"A Happy Christmas"

"Lone E." joins with all the members of the staff of the Lone Scout Department in hoping that all Lone Scouts will enjoy a Happy Christmas, with real enjoyment, and we hope, too, that you will not forget to do your special Christmas Good Turn.

Boy Scouts in all parts of the world at this season of the year are concentrating their thoughts upon the question of how to make some other less fortunate person a little happier and how to bring a little Christmas Cheer into the life of some person for whom Christmas would otherwise be a disappointment.

We hope that every Lone Scout in this province will do his utmost to play "Santa Claus" to some poor person at this time, and thus be able to enjoy his own Christmas the better for knowing that his Good Turn has been well done.

What Lonies Can Do to Help Others During the Cold Weather

Have you ever thought of all the opportunities which the cold weather gives to you to do your daily "Good Turn"?

In years gone by we have heard of many Lone Scouts who made it their business to do such things as clearing snow for old folks who would otherwise have to do it themselves. Then we know of more than one Lonie who assisted elderly ladies by keeping them supplied with cut wood for their fires during the cold weather or by seeing that the wood box was kept always filled from the wood pile, or the pails always filled from the well.

Other Lone Scouts cleared paths through the snow at street crossings, and put ashes down on slippery places, or cleared snow away from church doors and other places of public meeting.

Yes, Lonies, you have many opportunities to be of real service, and we hope that you will take every advantage of them.

Santa Claus' Chain of Workshops

Santa Claus branch workshops operated by Scouts and Girl Guides in all parts of Canada are again at work reconditioning broken and discarded toys and dolls, to help fill Old St. Nick's bag at Christmas. Last year a coast-to-coast chain of 155 shops provided gifts for fully 75,000 needy children, including many on farms in the West. Baden-Powell has called such work "Happifying."

Scouts Head Local Relief

At Duncan, B.C., the local winter relief work was organized under the initiative of the local Scout leaders. Plans included a surplus vegetable and fruit survey carried out by Rover Scouts and collection and repair of clothing by Rangers and Girl Guides.

Peace Park Opening Features Boys

A colourful feature of the opening this summer of the Waterton-Glacier Peace Park on the Alberta-Montana border was provided by a group of 24 Canadian and American King and ...agle Scouts, bearing their respective Eagle Scouts, bearing their respective Scout obligations also was included in the ceremonies.

The Best Good Turn

What better Christmas Present or Good Turn could you offer your chum than to introduce him to the World-Wide Brotherhood of Boy Scouts?

Scouting is open to all boys between 12 and 18 years of age, inclusively, and the Lone Scouts are specially organized for boys who live in the country and who cannot belong to the ordinary Scout Troops.

If you know of any boy whom you think would be interested in the Lone Scouts, why not send us his name and address, and we will communicate with him.

Perhaps you, too, would like to be a Lonie? If so, write for particulars to The Lone Scout Department, The Boy Scouts Association, 330 Bay Street, Toronto 2. We shall be glad to hear from you,—"Lone E."

Lack of Foresight World's Trouble

H. G. Wells Urges Preparation for the Consequences of New Inventions

An urgent need for "professors of foresight" to prepare the world for the consequences of new inventions is seen by H. G. Wells, the historian, says the Associated Press.

"All my life I have seen the abolition of distance becoming more and more complete," he said in a recent speech. "But, for all practical purposes, we haven't begun to think yet what we are going to do about it.

"We are all of us behaving as though there were no need whatever to adapt our lives and ideas in any way to these new conditions.

"See how unprepared our world was for the motor car. The motor car ought to have been anticipated at the beginning of this century. It was bound to come. It was bound to be cheapened and made abundant. It was bound to change our roads, take passengers and goods traffic from the railways alter the distribution of our population, congest our towns with traffic.

"Did we do anything to work out any of these consequences of the motor car before they came? We did nothing to our roads until they were choked, we did nothing to adjust our railroads to fit in with this new element in life until they were overtaken and bankrupt, and we have still to bring our police up to date with the motor bandit.

