

## Church and District News

### FROM THE MEDUCTIC PASTORATE

Dear Highway Friends:—

Greetings in the name of our precious Lord. We feel that a letter concerning our work here is long overdue. First of all, we would like to express our sincere and heartfelt appreciation to those of you who have shown your interest, by demonstrating so generously the good neighbor policy by your gifts of money, time and labor. To each and everyone who has helped in any way, we say "Thank you," and pray that God will richly bless you for your gift.

Through the appeal that our Editor so kindly has made on our behalf, most of you are aware that the parsonage has been renovated. Probably some of you are wondering just what has been done, but so much has been done that we hardly know where to begin to tell you about it. However, since it is always wise to have a solid foundation we will begin there. The house has been raised and three rows of concrete blocks have been placed on top of the old foundation. This brought the parsonage up on a level with the street. Next, about fifty feet of sheds that were in very bad repair, on the back of the house were torn down and removed. A basement 14 x 16 feet was dug, over which a new modern kitchen was built. Inside the main house, every room but one was papered and painted. Upstairs, in the hall, a new room was built and a complete bath was installed.

Of course, in order to make that possible it was necessary for us to purchase a new pressure system which is installed in the basement; also the upstairs rooms have been wired and electric lights installed. All of this work has been accomplished at a minimum expense due to the fact that so much labor and truckage were donated. Then too, all of the equipment that it was necessary to buy was purchased at a reduced price from folk who were interested in helping in the Lord's work. Our carpenters, too, gave many hours of free labor. In consideration of this great accomplishment, we can but praise God from whom all blessings flow, and with the hymn writer sing,

"Jesus, still lead on, till our rest be won;  
Heavenly Leader, still direct us,  
Still support, console, protect us,  
Till we safely stand in our Fatherland."

Before leaving this part of our report, we feel that we cannot claim all of the honor and words of praise that our superintendent so kindly offered us in the last issue of The Highway. Truly this work was not accomplished because of our leadership; but rather, it was accomplished through the untiring efforts, enthusiasm, love and devotion of God's people and adherents here in Meductic. We trust that this correction will not embarrass our brother, but nevertheless we cannot claim what is not justly due us.

At Middle Southampton, too, much has been accomplished in regards to our church building. The choir room, which was in bad repair, has been removed. The seats have been rearranged so that the platform and pulpit are placed across the end of the building. We find it much easier to heat and more convenient in every respect. This work too, has been undertaken

by the local members and interested friends and is a wonderful demonstration of what a few people can do, when they are inspired and interested in the advancement of God's kingdom here on earth. Regarding our work from a spiritual standpoint, we do feel that the work is encouraging. Our prayer meetings are proving an inspiration and blessing, to us at least, and we know that God is ever present with us. Probably it is because we are few in number that we realize our utter dependence upon Him, but we do recognize that in our prayer meetings, we are being drawn closer together and to Him. Praise His wonderful name. Our Sunday services are reasonably well attended considering the small membership. Especially in our evening services, folk from the Baptist church attend and we are enjoying a real time of fellowship in the Lord. As yet we are not able to report any definite victory for the Lord, but hands have been raised for prayer and several have confessed their need of a Saviour. Thank God for this and do remember us in your prayers. Down at Lower Southampton, we feel that at least we have no right to be discouraged.

It was on Thursday night, Sept. 30, that God awakened me and laid the burden upon my heart to attempt services in our church there. Accordingly the next day, we went down, made a few calls and announced a service for Sunday, Oct. 3rd. A goodly number was in attendance at that service and at least three people have never missed the meetings that we have been holding regularly since that date. We thank God for them and their faithfulness to us.

Recently Brother George Delong was with us for a two week campaign down there. It was the first time that we have had the privilege of working with our evangelist, but we rest assured that no man could work harder nor carry a greater burden for lost souls.

Brother Delong's messages were timely and inspirational and blessed with the anointing of the Holy Spirit of God. He spent much time in prayer and fasting but to no avail. Only God knows what it will take to cause hearts to yield to His will. It was a real blessing and privilege to have Brother Delong in our home. He came to us a stranger but he left like one of our own family. May God continue to use and bless him in his work.

Well, we could write on and on, but to tell of all the things we would like to mention would take more time and space than our Editor probably would care to grant us. However, we would not want to close without first saying "Thank you one and all for your kind remembrances of us at Christmas time", also to advise you how much we love it here. The fellowship, kindness, and thoughtfulness of everyone throughout the Field is really wonderful. We are constantly reminded of a motto that mother had that went like this:

"It's fine indeed, in these days of speed, when we rest from our daily labors,  
To chat a while and swap a smile with life's real neighborly neighbors;  
But since the days of horse and chaise, such folk are mighty few,  
And life is sweet when folk can greet, such neighborly neighbors as you."

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### FROM SUSSEX, N. B.

Since the rush of the building program is over we shall endeavor to give a brief report on the work here.

As we look back over the months that have passed and think of the work that has been done since the men started to tear down the huge old building that was on the lot where our new church building stands, we have a feeling of relief as well as of gratitude. The untiring efforts and sacrifice of the members of the Sussex Church is highly commendable and has made a deep impression on this fine community. This feeling of appreciation has been expressed in kind remarks and donations from the business firms and professional men of Sussex. The local newspaper also gave us unusual recognition which we thank God for and trust that it will all be used to further His cause.

The dedicatory service was very impressive, having many of the brethren in the ministry and laymen present at the service, as well as our superintendent, Rev. N. E. Trafton, and the Mullen Brothers. We certainly appreciate the special efforts put forth by many to come such long distances to the service.

In spite of the heavy financial burden placed on the local church the members of the Sussex Church have not forgotten the needs of the pastor. Shortly after Beulah the members of the church and many from the congregation, gathered at the parsonage with vegetables and all sorts of food. After a delicious lunch was served we were presented with a purse of sixty dollars. Since that time they have remembered our birthday with another forty dollars. These gifts have been helpful and appreciated but most of all we thank God for what He has done in the lives of these who only two years ago were treading the dark paths of sin.

Except for a few details our church auditorium is completed. The building is equipped with a hot air oil furnace, a new piano, circle backed pews with a seating capacity of 240, also a balcony which on special occasions could step up accommodations to 300. When our loud speaking system is installed the nursery will accommodate six mothers with infants, also there are upstairs washroom facilities for both men and women. The church has a full-sized basement which will provide room for Sunday School and Prayer Meetings when finished. The overall cost up to date, including the lot of land which cost three thousand, is twenty-three thousand dollars. A financial program has been laid out with pledges taken every six months, which if continued with the same success as the first year will see us out of debt in five years. Praise the Lord!

However with the good over-all picture we have some outstanding accounts which demand immediate attention. These are difficult for the local church to care for at the present. We appreciate the gifts from some of our churches and individuals, which have been a great help. If others have means to invest in a worthy cause with eternal interest it would be a heaven sent solution at this crisis time.

We have just finished a week-end Youth Rally with Rev. H. R. Ingersoll as evangelist, assisted by DeVerne Mullen. God came very near at times and in the last service, with nearly a full house, souls were greatly moved.

Pray with us for a Revival.

—R. H. and Mrs. Nicholson.