

THE Canadian Union Messenger

"As the cold of snow in the time of harvest, so is a faithful messenger."

VOLUME 6.

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NUMBER 13

ARE THE L. D. A. PEOPLE ALARMED?

THE following circular letter was printed in the *Toronto Globe* of March 19, and speaks for itself. We thought the matter of sufficient interest to reproduce for the benefit of our readers who may not take the *Globe*.

"Sunday Law Question"

"Lord's Day Alliance's Reply to 'An Appeal to Christian People'"

(Special Despatch to the *Globe*)

Ottawa, March 17.—The following circular letter has been sent to the Senators and members of Parliament:—

"Toronto, March 6, 1906.

"Dear Sir:—You have probably received 'An Appeal to the Christian People of Canada,' issued by the so-called 'International Religious Liberty Association,' in opposition to our proposed Sunday law. It is well that you should know that all such literature emanates from the Seventh-day Adventists. The W. H. Thurston, whose name is given as 'Dominion Superintendent' at Ottawa, is Rev. W. H. Thurston, pastor of the little Seventh-day Adventist Church there. Eugene Leland, who signs himself 'Secretary,' is the head of their school at Lorne Park, Ont. A. O. Burrill, Galt, Ont.; Wm. Guthrie, Williamsdale, N. S.; and H. E. Rickard, Fitch Bay, Que., are also Reverends in charge of Seventh-day Adventist institutions. They omit the 'Rev.' from their names in these religious liberty appeals to give the impression that it is a lay movement.

"Almost all the leaders of this body are Americans, who have been sent over to evangelize Canada by the American Seventh-day Adventist Church. The whole number of their communicants in the Dominion, as stated in their own year book, is under 1,400.

"The 'Canadian Publishing Association,' Toronto Junction, is simply the Seventh-day Adventist printing press. They sometimes also take the name of the 'Ontario Tract Society,' the 'Winnipeg Tract

Society,' etc., as may suit their purpose. Literature reaching you from any of these sources, as also certain petitions to Parliament headed 'Religious Liberty,' are simply Seventh-day Adventist campaign material.

"I think the above statement is the only reply that needs to be made to their alarmist cries and plausible pleas in the name of 'religious liberty.' Every intelligent Canadian knows that such Sunday legislation as the Lord's Day Alliance wants, and and the Government is now preparing to introduce and to have enacted, seeks only to conserve the weekly rest day in its integrity as one of our national institutions, and leaves every man perfectly free to observe it, religiously or not, as he sees fit; free also to observe as his holy day any other day in the week, if he thinks he ought.

"Should further information be desired, the undersigned will be glad to answer inquiries. Very truly yours. (Signed) J. G. Shearer, T. Albert Moore."

The "Appeal to the Christian People of Canada" referred to in this circular, is an eight page tract prepared by the editor of the MESSENGER, and sent out wherever it was thought that it would do good.

It seems that the authors of the circular became alarmed lest this innocent tract would corrupt the morals of the M. P.'s, or influence their votes, and to prevent this dire calamity, they gave themselves no rest until they had prepared the circular and mailed it to the Honorable Senators and M. P.'s.

It will be noticed that not a single statement is made in reply to the arguments of the tract, but the whole thing is a labored attempt to belittle the Seventh-day Adventists and their work. It must be very edifying and instructive reading to the Honorable gentlemen to whom it was sent!

Notice one statement in the circular: "They omit the 'Rev.' from their names in

these religious liberty appeals to give the impression that it is a lay movement."

Now that is a heavy argument, isn't it? Certainly it ought to influence the vote of every M. P. who reads it! We are ministers of the gospel, and do not sign Rev. to our names! What a lot of abominable hypocrites we are, to be sure!

Let me tell you, my friends, that the four men mentioned in that circular have some of them been preaching the gospel for more than twenty years; but not once in all those years has any any one of them ever written "Rev." before his name on any occasion whatever; and the reason is that they have more respect for the Almighty than to assume a title which belongs to him alone.