"It seems an odd thing to me that, though we have thousands and thousands of professors and hundreds of thousands of students of history working upon the records of the past, there is not a single person anywhere who makes a whole-time job of estimating the future consequences of new inventions and new devices.

"We ought to have not simply one or two professors of foresight, but whole faculties and departments of foresight, doing all they can to anticipate and prepare for the consequences of this gathering together, this bunching up, which is now going on, or what were once widely dispersed human relationships.

"We need to organize foresight in these matters very urgently indeed. Because, you see, it is not only that men will be able to get at and see and talk to their friends anywhere. They will also be able to get at those they suppose their enemies with an equal facility."

In his vision of the "unpleasant" sides of progress Mr. Wells sees the possibility of air torpedoes, bombs, gas and flame delivered "wherever you like, or don't like, at any time."

"There are no professors of foresight as yet," he said, "but I am by way of being an amateur. Let me draw a plain conclusion.

"Either we must make peace throughout the world, make one world state, one world-pax, with one money, one police, one speech and one brotherhood, however hard that task may seem, or we must prepare to live with the voice of the stranger in our ears, with the eyes of the stranger in our home, with the knife of the stranger always at our throats, in fear and in danger of death, enemy neighbors with the rest of our species.

"Distance was protection, was safety, though it meant also ignorance and indifference and a narrow, unstimulated life.

"For good or evil, distance has been done away with. This problem of communications rushes upon us today—it rushes upon us like Jehu, the son of Nimshi. It driveth furiously. And it evokes the same question: Is it peace?

"Because if it is not to be peace foreseen and planned and established, then it will be disaster and death."

Once let me see not things alone, but the divine light and life that stream through them; and then shall every day open new revelations, then shall the bird upon the wing and the flower in the field speak to them of God.—Dr. Dewey.

Begin with a generous heart. Think how you can serve others. Then you shall find resources grow. Your own portion shall not be left desolate. Strength shall be shed through you. Do the utmost with what you have, and it shall go far enough.—O. B. Frothingham.

Ruffles For Jane

By HELEN WILLIAMS.

Illustrated Dressmaking Lesson Furnished With Every Pattern

Of course Jane will want a new party dress for Xmas with ruffles all the little fashionables are wearing.

The long-waisted bodice completed by a sash attached at underarm seams and bowed at the back, marks its French origin. The straight skirt ruffles are gathered and sewed to a one-piece foundation.

It's so easily made and takes but 1⅝ yards of 35-inch material with ¾ yard of 35-inch contrasting for the 4-year size.

Style No. 3139 is designed in sizes 2, 4 and 6 years.

Pink crepe de chine with pale blue crepe de chine collar, sleeve frills and sash is cute as can be. It's practical because it will tub and tub.

HOW TO ORDER PATTERNS.

Write your name and address plainly, giving number and size of such patterns as you want. Enclose 15c in stamps or coin (coin preferred; wrap it carefully) for each number, and address your order to Wilson Pattern Service, 73 West Adelaide St., Toronto.

Britain Has Huge Weekly Bill for Sweets

Britain is spending $5,000,000 weekly on sweets.

Confectionery manufacturers report a substantial increase of trade, and one firm has taken on 900 employees to help to produce the 350,000 tons of sweet meats yearly consumed in Britain.

The output today is nearly double that of twenty-five years ago.

The opinion of doctors has changed and they now praise the health-giving properties of sweets, half of those which are eaten today being chocolates.

Disasters Fail to Crush

Murray, Ky.—Jack Dunaway, a Murray College freshman, resumed his class work and his duties in the office of the College News last week, a determined smile on his face, and told this story:

Within the past week his uncle hanged himself, his sweetheart married a rival, a bank where his mother had $1,000 on deposit closed, and the home where he had been staying here burned with all his books and clothes.

The American—"When you came home and found a burglar in your house what did you do?"

The Englishman—"What did I do? Why nothing, of course. I didn't know the bally rotter."

God is the portion of His people. They find Him in all things, and all things in Him. This is the sum of all good, the perfection of all blessedness.

Sunday School Lesson

December 25. Lesson XIII—God's Gift to Man (Christmas Lesson)—Luke 2: 8-20. Golden Text—For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.—John 3: 16.

