

The Gospel Witness

PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY FOR THE PROPAGATION OF EVANGELICAL PRINCIPLES
AND IN DEFENCE OF THE FAITH ONCE FOR ALL DELIVERED TO THE SAINTS.

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Editor: T. T. SHIELDS

"I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ."—Romans 1:16.

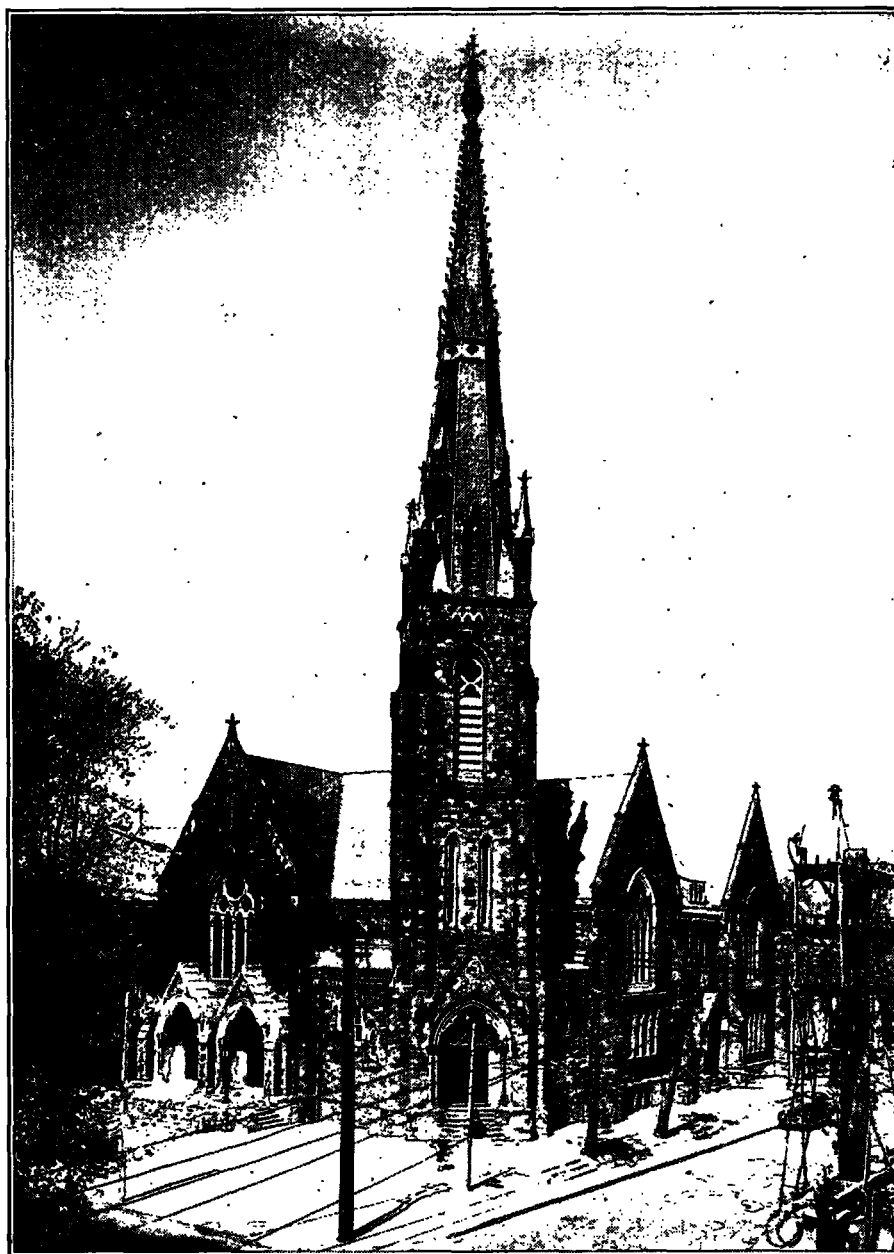
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THE NEW JARVIS STREET BUILDING
Showing the New Central Double Entrance.

JARVIS STREET CHURCH OPENS ITS DOORS

For about fifteen months—or, to be exact, from March 4th, 1938, until May 25th, 1939, our Sunday services were held in Massey Hall, and our three week-evening meetings in Cooke's Presbyterian Church. On Saturday evening, May 27th, Jarvis Street Church opened her doors once more.

The whole building was open for public inspection at seven o'clock, and the first Saturday evening prayer meeting was held in Greenway Hall, with comfortable—not merely estimated—accommodation for three hundred and fifty people. The Hall, of course, was crowded, and many who did not get in were in other parts of the building.

Our greatly beloved Deacon George Greenway opened the service. Ever since nineteen hundred and twenty-one, Mr. Greenway has conducted the prayer meetings of the church. That is to say, he has opened every prayer meeting, and usually carried through to the end. Generally there are enquirers or others who come to interview the Pastor, who comes in to the meeting sometimes a half-hour later. Sometimes the prayer meeting has been a "double header," but Mr. Greenway through all the years has been an institution in Jarvis Street Church.

In recognition of his long service, the Hall that will be used chiefly as a prayer meeting room is called, "Greenway Hall". The whole church was thankful and happy that the Hall could thus be opened and dedicated while Deacon Greenway is still with us.

It was a great meeting. After many prayers had been offered, opportunity was given for the recital of passages of Scripture, and often there were four or five on their feet together, right up to the time the meeting closed at about quarter to ten.

An account of the opening services is given elsewhere, written by Revs. W. G. Brown and W. S. Whitcombe. We propose as soon as practicable to issue an illustrated number of THE GOSPEL WITNESS, when every part of the interior of the church will be reproduced. Our readers will understand that a building having an acre and a half of floor space requires a great deal of furnishing; and while the main rooms are open and in use, the building is not in such condition as it will be in a few weeks' time; and for that reason we are postponing any attempt to show our readers what the building is like. In the meantime we are all thankful to be home again, and are looking forward to times of refreshing from the presence of the Lord.

HOME! HALLELUJAH!

By W. G. Brown

Crowds of people from the very young to the very old—hundreds were turned away—praising God in psalm and hymn and prayer, visitors present from all sections of Toronto, from Vancouver, B.C.; Timmins, Lindsay, Hamilton, Courtland and London, Ontario; Lachute and Drummondville, Quebec; Detroit, Michigan; Rochester, New York; and we know not where else; messages of greeting and prayer literally from the ends of the earth; words of gratitude to God and His people that welled from the heart of our great pastor, and that "fellowship of Christian minds" which "is like to that above"—all combined to make the first service in the new Jarvis Street auditorium a truly great event.

"Home!"

As we shook hands with one of the older members, she said just one word, but that word expressed the feeling, not only of her own soul, but of the souls of all Jarvis Street folk. It was "Home". Demon Fire had robbed us of a beautiful home; architects and builders, called by our wise pastor and his keen committee, had, under God, given us back a better one. The old Jarvis Street had a thousand sacred associations of a spiritual home, and they all abide in the new one. Yes, "home"! Thank God!

The children made it home. What a sight to see them at half past ten in crowds—there were about twelve hundred in school last Sunday morning in spite of the long handicaps of place and space under which we have laboured for fifteen months, and each department had held its own brief dedication service in its own new and commodious quarters—what a sight to see them, I say, pouring into the church, directed by their superintendents and led by their teachers: in the gallery, the Beginners', Primary and Juniors; on the floor, the Intermediate, Young People's and Adult Departments!

The choir made it home. Directed by Mr. W. J. Hutchinson, in cap and gown they came sixty strong from the doors at either side of the new and larger loft, now behind the pulpit, to lead in hymns of Zion with fervent Amens, to the accompaniment of our large and sweet organ above them, played by Mr. C. L. Penny.

The people made it home. They looked about as those do who have just moved into a new house. They admired the outline and colour of the ceiling light that resembles a great window above, the wide-spreading organ screen and oak panels below it, the marble baptistry with its flowers and palms, the massive hand-carved pulpit and Communion furniture, the soft-trodden carpets and the comfortable cushions on the new pews, the graceful lines of the arches and the gentle colour everywhere, and, of course, the many flowers, some in memory of the late Deacon Paul Hyde, a large basket from Cooke's Presbyterian Church, and several from commercial firms. The day was the hottest of spring, the pews were packed and hundreds stood all around the back of the gallery and of the ground floor. You see, there were no reserved seats except for Fire-Chief Sinclair and his family, for the magnificent work of whom and his men we are ever grateful.

"Hallelujah!"

When the pastor and his two assistants entered after the choir, the people stood to sing heartily and reverently, "Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty". The invocation offered by Dr. Shields set the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ at the heart of the service and besought His presence without Whom no church is blessed:

"We thank Thee, O Lord for the opened way into Thy presence through the rent veil of the Saviour's flesh. We bless Thee for the Mercy Seat where the blood is sprinkled, where poor sinners, who have forfeited all right to come where Thou art, may yet find acceptance with the Holy One through Christ.

"This morning we bow in this new House in Thy Name. We pray that from the very beginning we may be conscious of Thy presence, and that every heart within these walls this morning may be tuned to sing Thy praise, through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen."

After this prayer how the people sang the paraphrase!

"How pleased and blest was I
To hear the people cry,
'Come let us see our God to-day!'
Yes, with a cheerful zeal
We haste to Zion's hill,
And there our vows and homage pay."

All stood to join in reading together, led by Rev. W. S. Whitcombe, Psalms 121, 125 and 126; and we remained standing for the dedicatory prayer offered by the Pastor. We print it in the hope that every Christian reader will pray it with us here:

Dedication

"O Lord our God, we have come into Thy holy presence this morning that we may worship Thee. We invoke the aid of Thy Spirit that the sacrifice of the cross, and the mediatorial ministry of our Lord, may be made very real to us

"We have come that we may dedicate this House to Thy service. We thank Thee for Thy good hand upon us in making its restoration possible. We bless Thee for all the skill Thou hast given to those who have wrought in the work, making its construction substantial and beautiful, for every workman, for every contractor, for the architects. We pray that the blessing of the Lord, which maketh rich and addeth no sorrow thereto, may be their everlasting portion.

"We desire O Lord, to acknowledge our indebtedness to Thee, and to bring this poor offering, the work of our hands, to Thy feet. We desire that this auditorium and every room in this building may be dedicated exclusively to be used in the praise of our God. We pray that in every service the name of the Lord Jesus may be magnified, that Thou wilt never permit any part of this building to be used for any other purpose than to magnify the Lord. We ask that this pulpit may, through all the years to come, when some of us shall have ceased our labours, continue to be a centre of gospel light and influence and power, reaching to the ends of the earth.

"Look upon us now. Accept us in Christ Jesus; and may every part of this service this morning be fraught with spiritual blessing to every one. Look upon the membership of the Church. Grant, we beseech Thee, that, as we dedicate this House to Thy praise, we may yield ourselves afresh to Thy service, that within this House multitudes may be born again, that of this Zion the Lord may count, when He writeth up the people: 'This and that man was born there.'

"We lift our hearts to Thee in humble intercession in behalf of Their Gracious Majesties, the King and Queen, that they may be given journeying mercies and carried safely through their tour, and brought at last to their home in peace.

"Now bless us every one, and accept the worship of our hearts through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen."

When the pastor sat down, there appeared, Deacon J. E. Jennings, bearing a roll of parchment on which Brother E. Wicksey had beautifully illuminated an address "To Our Beloved pastor, Dr. Shields", signed by the entire board of deacons. This address is reproduced photographically—we wish it were in colour, for black and white does its beauty of form poor justice—on page 15 of this issue. Then the deacon called Mrs. Shields to the platform, and asked her to accept a basket of glorious flowers with which a small girl of our Bible School was then struggling up the few steps to the platform, requiring for her big burden the help of her father, Superintendent T. Kear, of the Junior Department.

Greetings

The pastor was about to reply when this scribe, from the other side of the long platform, interrupted, and produced hundreds of letters he had previously hidden, saying:

"I have before me what I should like to read in its entirety, greetings and best wishes from the ends of the earth to us as a Church on the opening of our building, and particularly to our Pastor as Pastor of the Church, and specially to him on the completion of twenty-nine years of ministry here. It would be a fine thing could you read all of these messages. I have tried, on your behalf, to make selections here and there, and give you representative portions of the message."

Elsewhere in this issue we print what we read to people whose attention was increased by their thanks to God for the many friends of their Pastor and Church. The organ gave the chord, and we all joined heartily in the Doxology.



SHOWING THE MAIN ENTRANCE ON JARVIS STREET AND THE SOUTHWEST ENTRANCE JARVIS AND GERRARD STREETS

The Pastor then spoke briefly and simply from his heart.

Half a Century

"Mr. Jennings, Mr. Brown, and Christian friends: Just to set your minds at rest, let me announce now that there will be no sermon this morning.

"I do not know how this all happened. Things that are supposed to be secret sometimes are not secret, but this was. I had no more idea than you of the reception of these messages. I think somebody ought to propose another address to the members of Jarvis St. Church for their long patience through twenty-nine years!

"It is a long time. I was thinking the other day my immediate predecessor, Dr. Perry, served here for about five and one half years. Before that there was a year's interval between the time of his coming, and the retirement of Dr. B. D. Thomas, who was Pastor for twenty-one years. So, to make easy reckoning, if you put Dr. Thomas' pastorate and mine together,—I am almost afraid to say it lest you think I am getting older—it just rounds out the half century. With five and one-half years in between, with Dr. Perry, that

makes only three pastorates in over fifty-five years. That is a long time.

