



The Latter Rain Kvangel

The days of Heaven on Earth

To Be a Missionary

IT IS something to be a missionary. The morning stars sang together and all the sons of God shouted for joy when they saw the field which the first missionary was to fill. The great and loving God, before whom angels veil their faces, had an only Son, and He was sent to earth as a Missionary Physician. It is something to be a follower, however feeble, in the wake of the Great Teacher and only Model Missionary that ever appeared among men. And now that He is Head over all things, King of kings, and Lord of lords, what commission is equal to that which the missionary holds from Him?

May I venture to invite young men of education, when laying down the plan of their lives, to take a glance at that of missionary? We will magnify the office! For my own part, I never cease to rejoice that God has appointed me to such an office.

David Livingstone

Ask Ye of the LORD Rain in the Time of the Latter Rain

The Latter Rain Evangel

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Stone Church News

THIS issue contains some of the reports from our Twenty-second Annual Missionary Convention, which was a time of great blessing to all. The following ministers and missionaries were used of the Lord in bringing messages from the Word and from the harvest field:

Pastor Harry Steil, Cleveland, Ohio, Pastor Henry Hoar, St. Louis, Mo., Mr. Paul Peterson, President of the Russian & Eastern European Mission, Misses Marie and Agnes Juergensen, Japan, W. W. Simpson, Northwest China, Miss Minnie Madsen, Venezuela, Mrs. Lulu Leader, Congo, Mr. and Mrs. J. Perdue, So. China.

The crowning services of the Convention were on Sunday, May 31st, when missionaries presented their needs of the great mission field. It was fitting that after a week of feasting at the Master's table our hearts should be turned to those of whom the Lord is saying, "Give ye them to eat." Impassioned appeals came from those who had been in the front ranks of the battle. They had come in vital contact with the darkness of heathenism, had felt the scorching blasts of demon power, the peril and suffering of carrying the Gospel into the regions beyond, but they had also seen the wonderful transformations wrought by the Gospel, and the rehearsal of the transforming power of Christianity in communities and lives made us to realize that the giving of money and lives laid down had not been in vain.

So with willing hearts the congregation gave of their substance and pledged the support of their co-workers out on the firing line.

* * *

Brother Roy Smuland, who has been Acting Pastor of the Stone Church for the past eight months, is again returning to the West. The church has been built up under the ministry of Bro. Smuland and he has been much beloved by the people, who deeply appreciate his faithful service. He feels the Lord is leading him to his work in the Northwest.

* * *

During the recent Convention The Board of the Church asked Brother Steil of the Cleveland (O.) Assembly to consider the pastorate of the church. After making it a matter of prayer he expressed his willingness to come and the church in a recent business meeting confirmed the call of the Board. Bro. Steil is expected to come as soon as he can be released from the Cleveland Assembly.

* * *

We praise God for the increasing interest in THE LATTER RAIN EVANGEL, and rejoice that the paper is entering new homes. Our only aim (Continued on page 23)

“Be Ye Transfigured”

The Example, the Command, the Enduement

Pastor Harry Steil, Cleveland, O., in The Stone Church Convention, May 24, 1931



FROM the book of Romans, 12:2, we shall ask you to take this text into your heart: “Be not conformed to this world; but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect will of God.” And in II. Cor. 3:18, “But we all, with unveiled face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even by the Spirit of the Lord.”

We have read the passages which tell us about the transfiguration of the Lord Jesus Christ. We shall ask you to remember a change of the English text, on which scholars rightfully agree, in the reading of Rom. 12:2; the word “transformed” should be “transfigured”, the very same word as is used of the Lord Jesus Christ in His heavenly experience on the mountain-top. And in II. Cor. 3:18 the rendering should be, “We are being transfigured,” from one phase of divine character to a higher phase of divine character, and then the power transforming—*“even by the Spirit of the Lord.”* We have here first, an example of transfiguration; secondly, we have given to us, the command that each of us shall be transfigured, and thirdly, we have placed at our disposal the means by which we each may be transfigured.

Let us look, first of all, at the example: “After six days Jesus taketh with Him Peter, James and John, and bringeth them up into a high mountain apart, and was transfigured before them.” Luke tells us that “as He prayed the fashion of His countenance was changed.” It was not the glory that came upon Him from above, not an external glory, but an *inner* glory that was veiled by the flesh of the Son of God, that glory that had been veiled for thirty years. On this day His countenance, His body, His very clothing were all aglow with that inner glory that was rightfully His, “and His countenance did shine as the sun,” and the disciples fell at His feet, we are told, “as dead.”

People have various ideas as to why the Lord was here transfigured. There is one school of teaching that tells us that the Lord Jesus was

here transfigured, that Moses and Elijah appeared unto Him and that God the Father spoke out of heaven personally, all because Jesus needed strengthening before going to Jerusalem to be crucified. He had faithfully tried to tell His disciples that He must go to the cross; He had endeavored to tell His followers that His was the way of the cross but they would not listen to it. Just six days before when He had told them for the last time that He must go to the cross, Peter roughly takes Him by the shoulder and shakes Him, and says, “Far be it from Thee, Lord!” They would not have it. And so, some like to believe that because the Lord could find no human heart to sympathize, because He could find no human soul with whom He could have holy conversation about His death at Jerusalem, that He climbed that mountain and heaven came down to sympathize with Him. Well, that is a beautiful thought, and it warms my heart to dwell upon it, but I am convinced that it is not the prime purpose of the transfiguration. It is true enough, the disciples would not see the necessity of the cross because they all had their selfish ambitions. None of us can get the will of God when there is a selfish ambition in the way. We never can determine what the will of God is when we are living too much after the things of the world. It is impossible for such a person to get the will of God. The Apostle Paul gives us here the divine condition upon which we can know the will of God: “Be not conformed to this world, but be ye transfigured by the renewing of your mind that ye may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.” And so the disciples could not see the will of God through Gethsemane and Calvary. They were selfish. Peter had a vision of one day soon seeing the Lord upon a glorious Messianic throne, and that right soon every Roman conqueror would be driven into the Mediterranean Sea. He saw glorious Israel, that was not only rich in her own possessions, ruling from sea to sea, when the Messiah would come, and he was convinced that Jesus was the Messiah. Peter had quite an ambition that in that imminent day when Jesus

would reign on earth, he would have that sword with which he cut off the high priest's servant's ear, buckled on with a big, bright belt and with epaulets on his shoulders and a handsome uniform, dressed as Minister of War. And I have an idea that Judas wanted to be Secretary of the Treasury, and James, Secretary of State; and I shouldn't wonder if the converted publican, Matthew, had his eye on the job of being Collector of Internal Revenue. They all had their earthly ambitions of reigning with the conquering King who would subdue the Roman conquerors, and could not see the will of God; and so people say that God took Jesus up there to let Him know that if the earth didn't understand, heaven did. Perhaps that motive was secondary, but I am sure it was not primary.

There are others who say that since the Lord had "come to His own and His own had received Him not," since He had offered Himself as the Lamb of God and since the world and Israel would not receive His divine seal and credentials as God's sacrificial Lamb, that God was giving the Lord Jesus a chance to go back to heaven the way He came; that up there on that mountain He would allow the veil of that earthly flesh to drop off and in His pure, immaculate spirit He could go back to heaven, back to His throne and the worship of angels, back to all that was rightfully His in the glory, but that I absolutely refuse to believe. He came as the Lamb of God slain before the foundation of the world; He came planning His whole life that it might be freely poured out on Calvary for you and me, and He would have never been satisfied throughout all eternity had He gone back with His mission incomplete and the world lost and sunken in sin and shame for all eternity.

"Well," you ask, "what do you believe, Mr. Steil? Why did the transfiguration occur?" I believe it occurred for your sake and mine. I believe it occurred for the sake of those believers who because of their selfish and earthly ambitions could not discern the will of God. I believe that of the transfiguration it could be said as of that wondrous scene in the temple a few weeks later when Jesus lifted up His voice and said, "Father, glorify Thy Name," and the clouds of heaven's portals rolled back like thunder and a voice called back and said, "I have both glorified and will glorify it again." And

the Lord said, after a holy pause, "This voice came not for Me but for your sakes." I believe that was the purpose of the Transfiguration, that they might be strengthened in the most holy faith and might discern that good and perfect will of God concerning the Lord Jesus. Yes, it is true that heaven was concerned in the coming crucifixion; it is true that Moses and Elias appeared unto Him, and I love the way Luke expresses it, for it gives us a little glimpse of things up there in the glory. It says, "Moses and Elias appeared unto Him in glory", that is in glorified form. Moses, we remember, was taken up in his spirit by God into heaven, while Michael took care of the burying of his body, Jude tells us. Elijah was raptured, both spirit and body into the glory. So here we have one who according to the natural body died, and one who according to the natural body was transfigured, both spirit and body, in glorified state he went up into the presence of God. Moses had been gone for 1500 years, and Elijah had been in heaven 900 years. In glorified form they came back here and conversed with the Lord about His coming decease at Jerusalem.

