

For The Quiet Hour

"ROCK OF AGES"

To a huge solitary rock in Somerset, facing a natural amphitheatre in the Mendip Hills, thousands of West Country people made a pilgrimage recently. The rock is alleged to have yielded inspiration to Augustus M. Toplady, the author of "Rock of Ages, Clef for Me," a hundred and fifty years ago. It is said that he was driven into its shelter when a storm burst near by. For the pilgrimage there were massed choirs and bands, and several addresses were delivered in the course of the day.

WHEAT COUNTS

Boswell tells us that once having suffered some inconvenience he went to Dr. Johnson in the morning afterward, and talked of it as a serious distress. Johnson only laughed and said, "Consider, Sir, how insignificant this will appear a twelvemonth hence."

Most of our daily perplexities and troubles which appear important at the moment are quite forgotten in the course of a year. Time is a great healer of wounds, a great disposer of events in their proper perspective. So many things highly colored to-day drop out of the picture entirely, or at most are imperceptible atoms in its general lights and shadows.

The most important things about the journey of life is not its hills and hollows, its curves and angles, its little episodes of impediment or pleasure, but its general direction. Whither are we going? It is this which makes the great decisions of life of such vital importance.

Great moral and spiritual decisions which vitally affect the character are usually made early in life. It is most unfortunate if we allow the little things which will be forgotten in twelve months or less to absorb our thoughts and our energies. It is the general direction of life which grows in significance from year to year. Are we ascending or descending in the scale of being? Are we growing better or worse in the sight of heaven? Are we looking up to noble and imperishable ideals, or are we looking down to things which fascinating as they may be for time, will be worthless for eternity? There is only one true direction for life—Jesus leads, and He says, "Follow Me."

The French Parliament has subsidized the construction of a Mohammedan mosque in Paris for the benefit of its African subjects. It will contain a study room, a library and a lecture hall. It will be under the control of Africans themselves.

The President of the Chinese Republic held a reception, with his wife and four children in line, and shook hands very democratically with a thousand Chinese and foreigners. As these left the band played, "God Be with You Till We Meet Again."

Ocasional one meets nowadays a Christian untaught concerning stewardship. But the last two decades have seen great advances in the Church's conception of this great responsibility. Light as to why one's possessions cannot be separated from one's personality is to be found in these words by Dr. A. F. Schaeffer:

My definition of money is simply this: Money is myself. I am a laboring man, we will say and can handle a pickaxe, and I hire myself out for a week at \$2 a day. At the close of the week I get \$12, and I put into my pocket. What is that \$12? It is a week's worth of my muscle put into greenbacks and pocketed; that is, I have a week's worth of myself in my pocket.

Now, the money you understand this, you begin to understand that money in your pocket is not merely silver and gold, but is something human, something that is instinct with power expended. Money is like electricity; it is stored power and it is only a question as to where that power is to be loosed.

What I am coming to is this—that this matter of the stored potentiality of myself in my pocket is so very serious that I need God's Holy Spirit to guide me in it.

Do you see what a blessed, what a solemn thing, this giving is, this giving of my stored self to my Master? Surely, need in the matter of giving, consecrated thought as to where to loose ourselves; earnest prayer in the guidance of the choice of where to loose our stored power, and earnest prayer to God to add His blessing to the loosed personality in this money we have sent abroad.

Such a conception will assuredly give an ennobled and enriched meaning to life; it will also lead to a more careful scrutiny of that proportion of income that we expend upon ourselves. Out of their deep poverty and "beyond their power," the primitive Christians gave with "abundance of joy unto the riches of their liberality."

We lose what on ourselves we spend,
We have as treasure without end,
Whatever, Lord, to Thee we lend,
Who givest all.

The gospel is being preached in Boston in ten different tongues by the Methodist Episcopal Church. Three-quarters of the city's present population is foreign-born. Says Dr. Reimer, superintendent of the Boston Missionary and Church Extension Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church: "It was a thrilling sight for hearts with the missionary impulse to behold at the last communion in old Tremont Street Church six Chinese baptized and received into that membership, and these, with ten other Chinese, sixteen in all, partaking of the blessed sacrament."

