

An Unprecedented Revival Sweeps Fi



(1) A portion of a crowd estimated at 30,000 to 40,000 march from city market square in Mikkeli to the revival grounds. (2) The Market Square where parade began. (3) A portion of a throng in tent meeting in Turku. (4) Meeting in the football stadium in Finland's newest city, Lothia.



Evangelist Tommy Hicks

SEE BOOK ADVT., PAGE 16

By David J. du Plessis

EARLY in 1954 the Lord led His servant Tommy Hicks to South America. The story of the mighty revival that developed through his ministry in Argentina is now well-known throughout the world. The news of hundreds of thousands turning out night after night in Buenos Aires to hear the Gospel and see the miracles of God, had reached even behind the Iron Curtain.

After a short return visit to Argentina early in 1955, Evangelist Hicks visited the Bible Lands of the Middle and Near East. Then he went to Switzerland where once again God gave great revival under his ministry. He had some meetings in Germany and then went to England where he tried to get a visa to enter Russia. He succeeded only in getting visas to visit Soviet satellite countries. So he went to Poland and then decided to go to Helsinki, Finland. In a miraculous way he met with a man who had been praying to get in contact with him. This led to arrangements for a return to Helsinki for Gospel services, after his return from Russia, for which he had now obtained a visa.

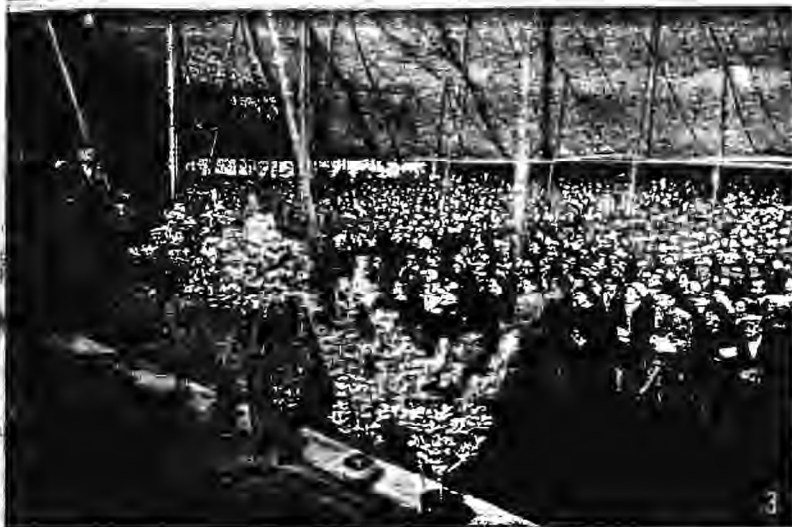
Upon his return to Helsinki in August, 1955, he found that the Lutheran Church had arranged mass meetings for him. The results of these services were phenomenal and he was invited to return to Finland later. The Lord spoke to him and promised to give him Finland if he remained humble and obedient to His guidance.

During January, 1956, Brother Hicks accepted an invitation from Pastor Lewi Pethrus to come and preach a campaign in the great Philadelphia Church in Stockholm, Sweden. At this time he slipped over to Helsinki just for a few days, and once again the Lutheran Church arranged meetings to which a total of 80,000 people flocked in three days. Arrangements for more meetings were made.

Thus it was that during the Fall of 1956 Evangelist Hicks returned to Finland for three-day, two-day and one-day campaigns in 10 different cities. Everywhere the Lutheran Churches



Tommy Hicks preaching on steps of a Lutheran cathedral in Turku. This is the seat of the Lutheran Theological Seminary. The Dean stands at right of microphone.



were joined by other churches in these meetings and multitudes turned out to hear the Evangelist. Literally the whole nation was moved. The Spirit of God was manifestly present in every service. Apart from the interest of the regular newspapers, a special paper was published to explain what was happening in these unusual meetings. Miracles of salvation and healing, and the baptism in the Holy Spirit were witnessed in the lives of thousands. The name of the special paper was "SANOMA" and in the first issue there appeared the following article by Bishop E. G. Gulin, who is well known in the States where he traveled extensively in 1954 after he had been one of the leading Lutheran delegates from Finland to the World Council of Churches at Evanston, Illinois. Bishop Gulin writes:

What Is It All About?

Great revival movements in our

It was estimated that 40,000 to 50,000 persons attended the service held in front of the great State Church, on left, in Helsinki, Finland.



churches have given offense at times, even as Jesus Himself did among the leaders of Israel.

