

GENERAL WILLIAM BOOTH WELCOMED TO ST. JOHN

Head of Salvation Army Tells of Its Success and the Great Work Which is Being Accomplished the World Over—Says He Has Decided to Live as Long as He Can—Excellence of Staff Band.



GENERAL WILLIAM BOOTH AND HIS DAUGHTER

(Saturday's Sun.)

Somewhat tired by the long journey from England, but in excellent health, General William Booth, founder and head of the Salvation Army, arrived in St. John at 10 o'clock last night to begin the campaign which in all human probability will be his last on this side of the water. About a thousand people were on hand to greet him, including several hundred members of the Salvation Army, and he received an enthusiastic reception. Mayor Sears read an address welcoming the General to the city. General Booth made a short reply, in which he referred to the pleasant memories of his former visits here and the satisfaction with which he regarded the work of the Army in Canada.

As soon as the train stopped, the Mayor entered General Booth's private car, accompanied by a number of prominent citizens, and by Colonel Pugmore, Brigadier Turner and Major Phillips of the Army. The Mayor cordially welcomed the General to the city, and those present were presented to him, after which the General left the car and proceeded by the Mayor and escorted by Commissioners Coombs and Nichol, proceeded to the western end of the platform. The General, the Mayor, Recorder Skinner and Commissioner Coombs stood upon a baggage truck, where the Mayor read his address.

On General Booth coming out of his car, he was greeted by rousing cheers, which continued as his tall and impressive figure appeared above the crowd. The General has aged somewhat since his last visit here. The fire and sparkle in his eye is as bright as ever, though, and his energy and enthusiasm in the great work which he has taken upon himself seem practically unimpaired. At 79 years of age he has undertaken this campaign, which might well daunt a younger man. Coming within the magic circle of his influence, watching the play of his features, and listening to his voice, one cannot help but marvel at the remarkable help and achievements of this man.

The Mayor's address was as follows: General William Booth,

thoroughly in the communities and entrusted to so sensibly within the heart of the great world, that it would seem to belong to its very arterial system through which its virile blood courses in hearty, healthy measure.

Impressed more deeply than I can convey to you with that wonderful personal which God has given you with the power with which He has seen fit to clothe your efforts with the success that is carrying forward His mission through you, I feel a great pleasure in welcoming you on behalf of the citizens of St. John. I think there is not a single soul within this city, interested in your biography, but feels it an honor and a great privilege that has fallen to me in being here to greet you this evening.

I have been deeply interested in all your undertakings. Morally, socially, and religiously, they touch the springs from whence humanity imbibes, illustrating so beautifully the oft-forgotten fact, "The fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man." Your long life has been a marvelous testimony; God grants that in His providence it may be vouchsafed for you to live to see yet larger and more glorious returns meet the noble ideals and plans you have conceived, before you are called to your rest.

In the name of the fathers, mothers, husbands, wives and children of St. John, citizens without distinction of sect, creed or class, I extend to you a loyal greeting. Right here we take you into our hearts, and shall ever pray your continuing years may be full of happiness, and that their end may be peace.

Kindly accept this imperfect expression of our people's affectionate regard and believe me, dear General, with respect,

Very faithfully yours,
EDWARD SEARS, Mayor.

After the cheers which followed the reading of the Mayor's address had subsided, General Booth replied as follows:

"Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen, Comrades and Friends of this City: "I wish to thank you for the unexpected reception you have been pleased to give me. I thank you also, Mr. Mayor, for those kind and eloquent words, giving me the assurance of the pleasure with which you greet me on my return to your midst. The memories of my short sojourn here on that former occasion, and of the meeting which I was privileged to hold here have followed me, and I trust my present visit may be equally profitable to those whom I may have the privilege of addressing.

"At the close of a wearisome day on the land, after a tedious journey on the ocean, I am sure you will not expect a lengthy address from me. I expect to see all of you at the meeting tomorrow night, and a great many more on next Sabbath.

"With the assurance of the great pleasure I have in meeting you and of the satisfaction with which I regard the work of the Army in Canada, and the blessing which have followed that work, I again thank you for your greeting, shake hands with you, Mr. Mayor, and wish you all good night."

At the close of his address the General was enthusiastically cheered. He called for cheers for the Mayor, which were given.

Escorted by the Mayor, Commissioners Coombs and Nichol and the other members of his staff, and followed by the cheering crowds, the General then entered Dr. Eugsley's automobile and was conveyed to the residence of Joseph Bullock, Germain street. He will be Mr. Bullock's guest during his stay in the city.

Being wearied by the long journey, General Booth retired immediately on his arrival at Mr. Bullock's, and could not be seen. Commissioner Nichol said, however, that the ocean passage

had been very disagreeable. Fog, rain and a cold breeze from the northeast were experienced. At the entrance to the Straits of Belle Isle a very unpleasant sea was encountered, and for two or three hours the Virginian was hoisted. The General, who is a philosophical sailor, accepted the situation in good spirits, lashed himself to a chair, and continued his literary and other labors in his cabin.

(Monday's Sun.)