Half a century ago the Spanish Revolution of 1868 gave to Spain for a brief moment perfect religious liberty. How little of that liberty she now possesses, even under her present constitutional monarchy, was vividly shown at the recent opening of a Protestant chapel in the city of Leon. When the opening ceremony was first announced the local authorities prohibited the proceedings altogether. Urgent applications to the royal administration at Madrid ended in obtaining a cancellation of the prohibition. But this cancellation was saddled with severe restrictions. The chapel must show no external indications of being a place of worship, and no attempts at propagating Protestantism must be made from its pulpit! There are about 40 foreign male Protestant missionaries in Spain, and about 45 native workers. The population of Spain is over twenty millions. The directors of the North Spanish Railway have issued an order to the bookstalls at their railroad stations forbidding the sale of any Spanish translations of the Gospels. What is back of such an order in such a country?

"It was encouraging and inspiring to be awakened at sunrise each day in most of these villages by the singing of a hymn, followed by prayer and a short talk by the teacher or one of the Christian men before beginning the work for the day," testifies Mr. A. V. Marsh of the Congo. "Likewise each evening at sunset a service is held, one night each week being reserved for the women, and conducted by one of the Christian women. Thus are the days begun and ended in the villages of far away Congo, where there is a Christian teacher."

"One Sunday morning at a certain village every man, woman and child turned out for the morning service fully decorated with their paint, brass ornaments, etc. The house was packed inside and out. The old men and women came with their pipes, and as they listened to the gospel message they sent forth clouds of smoke, very disconcerting to the white speaker. As soon as they were asked, however, to lay aside the soothing weed, they did so."

But the Rev. Charles Padfield of the Regions Beyond Missionary Union is persuaded after 18 years' experience that the evangelization of Central Africa is not a white man's job. We could not understand the workings of the native mind. After heavy rains, when told that the river was rising a native would insist that it was the land that was sinking.

We cannot all be geniuses, or gather wealth and fame;
We cannot all do wondrous things, to make ourselves a name;
We cannot all feel confident of meeting every test;
But when we have our work to do we all can do our best.

"Jesus Christ, who is above caste and color," is a striking phrase that we notice in an Indian exchange.

Out of 330 living alumni of Peking University 262 are ministers and teachers, 37 are physicians, and 31 are in other lines.

"Forgive-Your-Enemies Day" in the Barphur Church at Fatehgarh, India, resulted in the making up of quarrels and enmities of years' standing. It was a crisis in the church, for old-time feuds and hatreds had burst forth anew and involved the whole community. Then came a revival, and the Spirit who had until that time been hindered came in fulness.

Rev. W. L. Sperry of Boston says the trouble in London last summer was not to find a crowded church, but rather, in the places to which a visitor naturally turns, to find a vacant seat any time after a quarter of an hour before the service.

The County Council

Taken from Owen Sound Papers.

The last regular session of the 1922 County Council of Grey County was opened at the County Court House on Monday evening of last week. The meeting was a brief one as the opening session generally is, and no business of a startling nature was transacted. Warden Robert Howey of Holland Township delivered an excellent address of welcome to the members of the Council, nearly all of whom were present. His address also included a comprehensive review of the work that had been done during the year and, as well, outlined some of the matters that might come up for discussion at the present session.

As far as was known Monday evening, aside from the ordinary routine business there is likely to be nothing of very great importance deliberated on.

Warden Howey's address follows: Gentlemen of the County Council: I welcome you to our November session which will be the final meeting for the year at which all unfinished business should be completed. I trust you have all enjoyed good health in the interval since our June session.

We have been blessed with an abundant harvest, the best in years, and while according to government statistics the average price of farm products is slightly below those of last year, the increased yield will probably bring a larger net return.

Trade conditions which have been very much disturbed the last two years are rapidly returning to normal. While we have large obligations to meet, due to the immense expenditures caused by the great war, the finances of our Dominion are sound. This is proven conclusively by the very rapid return to par of our Canadian dollar in foreign money markets and should be a matter of congratulation to us as Canadian citizens.

