

## - Editorials -

### One Month To Go

... Until the end of the Church year. Are we planning to meet our budget commitments in time for the May 31 deadline?

Whether our budgets are large or small is not the issue. The important thing is to make an honest effort to meet them. Some have been heard to say, "Well, our budgets are so high that we do not even try to raise them." We are indeed fortunate that this attitude is not a general one. If it were, it would mean the collapse of every denominational project—large or small.

Last year there were thirty-seven churches with budgets raised in full. This means that 60% of our churches were able to raise their total allotments. And although this is commendable, and encouraging, yet it also means that 40% of our churches did not meet their commitments. This is not so good.

Why not each pastor talk the matter over with his church immediately and consider how best to meet the budget for this church year. Many of the Alliance's most pressing problems would be well on the way to solution simply by each church raising its total budget. This is something to think about and to pray about.

Let us have at least fifty churches this year with budgets paid in full. How about your church?

### THE WORST THING

"The worst thing that can happen to a man is to be buried when he dies."

These words hit me like approaching thunder when a speaker introduced his message with them at a denominational convention. They simply did not make sense when I first heard them. Then gradually they began to build up momentum until the thunder rolled, tumbled, and crashed! For a man to be buried when he dies would be almost as though he had never lived.

Of course the speaker was not referring to the body of a person. He was thinking about the total man with all his influence, personality, character, and godliness coming to a complete halt at the time of his death. He was suggesting that a person ought to live in such a way that when he eventually should be overtaken by death, it would be impossible to bury his influence. He would go on living, though his body would lie in a grave awaiting the resurrection.

Every person wants to be remembered after death. That is why monuments are erected in cemeteries. Yet many people make no contribution worthy of remembrance.

Oftentimes both the godly and the ungodly go on living through influences started in other people. For goodness and righteousness to be perpetuated through others is a monument far more valuable than stone. For evil to be continued through someone influenced by an ungodly life is to perpetuate a curse for which the originator will sit in judgment before God. It is a dangerous thing for one to live an evil life in this world. Shakespeare was right when he said; "The evil that men do lives after them," but he was wrong when he said their good is oft interred with their bones.

John said, "He that doeth the will of God abideth forever" (I John 2:17). I hope to go on living after my body dies. Don't you?

Woodrow W. Hill, Biblical Recorder

### THE REAL PERIL

"It is time to point out that the threat of communism in the United States really is trivial in comparison with the truly great threat. This is the godless materialism, moral decay and easy-going self-righteousness which is everywhere. It is the breakdown of family and home life, the loss of integrity and sense of responsibility for the common good, not only in labor unions but among business executives. It is the false patriotism of those who would make God into our own image, who without thought of soul-searching and repentance, claim God for our side, ascribing divinity to our aims and achievements.

"As Karl Barth has reminded us, the lion of opposition to Christian values so apparent to our eyes as we view the Communist world, likewise is on the prowl among us in our chauvinism and moral flabbiness. American identification of its will-to-power with the will of God, unfortunately so common among us, is quite as monstrous as the Marxist denial of God. Both issue from the perversion of patriotism into idolatry." —Bishop Everett W. Palmer

### Just A Thought

Sometimes when you're feeling important,  
Sometimes when your ego's in bloom,  
Sometimes when you take it for granted  
You're the best qualified in the room.

Sometimes when you feel that your going  
Would leave an unfillable hole,  
Just follow these simple instructions  
And see how it humbles your soul.

Take a bucket and fill it with water.  
Put your hand in it, up to your wrist,  
Pull it out, and the hole that's remaining  
Is the measure of how you'll be missed.

You may splash all you please when you enter,  
You can stir up the water galore,  
But stop, and you'll find in a minute  
That it looks quite the same as before.

The moral of this quaint example,  
Is do just the best that you can,  
Be proud of yourself but remember,  
There is no indispensable man.

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### The King's Highway

An Advocate of Scriptural Holiness

— THE ORGAN OF THE —  
REFORMED BAPTIST ALLIANCE

Published Semi-Monthly at Moncton, N. B.

L. K. Mullen, Editor and Business Manager

W. E. Green, Editor Y. P. Page

All subscriptions and renewals should be sent to Rev. L. K. Mullen, Box 723, Woodstock, N. B.

All material, except notices, must reach the editor by the 15th and the 30th of each month.

— SUBSCRIPTION PRICE —

Per year, in advance .....\$3.00  
United States Subscribers ..... 3.00

Printed by Moncton Publishing Co., Ltd.

Printers and Publishers, Moncton, N. B.

AUTHORIZED AS SECOND CLASS MAIL  
BY THE POST OFFICE DEPT. OTTAWA  
AND FOR PAYMENT OF POSTAGE IN CASH

MONCTON, N. B., APRIL 30, 1963

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