

MISSIONARY PAGE

MEN ARE DESPERATELY NEEDED

Rev. Eugene A. Erny.
in "Missionary Standard"

The responsibility for the foreign missionary program in the average church today is being carried by a few faithful women. A mere glance at the weekly church bulletins bears out this fact. Announcements of monthly meetings of the Women's Foreign Missionary Society, Women's Foreign Missionary Prayer Circle or missionary sewing circles appear regularly but one searches in vain for any announcement that might lead one to conclude that the men of the congregation were having any part in the missionary program of the church. It would be a rare church bulletin that might carry an announcement of a men's foreign missionary meeting or the meeting of a men's chapter for foreign missions. And why is this true, we ask?

A similar situation also exists on our mission fields. As one visits mission fields around the world he is astonished to find that in most fields women missionaries far outnumber the men. One is also chagrined to find that out on many a lone mission station women are doing the work and carrying the responsibility that should be shouldered by men. But since men are not available, women have stepped in and are gallantly doing the job. Bravely they are performing herculean tasks not by choice but because there is no alternative. We salute these heroines of the Cross and thank God for their courage and valiant service. But again we ask why are there not more men?

Candidates and personnel secretaries for missionary societies daily receive mail from young people who are eager to give their lives in foreign service. Most of them find that many more young women are applying than young men. Is it because the tasks out there do not challenge the talents and abilities of young men? Do young men take for granted that opportunities are greater at home? Is it because missionary allowances are considerably lower than salaries of ministers at home? Are our young men tuning in to the Voice of God?

Christ never intended it to be so. A careful study of the last commission, the marching orders of the church, were given by the Master to a group of men. As he stood in the midst of that little band of disciples on that first Easter day he commanded them to go forth with the resurrection message to all the world. The work of the Cross had been finished; the tomb was empty and now the message must be carried to every creature. This was the heavy burden of His heart. He faced a group of sturdy men and commanded them to go. True, women later became helpers and were united in the carrying out of His command. It became the task of Every Christian.

Why then have we departed from His plan in failing to enlist every Christian in this task. Has not the hour arrived when every born-again follower of Christ must be mobilized in an all-out effort to reach earth's millions who are still unreached? Young people must come forth, young people ready to turn their backs on material gain and ready to go forth as heralds of the good news at any and all costs. Men and women must take seriously the command of our Lord which has not been withdrawn and give their whole beings in consecration to the task. Men as well as women must take their place in the vast army that remains

at home backing up by prayer and with their gifts those who go to the front.

Men, here it is—a man-sized job! In spite of our boosting economy, higher salaries and greater securities than ever before in the history of this great nation; yes, in spite of material advantage, mission funds are falling off. Materialism is sweeping our nation. The few who have caught the vision of a lost world and are following the way of the Cross are burdened down with the weight of great open doors and tremendous opportunities but the inability to go forward. MEN ARE DESPERATELY NEEDED—men who will actually live by what they profess to believe, men who will put their shoulders to the wheel to push, pray and promote the last command of the Saviour. What will you do? Will you not seek the Lord's face in earnest prayer as to what your place should be? Time is running out; shall we not challenge men and women everywhere to join us in an all-out final thrust in the ungarnered harvest of the world?

IMPORTANT DECISIONS BY OUR FOREIGN MISSION BOARD

The Foreign Mission Board of the R. B. Alliance met at Fredericton, N. B., Thursday, Feb. 2nd. Matters of great importance to our foreign mission work and the cause of Christ were thoroughly discussed, and some very important decisions were made. Among them were the following:

- (1) To raise the salaries of all missionaries, except native workers, increases to become effective July 1st. Our native workers received salary increases two years ago, while other missionaries are receiving the same salaries they did five years ago. We are sure that all our people will agree that an increase is due them. Even now the salaries of both native and white workers are lower than we wish them to be.
- (2) To arrange for the sailing to Africa of Rev. Grace Sanders, in March, 1956. The sailing date is March 25th. and Miss Sanders will sail from Saint John to Durban, South Africa, by direct route. Arrangements for a farewell service will be made and announced later.
- (3) To plan for the sailing to Africa of the Charles Sanders' family this summer, probably in August.
- (4) To request Glendon and Betty Kierstead to remain in the homeland another year, plans for their outgoing to be deferred until 1957. This action has been made necessary because of the heavy financial obligations we must assume through salary increases, passage expenses of outgoing missionaries, etc.
- (5) To proceed with plans to open missionary work in Rhodesia.

The above decisions were made by your Foreign Mission Board after prayer and careful deliberation. We trust that they will prove to be in divine order.

In behalf of the F. M. Board,
B. C. Cochrane, President.
R. H. Parks, Secretary.

HAVE YOU PRAYED FOR AFRICA TODAY?

RHODESIA CALLS!

Lic. Stillman Cameron

In a letter that I received from him recently, Brother Eric Heywood related an incident which happened in Rhodesia during their tour. It so deeply impressed me that I want to pass it on.