While the gross expenditure in the year has not been as large as in 1921, a large amount of construction work has been done, including the erection of several bridges.

Good progress has been made on the Suburban Area sections, including the laying of a considerable amount of cement highway on Road No. 3, the north gravel road leading from Owen Sound to Southampton.

Both your County Roads Committee and the Suburban Area Committee have given a large amount of time in connection with the work and are entitled to the thanks of this Council for their services. Let me again emphasize the necessity of establishing a Patrol system for our roads. Large expenditures on construction should not be made without some provision for proper maintenance.

The Department of Highways has done an immense amount of work on the Garafraza and the Toronto and Sydenham Roads, twenty per cent. of which is, as you know, payable by the County. For the year 1920 the county's share was over \$14,000; for the year 1921 over \$12,000, and for the present year, from all indications, it will be very much greater.

The Windsor - Goderich - Owen Sound Blue Water Highway Association is an organization which has been formed for the purpose of promoting the taking over of certain roads to constitute a North and South Provincial Highway. The pamphlets and maps which you will find on your desks show in detail what is sought to be accomplished. The organization has already been endorsed by a large number of municipalities and Chambers of Commerce throughout the Western part of the Province and in my humble opinion should receive our hearty support.

Legislative grants for our Public Schools are increasing year by year. In 1920 the amount received by this county was over \$24,000, in 1921 over \$50,000 and the present year it will run to nearly \$68,000.

Our own County grants to High Schools and Collegiate Institutes, together with those to fifth classes and continuation schools are likewise increasing materially year by year.

I am sure that no one who has the interest of our rising generation at heart will object to these expenditures.

The recent terrible Fire in New Ontario which devastated so many homes and took toll of so many valuable lives calls for assistance from the Province at large. While much has been done in the way of relief for the fire sufferers much still remains to be done.

With the near approach of severe weather it is imperative that supplies of all kinds should be forwarded without delay to the burnt out districts, and I would suggest that this Council make a generous grant to the Northern Relief Committee.

He who gives quickly gives twice. Owing to the small number of lots liable to be sold for arrears of taxes this year, and to eliminate unnecessary expense, you will be asked to pass a by-law postponing the tax sale until next year. Year by year the defaulters' rolls are growing smaller and it is to be hoped that

the tax sale may soon be a thing of the past.

With the closing of this session my duties as Warden of the County will practically end and I would here thank the various county officials and the members of the County Council for the assistance and consideration which have been so freely accorded to me at all times. The recollections of my occupancy of this chair will be amongst my most pleasant memories.

The members present at the opening meeting were: Messrs. Abercrombie, Allan, Brees, Brown, Bothwell, Calder, Currie, Filsinger, Holm, Hunt, Hutchinson, Lembke, Miller, Mundle, McCuaig, McDowell, McEachern, McKenzie, McFavish, Pringle, Saunders, Sing, Theodor, Tyson, Weinert, White and Wright. The minutes of the last meeting of the June session were read and following the reading of the Warden's address, the Clerk read the communications and accounts.

County Treasurer John Parker presented a statement of the County Roads expenditures from January 1 to October 31. The report is as follows:

Maintenance	\$47,380.87
Construction	119,908.66
Engineering	900.00
General	9,566.05

Urban grants	\$177,755.58
County Boundary Lines	11,045.72
Provincial Highway, 1920	2,413.32
	14,829.12

Less Boundary Line Account	\$206,034.74
Read	7,563.03
	\$198,471.71

Prov. Road Subsidiary	
1921	198,480.71

The report of the Suburban Area expenditures for the period from January 1 to November 17 was also presented and is as follows:

Maintenance	\$ 5,829.27
Construction	38,032.48
General	3,911.73
Interest	427.77

	\$48,201.25
Accts. paid Nov. 1 to 17	1,930.20

	\$50,131.45
Prov. Road Subsidy 1921	\$24,320.49

The report of Alex. McKay, Provincial Inspector of Houses of Refuge, was read to the Council. The inspection was made on June 22 last at the Grey County House of Refuge at Markdale. The local Inspector and Superintendent is Alex. Smith. There are 94 acres of land in connection with the institution and of these 40 are under cultivation. The land is valued at \$5,000, and the institution is supported by the whole county.