ANALYSIS.

I. THE GOOD NEWS, Luke 2: 8-14.

II. SEEKING AND FINDING, Luke 2: 15-20.

INTRODUCTION—It was during the year of the Roman census that Jesus was born. It was not the Roman custom to have the people return to their original homes to fill out their census papers. Such, however, had been the Jewish system. Anxious, doubtless, to avoid unnecessary irritation on the part of the turbulent Jews, Augustus conformed to local usage. Not only the head of the house had to go, but all the members of his family as well. So it was that Joseph, with Mary, his young wife, traveled the seventy-two miles from Nazareth to Bethlehem, vs. 5, 6.

In order to avoid overcrowding and the difficulty of carrying out the enrolment with a small secretarial staff, the census and valuation was spread out over a year. Nevertheless, when the couple arrived at Bethlehem they found the inn crowded. The only available accommodation was the rude stable with its courtyard surrounded by the rude, arched shelters hewn out of the rock-formed hilside. Here it was that, lacking privacy and comforts, Mary gave birth to her "first-born." Unattended it was she herself who laid her child in one of the box-like mangers provided for feeding hay and grain to the cattle. The so-called Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem is pointed out to tourists as the site of the original stable.

I. THE GOOD NEWS, Luke 2: 8-14.

One mile from Bethlehem is a little plain in which, under a grove of olives, stands the bare and neglected chapel known by the name, "the Angel to the Shepherds." It is built, says Farrar, over the traditional site of the fields where the Vision of the Singing Angels came to the shepherds. Our Lord's birth was associated with scenes of humility, poverty and toil. "He entered into my lot," the poorest one can say. Not to the recognized leaders of organized religion on Mount Zion did the Good News come, nor to the busy, thoughtless women of Bethlehem to whom it did not occur to take to their homes this unhoused and obviously needy countrywoman. It came to men engaged in the humblest tasks (v. 8) and so unimportant socially that no one remembered their names. How often do some of God's richest revelations come to the fortuneless and the obscure.

The reassuring word of the angels to the shepherds is the word that Jesus always brings to a troubled world, "fear not." No longer were men to think of God as an austere, far-distant king, but as a loving frequenter of the haunts of men, v. 10. The news was for all men. The Christian who has really come to know Christ cannot keep the knowledge to himself. He becomes inevitably a missionary-minded Christian.

The "sign" was to be a "swaddled babe, laid in a manger" (Arabic version). According to general Syrian custom, says Abraham Mitrie Ribhany in his "Syrian Christ," in earliest infancy a child is not really clothed; it is only swaddled. Upon birth the child is washed then rubbed gently with pulverized salt, then sprinkled with powdered myrtle leaves, then "swaddled." The swaddle is a piece of stout cloth about a yard square, to a corner of which is attached a narrow band. The infant, with arms pressed close to its sides, and its feet stretched full length and laid close together, is wrapped in the swaddle, and the narrow band wound around the little body, from the shoulders to the ankle.

The story of the unlettered shepherds, entranced with the heavenly music, tells us how near heaven lies to our common task, how God speaks when we are ready to listen, how world peace will come when men live according to God's will. "On earth peace among men in whom he is well pleased" (Weymouth's Translation). The brother attitude, which is God's will for us all will automatically eliminate war.

II. SEEKING AND FINDING, Luke 2: 15-20.

"Let us go" the shepherds said to each other when the vision faded. Seeing the vision, then venturing by faith is the secret of achievement. With simple eloquence the story tells how they sought the Saviour child, found him, told everyone about him. Seeking, finding, witnessing—these are the facts of Christian experience. The shepherds did not permit their determination to find the Child to become weakened by idle speculation. They did not wait to worship until they had solved the mystery of the vision or the unlikely surroundings of the Child's birth. For them the great fact of salvation for a lost world far outweighed any difficulties surrounding the manner of the Saviour's coming.

I know not how that Bethlehem's Babe
Could in the Godhead be;
I only know the Manger Child
Has brought God's life to me.