Peter never forgot this scene. Peter, who only a week previously had said, "Thou art the Christ, the Son of the Living God," nearly turned into a Unitarian on this occasion. When the great weight of glory had lifted, then it was that Peter was able to find his tongue. He said, "Lord, it is wonderful to be here. Let us build three tabernacles, three places of worship, one for Moses, one for Elijah, and one for Thee." Ah yes, that is the world's idea of the Lord today! Jesus was a great leader, as great as Moses. He was a great prophet, as great as Elijah. He was a wonderful man, His sayings are as inspired as are the sayings of Moses; His spirit was as fiery, as pure, as consecrated to God as was Elijah's, and they tell us that Jesus Christ, Moses and Elijah are all men that show us what God can do through consecrated humanity. That is their teaching today, that Jesus Christ was a great man but not the divine Son of God. And Peter nearly fell into the snare of it there, and instead of becoming what the Catholics like to believe was the head of the church, he nearly started a Unitarian Movement—"Let us have a place here on an equal plane, one for Moses, one for Elijah,

and one for You." I imagine our Lord's patience gave out about that time. Peter was so blind he could not see the need of the cross, he who a week before had gotten the revelation of the Divine Son of God, should presume even to dare to put those two holy men, Moses and Elijah on the same plane of equality as the Son of God, and the Lord thought it was time to speak. He thrust the heavens aside and thundered down to Peter's naked soul, "This is My Son. He is not like Moses, He is not like Elijah, He is not like any man. He is my beloved Son, hear ye Him."

The rebuking power of God was now felt where before they felt the weight of His glory. But when God's stinging rebuke is lifted and the frightened disciples are wishing that the mountain would swallow them up, the same tender, compassionate Jesus is still with them. When they lifted up their eyes their vision was filled with just one thing—Jesus only. Ah! there is a place where all the double sight is gone, where God can give us a single eye so that our whole body is full of light, where the whole vision of our sight is full of the vision and person and glory of Jesus.

Now I want you to look for a moment at the command. Concerning this transforming experience that came to the Lord Jesus, the command rings down to the church of Christ, then and now, "*Be ye transfigured.*" Well how can we have such a holy experience as Jesus, we who are even greater failures than impulsive Peter, than self-centered James? How could we be even witnesses to His transfiguration, much less experience transforming power ourselves? The inspired book tells us that "we with unveiled faces beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord are transfigured from glory to glory, even by the Spirit of the Lord." You know it is wonderful to be on the Mount of Transfiguration, but it is also wonderful to have the kind of transforming experience that we can pass on to others.

I shall never forget, early in my Christian experience I read of a testimony meeting D. L. Moody held on one occasion. A man got up and with quite a note of pride and self-exaltation in his tone said, "I thank God I have been on the Mt. of Transfiguration for five years and I have never come down." Moody smelled a

rat and leaning over his pulpit said, "Brother, how many souls have you led to Jesus in those five years?" He hung his head and said, "None." "Well," said Mr. Moody, "I would not like to be on that kind of a mountain." There is a transforming experience in which the Lord is lifted up in our lives and men brought to Him. Not only do we need it but we must have it in these days. God expects it of us. He says, "Be not conformed but be ye transfigured," and then the means is placed at our disposal, "even by the Spirit of the Lord." I want you to notice that it is progressive. With the Lord Jesus it wasn't an acquired experience. It was one He had from eternity and will have to eternity. It was merely the flesh that had veiled and cloaked His Divinity for thirty years; it acted like this electric globe does hanging above me here. The inner glory used the body like an electric filament, so the glory of God just burned thru and glorified the flesh. People get a touch of that sometimes when they receive the Baptism in the Holy Spirit; their faces will shine with an unearthly light, their whole body will have a celestial glow about them. And God says we may have that transforming experience now. Jesus had it without measure. We get it by degree. And it is a progressive experience. We could not stand getting it all at once. We would simply blow to atoms. You know those great big power lines over our country have what they call transformers, with a high voltage of power that surges thru the lines before they go into our home and give us a few hundred amperes of power, it is gradually toned down so that when it comes into our homes it will not blow us to pieces—the transformer is there to give us the power in the little way we can take it in. So the Apostle says this matter of being changed from glory to glory is a progressive one. I am glad he puts it in the present, progressive tense. The Greek renders it, "We are being changed from one phase of divine character to a higher phase of divine character, even by the Spirit of the Lord."

You know there is a dangerous attitude that many of our people have gotten into that runs about like this: "I am saved, I am under the blood; my name is written in heaven, I have been filled with the Holy Spirit. It is true I have my weaknesses; once in a while I suc-

cumb to my weaknesses and do not in the highest way glorify God, but I confess it, and ask God for Jesus' sake to cleanse me and He is faithful and just to forgive." And the next week you go out and do it all over again. Why you might as well join the Catholic Church if you do that sort of thing. You will find that attitude everywhere these days, a letting down and compromising. We have not given up our confidence in God; we haven't relinquished our faith in God, but in some cases we are imposing on the forbearance of God. Here is the attitude of many: "I am still in the flesh, I am living in the world, and when Jesus comes all that will be taken out of me. The Bible says I shall be changed in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye; this mortal will put on immortality, etc.", and they actually believe these sinful weaknesses will then drop off, and by one instant act of final and complete sanctification God will take them, blameless, home to glory. It is true, it does say we shall be changed and that "this mortal shall put on immortality," but they are reading it this way: "This carnal shall put on spirituality," tho it doesn't read that way in the Bible. The only change that will take place when Jesus comes is that this mortal body, on which death now holds a mortgage, will be changed to immortality. Listen to me! Our characters, our natures, our habits, our manner of living, our personal peculiarities, if they are not changed now by the help of God and the sanctifying power of the Holy Spirit, they will never be changed when Jesus comes. Now is the time to have them changed, and that is the meaning of this transfiguring power, this power that worketh in us, conforming us more and more like unto the Lord. And it says "we are being changed" step by step. I am glad for that. Some folks have a bull-frog religion. I used to watch frogs when I was a boy, sitting in the sun hour after hour and brousing. And then if you poked them with a little twig they would give a tremendous jump and land several yards away and there they would sit again until you gave them another poke. The other little creatures had to travel that same space inch by inch but they got there before the bull frog because he had such long times of letting down between jumps. This experience of being transfigured is a progressive one. It should be. "We all with unveiled face beholding as in a glass

the glory of the Lord, are being changed from glory to glory, to glory and to glory, even by the Spirit of the Lord."

I suppose you have heard the much-used story of the farmer. He was a Christian, but during the busy Spring season he had been spraying fruit trees to kill the bugs. He didn't have time to go to Church that Spring but sent the family to represent him. He was so busy getting the bugs off the trees he hadn't time to look after the bugs on his soul. He rather forgot that what God wants in heaven is not prize fruit, but prize people, washed in the blood, sanctified by the Spirit, made perfect by the life of Christ within. So after a hard day's work he went to bed and dreamed that the Lord had come. The trump had sounded and He who is the Resurrection and the Life had called. He seemed to be able to look out on yonder hillside in the family burying plot and saw those whom he had laid away in Jesus ascending to meet the Lord in the air. He saw his wife and daughters going up and he rejoiced in it all, that the Lord had come and they were being caught away. And then someone said, "How about you? You are not moving up." He began to call on God, "Lord, do not leave me behind. Take me up too." Suddenly he felt a power within him lift him up, and he said, "Thank God! I am going too." Suddenly he felt a terrific bump on the head, and there he was in the air, kicking and squirming. What was holding him? Collecting his senses he found he was caught in the branches of his prize apple tree. Looking up he saw his loved ones in the glory and he was stuck in his tree. The next day he began his life differently. He made up his mind he must take time to be holy, that there must be time for waiting on God, time to let God breathe into him the divine life. He began to see it would be better to have fruit in his life than on his trees, and sought the Lord to transform him from glory to glory.

"As He prayed, the fashion of His countenance changed and He was transfigured before them." Beloved, the command comes to you and to me today, "Be not conformed to this world, but be ye transfigured by the renewing of your mind," and then you "may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God," And "we all, with unveiled face, be-

(Continued on page 21)

Hundreds Laying Down their Lives for the Gospel in Russia

Converted Atheists and Anarchists Now Preaching the Gospel

Paul Peterson in The Stone Church, May 27, 1931



HERE are just two verses of Scripture I wish to read, and I trust you will not only listen to them now but meditate upon them in the coming days. Proverbs 24:11, 12, "If thou forbear to deliver them that are drawn unto death, and those that are ready to be slain; if thou sayest, Behold, we knew it not; doth not he that pondereth the heart consider it? and he that keepeth thy soul, does not he know it? and shall not he render to every man according to his works?"

We see from this there is no excuse when we hear of the needs of the great harvest field where there are millions of men and women who are in darkness and who are waiting for the only message that will bring help. A great responsibility rests upon us. We in America have little conception of what is occurring on the world's great mission fields. Some of us have seen conditions, and as we have beheld the suffering and the spiritual hunger of the oppressed we have come back and confessed that we will never be the same again. Oh that God would make it possible for many of us to go and see conditions as they are! to observe the hunger of the people for natural and spiritual food. Then upon our return we would have a different view of life, and different motives would actuate us.

The Russian mission field is one of the latest to be opened up to missionary work, and it is the largest field in the world. Prior to the World War it was very difficult to do Christian work in the great Russian Empire. But conditions have greatly changed and it was the War that brought this about. If it had not been for the World War we probably would not have had the opportunity of bringing the message of salvation to the Russians and other Slavs of Eastern Europe, and to those in Manchuria where today there are thousands of Russian refugees. These people have been held in the grip of Satan for centuries; the fetters of steel that were forged by his evil genius hundreds of years ago have bound them tightly.

