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HOW THEY ENTERED CANAAN
(A Collection of Holiness Experience Accounts)
Compiled by Duane V. Maxey

Vol. I -- Named Accounts

ROY V. STARR (Nazarene)

Michigan is known the world over as the great motor state of America. Also from within her borders have come great sons who in turn made their mark for truth and righteousness. Such we find in the person of Roy V. Starr, who was born on a farm near Argyle, Michigan, October 14, 1885.

This man Starr was a standout in his generation. Had he been in politics he would have been a leading debater on a congressional floor. Had he been an attorney he would have been for the defense, for he loved to plead for men in difficulty. Obviously his debating and pleading described him and he applied both in his ministerial career.

Early in life Miss Louise H. McDonald and Roy V. Starr became sweethearts. This led them to the marriage altar at Cass City, Michigan, August 19, 1908. Their housekeeping began in St. Louis, Missouri, where Roy Starr was employed in a nearby plant. Here he soon rose to the position of foreman; thus at an early age he showed strength of leadership.

In those days the Lighthouse Mission in co-operation with the Holiness Association of St. Louis held evangelistic tent meetings enmassing huge crowds. The 1910 encampment engaged Rev. I. G. Martin and Rev. C. E. Cornell as evangelists. These clergymen had played an important part in the beginnings of First Church of the Nazarene, Chicago, Illinois.

Many gathered to hear these noted speakers and enjoy the spiritual singing. And among those present were Roy and Louise Starr. Mrs. Starr, being a loyal Christian, found the blessing of holiness under the ministry of Brother Cornell as he spoke on "The Two Baptisms." With her husband it was different. He sought several nights until one hour, under the anointed preaching of Brother Martin, Roy Starr came through to glorious victory. There he stood under the tent on Manchester Road, tall and erect, physically strong, with blazing black eyes and hair as black as a raven's wing. With his deep bass voice he testified to the new birth and his call to the ministry.

Three weeks later, under the ministry of Rev. J. H. Flower, superintendent of the Lighthouse Mission, Starr was gloriously sanctified. His preaching ministry began immediately. With the light he had received at the altar, he added to the penetrating rays which shone from the Lighthouse Mission to bring hope and cheer to those who needed help, as he became the assistant superintendent and later, upon the death of Mr. Flower in 1914, the superintendent.

Source: "Our Pioneer Nazarenes" by C. T. Corbett

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