Here is the story in his own words: "We were up there (Rhodesia) awhile ago on a tour of inspection. What we heard and saw was encouraging, and very promising. One Sunday we visited a new native area. We had a service there and spoke to them of Jesus and His love. While I was preaching, one native interrupted me and said, 'Give us a leader, and we will follow Him!' Oh! What anguish of heart when I had to stop preaching. Why? Because we had to return-home, and all the time these people were crying for someone to lead them. Oh, may God enlarge our hearts and our visions, and enable us to see the vast needs of heathen Africa."

Souls in darkness are weeping for light. In Christ's name, let us not deprive them of it. Our missionaries feel that NOW is the time to enter Rhodesia. They are waiting for two things. First, recognition from the Rhodesian government. Secondly, funds from the homeland. The first we can help to bring about by prayer. The second, by sacrificial giving.

The eyes of our missionaries are turned toward us. Let us not fail them in their crucial hour.

The task that an angel might covet
The Master on each of us rolls
For winning the lost, whatever the cost,
These perishing, blood-bought souls.
For winning the lost, whatever the cost,
These perishing, blood-bought souls.

CAN YOU BELIEVE IT?

Today there are about 25,000 missionaries in the world—10,000 less than there were some years ago. Do we realize that this is just a few more persons than it takes to make up one division of soldiers in most armies?

What about money? Just the price of one day's fighting in World War II would pay for six years of continuous missionary work.

So fantastically much for destruction! So pitifully little for redemption!

The Pioneer

For he that serves his Lord must holy be,
And he that labours must be free from guile;
And he that sows be filled with purity;
And he that speaks the message of the Word
Must first receive the fullness of the Lord."

\$5,000 FOR MISSIONS!

This is the minimum objective for the Easter Offering. With only six weeks remaining before Easter, we request every pastor and church to aim at a record offering for foreign missions. The Easter Sunday offering is just a part of the year's giving for missions, but we need more liberal giving this year than ever before if we are to follow through with our plans for missionary advance. Cast your vote for an expanding missionary programme by giving generously on Easter Sunday!

The King's Highway

AN APPEAL FOR THE KING'S HIGHWAY

Rev. A. D. Cann*

"We have just closed a revival campaign," writes the pastor of a Reformed Baptist Church, to his denominational periodical, The King's Highway.

"This revival," he continues, "is the greatest the town has witnessed in over twenty-five years." Everyone is thrilled with the changed lives, a filled church and the spiritual atmosphere that has invaded our homes and school. My heart is thrilled as I share these Heaven sent blessings with all the readers of our paper."

This is a sample report reaching the office of The King's Highway, Moncton, N. B., the official organ of the Reformed Baptist Alliance of Canada. It is published semi-monthly by a committee of the Alliance—editor and business manager, associate editor, superintendent, members from church departments and others.

For over fifty years The Highway has been a tireless servant, giving the message of complete redemption from sin through the merits of the Lord Jesus. From the first The Highway has been identified with the Armenian school of theology. It has given strong emphasis to Scriptural holiness.

Church promotion is the main feature of the paper. This is a channel through which the Reformed Baptists are kept in constant touch with the activities of the church. Sunday School and Young Peoples' Rallies and all other activities are channelled through this medium.

The home mission crusade which has as its aim—the establishing of new churches where such are needed, is constantly highlighted in its pages. This medium has established a denominational consciousness and loyalty which is indispensable to progress.

The editorials are tops. They tie in with the total church program. The missionary page is red hot with crusades, building projects, adventure stories, faith projects, conversions and revivals. This page is the life line of the missionary enterprise. Problems are related, prayers are solicited, and challenges given which drive the readers to their knees and their purses. Thousands of dollars are channelled to the denominational missionary fields.

The young people's page sparks the program of the Young People's Societies. Here contests are sponsored, Bible study encouraged and Christian aims challenged. Biographies of great men and women form a pattern for Christian youth to follow. This page glows with Christian victory.

The campus corner introduces the reader to the personnel and activities of the denominational Bible College. The entire paper champions the cause of Christian Education.

Messages from the pastors not only challenge the soul but stimulate human interest. Who ministers where? What progress is he making? Can he preach? Can he write? Why do not our preachers and laymen write more often?

Reprints from other periodicals broaden the horizon, push back the borders and enables one to see how others do it. Reprints are numerous, but selected from the best sources. These give color and variety to the paper. Writings by Reformed Baptists are by far the most popular.

Untold numbers have received spiritual help and blessing from this paper. Its parish cannot be estimated.

The King's Highway

But what about this paper? Are we doing our best to support it? We fear not. There are large fields in a radius of 500 miles that it has scarcely touched. We have not saturated the area in which it was born. The reasons are obvious. We do not have enough vision. Its importance has not been fully comprehended.