When the War ceased, from eighty to ninety per cent of the Russian people could not read or write. The Greek Orthodox Church and the Roman Catholic Church thrive where ignorance abounds. Where there are ignorance and superstition the grip of these churches is most powerful. But I am glad to tell you that the strangle hold of Satan upon these nations in Eastern Europe has been loosed. I have seen thousands upon thousands of people listening to the Gospel message without hindrance from the authorities. I have witnessed large numbers standing for hours and hungrily drinking in the words of life. In Eastern Europe the singing of the Christians is so powerful that our singing in this country seems very ordinary. We cannot sing as do the Russians. Their singing brings conviction upon the people and causes them to accept salvation.

The eyes of the world have been upon Soviet Russia for the last fourteen years. I am not at all optimistic of the Soviets surrendering the helm in Russia soon. I believe they will continue in power for another twenty-five years if Jesus tarries, or some great cataclysm does not come to Europe. Their swan song has been sung often, but seemingly they are becoming stronger. Russia is bent on world revolution.

Some of our Pentecostal missionaries and believers in Russia are in exile, but others are faithfully preaching the Word; some have reached the place where they have no fear of the consequence of spreading the Gospel. If they are arrested, they submit. If they are imprisoned, exiled or shot, they take it as God's will. Our hearts are stirred as we learn of the sufferings thru which they are passing at the present time.

True missionary work is pioneer work, and pioneer work is hard; it is venturesome, but it brings fruit that is very sweet. It is wonderful when one goes to a hard place where nobody has ever been and there prays and pushes thru and wins souls for Jesus! The joy that comes from doing that kind of missionary work cannot be told! This is the type of work our brethren in the Russian mission field have had

to do since it opened up. Today finds many of them without any promise of support and without their families being properly taken care of, going out sometimes with big holes in their boots, without a change of clothing, and walking at times one hundred to two hundred miles from village to village preaching the Gospel. In Russia and Eastern Europe we have over seven hundred thousand villages, without counting the cities and towns. Today the Russian and Eastern European mission is supporting about ninety missionaries, working in twelve different countries, and this is just a drop in the bucket when compared to the millions of people in that vast territory. A clarion call comes to us from those who are reaching out for the Bread of Life. Recently there was such a remarkable awakening in Eastern Poland that some of our students who were attending the Bible School at Danzig had to leave and go back to their districts in order to take care of the revival.

Gelezko Vratheff of Bulgaria was a Greek Orthodox believer, but wasn't satisfied with what the priest told him. In his search after the truth he at last heard the pure Gospel and was saved. He then went about in the villages telling others of what the Lord had done for him, which made his father very angry. The custom in Bulgaria is for the son and his family to live in the same house with the parents and work for them until they die when he inherits the property. Bro. Vratheff's father became enraged because his son had deserted the Greek Orthodox faith and threatened to disinherit him. The young man weighed carefully his father's threats, and decided to go with Jesus. Before his ostracism our Mission undertook his support at the suggestion of Bro. N. Nikoloff, and today he is a faithful preacher of the Word. His cousin, by the name of Dinu Deleff, was also saved, and *his* father threatened him in a similar manner. He did not fear ostracism and also became one of our missionaries. A brother in the state of Washington, paralyzed from his hips down, is lying in a hospital, and thru some money he receives he is supporting Bro. Deleff.

We have several brethren who are doing splendid work for God in Poland. They worked in America a few years ago and saved up money. Then God called them to Eastern Europe and they went back to where they were born and there began real pioneer work. Both the au-

thorities and the people were against them, but they worked on, and now sometimes eighty, ninety and one hundred are saved thru their ministry every month. One of these brethren, S. Niedzwiecki, took his life's savings and used them to support young men whom he encouraged to step out for God. Last week I received a letter from Brother G. H. Schmidt, our Field Superintendent, who recently has been in the home of Bro. Niedzwiecki, and he writes most encouragingly of our brother's work. He has been taken before judges again and again. Some of our men have been jailed several times but God has given our brother the right words every time, and he always has been released. Today the authorities look upon him with great respect. They know he is an honest, sincere man and because of their respect many people go to listen to his preaching. The company of the saved is increasing week by week in that part of Northeastern Poland known as White Russia.

We have other brethren who have been atheists and anarchists but are now preaching the Gospel. Paul S. Rahneff, an atheist, was saved in New York City thru the singing of a Gospel song at a street meeting, and now is our missionary in Bulgaria. Another brother, also saved in New York City, was an anarchist, and he is today proclaiming the good news in Poland. A brother in England, a former Christadelphian, was given a fund for distributing Christian literature. He sent some to Ukraina, to a certain Dubrovski, who was saved thru this literature tho never having heard a preacher. The Greek Orthodox Church opposed the new convert, and the civil authorities were also against him, doing their utmost to stop his activities, but he continued faithfully to preach the Word until the Greek Orthodox priest himself was saved, as well as a number of others.

I want to relate just one instance from the ministry of Brother N. J. Poysti, our missionary among the Russians in Harbin, Manchuria. He came to the city of Nikolsk, which is about 100 miles from Vladivostok in Siberia. There he began to work in a little mission where there were just a few believers. Our brother is a man of faith and the company of believers so increased that they had to get a larger hall. One day while walking down one of the principal streets he saw a large

theatre, and asked the director if he could rent the large auditorium for the following Sunday morning. The director, who was an atheist, said, "Oh no, we cannot rent you this, but we will give you a smaller room which seats about three hundred. There have been others here who held religious services and they were failures." But Brother Poysti insisted on having the large auditorium, and finally the director said, "You call tomorrow and I will let you know what the other directors think." He 'phoned and was told he could have it. The previous day he had asked the director, "How many do you think will come to the meeting?" The man responded, "About three hundred." Our brother said that he had a Triune God and so would multiply 300 by 3, which would give 900. He prayed earnestly and Sunday morning when he and his wife walked toward the theatre they saw crowds of people on the street and wondered where they were going. They were astonished to find they were all entering the theatre. Upon reaching the vestibule they saw the director much excited, shouting, "Where is Poysti? Where is Poysti? I must call the police. The galleries are overfilled and I am afraid something will happen to the building." The auditorium seated about 3,000 and it was overcrowded at the first service. Among those saved that first morning was a woman who was the leading Spiritualist in that city. In the meetings which followed, the place was well filled and many were saved.

I would like to speak just a little on the sufferings of the people of Eastern Europe. Some make bread from a little flour mixed with a kind of seed found in the forest, and it is so bad for their systems that their limbs swell. In the Northeastern part of Poland the country is swampy, the water poor and the people have a yellowish color. It is not easy for men and women to leave America and go to a place like that, but those who do it are finding greater joy than those who remain at home. It pays to go out and labor for the Lord in spite of many hardships.

In Russia we do not have a few isolated cases of extreme suffering, but literally hundreds are laying down their lives. It is reported that on one occasion the secret police called together 300 believers and inquired whether they were "believers" or sympathizers with the godless. Then they said to them, "You can go home and think

it over." A few days later they were called again, taken into a dark room and there examined by the secret police. Out of the 300 there were approximately 200 who remained true to the Lord; 100 turned back. Of those 200 a number were killed. They paid for their faith in Jesus with their lives.

When I was on the field a young friend of mine departed for Soviet Russia, disguising himself by letting his beard grow. We had a prayer-meeting before he left, asking God's protection upon him during this hazardous journey. He got into Soviet Russia, but after three or four years he was arrested, with four other preachers. These five brethren, without trial, were sentenced to two years at hard labor on the Island of Solovetsky in the White Sea. Early one February morning these preachers of the Gospel, whose only offense was faithfulness to God, were taken out of prison and with shackles on their wrists, marched down the station platform between two rows of soldiers, to the train. The believers stood back of the gates and didn't dare say a word, but they spoke to them with their eyes. Two brethren had been permitted to bring food and clothing to the car, for the long journey up into the icy north; they handed it to the guards and the train moved off. With heavy hearts the believers went back to the church, but crushing as it was, it did the church good. If your pastor and deacons were sent into exile it would make you far more earnest Christians than you are. We do not know our true standing, spiritually, until we are put to the test. The believers in Russia are being put to the acid test.

These brethren were made to cut timber in the far north, and this friend of mine perished. He lived on moss and other things he could find in the forest under the snow, and at last became exhausted and was left to die in a temperature thirty degrees below zero. Some of our Pentecostal ministers are at the present time on this Island and other places of exile. We received a heart-rending letter recently from Mrs. J. E. Voronaeff, saying, "My husband is off in Siberia. Everything has been taken from me. Help me and my boys to get out of this country." Alas! we cannot aid them in leaving Russia as our government has no relations with the Soviet government. But we can help them by prayer.

