

# Sisters All!

Dear Martha,

Spring fever has hit us all, suddenly and hard. Saturday John was up at dawn and off with his brother Bill on an all-day fishing trip. Franny talks of nothing but the young people's hike next Saturday up Pine Mountain. And today I am supposed to get on with my house-cleaning, but instead, I am sitting out under our big apple tree, enjoying the warm breeze and the glorious sight and scent of a canopy of apple blossoms.

Every year I am just as excited with spring as if it had never happened before. We smile at the poets' urge to write the same trite verses about it, but we cannot deny the recurring miracle. No matter how long and severe the winter has been, spring always comes. The leaves and flowers bud and grow, the air is filled with bird songs, and everyone, young and old, feels the thrill and tug of new life in his blood.

I am glad it is not up to mankind whether or when spring comes. There would always be some to argue that there are more urgent, important things to do, or the world is in too precarious a state to take time out for such frivolities of nature, or this nuclear age is advanced to a point where we should discard such outdated habits. Even if modern civilization elected to retain the archaic custom called spring, it would be postponed indefinitely while nations wrangled over the proper time for it.

No, I am devoutly thankful that spring is one of God's irrevocable decrees for this earth. Whether or not it seems appropriate to our mood or our convenience, it comes. If we fall ill or are out of a job or lose a loved one, it comes anyway. If scandals beset governments and nuclear weapons are hurled over the sea and rockets crash into the moon, spring returns to this earth right on schedule.

Let's be grateful for God's immutables, even though at times they may seem to cut right across our cherished plans and well-intentioned purposes. His laws of nature are there for us to use or abuse, but we cannot ignore or break them without suffering inevitable consequences. The chair that is a strong support when we are tired does not suddenly become a cloud when we stub our toe on it in the dark.

God's laws of truth, ethics, and love are there to show us the way to an ever higher development of character and personality. But if we decide to live by the truth, we cannot fall back on a convenient lie without suffering injury to our spirit.

God's way of salvation—to repent of our sin and turn wholeheartedly to our Creator—may sound dogmatic and confining. Just so, the expert's instructions to take the pale, drooping plant out of the basement and place it in the sun may sound inflexible and narrow-minded. But when the plant then takes on new vitality and begins to grow, we no longer call nature's laws inexorable. We see them as God's invitation and open pathway to the Abundant Life . . .

All this because it is spring, and apple blossom time!

In answer to your question, yes, we are indeed already thinking about Beulah and making plans to go. I hope we'll see you all there!

Your loving sister, Mary.

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Every sinful act is another cord woven into that mighty cable of habit, which binds the spirit to the throne of darkness.—David Thomas.



## EAST FERRY, N. S.

Dear Highway Friends:

Greetings in Jesus name from the churches at East Ferry and Digby, N. S.

The blessings of the Lord have been great at East Ferry since our last letter, and there is no need for discouragement when we "count our many blessings and see what God hath done".

Our meeting with Bro. Madden was blessed of the Lord with souls being reclaimed and five seeking for the experience of sanctification. The regular meetings are being abundantly blessed by the presence of the Holy Spirit.

Repairs have been made to the parsonage together with the installation of hot and cold water. At the present time, repairs to the outside, lawns, etc. are being made.

A brief report from the church in Digby would give perhaps the most encouraging report. Recently, the deed has been received for a lot in Digby and plans for building are being made which we hope will be undertaken early in May.

We trust this will encourage you to keep praying for this corner of God's vineyard.

Yours in Christ,

George & Hazel Hopkins

Ed. Note: Brother Hopkins has accepted a call to pastor the Head of Millstream Church for the coming year.

## PORT MAITLAND, N. S.

Dear Highway friends,

While looking back over the past church year, here in Port Maitland, we feel that we have much to praise the Lord for.

So many times He has met with us in a special way, and given us those rich times of blessings that only Christian people can know, He has been faithful in doing His office work in the hearts of men and women, and from time to time, victories have been won at an altar of prayer.

We greatly appreciate our people and the way they help to push the cause for Christ with us.

In February, we were privileged to have our Superintendent and Bro. Paul Mullen with us for special meetings. Again victories were won, some for the first time. Since then there has been a wonderful spirit in the services, and the Lord is continuing to help us.

The future looks bright and with Him, we believe even greater things will be accomplished.

Please pray for us and we'll pray for you that the way of Holiness might continue to be extended in the days to come.

Hazen and Norma Lee Ricker

## DATES FOR BEULAH CAMP

Alliance and Beulah Camp are soon upon us. Special prayer ought to be ascending to God these days that this year's Annual Meetings — Alliance, Camp Meetings, Youth Camps — will be blessed of God as never before.

Dates for Alliance: July 4-6; Beulah Camp: July 6-15.

Beulah evangelist: Dr. H. K. Sheets, Marion, Indiana.

Musicians and singers: Mr. and Mr. Howard Baker, Brampton, Ontario.