

I HAVE A BOY

I've a wonderful boy, and I say to him, "Son, Be fair and be square in the race you must run. Be brave if you lose and be meek if you win. Be better and nobler than I've ever been. Be honest and noble in all that you do, and honor the name I have given to you."

Twenty Years Ago

From the Issue of The Free Press of Thursday, January 24th, 1924

Sunday night was the coldest of the winter so far. The mercury registered ten below zero.

Last evening members of Knox Church Young People's Guild and the Methodist Young People's League joined in a skating party at the rink.

The employees of the Hewettson Shoe factory and their friends held a social evening in the Town Hall on Friday evening.

The old-fashioned tea meeting in Knox Church on Monday evening had real old fashioned weather; a genuine old-fashioned sumptuous supper and an old-fashioned program by old-fashioned married folk forming the choir.

George Barber, elected five times reeve of Acton, is honored by the County Council by being elected the warden for 1924.

BEAUMONT—At Glenwilliams, on January 11th, 1924, to Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Beaumont, a son.

Staunch Lifeboats Protect the Lives of Canuck Sailors

Whales Built for Royal Canadian Navy in Indoor Miniature Shipyards at Port Arthur

PORT ARTHUR (CP) — A father and son and four helpers are turning out whalers for the Royal Canadian Navy at the rate of one vessel every two or three weeks, in a small shipyard here.

These Henry Kiskers of the lifeboat business are S. H. Perry and Son, one-time builder of motorboats and other leisure craft. Their shipyard is located in a former lumber warehouse in downtown Port Arthur in a hall just large enough to accommodate one of the whalers at a time.

The sturdy craft that are built by the Perrys are destined for Canadian minesweepers and destroyers protecting precious convoys plying to and from Britain and the warfronts.

Mr. Perry Sr. returned to his first love when he began building whalers again. Born on Perry Island off the northeast coast of Newfoundland, he grew up steeped in the atmosphere of deep-sea fishing and the lore of boat building.

The whaler is a glorified row-boat 27 feet long with 10 oars. It is 32 inches deep and constructed to stand the wear and tear of life on the open sea. One whaler will accommodate 28 men easily.

Portable main and mizzen masts are built with each whaler for use on long trips and a tank box in the centre of each boat encloses a manoeuvrable steel plate which acts as a corrector for the ship when the sails are up.

Half a Million Persons Left Farms

It is estimated that 400,000 men and probably at least 100,000 women have left the farms since 1939, so Arthur McNamara, Deputy Minister of Labor and Director, National Selective Service, told the Dominion-Provincial Agricultural Conference which met recently in Ottawa.

He said that Selective Service regulations have been a factor in stabilizing employment on farms and reviewed what the Government has done in an effort to overcome some of the difficulties in connection with farm labor shortages.

THEY WAIT IN THE ALPS

A man who until lately has been living with the French patriots in the mountains of Savoy has come to England. He recorded for a BBC broadcast some facts about the life of this desperate band so determinedly resisting the Nazi order to go to Germany as forced laborers.

He was one of about a thousand who first took to the mountains. The Italians were then in charge of this district of the French Alps. They offered little interference, beyond checking identity cards, of which, the speaker said, "we had plenty."

In the following months their numbers swelled to over 5,000. The rough and difficult country has deterred the Germans from hunting down these patriots. Indeed they hide their time, cat-like, in the valleys. The resistors are organized into "camps", they have a secret training school for new members. They have no heavy arms, but they have Sten guns and French rifles, revolvers, pistols, and plenty of ammunition.

Food is their main problem. This is how the speaker described it. "Somehow or other four is transported up those mountains. Some meat is shired too . . . and you may imagine that when people in France themselves are nearly starving, give away their food, that is patriotism indeed." There have been judiciously of course, agents of Laval ready to betray them. Many have been found out in time.

The escaped man's worry is how the "Savoyards" will fare in the winter. It is bitter at those great heights. Besides fuel and clothes, and especially footwear, they need medicines and surgical supplies. A few of these things can be bought in France—there is no hope of help from the French people.

They are not, the speaker emphasized, a military force, but they can be dangerous guerrillas. They've stationed themselves close to the passes that come out of Italy—and they hope to see the Germans retreating out of Italy. They would be at hand, too, to destroy roads and bridges.

NO SHORT CUT TO VICTORY

For nearly two years now we have been bombing German cities many times more heavily than London was ever bombed. The Nazis haven't yet shown one definite sign of cracking.

Three months ago we landed on the mainland of Italy. At no time have we registered a sustained advance of more than a few miles. Along the whole coast of Western Europe the country is mined and studded with guns of all calibres to a depth of a hundred miles. To these formidable defences has now been added winter.

