

OUR SUPERINTENDENT REPORTS

Dear Highway Readers:

A letter from me is long overdue. Since Beulah Camp I have been busy moving about among our churches and have assisted in some revival services.

I had a very pleasant tour of the churches in Nova Scotia. I was able to hold one or more services in every church excepting our church at Londonderry. This one I missed through slip-up in arrangements. I was sorry.

I was impressed with the operation of our work in Nova Scotia. Every minister seemed to be well placed and I heard no word of complaint from either pastor or people. This is very important in the work and I was happy to find this spirit existing everywhere. It was my first visit to our new Church in Halifax. Rev. Hobson has a fine congregation attending his services, and he is ever planning new and larger enterprises. This could easily be one of our larger churches. All in all our Nova Scotia churches are keeping up a fine record of loyalty and christian devotion.

In November I was with Kenneth Jewett and his people at Meductic. It was a joy to work with brother Jewett and his talented family. I have not known a church that carried such an intense prayer ministry throughout a campaign as did the Meductic people. This was felt in the services and in the homes as we called and prayed with the people. Conviction was everywhere. The unsaved expressed freely their desire for a christian experience; some responded, and were saved, while others allowed the enemy to bind them a bit more firmly in the ways of sin. We regret that Rev. Jewett found it necessary to enter the St. John Hospital immediately at the close of the Meeting for a major operation, but we believe he is improving at the time of this writing and we hope for his complete recovery. Rev. F. A. Anderson is supplying for brother Jewett during his convalescence.

From Meductic I went with the DeLongs at Houlton. This is a Home Mission project launched last Spring. The folk here are working hard and sacrificially to establish a centre for the holiness message in that area. Some fine folk are supporting our work there. They have advanced to the point where they are carrying a large share of the financial load and hope to be able to take the full load in the near future. The Sunday School has increased from a half dozen scholars to over thirty, and may I say, their Bible class is one of the most interesting that I have attended. Mrs. William A'Dair has remarkable ability in guiding the class through the lesson material. I found them an advanced group in bible study. The DeLongs are working hard and are well received. I have always enjoyed working with them and this present meeting only added to my past enjoyments. We saw little during the effort to encourage but we left some truth with them and I feel we made some friends for the Holiness Message while we were there. This work needs our prayers. Let us not fail them.

This week-end I go to Norton to be with brother Stevens and the people in that group of churches. I understand brother Stevens will receive several new members into church fellowship on Sunday evening, so I shall share in that happy occasion.

It is my purpose to visit most of the churches during the year. I shall be making up my itinerary at the first of the New Year.

I am enjoying my work very much and hope to add some support to our Denominational program by my contacts.

Mrs. Dunlop and I take this opportunity to wish all the Highway Readers a very Merry Christmas and Prosperous New Year.

FRASER DUNLOP.

The King's Highway

BETHLEHEM-HOUSE OF THE REDEEMER

By Rev. N. E. Trafton

The return of Naomi and Ruth to Bethlehem from the land of Moab is a touching narrative. The reception they received at the hand of Boaz, who became their redeemer, is symbolic of the grace received at the hand of Christ the Redeemer of the whole world.

This dramatic record outlines several conditions which must be fulfilled before redemption is possible. There must be the forsaking of the strange country, and a cleaving unto the Lord expressed in those immortal words of Ruth, "Intreat me not to leave thee, or to return from following after thee: for whither thou goest, I will go: and where thou lodgest, I will lodge: thy people shall be my people, and thy God my God: where thou diest, will I die, and there will I be buried."

Then again, we must be willing to glean in his field and receive of his benefits.

Boaz charged Ruth, "Go not to glean in another field—but abide here. "She was satisfied to remain and handfuls of purpose were let fall for her sake. Also, there must be a complete dependence on Christ as our personal redeemer. Ruth waited at the feet of Boaz until he promised to redeem her land and raise up the inheritance of the dead. Naomi assured her that he would not rest until the matter was finished. Before the elders in the gate, who were witnesses of the transaction, Boaz bought all that pertained to Naomi and took Ruth as his beloved.

Another great redeemer has arisen out of Bethlehem. Outside the gate of Jerusalem He gave witness by His life's blood that the transaction is completed, the inheritance is restored, the wanderer may return, and find favor at the feet of the Saviour. "And the ransomed of the Lord shall return, and come to Zion with songs and everlasting joy upon their heads: they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away." Hallelujah.

IF CHRIST HAD NOT BEEN BORN!

"If I had not come," the Master said—

And, Oh, have you ever thought at all

What it would have meant for this world of men

Had He not come to Bethlehem's stall?

The bells of Christmas would have rung no chimes—

The old, old Story had never been told,

And the angels' song had been silent all

If He had not come to this earth of old.

But He came! He came in the days of old

To the manger and the Cross of shame,

And the song of earth and the harps of heaven,

Shall forever bless the Saviour's name.

And there's not a joy has cheered our lives,

Nor a hope that lifts our soul on high,

But we owe to the matchless, boundless love

Of the Christ who came to earth to die.

There are millions yet to whose weary lives

It is still as though He had not come.

Shall we hoard for ourselves our Christmas joy,

And refuse to a starving world a crumb?

Let the love that bro't Him to earth of old

Lead us out like Him, to service true;

And so shall our Christmas be like Christ's,

And our Christian lives be Christlike, too.

—A. B. Simpson.