BY AUNT JUNE

Our Boys and Girls Corner

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DEDICATED TO EVERY BOY AND GIRL IN CANADA

Aunt June has moved her headquarters from 515 Manning Chambers, Toronto, to 34 King William Street, Hamilton, so that all boys and girls must remember when writing to her to send their pledges and letters to the new address. Better make a note of it now, or tear this out of the paper, so you won't forget. Just remember, 34 King William Street, Hamilton, is Aunt June's new address.

My Dear Boys and Girls:—

Letters from our members come tumbling, tumbling in. Uncle Jim tells me that one morning there was so much mail he really did not know where to put his papers down. At this rate, I am afraid we shall snow him up in the office. Wouldn't that be funny? But please keep on writing, for Uncle Jim loves to see lots and lots of letters just as much as I do.

The Story of Snowy.

I have just heard a strange story about a pet cat, which has been brought up on a farm. The cat's name is "Snowy," because her fur is pure white.

Snowy was first seen by some friends who visited the farm, hurrying along in the middle of a group of chickens. The chicks were running for their food and there was the cat going too.

The visitors were very much surprised and said, "Surely the cat will go after those chickens to eat them," but the farmer's wife laughed and told them that "Snowy" and the chicks were the very best of friends, and she told this story of Snowy's past:

One night three little kittens were born in a corner of the cowshed and before the family went to bed, they saw "Snowy" comfortably tucked into a box with her babies. On the opposite side of the shed was a hen sitting on her nest.

The next morning when the mistress of the farm went into the place, she could not see the kittens in "Snowy's" box, but to her astonishment they were found in the nest under the old hen. Later the mother cat came in, pushed the hen up a little to make more room and lay down in the same nest. This she did every day until the kitten's eyes were open, when they would play with the old hen and follow her about the barns, the mother cat walking with them and all were the best of friends.

Snowy's owner says the cat must have carried the kittens over to the hen, so that she could have someone to share in caring for them. The cat was never found to be in the least jealous of the hen's affection for the kittens.

I wonder how many of you know of such an amusing friendship between animals.

PLEDGE.

For Young Helpers' League of Service.

"Do a little kindness to someone every day.

Scatter rays of sunshine all along the way."

I pledge myself in the service of my King and Country to DO MY BEST IN MY DAILY Work, wherever it may be, to help others wherever possible, and to endeavor in every way to make myself A GOOD CITIZEN.

Date .....

Name .....

Age .....

Address .....

WANTED.

Every boy and girl in Canada to join the "League of Service" and be a Helper. We want to double our membership list before next year. Will every member try to get someone else to join our League?

I am sure every boy or girl can get one other. Will you please try and write all about it to yours lovingly,

—Aunt June.

LITTLE Tom Twig bought a fine bow and arrow,
And a splendid war bonnet all feathers and beads;
He planned to set out for the far Western bad lands,
And vowed that the world should soon hear of his deeds.

Find two other adventurers. Lower side down, along back of leg; upper left corner down, along leg and blouse.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

WHAT THE KING REQUIRES.

Lesson—Matthew 5. Printed Text—Matt. 5 : 1-10, 43-48.

Golden Text.—"Ye therefore shall be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect" (Matt. 5 : 48).

Historical Setting.

Time.—A.D. 28. Place.—Uncertain.

Daily Readings.

Monday, October 18.—Who are truly Happy? (Matt. 5 : 1-10, 43-48). Tuesday, October 19. The Humble and Contrite (Isa. 57 : 14-21). Wednesday, October 20.—Whole-hearted Seeking (Ps. 119 : 1-8). Thursday, October 21.—Rejoicing in the Lord (Phil. 4 : 1-13). Friday, October 22.—Forgiven Much (Luke 7 : 36-50). Saturday, October 23.—Living Water (John 4 : 1-14; 7 : 37-39). Sunday, October 24.—True Blessedness (Luke 6 : 20-38).

Comments.

Verse 1. Most commentaries locate this lesson at the "Horns of Hattin," but McGarvey insists that the nature of the locality would make it absolutely impossible. One thing is certain: they were in God's out-of-doors.

Verse 2. This is the moment toward which the events of the patriarchal and Jewish dispensations have been pointing.

Verse 3. The notes in this "octave of beatitudes" all have the tone of character. To be "poor in spirit" means to be free from hauteur and selfish pride.

Verse 4. Followers of Christ who mourn are blessed above others in that they have a source of comfort.

Verse 7. Mercy is love in action toward the erring.