Since the writers of the circular attributed a sinister motive to us for omitting the "Rev." from our names, it may be interesting to ask why they omitted the "Rev." from their names in this circular?

Those who resort to arguments (?) of such a character, acknowledge that they are hard pressed. And the haste with which the circular was prepared and sent out, even before we had sent out our tract, and when we had no intention of sending it to the Honorable Senators and M. P.'s, shows that they were exceedingly alarmed. And if they considered that the tract might influence the minds of the Honorable Senators and M. P.'s, surely we ought to think so too; and for that reason we have prepared the following letter to these Honorable gentlemen, and sent it to them along with a copy of the tract, trusting that the Spirit of God may set home to their hearts some of the truths therein contained, and that they may be influenced to cast their votes on the side of Religious Liberty.

"Dear Sir,—Under date of March 6, the enclosed circular letter, copied from the *Toronto Globe* of March 19, was addressed to yourself by two gentlemen whose names appear on the circular. This letter purports

to be a reply to an eight page leaflet sent out by the International Religious Liberty Association to the Clergy of Canada, but not to the members of Parliament, as the writers of the circular imagined had been done. It was sent out for the purpose of showing the evil results of religious legislation, referring especially to the Sunday Bill now pending in Parliament.

The writers of the circular, fearing that their Sunday Bill would be in danger if the Honorable Senators and Members of Parliament should read the leaflet, hastily sent out their circular to you for the purpose, if possible, of counteracting the influence of the leaflet.

"You will observe that the authors of the circular make no attempt to answer the arguments of the leaflet contenting themselves with indulging in personalities.

Believing that Honorable Senators and Members of Parliament would appreciate Principles rather than personalities, we herewith enclose a copy of the leaflet, trusting that you will be able to spare the time for its consideration before the final vote is taken on the Sunday Bill. Very respectfully yours, (Signed) Eugene Leland."

FROM THE FIELD

MONTREAL, MAR. 13, 1906.

TO THE MESSENGER,—

One year has passed since our arrival in Montreal, bringing with it the trials and difficulties of labor, and also the sweet rest and blessings of the Lord. We have never regretted coming to this needy field.

The work has been moving along slowly. We have learned that this work does not advance by leaps and bounds, but gradually, and through persistent, continuous effort. And so we trust in the Author of progress.

The church fund is still growing. The entire amount of cash received up to date is something over four hundred dollars, besides unpaid pledges which would raise the

amount to over six hundred dollars. This is not sufficient to build, as it would take all that has been contributed so far to purchase a lot. We cannot think of building this year, although the work would be greatly strengthened by an immediate step in this direction. We know that the Lord is willing to dwell in a lowly and contrite heart, which is of first importance; but he meets with his people in a house of service as well.

In spite of the difficulties the Lord has done wonderful things in behalf of the truth. Several have been added to the little church and about ten have made their choice of truth and forsaken error. Just recently one family of eight, father, mother, three young ladies, and three small children, decided to keep all the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus. The Lord is good; for he is mighty in battle: victory is written upon his vestment. We feel of good courage, and with you wish to push the battle to the gates.

The enemy has been working here, as elsewhere, in regard to Sunday law enforcement. The ministers of the city have been carrying on a crusade against Sunday desecration from their pulpits. The press is very slow to publish anything in opposition to them. I had the privilege of meeting with a few of the most prominent Jews of the city to discuss this question. They decided to send twenty of their best men, a lawyer to take the lead, to Ottawa, to meet the Premier and the Minister of Justice, with whom they had arranged an interview. This deputation represents about thirty thousand Jews the greater part of whom are in Montreal.

May the Lord overrule for the best of his work in regard to this law. Let us pray the Lord of the harvest to hold the four winds of strife and the storm cloud of trouble until the work is finished and we are ready to meet it. Let us do with our might the work

committed to us, that of giving the third angel's message to the world in this generation. We ask all to remember the work in Montreal when at the Throne of Grace.

