

A DVOCATÉ

*Pentecostal
Holiness*

June 27, 1964



Proudly Pointing to the Truck Presented to the South African Conference of the Pentecostal Holiness Church are: (l to r) Mr. G. C. Collins, Chairman; Rev. Lavurn L. Dryden, Pastor, Lamar Pentecostal Holiness Church; and C. H. Springer and Kenneth Hopkins. (See Page 5)



Rev. Robinson serves as Assistant General Superintendent of the Pentecostal Holiness Church, Chairman of the General Board of Publications, and Superintendent of the South Carolina Conference.

THE FORGOTTEN MAN THE CHURCH MEMBER

A prominent educator once said, "Jesus Christ never met an unimportant person." With this startling, pithy statement, we are brought into an unfamiliar perspective of human worth, because this philosophy is completely foreign to the usual method of evaluating the worth of a man.

The whole network of our society is set up according to rank, order, position, and status. Men are classified according to degree of importance. This may be well and good, and the Bible accords honor to whom honor is due; but this system has its weaknesses and faults, and as a result, men sometimes adopt a faulty criterion of evaluation.

We are more apt to lavish the laurels upon the person whose activities are flamboyant and conspicuous, while at the same time, we may take for granted the importance of the person whose toilsome loyalty is "known but to God."

This is so often true of our humble, faithful church members, the man and woman at the grass roots.

The CHURCH MEMBER, in a true sense is the most important person in our church.

He is not dependent on us; we are dependent on him.

He is not an interference of our work; he is the purpose of it.

He does us a favor when he calls; we are not doing him a favor by serving him.

With the same clarity and eloquence that characterizes his preaching, Rev. H. P. Robinson writes on a vital and timely subject. A proper reaction to this guest editorial could bring new dimension and meaning to the entire membership of the Pentecostal Holiness Church.

—A. M. Long

He is a vital part of our operation—not an outsider.

He is not a cold statistic—he is a flesh and blood human being with feeling and emotions like our own.

He is not someone to argue or match wits with.

He is a person who brings us his needs; it is our job to fill these needs.

He is the person whom God uses to supply our needs.

He is deserving of the most courteous and attentive treatment we can give him.

He is the fellow who makes it possible for us to pay our bills.

He is the man who punches the clock every morning while some preachers are turning over for their second naps.

He is the man who spends eight hours a day in the grime and dust of a factory, the heat and cold of the construction job, the dust and dirt of the farm, the grease and soot of the shop, the everlasting monotony of the office, and on Sunday morning makes his way to his church, and with rough and calloused hands, places his tithes in the collection plate to keep the ecclesiastical machinery moving, the missionaries on the field, and the college doors open for our young people to attend.

THIS MAN, in my book, is the MOST ESSENTIAL PART of the church program. He is the man at the grass roots.

This grass roots Church Member is the very life-blood of church business. Without him, we would have to close shop and put a "For Sale" sign on our church doors.

This being the untarnished facts in the case, I think it is time we give a little more credit, honor, and appreciation to the man at the grass roots.

THE PENTECOSTAL HOLINESS ADVOCATE is the Official Organ of the Pentecostal Holiness Church

A. M. LONG, Editor

Affiliated with Protestant Church-owned Publishers' Association and Evangelical Press Association.

Editorial Assistants: Blanche L. King, Margaret Muse Oden; Art Editor: Walt Crawford; Business and Circulation Manager: Charles E. Bradshaw; Book Review Editor: B. E. Underwood; Contributing Editors: Paul F. Beacham, J. A. Synan; Departmental Editors: W. H. Turner, R. L. Rex, Ada Lee Thurman, Karl W. Bunkley. Published every Saturday except last week in year. Subscription in United States and Canada: \$2.00, 1 year; Foreign: \$2.50, 1 year. Address all communications, both business and editorial, to THE ADVOCATE, P. O. Box 98, Franklin Springs, Georgia. Second-class postage paid at Franklin Springs, Georgia. Printed in U. S. A.