

AN ABANDONED FARM

Man has weeded of his task And withdrawn; Weeds grow rank and wild things bark On the lawn; By the orchard, gnarled and grey; House and barn sink to decay; No blithe sounds of work or play Greet the dawn.

Nature takes what man has spurned To her heart; Like a conqueror returned, Routs man's art; Through his fields deploys her lines, Regiments of shrubs and vines; Takes by storm or undermines Every part.

How she flaunts her victory This bright day! Sets where every eye may see Banners gay! Purple jays, asters blue, Meadow-sweet of creamy hue, Golden-rod and peonies, too, Line my way.

So my soul by Care and Toil Long oppressed, Like this farm's exhausted soil, Cries for rest! Nature, take again thy child! Lying fallow, free and wild, Let me feel thy rigor mild, Soothed and blessed!

Twenty Years Ago

From the issue of the Free Press of Thursday, March 11th, 1926

The highway between Acton and Guelph has not been open for motor vehicles for three weeks. The rubber goods manufacturing plant of V. T. Smith Company at Rockwood was destroyed by fire last Saturday morning. Fourteen employees narrowly escaped being trapped in the burning building.

Mr. James Noble who has resided in Acton the past ten years or more removed with his family this week to Detroit.

Last Thursday the old wood burning locomotive No. 2194 was on the Canadian National Railway siding here for half an hour or so and was viewed by a number of citizens. This old engine was built away back in the eighties when beech and maple wood were used as fuel.

The members of Knox Church Choir and friends spent a delightful evening at the home of Mrs. John Mann last Wednesday.

BROWN At the residence Church Street, Acton, on Friday, March 5th, Miss Mary Ann Brown, widow of the late John Brown, in her sixty-eighth year.

Place Orders Now for Package Bees

Those intending to import package bees this coming spring should place their orders at once in order to avoid late or even non-deliveries when the active season opens. Since it is so difficult to obtain Dominion Apiarist.

The demand for honey to replace heavily rationed sugar is still high, increasing the demand for bees. Many of the breeders are already warning their prospective customers that late orders may go unfilled. The ten per cent. War Exchange tax on imported bees has been removed so that there is now no duty on them and that has eliminated the danger of delays in deliveries due to neglect in pre-paying this tax. It is too early yet to state definitely whether or not the subsidy on package bees will be continued to 1946 importations. In any case, those who killed their bees in fall and plan to replace them with packages in the spring should not wait until a definite announcement is made before ordering.

The sugar situation is still critical and the supplies available for spring feeding of bees are severely limited. No sugar is available for spring feeding except in the provinces of Saskatchewan and Alberta where five to ten pounds will be allowed per colony for established beekeepers only. Those keeping bees for the first time this spring cannot secure any Service men who can establish the fact that they were bona fide beekeepers at the time of enlistment will receive consideration. For full details on the matter of allocation of sugar and for permits to purchase it, the beekeeper should write to the Provincial Apiarist of the province in which he resides. Package bees should not be ordered unless the beekeeper has the necessary food and equipment on hand to feed and care for the bees when they arrive.

BLITZ "SISSES"

BYRONTO (CP) Representatives of British fire fighters on a goodwill tour of Canada thought they were "sisses" after watching Ottawa firemen fight a blaze in a raging snowstorm. One commented "Even with all my blitz firefighting experience I still think we are sisses in comparison."

DO YOU KNOW

More business was done, in terms of volume, in December than in November which reverses a two year trend. We still need to be careful with sugar since present signs are that there will be no easing in the world sugar supply until 1947. Canada's 1945 honey crop amounted to 3,683,000 lbs. WPTB will review from time to time price levels on items recently taken off the ceiling to ascertain as to whether these items have increased considerably in price or not. December payrolls showed an increase of one per cent over November.

The Sunday School Lesson

SUNDAY, MARCH 10th

NATIONAL DISASTER AND DELIVERANCE

Golden Text. The Lord is my helper; I will not fear. Heb. 13: 6.

Lesson Text. Judges 2: 7, 11, 16-23.

Time 1425 P.C. Place, Canada.