Verse 5. "Meekness is not weakness." It is, rather, the spirit which seeks to know and live the truth.

Verse 6. An appetite for righteousness results in a happy, helpful, robust life.

Verse 8. Sin is like a cataract which shuts out God from the eye of the soul.

Verses 9, 10. Peaceableness and patience were Christ's most effective weapons.

Verse 43. The ancient Jewish teachers contended that an enemy was not a neighbor. Therefore they could love one neighbor and hate another and be within the law.

Verse 44. But Jesus taught that even one's enemy is his neighbor.

Verse 45. God blesses those who curse him; therefore, to be like God, we must treat kindly those who are unjust to us.

Verse 46. Publicans were those taxgathers who bought from the Government the privilege of collecting taxes and keeping all they could get above the legal amount. The system naturally made the collectors odious.

Verses 47, 48. We should seek to be perfect in this matter of loving our neighbors, even as God's perfection has set the example.

In fact, we ought to seek to be like Him in all things, and thus prove ourselves to be His children. "Our own minds demand a perfect standard such as the divine nature presents; and however far we may actually fall short of attaining it, yet he who is content with coming short gives no evidence that he is a child of God."

Illustrated Truth.

The only safe standard to work by is the perfect one (v. 48).

Illustration. — During the second term after an industrial department had been added to the public school, the head of the department was puzzled to find that the pupils who entered with the second term were falling below the first class in the quality of their work. When he called the attention of some to their faulty work, it was to receive such replies as "I thought it was all right as long as it was as good as Bill's." Too many Christians show the same disposition. So long as they are as nearly perfect as the preacher or the elders or other leaders, they are satisfied.

Topics for Research and Discussion.

I. The Beatitudes Given (vs. 1-10). 1. Why is the beginning of this sermon the moment toward which previous history had been pointing? 2. What is the meaning here of the word "blessed"? 3. What did Jesus mean by "poor in spirit"? 4. How can they who mourn be happy, as the word "blessed" indicates? 5. How can they who are meek be anything but weak? 6. How would you describe purity of heart? 7. In what sense do the pure in heart see God? 8. What light does verse 9 throw upon the world's tendency to war?

II. The Beatitudes Practiced (vs. 43-48). 9. How did Christ exemplify His own teachings? 10. How did the ancient Jews interpret the word that means neighbor? 11. What did Jesus mean by "neighbor"? 12. How is it possible for any one to love his enemy? 13. What would have been necessary on the part of the Jews and publicans of Jesus' day in order to carry out this teaching?

One Big Union Wanes

It is a matter for satisfaction that the O. B. U. has made very little progress in Canada, and only among those of continental European birth. Great care should be taken not further to alienate the representatives of the races of south and south eastern Europe or of the Muscovite Territories by lack of sympathy for their aspirations, however wrongly their total want of understanding of the free institutions of Canada has led them. They have to learn, and can only learn through sympathetic treatment from those with whom they associate, that freedom here is a reality, that anything politically reasonable is attainable through the ballot; that capitalism here is just as anxious to justify itself by fair and honest dealing as labor can be, and that no class or section of the community has any dominance over any other class beyond its own moral weight and influence in the community, every individual being at full liberty to belong to any class with which he wishes and is capable of uniting himself. The O. B. U. might justify its existence in an autocratic monarchy or empire, but in a free community like Canada, where every man and woman has a vote and can pull his weight there can be no nearer realization of democracy except through an improvement of electoral methods which is not to be attained by revolution and may be secured at any time by the wish of the electors. The O. B. U. does not appear, however, to want democracy, but rather desires the domination by one class of all the other classes, a reversal of the late Russian and German imperialism. The membership of the O. B. U. in the West, where alone it obtained a hold, has been rapidly falling away and strikes promoted by it were only supported by Russian and other foreign workmen.

Helps for the Housewife

Pickled Onions, Cucumbers, or Green Tomatoes.

The vegetables must first be soaked in brine. Allow one and a half cups salt to two quarts of boiling water. Pour over the vegetables and let stand two days. Drain and cover with more brine. Let stand two days and drain again. Take fresh brine and heat to boiling point; put in whichever vegetable is being done and boil three minutes. Drain and cover with a spiced vinegar made as follows: One gallon vinegar, one cup sugar (optional), four red peppers, two sticks cinnamon, two tablespoons whole allspice, two tablespoons mace. Tie the spices in a cheesecloth bag and boil in vinegar ten minutes. Pour over vegetables, and bottle.