General Booth was supposed to be resting on Saturday, but even when he rests he seems to accomplish much. He gave a lengthy interview to press representatives, received a large number of callers, attended to a lot of correspondence, and was almost continually in conference on Army work, with members of his staff and other officers.

The evening he conducted a rousing Army meeting in the auditorium of the new Army building.

On Sunday morning at 11 o'clock he presided for an hour to an audience of over a thousand persons in the Opera House. In the afternoon his lecture on "The Secret of Success of the Salvation Army" was heard by a gathering which filled the Opera House to its full capacity.

In the evening he addressed another large meeting in the Opera House.

Tonight General Booth will address the Canadian Club, at the luncheon to be given him by them in the Keith assembly rooms. His address will deal with some aspects of Army government and work in relation to the cultivation of thrift and industrial prosperity, and other points on which the work of the Army comes within the scope of the objects of the Canadian Club.

The great interest in General Booth's visit has been shown by his enthusiastic reception, the large numbers who have gathered to hear him on every occasion, and the close attention paid to every word he utters.

The playing of the Toronto headquarters staff band has been a feature of the General's meetings. The band is under the direction of Brigadier Howell, and led by Major Morris. It is a well balanced collection of instruments, and its performances show much talent and careful training. That the members of the band also know how to play is shown at the concert on Saturday night at King Square and last night's meeting at the Opera House.

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success, they had done something. Those thousands of officers and hundreds of thousands of soldiers who obey their commands were largely from the dregs of the people. The Army was not made up of converted drunkards, however, as many thought. It included many such, and he gloried in them as trophies of the war. The chief, dying hero, the Saviour, was an instance of sudden conversion, and that's the kind of trophies the Army is sending along. The Army also includes many from the upper ranks of society, "all sorts of notabilities," said the General, "some nearly as big as I am, some sitting behind me on this platform."

The general here spoke of what the Army is doing to rectify social miseries in the homes of the people. He illustrated his statements by the story of the rescue of a whole family from intended suicide.

He spoke of what the Army had done something for the daughters of shame. Something like 40,000 girls had been rescued from a life which is the nearest thing to damnation.

Much had been done for the inebriate classes. He did not know the statistics of this province, but believed there were more than 100,000 in the world today than at any other period in its history. Much remained to be done, but a great host had been reclaimed. He mentioned the case of 25 men who had come to him in a state of utter hopelessness. When he had been handed over to the Army by an English magistrate, they had washed him and dressed him in a new coat, and he had been converted. He had found the whole nation, from the emperor down, waiting to receive him, and the common people by whom he set most store, came by tens of thousands to bless him and the Army.

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GENERAL BOOTH ON THE GREAT EMIGRATION WORK OF THE ARMY

Imperial and Canadian Governments Should Spend More Money to Help Desirable Citizens to Come to Canada, He Says—His Future Plans.

General Booth received representatives from the newspapers this morning and gave out a lengthy and exhaustive interview on the important matters now under consideration by the Army authorities, and also made observations on the countries through which he had passed.

The General is tall, still erect and deeply lined in appearance. His face is deeply lined and his eyes, though sunken, are brilliant. He is a brisk talker and is very careful in the choice of words, not finding a suitable word at the end of a sentence, he will change the whole arrangement and begin anew.

In referring to himself and his voyage, the General spoke jerkily, as though repeating the words as he thought of them. When he touched upon the Army matters in which he is vitally interested, his utterance became more rapid, more rational, and a pleasure to listen to.

Notwithstanding his advanced age, he was more energetic in his grasp of all big questions in connection with the Army, and has several new schemes of extension of the Army's work under consideration.

The General showed himself to be a many-sided man, touching a matter now lightly, now seriously. During the interview Commissioner Coombs, Commissioner Nichol, Col. Lamb, of the Emigration Department, and other staff officers were in the room. The General would turn to each one as the conclusion of a talk along matters pertaining to the work of that one, and showed by his language that he had a thorough grasp of the work of the Army, under these different assistants.

General Booth said that this is his fifth trip here, and he has always been satisfied with this part of the country. He is in tolerably good health, and is as well as he or his friends could expect. The ocean voyage was a very trying one as he is not a good sailor, and while he is always indisposed while crossing the ocean, the trip was particularly uncomfortable for him this time.

Continuing along personal lines, the General spoke as follows:

"Since my last visit here I have had a regular run of health, working steadily seven days in a week, and a good many hours a day, and I am receiving the highest respect and estimation from royalty, governments and authorities of the world. I have been honored by my own country—Italy, and I have received the assurance of sympathy from the King and Queen and have had the freedom of the City of London conferred upon me. I have received the highest honor Oxford has conferred to bestow—except that of Chancellor—have received a most remarkable reception in Japan, being welcomed by hundreds of thousands of people. The honor, popularity and power I am happy to lay at the feet of my Lord and to employ it for the benefit of the poor for whose interests I live and toil and sacrifice.

"In reference to the future I need not say that there are some pressing questions which I would like to settle and there are many enterprises I would like to bring into existence before passing away, some of which are urgent. I want to do more for the criminal population of the world and for the transfer of people from the overcrowded cities to those parts where there is not only plenty of room but where settlements also need to be developed of the country. These men could then have plenty of breathing room, living room, room to eat, drink, and be good and religious, and go to heaven.