Exposition 1 Israel Backslides into Sin, 7: 11.

The Israelites had been given the victory over the pagan people which possessed of their promised land. They were commanded to purge the country of their enemies. They did nothing of the kind. Read ch. 1 for a record of incomplete victories. God knew what He was doing (Lev. 18: 2, 3). He knew that "evil communications corrupt good manners" (1 Cor. 15: 33, 34). The Israelites thought themselves wiser than the commandments of God. They spared the heathen and did not convert them. On the other hand, they fellowshiped with them. As a result, God stayed His judgments on them, allowing them to remain in order to become "as thorns in the sides of the Israelites" (v. 3).

They settled down to conditions as they were (vs. 6, 7). They occupied land which was the providence of God and reaped harvests provided by Him. And still they deteriorated. They kept up the form of that rugged faith which Joshua and Caleb inculcated but the hearts of the people grew more and more tolerant of idolatry and paganism which had cursed the land for centuries before the Israelites came to it. Then, things got worse. Sin became more open and flagrant. They began to do evil in the sight of the Lord. That is they knew perfectly well they were violating the law God had spoken. Further, they had the Ark of the Covenant in their midst with its shining glory of their transcendent God but they paid Him no heed. They worshipped Baalim (v. 13). Baal was the god of the Canaanites. But the worship of the people of Jericho, Shechem, Ai and other cities was polytheistic. The name Baal means the chief male deity. Baalim is the plural form and expresses the various aspects of the worship of Baal in different localities. So detestable was this corrupt religion which defiled the bodies and souls of the people that God commanded several steps to be taken.

God does not like mixed seeds (Lev. 19: 19; 1 Cor. 9: 11, 6, 9: 12, 2 Cor. 6: 17, 18). For that reason He has left us abundant warning against His revealed faith with man-invented religions of the earth. He knows it means the death of faith in the end. The solemn warning given the Pergamos church (Rev. 2: 14) ought to be heeded. A concession to a sinful world has never brought success. In the case of Israel (v. 12) it lowered their standard to the bestial levels of the people of the land and brought on them the judicial anger of God.

If God's Grace Ignored (v. 16-19). There has always been a faithful remnant carrying on God's true witness and fulfilling His commandments (Luke 2: 25-36, Rom. 11: 2-5, Rev. 1: 4, Ac. 19: 1, 2). In Israel's apostasy there were some who did not bow the knee to Baal. They would pray and long for the purity of Israel's faith. In answer to these prayers God raised up Judges of the people, many of whom were outstanding military geniuses.

That God should have "repented" (this word means a change of mind) because of their "groanings" is a manifestation of His grace. They had brought their miseries upon themselves, nevertheless, His omnipotent might exerted itself for their deliverance. God is long-suffering (Ex. 34: 5-7). He is not willing that any should perish (2 Pet. 3: 9). In spite of all the Lord did for them, Israel continued her apostasy. Consequently, and increasingly the people became slaves, oppressed by God's enemies.

Consequences of National Sin

The anger of the Lord which is stated in v. 29 must not be confused with the sinful excitement of human beings we call "anger" (Eph. 4: 26). The Lord reveals His indignation against sin by signs of His displeasure. Holiness must abhor sin. Righteousness is holiness in action. Iniquity is sin in action. Between righteousness and iniquity there must be a judicial wrath which the Judge of all the earth must feel toward all sin.

What did the sin of Israel consist of? Two things: (1) they transgressed Jehovah's covenant; (2) they would not listen to God's Word as spoken through His servants. The covenant referred to was the promise made to Abram (Gen. 12: 1, 15: 18) and renewed repeatedly. It assured the security, prosperity and greatness of Israel in a land of God's appointing. It guaranteed to them the grace and mercy of Jehovah provided they would continue in His faith and ethical obedience. They refused to do either. Instead of living separately among the nations they mingled with them, copying their apostasy and vices (Heb. 8: 7-11). Therefore, God gave them over to the fellowship of the heathen (v. 23). The lesson in this is important. As Christians we are called into the New Covenant (Testament) (Heb. 10: 15-18).

