

The Acton Free Press

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EDITORIAL

How Much Do You Want It?

How much do you want a thing is indicated by the size of the obstacle that will turn you from its pursuit. Take an education, for instance.

A First Duty

Next year's County Council for Halton will see a number of the same members in that body, with just sufficient of a sprinkling of new faces to form some new acquaintances.

Poor Time for Immigration

From important quarters comes the suggestion that Canada can readily absorb additional British immigrants. We presume that its sponsors refer to Britichers who desire to settle on Canadian farm land.

A Loss to Ontario

The death of Hon. Edward A. Dunlop, Provincial Treasurer, comes as a distinct loss to the Province, and his passing is mourned by all, regardless of political affiliation.

Serving the Public?

One wonders sometimes if the chief management of the C. N. R. actually desires to serve the public or if some other motive is back of its operation. On the Sunday previous to Christmas, and again on the Sunday before New Year's, all passenger trains on the line through Acton were cancelled.

Canada's Speediest Game

That speediest of all sports, ice hockey, is evidently increasing in popularity in Canada, for a report has just been issued by the Canadian Government Bureau of Statistics on the sporting goods industry in Canada for 1932 shows that the total output of hockey sticks during the year was 561,160, or about 15,000 more than in 1931.

EDITORIAL NOTES

The new white auto markers with black figures are putting an in occasional appearance. But they'll not be numerous until the brighter and warmer days of spring.

1934 will be better for the printer, anyway. It won't be so hard to always have plenty of 3s for every date line and a similar difficulty won't arise for eleven years.

One time you aren't as smart as you think you are, says the Shelburne Economist, is when you think you are smart enough to convince a real egotist he isn't as smart as he thinks he is.

Hockey fans have high hopes for the local prospects this year. Let's hope the prospects will justify the hope and that the chase for the elusive championship will come closer this year.

It would seem that Toronto has a Mayor who has proven quite satisfactory to the majority of its citizens. Mayor Stewart rather outdistanced the combined forces of three contestants for the honor at the election Monday.

The functions of the Canadian Government Meteorological Service include the dissemination of weather forecasts and warnings of expected storms and atmospheric disturbances, particularly on the seaboard and the Great Lakes.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

FOR SUNDAY, JANUARY 5, 1934

THE GOSPEL OF THE KINGDOM Studies in Matthew (First Half of a Six-Months Course).

BIRTH AND INFANCY OF JESUS Golden Text.—Thou shalt call his name Jesus; for it is he that shall save his people from their sins.—Matthew 2: 21.

Lesson Text.—Matt. 1: 1-2; 23. Study, also, Luke 2: 1-7; John 3: 16-21; Is. 9; 6, 7.

Time.—A. B. C. Places.—Jerusalem, Bethlehem, Egypt, Nazareth.

Exposition.—I. The Wise Men Seek Jesus to Worship Him, 1, 2.

The maiden chosen of God to be the mother of Jesus did not live in Bethlehem, but far away Nazareth. But men were utterly unconscious of God's purposes and prophecies, by many degrees and ways worked together so that Mary was brought to Bethlehem at the time of our Lord's birth, and thus God's Word was fulfilled and His eternal plan carried out.

The sure word of prophecy spoken over seven centuries before by a man who was "borne along by the Holy Spirit" was thus fulfilled to the very letter, in spite of all the cunning of great men.

Through their very wickedness, God's purposes and words were fulfilled. These wise men from the East were the ancient magi; they were astrologers of the stars, and they sought to live up to the best light they had, and God met them where they were and gave them more light. It is always so; he that lives up to the light that he has will get more.

The bright light that led them on was dim, only starlight, but it was the best they had; and, as they followed it faithfully, God gave them fuller light, that of His revealed Word, and following that He found Him who is "the Light of the world" (John 8: 12).

In their earnestness to find the King, they took a long, weary journey, but their labor was abundantly rewarded. They made a far better use of their little light than the chief priests and scribes did of their fuller light. They came for the best of purposes, "to worship Him."

II. Herod Seeks Jesus to Kill Him, 3: 1-6.

The tidings that came to Herod that the King was come should have brought him joy, but in reality they troubled him, for he wanted to be King himself. So many a heart-to-day that ought to welcome Christ as King with joy is troubled at the declaration that Christ is King, for we wish to be kings ourselves.

