

Legion Notes

PRESENTATION TO CHAPLAIN - INITIATION OF 18 NEW MEMBERS LAST THURSDAY

by I. M. O.
An initiation ceremony was held last Thursday evening and eighteen new members were inducted into Branch 120. Among them were two ladies, who had served during the war, Miss Fannie Weaver, of Glen Williams, and Mrs. Phyllis Deberry. This brings the total Legion strength up to 426 in town and district. The executive are certain that there are almost 100 yet to join, and it is anticipated that in the next few months the membership will expand to well over the 500 mark. This, we believe, makes Branch 120 by far the largest organization in the district.

The initiation team put the new members, through the ceremony in one of the smoothest ceremonies yet held.

Immediately following the ceremony the president, asked Col. Gordon Cousins to come to the platform. Comrade Cousins then asked Archdeacon the Ven. W. G. O. Thompson to step forward and said he wished to initiate the chaplain into the hearts of the Branch. As a slight memento of the esteem in which the chaplain is held, he was presented with a large smoking jar.

Mr. Thompson was genuinely surprised over the presentation and replied suitably. This marked the closing of the meeting, and a very pleasant social was held.

To many members this presentation was long overdue. For ten years Archdeacon Thompson has given generously of his time and ability to Branch 120. Upon many occasions he has changed his routine and caused himself a great deal of personal inconvenience to help the Branch in its various parades, services, etc. We trust that he will act as chaplain for many more years.

Work on the remodeling continues steadily, although to many, quite slowly. However the floor in the one wing is gradually taking place, and possibly the end of the year may see us able to use the old wing. At present, the use of the auditorium as a beverage room is a decided inconvenience to the W.A., as well as the Branch in general.

LETTER TELLS OF GREENFELL MISSION WORK

Mrs. J. B. Mackenzie received a letter recently from Mary K. Spangill, nurse-in-charge of the International Greenfell Association work at Harrington Harbor, Labrador, thanking the local group for their help. She says in part:

"It has been a good year for the people of the coast but for the amount of illness. Seal were plentiful and brought a good price, which helped to offset the poor cod catch. It is to be expected, however, that there will be a sharp slump in prices of both seal and cod as soon as the pre-war sealing and fishing fleets of other regions are functioning again. But in spite of the hard conditions of their life and the uncertainty of their income the people are cheerful and have a large fund of courage to draw on in time of need.

Most of your group, I suppose, have never been to this part of the world. The terrain, while rugged, is very beautiful, with a great variety of colors in the scene. We are on an island; from the hospital front windows we look south over the harbor with its fishing boats and gulls, and behind us to the north the cliffs rise sharply to the skyline. There is always something of interest in the scene, if one had time to look, — even in the long ice-land-snowbound winter. Then the harbor is white and still, the movement in the picture provided by the arrival — perhaps with a patient — of some komatick and its team of dogs, or by children playing in the snow.

The very necessary medical aid to this coast, started long ago by Dr. Grenfell and carried on in spite of two wars as well as many other difficulties, could not be maintained without your continued interest and support. Thank you so very much for your donations this year. They were truly excellent and a pleasure to unpack. Each item filled a place. We are well aware of the trouble involved, not only in gathering the things together but in the packing and shipping and sending. Thank you again, for all of it, and for what it means in carrying on this medical service — and best wishes to each of you from the workers here on the front line."

Sunday School Lesson

PAUL TRAINS FOR HIS LIFE WORK

by Rev. R. C. Todd

LESSON— Acts 9: 19-22; 11: 26, 28; Gal. 1: 17-24.

Paul began his career as an Apostle of Jesus Christ, in comparative obscurity. A passage not included in the text, tells how an attempt was made to assassinate him in Damascus following his conversion, and how he escaped from the city by being lowered over the wall in a basket. Presumably, as is the case with most men who change sides, he had become odious to his former colleagues in persecuting the Church. Neither was he free from suspicion on the part of his new colleagues, the Christians.

After his escape from Damascus, he went to Arabia, spending some time there in solitary meditation and reflection concerning his future. After this, he went again to Damascus, following which he visited Peter and James the brother of Jesus in Jerusalem. After a short visit with them, he returned to his home town, Tarsus. There he was visited by Barnabas, who persuaded him to assist him in building up the Church in Antioch. Here the Church included both Jews and Greeks. This stage marks the beginning of Paul's ministry to the Gentiles.

