

Lift The Latch

"I was visiting," said that good man, Arnot, "amongst my poor, sick people in the wynds and closes of Edinburgh here last week. I stood away back and looked up at the high houses to see whether Betty—my good old Betty Gordon—an aged saint of God, were at home or not. I knew that she was home by this sign, that her little flowerpots were on the windowsill, that the blind was up. I knew Betty was in, for when she went away she carefully took in the flowerpots and pulled down the blinds.

"I knew that she was poor and needy, but she trusted God, and I was so glad that somebody had given me some money that morning that I might give it to the poor. I calculated what Betty's rent would amount to for a month, and I put that aside in my pocket with other moneys for the poor.

"I went into the close, climbed up the winding stone stairs, and panting at last reached Betty's door. I knocked. At first I knocked softly; but there was no answer. Then I pulled the bell, and it rang through the bedrooms, but there was no answer. Then I knocked louder, but there was no answer. At last I said, 'Betty forgot to pull down the blinds and she has gone out, leaving her flowerpots there. What a pity!' Then I went downstairs.

"The next morning I went back because I knew Betty needed help, and knocked at the door. After a little waiting, Betty came and opened it.

"'Oh,' she said, 'is it you, Mr. Arnot? I am so glad to see you! Come in!' I went in and sat down. I offered prayer and the sweet face of Betty, framed with her white hair, looked to me like the face of an angel. But there were tears in her eyes, and a look of care that I had not seen.

"I said, 'Betty, woman, what are you crying for?' 'Oh,' she said, 'Mr. Arnot, I am so afraid—I am so afraid of the landlord. He will come, perhaps, today. He came yesterday and I had na the rent, and I did na open the door, and now I am afraid of his coming; for he is a hard man.' 'Betty, what time did he come yesterday?' 'He came between eleven and twelve o'clock,' she said. 'I remember because I looked at the clock and it was twenty-five minutes to twelve.'

"'Well, Betty,' said Mr. Arnot, 'It was na the landlord, it was I, and I brought to you, Betty, this money to pay your rent; take it and be thankful.'

"She looked at me and said, 'Oh, was it you? Did you bring that money to pay my rent, and I kept the door steekit against you and I would na let you in? And I heard your knocking and I heard your ringing, and I said, 'That is the landlord, I wish he would go away.' And it was my ain meenister. It was my ain Lord who has sent ye as the messenger and I would na let ye in.'"—The C. & M. Alliance.

WITHOUT RESERVE

One of the marks of a man who follows the Lord fully is that he brings a good report of the "life more abundant." Caleb does not look at the giants, but dwells upon the grapes of Eschol. By life as well as by lip the whole-hearted Christian testifies that we may be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might.—S. M. Warner.

The King's Highway

IF IT WERE NOT FOR OTHER PEOPLE

Therefore all things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them: for this is the law and the prophets. (Matt. 7:12, Golden Text). A man from an agency brought a car to a man for the purpose of teaching him to drive, and together they went to the country. Within an hour the new driver was starting, stopping, backing and turning with ease. When he remarked that the difficulties of handling a car had surely been exaggerated his mentor merely suggested that they return to the main highway and try the traffic. Early morning the city-bound traffic was heavy. The new driver began to perspire. Cars ahead, cars behind, cars passing at tremendous speed made him forget the instructions that a few minutes before had seemed so simple. At the first opportunity he took a side road, and stopped. Mopping his brow he exclaimed, "If it were not for the other people . . ." "Yes," smiled the teacher, "that's about all there is to driving a car; the other people." There is more to living the Christian life than "the other people," but they are essentially involved at every turn.—Lloyd Douglas.

LEARNING CHRIST'S WAY

Teach me, dear Lord, to keep sweet and gentle in all the events of life—

in disappointments,

in the thoughtlessness of others,

in the insincerity of those I trusted,

in the unfaithfulness of those on whom I relied.

Help me to put myself aside—

to think of the happiness of others,

to hide my little pains and heartaches,

so that I may be the only one to suffer from them.

Teach me to profit by the suffering that comes to me,

Help me so to use it that it may mellow me—

not harden or embitter me;

that it may make me patient, not irritable;

that it may make me broad in my forgiveness;

kindly, sympathetic, and helpful.—Selected.

A DIVINE PLAN

God has a plan for every life in Christ Jesus. What a wondrous truth is this! Yea, for every cloud that floats across the summer sky, for every blade of grass that points its tiny spear heavenward, God has a purpose and a plan. How much more then, for you who are His own in Christ Jesus, does God have a perfect plan. And all in wondrous love.—James H. McConkey.