"I am happy to hear these words of greeting, because you know we all have our days under the juniper tree. Sometimes we have to dig our oars into the waves a bit against contrary winds. The rowing is pretty hard sometimes, and I suppose we all need a little encouragement; and one of the joys of life to me is to think of the great company of people whom I never see, whom we are permitted to reach week after week. I do not know how it happened, but the ministry of THE GOSPEL WITNESS has spread itself to more than sixty different countries. You heard from the Scandinavian countries. Well, we hear from Germany and Italy, and France, of course, frequently. About once a month I get one of my sermons in Arabic. I cannot read them! They come to me sometimes from Bulgaria, translated into their language. We had a cable from Mr. Leland Wong, a noted Chinese Evangelist, and he tells me that they continually translate THE GOSPEL WITNESS sermons into Chinese. And even from old Jerusalem, where the gospel began, we have greetings this morning, one from one of our Seminary graduates who has been a missionary in Palestine now for several years.

"I do not know what I can say to you. This all indicates that there is, after all, such a thing as Christian fellowship. We have many ministerial friends. I do not know how many we have now, but for years we had more ministers reading THE GOSPEL WITNESS every week than could possibly be packed into Massey Hall. So it has been my privilege to preach to a congregation of ministers alone far exceeding the utmost capacity of Massey Hall. And the Lord has blessed the testimony of His Word.

"I want to thank the members of Jarvis St. most heartily for their great kindness, and their long patience. And in behalf of my wife to thank you for your lovely consideration of her in this floral tribute. We shall have time to talk about the building some other day, and so I must not detain you to speak about it this morning. Well—you will excuse me, won't you? if I tell you that I don't know what to say. What can anyone say in response to that? But I think it may explain why God in His mercy permitted the re-erection of this House, so that the same message may continue to go forth to the ends of the earth. I thank you all.

"Jarvis St. has many friends outside of its membership, people of all denominations, many of whom we are glad to have with us this morning.

"The sermon I had intended to preach this morning—perhaps it is a good thing you did not hear it. Perhaps it would not have been of much value—I shall reserve for another time. But this one word: important as the building is, it is only the body after all. I trust those of you who have sympathy with us in our work here, together with our membership, will continue to pray that nothing shall ever be allowed to detract from the glory of the Lord. I said last night in Greenway Hall, which was crowded for our Saturday night prayer meeting, that I would far rather have a barn, or tent, or nothing but the open canopy of heaven for a covering, and under circumstances like that preach the gospel with the manifest presence of the Lord, than to be without Him and preach in the greatest cathedral on earth. It is the Lord we want. I take time to say that. And if I had preached to you this morning I should have tried to tell you that this temple after all must perish like the other one, sooner or later. The all-important thing is that we must have God with us, for without Him we can do nothing."

"Again I Say, Rejoice"

What shall we say of the evening service? The spirit of the morning gathering, which is "better felt than felt", continued. The building was overcrowded, so that hundreds of our own people kindly withdrew to Greenway Hall in order to give their places to our visitors. But even then many sat on the gallery steps or stood along the walls or in the vestibules, throughout, and of course many more saw the place full and turned away. The hymn singing was hearty, the anthem was rejoicing, and the sermon was a great word from our great preacher. Read it in this issue, and joy with us.

In the most beautiful baptistry we have ever seen,

fourteen were immersed in the likeness of Christ's death and resurrection.

One of the evening hymns was specially written by Dr. Shields for the opening of the new church. We give it in full. (We used the tune St. Catherine, commonly sung to "Faith of Our Fathers", but it will also go to Stella.)

God of all grace, great Three in One,
Thou Father, Son, and Holy Ghost:
Revealed in Thine only Son

Coming to seek and save the lost;
We offer to the Triune God
Adoring worship through Christ's blood.

If e'en the highest heavens are
Too mean Thy dwelling-place to frame—
How can the temples that men rear
Be worthy of Thy Holy Name?
Since Jesus stooped our flesh to take,
Make this house holy for His sake.

And if the heavens in Thy sight
Must needs be purged because unclean;
And if in Thy supernal light
Folly in angels may be seen,
Come to this house, Incarnate God,
Cleanse all its service with Thy blood.

Here may the sinner lose his chain,
Here may the fearful lose his fears;
Here natural men be born again,
And souls repenting dry their tears;
While all behold the Crucified,
And all by faith are justified.

Entrust us with Thy lambs to teach,
All workers with Thy Spirit fill;
Strengthen our hands, that we may reach
All such as now resist Thy will;
That of this Zion God shall say,
This man and that, there found the way.

Here in this house, our Sovereign Lord,
We plight our troth, as men may do;
The message of th' inspired Word
Shall be our witness clear and true:
Settle Thy Word in hearts that love,
As settled 'tis in heaven above.

Here may the poorest find a place;
The richest, poor in spirit be;
Learned and unlearned, by Sovereign Grace,
And young and old, be brought to Thee;
With all the saints who through the blood
Are made the children of our God.

Long as these vaulted spaces ring
With praises to the Lamb of God,
Proclaim the coming of the King,
The gospel of the precious blood,—
Almighty Spirit, here abide,
To quicken, sanctify, and guide.

WALKING ABOUT ZION

Impressions of the Jarvis Street Church Reopening.

By W. S. Whitcombe

Dr. Shields has asked me to write my impressions of the opening services of the new Jarvis Street building. I have found them expressed in the Psalms more accurately and more beautifully than anything I could write:

"When the Lord turned again the captivity of Zion, we were like them that dream. Then was our mouth filled with laughter, and our tongue with singing: then said they among the heathen, the Lord hath done great things for them. The Lord hath done great things for us; whereof we are glad."

Psalm one hundred and twenty-seven was Jarvis Street's psalm last Sunday morning. I do not mean

merely that we read it at the service, but that we entered into its experience; we not only read it, but we wrote it again in the tablets of our memory where it will abide as the inspired record of one of the high days of our lives.

As long as we remain in the flesh there will always be a temptation to substitute the gazing at outward things for that worship in spirit and in truth that the Father seeks, but it was evident that the thought of the new building was present in the minds of the great company of worshippers only as a symbol of God's goodness to us in the past, and as a token of what He has yet stored up for us in the future. Truth to tell the new Jarvis Street building was no novelty to the great majority of those present on Sunday. In spite of large signs bearing the warning, "Danger, Keep Out", most, if not all, of those interested in the progress of the building had managed to keep a close watch on the work of construction and completion. The Saturday night prayer meeting in Greenway Hall was the first service actually held in the new building, when a great company met together without ceremony or even addresses, for a simple meeting of prayer and praise, as Jarvis Street has done each Saturday night for many years past. It was this service, we all felt, that actually though unofficially dedicated the new building, and a fitting prelude it was that prepared our hearts for the great public services of the first Lord's day in our new and beautiful house.

The messages from the ends of the earth that were read at the morning service broadened our conception of the missionary activities of Jarvis Street Church, and we refer our readers to the pages of this number for a resumé of them. In the evening as in the morning, scores were turned away from the doors before seven o'clock. Some of them found their way into Greenway Hall and every available place was taken up in this great meeting-place too. I had the good fortune to share in both the meetings and testify that though "sundered far" they were one in spirit. Afterwards some of the Jarvis Street people who had been waiting anxiously month after month for this first great service in the new church, came to me almost in tears to tell of their great disappointment at not hearing the pastor preach his first sermon in the re-built Jarvis Street auditorium: only the strongest sense of duty compelled them to give up their places in the church proper so that strangers might have a share in it. But those of us who worshipped in Greenway Hall did not feel that we had been left to wander in the wilderness. Rev. W. J. Thomson, who came three thousand miles from Vancouver to be with us at the opening service, fed us with strong meat, and in forgetting his own disappointment enabled us to rise above ours. Mr. Thomson has spoken a number of times in Jarvis Street of late, and he never opens his mouth

without glorifying the Lord Jesus and lifting up his hearers into the heavenly places. Happy are the people who sit under such a ministry as his. Over-flow meetings are generally little more than a convenience for relieving disappointed persons of their collection, but Mr. Thomson handled this meeting in a masterly fashion and made it the occasion of real blessing to the church.

Monday night was Cooke's night, when Jarvis Street Baptist entertained their hosts of the last fifteen months. Our discovery of the true Christian neighbourliness of Cooke's Church and their great-hearted pastor, Rev. William Thomas, was not the least of the blessings the fire brought in its train. This practical Church Union welded by the fire will endure, for we preach the same



VIEW OF THE MAIN AND SOUTHWEST ENTRANCES

Word and exalt the same Lord. Mr. Thomas' radiant presence is always a tonic and on Monday night there were no long faces. It was our privilege and joy to send our Presbyterian friends home with a Baptist Hymnal specially printed for use in Jarvis Street which contained Robert Murray McCheyne's great song of praise, "Jehovah Tsidkenu", hitherto not contained in the books used by Cooke's congregation. Long may our two congregations meet together on the ground of "The Lord our Righteousness" and tune their hearts and voices together in such a glorious hymn as this!

Last night, Tuesday, we heard from all the superintendents of the great Jarvis Street Bible School. We began with the cradle-roll—"a living cradle-roll in actual attendance in baskets on the floor, not a list on the wall"—passing through the various departments, Adult, Young People's, Junior, Intermediate, Primary, Beginners, followed by two fine addresses from two graduates of this practical school—Revs. Wilfred Charlton and Bernard Jeffrey, two pastors who have applied the "Jarvis Street Method" in their own ministry with great success. And finally, a fitting climax to this feast of good things, we heard from the general superintendent,

Mr. W. J. Hutchinson, affectionately known to thousands of children as "Uncle Hutch". One could not but be deeply impressed and inspired in listening to these seasoned veterans, who, by the grace of God and under the leadership and inspiration of the Pastor, have built, in a "down-town" church a great Bible-school where many hundreds have found Christ.

For the sake of our distant readers, I should like to describe the building itself, but that must wait until photographs are published. Only this word of warning: the new Jarvis Street Church building, like the Queen, surpasses its photographs! I have had the privilege of showing a number of friends, including several ministers of different denominations, over the new building; without exception they have expressed genuine amazement at the splendid arrangements of the whole great building, and of the perfection of the minutest details. One must live in the place to appreciate all its fine points, and the more I see of it the more enthusiastic I find myself becoming over this magnificent piece of work.

Anyone who has ever built anything from a hen-coop to a skyscraper will be reminded by all this of the principle the Scripture enunciates: "Every house is builded by some man." Our great buildings—the spiritual edifice first and then this great new house also—these the membership of Jarvis Street Church take to be evidences of

the fact that the Great Architect, the Lord, has built and is building, our house and His. "Surely this is the Lord's doing and it is marvellous in our eyes," this is the humble and hearty prayer of all. Yet we recognize with gratitude and affection that God gets His work done through the human hands of wise master builders, and for the gift of such a man to God's cause in this day and generation we give thanks. Tributes to Dr. Shields from the ends of the earth have poured into the church office in the last few days; the architects have declared publicly that they merely drew the lines, that Dr. Shields was the directing genius; the Sunday-school superintendents, most of them converted and all of them trained under his ministry, have told us that they recognize him as the inspiration of their great work; the same acknowledgment with a different setting will be repeated on the Church night, and on the Seminary night, and on THE GOSPEL WITNESS and missionary night. We should be guilty of the sin of ingratitude if we failed to give thanks to God upon every remembrance of such a servant of His. Jarvis Street Church expressed its prayer in the beautifully illuminated address it presented to this great pastor as he commenced the thirtieth year of his ministry among us. Unitedly the entire membership prays that the Great Head of the church may grant him and us abundant fruitfulness in His work and word.

"ALL THE ENDS OF THE EARTH SHALL SEE THE SALVATION OF OUR GOD"

By W. B. Brown

Many, many were the greetings received by Jarvis Street Baptist Church on the opening of its new and beautiful building last Sunday and by Dr. T. T. Shields on his completion of twenty-nine years as its strong pastor. They came from conventions, colleges, churches large and churches small, pastors and missionaries, Christian workers and "helpers by prayer," graduates of Toronto Baptist Seminary, members of Jarvis Street Church living at a distance, and members of the large GOSPEL WITNESS family around the world. Cablegrams, telegrams and postal service, carrying resolutions, official letters and personal ones, brought them from the ends of the earth. Dr. Shields knew nothing of their arrival till this member of the staff of Toronto Baptist Seminary rose in the pulpit, after Deacon J. E. Jennings had read the beautifully illuminated address and made presentation of a large basket of glorious flowers to the pastor's wife, and reached into a little cupboard on his side of the massive oak pulpit to bring out a pile of papers of many sizes and shapes, but all alike in their sincerity, fervency and intercession to God for us and our pastor. We said then we should like to read each and all throughout, but that would take the day; so we must content ourselves with excerpts from some, and the names and places of the rest. Even that, with all the speed possible in public reading, took half an hour. Of course, we should like to print all the messages, but space forbids. In very few cases can we give even all of one letter. We have tried to make our excerpts representative, but believe us when we say that these pages must, for their proper appreciation, be multiplied many times. What a volume of prayer do these pages alone represent! May

He Who hears such prayer answer in the fulness of the blessing of the gospel of Christ. Amen.

