

- Editorials -

ONLY A MISSIONARY MEETING

It was Wednesday night Missionary Meeting, January 16. The temperature outside was five below zero. Fourteen "home missionaries" had gathered to share their missionary zeal and their faith with those labouring on other shores. The leader called the service to order and we sang "I will Praise Him." The chorus was repeated. A season of prayer followed in which several prayed. Voices of concern reached heavenward to plead for souls. Tears dimmed our eyes and our hearts were melted.

We rose from prayer and read the Ninety-sixth Psalm in unison:

Sing unto the Lord, all the earth.

Sing unto the Lord, bless his name; shew forth his salvation from day to day.

Declare his glory among the heathen, his wonders among all people.

For the Lord is great, and greatly to be praised; he is to be feared above all gods.

The devotional was inspired. It declared that, "All who are the Lord's are missionaries" and that the marks of the missionary should not be limited to those serving on other soil. "We must know the Lord and know it!" "We must be conscious of his sanctifying, spirit-filling grace in our lives before we can tell others." "We must learn the 'language of men' and speak to them of Jesus." "We must be led by the Spirit and know his will."

The treasurer called for dues and offering. The total was \$41. A reading told us the heart-thrilling story of the conversion of an Auca Indian of Ecuador, one of the very men who thrust his spear into the white missionaries in 1956. Now he prays for us! We sang "Send the Light" as a closing hymn. Only another missionary service.

But wait! That is not so!

For it was that and much more. Indeed it was a blessed service in itself, but it was more, in that another vital link was doing its job in the chain of support for the missionary enterprise of our Church. And it was more than that again, for these faithful "home missionaries" were sharing in the Great Commission to reach all men with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. What an opportunity! What a privilege!

The need is urgent that we keep among us as a Church a world vision and an undying enthusiasm for the work of Missions. Our Church faces some critical decisions, today, relative to the future of both Foreign and Home Missions. We dare not do less than we are doing, but only revived interest and sustained sacrifice can make it possible to maintain our present endeavours. Only new resources and greater sacrifices can make possible the claiming of new frontiers.

May God give us eyes to see that "Only Souls Matter" and that "Today" we must reach them.

COMMENDATION DUE REV. R. T. BENSON AND THE PEOPLE OF CRYSTAL, MAINE

On Monday, January 21, Rev. and Mrs. R. T. Benson moved into a new parsonage at Crystal, Maine. Built on the site of the former parsonage, burned in May of 1962, the new building is 28 x 40, ranch style, having adequate kitchen and dining room space as well as study, bath, hall, and three bedrooms. The building has a full basement.

Rev. Kenneth Gorveatte, Crystal's former pastor, helped to get the work on the new parsonage under way in June of last year. Actual construction was begun in July. Men of the community donated time, money, and machinery in helping to construct the building.

Financing for the project thus far has been arranged by the local congregation. However, further financial help is needed in order to do some finishing, both inside and out, and Brother Benson has appealed for help from any who could give them assistance at this time.

The vision and sacrifice on the part of the people of Crystal is highly commendable. May God bless them and their pastor as they continue their work for the Kingdom.

The New Year

by Mrs. J. A. Owens

A bright New Year has dawned again,
Nineteen Sixty-Two is past;
And in many ways this one will be,
No different from the last.

In looking back upon the days
Which can be never more
If we could only change some things!
We fain would live them o'er.

But days and deeds can't be relived
They are forever gone,
And all our actions, good or bad,
Can never be undone.

Only our influence lives on
To bless or blight mankind.
And with the "New Year" up ahead,
We leave the "Old" behind.

St. Paul has said, "Forget the past,"
Its failures, sins, and sorrows,
And ever reach "Toward the goal"
A bright and glorious "morrow."

Each day ahead will offer us
A new sheet, white and clean:
May no known sin be found upon,
When by the Master seen!

"I am in perfect peace, resting alone on the blood of Christ. I find this amply sufficient with which to enter the presence of God".

—Trotter

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