A Russian brother writes as follows: "I urge

you to lay up spiritual strength now in this your good time, that you may be able to stand when the testings come to you." This is the kind of advice we need in America. These are our good times but evil days are coming, and we need to lay up spiritual strength that we may be able to stand in the testing days. Let me read what a Russian sister writes: "Once in search for my husband, a preacher, I drew near to a very long line of banished men, possibly a thousand. It is impossible properly to describe this scene. They were exhausted and soldiers tried to keep them in line. Some fell but they were upheld by others. Beside them were their heart-broken wives, not permitted to help them. The men carried on their shoulders small bundles containing their belongings. The road led up a mountain-side and I thought of our Savior climbing up Calvary. Just as we came to the station I caught a glimpse of my husband. He saw me and raised his eyes to heaven, giving me an unspoken message that I should meet him there. Just at that moment he was roughly pushed by a guard into a railway freight car. Of course, I could not attempt to see him. You can imagine such a scene, hundreds of women and children sobbing convulsively, some of them falling to the earth in a dead faint. I ran from the place as from a cemetery. I felt sure I would never again see my husband on this earth. It was only the Lord who gave me strength. When I returned to my home I knew my next real danger was the loss of my children. The government had threatened to take them. I trust and pray that the Lord will enable me to keep my children. I was ordered not to leave my home and was taxed 500 rubles (\$250.00) because my husband was a preacher. Now we are threatened with the confiscation of our goods because we cannot pay. But we have the Lord and thank Him for everything. After some time the word came that my husband went to be with the Lord. Sometimes it seems to me that the believers in Russia will have to face the arena like the early Christians."

They are facing death today. We have it very comfortable here in America. No one dares to molest us in our worship. We are laying by in store for what is supposed to be a rainy day. In fact some of us live as tho we

were going to stay here always. Do you know what helped to bring on the Russian Revolution, and what has brought about the anti-religious protest? It was false piety. There are many in America today, just as there were in Russia in those days, who believe in God but live as tho' there were no God.

But what a joy it is to help men and women who are heroes of the Christian faith! I thank God for the privilege of having been with them and I am looking forward to the time when I can go back and eat of their humble fare, sleep on boards and at the same time feel the warmth of their spiritual fervor and worship in a way we know nothing of in America. We ought with gladness of heart help them get the Gospel message. We should aid those who are out there preaching that they may be strengthened and enabled to continue the ministry of the Word of God to the millions of needy people in this part of the world. I look at things much more seriously than before I went to the mission field, and I do not believe in playing church. Many in America are playing church instead of going out and winning men and women for God. He never intended us to be merely Church members, but soul winners. May the Lord help us to heed this last call to go and preach the Gospel to every creature.

Under the Cross in Russia

C. Martens is a Mennonite preacher who has written a thrilling story of Christian suffering first at the hands of the Russian church in the old days and latterly from Bolshevik cruelty.

Martens himself has been, during the Bolshevik persecution, driven and hunted until on one occasion to escape he and his wife stood concealed in a ditch among the reeds with water to their breasts. Here they passed two and a half days. The G. P. U. finally caught him and brought him to examination. He told them that he preached nothing regarding the Soviet government but only Jesus Christ and the salvation of the soul. "When they saw that they could not convict me of anything they brought me into a room which I cannot describe; which, in fact, if I described I should be pitilessly killed. Eight hours I passed in that stinking hell, and when I was let out I was nearly insane; my thoughts wandered, and I could not go alone up the staircase. They brought me back to my cell, and there I lay on my bed shaking with disgust and horror."

Winning Trophies in Dark Japan

The Reward of Patient Sowing

Miss Marie Juergensen in The Stone Church Convention, May 31, 1931



I WANT to call your attention to two short sentences found in II. Cor. 5:18, 19, "And all things are of God who hath reconciled us to Himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation" and "hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation." Our message to a dying world is that they should be reconciled to God and to be reconciled is to have peace with God. Paul says here that "*God hath given to us,*" not to angels but to you and to me who are redeemed by the blood of Jesus Christ, this blessed privilege of pleading with men and women to make peace with God. I am so happy that He gave me the privilege of going to the regions beyond and of having a place in His vineyard in dark Japan. Our one aim has been in Christ's stead to beseech men and women to make their peace with God. "He hath committed *unto us* the ministry of reconciliation." I trust as you listen to the message that you too will say, "Unto us, unto me, has He committed this wonderful message." Jesus said, "Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature." He said this, not only to a company of missionaries but to each one of us.

I rejoice tonight that this wonderful, glorious message of Jesus Christ has brought peace into many troubled hearts in Japan; God has worked and we have seen many faces that have been marred by sin lighted up because the peace of God has come into their souls. I trust that you will be one with us to carry the Gospel to these darkened lands. We know we are speaking to a missionary church and for this our hearts rejoice.

In one of the cities in Japan, down one of its ordinary roads which is about ten feet wide and not paved, we want to picture to you a young man coming; a young man dressed as a student, wearing a rather loose Japanese kimono. In Japan men and women alike wear the kimono with just a little difference; the sleeves in a man's kimono are sewed down to the kimono while the woman's sleeves are loose. As this young man came down the street his attention

was drawn to an unusual sign on one of the gate posts on which were written the words, "Anyone who wishes, come in!" Was that not a strange sign? He thought he would stop and examine the house which had such an extraordinary sign at its gate post. As every household in Japan has its name written on the gate post, this man stopped to examine the name, which he immediately recognized to be that of a Westerner. How strange a sign to put out! The invitation was tempting for he had been studying English in school and he thought it would be nice to practise his English and so he came in, stood at the door and called. He was invited in and found himself sitting in the little reception room in the missionary's house. You may well imagine how excited he would be for he was studying just how to pronounce his first greeting to this white man in English. After a while the missionary, a man with grey hair who had been in Japan for many years, came into the room and set this man perfectly at ease, helping him a little with his first sentence and also greeting him kindly. The young man spent a very interesting hour or two and before he left the home he had found out something more than just information concerning America or American customs; he had heard of a Savior and that God loved him so much that He gave His only begotten Son to die for him. He was very much impressed with all he had heard and when the kind welcome to return was given he did not refuse but made occasional visits during the coming months; over and over again he heard the story of Jesus and finally he came to the mission station itself.

He was very much interested in the singing; never in all his life had he heard people sing from the depths of their hearts as if they meant it, and he was deeply impressed, but being a student in the college, he was ridiculed by his friends for trying to study Christianity. By the way he talked to them they saw he was deeply impressed and almost persuaded. But he decided that it might be better for him to let Christianity go if he were to make a success of himself and reach his ambitions, for he was planning a career. Months went by and the cold

season came on; in Japan it becomes very cold. Some people think we have a very warm climate where we need no stoves but Japan is two thousand miles in length and has various climates; where we are the winters are very cold. As the young man of our story sat trying to warm his hands over a few pieces of charcoal put in the ashes of a small box, the only means by which the Japanese keep warm, he thought again of his visits to the missionary; he remembered that the missionary's home had a stove in it and if he could go and visit him now he surely could get warm, so he decided to once again make a visit and this time he was more deeply impressed, not so much by the warmth of the stove as by the warmth of the love which the missionary showed. But the enemy tempted him again and for months he was not seen either at the home or at the mission station.

One day, while on business, he had to pass by the mission station and as he drew near he realized a service was going on. He decided he would hide his face so no one would recognize him as he passed by and yet he could not refrain from looking at the characters in front of the church building and then he said, "I will go in and listen for a few moments and then before the service is over I will slip out." The building was packed when he slipped in but he was not unnoticed by the missionary and before he had time to slip out and put on his shoes the missionary was at his side saying, "It is a long time since you have been here, but all of this time we have been praying for you and God brought you here tonight." Down in his heart he said, "God brought me here? That is a strange thing to say. I myself decided to come and how can the missionary say that God brought me here?" Over and over again the words rang in his ears, "God brought you to this meeting." Was God, the living God, such a wonderful Being that He could guide his steps and direct him?

After a time a certain notice came into his hands announcing a Christian meeting in another part of the city and he decided to attend. He wished very much to hear a Japanese Christian give his experience of how he became a Christian. As he came into this district he walked up and down the narrow streets but could not find the mission. He stopped and asked a passer-by, "Could you tell me where

there is a Christian church in this neighborhood?" The reply he got was, "I am sorry, I do not know of any Christian church for I am a stranger here." He walked on a little further and asked someone else and he too said he was a stranger and did not know of the church. He walked back that long main street again and wondered why he couldn't find the church and in his heart thoughts of resentment arose: "Here I am all prepared to go and hear about the Christian's God and He doesn't even help me find the church." He thought he was doing God a favor by coming to the mission station and why didn't He now lead him to the place he was seeking? He decided he would bother no more about Christianity so he walked toward the street car with the intention of returning home. But just as he got to the street car his shoe strap broke, so leaning against a house by the side of the road he took off his shoe and hunted around for some string with which to fix it. As he was standing there mending his shoe strap it seemed as if someone spoke to him, that if he would pray and ask God where that church was, God might answer prayer. Didn't the missionary say that God always answered prayer? He thought, "Well, I shall try. It is true, I haven't prayed." So he closed his eyes as he had seen the missionary do on the street corner, and said, "Oh living God, will You please show me where that church is?" After he had mended his shoe he decided he would go back, and walking just around the corner he saw the mission station, wondering how it could have been possible for him to have passed so near before without noticing it. He went in and heard a Gospel message which was the means of him giving himself to God.

I have told you this story to show in what different ways we must sow the seed, and how it pays to exercise patience with those who come to inquire. Perhaps the missionary was sometimes disturbed by the frequent visits but he was always glad to give the Gospel message to this benighted soul until God Himself gave the light and he was saved. Today this young man has given up all his own plans and hope of a career and he is now a messenger of the Gospel to his own people.