For lack of a better system of arrangement we have taken the geographical one: we begin with Toronto, and then go to Ontario and Quebec, then to the Canadian West; from there we visit many parts of the United States and cross to the West Indies; then come the British Isles, France and Switzerland where lies the foreign missionary work of our Union of Regular Baptist Churches of Ontario and Quebec, afterward we hear from elsewhere on the Continent, from South America, from the Pacific and the Antipodes, from the Near East, from India and China. Come with us on our Jarvis Street word tour and let us praise the Lord together at every point of call.

TORONTO GREET'S ITS FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

Mayor's Office, Toronto.

Rev. T. T. Shields, D.D.,
Pastor, Jarvis Street Baptist Church, Toronto.

Dear Dr. Shields:

May I avail myself of the opportunity of congratulating you on the completion of twenty-nine years of effective service at Jarvis Street Church. I am sure that, with the restoration of your Church, so unfortunately destroyed by fire last year, your opportunities for exercising Christian influence on those with whom you come in contact will be greatly increased.

Please accept my felicitations on this important occasion, along with my good wishes for the future of your Church under your guidance.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) R. C. DAY, Mayor.

Fire Department, Toronto.

Dear Mr. Shields:

In passing your church the other day, I was so impressed with its beauty that I thought I should let you know.

You are to be congratulated, not only for a wonderful restoration, but for your untiring efforts to bring it about. I feel sure it will be a proud and momentous occasion on Sunday next, when you officially declare the edifice complete for Divine Worship. May your efforts always have the same success as in this.

Sincerely yours,
(Signed) GEO. SINCLAIR, *Chief, Fire Dept.*

McKinley Loyal Orange Lodge No. 275.

Reverend Sir:

Your outstanding attitude with regard to matters truly Protestant is greatly admired and appreciated by our members and we hope you will long be spared to continue your fight for the truth.

With best wishes, believe me to be,

Yours very truly,
(Signed) CLAUDE CLARKE, *Recording Secretary.*

Protestant Action.

Dear Dr. Shields:

The reopening of Jarvis Street Baptist Church will bring joy to many thousands of earnest Christians who are not members of your communion. You have been the militant pastor of this world-famed Protestant church for more than a quarter century and when one thinks of Jarvis Street they immediately think of you and your valiant fight for the cause of the Lord Jesus Christ.

May I congratulate you on your ministry and your outspoken defence of Protestant liberty and Evangelical Christianity. From the lips of many on Sunday next will go up sincere prayers that you will be long spared for years of fruitful labour in the work you have so earnestly given your life to.

I will be absent from the city when you hold your reopening services, but will be thinking of you and praying that God will richly bless all you do in His Name.

(Signed) L. H. SAUNDERS, *Editor.*

Toronto Bible College.

Dear Dr. Shields:

I should like to join your many friends in sending sincere congratulations on the successful completion of your new church and its formal opening after the tragic fire.

It is a fine tribute to your spiritual leadership. I trust your bow will long abide in strength in that citadel of the Christian faith and I hope you will be given many more years to proclaim there the unsearchable riches of Christ.

With kindest regards and all good wishes.

Yours very sincerely,

(Signed) JOHN McNICOL, *Principal.*

From Toronto churches other than Baptist we can quote just a bit of one fine letter:

Dovercourt Road Presbyterian Church, Toronto.

Dear Dr. Shields:

I hope that Jarvis Street Baptist Church will burn again and again with the fire of an intense zeal for the salvation of men and the glory of God.

With every good wish,

Heartily yours,

(Signed) W. ALLAN, *Minister.*

In addition to the above we heard from *Yonge Street Mission*, Mrs. G. Evelyn Davis, Superintendent (her late husband was converted in Jarvis Street many years ago); *St. John's Evangelical Church*, Mr. W. L. Wilson, Secretary; *The Alliance Tabernacle*, Rev. David Mason, Pastor; *St. Giles' United Church*, Mr. Harold A. Wills, Recording Clerk of Session and General Superintendent of their two Sunday Schools; *Simpson Avenue United Church*, Mr. L. K. Wingrove, Secretary; *Metropolitan United Church*, the Very Reverend Peter Bryce, D.D., LL.D., Minister; *Knox Presbyterian Church*, Rev. J. Gibson Inkster, D.D., Minister; *Cooke's Presbyterian Church*, Rev. Wm. Thomas, M.A., Minister; *Riverdale Presbyterian Church*, Mr. Roy Davenport, Clerk of Session; *St. Peter's Anglican Sunday School*, Mr. E. M. Jarvis, Superintendent. (Another letter is from Mr. J.

Craig Brokovski, Chancellor of the Anglican Diocese of Calgary, Alberta.)

From Baptists of the Old Convention we heard kindly. Because of its special nature we print this letter:

Danforth Baptist Church, Toronto.

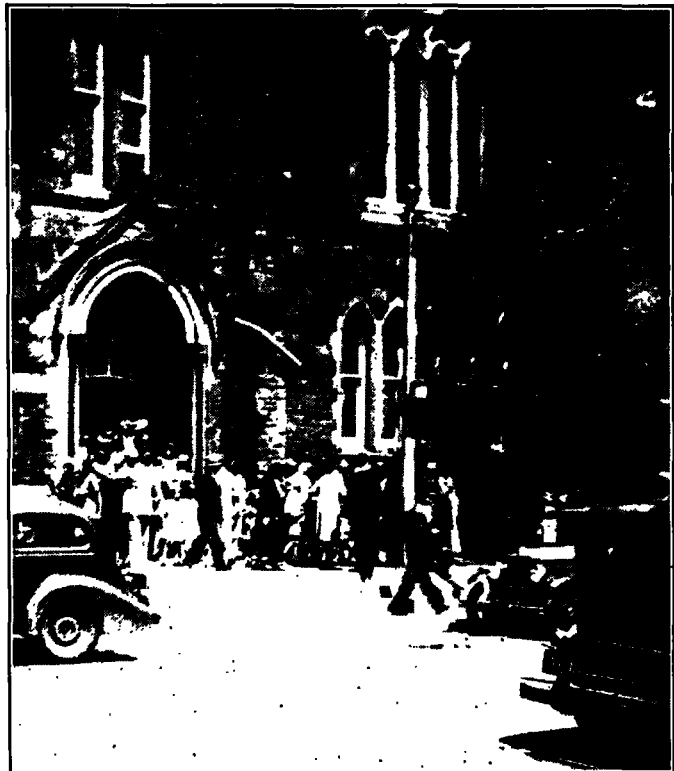
Dear Miss Stoakley:

I believe you are opening the rebuilt Jarvis Street Baptist Church on Sunday, May 14th. As a church that was started by the early workers in Jarvis Street we wish to extend you our best wishes for your continued success in God's work in that corner of His Vineyard.

Yours on behalf of the church,

(Signed) F. C. CLARKE, *Clerk.*

Congratulations and felicitations reached us also from *Century Baptist Church*, Mr. Henry Mosey, Secretary; *St. Clair Avenue Baptist Church*, Mr. F. G. Pickering, Chairman of the Board of Deacons; *College Street Baptist Church*, Mr. J. H. ...



AT THE GERRARD STREET CENTRAL ENTRANCE

tist Church, Rev. G. A. Leichter, M. A., B.D., Pastor; *The Canadian Baptist Foreign Mission Board*, Rev. H. E. Stillwell, B.A., D.D., General Secretary. We mention here also kindly words from Rev. P. P. Ziemann, pastor of *Talbot Street Baptist Church*, London, Ontario, and from Rev. Reuben E. E. Harkness, Ph.D., President and Recording Secretary of the *American Baptist Historical Society*, with headquarters at Chester, Pennsylvania, a society which preserves every copy of THE GOSPEL WITNESS.

Of Independent Baptist Churches we have word from *High Park Baptist Church*, Toronto, Mr. A. H. Dancy, Chairman of the Board; *Faith Baptist Church*, Mr. Kenneth Bagnall, Secretary of the Board of Deacons. With these we mention others from out of town: *Hughson Street Baptist Church*, Hamilton, Ontario, Miss Anna Ryan, Clerk; *Central Baptist Church*, Brantford, Ontario, Mr. Stanley F. White, Clerk; *Calvary Baptist Church*, Oshawa, Rev. G. Wardell, Pastor.

CANADIAN REGULAR BAPTISTS GREET THEIR LEADING CHURCH

From the Regular Baptists of Ontario and Quebec, we have a sheaf of letters. What a fine fellowship is ours! What opportunities are at our doors! May we, together, buy up these opportunities, for the time is short. Here, especially, should we like to print every word of what is before us, yet we are compelled to make selection—a hard thing to do!

Mount Pleasant Baptist Church, Toronto.

Dear Dr. Shields:

On the happy event of the reopening of your reconstructed church building, combined with the twenty-ninth anniversary of your pastorate of Jarvis Street Church, I wish to convey to you my heartiest congratulations and kindest wishes.

With kindest regards,

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) ALEX. THOMSON, *Pastor*.

Runnymede Road Baptist Church, Toronto.

Dear Dr. Shields:

On this, the occasion of the completion of the reconstruction of your fine church building and your reaching the twenty-ninth anniversary in the pastorate of the church, I wish personally and in behalf of the Runnymede Road Baptist Church, to extend to you and to the members of Jarvis Street Church, our sincere congratulations and best wishes.

May the blessing of God abundantly rest upon the opening and future services in the new building and upon your continued, able and faithful ministry, is our prayer.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) P. B. LONEY, *Pastor*.

Long Branch Baptist Church.

Dear Dr. Shields:

Our family has cause to praise God for Jarvis Street in a peculiar way. It was there that my brother, who has been preaching the gospel in China for the past eight years, was born again. My sister was saved there. Under your ministry I felt the call of God to preach the gospel; and with my brother, studied at the Seminary, for which I praise God constantly.

I remain, sincerely yours,

(Signed) BERNARD JEFFERY, *Pastor*.

Bethel Baptist Church, Orillia, Ont.

To Dr. T. T. Shields and

Members of Jarvis Street Baptist Church:

Dr. Shields stands for the glorious old Calvinistic theology, which so many preachers have abandoned. He excels in his power to paint glowing pictures of the joys of a Christian life, and the folly of rejecting a Gospel so rich in blessing. The practical social influence of Dr. Shields' sermons is of an elevating character. As an editorial writer, he is versatile and prolific, and his weekly contributions, on an immense variety of topics, would fill many volumes. His writings are as powerful and effective as his preaching, and full of living illustrations.

(Signed) E. H. GOOD, *Clerk*.

JOHN BYERS, *Pastor*.

Stanley Ave. Baptist Church, Hamilton, Ont.

Dear Dr. Shields:

As sunshine follows shadow so the grief occasioned by the conflagration that destroyed your great church is now followed by rejoicing in the creation of a new and better house of worship. We rejoice with you and your congregation in that this new, imposing edifice is to be opened and that once again the lofty spire which symbolizes the great verities for which you and your church have ever stood is to rise again and stand as a brave sentinel on guard for God and the Truth.

Accept also my heartiest congratulations on this your twenty-ninth anniversary as Pastor of Jarvis Street Baptist Church.

Wishing you many more years of rich and blessed service in the cause of Christ, I remain,

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) CLIFFORD J. LONEY, *Pastor*.

(Telegram)

Central Baptist Church, London, Ont.

Miss Violet Stoakley:

Central Baptist Church joins with me in wishing Dr. Shields and Jarvis Street God's richest blessing on this holy, happy, triumphant day. Our united prayer is that at your opening services the flames which destroyed the old building may symbolize the fire of Holy Ghost revival which shall be kindled to-day and never quenched till Jesus comes.

(Signed) JAS. MCGINLAY, *Pastor*.

William Street Baptist Church, Lindsay, Ont.

Dear Dr. Shields:

The William Street Baptist Church joins with me in sending this word of greeting and congratulation on this opening day of the new Jarvis Street Baptist Church and also the 29th anniversary of your pastorate. Our earnest prayer is that the new church may be the scene of unprecedented blessing, and that you yourself may be even more largely used of God in the future than in the past. May the record of the coming days be that "believers were the more added to the Lord, multitudes both of men and women."

I thank God personally for the great privilege which was mine in having been associated with you for so many years in the great work being done in Jarvis Street Church.

Affectionate greetings.

Cordially yours,

(Signed) W. N. CHARLTON, *Pastor*.

First Baptist Church, Timmins, Ont.

Dear Dr. Shields:

Your ministry is so fittingly described in the words applied to Joseph by Jacob, his father, that I choose to quote them: "Joseph is a fruitful bough, even a fruitful bough by a well; whose branches run over the wall: the archers have sorely grieved him, and shot at him, and hated him; but his bow abode in strength . . ."

Long before the fire razed the material walls of the Jarvis Street building, by your able ministry, you had burst the bounds of those four walls, spiritually, and have been a blessing to multitudes on the outside.

One of the latest cases is a woman in Timmins, who, by reading a message in THE GOSPEL WITNESS, has been soundly converted to Jesus Christ.

Having received the benefits of your teaching now for some years, I know something of the high quality of your ministry.

The strong stand you have taken in defence of the "Faith once delivered to the saints" has inspired me more than I am able to judge.

The personal fellowship I have enjoyed with you for over ten years, has also taught me to place high value on true friendship.

May God grant you many more years of fruitful ministry in your present pastorate, is my sincere prayer.

I am

Very heartily yours,

(Signed) H. C. SLADE, *Pastor*.

P.S. It seems most appropriate also to extend congratulations on the near completion in the re-building of the famous Jarvis Street Church building.

Timmins, Ont.