OUR HEAVENLY COMPANION

The Lord is often present in our lives in things that we do not dream possess any significance. He loves to show His hand through the unexpected. Often He keeps us from seeing His way until just before He opens it, and then, immediately that it is unfolded, we find that He was walking by our side in the very thing, long before we suspected its meaning.—Dr. A. B. Simpson.

REPORT OF 86TH N. H. A. ANNUAL CONVENTION

The National Holiness Association closed its 86th Annual Convention at Temple Baptist Church in this city Sunday afternoon, April 25th, with a public rally attended by almost 3,000 people.

At their business session Saturday, the 138 official delegates elected Dr. Myron F. Boyd, Director and Speaker of the ABC Radio Network program, "The Light and Life Hour," as president for the coming year. Dr. Boyd succeeds Dr. Paul F. Elliott, who has held the position for four years.

The Rev. Paul L. Kindschi, Pastor of the Waite Park Wesleyan Methodist Church, Minneapolis, Minnesota and President of the Iowa-Minnesota Conference of that denomination, was elected executive secretary of the Association to succeed Dr. H. M. Couchenour, executive secretary for the past four years and president the previous four years. The executive secretaryship is the only full-time salaried official position of the organization.

Both Dr. Elliott and Dr. Couchenour remain on the executive committee, the former as retiring president in an ex-officio capacity, and the latter as the elected first vice-president. Few other changes were made in the 25 members of the Administrative Board.

In the installation of the new officers, outgoing President Elliott, Executive Secretary Couchenour and other officers pledged their whole-hearted support to the present administration. Dr. Boyd was presented to the attending delegates after introductory words by Bishop L. R. Marston. The new executive secretary was introduced by Dr. Couchenour. Incoming officers have pledged themselves to work for the extension of the Association on both local and national levels. Plans are already under consideration toward this end.

In his acceptance speech, Dr. Boyd said: "I am not the man that some other men have been who have filled this office, but I am all God's so whatever I am God has all there is of me, and can use me during whatever period of time I shall be your president . . . I believe that the holiness people have sat back altogether too long. We have had our heads bowed too much. We have not put our heads up and our shoulders back, and a smile on our face, and announced to the world that we have something that is greater than the world knows anything about. We do not need to take a 'back seat' to anyone else. If we really have the experience, and we really know the doctrine, let's go out and tell the world about it." He was characteristically enthusiastic.

The National Holiness Association is an organization representing approximately a million and a half like-minded persons who believe and teach the doctrine of a deeper spiritual life as taught by John Wesley. Thirteen denominations are now officially affiliated with the Association, including Free Methodist, Ohio Friends Brethren in Christ, Wesleyan Methodist, United Missionary Church, Ohio Conference, United Missionary Church, Indiana Conference, Congregational Methodist, People's Methodist and Missionary Bands of the World. New denominations received as affiliates during this Convention are Evangelical Methodist, The Holiness Christian Churches of America, Evangelistic Tabernacles Association and Lower Light Mission.

The following associations were accepted into auxiliary relationship: Northwest Michigan, Ashtabula-Erie Counties, Kalamazoo-St. Joseph Counties and Hamilton County Holiness Associations, making a total of 151 auxiliaries, besides the 47 schools and colleges.

This year's convention was well attended by both official delegates and friends of the Detroit area. 23 colleges were represented, 10 missionary societies, and 75 affiliates and auxiliaries. Official registration included members of 22 different denominations and residents of 22 states and the Dominion of Canada.

Much interest was shown in the new phase of the program in the form of panel discussions. A separate subject of importance was considered each week day and proved most profitable.

The local committees did their work well in preparing for and advertising the Convention and in co-operating in the services and machinery of the operation. The kind ladies of the host church provided delightful noon-day meals at reasonable cost.

Preaching at various appointed hours during the day was anointed of the Lord. Ministers on the program were Methodist, Nazarene, Pilgrim Holiness, Free Methodist, Brethren in Christ, Wesleyan Methodist, United Missionary and Evangelical United Brethren. Speakers for the evangelistic services at night were Dr. J. C. McPheeters, Dr. T. H. Anderson, Dr. David E. Wilson and Dr. Myron F. Boyd. Dr. Paul S. Rees, Pastor of First Covenant Church, Minneapolis, was scheduled to appear for the Great YOUTH RALLY Friday night. Flying from England, where he has been conducting Pastoral Counseling in the Graham Campaign, he was delayed enroute by the plane's engine trouble and was unable to meet his appointment. The Lord, however, poured out His Spirit on the service in a marvelous way and the keen disappointment was alleviated by His special presence.

Music throughout the five days was most inspirational. Prof. J. Byron Crouse led the congregational singing and was soloist. Prof. Greg Larkin directed the combined local choir which blessed the hearts of the hearers each night and during the glorious Sunday afternoon Rally. Special numbers from other musicians were also enjoyed.

Site of next year's Convention will be announced later.