# - Editorial PRELUDE TO THE CROSS

The most central fact in history is the crucifixion of Christ. On many occasions Christ uttered words which pointed to the cross. He said, The Son of man would suffer at the hands of the elders. He also said, "And I, if I be lifted up from the earth will draw all men unto Me" (Jn 12:32). Again He said, "Woe unto the world because of offences...woe to that man by whom the offence cometh" (Matt. 18:7). These scriptures and others speak of the surity of the cross.

In addition to the scriptures pointing to the cross, there are others which reveal the purpose and meaning of the cross. Numbers 21:6-9 gives us a pattern which beautifully pictures the purpose of the cross. Israel had sinned. "The Lord sent fiery serpents among them" Numbers 21:6). This might well be called the punishment of sin. Man has long been under the curse of sin. This curse of sin blinds and blights the lives of men. This is revealed in the preishing because of sin. So great was the sting of sin that "much people died" (21:6). This sequence is in keeping with the New Testament teaching, for "Sin when it is finished bringeth forth death."

A third step in the sequence of this story is that of penitence in sin (21:7). The Israelites recognized their sin. They said to Moses, "We have sinned"... "Pray unto the Lord..." It was in this state of penitence that Moses prayed for the people. God heard his prayer of intercession and made provision for their salvation from sin. (21:8). A serpent was placed upon a pole and each person looking to God's provision found deliverence from the curse of sin. There is power in God's provision, for everyone who looked to God's provision lived.

Jesus used immortal words when He referred to this scripture and said to Nicodemus," As Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the son of Man be lifted up: that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life" (Jn.3:14-15).

## VISIT OR VISITED

W. D. MacCallum

We hear a lot of talk about the marvelous age in which we are living. Man has delved into the unknown discovered secrets today which were unthought of a few years ago. We think that man is clever, but the Bible says that the wisdom of man is foolishness with God. Man still has much to learn.

Almost every day manufacturers are producing new gadgets to satisfy our wants and desires. Each gadget is supposed to save us time and money, thus giving us more leisure time and the wherewithal to enjoy it.

Just the other day I heard on the radio one of the announcers remark that man is in a constant search for a simpler way of life. If he only knew it, he could have it for the asking. No matter where you go people are on the move, hurrying here and hurrying there.

We have so little time for social calls or visits. We young people do so little visiting; therefore, we soon lost that close association and intimacy we once knew. It may be that we do visit our friends but have we ever

thought of going beyond that? Jesus said that true religion is this—"to visit". Yes, there is more to the verse but don't you think we ought to share our pastors' load in this respect? Oftimes spiritual people will say that pastor So-and So hasn't called on me in months. Remember, the Bible says, "He that is whole needeth not the physician".

Young people, let's gladden the heart of our pastor with deeper determination, greater zeal, brighter outlook and firmer faith for the future.

"We are co-workers together with him."

## A LETTER FROM SAINT JOHN

Dear Friends:

Greetings from Saint John!

It is a joy to report that our Young People's services in this city are benefiting those who attend with rich fellowship.

We are certainly appreciating newcomers, and the spiritual tide is rising, for which we praise the Lord.

Officers this year, are as follows:

President — E. (Teenie) Cameron and A. Marian

Vice-Pres. — Merle Otis

Secretary-Treas. — Muriel Saunders

Self Denial Treas. — Merle Otis

Our prayer is for a spiritual year of progress in our Society.

Muriel Saunders, Secretary.

## YOUTH RALLY

A great Denominational-Wide Youth Rally is planned for May 20-22. Dr. H. K. Sheets, Marion, Indiana, General Superintendent of the Wesleyan Methodist Church of America will be the speaker. Dr. Sheets was formerly General Secretary of the Wesleyan Youth and comes to us recommended as a gifted preacher and wonderful youth worker. Let us all pray that God will give us a wonderful rally. The place of the rally will be announced later.

#### SPECIAL NOTICE

All societies enrolled in the Bible Quiz are requested to send all names of contestants, substitutes, and coach to Merle Smith, 58 Mount Royal Blvd., Moncton, N. B. by April 6, 1960.

Societes will be notified shortly after the particulars on their competing for district championship.

Douglas MacCallum and Merle Smith will be the quizmasters for all quizzes except the grand championship.

## YOUNG PEOPLE'S OR BASKETBALL

Recently a young Teacher's College student told me he had given up trying to make the basketball team because practise came on Young People's night. This type of action is highly commendable and we say with pride, so characteristic of many of our young people.

A Youth Society having this kind of young people is assured of success.

MES.)