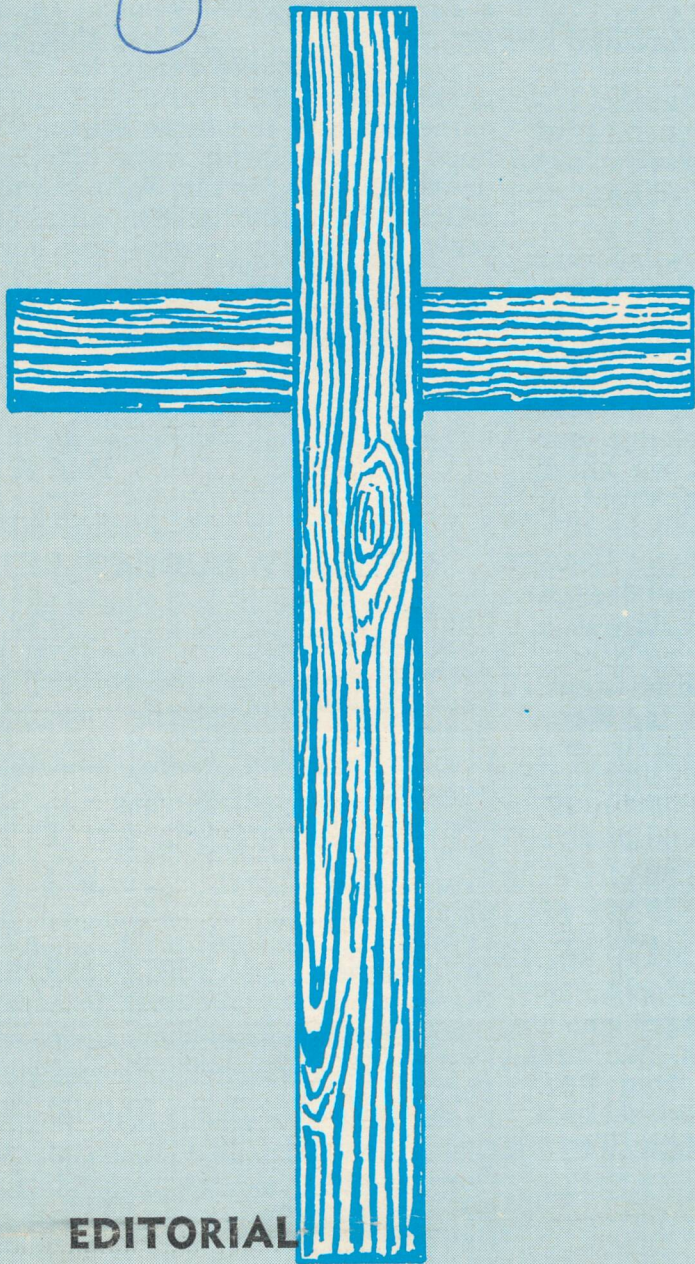


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Bethany Bible College

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## EDITORIAL

Rev. F. A. Dunlop

### THE STILLNESS OF THAT NIGHT

"Shepherds keeping watch over their flock by night." Wise men, guided by a star; a man and woman in a stable; a child, lying in a manger; Bethlehem, "in deep and dreamless sleep;" "the world in solemn stillness". Here, the greatest event in history, the Supreme Act of God, takes place in an atmosphere of silence. "Silent night, silent night, all is calm, all is bright, 'round yon virgin mother and child, holy infant, so tender and mild. Sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace."

How different are the ways of God, and the ways of men! We would have had months of planning, building, scheming. Fund raising drives; breakfast, at the Inn; floats, representing the Elks, the Odd Fellows and the Masons. Several Bands, preceded by baton twirling majorettes. Canada, with miles of territory untouched by man must build an Island to accommodate her visitors. God waits for a quiet time and then He comes. God made Christmas a holy, sacred, wondrous thing, we have made it an extravagant bedlam of noise and festivity. The Angel might speak, but who would hear? The Star might shine, but who would see? The Child might be born, but who would worship? Silence and Christmas must go together or we shall not see, or hear, or perceive.

Once again, Christmas is upon us. Its message is the same as it was Two Thousand years ago: "Unto you is born, A Saviour! Christ is come!" Shall we, as shepherds did, go and see? Shall we, as wisemen did, come to worship? If our answer is: I will, then I suggest we will need to quiet our hearts before God, to concentrate our thoughts to think on things tremendous, or the day will pass and the best we can say will be;

It was but a noise.

"How silently, how silently,  
The Wondrous Gift is given!  
So God imparts to human hearts  
The blessings of His heaven.  
No ear may hear His coming,  
But in this world of sin,  
Where meek souls will receive Him still  
The dear Christ enters in."

F. A. Dunlop.

### FROM THE CONFERENCE SUPERINTENDENT

The calendar keeps an accurate record and although it seems impossible, our church year is half gone.

I believe I reported on Riverside Camp and the Committee visit to Marion, Indiana, but I will attempt to bring the Highway family up to date on my whereabouts.

Following Riverside Camp the family accompanied me to Burke Camp where I served as evangelist. This camp is located about 15 miles east of Malone, N. Y., just a few miles from the Quebec border. It is operated by the Standard Church. This was my first occasion to work with this sister holiness denomination and we appreciated the fellowship of their fine folk. It was a delight to work with Rev. and Mrs. Kenneth Knapp, the song evangelists, who are fellow Wesleyan Methodists from Marion, Indiana.

Season's Greetings

We just returned from our Committee trip to Wesleyan World Headquarters in time to finalize plans for the Sunday School Share Convention. We certainly appreciated the splendid response of our people to the Convention. I trust the challenge received from the outstanding ministry of Dr. Paul Kindschi and his staff from the Department of Sunday Schools has stimulated more effective and efficient Sunday School work in all of our churches.

I have participated in two evangelistic campaigns — one with our church in Digby and one on the Central Canada Conference with the church at Winchester, Ontario. While we are not able to report sweeping revivals in these meetings, we are grateful for the measure of victory in both churches.

Having been a former pastor at Beals, it was a joy to join others who had pastored the work there, and celebrate the 70th anniversary services. The District meeting at Jonesport, a District Youth Rally at Calais, and a District Ministerial meeting at Black's Harbour were also pleasant experiences on my schedule.

I was thankful for the opportunity to attend the Missionary Convention at Saint John. Rev. and Mrs. Hazen Ricker, representing Home Missions and Rev. and Mrs. Charles Sanders, our Missionaries on furlough, challenged us to continued faithfulness in the carrying out of the great commission.