But not only Herod was troubled, but all Jerusalem, as well as Jerusalem, the city of the great King, whose whole glory was to centre in Him, was unwilling to receive Him when He came; was troubled about His coming instead of rejoicing at it (John 1: 11). How many in the Church would be troubled if they knew Jesus was coming to-morrow? Herod thought the proper place to go for information about the Christ was to the Scriptures. In that he was right (John 5: 39). If he had studied the Bible as he ought for himself, it would not have been necessary for him to go to the chief priests and scribes to tell him; but many kings and many common people, instead of searching the Scriptures for themselves, depend upon the theologians for their information.

Herod was very thorough in his search to find out about the Christ: he gathered all the chief priests and all the scribes; he inquired diligently of the wise men; he told them to "go and search diligently." He hid his plans with great skill; he was bound to make sure. He thought he had left no loophole in his schemes, but he had left God out of his calculations, so in spite of his thoroughness, they all came to nothing. The scribes were well-instructed from the Scriptures and perfectly orthodox. They knew just where the Christ should be born, but they had no interest in His coming.

III. The Wise Men Find Jesus, 9-12. As soon as the wise men had received the desired information, they started immediately to find the King whom they sought. Again God leads them by the star, and leads them to the very spot where the young child was. They were more accustomed to being led by stars than any other way, and God adapts His leading to our necessity.

While Herod and Jerusalem had been troubled at the thought that Christ was come, the wise men of the East rejoiced with exceeding great joy to find Him. Those who enjoy the largest privileges, oftentimes least appreciate them, and those who have the least light are most eager for more (cf. Matt. 8: 10, 11). There is an eagerness to hear about Christ to-day in heathen lands that is sometimes lacking in so-called Christian lands.

There is no greater joy to the true heart than that of finding Jesus. When they entered the house they fell down and worshipped Jesus. They saw Mary, His mother, but they did not worship her. Worship may not have meant to them all that it means to us but it is right to worship Jesus (Heb. 1: 6). When they had worshipped they presented unto Him their gifts.

That is the true order; first, worship, then giving. They gave Him their very best, gold and frankincense and myrrh (cf. Pa. 72: 10, 11). They were wise men indeed. Many to-day give Him only their poorest. Note carefully the conduct of the wise men: 1. They sought Jesus. 2. They found Jesus. 3. They rejoiced over

4. They worshipped Jesus. 5. They gave gifts to Jesus. God now guides them in their dream.

IV. God, His Father, protects Jesus, 13-23. Now God acts. Herod's scheme fails, because God upsets it. God again guides by a "dream." Joseph wisely does exactly as God bade him do. Another prophecy is fulfilled. Some months must have elapsed between the birth of Jesus and the migration of the Holy Family into Egypt and the slaughter of the babes at Bethlehem by the order of the wicked and cruel Herod. God promises to send and Joseph word when it is time to return, and God keeps His promise. Herod dies, but the young child whom he sought to slay lives, and comes back to the land of Israel. But the place of His birth is to know Him no more. The prophecies of God are to be still further fulfilled. And so, He turns aside, with Joseph and Mary, into the hills of Galilee, to be called once and for ever the Nazarene.

Miller's Worm Powders will drive worms from the system without injury to the child. The powders are so easy to take that the most delicate stomachs can assimilate them and welcome them as speedy easers of pain, because they promptly remove the worms that cause the pain, and thus the suffering of the child is relieved. With so sterling a remedy at hand no child should suffer an hour from worms.

NOVEL HEATING SYSTEM Two new Liverpool churches, one at Anfield and one at Norris Green, are to have an entirely novel form of heating. They will be kept warm by electric panels fitted in the roof, and all the warmth will be directed straight down by dull electric rays at a low temperature.

Novel heating system, which is a British patent. No boiler-house or chimney is required, no labor needed to supervise the plant. Once the power has been switched on it is controlled automatically by thermostats, which will maintain the temperature of the building at whatever degree is needed.

It's not brilliance that gets one any place, it's application.—Lady Reading.

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