and with fire! The altar is ready. The offering is ready. Lord, now send the fire! Amen.

By Paul S. Rees.

THE RALLY: A GOOD START

Lic. M. W. Bagley, Denominational Y. P. President, has reported that a large crowd was present at the first service of the denominational rally at Hartland. Representatives were present from several churches to hear Rev. F. A. Dunlop speak on the theme "Holiness For Youth." The prospect Friday night was for an outstanding rally.

A complete report of the rally will appear later.

If you would make an impact upon your generation—read yourself full; think yourself straight; pray yourself hot; let yourself go—go in God's might; go under God's direction; go with God all the way. —Clipped.

TO FIND GOD'S WILL

By Martin W. Cox

Large numbers of young people had come forward in youth rallies—indicating their complete willingness to do the will of God in their lives. They were tender, responsive, eager.

God's Spirit was moving. A question was asked, "How many of you know what God wants you to do in life?" Surprisingly few knew.

Does this mean that God is unwilling to show His will? That He is not pleased that young people should know the will of God and be able to plan to fulfill it? I do not believe so. Of course there are cases where God does not make His way plain at once, and for some very good reasons. It is not always wise for us to know the next steps.

But I do believe God wants us to know His will for our lives—His will for our life's work—much sooner than we usually know. He surely wants us to be able to make the best preparation possible for life.

In order to find His will we must seek for it. We can hear a voice saying, "This is the way, walk ye in it." We must seek His will earnestly, with our "whole heart." God will not fail us.

To find God's will, to prepare for His plan, to carry out His work—this should be our highest life purpose.

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"For promotion cometh not from the east nor the west nor from the south. But God is the Judge, he putteth down one and setteth up another (Ps. 75:6).

If failure is in your life, seek for the cause. It may be some unconfessed sin. It may be an unkind word or tone of voice. It may be a neglect of duty or a failure to heed the inner checks of the Holy Spirit.

Success is not measured in terms of money or fame or beauty or dazzling opportunities but rather by much prayer, self-denial, self-abnegation, and a complete surrender to God. In fact, the seeds of success will be planted in your heart when you seek for the lowest place instead of the highest.

To help some unfortunate colored child onto a higher plane of living may be the beginning of your success in some coveted field. In short, true success is achieved when one lives in the heart of God, seeking his glory alone.—Julia A. Shelhamer.

"I CANNOT COME DOWN"

Anna Talbott McPherson

In an illustrious hall of fame there glows a character of whom we hear but little. Investigating his history, we learn that amid the most adverse conditions, he built a wall. Jerusalem, the city beloved, had fallen into ruins after the Babylonian captivity. Some had returned to it, a few had tried to restore parts of it, but they found themselves in far greater poverty and bondage here than they had experienced during all their seventy years in Babylon itself. Interest in rebuilding Jerusalem waned.

Then there arose a man who, like Moses, chose rather to suffer with the people of God than to enjoy pleasures for a season, though he was a cup-bearer in the king's palace. The ruins of Zion were more attractive to him than the splendors of Shushan. He set himself to his task with devotion, energy, skill, and faith in God. Many were the hindrances. Enemies on every side banded together to stop the progress of the building, but Nehemiah set well armed sentinels who watched in relays to prevent desertion and to repel attack. His workmen carried a sword in one hand and a tool in the other. Five times these enemies endeavored to entice Nehemiah to meet them on the plain of Ono.

"I am doing a great work," he answered again and again. "I cannot come down. Why should the work cease, whilst I leave it, and come down to you?"

Because of Nehemiah's bravery and steadfastness, the wall about Jerusalem was finished in fifty-two days, an almost unbelievable accomplishment.

There was once a skilled oculist in England who was very fond of cricket. But he gave it up, as much as he enjoyed it, for he found it affected the delicacy of his touch; and for the sake of those whom he sought to relieve, he sanctified and set himself apart. In his heart, he had said like Nehemiah, "I am doing a great work; I am building a 'wall'; I cannot come down to enjoy this pleasure which would hinder my purpose."

Many of you are graduating this month from High School, from College. You are making plans to pursue new courses in the coming days. There is a work God has set you to do. What is trying to entice you from your task? What is it? Ambition, friends, pleasures, riches? Oh, may the iron of a Nehemiah enter the very marrow of your bones! May your purpose be, "This one thing I do!" And may your answer be, "I cannot stoop to drink of the pleasures of sin even for a season. I am doing a great work; I am building a 'wall,'—a character, a life, meet for the Master's use; I cannot come down."

The glory of the gospel of Christ is that it makes somebody out of nobody. John Bunyan is one of history's noblest examples of the redemptive process that releases divine power in the soul of the ordinary man.—Selected.

NEW SOCIETIES

Please inform Miss Ethel Cochrane, Corresponding Secretary, of the name of your societies' secretaries so that she can mail your societies report blanks by mid June.

Her address is Marysville, N. B.

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