Dried Sweet Corn.

The corn must be cooked. It is then cut from the cob and dried in a slow oven for fifteen minutes, care being taken that it does not scorch or brown at all. Remove from the oven and allow it to stand in an airy place for a few hours. Button into cotton bags, seal closely, and hang in a dry place. When preparing for use, soak over night like white beans, and cook the same as canned corn.

Bread-Crumb Griddle Cakes.

Soak one and a half cups stale breadcrumbs in one and a half cups milk, add two eggs well-beaten, one tablespoon fat then half a cup flour sifted with four teaspoons baking powder and half a teaspoon salt. Cook same as other griddle cakes.

Sugarless Rhubarb Jam.

Use four pounds of rhubarb, one pound of dates, one tin of golden syrup. Cut the rhubarb into small pieces, warm the syrup to thin it and pour over the rhubarb, and add the dates stoned and chopped. Boil gently for half an hour.

Paper flour sacks make excellent ice blankets for covering the ice in the refrigerator. By doing this the ice bill will be greatly lessened. Newspapers may also be used with good results.

By using both parts of your double boiler while cooking a cereal you can save fuel. For instance, while cooking your dinner, put beets in the lower part and oatmeal in the upper, thus cooking both with but one light.

To save sugar when making jam or marmalade, add one cupful of apples, cooked fine, to one quart of fruit, and the jam will thicken with less sugar and less boiling, and retain the flavor of the fruit better.

A wire letter basket is most useful in the kitchen. Baked potatoes arranged in it can be taken out of the oven, turned and put back with no danger of burning the hands. Turned upside down it makes a fine rack for cooling bread and cake. It is safer than a waiter in which to carry small pieces of china back and forth between the dining-room and the kitchen.

When mayonnaise curdles, instead of throwing the mixture away, transfer the egg beater from the mayonnaise to a bowl in which two teaspoonfuls of water and a little cornstarch have been well mixed Beat thoroughly, adding the curdled mayonnaise slowly. Flour may be used instead of cornstarch.

LEMON GINGER CUP.

For an individual portion of this very refreshing beverage place in a tall glass four tablespoonfuls of cold tea, the juice of half a lemon, two tablespoonfuls of sugar and two or three bits of preserved ginger. Stir well, mix in two tablespoonfuls of finely cracked ice and fill up the glass with iced ginger ale. Add a thin slice of lemon and cap with a tiny bouquet of fresh mint.

A FLATIRON HINT.

When the flatirons are clean and yet do not seem perfectly smooth in spite of wax or inside soap wrappers, sprinkle a teaspoonful of salt on a paper and pass each iron over it several times. The irons will then be all right. The salt is a clean, scratchless scourer.—L. K. G.

ENOUGH COAL IN CHINA TO SUPPLY WORLD FOR YEARS

Could Keep the Human Race In Fuel for Many Centuries

The discontented British miners would do well to read, mark, learn and inwardly digest the fact that France has just bought 100,000 tons of coal from the Chinese government. This 'deal' synchronizes with the advice given by all the South African shipping lines to burn coal from the Transvaal mines, and is an indication of the trend of things incident to the exorbitant demands of Labor. China's coal supply is practically inexhaustible and is virtually untouched. She has enough good coal to supply the whole human race at its present consumption of a billion tons a year for a thousand years. The coal-bearing areas of China have been estimated at more than 200,000 square miles—a territory twenty-five times the size of Wales, and it is a remarkable fact that, instead of being limited to a few favored districts, this vast supply of coal is found all over the Empire and in every province.

FACING HIGH TEMPERATURES.

Few people know who has to face the highest temperature ever devised by human agents. It is the man who makes calcium carbide, that greyish substance which is used in thousands of cycle and motor lamps to generate acetylene. Carbide is composed of a mixture of lime and coal. The two substances are placed in an electric furnace, and a temperature of over 5,400 degrees F. is generated. That is over 2,000 degrees more than is necessary to melt copper, iron or platinum. It requires 3,000 horsepower of electrical energy to obtain the necessary degree of heat in the furnace. Tapping the furnace and pouring off the molten carbide is a warm job. The workmen need asbestos clothing and strong masks to protect them from the tremendous heat and glare.

AN ISLAND FOR ARTISTS.

