



CHURCH NEWS

Houlton, Maine

Here is just a brief report of some of the happenings here in Houlton.

First, we would like to praise the Lord for the privilege of serving Him and having the opportunity of pastoring such a fine group of people as we have in the Houlton Church.

We came here in July, with mixed feelings and we wondered what it would be like to pastor a new work. God does not let His children down, however, and He presented us with many happy surprises.

The folk gave us a very warm welcome, and made us feel as one of them. We had only been here a short time when they gave us a generous donation of many nice and necessary items, which we deeply appreciated.

One Sunday morning on the pastors birthday, the Supt. presented him with a shower of cards and gifts from the generous people of the church.

God has richly blessed our Sunday School work, for which we praise Him. Our attendance has doubled with our record being 104, as of Nov. 27.

On Nov. 10th we had a special outpouring of blessing at the first Anniversary Service of our Church.

Our Superintendent, Bro. Ingersoll, gave us a very helpful message from Ps. 122:1. During this special time of feasting it was a privilege as pastor to extend the right hand of fellowship to 21 new members. Several messages in song were enjoyed from a ladies duet, a men's trio, and a ladies quartet, followed by a brief history of the church and its organization by the clerk.

Our special services with Sheila Graham began Nov. 11th and ended Nov. 20th at which time we experienced a tremendous refreshing from the hand of God. It blessed our hearts to see souls brought into the Kingdom, and believers sanctified.

At the present we are extending the church building to provide us with adequate accommodation. We would say as the Psalmist: Bless the Lord, oh my soul, and forget not all His benefits.

To all our Highway friends we wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

D. C. & Mrs. Webb.

Killams Mills and Salem, N. B.

We of Killams Mills and Salem churches have great reasons to praise the Lord. A few months ago, as a result of a meeting in our Norton Church, held by the pastor and Bro. Morehouse, two of our members received definite help, and as a result started attending the Salem Church, being a real help to us. On Nov. 1st we began what we thought would be a meeting lasting until Nov. 6th but the Lord came upon us and souls were so interested that we carried on until Nov. 13th. This was a real time of blessing and a real faith tonic, for we saw souls find the Lord that I don't recall ever seeing seeking the Lord before. The whole campaign was characterized by a spirit of humility. It had the marks of a genuine spiritual awakening.

Brother Bagley, from our Amherst, N.S., church was the evangelist and Brother and Sister Rue Ingalls from Seal Cove were the special singers, until Nov. 9 when they had to leave. Then Brother Herb. Mac Crea came for the remainder of the Meeting. In this Meeting the Lord let us see some wonderful cases of victory about the altar.

On Nov. 22nd, we began meetings at Killams Mills with Bro. Bridgeo of our Halifax Church preaching and singing, and again the Lord was with us. One would have to be to these services to appreciate them. It has been a long time since I have seen such times of going down in humiliation and fixing things up as we have seen here of late.

Brother Bagley and Brother Bridgeo did some great preaching. They were both faithful to the Doctrine that made us a people.

How many times this fall as I listened to Brother Morehouse, Brother Bagley and Brother Bridgeo have I had cause to thank the Lord for the fine young men the Lord has given us, men that know what they believe and believe in preaching it.

The singing of Brother and Sister Ingalls was greatly enjoyed by the folk here and Brother MacCrea found a farm place in their hearts as he sang the praises of his Lord.

In the meeting at Killams Mills, Brother Bridgeo brought blessing on the meeting with his singing.

We now have three young married couples in our prayer meetings, besides the others, as a result of the above-mentioned services. My heart has been longing to see just such a meeting ever since I have been here.

I feel all the workers will say with me "to God be the Glory".

Hartley E. Mullen

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BELLS ACROSS THE SNOW

Christmas, merry Christmas!

Has it really come again

With its memories and greetings,

With its Joy and with its pain?

There's a minor in the carol

And a shadow in the light,

And a spray of cypress twining

With the holly wreath tonight.

And the hush is never broken

By laughter light and low,

As we listen in the starlight

To the "bells across the snow."

O Christmas, merry Christmas!

'Tis not so very long

Since other voices blended

With the carol and the song!

If we could but hear them singing,

As they are singing now,

If we could but see the radiance

Of the crown on each dear brow,

There would be no sigh to smother,

No hidden tear to flow,

As we listen in the starlight

To the "bells across the snow."

O Christmas, merry Christmas,

This never more can be;

We cannot bring again the days

Of our unshadowed glee;

But Christmas, happy Christmas,

Sweet herald of good will,

With holy songs of glory

Brings holy gladness still.

For peace and hope may brighten,

And patient love may glow,

As we listen in the starlight

To the "bells across the snow."

Frances Ridley Havergal.