Soil Survey Work is Being Extended

Soil survey work presents an interesting example of Experimental Farm co-operation with provincial agencies in which the method of operation has been evolved to suit peculiar administrative organizations of different provinces. Under existing arrangements, the provincial governments and the Experimental Farm Service, each employs trained soil scientists for survey work in all the provinces. In certain provinces, these men work under technical direction of the provincial colleges of agriculture, in others, technical supervision is exercised by the Dominion soil survey staff. In nearly all provinces, Provincial and Dominion soil survey personnel form single operating units. The soil survey staff of the Central Farm at Ottawa correlates the work between the provinces, and through the National Committee on Soil Surveys, facilitates the exchange of information. Reports and maps are generally issued as joint Dominion-Provincial publications. By these arrangements it is possible to conduct the work in a manner satisfactory to both Provincial and Dominion interests.

Altogether about 1,000,000 acres have been covered by soil surveys in Canada. Of this total, 54,000,000 acres were surveyed by the provinces acting alone, with 3,130,000 acres covered before Dominion-Provincial co-operation went into effect. Co-operative surveys have been conducted on 11,561,000 acres, of which about 17,000,000 were covered in preliminary or exploratory manner. It is estimated that about two-thirds of the arable land of Canada has been covered in sufficient detail to be considered sufficient for all purposes. A great deal of detailed surveying has yet to be done.

AIR TAXIS WILL STREAMLINE BRITISH TRANSPORT SERVICES

LONDON, Eng. A helicopter taxi service to the most remote corners of Britain. The Yorkshire Post reports that Railway Air Services are considering a plan to establish an air taxi service costing no more than average car hire prices which will take a passenger from home whether in the Welsh mountains, the Scottish Highlands or isolated districts of England direct to the mainline station. The passenger will merely phone an order and an air taxi will call almost literally "on the doorstep". The scheme should raise the entire system of United Kingdom rail transport to the level of its express train services which hold the world speed records.

CAMERAS AS DETECTIVES

LONDON, Eng. At the London Annual Exhibition of the British Royal Photographic Society, a collection of photographs, consisting of 1. Stereomicrograms, belonging to Lieut. Colonel W. R. Mansfield, aroused special interest. The micrograms were reproductions of counterfeit books, documents, testaments, deeds, etc., in which erasures, forgery or illegal modifications made would not have been detectable by the naked eye or by ordinary photographs. In the opinion of the experts, the "Stereo-Micrograms" are a progressive step in criminology, which will facilitate the unmasking of forged documents.

AUCTION SALE

OF FURNITURE, GARDEN TOOLS, HORSES, HARNESS, ETC. The undersigned auctioneer has received instructions from HERB SMITH To sell by public auction at his farm on the Guelph Road, half mile north of Campbellville on SATURDAY, MARCH 9th At 2 o'clock the following: \*HORSES: 1 Brown Gelding, 5 yrs old; 1 Bay Gelding, aged, extra good suffering horse. \*GARDEN IMPLEMENTS: 1 Team Cultivator; 1 Set Seed Harrows, 3-section; Walking Plow, Hand Garden Seeder, Single Row Scuffler, Potato Sprayer, Wheel Barrow, Platform Scales, Door Scales, Step Ladder, Hot Bed Sash, Extra Glasses, Work Bench and Vise, Set Heavy Breaching Harness, Odd Collars, Odd Harness, Ensilage Fork and Shovel; Hoes, Large quantity of Baskets and Hampers, Pruning Hook, Other Garden Tools. \*FURNITURE AND HOUSEHOLD EFFECTS: 1 Chesterfield Suite and 2 chairs to match; 1 Solid Walnut Bed; 1 Walnut Dresser with marble top; 1 Walnut Wash Stand with marble top; 1 Corner Whatnot; 1 Oak Library Table; 1 Large Oak Extension Table, Buffet and Chairs to match; 1 Dining Room Table, chairs to match; 1 Roll Top Secretary; 2 Wall Mirrors; 1 Victrola and Records; 1 Battery Radio, extra good shape; 1 Cook Stove, wood; 1 Large Heater, wood or coal; 1 Coal Oil Stove, 3-burner with oven; 1 Singer Sewing Machine, drop head; Lamp, Lantern, Large quantity of dishes, Glassware, Sealers, etc., Stovepipes and other small household effects.

