



GOD'S LINEMEN

I watched some linemen work today. A team of men was working just outside our house. Some were on a trailer with a reel of wire, some on the ground, while others were on the power poles, one of which is in our yard, others up the hill. The strung a new wire, made new connections leading into our house, also the house just back of ours, and put in a new line to the house just up the hill.

As they strung the wire and tightened it, it seemed that each member of the team had a part to play. Some seemed to be working constantly, others only occasionally. By taking just a quick glance at them and then turning away and not continuing to watch them, one could have said that they did not need all the men, that only a few of them were working. But as I continued to watch them I saw that each man in his proper place and at the proper time was needed. If one had failed to do his part the whole operation would have been disrupted.

I thought of some reasons why these men were working thus. First, it was their livelihood. Secondly, it was their duty. Thirdly, some of them, at least, no doubt did it because they loved their work. Fourthly, they did it to bring light and power to those who needed it.

I thought of this in a spiritual sense in regard to Home Missions. We are all God's linemen. We are all one team. True, some are working constantly. A number of such have been referred to in this Home Mission column just recently. The rest of us are still part of that team. We may not be called upon the give full time to Home Missions, but like some of the linemen, there is a time and place for us to work. They did not have a spare man. Every one of us has his tasks to perform. If one of us fails to do our part, the whole Home Mission operation will be hindered.

Why should we, as God's linemen, be working thus? First, it is our spiritual livelihood. Only as we share do we retain. "Whosoever will save his life shall lose it: but whosoever will lose his life for my sake, the same shall save it."

Secondly, it is our Christian duty. We each have responsibilities to God and to those for whom Christ died. Can we shirk our Christian duty and retain favor with God?

Thirdly, we do it out of Christian love. The great motivating force of the Christian is love, love to God and love to our neighbor. Do we love our neighbor enough to do something for his salvation? "The love of Christ constraineth us."

Fourthly, we do it to bring light and power to others. So many are in darkness and know not the power that can lift them out of their sin and darkness. If we do not bring to them the light and the power of the Gospel of Jesus Christ they may go out into eternity into everlasting darkness "but his blood will I require at thine hand."

"To The Work!"

A life of service, fearlessly and happily rendered; with a heart that belongs to Him, and conduct that glorifies Him; lived out in His conscious presence, and lasting to our last day on earth: that is the purpose He has for His people, that is the aim of His salvation, which must be ours if we would satisfy His heart, and fulfil His good will for us.

Hubert Brooke.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS OVERDUE

Rev. F. A. Dunlop

I often wonder—"Do people belonging to large Denominations get the thrills out of serving in the Kingdom of God that we do?" With their long list of annuities, memorials, millionaires, where do they get any fun planning an extension program or any aggressive movement? Think of the joy one experiences working on a Board when someone other than one's self is appointed to raise the money needed for a certain necessary project. When insomnia sets in around 12:00 midnight, what would one occupy one's thoughts with if it were not for jobs undone and challenges awaiting all because the Treasury is empty and the churches already are taxed unmercifully? People acting on Boards of these larger Denominations would just have to "count sheep", or imagine themselves standing on the "rim of the World" looking out into space, when sleep eludes them. I have learned of one church where the income from annuities covers the whole current expense. Now what would a pastor do for excitement in a church like this?

However, we are not wholly free from some of the things I have spoken of. Maybe, on a percentage basis our gifts compare quite favorably. Our list of "Memorials" grows with the passing of the years. The 1957 Minutes confirm this. And how grateful we are for these devoted christians who have contributed substantial amounts toward the support of our denominational program.

Our people will be happy to learn that very recently we have been enriched by several thousand dollars through "wills", "memorials", and donations. From the Estate of Mrs. George Crosby, of Yarmouth, N. S., Bethany Bible College received the sum of \$12,500.00: Previously, Mrs. Crosby had donated sufficient money for building the Crosby Memorial Chapel at Bethany. The late George and Estella Crosby were faithful and generous supporters of our work several years prior to their deaths. We are greatly indebted and deeply grateful to them for remembering us in their will.

Again, our churches in Yarmouth County, N. S., have shared equally with other churches in the County in the Estate of Mr. Stan. O'Brian, Sandford, Port Maitland, Brazil Lake, and Yarmouth churches will receive \$1,000.00 each from this Estate. This is an unexpected, yet highly appreciated gift from this man.

Also, the late Leslie Hayes of Woodstock remembered us with a substantial sum to be used in maintaining our Foreign Mission Program. Besides the above-mentioned donors, generous gifts are reaching us from interested parties, which with the weekly, consistent giving of all our people, make possible the maintenance of our work.

I wish you all could understand how greatly your giving is appreciated by each one endeavoring to give leadership in the different phases of our denominational program. In the words of Billy Graham, "May God bless you real good," and may others remember us in the disposal of their possessions as these have done. Please do this, and you will live longer by so doing.

God's Pavilion

In a world where there is so much to sadden and depress, how blessed the communion with Him in whom is the one true source and fountain of all true gladness and abiding joy! In a world where so much is ever seeking to unhallow our spirits, to render them common and profane, how high the privilege of consecrating them anew in prayer to holiness and to God.

Archbishop Trench.