Everyone prefers to sleep and dream rather than to awake to the crude realities of life which shows his real picture. Therefore, they think it is better to oppose. They say you should not be fanatical in your faith. Let us remain just as we are.

However, God says, NO! We have had enough of a "watery" Christianity. Nobody rejoices in it. Only the REAL is good enough, and the real is always revolutionary. Did not Jesus say: "He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father"?

Do we believe this? Or do we regard Him as a person who exaggerates the power of faith?

Church history confirms the fact that those who have taken Him seriously have

seen how things change within themselves and in their surroundings.

If you are honest you will have to admit that your life, such as it is, does not measure up with the fullness of His life.

Reformations up to the present have always come about when people have begun to seek for something new. God has always used some man or group of people as instruments of reform.

Tommy Hicks is a sincere soul, who believes in a living Christ. Come to hear and see for yourself. Do not believe anything until you have proof for it, but at the same time do not oppose facts. Do be honest, and whoever God uses as a witness as far as you are concerned, accept such and listen to him.

* * *

In the same issue of "SANOMA," Rev. U. Muroma, one of Finland's greatest Lutheran Evangelists, wrote as follows:

(Continued on page 16)

JAMES DUNN INTERVIEW
(Continued from page 9)

JAMES DUNN: I believe that special editions of *The Voice of Healing* should be printed and published in the vernacular and distributed among the people. In this way you could reach many that would never stop to listen to an evangelist. When these people learn of the great things that God is doing in other lands, I am sure they will become interested and there might be a greater response for evangelistic campaigns. In fact, the revival must come in the Near East sooner or later and we must work to that end.

QUESTION: What was your impression regarding religious life in these countries? Did you feel that Christianity was making headway?

JAMES DUNN: I came away with a feeling that Christianity was at a standstill in those countries when I compare the work with other lands. One can hardly find many inroads that have been made, either among Jews or Arabs. But this does not mean that the people are without religion. I only wish that Christians were as zealous and devout in their worship of Christ as these people are in their worship. My heart was stirred when I noticed that in the midst of their hurrying scurrying to make a livelihood, they find time to kneel and pray towards

Mecca. Unfortunately, while they knew about Mohammed, they were ignorant of Christ.

QUESTION: Is there anything that impressed you above other things you saw in the Near East that you would like to share with us?

JAMES DUNN: Yes, I was impressed by the strong anti-Western spirit that I found almost everywhere. You can feel it in the streets, you can feel it in the taxis. Almost everywhere you feel a spirit of suspicion and distrust against you because you are from the West. If it was not for their need and their wanting the dollar, they might not even be as tolerant as they are now. Then the situation is aggravated by the intense bitterness between Jew and Arab. Both feel that the Western nations have let them down. Neither are sure just who will side with whom if a conflict should break loose. They need to learn more of our Christianity than of our politics. It seems to me that at the present time our main hope of persuading them of our honest intentions would be through distribution of the Bible and gospel literature. Brother Lindsay, you should really work hard on a special number of *The Voice of Healing* to distribute far and wide in Israel.

TOMMY HICKS REPORT
(Continued from page 13)

We Have to Go Against the Stream

The Lord has sent to us a man who has a message for us. We have seen how brisk, spontaneous and natural he is. Not a single person who belongs to God should criticize, but everyone must pray.

When a new revival does come — and we are wishing it would come — we may find that it differs completely from what we expected. The Lord does not always repeat Himself.

We "good Lutherans" — yes — perhaps too Lutheran — and other good people, too, often wish that things should be done along our patterns.

But now it seems we are going against the stream. Yet none of God's people should be opposing the truth. The Holy Spirit is now moving along and is working out things as He wills.

Just now Finland needs three things. First, PRAYER. Second, P-R-A-Y-E-R. Third, P-R-A-Y-E-R. The Lord will be moving when you are praying.

We Christians differ in so many things. We understand things differently. But in love we must be the same. Let us replace the spirit of criticism with the spirit of PRAYER.

PROPHECY BOOKS
by Evang. Sam Todd



YOU WILL WANT TO READ THESE BOOKS

- The Bible Answer to Godless Communism
- The Coming of Antichrist and the Tribulation
- Flying Saucers, Atomic Bombs and the Second Coming of Christ

50c EACH OR 3 FOR \$1.25

Order from THE VOICE OF HEALING
Box 8658 Dallas, Texas

TOMMY HICKS



THRILLING BOOKS THAT TELL OF HIS GREAT OVERSEAS REVIVALS

- Millions Found Christ
- The Russian Revival
- Manifest Deliverance for You

\$1.00 EACH

Order from THE VOICE OF HEALING
Box 8658 Dallas, Texas