Dear Dr. Shields:

It was a great pleasure to see our Bible School, by a unanimous vote, designate the offering of every department, Sunday, May 21st, to Jarvis Street rebuilding fund.

Mr. C. A. Remus, a member of our church who went to Toronto for the opening services, will give you the cheque personally.

May God's richest blessings rest upon you and the work you are doing for Him, is my prayer.

Faithfully yours,

(Signed) G. ACETI.

The Alumni Association,
Toronto Baptist Seminary.

Dear Pastor and President:

We, the members of the Seminary Alumni, wholeheartedly

join in Christian felicitations at the long-awaited news of the completion of the new Bethel.

This is of double interest in that you are celebrating your anniversary at the same time. You have seen much blessing in this time, but the prayers of your students and friends is that what you have seen in the past will be but a rivulet of blessing compared with the glory that shall be revealed in this the beginning of your work for the Lord.

Long may the new auditorium echo with the gospel message from your lips; and may other generations of students receive from your ministry the spiritual impetus that has been a blessing to us.

On behalf of the Alumni Society,

I am

Yours in the fellowship of the Gospel,
(Signed) GRAHAME M. REEVE (*Secretary-Treasurer*).

Other interesting and appreciated letters we can mention only: Pastor and Mrs. H. Bruce Hisey, of *Willowdale Baptist Church*; *Maple Hill Baptist Church*, Mr. Wm. H. McGill, Secretary-Treasurer; Rev. Albert T. Finlayson, Pastor of *Mitchel Square and West Oro Baptist Churches*; Rev. Herbert S. Bennett, Hamilton, Ontario; *Hespeler Baptist Church*, Rev. J. R. Armstrong, Pastor *Medina Indian Baptist Church*, Rev. Melchie Henry, Pastor; *Brownsville and Springfield Baptist Churches*, Rev. J. K. Yalland, Pastor; Rev. Leander Roblin, Pastor of *Otterville Baptist Church*; Rev. J. H. Watt, Pastor of *Bethel Baptist Church*, St. Catharines; *Briscoe Street Baptist Church*. London, Ontario, Miss Betty Meaden, Clerk; Rev. H. E. Buchner, Pastor of *Fingal and Shedden Baptist Churches*; *Chatham Regular Baptist Church*, Rev. E. C. Wood, Pastor; Rev. F. W. Dyson, Pastor of *Temple Baptist Church*, Windsor, Ontario; *Orangeville Baptist Church*, Rev. G. W. Searle, Pastor, Mr. Milton Merry, Clerk; Mr. and Mrs. W. L. McCullough, Meaford, Ontario; *Stouffville Baptist Church*, Rev. Duncan Macgregor, Pastor, Mrs. Wm. Slack, Clerk; *First Markham Baptist Church*, Rev. Duncan Macgregor, Pastor; *Scotch Line Baptist Church*, Mr. John E. Greening, Pastor; Rev. Frank E. Vaughan, Pastor of *Miner's Bay Baptist Church*; Mrs. E. A. McArthur, Cobourg, Ontario; *Dalesville and Brownsburg Baptist Churches*, Quebec, Rev. C. Hardie, Pastor; Mr. G. B. Kelly and family, Avoca, Quebec; *Emmanuel Regular Baptist Church*, Verdun, Quebec, Rev. T. D. M. Carson, Pastor; *Sawjerville Baptist Church*, Rev. Richard E. Jones, Pastor, Mr. Austin S. Bowkes, Clerk; Rev. Wilfred J. Wellington, Pastor of *Bourlamaque Baptist Church*, Quebec; Rev. George B. Hicks, Geraldton, Ontario; *Kapuskasing Regular Baptist Church*, Rev. Robt. E. J. Brackstone, Pastor; *Shenstone Memorial Baptist Church*, Brantford, Ontario, Mr. W. Delmas Clark, Clerk. From Shenstone's resolution we must quote this:

"The Jarvis Street Pulpit and the facilities of the building, the energy and money of its people and the voice and pen of its pastor have come to the aid of every needy and worthy part of the Lord's work."

WESTERN BAPTISTS FELICITATE THEIR JARVIS STREET BRETHREN

In British Columbia we begin with two Convention messages; the one from Rev. W. J. Thomson was presented personally by Pastor Thomson, who had journeyed across a continent to attend—and take part in—the opening of the new Jarvis Street.

Dear Dr. Shields:

I have been requested by the Convention of Regular Baptist Churches in British Columbia to convey to you and the Jarvis Street Church our heartiest congratulations and best

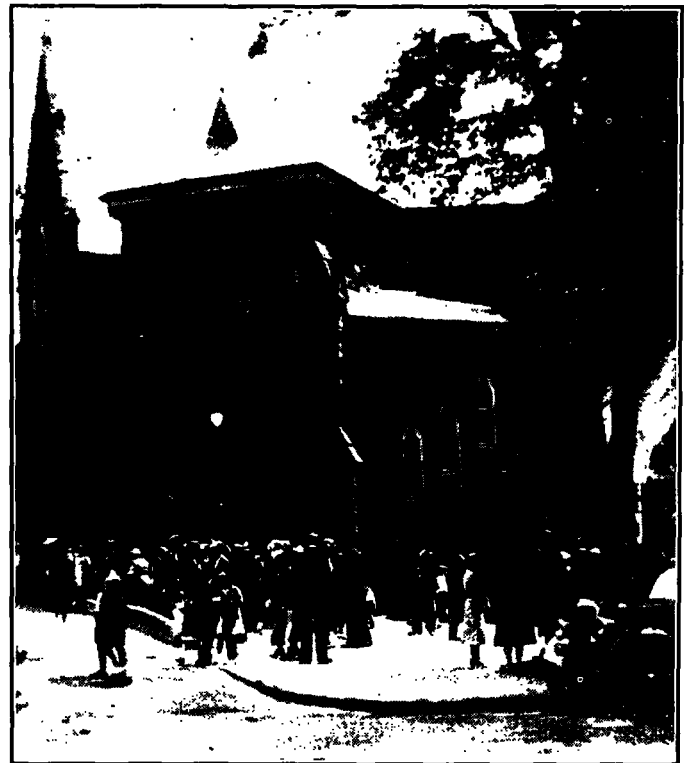
wishes for the reopening of your new building for the worship and service of God. Our hearts were shocked and we mourned with you on the loss of your building fifteen months ago. But now we rejoice with you in the reconstruction and enlargement of God's house for all departments of your work, and pray to our Heavenly Father that He may so endue you all with the fulness of the Holy Spirit, that you may enter worthily on your immediate service for Christ, with ever increasing grace to the edifying of the church as well as to the saving of the lost.

I recall with deepest gratitude to God the close and endearing fellowship of the past years which has been a stimulus to personal endeavour for Christ, and I pray that you, Dr. Shields, and the great church which you serve may continue to inspire and strengthen God's people throughout the world.

We commend you to God and the Word of His Grace, praying that the glory of the latter house may be greater than that of the former.

Yours on behalf of our Convention,

(Signed) W. J. THOMSON.



AT THE NORTHWEST ENTRANCE

(Wire)

Convention of Regular Baptist Churches of British Columbia, Victoria, B.C.

Dr. T. T. Shields:

Fraternal greetings from the Regular Baptists of British Columbia. We unite with you in praise and thanksgiving for what the Lord has done, and wish you the abundant blessing expressed in Haggai 2:9; II. Chronicles 7:1-3, and Colossians 1:18. "With God all things are possible."

J. B. ROWELL, *President*.

The number of letters from Canada's westernmost province was itself significant; we heard from *Dunbar Heights Regular Baptist Church*, Mrs. M. Macey, Clerk; *West Point Grey Baptist Church*, Rev. T. J. Hind, M.A., Minister; *Marpole Baptist Church*, Rev. E. V. Apps, Pastor; *South Hill Baptist Church*, Rev. R. E. Stanley Hunt, Minister; Rev. F. J. Carter; Rev. and Mrs. G. R. Dawe,—all of these are in Vancouver. From still an-

other, this a West Vancouver letter, we must quote, for Brother McKay was formerly pastor of the old Parliament Street Baptist Church, then under Jarvis Street:

West Vancouver Baptist Church.

Dear Dr. Shields:

I congratulate you that today you begin the thirtieth year of your pastorate in Jarvis St. I was present twenty-nine years ago this morning and recall your text and your sermon. You spoke from Matthew 5:41: "And whosoever shall compel thee to go a mile, go with him twain."

My wife joins me in these good wishes and Christian greetings.

I am

Yours in Christian Fellowship,

(Signed) WILFRED L. MCKAY, *Minister*.

Now we come east, but not very far before we hear from one who was formerly pastor in our own Convention church in Timmins, Ontario. We heard also from Rev. C. S. and Mrs. McGrath, both of whom went forth from Toronto Baptist Seminary. Mr. McGrath is now pastor of *Norwood Baptist Church*, Edmonton, Alberta.

Regular Baptist Missionary Fellowship,
Calgary, Alberta.

Dear Dr. Shields:

Hearty greetings and congratulations on your twenty-ninth anniversary—twenty-nine years with your bow abiding in strength and your ministry as a fruitful bough with its branches running over the wall to the uttermost part.

May you be granted many more years of faithful and fruitful service together with Jarvis Street Baptist Church, the greatest of its kind (in my humble opinion) on earth.

Fraternally yours in Him,

(Signed) MORLEY R. HALL, *Chairman*.

In Winnipeg, Manitoba, we hear from *Central Baptist Church*, Mr. E. M. Mundle, Secretary; and from Rev. and Mrs. Byron C. R. Welch of *Bethany Baptist Church*.

AMERICAN EVANGELICALS GIVE THANKS FOR TORONTO'S EVANGELICAL STRONGHOLD

Much we have heard in Canada, but more we shall hear abroad. Let us cross south and hear first from some American schools.

Wheaton College, Illinois.

Dear Dr. Shields:

It gives me great pleasure to join in the chorus of congratulations on this your twenty-ninth anniversary and the happy occasion of the opening of your new church.

May the Lord's abundant blessing continue to abide upon your strong Christian testimony.

Yours in Christian fellowship,

(Signed) J. OLIVER BUSWELL, JR., *President*.

(Wire) Los Angeles Baptist Theological Seminary, California.

Dr. T. T. Shields:

I want to add my congratulations upon the completion and excellent improvements of your restored temple of worship. It is a faith tonic to watch God do the impossible for His people. I wish you success and prosperity as well as an abiding sequence of pulpit power.

W. A. MATTHEWS, *President*.

A cordial letter came also from Boone Biblical College, Iowa, signed by Miss Lois Crawford.

From Baptist pastors in the United States we have many fine tributes, but this one seems to employ what its author says the event requires, "a poet's pen":

Brooklyn Baptist Tabernacle.

Jarvis Street Baptist Church,
Toronto, Canada.

The reopening of Jarvis Street Baptist Church on the occasion of the Pastor's twenty-ninth anniversary is an event worthy of a poet's pen.

When your sister churches heard the heavy tidings of how the former edifice was destroyed by fire, we felt that the entire Evangelical landscape had been altered and robbed of one of its chief adornments. Every church battling for the Faith felt the blow. We found ourselves lifting the lament: "Howl, fir tree; for the cedar is fallen."

To-day, however, we rejoice together in that blessed fellowship in which a year ago we all suffered together. The manner in which you have met this test in the midst of a world crisis reveals surprising reserves and leaves no shadow of doubt that "God is in the midst of her". It is indeed an impressive demonstration of God's faithfulness to a people who in days past jeopardized their lives in the high places of scriptural truth. You have been able to run with the horses and come triumphantly through the swelling of Jordan.

Dr. Shields is a gift of God not only to Jarvis Street where the rebuilt edifice stands now as a monument to his faith and works but also to the cause of Evangelicalism everywhere. His brethren and beneficiaries around the world rejoice with him and his people today that his prophetic voice is to have a finer sounding board than ever. We need the white calcium light of his God-given discernment to analyze and appraise the major movements in the spiritual world, to dispel the fog and point the way for perplexed pilgrims. We are confident that the latter glory of this house is to exceed the former. May "peace be within thy walls and prosperity within thy palaces . . . that ye may tell it to the generation following."

Yours in Christ,

(Signed) ROBERT MCCAUL, *Minister*.

Other earnest greetings are many. We heard the voices of Rev. Dr. H. G. Hamilton, Pastor of *First Baptist Church of Buffalo*; Rev. Dr. Palmer Muntz, *Cazenovia Park Baptist Church*, Buffalo; Rev. J. Arthur Graydon, Pastor of *West Oneonta Baptist Church*, New York State; Mr. Maximilian Schimpf, New York City; Dr. Dean S. Bedford, *Brighton Community Church*, Rochester, New York; Rev. Wm. J. Jones, Pastor of *Cassadaga Baptist Church*, New York State; Miss Louise Blamey, Cincinnati, Ohio; Rev. and Mrs. Paul J. Lolesnikoff, *Brookside Mission*, Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania; Mr. Marc Bauman, New York City; Rev. John Muntz, *First Baptist Church*, Bayonne, New Jersey; Dr. Wm. L. Pettingill, Wilmington, Delaware; Zondervan Publishing House, Grand Rapids, Michigan; Mr. Albert Rust, Corwith, Iowa; Mr. E. H. Beardshear, Lexington, Kentucky; Rev. L. W. Carlin, *Bellview Baptist Church*, Paducah, Kentucky. But we must quote a few. This wire is from former members of Jarvis Street itself:

(Wire)

Buffalo, New York.

