



DEER ISLAND

We just closed a short series of meetings in our church in Deer Island. Our workers were Rev. Kenneth Gorveatte as speaker, Brother Cedric Landers as Song Evangelist and Rev. R. H. Nicholson as Artist Evangelist. They were a wonderful team to work with, and their message in sermon, song and picture brought the Gospel to our community in a very unusual manner. We are finishing our third year in this part of God's vineyard, and ask your prayers as we look forward to another year with these good people. Mother Mullen is with us and has been a real blessing and inspiration to us all.

Yours in His Service
J. A. & Hazel Owens

AMHERST

Rev. N. E. Trafton
P.O. Box 1037
Sussex, N. B.

Dear Mr. Trafton:

We have enjoyed having our missionary family with us so much. Pamela, Esther, and Joy have taken a keen interest in our Sunday School and Young People's work, and in all of our Church services and activities.

The Y.P. put on a program entitled, "Who is your Neighbor". An offering was received which helped eleven Y.P. with their expenses of getting to the Rally at Marysville.

We also enjoy having our son home on weekends. He and Guy Williams took a number of Young People to a Rally at our Truro Church. Recently Ken took a group of Junior boys out fishing. In the evening a number of teenagers met in the basement of the church. Pam and Esther Sanders were in charge of this evening's program, which was very much enjoyed by all.

Recently in our High School the Y.P. were given a choice of topics on which to prepare a speech — Cyril Chitty — a faithful attendant of our church and Young People's — chose as his topic, "The Ten Commandments". He came highest in his class!

One of our members of our Y.P. group is in training to be a nurse at the Moncton City Hospital. Betty Sharpe is graduating from C.R.V.S. in stenography this month. Lois Gero is graduating from Grade twelve.

We have been glad to have Willard Myers in our Y.P.'s group this year — he also is graduating this year. We will be real sorry to lose him from our group. We will also miss him from our prayer meetings!

Rev. McGeorge took a number of Young People to Sussex to attend the Bethany Graduation.

We are real sorry to lose Philip and Jackie Cann and their little daughter Bonnie from our midst — they are moving to Newcastle where Philip will be teaching in a school there.

There will be many changes this summer and fall. Pamela and Esther are planning (D.V.) to attend some college, Joy may be leaving with her parents. Cyril Chitty and Paul Ratz may go to Bethany. Ken is leaving for Toronto University (D.V.) We trust that others will come in to take their place. We have a fine group of younger boys and girls who will soon be old enough for our Y.P.'s group.

We had a wonderful Missionary Day recently! The Sanders family sang together which brought great blessing to our hearts. The three girls were in charge of our Sun-

WOMEN'S MISSIONARY AUXILIARY SPEAKS —

This year Mrs. Mildred Scott, President of the Women's Missionary Society of the Wesleyan Methodist Church of America, visited us for a few days during our Conference Business Session. She spoke briefly Thursday afternoon to all of the delegates, and then met with the ladies separately on Friday afternoon, bringing greetings from head office plus important information on the Ladies' Auxiliaries and Missionary Societies. Here are a few highlights of her visit:

1. Conference officers were elected as follows:
President — Mrs. Betty MacCallum
Vice President — Mrs. Emma Dow
Secretary — Miss Doreen Doherty
Treasurer — Mrs. Joan Hayes
Young Missionary Workers' Band Director — Mrs. Charlene MacKenzie
Magazine Solicitor — Mrs. Norma Lee Ricker
Women's World Fellowship Secretary — Mrs. Frances Moses
Reading Course — Mrs. F. A. Dunlop
2. Considerable time was spent in giving us information on the excellent missionary literature available.
3. Some pamphlets, brochures, etc., were left with us to assist us in becoming better acquainted with Wesleyan Missions.
4. From a question and answer session, the ladies were able to gain a much broader knowledge of the Wesleyan Missionary program.
5. Mrs. Scott also suggested that more organizational changes would no doubt be made after the merger with the Pilgrim Holiness Church is completed.

During the coming year we anticipate carrying on with our auxiliary work much the same as last year. A newsletter will be sent out the first of every month containing work ideas, information on missionaries, etc.

We will continue to support our missionaries on the South African and Rhodesian fields and in addition, information on, plus projects for other Wesleyan missionaries will be promoted from time to time.

Betty MacCallum

day School that day. Joy taught the boys and girls a verse in Zulu. Mrs. Sanders showed some interesting slides in the evening service. Rev. Sanders brought a fine message in the morning service.

Our little Cyndy went to be with Jesus on May 8. We want to thank all who prayed for her and her family, also we want to thank all those who sent cards and flowers. Just knowing that you were praying for us was so comforting! A special thanks to all who came so far to attend the Funeral service and to the many who called at the Funeral Home that memorable Wednesday evening! Your loving sympathy will always be remembered. A memorial service was held at the Evangelical Baptist Church in Hanover where Cyndy and family attended regularly.

Rev. McGeorge is to speak at a Memorial Service in the cemetery (Amherst) this Sunday afternoon.

We have been saddened also at the loss of our very dear friend and faithful member of our Amherst Church — Miss Bessie Follett. In a letter written May 1 she expressed having a great desire to come back to Amherst to live. She was sick for around five weeks and kept wishing to see the old friends at the Amherst church. However, she went to be with her Lord, May 27. She loved her church and supported it faithfully. A report of the Funeral service will be sent in to the Highway.

Greetings to all.

Mrs. Hubert McGeorge.

CAN THE BACKSLIDER ALWAYS RETURN?

By John R. Church

QUESTION: Please explain Hebrews 6:1-6.
ANSWER: In this passage the writer is not speaking of an ordinary backslider. The attitude that is dealt with here is what is known as apostasy. It is more than just going back into sin. The person here spoken of not only goes back into sin, but he also renounces and repudiates the only remedy for a person to get right with God.

The letter to the Hebrews was written to Jews who had been converted by faith in Christ. They had come to see that all the types and symbols of the Old Testament had been fulfilled in Christ, and that Christ was the true Messiah that God had sent into the world to save men from sin.

However, there was strong pressure being brought to bear on these Jewish Christians to get them to renounce their faith in Christ and return to the old Jewish religion from which they have come. The writer of this letter was pointing out that to repudiate this great plan of God that had brought them to salvation would be to put themselves in such a position that they could not be led to repentance.

The whole book of Hebrews is filled with exhortations and warnings about the danger of backsliding. The little word "if" is used 24 times in this letter, and each time it is used it implies not only the possibility but also the danger of backsliding and being eternally lost.

Our good friends who teach unconditional security have a lot of trouble with this passage, for it clearly teaches that a saved person can backslide to the point of no return.

As I have already indicated, this passage is not dealing with ordinary backsliding. The author is talking here about a person who not only backslides, but goes so far as to renounce the whole Christian system and say there is nothing to it.

Some who teach unconditional security cite this passage to support the contention that if you should happen to backslide you can never get back into right relationship with God. It is impossible, verse six says, "if they shall fall away, to renew them again unto repentance; seeing they crucify to themselves the Son of God afresh, and put him to open shame." But note that the word "crucify" implies a continuous action. In other words, it is not one simple act but a continuous attitude. A good reading would be, "So long as they crucify Christ afresh and put him to an open shame . . ." The implication of this is that if a person who had gone even this far would change his attitude he could still come back to God; but so long as he persists in rejecting God there is no hope for him.

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