

ARE MINISTERS STILL NEEDED? IF SO, THEN THEY SHOULD BE PAID SALARIES WORTHY THEIR WORK

But in Order to Become a Successful Minister it is Necessary to Have a Call That Way — The Fact That the Ministry is "A Nice Position" Should Not be the Dominating Factor in Leading up to choice of it as a Life Work—It Has Many Disadvantages from a Worldly Point of View, and Like Virtue, is More Often Than Not Its Own Reward.

(London Free Press.)

At one of the church conferences held this spring in the province it is reported that one of the ministers made the startling statement that if the decrease of men for the ministry continued as at present, in forty years the denomination which he represented would be without a ministry. From another province comes the word concerning another denomination stating that twenty years will deplete them of a ministry in that province at the present rate of decrease. We presume that these are reliable statements made after considerable investigation. Such conditions compel us to ask many questions. First: What can be the cause for such a depletion? Have we too many churches? Is Christianity over-organized? Do we still need the ministry?

There is no doubt that some parts of the country are over-churches, while other parts are suffering for lack of any church services. No one questions the vast influence exerted by organized Christianity on the life of the nation, but one cannot but feel at times there is too much machinery and too little efficiency. Multitudes of people unite with a church with little or no sense of responsibility, with no intention of rendering a real service to the church or through it to the community. They are not really "added to the church," they are only added to the church roll. The average church member does not prepare himself for any definite Christian task. He pays his church tax and expects to go to it. The minister in consequence becomes a hewer of wood and drawer of water. He is expected to fritter away his time in a thousand and one different ways, usually getting more criticism than commendation from the congregation while he is doing it. Such conditions are keeping many able young men from thinking of the ministry. In the army, every soldier was expected to do his bit without a question or excuse. Rotary and Kiwanis clubs expect the same spirit from their members. There must be a demand for it in the churches. This begging and beseeching of church members to do their duty should not be necessary.

There is no doubt that the nation still needs the ministry; and never did we more need it in all its strength than now. Who can measure the influence on the life of the nation of the ministries of men like Canon Sifton, Canon Farrer, Dr. Dale, Dr. Parker, Charles Hadon, Spurgeon, Henry Ward Beecher, MacLaren and Jowett. Their churches and pulpits were centers of influence felt throughout the world. The same is true in degree of churches less known and in remote corners of the nation. There is no question the Christian ministry is still needed.

If the ministry is needed it should be adequately supported. It is a sad commentary on our lack of the sense of fitness of things that our prize fighters and basketball players should be handsomely paid compared with preachers and school-teachers. Hosts of church members spend for more on their pleasures than they do for the promotion of religion throughout the world. There seems to be a lamentable lack of the sense of stewardship on the part of the average church

member. If people value religion and the church, then they must see to it that the minister secures a living wage; a salary that will enable him to maintain the position required of him, to educate his children, buy books, exercise hospitality, and keep abreast of the thought of his day. John R. Mott has said: "A minister today in many a case must choose debt, celibacy or a rich wife." This is a reproach which should be lifted and must be lifted if we are still to have a ministry.

That is not saying the young should avoid the ministry because of the security remuneration. No man should take up the ministry as a mere profession, a means of earning a living, or an avenue of cultured leisure or desirable social distinction. If he enters the ministry it must be because he hears, as Dr. Jowett says: "The call of the Eternal ringing through the rooms of his soul as clearly as the sound of the morning bell rings through the valleys of Switzerland calling the peasants to early prayer and praise." For him there should be no alternative road. His call must appeal to him as the imperative summons of the Eternal God.

The ministry is not in need of men to whom it appeals merely as a means of securing a more or less comfortable living. Christ did not call the apostles from their nets because fishing in Galilee was poor, nor yet because he had wealth to offer them. The lure of the ministry is not its tangible rewards, but its glorious possibilities. The greatest things of life do not come by way of the stock exchange. There are some vocations too lofty to be placed on a level of mere financial gain. Divinity is not dependent on dollars, and the progress of truth should always be preferred to personal advancement. The true student and prophet works in the simple love of truth. Science becomes seriously compromised by too close association with industrialism. Science, literature, art and religion never flourished in the lap of luxury. They flourished in the hands of men who suffered hardships and knew not the indulgences of wealth or worldly advantages.

The home is largely responsible for the dearth of ministers. Monetary positions are magnified before the children, and they are often advised to seek callings that will lead to lives of luxury. One father has stated he did not want his son to be a minister for three reasons: First, the minister is intellectually fettered; he is not free to preserve the scientific attitude and devotion toward truth. Second, he must submit to unnecessary social limitations. Third, it is a lonely occupation. This parent ably argued his points in an article published in one of our papers, but these objections are not convincing.

There is no disputing the assertion that the ministry is all too poorly paid, and this condition should be rapidly remedied, but it is also true that the minister has many valuable compensations. His opportunities for spiritual service are very great. He has a vantage ground for dealing with the very sources and springs of community life, and is able to make noble contributions to the life of the home and nation. We still need min-

Grand Bay

Grand Bay, June 26.—Miss Dorothy Peters, St. John, was the weekend guest of Miss Starr McAlpine, Pampenee.

Miss Muriel Russell, Miss Margaret Bickinsop and Mr. Harold Young, of the city, were guests of Miss Ethel E. Barry on Saturday.