Dr. T. T. Shields:

Our sincere congratulations upon your twenty-ninth anniversary as pastor of Jarvis Street Baptist Church. We look back upon many days of blessing experienced when we were directly under your ministry and continue to follow your work through THE GOSPEL WITNESS. May God richly bless you in the future as he has in the past. Sending along by mail a small token of our appreciation.

MR. AND MRS. J. R. PEACHEY.

The Moody Memorial Church, Chicago, Illinois.

My dear Dr. Shields:

I have just learned that you are about to celebrate your 29th anniversary as pastor at Jarvis St., with the opening of the new church—and I am glad to join with many others in extending my sincere felicitations. May the God of all grace crown the work in a wonderful way.

Sincerely in Christ,

(Signed) H. A. IRONSIDES, *Pastor*.

Wealthy Street Baptist Temple, Grand Rapids, Michigan.

My dear Miss Stoakley:

Truly Dr. Shields pastorate has been raised up of God for just such a unique and fruitful ministry there in that great city of Canada. His influence for the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ and the salvation of souls has been world-wide, and we do thank God for the way God has used your pastor over the years.

Dr. Van Osdel, the former beloved pastor of this Church for a quarter of a century, was an intimate and close friend of Dr. Shields, and spoke in the highest terms of him. It strengthens our faith in these days, or in any day for that matter, to come in contact with these men of God who stand tried and true through the fires and floods of persecution and reproach for the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, when so many all around us are falling by the wayside, their love grown cold. We are so much more heartened to see others standing against the storm of controversy and criticism, rooted and grounded in "the faith once for all delivered to the saints." May your Pastor and people be girded with the armour of the everlasting Son of God, until "He that shall come will come, and will not tarry."

Kindest regards.

Cordially yours,

I: John 5: 20.
Rev. 1:5, 7.

(Signed) DAVID OTIS FULLER, *Minister.*

Hinson Memorial Baptist Church, Portland, Oregon.

My dear Dr. Shields:

Praise God for this triumphant day at Jarvis Street Baptist Church, Toronto, Canada! Though separated geographically, we are truly united with you in spirit.

We join with the hosts of friends throughout the world and rejoice with you and the great Church over the building again of your "beautiful and commodious house of worship." We joy with you in the return to your Church home after these months of exile. We should love to unite with the great congregation in the hymns of praise, and doubtless mingle with yours our tears of joy to-day. How true, as of old, "Ye thought evil against me; but God meant it unto good, to bring to pass, as it is this day, to save much people . . ."

Rejoice with us too in abounding blessings and glorious victories here on the Coast.

Enclosed find a little tangible expression of our Christian love and esteem, to be applied as you deem best. Hallelujah!

Cordially yours, in the Gospel Bonds, and Fellowship of the Blood Royal,

(Signed) DR. AND MRS. ALBERT G. JOHNSON.

First Presbyterian Church, Seattle, Washington.

My dear Brother:

Let me congratulate you and congratulate your wonderful church. You have been a great blessing to all who have known you and your church has been a mighty influence for good.

God bless you and give you many more years to work for His cause.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) M. A. MATTHEWS, *Minister.*

(Wire)

Oakland, California.

Dr. T. T. Shields:

Congratulations, Doctor Shields, on this twenty-ninth anniversary of your pastorate at Jarvis Street, whose members are likewise to be congratulated. Much fruit will remain to bless those years together, praise God. Congratulations also that you are all back home again. Daniel 12:3.

Sincerely yours,

JESSIE SAGE ROBERTSON.

Oakwood Baptist Church, Charleston, W. Va.

My dear brother Shields:

Next Sunday morning, when your great congregation stands to sing, "Praise God from Whom all blessings flow," we desire to join with you in the spirit of that doxology and also in the prayer that follows.

Through the columns of THE GOSPEL WITNESS, I have watched with deep interest, the growth and progress of Jarvis Street Baptist Church, and to-day as I meditate upon her success and the fruits of your untiring labour of love, a verse of scripture keeps ringing in my ears: "If this counsel or this work be of men, it will come to nought: but if it be of God, ye cannot overthrow it; lest haply ye be found even to fight against God."

Thy fellow-servant,

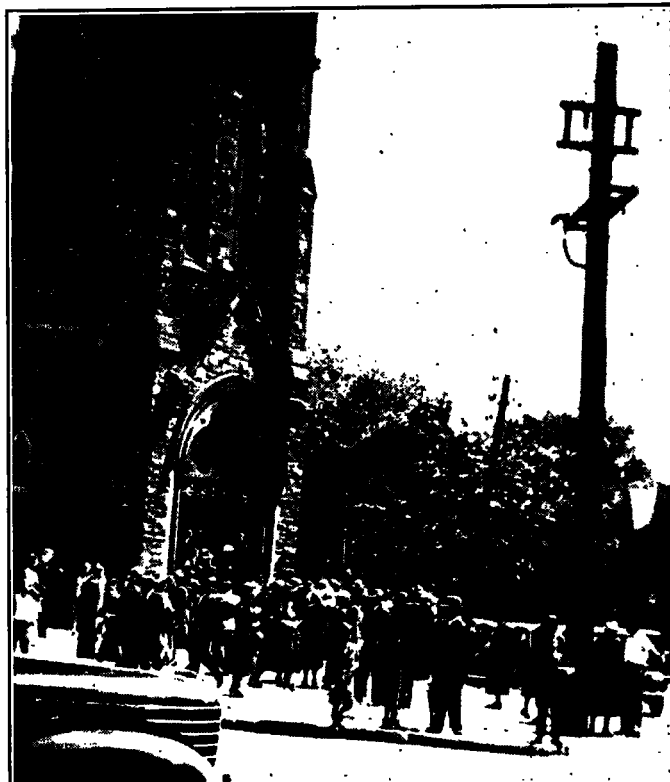
(Signed) W. C. MEANS, *Pastor.*

Coalfield, Tenn.

Dear Dr. Shields:

Just a few words of congratulation to you and your noble Church on entering your new church building, May 28, 1939.

For many years I have read your sermons and addresses with much pleasure and appreciation, and as the years go



CROWDS AT THE TOWER ENTRANCE

by it seems to me your ability and spirituality increase its momentum. I read your last sermon five times.

(Signed) U. S. MERONEY.

Galveston, Tex.

My dear Shields:

I cannot say all I would like to say about your great work at Jarvis St. during the past twenty-nine years. That is a great innings and the Lord has helped you to guard your wickets well. You have batted in a good many runs, and built up a great score. I greatly rejoice with you in every blessing and every victory you have had in the Lord. May your strength abide and enable you to carry on for many years to come.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) J. W. HOYT, *Evangelist.*

Houston, Texas.

(Wire)

Dr. T. T. Shields:

Ten thousand congratulation on opening your magnificent temple that has risen phoenix-like from the ashes. The testimony of Jarvis Street has girdled the globe, and the world will never know of your far-reaching light and influence until the leaves of the records of eternity are unfolded. Romans 1:8 is your history.

J. FRANK NORRIS.

And so across the United States and from north to south. Now to the West Indies. We touch a WITNESS subscriber at *Paget East, Bermuda*, in the person of Miss Ada H. Astwood; another in the *Barbadoes* with Mrs. Charles Roach. Then in Jamaica we have cordial friends also; Rev. Stanley Jarris, *Rehoboth Mission*; Rev. U. N. Leo Erskine, *Warsop Circuit of Baptist Churches*; Rev. Robt. E. Greaves, *Troy Estate*; Rev. Samuel A. Black and Rev. and Mrs. J. W. Knight, *Cave Valley*, all three graduates of the Seminary, the latter two among the first to go forth from this School. But we must quote something from one of our Jamaican letters:

Darliston P.O., Jamaica.

My dear Dr. Shields:

The overflow blessing of your ministry has touched the ends of the earth with blessing through the Theological Seminary founded through your faith and devotion to Historic Biblical Christianity and the pages of THE GOSPEL WITNESS.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) HENRY W. UFFELIN, *Bible Teacher*.

OLD COUNTRY CHRISTIANS LOVE "THE CANADIAN SPURGEON"

English mail is a special delight to such a Britisher as the Pastor of Jarvis Street Baptist Church. Sunday's packet is no exception. We have word from the Rev. W. H. Stuart-Fox, *St. Saviour's Vicarage, Crouch Hill*; Rev. Henry Oakley, Minister of *Trinity Road Chapel*; Rev. John Wilmot, Minister of *Highgate Road Baptist Chapel*; Rev. Professor H. S. Curr, *All Nations Bible College*; Rev. Stanley Beard, *London City Mission*; Miss K. McDonald,—all these of old London. But from England also come happy greetings from Mr. S. Plummer, Bristol; Rev. J. Migell Smith, Sutton, Surrey; Pastor F. T. Passmore, Charmouth, Dorset; Mr. James Olive, Rudgeway, Gloucestershire; Mrs. M. G. Collin, Amersham, Buckinghamshire. But from our English mail bag we must print some:

(Cable) London.
Jarwitssem, Toronto.

Warmest greetings in Christ for opening services from Leland Wong and Charles Fisher.

(Cable) Worthing.
Dr. Shields:

Mrs. Charles Spurgeon sends sincere congratulations to Dr. Shields upon completion of holy and beautiful house. May greater blessings fall.

Sevenoaks, Kent, England.

Dear Dr. Shields:

On this auspicious occasion I am writing to congratulate you most heartily and sincerely, first, because of your long Pastorate which has been so blessed to multitudes, and then because of the successful rearing and reopening of your beautiful Jarvis St. Church.

I am especially interested in it all because of your strong anti-modernist teaching and because my dear brother is one of your deacons.

Yours very cordially,

(Signed) ERNEST GREENWAY.

King's Lynn, Lincolnshire.

My dear Dr. Shields:

We love you not only for yourself, but also for your untiring zeal for the Gospel and for the stand you always have and do take for the Evangelical position. We need a Dr. T. T. Shields in England in these difficult days.

For all you write and the sermons in THE GOSPEL WITNESS we thank you. May you long be spared to declare the Old Gospel.

With Christian love to Mrs. Shields and yourself,

Very sincerely,

(Signed) H. G. HUGH-JONES BLOY, *Minister*.

Christchurch, Hants.

Dear Dr. Shields:

Heartly thanks are due to you for your clear and correct views on national matters and also for your faithful exposure of men and measures fatal to the best interests of empire.

(Signed) R. J. PEDEN, *Minister*.

Bromley, Kent.

Dear Dr. Shields:

I assure you how greatly I value the help received from reading your sermons in THE GOSPEL WITNESS. When my wife and I have read them—we pass them on to friends who all testify to blessing received through them.

May the Lord bless you manyfold more in the new building than in the old is the daily prayer of

Yours in Him,

(Signed) A. DICE.

And now to the Emerald Isle—both north and south. We have a delightful note from members of the WITNESS family, Miss Elizabeth W. B. Johnstone, Miss Sarah Johnston, and Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Douglas, all of Belfast. From Eire too we hear:

Enniscorthy, Co. Wexford, Eire.

Dear Miss Stoakley:

I enjoy Dr. Shields' exposition of Bible truths, and personally feel that I am deeply indebted to his ministry.

Very sincerely yours,

(Signed) M. FLEMING.

(Cable) Cork.

Felicitations opening great new gospel ministry.

GRACEY.

This last is from Rev. F. W. Gracey, president of the Baptist Union of Ireland, a distinctly evangelical association.

FRENCH-SPEAKING BAPTISTS FELLOWSHIP WITH JARVIS STREET

As remarked above, the Union of Regular Baptist Churches of Ontario and Quebec, with whom Jarvis Street Church is affiliated, help to support Baptist work in France, Belgium and Switzerland. Letters from this association, then, are of peculiar interest to us:

Association Evangélique Des Eglises
Baptistes De Langue Francaise.
Commisson Exécutive.
Nîmes (Gard).

Dear Dr. Shields:

As the completion of your building scheme approaches, our Association brethren and myself wish to send you and Jarvis Street Baptist Church their heartfelt congratulations and wishes.

We have followed with the deepest sympathy your great sorrow and admirable effort and we shall also be present in mind as you go through the joyful days of inauguration.

May the new enterprise on the tested old lines be even more fruitful and happy than what has marked so gloriously your former house of prayer!

We shall especially pray that your own ministry may find there an ideal instrument of world-wide blessed influence. There are so many everywhere who have become used to check their thinking with the help of the diapason of Christian common-sense so distinctly vibrating in the great Jarvis Street pulpit!

Unforgettable recollections of my recent happy contacts with the church and Seminary are constantly helpful in my own service; and our good Toronto friends may be cheered to

be assured again that our modest echo to their great testimony is sounding fruitfully in old Europe.

Ere this reaches Canada, we have no idea of the turn of the present grave events. But we feel sure that your inaugural gatherings will be in comprehensive sympathy with what will be then happening under our own eyes.

We are profoundly thankful for the fine practical help of Jarvis Street Church and the Union of Regulars, and I am glad to report that the relief of our minds and the facilities thus secured have added substantially to our enterprise and efficiency.

I ever keep a fragrant recollection of our fellowship in conversation and service, and of the fine hospitality of Mrs. Shields and yourself. Please share together and with all the friends, especially your worthy Mr. Jennings, my usual and unusual travelling companion, my warmest Christian regards and wishes.

Gratefully and sincerely yours in His happy service.

(Signed) ROBERT DUBARRY, *President*.