Japan is a land where one needs a great deal of patience in bringing the Gospel message; a missionary from that country was once asked

what was needed in an outfit and after enumerating a number of things such as blankets and flannels, the missionary added, "and last but not least it is necessary to take a good supply of *patience*." I am sure what she said was very true.

At one time our Gospel tent was taken to a new district. It is always a great joy to us to go into a new district where the story of Jesus has never been heard. In the past it has been difficult because we have other stations which we must keep going at the same time. But at this particular season God definitely led and gave us a fine location. We had all sorts of hindrances but by His strength He enabled us



Misses Marie and Agnes Juergensen

to go ahead and the meeting was begun. God gave us many precious souls; there were at least eighty who sought God for salvation during the ten days. Among this number was a young man who had a very wonderful experience. He came into the tent with simply a desire to have a good time. He had never heard the story of Jesus but thought it would be interesting to watch what was going on. He didn't care for the "Jesus God;" in fact he was perfectly indifferent to any religion and was solely bent on having a good time. He had lost his parents when eleven years of age and at this time he was the only one left of a family of six. He was given to his relatives who treated him very cruelly so he ran away from them and led a very sinful life, drinking and smoking at the age of thirteen.

He came to the city of Tokyo and there continued his wicked ways, all the time having the idea that no one cared for him and so there was nothing to stop him from any depths of sin that he might be tempted to go to.

As I think of this man I am always reminded of that hymn, "A Hiding Place," and especially that line, "*Almighty love arrest that man*." What was it in that tent service that arrested his attention and held him spell bound? It was the fact that Jesus gave His life for him. Why? Because He loved him so. He was deeply impressed by the wonderful love of God of which he got a glimpse for the first time in his life, and it was this love that brought him to the Savior's feet. He was remarkably saved and a few nights later came to make a confession of his past life. How precious it was to see God working in his heart! After his experience of salvation his testimony was always this: "There was no one in the world who cared for me; I had no parents or brothers or sisters who cared whether I was sick or dying and my heart was as cold as stone, but when I came into the tent and heard of Jesus Christ I found the Savior who loved me." Many times I have heard him in the street meetings, for our Christians take a very active part in going to their own people, and I have seen this man at different times, stand in front of hundreds of people, open a song book and sing one of the songs all by himself,

"God is love, God is love,
He loved even a sinner such as I.
Though I hated Him, still He loved me."

And though he would sing it very much out of tune, I have seen the Spirit of God move on the Japanese as they listened. Then He would add, "And this is myself; I was an enemy of God and far away from Him but His love reached me and tonight I am saved because God loved me; and as He loved me He loves you also." A few weeks before we left Japan he purchased a Bible and on the fly leaf of his new Bible he wrote in characters, "For God so loved"—and when he came to the place where the character for "world" should have been written he put instead the stamp which bore his name — in Japan the men rarely ever write their names but they have a seal which stamps it, and no two stamps are supposed to be alike. So this young man wrote: "For God so loved Tokugi that who-

soever believeth on Him should not perish but have everlasting life." How we praise God for the way this message of Jesus Christ, not only grips their hearts but makes them eternally grateful for all that God has done. Since we left Japan this man has consecrated his life to the Lord and is now studying the Word of God in the home of our native pastor so that some day he too may go to his own people with the message of God's love. I remember on one occasion he desired to go to a certain district in which we were laboring where many poor and low class people lived. The native pastor said to him, "Oh don't go alone! Would it not be better to take a brother with you to help?" But the young man answered, "No, let me go alone. You know I used to be just like they are and when they see someone just like themselves I know they will believe the story. But if I take that brother along he cannot tell the story that I can tell." He works hard from morning till night but when he has a few moments to spare he goes down to the district where the poor live and tells them the story of Jesus Christ.

I want to tell you of some of the gracious outpourings which the Lord has given us in the work in Japan. We have always labored among people who had never heard of Jesus Christ and after giving them the Word for some time our hearts long that they may be filled with the Holy Spirit. I remember well how in a tarrying service held in our first mission one of the converts received a wonderful blessing and was under the power of the Lord. Another native, feeling sure he must be very sick, ran out and came back with a glass of water to give to this man. It was with much patience that we had to teach them of the Baptism of the Holy Spirit and not until we had been in Japan for seven years did we see the first outpouring. I wish you could have been there. I often look back to that little mission station; there was nothing of comfort there but within its walls many hundreds had heard the Gospel message and now there was a group of believers seeking God and when the fire fell I am certain it was as on the day of Pentecost for there were from twenty to thirty who received the Holy Spirit during that first outpouring. It was a wonderful time and we thank God for Pentecost coming to Japan. I remember one time when our Christians were waiting on the Lord, an unconverted man came

in. After a short message we went to prayer and suddenly this man stood to his feet and moved towards the door. I had not noticed there was a stranger in our midst but thought it odd that one of our number should go to the door so we followed him. As we got near the door we found him holding his kimono tightly and saying, "Will you please open the door and let me out? I must go out. I cannot stay here for I am a great sinner and God is here. I cannot stay." Without opening the door we pointed him to Jesus who can save to the uttermost and you may be sure that he did not leave the mission until he was soundly converted.

I remember another blessed time on the occasion of a baptismal service. In Japan we have to go many miles out of the city to have such a service and after the baptismal service was over we sat down on the river bank to have a prayer meeting. We had a blessed time on that river bank and some of our number were so drunk with the Spirit they could scarcely walk. At another time, just as the native worker was closing the meeting with prayer we felt the tremors of an earthquake. No matter how frequently we have earthquakes they are very hard to become accustomed to, and it is always very hard for me; so when the building began to sway back and forth I couldn't pray any longer but held on to the organ looking to see if the building would fall. I felt I couldn't run because the Christians all sat still. What do you suppose they did? They all raised their hands and praised the Lord together. Afterwards they said to me, "Oh teacher, we thought perhaps Jesus was coming and we were so happy."

Seven years ago we went into the new district of Takinogawa where little Gospel work had been done, and which has a population of eighty-two thousand. We have had five tent campaigns in that district and though we started with only a handful of believers, we have in that very district today the first Pentecostal church and station built in Japan. Today we have a splendid group of Christians as a monument to what God has done. After having labored for fourteen years in small native buildings you can hardly realize what it means to us to have this building where we have plenty of room in the church and around the altar. As I look back over the seventeen and a half years in Japan and my four-

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The Holy Spirit's Ministry in Northwest China

Carrying the Gospel Message on the Eve of Famine, Pestilence and Rebellion

W. W. Simpson in The Stone Church Convention, May 28, 1931



I WANT to speak this evening on the relation of the Holy Spirit to missionary work, to the evangelizing of the world, because the evangelization of the world is our object in obedience to the command of our Lord Jesus Christ, "Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel to the whole creation." The first work of the Holy Spirit in the matter of evangelization is to furnish the power. The Lord's final instructions to His disciples ere His ascension makes that clear, "Ye shall receive power after that the Holy Spirit is come upon you and ye shall be witnesses unto me in Jerusalem and all Judea and unto the uttermost parts of the earth."

There is no question whatever that the object in view and the one of first importance in the mind of the Lord, was to pour out His Spirit and thereby endue His disciples with power to be witnesses unto the ends of the earth. He couldn't have stated it more plainly than it is given in Acts 1:8, and looking through the records in the Acts of the Apostles we find that it was actually fulfilled in their ministry as soon as they received the Holy Spirit. They received power to witness and began at once in Jerusalem; it was not long until they had filled that city with their doctrine and then just as soon as the scattering abroad began in connection with the martyrdom of Stephen, they went forward preaching the Word. The story was spread abroad through the visit of Philip to Samaria and there we see the same power manifested in his ministry. When two of the disciples were sent to Samaria, as soon as they arrived they prayed for the believers that they might receive the Holy Spirit so that they in turn might be qualified as witnesses.

Another relationship of the Holy Spirit to the evangelization of the world is that He is a Guide to the missionary. He not only furnishes him with power to be a witness but in the 16th chapter of the Acts we read of the Holy Spirit guiding with reference to the location and the place of his ministry. I want to emphasize this because I have found in my own experience that in order to have the power of the Spirit con-

stantly resting upon us for a successful missionary enterprise, we must be guided by the Spirit even as to our location. While the Bible is our guide as to general principles, there is no doubt whatever, from a careful study of the Acts of the Apostles that the Lord Jesus Christ intended that the Holy Spirit should constantly give special directions with regard to the evangelization of the world. In the ministry of Philip we have this thought very remarkably brought out, for while the revival in Samaria was still in progress the Spirit bade him go down to the desert region. When he arrived there he found a man riding along in a chariot and he obeyed the Spirit's command to join himself to the chariot; the result was the conversion of the Ethiopian Eunuch and the sending of the Gospel to Africa for the first time. Then in the 13th chapter of the Acts we see the guidance of the Holy Spirit in connection with the undertaking of the first missionary journey of the Apostle Paul. While they ministered to the Lord in Antioch the Spirit said, "Separate me Barnabas and Saul to the work whereunto I have called them." There was no questioning on the part of the leaders of the assembly as to whether the Spirit had a right to direct missionaries, but they fasted and prayed and laid hands on them and immediately they were sent forth on their first missionary journey. On the second missionary journey, after they had traversed those regions covered on the first, and strengthened and confirmed the disciples, they started to go into new regions where the Gospel had never been preached, but the Spirit suffered them not to go. They endeavored to go into Bythia but the Spirit said, "No," and led them in an entirely different direction. They went down to Troas and there got the call to Macedonia.