TERMS: CASH

No reserve as the proprietor is moving to Hamilton.

J. A. ELLIOTT, Auctioneer

GIFT TICKET WINS \$45,000

CAPETOWN (CP) — Sudden wealth recently came to a Capetown Indian who for 40 years has worked as a butcher on the Cape Flats. He is Ismael Adams, 70, who has a wife and nine children.

A friend, Fred Holdom, assurance agent formerly in the South African C.I.D., who came to South Africa from Birmingham during the South African War, gave Adams the last ticket in a book of 25 sweepstake tickets in return for kindnesses received. Mr. Holdom met Adams for the first time over 30 years ago, and since then Adams had from time to time offered his small gifts of chicken and meat, but always refused to accept payment.

Adams accepted the ticket as a present, and later learned to his surprise and joy that it had drawn a horse. He was content with the thought that he might receive \$2,250, but was overwhelmed when he was informed that the horse had won the race and that he was the winner of \$45,000.

"He is a kindly man," said Mr. Holdom, "and he will remember people who have been kind to him."

Cyclists Should Heed

For the guidance of cyclists, we print the following safety suggestions from the Ontario Motor League:

- 1. Don't ride more than two abreast at any time, and keep in single file in traffic.
2. Don't change direction suddenly.
3. Don't ride closely behind a motor vehicle. It may stop unexpectedly.
4. Keep your hands on the handlebars.
5. Don't pass motor vehicles on the wrong side.
6. Don't attempt to ride up steep hills.
7. Keep a close watch on street intersections and turn corners slowly.
8. Give signals before making left turns, and make right turns close to the curb.

In addition the League has the following to say in general about cycling particularly as it applies to the problems of motorists: "Cyclists should bear in mind that the bicycle is classed in the Highway Traffic Act as a vehicle and subject to the general rules and regulations applicable to vehicles. "Bicyclists, therefore, are required to observe stop regulations, traffic lights, the right of way rule at intersections and all the other rules of the road that govern vehicles generally. "Bicyclists must carry lights or reflectors, as specified in the Highway Traffic Act, and must have a white surface on the back not less than ten inches in length and two inches in width, so placed as to be clearly visible to drivers of other vehicles. This is exceedingly important from the standpoint of safety." "As there are thousands of boys and girls attending public and high school who ride wheels, it would be well if the teachers could find time to impress upon the pupils from time to time the importance of following the helpful suggestions made by the Ontario Motor League."

CHAMPION'S GRANDDAUGHTER

VICTORIA (CP) — Rosemary Oxbell, one-year-old, from Newmarket, Ont., has been awarded a silver medal certificate by the Canadian Dairy Cattle Club, Granddaughter of Canadian Champion producer, Toronto's Brown Mare. Oxa produced 9,952 pounds of milk and 122 pounds of fat in 301 days with an average test of 4.1 per cent.

Main Street Markets Are Vital To Every Manufacturer

FRIENDLINESS

More and more Canadian Manufacturers and Service Organizations are coming to realize the goodwill and customers created by advertising in the Hometown Weekly Newspapers. This is due to the helpful, constructive and entertaining qualities of these community newspapers which are read and enjoyed by every member of the family. These qualities are proof positive that such advertising in the weeklies is multiplied in sales value through friendly interest, goodwill and buying action.

READER RESPONSE

Each local community is a place where home interests, affections and ties are stronger... where there is more leisure and relaxation... than in bigger, more crowded centres. That is why response to advertising in the community's own weekly newspaper is so pronounced and so profitable to manufacturers.

BUYING POWER

58.2 per cent. of Canadian retail sales occur on Main Street in towns, villages and townships under 10,000 population across the Dominion. The Canadian Weekly Newspapers give every manufacturer friendly, concentrated "point-of-sale" coverage of Main Street Markets from coast to coast.

Place Your Sales or Service Message In The Local Hometown Weekly Paper