Eglise Evangélique De Colombes (Seine).

My dear Doctor Shields:

For about ten years I have enjoyed reading THE GOSPEL WITNESS, and so your ministry has reached me and has meant benediction and help, refreshing my soul and my pastoral ministry. More than once have I mentioned your name to the congregations of my two churches both in Colombes and in Paris, specially when the Enemy destroyed by fire your great Prayer-House.

Perhaps you remember meeting with me in Belfast along with our good brother Mr. H. A. Johnston visiting the great Horticultural Exposition Building for some then projected return visit of yours.

My wife went to London with a friend specially to hear you at Talbot Tabernacle.

She and my two churches (of the French Bible Mission) join me in the expression of our kindest greetings and best love, praying our Mighty God to renew all your strength as an eagle, and, as you beautifully put it: "Make the glory of the new house even greater than the former one."

Yours gratefully, in His service.

(Signed) EMILE GUEDJ, *Pastor*.

P.S. Kindly accept the small but hearty contribution that I am sending you by a postal order today.

Bois-Colombes.

Dear Dr. Shields:

The signatory and the church in the service of which the Lord has placed him, are very happy to associate themselves by these few words with the feast which will fill with joy Jarvis Street on that date. Blessed be our God and Father Who has enabled your congregation so quickly and favourably to replace the church that had been destroyed by fire.

Blessed be God also for having given, for such an extended period, a ministry of such faithfulness, of such spiritual power, and of such richness of gifts, in which we have been privileged to share in some measure through the pages of THE GOSPEL WITNESS.

May our powerful and good God preserve for many years the spiritual, mental, and physical strength, of your good self; and grant you all the gifts of His grace for the task that is yours—more necessary now than ever—not only in the midst of Jarvis Street and of Canada, but for the benefit of all those of like precious faith the world around. We are indeed ourselves, and others in other lands as well, strengthened and encouraged in the difficult struggle which is imposed upon us here in the service of God and the defense of His Word, in your ministry in the printed page, and by what we learn of the Master's blessing upon you in an exceptional way in the great spiritual battle which is being universally waged.

Happy feast of the Lord to you and your church on that 28th of May. Receive, dear Dr. Shields, our hearty and respectful salutations in Christ.

(Signed) GEORGE GUYOT, *Pastor*.

Ezra 6:16.

(Translated by M. W. H. Frey.)

Court, Switzerland.

Dear Dr. Shields.

I have received much encouragement by your firm stand for the faith once for all delivered to the saints and am rejoicing at the rebuilding of the House of the Lord at Jarvis Street Baptist Church. Though at a great distance, we shall be with you in joy and praise at May 28th.

May the Lord continue to bless wonderfully your ministry so necessary at Toronto and abroad.

With my warmest greetings and best wishes for a fruitful ministry.

Yours in His service,

H. WEBER, *Pastor*.

Bienne, Switzerland.

Dear Dr. Shields:

I should like to express my sincerest thanks for your ministry and for what you have meant to me, as President of the Seminary of which I graduated, as Pastor of Jarvis Street Baptist Church, the services of which I was privileged to attend during more than four years, as President of the Union of Regular Baptist Churches of Ontario and Quebec, in the foreign missionary enterprise of which I am engaged.

I feel greatly indebted to you in many respects and especially for a high and sane conception of the Christian ministry and I thank God that He arranged my going to Canada in order to attend the Seminary.

May the Lord prosper you in every phase of your great ministry, and extend your borders to the furtherance of His glorious Gospel.

Yours heartily in Him Who loved us unto death,

(Signed) F. BUHLER, *Pastor*.

P.S. I should like to include Mrs. Shields in my wishes and greetings.

EUROPEAN BELIEVERS JOIN THANKSGIVING FOR THE WITNESS

When the eyes of the world are upon Europe from day to day, letters from that old land take on new interest.

Oerebro, Sweden.

Dear Dr. T. T. Shields, Toronto:

I have for many years received THE GOSPEL WITNESS (for which I want to thank you cordially). In that splendid little weekly paper I have with great interest followed your fearless and victorious struggle for "the faith which was once delivered unto the saints".

May the Lord strengthen you to brandish the Sword of the Spirit for still many years—both with your tongue and your pen. May the fire of Modernism never ignite the Jarvis Street pulpit. After a fire of that kind a restoration would scarcely be possible.

I am

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) KARL A. LUNDIN

Teacher in theology in Oerebro Mission-School.

Helsingfors Baptist Church, Finland.

Dr. T. T. Shields, Toronto, Canada:

I want to send you my hearty greetings on the great day of May 28th. I believe that it will be a day of happiness when you after a time of difficulties will begin to preach the gospel again in Jarvis Baptist Church. I will pray that the building may be filled with the fire of the Holy Spirit from Heaven. God bless you in your work.

I will also bring you my hearty thanks for our message in THE GOSPEL WITNESS. Very welcome in the future.

With best wishes, I am,

Yours cordially,

JOHANNES SOEDERMAN, *Pastor*.

Budapest-Nap-utcai Baptista Gyülekezet,
Budapest, Hungary.

Dear Dr. Shields:

I send you and your congregation the most hearty greetings from this far country.

The voice of Jarvis Street Pulpit is a prophetic cry at this time when the world is so full of tension and fear.

It is a happy experience that God still reigns above the rulers of the earth. In Him is our confidence. He alone is sufficient for our needs in these hours, and He will not fail if we keep in the pathway of duty for Him. I believe if we are true to the spiritual convictions, the Church of Christ will experience a great awakening.

I am with sincere respect and fraternal love,

Truly yours,

(Signed) IMRE SOMOGYI, *Pastor.*

SOUTH AMERICA, THE PACIFIC AND THE ANTI-PODES PRAY AND PRAISE WITH US

From Minas Geraes, Brazil, Rev. and Mrs. Fred Kegel send their pastor greetings and send the church a subscription to the building fund. Here is another letter from "the neglected continent":

Necochea, F.C.S., Argentina.

Dear Miss Stoakley:

I cannot express in words how much I have enjoyed reading THE GOSPEL WITNESS during these last few years; the definite benefit I have received from its pages; the many times its messages have formed the bases of new messages turned out in our language here. Those articles on Israel, those on Romanism and many others were real eye-openers. I do admire Dr. Shields for his great sincerity, frankness, and love for the Scriptures, valiantly defending the Faith once delivered to the Saints. May he be spared for many years in the service of his Master.

With hearty greetings and best wishes,

I am

Yours sincerely in the Master's Cause,
(Signed) H. F. SCHMID.

The Bible Institute of Hawaii.

Dear Miss Stoakley:

I was present on the Sunday morning that Dr. Shields entered upon his pastorate at Jarvis Street. I recall with great clearness the sermon that he preached that morning.

I was blessed and helped, stimulated and challenged by that sermon and I may say, that that appreciation has been deepened during the passing years and I can say with the greatest sincerity that there are no sermons that I read or hear that so thoroughly enlighten, inform, strengthen, establish and bless me as these masterly expositions of THE GOSPEL WITNESS.

Thousands are lifting their praise to God for the rebuilding of the Church and that He has placed His seal on this faithful and fearless ministry by once more making it possible for the Pastor and people of Jarvis Street to unite in the worship, work and witness to his holy name.

May the triumphs of the future years excel even those of the past days and the glory of the latter House be greater than that of the former.

I shall continue the prayer for Jarvis Street, that I started 29 years ago and have maintained until the present time and I doubt not shall be intensified through the days that remain.

With every good wish for God's richest blessing,

I am

Yours in His faithfulness,
(Signed) E. R. HOOPER, *Principal.*

Besides this last we have another letter from the Pacific, this from Mr. J. A. Anslow, who lives in the Fiji Islands, and who recently increased the usefulness of THE GOSPEL WITNESS among his friends by sending us seven subscriptions. Another letter is from Rev. R. Hickson of the *Tram and Ferry Gospel Text Mission*, Sydney, Australia. We have also two cables from New Zealand:

(Cable)

Miss Violet Stoakley:

Congratulations, Dr. Shields. Isaiah 52:10.

WINNIE KEMP.

Dr. Shields received, too, very hearty cable congratulations from Dr. J. C. Macey, of Palmerston North, N.Z.

MANY ON FOREIGN FIELDS HEAR JARVIS STREET PULPIT

Letters from the "near East" are of special interest. One is from Mr. Basil S. Shiber and another is from Sophie Khoury, both of Jerusalem. A third from Palestine is from one of the first graduates of Toronto Baptist Seminary:

Tel-Aviv, Palestine.

Dear Dr. Shields:

After all, old Jarvis St. might be destroyed by fire, but that other temple, made without hands, which you have been building these twenty-nine years, is composed of gold, silver, precious stones, not wood, hay, stubble; and therefore can never be destroyed. I refer to the men, women and children who have been converted during your ministry.

"For I, saith the Lord, will be unto her a wall of fire round about, and will be the glory in the midst of her." Zech. 2:5. And now I can add nothing but say, "Amen," to the Word of the Lord, for has He not said, "From this day will I bless you?" (Hag. 2:19).

With warmest greetings in which Mother joins me,

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) SYDNEY BONYUN.

The letterhead on which this next one is written to THE WITNESS is not reproduced: it is in three languages, of differing scripts, English, Arabic and Armenian!

Armenian Evangelical Church, Cairo, Egypt.

My Dear Brother in Christ:

Oh, how I wish to be with you on that day and celebrate those two events with you. As I am very far away from you, I will spend that day in prayer before God and thank Him for all that He has done through your ministry both by pulpit and by press. I had the honour of seeing and hearing you preach a few years ago in a Baptist Church in Wales, then I found you to be a real warrior for Christ and for His cause. Before I heard you preach, I read one of your booklets on the "Oxford Group Movement", then I had a great desire to see you and hear you preach, I thank God that He has fulfilled my desire. Your paper THE GOSPEL WITNESS has been to me a real blessing. I wait for it every week eagerly, I enjoy your sermons so very much because they encourage me in His blessed service.

Dear brother, accept my sincere greetings,

Yours in His Blessed Service,

(Signed) THEODORE Y. DAGHLIAN, *Pastor.*

Several of our kindest messages are from India. We have a word from Miss E. Fleming of the *Zenana, Bible and Medical Mission*, Gulzarbagh, Patna District; and Mr. H. A. Devéria, Bangalore, South India; but some of the letters must speak for themselves:

Nellore, Madras Pres., South India.

Dear and Respected Pastor:

THE GOSPEL WITNESS comes to me regularly for many years. As a Christian, I have been much edified, and as a pastor, I have been greatly blessed by reading the good news of salvation which your paper brings week by week, I can assure you that I am growing in the grace and knowledge of Jesus Christ our Saviour and Lord. The Lord's work and His people have become precious to me.

By your teachings in THE GOSPEL WITNESS you have become the pastor to many pastors like myself.

May the Lord prosper you and your world-wide ministry is my prayer.

I am sending this letter to you from my sick bed. My old age (79 years) has made me weaker after some fever. But I hope to be all right soon, when I intend sending you a longer letter. I especially remember you and your great church, in Praise and Prayer on May 28th.

With heartfelt greetings,

I am

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) A. P. VEIRASAWMY.

To
Our Beloved Pastor
Dr. A. S. Shields

As Jarvis Street Baptist Church meets for the first Sunday service in its new and beautiful home, the members and friends unite in praise and thanksgiving to God for His manifold mercies to us since our former building was destroyed by fire a year ago last March. And not the least of these blessings has been your ministry, Dr. Shields. Two weeks ago you commenced your thirtieth year as Pastor of this church; and it is fitting that we should celebrate the anniversary of your coming to us on our first day in the new building.

No few churches is granted the privilege of enjoying the ministry of one Pastor for more than a generation; and the period of your service in this church has witnessed unprecedented changes in every avenue of human thought and activity. Nevertheless, the message you have proclaimed from this pulpit has not changed; and our God has given it His own increase.

Your name, linked with that of this church, has become a synonym for unwavering fidelity to the truth of the gospel, not only in our city, nor alone on this continent, but to the ends of the earth. Scores of faithful Pastors and Missionaries look to the Seminary which you founded as their spiritual home; thousands of others are enriched by your ministry from week to week, through the pages of *The Gospel Witness*; many hundreds of men and women in this church, and in many other churches, have been converted under your preaching; a great army of boys and girls have passed through the Bible School of which you have ever been the inspiration, learning to know the Bible as the word of God, and scores of them being saved.

Since the fire, you have laboured night and day without ceasing on the plans for this magnificent building where we are gathered today, and to your unflagging zeal and wise leadership its realization is largely due. Here too we would express our appreciation of the Building Committee who have laboured with you, with the purpose always of erecting a building wholly suitable for the worship of God and for the proclamation of His gospel.

May the Great Head of the Church grant that you may labour here in the fulness of the blessing of the gospel with ever-increasing fruitfulness for many years to come. Such is the prayer of every member of the church, and of a great host of others.

With sincerest love and affection to you, and on behalf of Jarvis Street Baptist Church Membership,

May 28th 1939 Geo. Greenway, C. H. Brownlow
 R. Downing, J. E. Jennings, S. E. McKee,
 Violet Shackleby, W. J. Thompson, W. H. Whitcomb

The Telegu Baptist Church, Subedarpet, Nellore, S. India.
Dear Miss Stoakley:

Dr. Shields has been a defender of faith. We always appreciate his sermons. There is much spiritual food in his sermons. We shall not hesitate to call him a good soldier of the Cross. May the Lord bless his good work and establish it.

