

- Editorial -

The Greatest Story

The story of Bethlehem does not grow old. Told year by year it never loses its majestic beauty nor its magnetic simplicity. The mystic wonder of it all arrests our minds anew, leaving us breathless and awe-stricken. Before its moving narrative we are silenced, for blended together in one dramatic scene are angels and shepherds, God and man, the earthly and the heavenly. Only God could have planned it this way. Only God could have conceived such a daring scheme and worked it out with such quiet precision.

Jesus came in the fulness of time . . . born of a virgin . . . in Bethlehem . . . the Savior of men . . . the hope of the world.

Our Own Chains

A famous blacksmith in medieval times was taken prisoner, chained, and cast into a dungeon. At once he began to examine the chain that bound him, to discover some flaw that might make it easy to break it. His hope was in vain, for certain marks upon it told him it was his own workmanship, and he had truthfully boasted that none could break a chain that he had forged.

Thus it is with the sinner. His bondage is self-imposed. He himself has forged the chain that binds him—a chain which no human hand can break. If he would find release, he must turn to Another, even Jesus Christ. In Him there is hope for all. "If any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new" (2 Cor. 5:17).

THE WOODSTOCK CRUSADE

No one can assess, accurately, the total impact of an evangelistic Crusade that involves an accumulative attendance of 15,000 persons. This means a possible attendance of 5,000 different persons, whose variety of spiritual needs are all but infinite. But some observations may be made that are meaningful and pertinent.

With no effort at exaggeration, it may be said that the Woodstock Crusade, featuring Dr. Larry Love, evangelist, was the finest religious meeting this town has known in many years. At no time was there anything dramatic or sensational. Instead, there was a distinctive awareness that God was there, working persuasively upon the minds and hearts of those who attended the services.

Among those who were inquirers or who gave witness to having received particular spiritual help were those of nearly a dozen different denominations. And nearly every age group and profession was represented among those at the services or who were among the inquirers.

One of the more thrilling aspects of the Crusade was the inquiry room where the counselors were given opportunity to deal personally with the inquirers. Here we saw some genuine searching after God, coupled with efficient guidance and instruction from the counselors. Tears of sorrow and repentance were not uncommon and the shining faces of those with new-found faith was ample evidence that something real had been going on.

This is not to say, however, that we agreed with everything that was said and done during the Crusade. Such was not necessary in order to share in the total effort, both by way of preparation and benefit.

We do commend, in highest terms, those of the Crusade Team. They are men who rightly demand efficient planning and organization, but who then wisely

trust God for whatever spiritual benefits will follow. It is wonderfully gratifying to observe men of such obvious talent, giving themselves wholly to the service of the Lord and to the salvation of lost men.

May God bless other Crusades which are being held across the Maritimes during 1963 and 1964. May the door be opened, ever wider, to the proclamation of the Gospel to so many who otherwise would not hear and be saved.

ATTENDS CONVENTION

It was the Highway Editor's privilege to fly to Edmonton, Alberta, over Nov. 18-20, to attend the National Convention of the Canadian Federation on Alcohol Problems. Also representing the province of New Brunswick was Rev. D. Burton Isaac, Executive Secretary of the New Brunswick Temperance Federation as well as Dr. J. E. Carten, Director of Alcohol Education and Rehabilitation for the province of N. B.

In the words of the national president, Dr. Gordon Porter, a "ferment" of ideas were voiced by those of many walks of life and areas of concern. Representatives of a dozen churches, the W. C. T. U., the medical profession, social workers, rehabilitation centers, research centers, education programs shared in the activities of the three-day convention. There was at least one area of agreement, namely, that with Canadians spending well over one billion dollars a year on beverage alcohol and with a swiftly rising rate of alcoholism, the alcohol problem has emerged as one of Canada's top social and economic problems.

Closing out the Convention was a banquet at Edmonton's Corona Hotel at which Dr. Robert D. Russell, Assistant Professor, Stanford University, California, was the guest speaker.

Season's Greetings

To

Pastors - Churches - Friends

The King's Highway

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