These facts do not point to any short cut to victory. As Prime Minister Churchill warned in London the other day, there is no indication that we can win this war without a staggering bill in blood and treasure.

It is possible that Germany might collapse before the armies of the western democracies are called upon to face an Armageddon in Eastern Europe. But we would be blind fools to count on such an outcome; to ease in our war effort, to weaken our national capacity to withstand horror and disaster by assuming that we are now pretty well out of the woods.—Financial Post.

BIDLING PROVED COSTLY

LONDON (CP)—Edward Parry, 21, who fire-watched by drinking beer in a public house instead of on the roof of a coach-building firm, was fined the equivalent of \$45.50 and costs at East Acton.

The Sunday School Lesson

SUNDAY, JANUARY 22nd, 1944

JESUS TEACHES IN PARABLES

Golden Text.—If any man hath ears to hear, let him hear. Mk. 4: 23. Lesson Text.—Mk. 4: 1-9, 26-32. Time.—A. D. 28. Place.—Galilee. Exposition.—I. Jesus As An Open Air Preacher, 1, 2.

This, like every other great sermon recorded in the Bible, was preached in the open air. It would be well if our great preachers also would go to "the sea side." Not for rest and pleasure, but to preach the Gospel to the crowds that gather beneath His dignity (Jno. 15: 20). Jesus went to the seaside because that was where He would get the crowd. Jesus began to preach when the crowd collected (Luke 8: 4), but He was not above preaching to an audience of one (Jno. 3: 4). But the multitude loved to gather to hear Jesus (Matt. 5: 1; 15: 32; Luke 8: 45).

II. Hard-Hearted Hearers, 3, 4, 15. Jesus represents Himself as a sower. "The Word of God is seed (Luke 8: 11); it has life, it brings forth fruit (Col. 1: 5, 6). There is more ultimate value in one grain of wheat than in the largest diamond ever found; for that grain sown, and its fruit sown, will in time fill the earth with its increase. So with a word of truth sown in the heart; it converts one, he many; each one he converts, many more, in ever widening circles. There are four kinds of soil or classes of hearers. The first class are like the trodden path over which the feet and the wheels of the world have gone until there is no receptivity for the Word of God. The seed sown in such hearts is snatched away by the devil through his ever-present emissaries, "fowls of the air." The devil's greatest aim in life is to keep men from believing the Word and being saved (Luke 8: 12). There are men who are actively sympathetic with the devil in this purpose. Wherever the Word of God is preached the devil is present in person or through his many "birds" to snatch it away, before it can spring up and bring life and blessing.

III. Shallow-Hearted Hearers, 5, 6, 16, 17. The second class of hearers are like the thin soil on an outcropping ledge of rock. They hear the Word, and immediately, without reflection upon its real import and the cost of acceptance, receive it with joy (Luke 8: 13). It takes hold upon the emotions but not upon the great depths of the will. A deep work is better than a swift one. These have no root and the young plant soon withers. The scorching sun is "tribulation or persecution because of the Word." If the seed were well rooted the sun would make it grow and ripen; so do tribulation and persecution when the Word is well rooted. The Galatians were rocky-soil hearers (Gal. 3: 15; 5: 7; 6: 12). Many to-day are rocky-ground hearers who run well as long as it is all joy, but who quit as soon as "afflictions" come or "persecutions because of the Word."

IV. Half-Hearted Hearers, 7, 8, 19. The third class of hearers are like rich, promising, but over-occupied soil. There are already thorns in the soil, and the seed soon falls upon these. They grow up with their rank, luxuriant growth, and the good seed is choked and the early promise comes to nothing. In this case there has been real attention to the Word and some appreciation of it (v. 22). It has taken some hold upon the will, but there has not been whole-hearted surrender to it. They are capable of bearing fruit, if they would only cut out the thorns; but they won't. The thorns are (1) "The care of this world," in how many a business man and housewife the Word of God is thus choked out. (2) "The deceitfulness of riches." How many a man grows godless as he grows rich. (3) "Pleasures of this life" (Luke 8: 14). (4) "Lusts of other things." Out with the thorns.

V. Whole-Hearted Hearers, 8, 20. But there is a fourth class, "good ground." They "hear the word." They appreciate its value and give good heed. (2) They "understand" it. They take in its meaning and its price. (3) They "accept it" "in an honest and good heart" (Luke 8: 15), not merely hear but take hold (4) They "hold it fast" (Luke 8: 15, R.V.). They will not give it up at any cost. These bring forth fruit "with patience", thirty, sixty, an hundred fold.