Ever your brother and sister,

MR. AND MRS. GEO. H. SKINNER.

Denison's Mills and Bethel, Que.

I recently visited the little companies in the above named places, and held several meetings with each. The blessing of God attended these efforts, and each company seemed strengthened and encouraged. We believe that if all are faithful in holding up the banner of light, others will soon be added to their numbers.

I also had the pleasure of making a short visit to our Sanitarium at Knowlton. Since my last visit the X-ray outfit and the steam-heating plant had been put in, and many other improvements had been made, adding much to the appearance and efficiency of the institution, and making it much more pleasant, comfortable, and convenient for both patients and attendants, and thus making it possible to obtain a great deal better results from the treatments given.

Now brethren I believe that you all desire to have our Sanitarium in such a condition that the very best can be done for the relief of suffering humanity; and if those who have made pledges, or others who desire to make an offering toward paying for the above mentioned improvements, will kindly send it as soon as convenient to Elder S. A. Farnsworth, Knowlton, Quebec. It will be thankfully received and highly appreciated, as it is much needed.

H. E. RICKARD.

OTTAWA

THINGS are moving on in even lines at the Capital, and the law-makers are talking some things up, and talking other things down.

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EUGENE LELAND, Editor.

TO OUR READERS:—

When requesting change of address, be sure to give both old and new address.

In case the paper is not received promptly, notify us and another copy will be sent.

A blue pencil mark here indicates that your subscription has expired.

Entered as second-class matter.

The Lord's Day Alliance is active in its efforts for religious legislation and the enactment of a Sunday law at this session of Parliament.

There is considerable opposition to the Sunday Bill, and it is reported that Sir Wilfrid Laurier advises the promoters of the Bill to meet the opposition in committee in the House when this committee has been formed.

I am informed that those who oppose the Bill will have the privilege of presenting their views before a special committee who will have the matter in hand for consideration.

A member of Parliament told me yesterday that after the Sunday Bill had been considered by a committee which would likely soon be appointed, it might be laid over

until another session of Parliament before an action would be taken. This remains to be seen, however.

The people of Canada are having an opportunity of studying the principles of religious liberty. Let none slacken their efforts in the distribution of literature; for many are investigating, and others will study the question as they have the opportunity.

NOTICE

THOSE having petitions containing signatures protesting against religious legislation will please forward them to the writer at once, as we still have time to present them. Some came in last week and were presented.

The Sunday Bill is still pending, and not all are committed to it who appear to favor it.

OFFICE NOTES

We have a small stock of the first issue of *Liberty*. Sent to any address for 5 cents; ten or more to one address, 3 cents.

Hereafter the price of the *Signs* in clubs of five or more will be \$1. instead of 90 cents as heretofore.

In a recent number of the MESSENGER, we gave the number of signatures to the Religious Liberty petition as more than 15000. It should have been more than 13000.

The latest news with reference to the Lord's Day Act is that in a caucus of the Liberal members of Parliament a few days ago, the members from Ontario and the Maritime Provinces were in favor of it, and that the members from Quebec were not in favor of it, some of them even expressing decided opposition.

Report of the Canvassing Work for Week Ending Mar. 16, 1906

Name	Place	Book	Orders	Value	Value	Miscellaneous	Orders	Delivered
G. W. Sowler,	Toronto, Ont.	B. R.	5	11.		2.80		10.25
Lorne Pengelly,	Beeton, Ont.	C. K.	19	22.25		8.25		162.
J. Pengelly,	Shelburne, Ont.	C. K.	35	41.		51.25		1.25
A. M. Taylor,	Galt, Ont.	G.C.	2	4.50		2.75		12.
Grant Priddy,	Markham, Ont.	D. R.	4	4.				
H. D. Carr,	Lorne Park, Ont.	P. P.	1	2.50				
John McEachern,	Lorne Park, Ont.	D. R.	1	2.25				
Totals,	6 Agents,		44	\$70.50		\$14.95		\$12508