"It is for that reason I am so interested in Canada. From the time of my first journey I made through its vast tracts of country I mourned that people should be starving, dying of disease and hunger, who could so readily find their wants supplied if they could only be plotted to this country. After years of planning and wanting I have done something in this direction. I do not say that I discovered Canada, but I have done something to bring Canada before the world—at least before the people of Great Britain. I have discovered it to great masses of British people and have raised the conviction among thousands that here they may find homes and food. I have sent 40,000 people here in the last three or four years and will send out 20,000 more during the coming year, having already chartered ten steamers for a voyage.

"For fifteen years I have pleaded with the Dominion Government and with most of the Colonial governments to the effect that they were mistaken in asking for the young men with 2,000 in his pockets. I claim that it is not the class of people wanted, but those who would be more suited are men who come with no higher ambition than settling and become satisfied with sufficient to meet the wants of their families.

"Thousands of men who are working for only sufficient to satisfy their bare wants in England seek the necessary capital. They would gladly repay the amount necessary to effect their transportation, is to give up your sins and put away evil things.

The General concluded by inviting to the penitents from any who felt under conviction. Some responded. The meeting was led by Commissioners Nichol and Coombs and Col. Pugmore, and the musical services by the headquarters staff band.

Yesterday evening the General took his subject, "What Shall I do with Jesus?" The audience was immense. The Opera House was filled before the meeting opened, and over a hundred were turned away.

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The General showed himself to be a many-sided man, touching a matter now lightly, now seriously. During the interview Commissioner Coombs, Commissioner Nichol, Col. Lamb, of the Emigration Department, and other staff officers were in the room. The General would turn to each one as the conclusion of a talk along matters pertaining to the work of that one, and showed by his language that he had a thorough grasp of the work of the Army, under these different assistants.

General Booth said that this is his fifth trip here, and he has always been satisfied with this part of the country. He is in tolerably good health, and is as well as he or his friends could expect. The ocean voyage was a very trying one as he is not a good sailor, and while he is always indisposed while crossing the ocean, the trip was particularly uncomfortable for him this time.

Continuing along personal lines, the General spoke as follows:

"Since my last visit here I have had a regular run of health, working steadily seven days in a week, and a good many hours a day, and I am receiving the highest respect and estimation from royalty, governments and authorities of the world. I have been honored by my own country—Italy, and I have received the assurance of sympathy from the King and Queen and have had the freedom of the City of London conferred upon me. I have received the highest honor Oxford has conferred to bestow—except that of Chancellor—have received a most remarkable reception in Japan, being welcomed by hundreds of thousands of people. The honor, popularity and power I am happy to lay at the feet of my Lord and to employ it for the benefit of the poor for whose interests I live and toil and sacrifice.

"In reference to the future I need not say that there are some pressing questions which I would like to settle and there are many enterprises I would like to bring into existence before passing away, some of which are urgent. I want to do more for the criminal population of the world and for the transfer of people from the overcrowded cities to those parts where there is not only plenty of room but where settlements also need to be developed of the country. These men could then have plenty of breathing room, living room, room to eat, drink, and be good and religious, and go to heaven.

"It is for that reason I am so interested in Canada. From the time of my first journey I made through its vast tracts of country I mourned that people should be starving, dying of disease and hunger, who could so readily find their wants supplied if they could only be plotted to this country. After years of planning and wanting I have done something in this direction. I do not say that I discovered Canada, but I have done something to bring Canada before the world—at least before the people of Great Britain. I have discovered it to great masses of British people and have raised the conviction among thousands that here they may find homes and food. I have sent 40,000 people here in the last three or four years and will send out 20,000 more during the coming year, having already chartered ten steamers for a voyage.

"For fifteen years I have pleaded with the Dominion Government and with most of the Colonial governments to the effect that they were mistaken in asking for the young men with 2,000 in his pockets. I claim that it is not the class of people wanted, but those who would be more suited are men who come with no higher ambition than settling and become satisfied with sufficient to meet the wants of their families.

"Thousands of men who are working for only sufficient to satisfy their bare wants in England seek the necessary capital. They would gladly repay the amount necessary to effect their transportation, is to give up your sins and put away evil things.

The General concluded by inviting to the penitents from any who felt under conviction. Some responded. The meeting was led by Commissioners Nichol and Coombs and Col. Pugmore, and the musical services by the headquarters staff band.

Yesterday evening the General took his subject, "What Shall I do with Jesus?" The audience was immense. The Opera House was filled before the meeting opened, and over a hundred were turned away.

He would take the German nation as an instance. When the Army flag was unfurled the police regarded them as probable authors of confusion. The police exhausted their laws, and would not allow them to play a note or even to clap their hands on the street—and what would an Army meeting be without those demonstrations? They had fought their way, however, and had made all arrangements. In England the principal civic authorities had told him of the great benefits of the Army's work. Oxford had honored him by conferring a degree on him, and he had received many assurances of sympathy from the King and Queen.

What had been done to secure these evidences of approval? What was the secret of the Army's success?

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