The Sun Upon the Lake

The sun upon the lake is low,
The wild birds hush their song,
The hills ave evening's deepest glow,
Yet Leonard tarries long.
Now all whom varied toil and care
From home and love divide,
In the calm sunset may repair
Each to the loved one's side.

The noble dame on turret high,
Who waits her gallant knight,
Looks to the western beam to spy
The flash of armour bright.
The village maid, with hand on brow
The level ray to shade,
Upon the footpath watches now
For Colin's darkening plaid.

Now to their mates the wild swans row
By day they swam apart,
And to the thicket wanders slow
The hind beside the hart.
The woodlark at his partner's side
Twitters is closing song— ..
All meet whom day and care divide.
But Leonard tarries long!
—Sir Walter Scott, "Poems."

Farm Queries

Henry G. Bell, B.S.A., Dept. of Chemistry, O.A.C.

Address All Letters to Farm Editor, 73 Adelaide St. West, Toronto. All Answers Will Appear in this Column. If Personal Reply is Desired, Enclose Stamped and Addressed Envelope.

Questions and Answers

S. G.—I have a few acres of rather heavy marsh land, would this grow barley successfully? What variety, when and how much should be sown for the best results? Is barley straw as good for feed as oat straw? Is millet good feed for dairy cows?

Answer.—Probably barley is the best of the cereals that you could grow on this land. It is the shallowest rooted of all the cereals and thrives on neutral to slightly acid soil. If possible, you should provide for drainage from your marsh. No crop, of course, will grow if the water is standing on the soil for a considerable period.

The best variety for Ontorio so far developed is O.A.C. 21. Seed of this variety is obtainable in any standard grain centre. The amount usually recommended is 1½ bushels per acre. This gives sufficiently thick stand and allows of the crop maturing at its best.

Barley straw is slightly poorer in nitrogen than oat straw and is considerably higher in potash. It is therefore not as nutritious a straw as good oat straw.

Millet makes a fair quality hay if it is cut about the time the flowers begin to appear. If it is allowed to go longer than this, it becomes very woody and is not nutritious. It can be fed to dairy cattle although it is not nearly so nutritious as alfalfa hay, but is a little better than timothy.

L. J.—1. Do you recommend putting lime rock on sandy soil for alfalfa? How much to the acre? Do you put it on before you plow your land or drag it in?

2. How much sweet clover seed should be sown to the acre? Will sweet clover grow on low land? Can the plant be killed by plowing it up?

Answer.—Fairly finely ground limestone rock is one of the best forms of lime to apply to the ordinary field for the growing of alfalfa. The amount to use will vary with the test of the soil. If the soil is slightly acid, one-half ton to the acre will probably be enough. If it shows distinctly sour, it will be necessary to use upwards of 1½ tons to the acre. One of the best ways to sow lime is to scatter it on top of the plower ground and work it in at the time the ground is disked and harrowed. This brings the effect of lime into the top three inches of soil where seed is sown.

About 20 lbs. of sweet clover seed is recommended to sow to the acre. Sweet clover will grow on fairly well drained low land but it will not do as well as alfalfa and it is not as valuable a crop when the stand is obtained. Sweet clover is a biennial. That is, it takes two years to go through its life cycle. At the end of that time it will kill out itself if the hay has been cut each year before the seed is formed. The persistent nature of sweet clover comes about by a certain amount being allowed to go to seed. This can easily be avoided.

Pregnant Ewes and Alfalfa

Second growth alfalfa is a very rich and tasty feed to all farm animals. Sheep are very fond of it and will eat more than is good for them, if it is kept before them all the time. Pregnant ewes should be fed with some consideration of their condition, and the alfalfa feeding limited to one feed per day. The quantity given can be limited to what they will clean up in one hour. Other forage, such as oat straw, pea straw, red clover or mixed hay can be given in quantity, to complete their need for roughage. Pregnant ewes that live on an exclusive alfalfa diet may die at lambing time, and the post mortem of such alfalfa-fed ewes reveals a degenerate liver. Alfalfa is the fest of forage, but it should be fed with care to pregnant animals. Once an animal has delivered its young and is milking heavily, there seems to be no danger in liberal alfalfa feeding. Many sheep flocks have paid the penalty of too liberal alfalfa feeding. Better stay on the safe side, and make it a practice of feeding alfalfa but once a day to pregnant ewes. After they start milking it may be fed liberally, without risk.

