Evangelist Extraordinary

She is still under thirty yet she has been preaching for nearly ten years. She began at about six years of age as she "played church" in the living room with her brothers and sisters. She was the preacher; they were the congregation. We do not know the kind of truth she taught them, but we do know that this was the beginning of an outstanding Evangelistic career.

There are some unique features about the life of this Evangelist. First, "Her Prayer Life." It is remarkable the amount of time she spends in prayer. Then the quality of her praying. She seems to be able to pray the blessing of the Lord on any service. Her prayers at the altar have to be heard to be appreciated. In all my ministry I have never heard such perseverence for souls that need help. She doesn't let go of God until He answers her requests.

When one tries to analyze her preaching one is led to the conclusion that she speaks under Divine Unction. Her manner, her voice, her fervency, her ability to "get the message over" is thrilling to see and hear. Very seldom does she preach without an atmosphere that seems to be impregnated by the blessing and presence of God.

How does one compute the success of an evangelist? No matter what way you consider this Evangelist Extraordinary you are amazed at what you discover. Attendance is above average at her meetings. Conviction on the sinner and the back-slider is apparent. And many hundreds have sought the Lord at the altar under her spirit-blessed ministry.

The final ending of most of her campaigns reveals a definite trend upward in the life and ministry of the Church.

In summing up this "Evangelist Extraordinary" we haven't space to tell of her ability as A Singer and A Story Teller.

Who is this Evangelist Extraordinary? Her initials. S.G.

W. L. Fernley.

Unanswered Prayers

I thank Thee, Lord, for my unanswered prayers,
Unanswered, save thy quiet, kindly "nay";
Yet it seemed hard among my heavy cares,
That bitter day.

I wanted joy: but Thou didst know for me
That sorrow was the lift I needed most,
And in its mystic depths I learned to see
The Holy Ghost.

I wanted health: but Thou didst bid me sound
The secret treasures of unwanted pain,
And in the moans and groans my heart oft found
The Christ again.

I wanted wealth: 'twas not the better part;
There is a wealth with poverty oft given,
And Thou didst teach me of the gold of heart,
Best gift of heaven.

I thank Thee, Lord! for these unanswered prayers,
And for Thy word, the quiet, kindly "nay".

'Twas Thy withholding lightened all my cares
That blessed day.

Composed by Louis Furtak, a Polish Roman Catholic converted in the Colborne St. Free Methodist Church, Kingston, in May 1962.

-Canadian Free Methodist Herald



THE WITNESS ON MAIN STREET

Things are changing along Yarmouth's Main Street these days. New modern department stores are appearing. Zellers and the Metropolitan boast of having two of the most up-to-date stores in Canada. Old store fronts are giving way to new faces. And as another professed improvement, new liquor outlets soon will be in operation, including a tavern.

But there is another change on Main Street. God has established a witness in the heart of town: the Bethany Book Store, which moved to its strategic new position on October 18. The upstairs store has a large display window on the first floor with Shaw's Hardware on one side and Wagner's Restaurant on the other.

Hundreds of people pass the window every day where tasteful displays speak of the Christian message. The present display consists of some loaves of bread with an elevated, maroon-coloured Bible in the midst — all placed on a piece of pretty turquoise material. A narrow, long sign in front of the Bible interprets the display: "'Man shall not live by bread alone . . .' said Jesus."

This week (the first of December) the display will be changed to a Christmas emphasis. There will be some Christmas parcels in richly-coloured wrappings and bows. In the midst will be a cluster of unwrapped Bibles, the central one with a large red bow on it. Behind it will be a sign reading: "The Greatest Gift Of All."

Thus the Book Store witnesses to every passerby. Many pause to look and, doubtless, to think.

Many, too, come to buy — sixty-five miles from Digby and, from the opposite direction, eighty miles from Shelburne. Enthusiastically they handle the things that even money cannot buy in many of our towns. Spontaneous comments from the shoppers reveal the delight of a religiously-minded public. For these folk the book store is becoming a favourite haunt.

At the same time the mail order business is expanding through dedicated agents in local churches. Now, as hoped, the mail order business is becoming the larger part of the business.

Through this new venture we feel that Bethany is rendering another service to the church — not only to our church, but to the Christian church in general. The church in turn can render a service to Bethany by supporting the Bethany Book Store, which promises to be a source of income in the near future.

Thus, wherever Christians were on the scene, me could not be monotonous, becaulSAUOYs no longer a matter of

I got off at the Pennsylvania Station one day as a tramp, and for a year I begged on the streets for a living. One day I touched a man on the shoulder and said, 'Mister, please give me a dime.

"As soon as I saw his face I recognized my old father. Father,' I asked, 'don't you know me?"

"Throwing his arms around me he cried, 'I have found you, I have found you; all I have is yours'.

"Think of it, that I a tramp, stood begging my father for ten cents, when for eighteen years he had been looking for me to give me all he was worth."

God's forgiving love is like that. He searched for us through Gethsemane and up the rugged side of dark Calvary, and when He finds us He says, "All things are yours."—Selected.