I hope this letter would reach you in time.

In this connection I want to thank you and the church for sending me the paper, THE GOSPEL WITNESS. I enjoy it greatly and sometimes pass it on to others. I do thank you for the paper most heartily.

Some personal matters. I have been the pastor of this church here and also go about preaching the Word of God. I have been in this ministry for the last 13 years. Nothing gives me more pleasure than giving the spiritual food to the lost world. There is power and pleasure in it though full of hardships and troubles.

I have six children, two daughters and four boys. They and my wife join with me in sending their best compliments to you, Dr. Shields, and to the members of the church.

With best wishes, I am

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) M. J. RAMANJULU, Pastor.

Angamally, Malabar, S. India.

Dear Sir:

I am sending herewith, under separate cover, a sample copy of a magazine publishing in our tongue. Mr. Varghese is the editor. Its name is *Sathiya Prakashini* in our tongue, which means, *The Light of Truth*. It is meant to be an Anglo-Malayalam journal. This is the first issue. It is a mighty venture of faith to begin to publish a magazine without any fund or support. We fully trust in God Who can carry on this work to His own glory.

You may be glad to know that in future, we hope to translate your sermons as articles of our magazine.

Please remember this work just begun, in your prayers. We have no such magazine in our tongue. See the scarcity of Christian literature! You can see, at least, our language (Malayalam).

Within two days I shall go for a gospel tour. Please pray for that also.

My cordial wishes to Mrs. Shields. Please convey my best wishes to Miss Violet Stoakley.

With prayers and Christian greetings, I am,

Faithfully yours in Him,

(Signed) K. G. KURIAN.

We end our happy journey with touching China, in a word from the wife of the greatly used Chinese evangelist whose message was joined with that of Rev. Chas. Fisher, of London, England:

(Cable)

Violet Stoakley,
Baptist Church, Toronto.
Deuteronomy 33:25.

Hongkong.

Mrs. LELAND WONG.

The text reads: "Thy shoes shall be iron and brass, and as thy days so shall thy strength be." Amen.

NEWS OF UNION CHURCHES

Visitation of Churches

A most hearty response from our Union pastors gave the itinerary in the interest of Missions a good start. This page told of the happy inauguration of the visitation at Orillia and Sunderland two weeks ago, and since that time Mr. Frey has visited Timmins, where he spoke to a large week-night gathering. He also had the privilege of addressing the weekly French Gospel Meeting in his native tongue.

In company with Mr. MacBain, our French missionary has also visited the following churches: Fenelon Falls, Lindsay, Brantford, Chatham, Medina Indian Church. Mr. Frey was with the First Markham and Stouffville churches on Sunday. These brethren report a cordial welcome on every hand.

This week Mr. Boyd and Mr. Frey are with the churches in the Ottawa valley, including the cities of Montreal and Ottawa.

We should like to take this opportunity of expressing our appreciation to the churches for the warm hospitality they have extended our visiting pastors. Their visit is certain to bring our Union activities home to the hearts of our people in a personal way, and thus to increase missionary interest. May we also remind our churches of the cost involved in this visitation, and request their co-operation in meeting this rather heavy additional expense.—W.S.W.

Twenty-Fourth of May Rallies

A Young People's Rally was recently held in Buckingham for the encouragement and inspiration of the churches in the Ottawa valley. In the afternoon the church was comfortably filled. Mr. J. E. Paterson took the chair, and Pastor Carson of the Emmanuel Church, Verdun, and Pastor A. Dallimore of Westport, brought brief, forceful messages. A delightful supper was enjoyed by all in the large room in the rear of the church. Rev. Roy Hisey was in the chair for the evening meeting and the speaker was Rev. Neil Herman from Prince Edward Island. The sermon was a powerful appeal to the unsaved to decide for Christ, but more specifically a challenge to Christians to put on the whole armour of God and fight a good warfare in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. The Gospel Trio from Metropolitan Tabernacle sang at both services and added much to the inspiration of this occasion.—J.E.P.

The Chatham Conference and Rally on the 24th had a glorious day. The weather was ideal, the crowds large, the music and messages filled with the Lord Jesus Christ, and the fellowship all that could be desired. Briscoe Street, London, took the palm for out-of-town visitors, as nearly fifty motored down from there, but Essex, Sarnia, Courtright, Wilkesport, Wheatley, and Windsor were also well represented, with others coming from Hamilton and Berkeley, Michigan.

The singing of Mr. Archie Thomson, and his daughter Margaret, was greatly enjoyed by all, even as we appreciated Miss Thomson's pianoforte solos, as she dedicated our new piano to the Lord's work.

The speaker, Rev. Orrin VanLoon, Berkeley, Michigan, brought us most helpful and inspiring messages on the return of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the Church. Mr. Wm. Frey, piloted by Bro. H. W. MacBain, gave us just enough in his short message to whet our appetites for more.

Many enjoyed real Christian fellowship at tea time, when the ladies of our church took charge. The church, too, looked beautiful with its profusion of many kinds of flowers, and seemed most appropriately dressed for the glorious day we enjoyed in fellowship with our Saviour and with each other.

—E. C. W.

At the Brantford Rally a most instructive message, somewhat different from the usual lines, was delivered by Mr. L. H. Saunders, editor of *Protestant Action*, and those who heard Mr. Saunders speak on "Protestants Today" understood why his paper fulfills its name. He preaches a Protestantism that is militant because it is evangelical.

In the afternoon session Mr. Frey gave a good word concerning the French work, and Mr. MacBain of Sarnia presented Home Missions most forcefully. As we gathered around the tea tables between sessions, Rev. S. R. Jeffrey, a graduate of the Seminary, spoke of his work in China during the last nine years.

ORILLIA—Cannington, Sunderland and District Association of Baptist Churches' Annual Conference will be held in Bethel Regular Baptist Church, Orillia, on Wednesday, June 14th. Dr. P. W. Philpott, the distinguished Gospel Preacher, Bible Teacher and Evangelist, one-time Pastor of Moody Memorial Church, Chicago, and prominent Keswick speaker, will be the guest preacher at afternoon and evening sessions. The conference begins at three o'clock, Daylight Saving Time, and the evening session will be at eight. Supper will be served from 5:30 to 7:30. There will be a special program of music, solos and duets. We extend a cordial invitation to all churches and friends to come to Orillia on this special occasion.

Will pastors kindly announce this to their people and kindly let Mr. Carl Harvey, Washago, know how many will be coming from each church, as this would greatly help the entertaining committee—C. H.

The Jarvis Street Pulpit

"THE GLORY OF THE LORD FILLED THE HOUSE OF THE LORD."

A Sermon by the Pastor, Dr. T. T. Shields

(First sermon preached in the new building.)

Preached in Jarvis Street Baptist Church, Toronto, Sunday Evening, May 28th, 1939

(Stenographically reported)

"And it came to pass, when the priests were come out in the holy place, that the cloud filled the house of the Lord.

"So that the priests could not stand to minister because of the cloud: for the glory of the Lord had filled the house of the Lord."—I. Kings 8:10, 11.

It would be very difficult on an occasion of this sort entirely to evade the inspired record of the building of the most magnificent and significant of all the houses of worship ever erected.

David looked forward to building a temple, but was not permitted to do so. Toward the evening time he said, "Solomon my son is young and tender, and the house that is to be builded for the Lord must be exceeding magnificent, of fame and of glory throughout all countries. I will therefore now make preparation for it. So David prepared abundantly before his death." Then to his son Solomon he rehearsed the preparation he had made, and said, "And thou mayest add thereto." He lives and works wisely and worthily who thinks of generations to come. Our Lord reminded us, "Other men laboured, and ye are entered into their labours." We must prepare, in the work of the Lord, not only that the gospel may be preached in our day, but that the work may continue when our day is done.

It would be interesting and instructive to trace and examine all the details of the marvellously significant symbolism of Solomon's temple, but we have not time for that; nor does it fall exactly within the scope of my purpose.

It was a glorious and beautiful house. It was lined with gold. It was not carpeted like this auditorium, but floored with purest gold, even as the streets of heaven are to be paved therewith; and roundabout there was carved work, cherubim and palm trees and open flowers; and the whole house was garnished with precious stones for beauty. The whole house within and without was replete with spiritual teaching, for it was made after the pattern of things in the heavens. The architect was the Architect and Builder of all worlds. Plans and specifications were prepared under divine direction, transmitted in principle first of all to Moses, and perpetuated in the erection of the temple.

And of all beautiful things in this glorious house, the most glorious was the sanctuary, where the wings of the cherubim spanned the chamber, touching either wall, and meeting in the midst. The cherubims were over the ark. And yet when the house was completed, there was something that was far more important than all the material splendour of the place.

We cannot be too careful in our worship of the Lord. After the fire, some of my friends wrote me saying, "I hope you will not think of building an elaborate house. Put up a tabernacle, with four walls and a roof." That seemed to imply that there was something, if not irreligious, at least unspiritual in desiring a beautiful house; but it is written of the God Whom we worship, "He hath made everything beautiful in his time." And though I

know full well that we need more than material and objective beauty, yet I cannot but feel that there is a ministry in beautiful things. The whole world is vocal with the praises of the Lord. And God meant it to be a beautiful world. He gave us eyes to see its splendour, and ears to hear its music, and minds to appreciate its proportions and all its magnificence. I am certain of this, that if a beautiful house does not assist us in our worship, we are not likely to be more helped by an ugly one. Therefore we have tried to make this house beautiful. There is a hymn which has some striking historical associations for me:

"Lord, how delightful 'tis to see
A whole assembly worship Thee!
At once they sing, at once they pray;
They hear of heaven and learn the way."
"I have been there, and still would go,
'Tis like a little heaven below."

It is a heavenly experience to have opportunity of association with God's blood-bought people in the worship of His glorious name.

But I am concerned lest too much emphasis, and too much thought, should be given to these things, so I have selected this text more that the text itself may speak to you than that you may be enlightened by anything I should say in attempting to expound it.

When all was finished, a cloud filled the house, and the cloud obscured all the material splendour. The priests were unable to minister because of the cloud, "for the glory of the Lord had filled the house of the Lord."

I.

WHAT BROUGHT THE CLOUD INTO THIS HOLY AND BEAUTIFUL HOUSE? When it was all finished, the priests according to divine direction, brought into the house the ark of the covenant with the mercy seat; and we are expressly told that the ark contained on this occasion the unbroken tables of stone which God had given unto Moses. The ark was representative of the divine Presence; it was the type and prophecy of Him Who should later come: "The law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ." When thus the holy law of God was honoured, and in its unbroken form it was taken into the sanctuary, God signified His pleasure by manifesting His presence in the form of a cloud; just as He had done to the children of Israel in earlier years as they made their pilgrim journey through the wilderness. We would have this place filled with the cloud, obscuring everything but that which the cloud represents.

In this place we have no doubt whatever as to who Jesus was and is, the eternal Son of the Father, "God manifest in the flesh", the Embodiment, in all its holy

perfections, of the law of God, Holiness Incarnate,—“Grace and truth came by Jesus Christ.”

There are churches that were built for the honour of His name, and dedicated to His service, in which men speak with some hesitation about the authority of Holy Scripture, about the essential Deity of Jesus Christ. I pray that this pulpit may never, while time shall last, be dishonoured by so doubtful a testimony. We offer no apology, for after twenty-nine years in this church—and a number of years before I came here—how many I will not tell because you may be expert in reckoning, we can say without immodesty, we have put this gospel to the proof. We have seen it effectual in the salvation of souls in thousands of cases. We believe it is the solution of every problem—individual, domestic, social, national, and international; therefore we would fain magnify the Lord Jesus Christ. At all events, I am sure of this, that as long as this Pastor ministers here, and as long as those who are now in office and membership in this church remain, no one will ever be welcome to this pulpit who has not a positive testimony in respect to that great truth which the ark symbolized. Only thus may we be sure of the presence of the Lord. “Where two or three are gathered together in my name”—not, there will I be, but “there *am* I in the midst.”

This church has no other reason for its existence than to proclaim the glorious gospel of the blessed God, that “God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself.” Whatever announcement is made, whatever invitation is given, you may be sure that within these walls there will, in substance, be but one message delivered—the message which you witnessed in symbolism in the ordinance of baptism administered this evening, that “Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; and that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures”. Call us old-fashioned; sneer at our archaic views, if you will: we abide by the old truths, and it is our constant prayer, “Let the beauty of the Lord our God be upon us; and establish Thou the work of our hands upon us; yea, the work of our hands, establish thou it.”

II.

When the cloud thus filled the house, THE PRIESTS WERE NOT ABLE TO MINISTER BECAUSE OF THE CLOUD. There is a place for the simple and direct testimony of the word of God. Only as that is given, can we hope for the divine Presence; but if and when it is given, we may be sure that the Lord will come. But after all, who is it that ministers the things of Christ? Not man. There is but One Who can render effectual the great sacrifice of the cross. There is but One Who can quicken dead souls into newness of life. There is but One Who can effect, in the nature of man dead in trespasses and sins, a new creation, so that old things may pass away, and all things become new. Our fault often is that without the cloud we attempt to minister too much.

What is the explanation of the present-day wholesale departure from the truth of the gospel of God's grace? What is the reason for the substitution of so many carnal efforts for the simple ministry of the word of God? It is because men have allowed themselves to suppose that the work is wholly theirs. I have before referred to a remark made by my great friend, the late Professor E. M. Keirstead. I accepted it, I think, with due humility, but as a word of approval from one who knew the Lord. I was coming along Gerrard Street one Sunday evening some years ago, and saw the Professor just before me.