In my first going forth to the Northwestern part of China near the Tibetan border I was guided by the Word of God. The two passages to which I have already referred deeply impressed me. So I went forth in 1892 and didn't stop until I reached the Tibetan border of North China and there I opened a mission station. Then in 1912 the Lord baptized me in the Holy Spirit there on the mission station and started to work

with me in mighty power, but the missionary society with which I was connected rejected this operation of the Spirit of God and I was forced to resign from that society and had to return to this country. While in a camp-meeting the Spirit spoke just as directly to me as He had spoken long ago to Paul; it was in Chinese thru a sister who knew not one word of Chinese, and told me to go back to Taochow on the Tibetan border, so I was sent forth by the Holy Spirit, sailing again on February 4th, 1918. The Lord opened the way until we reached the border and as soon as we arrived on that mission field the Spirit of God was poured out and in two months, four assemblies, one with a membership of about one hundred and fifty saints, were set in order. Not only that, but in a very short time the way was opened for us to go forth and hold meetings in other places. We received letters inviting us here and there, and wherever we went the Spirit was poured out in Pentecostal power.

I also want to tell you how the Spirit guided with regard to a very important matter. I didn't know what things were coming upon us; it had been prophesied that the wrath of God was to be poured out on that part of China. Our mission field has an area of about one hundred and twenty thousand square miles with a population of five million and in that region we have fifty assemblies with a total membership of more than three thousand followers of the Lord, of whom three-fourths have received the Baptism of the Holy Spirit. In 1918 we gathered together all the workers and delegates from the assemblies for our general conference. It was at a time of great unrest in China; Bolshevistic propaganda had spread almost all through that country and wars, rebellion, lawlessness and banditry were rampant throughout the land; naturally I felt a great weight of responsibility resting upon me. The American Consul had sent letters to us asking us to leave our places in the interior and come to the sea-coast where we could be protected but without the leading of the Holy Spirit we dared not leave the work; so my wife and son, myself and the family remained at our post. We had called this convention and at the very beginning of it I resigned from all my offices as evangelist and superintendent of the work in that district; not to men, but I resigned it into the hands of the Lord who had appointed me. But immediately the Lord spoke by the Spirit and re-

appointed me in such a way that everyone present recognized it to be the appointment of the Lord. Not only this but He appointed many others present for various places. All this was in preparation for something important; on the closing day the Lord spoke bidding our Chinese pastor and myself to make an entire tour of that mission field and hold meetings in all the temples. We obeyed and started on our journey on the 19th of February. It took us nearly to the end of October to finish the work which the Lord had appointed us to do. There were mighty manifestations of God in our midst so that throughout that mission field the people, not only the Christians but also the unbelievers, had the testimony given to them. This was all in preparation for what was ahead. Looking back on it now there is an indescribable joy and satisfaction in my own heart that we obeyed the Lord because immediately following our tour the great famine began. The rain ceased just about the time we started on the trip and during all those months we were travelling we got wet only once for in many sections there was not rain enough to make the water drip from the eaves of the houses for twelve long months. Not only did we have the famine but two months later the great Mohammedan rebellion broke and it has continued until today. Following the famine there was the pestilence which swept away tens of thousands of people until there was no one left to bury the dead and the corpses were left lying on the streets unburied for months. We had war, famine, pestilence, persecution, banditry and lawlessness of all kinds, with the result that during those three years 1928, 1929 and 1930 more than half of the population of that mission field has perished by these plagues. The Lord knew it was coming, that the wrath of God was to be poured out from the cup of His indignation, therefore He sent us in the power of the Holy Spirit so that the people throughout the country might have a chance to repent and turn to Him. For more than half of them it was their last chance to hear the Gospel and believe on the Lord Jesus Christ.

Friends, I believe that what has happened in China will take place in other parts of the world and it is only as we walk in one hundred per cent obedience with the Holy Spirit as our Leader that the full endowment of power will rest upon us and that we will be able to accomplish the

work He has given us to do before the wrath of God is poured out upon this sin-cursed earth.

I want to give you a few illustrations of the way God witnessed in our work by the Spirit and the Word. When I was principal of the North China Pentecostal Bible School in Peking, some of the students were having a street meeting and testified for the Lord. A strong, young, military man was listening and became interested enough to come to the meetings. For about three weeks he came every Sunday and finally when the altar call was given he came forward and I prayed with

him; he wept until there was a great pool of tears in front of him. The following week he attended the mid-week prayer service but sat back near the door. We sang a song and then he stood up and said he wanted to confess his sins. He came right to the front and began telling us how he had once been employed in a Russian Gold mine in Manchuria and there he had managed to steal enough gold to make him a rich man. Then he lived

a very profligate life until he had wasted all that he had formerly stolen. Being penniless, he joined the police force and while thus engaged he neglected his duty and was reported and reprimanded. Hatred settled down in his heart against the man who reported him so he planned a very wicked deed; he bought a dagger and waylaid him on a lonely spot stabbing the man to death. After he had finished his confession he said, "Now you say here that Jesus took our place on the cross and died for us there settling the whole

account of our sins. You say that the death on the cross is what we rightly deserved, but crucifixion would be too light a punishment for me. What I deserve is to be taken according to the old Chinese method of punishment, and have my body dismembered while still alive; cut off my ears and nose and my toes and gradually, piece by piece, dismember my body; then gather the pieces, burn them to ashes and scatter the ashes so the wind will blow them all over the world; that is what I deserve." Then he sat down. I said, "Mr. J—, though your sins have been many and

most horrible, so horrible that to hear of them gives us great pain, yet I must say that there are only two things you need to do; the first is to believe that Jesus took your place on the cross and became your sin and was made to be a curse for you in order to redeem you from the curse of the law. The second is that you accept His death as your death. If you do these two I can guarantee that you will be saved and receive the Baptism of the

Spirit. He agree and got down on his knees. I laid hands on him and soon he was prostrated and in less than five minutes he was baptized and spoke as the Spirit gave utterance. His sin was a sin unto death and he realized that he was worthy only to die but he accepted the death of Jesus as his death and the Holy Spirit came in.

Just a word more in regard to the guidance and help of the Spirit. One time a Mohamadan officer came to me and asked me to let

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"Give Ye Them to Eat"



The Heathen World Sitting at America's Gate

The Gospel among the Women in Japan

Miss Agnes Juergensen in The Stone Church Convention, May 30, 1931



It is a great privilege after a term of seven years in Japan to come home again and tell what the Lord has done. I thank God for Christian parents. When I was but five years old my father took me to a tent meeting, and there the Lord very definitely dealt with my young heart. I remember the Children's Meeting in which the Lord definitely spoke to my heart in the song,

"A volunteer for Jesus, a soldier true,
Others have enlisted, why not you?"

There and then I gave my heart Jesus. I did not know what a volunteer was, but I understood what it meant to be "a soldier true," and I asked the Lord to make me a soldier for Him.

A number of years later the Lord called father and mother to Japan, and as we were traveling to the West Coast the Lord led us to a camp meeting in Los Angeles, where He baptized my sister and myself in the Holy Spirit. A young lady, a returned missionary from China, put her arms around me and said, "And you are going to Japan? What are you going to do there?" I told her I was going to Japan to love all the little yellow boys and girls. I thank God that altho I was young He put in my heart a love for the children of Japan, to whom I feel definitely called.

I have also had much joy in working among the women. When we returned to Japan seven years ago we rented a native house in a very good district. Around about us were beautiful homes, and after we had been there some time my sister and I felt burdened for the women in those homes. We felt we should do all in our power to bring them a knowledge of our Savior. After a time of prayer we thought we would invite them into our home and explain to them the love of the Savior. Their homes were protected by fences, six and seven feet high, and we wondered how we would be able to bring them out from behind these walls, but we prayed and announced a meeting to be held in our home, for these well educated women had never heard of Jesus. A number of Christian women came from our Mission station to the meetings, but none came from the neighborhood. The Lord had a lesson of patience to teach us. We prayed and waited for one month, and for two months, and were just a little

discouraged, when one afternoon, the Lord sent in a neighbor woman. She came in to listen to the Gospel message for the first time, and before she left she was brave enough to tell us that the whole neighborhood were anxious to come to this class. They wondered if we could speak Japanese, and what they should do if we should ask them to sit on a chair, and what about making their bows, etc. She explained to us that she would go back and tell all who were waiting to come that there was nothing to be afraid of. We had twenty chairs, and had said we had faith for twenty women. The Lord gave us not only twenty but more, so that we didn't know where to put them. The class grew and their hearts became very hungry for God. They were such beautiful little women, with glossy hair and sparkling eyes, and we had the blessed privilege of pointing them to Jesus Christ. They were a class of women who had everything they wanted in the natural, beautiful homes, families, money, and beautiful clothes. What more could they want. But it was ours to tell them that they didn't have life eternal; they knew only of the life that fadeth away. Each one of these women bought a Bible, and how they did enjoy the singing and the messages from time to time. One day a little woman came into the class who told all her friends that she hated Christianity and would never have anything to do with it, for her family were strong idol worshippers. But she said she would be glad to see and know the foreign ladies and be most delighted to see the inside of their home. Week after week she attended faithfully, and often said to herself, "What makes those teachers so in earnest? If they were not so earnest I might enjoy it more, but they are so intense I cannot forget it all week long." One day my sister talked on The Prodigal Son, and showed them that they were far away from their Heavenly Father's love, and that all the pleasures of the world were husks and that they were feasting on the things which were not lasting, that going to picture shows and theatres was just like eating the hulls of the beans, starving the soul. The Japanese are very fond of picture shows from America. It is sad indeed that American films are sent over in large quantities yet the Gospel message is little heard in those darkened islands. They discussed the message as they went down

