

HUSKIES HELP OPEN NORTH TO PATH OF CIVILIZATION

The Canadian government is now sending animal pathologists into the Arctic to study the needs of the Eskimo sled-dogs and combat the epidemics of rabies and distemper, says Laurie York Erskine in the February Reader's Digest.

Erskine's articles, condensed from National Home Monthly, points out that dogs are still man's sole means of overland transportation in the largest part of the two million square miles of N. America that stretches from the 60th parallel to within 500 miles of the North Pole. The rich fur and mineral resources of the North could never have been developed without the Husk and today, doctors, missionaries and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police still depend almost entirely on dog-team transportation.

Huskies, have in fact, made it possible for white men and women to pioneer Arctic areas which 25 years ago were considered uninhabitable by any but Eskimos. They were among the first necessities flown in for emergency use to the chain of weather stations now jointly maintained by Canada and the United States. The devotion and self-sacrifice of the dogs is extraordinary. They can cover 25 miles a day at the rate of six or seven miles an hour. One team of 15 dogs travelled 1,300 miles in 8 days, the last 15 without food, to rescue stranded mounties.

Because the dogs are so valuable in opening the North to civilization, the Eskimos are now being taught how to care for the animals by the Mounties and the Hudson's Bay Co. in co-operation with the Federal government's Northwest Territories Administration. We author says

ALL MIXED UP

I was waiting in a laundrette while my clothes were being washed when an inebriated gentleman evidently headed for the cocktail lounge next door, flopped into the chair next to mine. He stared for a long moment at the whirling tumbling washing through the machine's window with glassy-eyed fascination. Then blinking his eyes and shaking his head, he mumbled disgustedly as he shuffled out "This television ain't so hot!" The Reader's Digest

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The Sunday School Lesson

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 12

THE GOSPEL MOVES WESTWARD

Golden Text—When they arrived, they gathered the church together and declared all that God had done with them, and how he had opened the door of faith to the Gentiles. Ac 14: 27

Lesson Text—Ac 13: 4-5; 14: 1-3, 19-23

Exposition I. First Missionary Journey, 13: 4-5
Cyprus was the island home of Barnabas. Perhaps there was the estate from which he had "laid at the apostles' feet" (Ac 4: 36, 37). Paul and he were directed there by the Holy Spirit. It was the practice of Jesus to direct the saved to go to those who knew them in their sin and witness to their salvation (Mk 5: 19). Thus the Holy Spirit led them to Seleucia, nearest port to Cyprus. Arriving at the principal city of Salamis they found the synagogue, where their own race worshipped, and preached the Word of God. They did not resort to other subjects but expounded the Old Testament. In this ministry they had the assistance of John Mark (Ac 12: 25) who later wrote the Gospel that bears his name. We have here an illustration of the Holy Spirit selecting, equipping, directing and encouraging men in the work of the Gospel.

II. The Church Established at Iconium, 14: 1-3
Iconium was situated on the central table land of Asia Minor between Ephesus and Antioch. It was an admirable center in which to establish a church and from which to operate a missionary enterprise. Paul and Barnabas entered the synagogue and there witnessed with such power that many Jews and Greeks believed. They were not allowed to work easily, however, for unbelieving Jews stirred an opposition against them.

In spite of the opposition they continued to proclaim the "word of grace." Nothing can stop an inspired life. The gates of hell cannot forever keep closed against the assaults of God's messengers (Matt 16: 18). So while the apostles were driven out by the enemies of the Lord, still they left behind them a strong body of believers which continued in the work of the gospel.

III. Many Jewish Converts and Much Opposition, 19-23

Paul made it plain as day that Jesus is the Messiah and the Son of God (see 23: 26, 27, 33, 29-31, 33-37). That God raised Him from the dead and thus fulfilled the promise made unto the fathers (13: 32, 33), and that "by him every one that believeth is justified from all things" (13: 38, 39). This sermon produced immediate and abundant fruit. The converts were of two classes, regular Jews and proselytes. Paul and Barnabas (it is no longer Barnabas and Paul) followed up their work of private instruction and exhortation. The substance of their exhortation was to steadfast continuance (Jno 8: 31, 32; 15: 5-10; Ac 11: 23, 11: 22, Col 1: 23). The sphere of their steadfast continuance was to be "the grace of God." It was pure Grace that Paul taught (13: 38, 39; Rom 3: 24, 11: 6; Eph 2: 8), and it is only in grace that one can "continue or stand" (Rom 5: 2; Gal 5: 1, 4). The word of God mightily prevailed, the whole city was shaken, and "almost the whole city" came to hear.

