The King's Highway

An Advocate of Scriptural Holiness

- THE ORGAN OF THE -REFORMED BAPTIST ALLIANCE

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- Editorials -

The maxim "in unity is strength" has gained universal acceptance. When two or more people are associated with any project, co-operation and co-ordination are exceedingly important.

If we are to have success in the work of God, we must be united. The fortunes of our Cause will rise or fall in proportion to the measure of unity or disunity that prevails among us.

A small church can be a strong church if the people are "joined in heart". A large church will be a weak church if discord and division mar the assembly.

A denominational programme will prosper if it is promoted and supported by a people that are of one mind and one spirit. With a common goal in view converging energies providing the dynamic for forward movement, victory is assured.

Paul admonished the Ephesian Christians to "keep the unity of the Spirit", which J. B. Phillips translates "make it your aim to be at one in the Spirit". He exhorted the Philippians to be "of one accord, of one mind".

A divided church is a defeated church. A spirit of dissension will spell the downfall of any group.

Let us strive for unity. This is our greatest asset. The battle may be long and the opposing forces strong but victory is assured if we are joined in heart and hand.

We must keep a constant vigil against divisive intruders. They are persistently seeking to infiltrate the ranks of the Lord's army. Personal differences, departmental competition, sectional loyalties, may gain strength to the overthrow of the forces that protect that citadel of the encampment.

Practical tests on our consecration call for occasional loss of personal opinion in the will of the majority; the predominance of general interest over special concerns; and support of projects that are in the best interests of the work as a whole rather than any part that might reap special benefits.

As we face the tasks of another church year, tasks that have such vital issues related to them, we may well pray for deliverance from all that would be discordant and divisive, and the unhindered sway of an integrating and invigorating spirit of unity. "That they all may be one...that the world may believe..."

"O Holy Spirit, Comforter, now glorify the Son;
Now save and sanctify and seal, and make Thy
people one.

So shall the church on earth be as the Church above; So shall the world become a paradise of love."

AS WE SEE T. V.

Television is a major problem in the pattern of modern living. It must be reckoned with in respect to its influence on the life of the individual and the atmosphere of the home.

There is grave concern among many Christian people concerning the T.V. menace. Some denouce it vehemently and reject it as a means of communication.

What position does our Church take on the television question? What course of action do we recommend? The only answer we have for these questions that bears the stamp of official approval is that expressed in a resolution, with carrying statements, passed in the Alliance of 1957:

"Because of the wide-spread concern regarding the harmful influence of television on the individual and the home, we, as a committee, have been appointed to prepare a statement on the problem for the guidance and spiritual welfare of our people. The general opinion is that television is here to stay. It will be used either by the forces of righteousness or the servants of sin.

"Therefore, be it resolved, that those who possess television sets be strongly urged to exercise rigid control. In our opinion, the influence of the Hollywood type of program, with its brazen display of crime and sex, and its obvious approval of bemoralizing habits and practices, is as detrimental to spiritual life through the medium of television, as in the theatre. We would emphasize again that television must be controlled. Unrestricted viewing by those professing the name of Christ will corrupt the very foundations of spirituality. An inordinate desire to follow its froth, to laugh at its coarse jokes, reveals a sad spiritual lack that should be confessed. God will hold us responsible for what comes into our homes.

"Furthermore, due to the inferior quality of the majority of television programs, we would earnestly admonish our people to be alert to the dangers to which the home is exposed through the installation of television sets.

"Finally, we would warn our people against a purely negative attitude toward the problem. Television is certain to be a great force for good or evil. Therefore, let us appose vigoursly and unitedly the degrading type of telecasting, and appeal for the kind of programming that would contribtue to the moral and spiritual welfare of our people."

The official position of our Church on this problem, as declared in this resolution and the accompanying statements, provides scope and support for an aggressive and effective approach to this problem, but also allows for a constructive effort toward the betterment of a situation that is admittedly damaging and detrimental. Alertness to the potential dangers of purchasing and installing T.V. sets, rigid control in the use of those that are installed, and vigorous action in appealing for the type of telecasting that would contribute something helpful to the viewers, provides plenty of ground for action.