Misses Joan and Louise Ketchum, Riverside, accompanied by Mr. Chas. Ketchum and Misses Edith and Edna Ketchum, motored to Grand Bay on Wednesday and were the guests of Mrs. A. W. Melick, "Idle-Whyle."

Mr. Murray Latham, city, is spending a few days at "Camp Paradise," Pampenee.

Mr. Geo. C. McCord, Winnipeg, is visiting Mrs. A. W. Melick for several weeks.

Miss Jean Smith, St. John, spent Thursday here with Miss Kate McPherson.

Miss Nellie Short, city, was the guest of Miss Bertha Weatherhead during the week.

Miss Holley spent the weekend here with Miss Helen Hodgerson.

The annual picnic of the St. Paul's Sunday school was held here on Saturday last. Although the weather was not very favorable, there was quite a large attendance. Races and baseball added much to the enjoyment of the children.

A meeting of the entertainment committee of the Grand Bay Outing Association was held at the home of Miss Bessie Irvine on Thursday evening, when arrangements were made for holding a concert and picnic in the near future. This will be the first of a series of entertainments which the association plan on holding during the summer months.

Mr. Rowan Barron is visiting at the home of Mrs. Edward Harkins for a short time.

Messrs. Jack Sutherland and Ernest Hammond were guests of friends in Grand Bay on Thursday.

Mr. Alfred Henderson spent the weekend at "Camp Riverside."

The many friends of Mr. Archie McArthur will be pleased to hear he is steadily improving from his recent illness.

Mrs. Barbour and Miss Allie Barbour were guests on Friday of Mrs. C. Kierstead.

To Relieve Paper Shortage.

A law requiring that all shoes be made of leather might help some to relieve the paper shortage.—Columbia Record.

sters and the church and home should supply the calling and liberally support the men who devote their lives to it.

FACE COVERED WITH PIMPLES

Hard and Awfully Sore.
Itched. Cuticura Heals.

"I had never had a pimple and then my face became covered. Later on the pimples became hard and awfully sore, and they itched so much that I could not rest one moment. I had to scratch so that at last I thought my face was poisoned. I was advised to try Cuticura Soap and Ointment, and after using them three weeks I was healed." (Signed) Miss Edith Grover, West Oldtown, Me., Dec. 16, 1918.

Use Cuticura Soap, Ointment and Talcum for all toilet purposes. Soap 25c, Ointment 25c and 50c. Sold throughout the Dominion. Canadian Agents, Limited, St. Paul St., Montreal. Cuticura Soap shaves without mug.

OBITUARY.

William Hamilton.

William Hamilton, one of the oldest and most highly respected residents of the parish of Shediac, passed away at noon Thursday at his home in Shediac Cape. He had been in ill health for several months. Mr. Hamilton was born in Shediac 85 years ago, the oldest son of the late Robert and Elizabeth (Harrington) Hamilton. He was of Scottish descent through his father's family, United Empire Loyalists who went from New York to Clyde River, Shediac County, N. B., and of English descent through his mother. He was a life-long resident of Shediac, and in his younger days was quite widely known as a lover of well bred horses some of which he owned at various times.

In religion he was a member of the Church of England, and in politics, always a Conservative.

He is survived by a wife, formerly Miss Annie Sayre, two sons, W. Franklin at home, and Harvey of San Jose, Calif., a veteran of the world war and formerly of the C. N. R. offices, Moncton and a sister, Mrs. E. Gray of San Jose. Miss Ada Hamilton of St. John is a niece and Frederick H. Gashy also of this city a nephew.

The funeral will be held this afternoon from Mr. Hamilton's late home to St. Martin's Anglican Church, Shediac Cape.

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Health and Happiness



Women of today seem to listen to every call of duty except the supreme one that tells them to guard their health. Home duties, church duties, war activities, and the hundred-and-one calls for charitable enterprises soon lead women to overdo. Nervousness, headaches, backaches and female troubles are the inevitable result.

Philadelphia, Pa.—"I was very weak, always tired, my back ached, and I felt sickly most of the time. I went to a doctor and he said I had nervous indigestion, which, added to my weak condition, kept me worrying most of the time—and he said if I could not stop that, I could not get well. I heard so much about Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound my husband wanted me to try it. I took it for a week and felt a little better. I kept it up for three months, and I feel fine and can eat anything now without distress or nervousness. Health and happiness? Yes, I have both now."—Mrs. J. WORTHING, 2442 North Taylor Street, Philadelphia, Pa.

The majority of women nowadays overdo, there are so many demands upon their time and strength; the result is invariably a weakened, run-down nervous condition with headaches, backache, irritability and depression—and soon more serious ailments develop. Avoid them by taking in time

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Your Finances

A man who sets aside only \$200 each six months and allows it to compound at 5½% interest will have at the end of thirty years a total fund of—

Thirty Thousand Dollars

You know many people who could set aside \$200 each six months. But—

Many a man who has had time to accumulate this moderate fortune, is still "drudging along" without it. For this reason:

Very few men will systematically "put by" a certain definite sum, and leave it untouched for any reasonable length of time. Human nature is seldom built that way.

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The full amount of your Policy will be paid in any case, whether you live or die. Other investments may depreciate in value or fail. The Endowment is a certainty. The guarantee will take care of your home, or your business, or your personal interests, as nothing else can.

Profits Will Hasten Maturity

A special clause in this Policy provides that if the profits be allowed to remain at your credit each year instead of being withdrawn, the face of the Policy will be payable to you some years before you reach age 65.

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