the street. This young woman loved the theatre and found it her greatest joy, but the next time she went, as she sat there all she could see, was the earnest face of the missionary; and she said to herself, "The missionary told us we were like the prodigal. Can these be husks"? So absorbed was she with her thoughts that she forgot to look at the scenes. The second time she went it became distasteful, and the third time she could not stay until the close, but went out in the vestibule. She came to the class again and again; was a little ashamed to openly admit to her friends that she was a Christian, but she felt she needed eternal life. In her home was an idol that had been handed down from generation to generation, and every day they put a bowl of steaming rice before this black idol which was so old its figure could not be distinguished. Her mother was very much exercised when she heard her daughter was coming to church and tried to interfere, but one day the young lady came to our home so full of conviction that she broke down, and begged that she might be delivered from the darkness and from the unhappiness of which she was suffering. We together knelt and she offered her first prayer to the true and living God. He forgave her sins and she went back to her mother a changed woman and took her stand in that heathen home. She has stood true to Jesus for many years and the Lord has used her in bringing salvation to others.

The last two years the Lord permitted me to work in Hachioji where we did a great deal of work among the Japanese women who work in factories. These women are like slaves; they work from six in the morning until eight at night. They receive fairly good wages compared to other Oriental people, but in most cases they are country girls sent there by their parents and compelled to make the living for the family. In Japan the farmers raise rice and mulberry bushes—the mulberry leaves are fed to the silk-worms. After the silk-worms are formed into cocoons they are sent to these factories and spun into silk thread. A great portion of this silk is sent to America.

I wish you could see these girls who work in these factories. Your heart would be pained, and yet you would rejoice to see what God has done in their lives. Their hands and arms look as if they were just raw flesh, and when I first took the Station I had to ask the Lord to help me not

to notice their poor raw hands. To loosen the fine silk thread that is almost like hair, from the cocoons, they must be put in boiling water. These girls work over this boiling water all day long, taking three and four strands of silk and making it into one silk thread. The steam and the heat cause the skin of their hands to blister and peel. They told me that the first month it was so painful that they could scarcely stand the pain, but after the first month a kind of callous forms over their flesh and the pain is dulled.

The Lord meets them in a very blessed way. Three of the girls followed us to the Mission Station from a street meeting and one yielded to the Lord. She came back every holiday earnestly seeking to know more of the Lord, and carried the message back into the factory, persuading others to come with her to the Mission Station. One by one they were led to Christ till now they number twenty or more who are blessedly saved and who make a group among themselves in that factory. They are not allowed to go out only as they are given rest days. When the season is good they have a rest day only once in fourteen days, but when this day comes along you will see them hastening to the church with their Bibles under their arms eager to hear the Word explained. It is very wonderful to see their zeal for God. Tho restricted in many ways, yet they kneel down in their dormitories and pray together that He might fill them. I sometimes think they know better how to pray than we do. They are not so anxious to get off their knees as we are. We long to take the message of full salvation to others who are still in darkness.

One evening on the street corner of Hachioji a meeting was held by a number of our native brothers and sisters. As the testimonies were given of God's saving, healing and keeping power a young factory girl stood in the crowd and listened to the end. Eager to know more of this God she watched to see where the Christians gathered; receiving a cordial welcome to enter the service she stepped into the first gospel meeting she had ever attended. The Christians' prayers touched her heart as she too had a very definite request on her heart, that of the healing of her dying mother. Her older sister and herself had for years been praying for their mother's healing, rising early each morning and in all kinds of weather going to a certain famous temple to offer their petition to the idol. No answer had been

received so they thought their sacrifices to the idol were not enough, though they were both giving of their earnings to meet the demands of the priest. Her sister in desperation had sacrificed her head of silky black hair as an offering to the god to be used in making a strong cord to ring the temple gong. Surely their god would answer, they thought, if they met the conditions and in this way they were pressed to sacrifice more and more each year. But no answer came!

The younger sister finding the Jesus believers thought she would try to pray here too as well as to the temple god. Her hungry heart was open to the teachings of Jesus who she had heard could heal all manner of diseases. She found Him as her Savior at the mission altar, then gave up her idols and in faith looked to Jesus to answer her prayer for her mother and other members of

her family. She had little time to rest but early and late while others were resting, she took time to read the Word of God and pray. Thru prayer her mother grew stronger and stronger till she was able to sit up. Then she testified to her family that it was Jesus that had healed mother. The day came when her mother was able to walk around and resume her household duties, then ere long she came with her daughter to the Mission Station. It was a day of great rejoicing when her mother too confessed Jesus as her Savior and Healer.

Now may we ask you to pray for the father of this home as well as the oldest son and daughter who are yet unsaved. May God bring many more of these dear factory girls into His fold.

Result of Sowing the Seed in South America

Miss Minnie Madsen, in The Stone Church Convention, May 25, 1931



SOUTH AMERICA has been called the Neglected Continent, but it is also spoken of as the Continent of Opportunity. South America is a vast land, being twice the size of Europe, three times the size of China, and four times that of India. It is divided into ten Republics. It has been my privilege and joy to work for the Lord in the United States of Venezuela under the direction of Brother G. F. Bender. My work has been chiefly in the day and Sunday schools, with as much visitation work as could be arranged.

You will be glad to know that God is saving souls thru the Blood of the Lamb and baptizing believers in the blessed Holy Spirit in Venezuela. This week I read a letter from a young man who was saved last August. In 1924 in conversation with a young man and his wife, he came under deep conviction, but did not yield himself to God. He said to the young woman: "Perhaps some day we (anticipating the other young man and himself) will be preachers of the Gospel." Upon hearing *that*, the young woman earnestly prayed asking God to make them witnesses for Him. After six years the young man accepted Jesus Christ as his Saviour thru the ministry of his friend, tho the dear woman who prayed for him went to glory, without seeing her prayer answered. Early this year there was need of someone to look after the

work of one of the outstations in the absence of the resident missionary, and the young man saved last August was chosen to carry on the work. He recalled the conversation of 1924 and wrote to his friend: "I want to remind you of the incident when your wife prayed so earnestly in the Spirit for my salvation and going forth in the Lord's service. Now that has come to pass and I am so happy." He is eager to see others saved. He wrote to his friend in another town: "Go and call on my brother. I know the Spirit will give you wisdom how to deal with him."

About a year ago a family was blessedly saved. The various members of the family decided to follow the Lord in water baptism and were candidates for immersion at the special services to be held during Easter Week. However, before the day arrived, God graciously opened up the windows of heaven and baptized them in the Holy Spirit. It was a season of refreshing to the church insomuch that a number of others began to seek the Lord for a deeper experience until quite a few were filled with the Spirit.

One of the boys in my class came from a very poor home. He came to school in soiled garments, with dirty face and unkempt hair. The other children told me he slept with a pig. This I could readily believe for in those days it was permissible to keep pigs in the city. Most

of you have heard of people who keep chickens, dogs, cats, pigs, goats and sheep right in the home with them. I tried to impress upon the little lad the importance of coming to school clean by giving him a bath. He was one of the worst characters in the school; so bad that one day when a teacher corrected him, he gave her a blow. He caused us a great deal of concern and we prayed much for him, the children of the school joining us in prayer for his salvation. In this recent revival he was one of the first to be saved and receive the baptism of the Holy Spirit. He was deeply convicted of his wrong-doings and endeavored to make the wrongs right. He went to the teacher whom he had wronged and who was ill in bed, and kneeling by her bedside asked her to forgive him for his misdeeds, showing a truly repentant spirit. A native young woman in writing to me of the marvelous change in the boy said: "The transformation is notable. It is like a person soiled in appearance taking a bath and putting on immaculately clean garments. An inner radiance now lights up the boy's face."

About a week after Easter the children in the Home of Peace began to reach out for God. A little girl who had been in the home only a short time asked: "Is it really possible to know you are saved?" One night she shut herself away and cried to God in great earnestness. Time came for the children to go to bed, but she prayed on and on. The others began to feel the convicting power of the Spirit until all the girls in the Home were crying mightily to God for forgiveness of sins. Even the youngest child, a girl of about seven awakened. She had been disobedient and naughty in that she had persistently written in and torn the school-books and papers of the older girls. She was convicted of her wrong-doing and asked the Lord to have mercy on her. Then she went to the older girls asking them to forgive her for her misdeeds and the bad names she had called them. One by one the girls prayed through until all were gloriously saved. The oldest girl comes from a better family than the younger girls. Of this she was very proud and would have little or nothing to do with the poorer girls, but when she yielded to the Lord, He put love in her heart for all the girls. Miss Roth writes the atmosphere in the Home is heavenly. One day a neighbor girl was seen standing outside intently listening to

the songs and prayers of the girls. She wanted to know what the girls were doing; they seemed to be so happy and contented, she longed to be with them, because it *sounded* so good from the outside. The world is hungry for the soul-satisfying portion. May we faithfully give it to them.