VI. The Seed Growing of Itself, 26-32. If we have the light of God's Word, we should set it forth where all can see it and be enlightened and cheered and served by it (vs. 21, 22; Matt. 5: 14-16). The secret things of our own lives will all be brought to light some day (v. 22). Ears are given to hear with and the possession of hearing involves a grave responsibility (v. 24). The Gospel is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth (Rom. 1: 16), but believing comes by hearing (Rom. 10: 17). Wherein lies safety? In obeying our Lord Jesus and taking "heed what we hear" and in taking Paul's advice and continuing in the study of and belief in the Scriptures (2 Tim. 3: 13-17).

Take Over English Village

In the old English counties of Kent, Sussex, Hampshire and Dorset a new sort of war hero and heroine is arising, the citizen who is willingly leaving his home-honored village and moving to unknown territory inland to make way for the training of American invasion forces.

Reports from reliable sources show that 3,000 villages have been moved from the coastal regions. More than 450 families, living on the windswept lands where their forebears have lived for generations, have gone away. With them have departed 15,000 cattle, sheep, 7,000 tons of beets, and 1,000 tons of hay. One hundred and thirty-five army trucks were used in the removals and an army of between 300 and 400 serfdoms and land army girls helped the farmers move their stored crops. Postmen, bakers and farm laborers who have gone their daily rounds all their lives in these villages have retired within the fastness of England and have become in the words of the American commander, Gen. Jacob L. Dever, "unsung heroes."

Thus British villages make their contribution to what Gen. Dever says "may become the difference between success and disaster for the Allied plan of operations." To-day amid streets of empty villages, across vacant fields and down unused country lanes the American army of invasion trains and bulldozers and prepares against the day. One day the historian will write of these sun-light counties in the South of England that they owe their place on the record of mankind to the fact that they served as the springboard of a grand assault which freed Europe of a second Attila.—London Free Press.

LONDON — Under a new scheme, members of the United Kingdom forces can learn bakery by a correspondence course so that they can take up the trade when they resume civil life.

AN OLD LAMBETH WALKER WRITES FROM THE U.S.A.

Joan Gilbert was delighted to receive in her post-tray the other morning a letter (printed below) from an old London Music Hall artist, now in America, who listens to her in the BBC's American Eagle Club broadcasts, which she produces.

Her correspondent writes from Worcester, Massachusetts: "Dear Madam, "Was going to write you sooner, but last night I had two reasons for writing this epistle. First, you spoke of Lambeth Walk. I used to take the train from Camberwell to go there for 'baked sheep's head every Saturday night (which we could get them over here). Opposite the walk is the Canterbury where, in 1888, I sang with Marie Loftus. By the way, her daughter is here in the U.S.A. and doing fine. Secondly at the end of the Walk is the 'Vic', good old 'Vic', where in 1875 I saw Uncle Tom's Cabin played. To the point—your perfect English is identical with my mother's which inspired me to bother you with this letter. I could listen to you 'aye', as in you I hear my Dear Ma.

Most sincerely yours, Bill Shearn."

BEDROCK BEDROOM BEATS THE BLITZ

AT A SOUTHEAST COAST PORT (CP) This once popular seaside resort solved the air raid shelter problem by simply digging a big tunnel beneath the entire city. The blitz is history but the city still occasionally is the target for comparatively mild bomber attacks and shelling. Ruid or no raid, however, some 2,000 persons still sleep each night in double-decker bunks which line the sides of the winding, twisting subterranean passageway. They've known no other bedroom for four years. The tunnel was hewed out of solid rock. Some 75 to 100 feet deep, it extends several miles and links up with an old, unused railroad tunnel one and a half miles long.

FILM STAR GETS BACK PAY

LONDON (CP) — Weekly paid salaries of British film studios recently received a total of thousands of pounds, back pay from last February under an agreement which raises wages and improves working conditions.

VITAMINS IN BEER

BIRMINGHAM (CP) — Britain's wartime beer, admittedly far below pre-war standards, contains a large Vitamin B2, said Prof. Hopkins. Two or three pints a day will supply all the riboflavin a man needs, he said after an investigation.

TRAIN AFRICAN GIRLS

FREETOWN (CP) — A grant of 23,500 pounds has been made under the Colonial Development Welfare Act for the development of women's education in Sierra Leone. Part of the scheme is for the training of African girls as secondary school teachers. Scholarships will be offered during the year 1943-44 for the training of girls for this work in England.

LONDON—For the foods covered by basic rationing (except tea), consumers in Great Britain are required to register with one particular retailer. Retailers are similarly tied to one wholesaler.

IRVING BERLIN



Irving Berlin, famous American song-writer, talking in the British Broadcasting Corporation Forces program "The World Goes By." He came to Britain to present his stage spectacle "This is the Army." Extracts from it, including songs sung by Berlin himself, were also broadcast in BBC programs.

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