Poultry Itch and Scratch

Great loss is sustained each year through the ravaging of poultry flocks by biting and sucking lice, which feed on skin, scales and feathers. Lice infesting poultry can cause the birds much discomfort, resulting in a lower egg yield and poor condition of the birds.

Control.—Sodium flouride is one of the most efficient dusting powders that can be applied to louse infested birds. Its use is described on page 13 of Bulletin 363, Ontario Department of Agriculture. Dust baths should be provided the birds for winter use, in order that they can by their own efforts keep their bodies free of lice. Dust baths should contain some tobacco powder or some sodium flourosilicate. One little louse may look innocent of all evil, but bear in mind that thousands can make their presence felt and ruin the possibility of profit from the flock Clean poultry are always profitable.

Stranded Shark Yields 350 Gallons of Liver

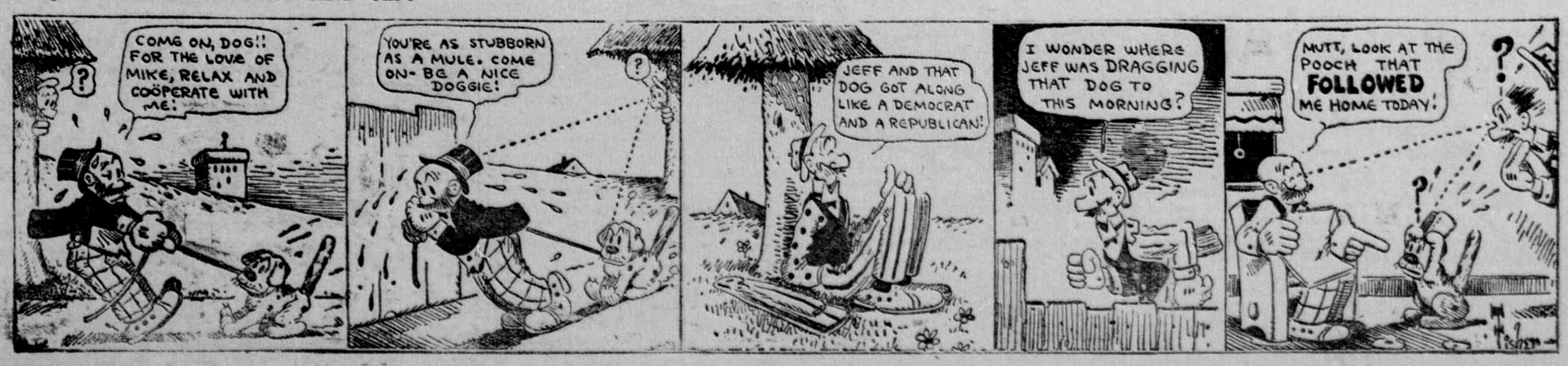
Montreal.—The brush walls of a sardine weir at Harbor DeLoutre, Campobello, N.B., are capable of holding sardines, but a 26-foot shark weighing 3,000 pounds did not remain a prisoner long. It plunged through the weir and became stranded on the shore.

When opened by two fishermen the carcass of the monster, known locally as the "liver-shark," yielded seven 50-gallon drums of liver. The enormous liver, occupying most of the carcass, exuded great quantities of oil. It was sold at an oil refinery

The fish had a dorsal fin nearly five feet long and measured almost six feet through the thickest part of the body. The first of its kind ever taken in local waters, it was believed to be the same species of shark which attacked a fisherman's boat in the Bay of Fundy near Digby some months ago.

HIS HOPE IS SURE

Blest is the man whose heart and hands are pure.
He hath no sickness that he shall not cure,
No sorrow that he may not well endure;
His feet are steadfast and his hope is sure.
—John Addington Symonds.

Great work are performed not by strength but by perseverance.—Johnson.

By BUD FISHER MUTT AND JEFF— Oh-Yeah?