Writers, artists and musicians are to have a little kingdom of their own. The Islet of Comacina in the Lake of Como, was bequeathed by Signor Augusto Caprani, who died in 1919, to the King of the Belgians as a testimony of his admiration of the heroic conduct of Belgium during the war. King Albert, in his turn, has made it over to the Italian Government (says the Athenaeum) on condition that it is made a place of residence for artists of every kind. The Italian Ministry of Fine Arts is to build little villas, one of which will be reserved for Belgians. There will be halls for exhibitions and recitals, and it is hoped that the island will be ready for occupation by the coming spring.

ANCHORED ISLANDS.

It would be a great convenience if a few well-rooted islands were scattered about the North Atlantic, as well as in other frequented seas, in places where nature unfortunately has provided no landing spots in wide wastes of water. James M. Roberts, of St. Joseph, Mo., proposes to make good this deficiency by planting in appropriate oceanic localities what might be called artificial atolls, inasmuch as they will be ring-shaped, like the South Pacific Islands so named. The artificial atoll will be in effect a mid-ocean station for ships and aircraft. Held permanently in place by great steel cables and huge anchors, it will be sufficiently large to provide docks and drydocks for vessels, landing fields for aeroplanes and balloons, repair shops, storehouses for supplies and other conveniences. The great volume of water inclosed within the island ring will lend inertia to the latter, making it practically immovable by wind and waves, and thereby lessening the strain on the anchor cables. But the inclosed water space will find its most important usefulness as a harbor.

Balfouria, a small agricultural colony in Palestine is named after the Rt. Hon. A. J. Balfour.

With an approximate area of 32,000 square miles, Austria is now about the same size as Ireland.

A Little of Everything

COSTLY CARPETS.

The genuine Persian rug is the most valuable thing of its kind in the world, a really fine specimen fetching anything from five pounds to twenty thousand pounds. Shiraz and Kerman are the chief centres of the industry, though the products of Meshed and Rejid are also held in high esteem. The trade is largely in the hands of certain families, who have handed down the art and its secrets from one generation to another. To the making of even one comparatively small rug, ten or fifteen years of patient labor may be devoted. In the reign of Muzaffer-ed-Din, however, this great and beautiful industry was threatened with extinction. This was when the aniline dyes of Germany burst upon an astonished world. These chemical products—German-made dyes — found their way to Persia, and, incredible though it may seem, the beauty-loving natives took kindly to them, and in their favor the weavers abandoned the dyes that had been in use for thousands of years. Fortunately, the Shah had an artist's soul, and was also a good businessman. He saw that his country's carpet export trade was in imminent danger of being ruined by these aniline atrocities, and, under appropriate penalties—boiling oil, and so forth—he forbade the importation of the German dyes, or their use if already in the country, in the carpet trade.

NO MORE WALKING-STICKS.

The United States Forest Service and the New York State College, which have been making a joint survey of the wood using industries of the state of New York have reached the conclusion that canes, whips and umbrellas are becoming extinct. They find that, in 1912, there were several cane, whip and umbrella handle manufacturers in New York; but to-day there is not a single manufacturer of walking sticks or whips in the state, and only one manufacturer of umbrella handles.

NATURE'S ACROBAT.

The weasel has been called the acrobat of Nature. It performs every kind of acrobatic feat. It does not, however, perform merely for the pleasure to be obtained from the performance, nor yet to give pleasure to others. There is a far more deadly purpose behind its somersaults. The weasel adopts the method of approaching its victims by turning over and over, with a view to attacking them. It does not attempt to hide itself from its prey, but gradually, performing all the time, approaches nearer and still nearer until within striking distance of its unsuspecting prey. The blood-thirsty little villain is by no means a coward. It will attack human beings; and cows that trespass for the purpose of feeding on grass within the vicinity of the home of these little creatures do not escape. The weasel can climb as easily as run along the road, and it is equally at home on any surface. The top of a hedge presents no difficulties to the weasel; it will travel along this as quickly and easily as along the smoothest pathway.

VOTES COSTING $1,000 EACH.

The Board of Election Commissioners believe they have discovered the six highest-priced votes in the United States. They cost the state almost $1,000 each. In the official canvass of the ballots cast in the recent primary election in Kansas City, it was disclosed that the Socialists polled two votes, the Prohibition party ticket one vote, and the Socialist-Labor Party three votes. The cost of printing the tickets and the sample ballots for the three "parties," and of handling their share of the primary election expense will exceed $5,000, and may run as high as $6,000. There were more than thirty thousand votes cast in the primary in Kansas City, and the Republican and Democratic parties polled all except the six cast for the Socialist, the Socialist-Labor and the Prohibition parties, which had only state tickets in the field.

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