There are 49 inmates of the House of Refuge, 27 of these being male, 21 female, and a four-months-old infant. Only seven of the 49 pay for their maintenance. During the past year there have been seven deaths among the members of the House. A superintendent and a matron are in charge of the institution and assisting them are a man and three women. Dr. Ego is the House physician and there is also a practical nurse in attendance.

The report went on to give various information regarding the construction of the buildings and their value and other matters such as dietary, fire protection, care of inmates, salaries of officials and records. The inspector suggested that a gramophone be bought, as most of the Houses have them and they bring a considerable amount of joy into the lives of the old people who live there. He brought the attention of the Council to the condition of the fire escapes at the ends of the corridors in the building. The steps were too steep and too narrow and most of the people who live in the House would not be able to get down them at any speed in time of a fire. The Inspector opposed the use of straw mattresses and advocated the use of others wherever practicable.

Mr. T. S. Cooper wrote the Council enclosing the accounts of the Grey County Agricultural Council which were all for small amounts. There were also a large number of other accounts read among the communications. The last was the report of the Grand Jury, which was presented to Mr. Justice Riddell at the Fall Assizes on October 22. The report dealt with the condition of the County buildings in Owen Sound and recommended that the Council make a special grant to the General and Marine Hospital to put it on a basis

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with other hospitals of the same size.

Reeve Sing of Meaford and Reeve Calder of Durham moved and seconded a motion that the Warden and Clerk be authorized to sign and submit to the Minister of Public Works and Highways a statement of road construction in the Town of Meaford from April 7 to November 1, 1922. This road construction was the connection of the County-Provincial Highways System lying through Meaford and the expenditure during the period mentioned was \$13,834.03. This is merely a form which must be gone through before the Town of Meaford could secure the share of the costs of the new Meaford roads to be borne by the province by the Government. The motion carried without opposition as a similar motion was passed last year for a similar purpose.

Practically the entire Tuesday session of the Council was devoted to the report of the County Roads Committee, presented by Reeve Calder of Durham. It dealt at length with the work that the County Road outfalls had accomplished during the year.

Outfall No. 1 had been working east of Thornbury and had constructed 5½ miles of roadway at a cost of \$28,000.

Outfall No. 2 had been working east of Meaford and had constructed 2½ miles of roadway at a cost of \$23,000.

Outfall No. 3 was working in Glenelg Township and had constructed 4½ miles of road at a cost of over \$27,000.

Outfall No. 4 had been working north of Hanover and had constructed 5½ miles of road at a cost of over \$19,000.

The report gave in detail the number of culverts and small bridges that had been built. These were many and had been spread all over the county. Another item in the report was that the appropriation of the committee had been spent by September 15 and consequently work had to cease although the weather would have permitted the work to continue for another month.

Mr. Calder explained the difference in the cost of the roads and the amount constructed. The materials used and the source of this material accounted for the difference in the costs. To construct a good road costs about one-half less than one constructed with crushed stone. When crushed stone was used it was very often a considerable distance away from the road where construction was going on, which

further accentuated the cost. The gravel road, he believed, was every bit as good as the stone road. Mr. Calder emphasized the point that the difference in costs cast no reflection on the foremen in charge of the work.

Mr. Sing at this point complimented the Road Committee on their work. Mr. Currie, Sydenham, wanted to know if less gravel than usual was being put on the Meaford Road. He was assured this was right, but the gravel had been put on too thick at first.

At this point, that sturdy Scotch member of the Council, Mr. Archie McCuaig, from down Glenelg way, projected himself into the discussion. In a slow, measured voice, Mr. McCuaig took the Road Committee to task in no ungentle way.

The work done near Priceville and in Priceville was very poor, he said. The outfit was reported to have completed 4½ miles of road, but if the truth were known it was only 2½ that had been constructed. He stated that at least \$1,000 could have been saved on one hill alone. Gravel had been drawn 1½ miles to make a fill, while suitable material could have been obtained just across the road. He was of the opinion that

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