While on the field, the mission had a visit from a missionary who had been appointed by a society to make a survey of Latin American countries to gather statistics. He told us of the blessing of God upon the Pentecostal work in Brazil. We rejoiced to hear that the Gospel was having free course so that it was not unusual to have a congregation of 2,000. Native preachers and evangelists are taking the message of salvation to their own people.

A copy of a popular Christian magazine was sent to me which contained an account of the evangelical work in South America. Commenting on the results of the various denominations, a tribute was paid to those who include the preaching of the Baptism of the Holy Spirit. It mentioned that a joy and peace filled the hearts of the believers in striking contrast to the other converts. I am glad that there is joy and peace in believing under all circumstances of life and that God is no Respecter of persons. What He does for the people in the Homeland. He also does for them in the regions beyond.

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holding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are being transfigured into the same image from glory to glory, even by the Spirit of God." The example! the command! the enduement!

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him search our house. In that place we had twenty girls and I knew that if that officer got into the room where the girls were they would be taken away to a life worse than death. But I could say nothing and he came in with his men and begun to search the entire house. Just at the foot of the stairway to the right was the room where the girls were hidden but the men turned to the left and went into our bedroom and sitting room, searching everything, and then they went up to search the rooms on the next

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From our Letters

MRS. FRANK NICODEM of Rupaidiha, North India, tells of a very blessed convention they have just held at their station. She writes under date of April 13th:

"During these days we had from sixty to ninety native people to look after, as well as twenty-two missionaries, and we found our hands full. But oh we are very happy for the Lord has done precious things in our midst, and we feel that the results of sitting at His feet these days have more than repaid for all the extra work and sacrifice it has meant! Bro. Robert Cummings, who used to be with the Presbyterian Mission, was with us and God wonderfully blest his ministry to the native people, as he is Spirit-filled and has the language so wonderfully. After several heart-searching messages the Lord began to pour out His Spirit on the boys and upon the Christian workers gathered, and in one of the first evening meetings three came through to their baptism. The little chapel just seemed to be filled with the glory of God, and oh how refreshing the showers were after months of drought!

"On the last day we had a precious water baptismal service. Seven had asked for baptism, but after they had gone into the water and came out again with radiant faces, the invitation was extended to any standing on the bank to whom God had spoken, and before we left the place, instead of seven there were twenty-two who obeyed the Lord in baptism. Some were our boys and some were people who had not before taken a definite stand. Most touching of all was a dear old man, nearly blind, whom we have had here on the compound for nearly a year. Although he had broken his caste by eating our food, still he had never taken a definite stand for Christ. We do not class them as Christians until they proclaim it openly to the world through water baptism. As the invitation was given this dear old man tottered forward and made his way down the bank, and there was such a witness in our hearts as we saw him come up out of the water with the joy of the Lord upon his face.

"Since the convention we have had more new boys come into the Orphanage, all of them little, uncared-for orphans, and while it has meant a real step of faith to us to take them in these days of financial depression, we could not turn them away. Please remember these six who have been added to our family. God is already working in their hearts; one boy was slain under

the power, and as we look into their shining faces we feel glad that we have not turned them away."

* * *

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Williams, who have recently returned to their work in Santa Ana, El Salvador, write:

"Our work here is entirely supported by native effort, and our people are faithful in doing their very best to keep the work going on. As a rule, they are poor and receive very small wages, but they are willing to sacrifice in order to give to the Lord. Here in Santa Ana they have started a building fund, hoping soon to have a place of their own in which to worship. Our Bible School will begin in September and continue for three months. Our greatest need is for native workers, and we believe the Bible School will help to fulfill it as we have a number of young men who are anxious to work for the Lord and feel the need of a better knowledge of His Word. From every district come reports of new converts and a few have received the baptism of the Holy Spirit. Last Sunday fifteen were baptized in water. During a conference in April fifteen were saved and fourteen followed their Lord in baptism. Surely this is the time for reaping in El Salvador and we are so happy to be able to serve our Master here."

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teen years of work for Jesus, our first convention in this God-given Station stands out as Mount Fuji does in the pictures of Japan. After years of labor and sacrifice it was a joy to see how God had blessed. The place was filled with native Christians from the different mission stations and how we did praise the Lord together as a company of people who had been redeemed. Close your eyes if you will, and see fifty, sixty and seventy Japanese kneeling at the altar and you will realize a little of how we felt. As I sat in that meeting I said to the Lord, "Every sacrifice is well worth while; and for every trial we have endured we are amply rewarded."

Our vision, as we look over the needy field of Japan, is to spread the Gospel thru native vessels such as those of whom I have told you, who at the call of their Master are ready to give up all to obey Him. No one can carry the Gospel message to them like Spirit-filled Japanese, and it is our desire to see a Bible Training School in Japan where these consecrated young men

can be trained in the Word of God. For the foundation of a Bible School in dark Japan we are asking God to give us the support of ten students. Ten people who will give twelve dollars a month for the rice and shelter of some consecrated young men, will solve one of our greatest needs. Or, if twenty of God's children will say, "Here is \$6 (per month) for some Japanese brother to preach in my stead," it will be of equal help. You may not be able to go in person but you can preach thru some consecrated life who will carry the Gospel to darkened hearts.

(We will be glad to forward any money donated for this purpose. Please mention it is to be used for training native workers. Evangel Publishing House.)

(Continued from page 2)

is that it may get people ready for the coming of Jesus. Every indication points to His speedy return and what is more important than to warn people of coming tribulation and help them to turn to God. It is plain from the many orders that are coming in for the tract, "The Mark of the Beast" that our readers realize that the time for witnessing is short, and God is unmistakably laying upon them the need of getting people ready for coming events. One sister writes that their mail carrier, an unsaved man, saw something in one of the papers as he was delivering it to the box and asked for some to distribute. Another sister writes, "I read the article on The Antichrist in one of our prayer-meetings last week and the Spirit fell in a wonderful way."

The following from a minister shows that the paper fills a spiritual need:

"I have been taking about ten periodicals but when things got tied up with me as they are now I have dropped all for the present but THE LATTER RAIN EVANGEL. I like it because of the old time spiritual tone, which I believe is true to God's Word. Most of the others are easing down to a mild and weaker form of Christianity."

An English subscriber writes: "There is a vitalizing power in that paper that I find in very few others."

From a South African subscriber we quote:

"Thank you for continuing the paper which is so precious to me. I long for it more than for my food. One must be isolated from other assemblies and fellowship as I, to fully realize the value of such a paper coming with its glorious teaching and words of encouragement from those in harder fields than ours. Thank God for every word sent out. My paper travels many miles as I send it around with its glad message of salva-

tion, healing and holy living, and thru it many lives have been transformed and quickened into better service for the Master."

One of our new subscribers tells how hard the battle is in the formal churches, in the following lines, which speak loudly of the need:

"In Jesus' name and for the sake of lost, dead and dying churches if you have any literature or can do anything to help a struggling pastor in a formal, popular church to so preach the Word that souls will be born anew, sanctified in the blood of Jesus and baptized with the Holy Ghost, I pray in His blessed name that He will move you to help. I covet your earnest prayers for both myself and people."

The above is no doubt the cry of many a pastor who is laboring in the dead churches. One of the sure signs of the end is the growing apostasy. May God help us, thru the printed page, to fearlessly send out the truth, that men and women may be brought to a knowledge of their need of a Savior.

To those who wish to help us in sending out the message for these last days, we announce a special club rate of five subscriptions for \$5. In sending these in, it will help us if the sender will say whether he is paying for them, or if he has gotten others to subscribe.

We shall appreciate prompt renewals of those whose subscriptions are in arrears. We feel repaid for waiting when we receive letters like the following: "I am thankful to you for waiting for my subscription, for I would sooner go without a meal a day than to miss this paper."

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floor. They came down and again passed the door of the room where the girls were hidden; they had searched every room but that one. We had been warned beforehand of what was to happen and we were trusting in God to deliver. The Holy Spirit was faithful in His ministry. I am satisfied that without the guidance and help of the Holy Spirit we will not be able to escape the tribulations that are coming upon the earth.

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The above tracts, 25c per doz., \$1.60 per hundred.

The references on the back of the tract, "The Mark of the Beast" are the Scriptures on that subject, and not tracts. Please do not order them.

We expect to have the article "When Antichrist Reigns" by Bro. Beskin, in the August Number.

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CHAPTER 3.
2 Milk is fit for children. 11 Christ the only foundation. 16 Men are the temples of God.

AND I, brethren, could not speak unto you as unto spiritual, but as unto carnal, even as unto babes in Christ.
2 I have fed you with milk, and not with meat: for hitherto ye were not able to bear it, neither yet now are ye able.

5 shall.
i Ps. 25. 14.
John 15. 15.
a Heb. 5. 13.
1 Pet. 2. 2.
1 Or, factions.
2 according to man.
b Rom. 12. 3.
c Acts 18. 4.
d Acts 19. 1.
e Isa. 55. 10.
f Ps. 62. 12.
Rom. 2. 6.

19 Foolish ten, of craftiness.
20 Art thou a va
21 T. men.
22 W. Ce'pha
Jeath
come,

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