As I overtook him, I put my hand on his shoulder and said, “Glad to see you are to be with us this evening.” “Hello, Shields; is that you? I will tell you why I came. I wanted to hear a little about the divine side of things. My soul is hungry, and I long to hear about what God does, and not so much about what men do.”

How often places that are called houses of prayer and worship are so full of the ministry of the priests, or of the preacher, or of the choir, or of someone else, that there is no room for God to work. But if the ark of the covenant be put in its place, if Jesus Christ is exalted, the cloud will so come that preacher and people will say, “Our work is done; this is the hour for the ministry of the Holy Ghost.” When the cloud came the priests were not able to minister, and they were not able to minister because it was no longer necessary: “The glory of the Lord had filled the house of the Lord.”

III.

WHAT IS MEANT BY “THE GLORY OF THE LORD”? What sort of church will this be if the house is filled with the divine glory?

What is wrong with you and with me who were made in the image and likeness of God? Just this, that “all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God.” The glory of God is no longer manifested in us. We are no longer exemplifications of the glory of God. When God made man in His own image and likeness in the beginning, He declared of the work of His hand, that “it was very good”. But sin has marred it. How then is the glory of God to be restored? And where is it to be seen?

There is a New Testament scripture that I am sure will instantly come to the minds of many in answer to that question: “God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.” “The light of the knowledge of the glory of God” shines only in the face of Jesus Christ; and a house may be filled with the glory of the Lord only as the King of glory manifests Himself to men. He is the glory of the Lord.

I used to have a deacon here who was a very distinguished lawyer. He told me that in the days of the great Spurgeon he was in London one Sunday, and went to hear two famous preachers. In the morning he went to hear the great and brilliant preacher, Dr. Joseph Parker of the City Temple—a great man who was always loyal to the gospel. But this friend said, “There was a good deal of apparent egotism about him. He had something to be proud of, by human standards, but as I sat in the congregation I had a feeling that the preacher wanted me to understand—and everyone else—that I was only a little speck in the universe, and that I was only one of the vast audience to whom the minister was preaching; that there were thousands of others who would read all that was said; and I must not allow myself to think I was very important. It was a great sermon. I gloried in it, and enjoyed it. But it had that defect.”

“In the evening I went to hear Spurgeon. I had heard of him for many years, of course, and had read much about him. There was twice the congregation present—it was a much larger house—but I managed to get in. As the preacher and his officers came to the platform, a solemn hush fell on the assembly, and the service began. I tried to be interested in the great crowd, in the Tabernacle of which I had read so much, in the congregational singing without instrumental assistance; and I managed

to observe a few things here and there. But even that was difficult. Spurgeon announced his text, and in but a minute I forgot all about Spurgeon; I forgot all about the great congregation. I had no consciousness of the Tabernacle, but God Himself came into grips with my soul, and upon my naked spirit there beamed the light of eternity. I came from that place forgetful of the preacher and congregation, thinking only of the fact that I needed a great Saviour—and thanking God I had Him as my own."

That, in principle, is the meaning of this text. When the cloud fills the house, the Spirit of the Lord works; when the glory of the Lord is manifest in the person, in the face of Jesus Christ, we are conscious of naught else.

What a face was His—smiling upon the little children, but expressing holy anger as He dealt with religious hypocrites. The face of Jesus Christ, we are to see, is the face that was shrouded in darkness, the thick darkness of Calvary; drawn with pain, I doubt not, expressive of infinite agony as He suffered the travail of His soul; expressive of the infinite pity of a God of wisdom and of grace as He looks upon sinful men—something of what He expressed when He cried, "O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, which killest the prophets, and stonest them that are sent unto thee; how often would I have gathered thy children together, as a hen doth gather her brood under her wings, and ye would not!" I think if one could have seen His face through that darkness, it must have broken the heart of the hardest sinner.

It is the glory of God, the Scripture says, to conceal a matter. He covers us with His blood. He washes away our sin; and on the resurrection morning He smiles upon us.

You know the meaning of baptism? You know why you all ought to be baptized if you believe on the Lord Jesus? In the place where He was crucified there was a garden, and "in the garden a new sepulchre wherein was never man yet laid; there laid they Jesus." And when He rose from the dead He rose among the flowers, and the first word He addressed to any mortal after His resurrection was a word uttered to a woman who supposed He was the gardener, when He called her, "Mary."

The purpose of the erection of this house is, that sinners may meet their Saviour here, and that they may see in the face of the suffering Jesus the face of a God Who has reconciled all things to Himself in the person of His Son. Will you pray that it may be so, you who are Christians? If you do not visit us regularly, you can pray for us when you are absent; and when you come, bring the Lord with you. As you come within these doors, pray that the people may not think of choir or preacher or congregation; that they may "see no man save Jesus only". Then the glory of the Lord will fill the house.

Are there any here who have seen the face of Jesus, but have never confessed Him? If we really trust Him, He deserves a public avowal of our faith in Him.

I had occasion to go downtown last Tuesday. I mingled with a few people, and I found that everyone had the same topic of conversation: everyone asked everyone else, "Did you see the King?" Some people said, "I suppose I did, but I know I saw the Queen." I do not know how many times I heard it. When I got on the elevator someone spoke to the elevator man as he was going up to his office. As he turned his lever, quite confidentially he whispered, "The fact of the matter is, no picture could do her justice." I suppose that is true, but I speak of One Who is the "chiefest among ten thousand", Who is

"altogether lovely"; and I pledge you my word as one who has seen the King, no picture can do Him justice. No preacher can ever describe Him. Only the Light that never was on sea or land, shining in our hearts, can "give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ."

"Show me Thy face—one transient gleam
Of loveliness divine,
And I shall never think or dream
Of other love save Thine:
All lesser light will darken quite
All lower glories wane,
The beautiful of earth will scarce
Seem beautiful again.

"Show me Thy face—my faith and love
Shall henceforth fixed be,
And nothing here have power to move
My soul's serenity.
My life shall seem a trance, a dream,
And all I feel and see,
Illusive, visionary—Thou
The one reality!

"Show me Thy face—I shall forget
The weary days of yore;
The fretting ghosts of vain regret
Shall haunt my soul no more.
All doubts and fears for future years,
In quiet trust subside,
And naught but blest content and calm,
Within my breast abide.

"Show me Thy face—the heaviest cross
Will then seem light to bear,
There will be gain in every loss,
And peace with every care.
With such light feet the years will fleet
Life seem as brief as blest
Till I have laid my burden down,
And entered into rest."

May the glory of the Lord thus fill the house to-day, and all the days while this preacher shall minister, and in all the days thereafter when other voices shall here proclaim the glorious gospel of the blessed God.

Let us pray:

We thank Thee, O Lord, that Thou art with us, and that Thou hast put this honour upon us in making us attendants at Thy courts, servants whose business it is to prepare the way of the Lord. Oh come, thou gracious Saviour, and glorify Thyself in this house for Thy name's sake, Amen.

Now let us sing one of Charles Wesley's hymns:

"Would Jesus have the sinner die?
Why hangs He then on yonder tree?
What means that strange expiring cry?
Sinners, He prays for you and me:
Forgive them, Father, O forgive!
They know not that by Me they live.

"Thou loving, all-atoning Lamb,
Thee—by Thy painful agony,
Thy sweat of blood, Thy grief and shame,
Thy Cross and passion on the tree,
Thy precious death and life—I pray:
Take all, take all my sins away!

"O let me kiss Thy bleeding feet,
And bathe and wash them with my tears!
The story of Thy love repeat
In every drooping sinner's ears,
That all may hear the quickening sound
Since I, even I, have mercy found.

"O let Thy love my heart constrain!
Thy love for every sinner free,
That every fallen soul of man
May taste the grace that found out me;
That all mankind with me may prove
Thy sovereign everlasting love.

Bible School Lesson Outline

OLIVE L. CLARK, Ph.D. (Tor.)

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THE CONTEST WITH PHARAOH

Lesson Text: Exodus 7.

Golden Text: "Thus saith the Lord, In this thou shalt know that I am the Lord."—Exodus 7:17.

For Reading: Exodus 8, 9, 10.

I. The Divine Program Divulged—verses 1-9.

God had chosen Moses and Aaron as His agents to bring deliverance to the captive Israelites. Happy are they who are thus ordained of God to be used as his instruments for the salvation of men (Acts 9:15; Rom. 10:15).

Before Moses was ready to champion the cause of Israel before Pharaoh it was necessary for him to win a victory over himself, and over the people. God had a controversy with Moses over His servant's objections of disability, doubt and discouragement. In strange unbelief Moses complained of his lack of eloquence (Exod. 4:10), and asked the question "Why?" (Exod. 5:22, 23), and the question "How?" (Exod. 6:12). God answered in mercy, assuring the weak Moses of His own presence and the assistance of Aaron (Exod. 4:11, 12, 16), the wavering Moses of the sovereignty of His own will (Exod. 6:1-11), and the weary Moses of His own power (Exod. 6:29).

God gave Moses and Aaron a charge for the people as well as for Pharaoh (Exod. 6:13). At first they had rejoiced at the prospect of deliverance, and worshipped (Exod. 4:31), but later they became dispirited because of the apparent fruitlessness of Moses' mission, and because they were so troubled (Exod. 6:19). God's messengers are not always welcomed (1 Kings 18:17, 18; Jer. 20:1, 2; Mark 6:17, 18; John 1:11). The ground must be prepared for the sowing of the seed (Matt. 13:3-8).

How well Moses and Aaron co-operated in the work of the Lord! Moses was chosen as the one to receive the knowledge of God's will, while Aaron was to proclaim it (Exod. 4:16). Partnership in Christian service is a scriptural method of work (Mark 2:3; 6:7; Acts 13:2).

God knew that Pharaoh would refuse to obey Him, yet He sovereignly over-ruled the stubbornness of the Egyptian King so that it provided the occasion for Him to perform further miracles as proof of His power (Exod. 9:16; Rom. 9:17, 18). God makes the wrath of men to praise Him, and the rest He will restrain (Psa. 76:10).

Pharaoh's unwillingness to let the people go would also make it evident to all that God Himself had delivered His people (Exod. 20:2; Psa. 44:3; 78:12, 35; Isa. 63:5).

Great judgments were necessary before the people could be saved. Similarly, Satan and sin had to be judged before our Lord Jesus Christ could save us from bondage (John 12:31; Rev. 20:10-15). Hell is as necessary as heaven in the scheme of redemption.

God's work on behalf of His people would be a testimony before the Egyptians and all other outside nations (Ezek. 36:23; 37:28; 39:21). God help us to be faithful exhibitors of His grace and power (Eph. 3:10).

II. The Divine Power Displayed—verses 10-13).

God made provision for every difficulty which Moses and Aaron would encounter. His is the work, the responsibility; He makes the plans and asks us only to obey.

Pharaoh evidently asked Moses and Aaron for their credentials, as God had said he would (verse 9). Moses' rod, the symbol of life (Num. 17:8), swallowed up the other rods which had been changed to serpents, symbols of Satan (Gen. 3:1). The truth here illustrated is that Christ in resurrection life overcame Satan and death (1 Cor. 15:54; Rev. 12:9).

Pharaoh's magicians imitated the power of God. That

which is miraculous and supernatural is not always Divine; Satan and his emissaries can perform wonders also (2 Thess. 2:9, 10; Rev. 13:14). The magicians of Egypt were unable, however, to create life, which is a prerogative of God, as even they themselves acknowledged (Exod. 8:18, 19).

Pharaoh rejected the demand of God and also the demonstration of His power. Miracles do not always bring conviction; the truth must be brought home to the heart by the Holy Spirit (Luke 16:31; John 16:7-11). The result of Pharaoh's unbelief was a hardening of the heart. As he rebelliously steeled himself against the truth, the Lord allowed his sin to take its natural course, and then handed him over to the consequent judgment, so that finally his heart became insensible to the truth (Rom. 1:28; 2 Thess. 2:10-12). The logical order of the three statements which are found frequently in the narrative is as follows: "Pharaoh hardened his heart," "Pharaoh's heart was hardened," "The Lord hardened the heart of Pharaoh" (verses 13, 14, 22, 23; 8:19, 32; 9:7, 12, 34, 35; 10:20; 11:10).

III. The Divine Punishment Decreed—verses 14-24.

Moses was given explicit directions concerning his next meeting with Pharaoh; its time, manner and method. The Lord has His own plans concerning our service; we would do well to put ourselves in His hands.

Our God is patient. Even although Pharaoh had at first refused to let Israel go (verses 13, 16; 5:2), God was willing to give him another chance (Exod. 34:6; Psa. 103:9; 2 Pet. 3:9). In fact, Pharaoh had many opportunities to repent, but God's grace at last gave place to His justice, and sin brought the sentence of death (Exod. 11:5; Prov. 1:24-31; Heb. 10:29). It is a serious thing to trifle with God's goodness (Rom. 2:4; Heb. 2:3), to spurn His gracious warnings.

The first plague was disastrous in its results. When the water was turned into blood, the former refreshing life-giving streams became fountains of death (Psa. 78:44; Rev. 8:8; 11:6). Food and drink were alike contaminated; there was nothing to quench the hunger and thirst of the King and his people. Such is the penalty of sin; that which was intended to bring life, brings death (2 Cor. 2:16).

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