We note three things in particular which arise from this lesson:

1. Paul had to learn to subject himself to discipline, — the discipline of Christ, and the discipline of the Church. This would seem to be the significance of his sojourn in Arabia. His return to Tarsus and his period of apprenticeship at Antioch. Paul possessed gifts and abilities beyond those of any other man in the Church. But as a Pharisee he put great trust in his own attainments, — moral as well as intellectual. As we have said in preceding lessons in this Quarter, he had to be emptied of all his pride and confidence in his own abilities and works. He had to learn that Paul was nothing except as Christ made something of him; and that all his gifts and capabilities were nothing except as directed by Christ. He had also, to become the servant of the Church. He had to serve under leaders, even though time proved them to be less capable than he. He served under Barnabas, although Barnabas was a lesser light eventually. Tarsus came and called him out of Tarsus and brought him to Antioch. He was "called" first of all by Christ, and then because of the evidence of that "call," he was "called" by the Church. His individual greatness, however impressive, had to be subject to the discipline of Christ and his Church. There was no room in the Church for the individualist, making his way by force of his personality and genius. All must be subject to Christ, the Head of the Church, and this subjection must be learned through obedience, at least in the beginning, to those whom God has called to be leaders in the Church.

All are welcomed, who have a contribution to make to the Christian cause. But humility and willingness to serve Christ, come first. The church is bigger than any man or any congregation, and Christ is the Lord of the church. All who are connected with it must be there as servants — servants of Christ and servants of others.

2. In the second place, we note the substance of Paul's early preaching. In Damascus, at the beginning, he preached that Jesus was "Christ, the Son of God." All he ever said later was merely elaboration of that theme. He preached that salvation of the world is by Christ alone, and is received by faith in Him as the Son of God. And that remains for all time the basis of the Church's message to the world. The world will not be saved by science, or education, or political programmes, or social reconstruction. This by no means implies that the Christian will be indifferent to these things. Rather does it imply that he will be diligent to study the use of these things as tools by which his faith is put into practice. That is, the Christian will use these human "institutions" only in obedience to the teaching of the Lord Jesus Christ, and with a full knowledge that in all things, he is dependant on Him. Paul's message in obscurity, and at the height of his influence as well, was always that "God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto Himself." In that, he was in complete harmony with the whole of New Testament teaching. The Saviourhood of Jesus Christ is the essence of the Christian message. "Thou shalt call His name Jesus, for He shall save His people from their sins."

3. We note finally, that even in obscurity, Paul did faithfully the work he was appointed by the Church to do. He gave a faithful witness to Jesus Christ, not waiting until the time of greatness and recognition. Before he did anything "great," or was "recognized" by the Church as an Apostle, he carried on a faithful ministry. He had learned "in whatever state I am, therewith to be content."

Now these are not brilliant days for the Church and her workers. But they are doing all that is needful if they proclaim to the world, the Saviourhood of Jesus Christ. The Church does not succeed in her mission only if she attracts attention, or is popular. She will be great and popular when God so decides. These may be days of obscurity for the Church. But Christians are doing all they are called upon to do when they are witnesses to Jesus Christ. If we make sure that we are

faithful to our calling as "priests and Kings unto God," we can leave to God to decide about the Church's popularity and public recognition and influence.

We need then to learn these three things from the lesson: 1. The need for humility, and discipline under Christ and His Church. 2. The need of Faith in Jesus Christ as the Son of God. 3. The need of faithful witness to Christ as the Saviour of the world. When individual Christians have these things,

the Church is on the edge of an era of tremendous influence and popularity.

meeting, opening with membership the Institute Ode followed prayer. Roll call was now the exchanging of personal. The secretary, Mrs. W read the minutes. A paper and Fall Gardening" by land" was one of the enjoyable program. A was served by the

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MRS. L. LAIRD HOSTESS TO NORVAL WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

The monthly meeting of the Norval Women's Institute was held at the home of Mrs. L. Laird. Mrs. Graydon Chester, president, conducted the