What they heard was "the word of God" (2 Tim 4: 2, 1 Thes 2: 13), and that was what they came to hear. The great crowds awakened the jealousy of the Jews (ch 17: 5). Human nature is pretty much the same in all lands and all ages. Let a new preacher come to any city today and draw great crowds of eager hearers, where crowds have been hitherto small and interest feeble, and somebody's jealousy is sure to be aroused. Opposition did not frighten Paul and Barnabas. It made them more bold. The word of God, according to God's order, must be "first spoken" unto Jew (v 26; Luke 24: 47; Ac 3: 26, 18: 5, 6; Rom 1: 16). But as they would not have it, it was given others (Rom 15: 21) and by Christ (Matt 21: 43). A man settles his own destiny by what he does with the word of God (Jno 5: 40).

As by our surrender to Christ we are saved (Ac 16: 31) so, in reverse, those who reject Him are forever lost.

USA. Consular General says Canada should stress unique features to get greater tourist business.

WHAT'S IT COST TO GO TO COLLEGE?

Costs of a Canadian university education, while substantially higher than prewar, have not advanced as much as most other things, finds a writer in the Financial Post. He says: "When all the bills are in, it costs about \$1,025 a year for a son or daughter away from home at university. That's the average bill sent home to father, or just as usual the amount the student must earn through vacation and, or, seasonal employment. Even so, a university education is still somewhat of a bargain package in today's market."

Tuition fees in Arts, averaging \$200 last year, are 30% above what they were in the 1938-39 session (\$153 average). In the nation as a whole, the cost of living is up more than 50%.

"Today's higher price tag for a cheapskin can be blamed more on rising living costs encountered by the student away from home than it can on higher tuition costs."

There is an old proverb about the impossibility of getting blood out of a stone. One wonders whether it is known to union executives, or whether they have ever considered its significance soberly in reference to the best interests of the workers they serve.

BLOOD FROM A STONE

By Joseph Lister Rutledge
One day we read in the news columns that thousands of railroad men were joining the ranks of the unemployed. This might be, and probably was, due in the main to a shortage of coal, springing from continuing strikes in the coal fields, that necessitated sharp curtailment in service.

In the same issue, however, we read of pressure being brought to bear on a Federal Conciliation Board, to grant the demands of the railroad unions. These demands included the granting of a 40-hour week instead of the present 48-hour week, a wage increase to assure the same take-home pay for 40 hours as for 48, plus a 7 per cent additional increase. According to the railroad systems with an '884 million increase annually, bringing to total of almost \$200 million the increased annual wage secured since 1941. This railroad systems already hard put to operate in the black. Obviously, if granted, this increase could be recovered only by further increases in freight rates that must be passed on to the consumer, among whom would be the 100,000 railroad men immediately affected, as well as the millions of other workers who would be affected indirectly. Soon there would be another wage demand.

Again in the same issue of the newspaper is the report that an additional 9,000 coal miners have left the pits, bringing the idle strikers to a total of 50,000 and adding to the complicated coal situation that has resulted in a 20 per cent decline in coal sales from 1943 in the eastern section of the continent alone.

So railroad men are out of work, and more will probably follow. So steel companies which, contrary to expectation, have had to cut prices to meet competition in a declining steel market, will be faced with more difficult problems. So coal miners will see their jobs slipping from them as industry, weary of continual uncertainty, turns to other fuels and coal handlers turn to oil as something to offer their customers.

It is sometimes hard to understand how men can be convinced that there can be individual gain from such general loss.

GETTING EVEN

A 1949 model car driving down Hollywood Boulevard evidently belonged to disgruntled owner. For boldly painted on its side was the warning "Watch out for flying parts." The Reader's Digest

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