At the moment The Highway is behind financially. This is no fault of the business manager and editor. We are a small group and do not have the resources that larger groups have. The cost of publishing has increased and we are falling short. The need is urgent. We cannot afford to be without our paper. I look forward constantly to the visit of The King's Highway. Suppose it were necessary to pay \$5.00 subscription price, I still would not want to be without it. Generally speaking we have money for the things we want. Let us be loyal to this important aspect of our work. Let us all make a generous offering NOW.

* Pastor, Seal Cove, N. B.

THE BIBLE

A prominent Baptist preacher of Shreveport, La., Rev. M.E. Dodd, D.D., tells of an enriching experience he had in reading the Bible through. He tells about it thus:

"A strange impulse seized me sometime ago. It was to read the Bible from cover to cover, and to allow no other reading whatsoever to interfere. Whether the impulse was of the Holy Spirit, I know not. God knoweth. Anyway, I did it. I averaged four and one half hours each day in His Holy Word. I began with 'In the beginning,' Genesis I and closed with 'The grace our Lord Jesus Christ be with you,' Revelation 22:21. It was a marvelously enriching and strengthening spiritual experience. My heart can never escape the power and glory of it.

"It was a feast of good things to eat. I ate locusts and wild honey with the Baptist in the wilderness, and heaven-sent manna with the wandering Israelites in the desert. I tasted the grapes of Eschol, and sat at the tables of King David and King Solomon. I drank of the brook Cherith and was fed by the ravens. I feasted with the disciples in the upper room, and sat down at the table with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. It was a triumphant tour of summer trips. I crossed the desert sands with Abraham from Ur of the Chaldees. I journeyed with Joseph in the land of the Pharaohs and followed Moses for forty years. I went abroad in the ships of Tarshish, and glided in fishing smacks on the placid bosom of Galilee. It was a university course. I studied what I believe to be the most accurate science of all centuries concerning the origin of things.

I delved into the world's profoundest philosophy, read classic literature, followed the divine outlines of history, and was thrilled by the tenderest and sweetest poetry of all time. It was a Bible conference. Doctors Moses, Isaiah, and Paul were the principal speakers. I sat at their feet in rapt attention. There were classes in theology and ecclesiology and eschatology and prophecy. There were many discussions, conferences, and even debates on practical and doctrinal subjects. It was the greatest Bible conference ever attended. King David with his harp of gold and choir of a thousand voices led the music. Such a blessing as this, reading the Bible through without unnecessary delay! I think I shall reread it once a year the rest of my life."

Selected

The Lord's Supper

F. A. Dunlop

The Communion Service calls for personal fitness. The words of Saint Paul are almost terrifying on this count: "Wherefore, whosoever shall eat this bread and drink this cup of the Lord unworthily shall be guilty of the body and blood of the Lord. Let a man examine himself and so let him eat of that bread and drink of that cup. For he that eateth and drinketh unworthily eateth and drinketh damnation to himself, not discerning the Lord's body and blood of the Lord. But let a man examine among you, and many sleep."

One would think that the very associations of this Sacrament would make the foregoing words unnecessary. Is there ever a moment in religious observances so solemn, so sacred, as when Christian men and women meet at the Lord's table? Surely then, if ever, the sense of fitness or unfitness, as the case may be, is strong upon us. Nevertheless, Paul's admonition was to believers and if we permit our minds to go back to that "furnished room" where the Sacrament was first instituted we will discover a variety of wrongs occupying the hearts of Christ's disciples. How much the Twelve understood the importance of the hour, I do not know, but treachery, selfishness, and pride, were very evident. Judas left, bearing the brand of a traitor. None, excepting Jesus, was humble enough to perform the lowly task of feet-washing. Their pride prompted a desire for a place of honour in the New Kingdom but would not permit them to minister the customary act of friends.

It is difficult to ascertain the nature of the wrong prevailing at Corinth to which Paul refers, but evidently the old class spirit constituted some of the evils. The simple emblems of the Eucharist were changed into a feast. The most meaningful Sacrament of the Faith was desecrated by gluttony and ignorance, and Paul's rebuke was given to deter further wrong.

Now all this strikes us in the face with our own human frailties. We too, may come to the Communion victims of our own corruptions and wrongs, however, there is forgiveness with God, and no man need despair if in an evil hour he has fallen, but to come to the Lord's Table habitually, with less than a "conscience void of offence toward God and man," is not only wicked but damning. Here, our living should be squared with God's word and our experience should be brought up to date.

Going along with the above mentioned dangers is the opposite extreme. There are those in our churches who never feel to share with others in this Fellowship. I consider this a great wrong. I believe many of this sort absent themselves from the Lord's Table through a sense of unfitness. If this is the case, something deliberate and corrective should be done about it. On our way into the Sanctuary we pass hard by the Altar, the Laver and the Table of Shewbread—each provided for the worshipper.

If any read these words who has been habitually excusing himself from taking the Sacrament I would bring to your attention the words of Jesus: "Eat ye ALL of it, drink ye ALL of it."

If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. Col. 3:1