

Poet's Corner

The following poem was taken from an old fourth reader of over fifty years ago and sent in by D.C.F., a subscriber.

PICTURES OF MEMORY

Among the beautiful pictures that hang on memory's wall is one of the old forests that seemeth the best of all. Not for its gnarled oaks, olden, dark with the mistletoe. Not for the violets golden that sprinkle the vale below. Not for the milk white lilies that lean from the fragrant hedge. Coquetting all day with the sunbeams and stealing their golden edge. Not for the vines on the upland where the bright red berries rest. Nor the pinks nor the pale sweet cowslip, it seemeth to me the best. I once had a little brother with eyes that were dark and deep. In the lap of that dim old forest, he leeth in peace asleep. Light as the down of the thistle, free as the winds that blow. We roved through the beautiful summer of long ago. But his feet on hills grew weary and one of the autumn leaves I made for my little brother a bed of the autumn leaves. Sweetly his pale arms folded my neck in a meek embrace. As the sight of immortal beauty silently covered the face. And when the arrows of sunset lodged in the tree tops bright, he fell in his saint-like beauty asleep by the gates of light. Therefore of all pictures that hang on memory's wall the one of the dim old forest seemeth the best of all.

Peculiar Position of Paper, Radio Users

Henry Morgan, a sardonic, sometimes misquipped but always honest man, lumbered to his feet before reporters, columnists, editors and publishers at the annual dinner of the New York Chapter of Sigma Delta Chi, the national journalistic fraternity, and delivered a speech, and it was a fine speech. "I was asked here this evening," said Mr. Morgan, mainly because it's common knowledge that I am an authority on this stuff. A number of people here work on newspapers. That isn't nearly as bad as what I do. I have to read them. Some people produce radio programs. I have to listen to them. They do. I work for them—newspapers and radio—the two finest influences of our time, I figure. You see before you the creature you have made. I am the averaged warped man.

"Because of you people in this room I believe Owen Lattimore is a Communist. Because of you people I believe F. D. R. was a genius and also that he ruined the country. I believe that there is more crime in this country than ever before and that our police are the best in the world. I believe that Eisenhower would make a great President except that I have read that military men don't make good Presidents and besides he will run if enough pressure is brought, he will not run, he can't run, he refuses to run, he doesn't want the job, you can talk him into it, he's trying very hard to make it look as though he doesn't want it, he's happy at Columbia, he's miserable at home, he's a great man." "You have made it possible for me to take five cents and buy, in one package, a new picture of President Truman, my horoscope for the day, 15 comic strips and the stock market reports. And I've read some terrible things about you. You work for money. Advertising dictates your policy. The department stores dictate your editorials. Don't you think you'd be happier with some other system? Wouldn't it be nicer to have a bureau of some kind to supervise your work? Then, if the bureau didn't like it you could adjust or get killed. "Still in all, it's better than having people point at you and saying 'There's a man who works for money.' Somehow it's getting to be very un-American to work for money. It's also un-American not to work and to live on unemployment insurance. It's un-American to have social security and it's un-American to have such a small amount of social security. I strongly suspect that this is all your fault. "In short, you people in this room have put me, the average man, in a peculiar position. I now have to make up my mind for myself. As long as you keep doing that, as long as you keep forcing the man in the street to make up his mind for himself, that's as long as we'll have the only working definition of democracy that's worth a damn. "Thank you."

MIST SPRAYER Not affected by weather, a new orchard mist sprayer can be used in the rain, spraying with or against the wind. It sprays from 100 to 300 trees in 30 to 40 minutes from one 300 gallon tank load. It is said to cut cost, labor and time, and the sprayer handles both old standard insecticides and fungicides and new concentrated materials.

Sunday School Lesson

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 4th, 1951 JESUS USES HIS POWER Golden Text—Jesus said: "Do not fear, only believe." Mk. 5:36. Lesson Text—Mk. 5:21-24, 38-43. EXPOSITION.—I. Jesus Sought by the Sorrowing, 21-24.

To make this lesson more comprehensive, we are including the exposition of verses 25 to 37, along with the prescribed passages. Sorrow brought Jairus to Jesus. It brings more men to Him than almost anything else. Jairus belonged to a class that was largely hostile to Jesus—He never would have come to Him, if deep sorrow had not human hands could help. Had not entered his home. He thought it a great misfortune that this sorrow came to him, but it was great good fortune, because it brought him to Jesus. The things that we in our blindness count our greatest misfortunes are oftentimes our greatest blessings. In his overwhelming anxiety he was thoroughly in earnest and his pride was in the dust, "he fell at Jesus' feet." That such a one as Jesus allowed him to stay there is one of the many proofs of Jesus' Deity. (Ac. 10:25, 26; Rev. 22:8, 9; 5:8.) Jairus' prayer was short, to the point, intense. Jesus says: "He is always ready to enter the house of sickness or sorrow, or any other house where He is invited (Rev. 3:20). The Jewish rulers faith was not as perfect as that of the Roman centurion (Matt. 8:10). Note Mk. 5:36, but the faith was genuine and Jesus responded to it (cf. vs. 28, 29). There are but three recorded instances when Jesus raised the dead, an "only daughter," an "only son" (Luke 7:12), and an only brother (Jno. 11:1).

II. Jesus Encouraging the Fearful, 35, 36. It seemed as if Jesus was now too late. It often seems so (Jno. 11:21), but He never is. When those awful words, "Thy daughter is dead," fell on the ears of Jairus, his faith wavered, his heart sank and fear seized him. But Jesus buoyed up his sinking faith with the glorious words, "Fear not, only believe." He is saying it still to every trembling heart. Jesus proposes but one cure for fear, i. e., faith (Jno. 14:1; Isa. 26:3; 50:10; 12:2). Faith and fear cannot coexist in the same heart (Eph. 6:50). There was but one condition, "believe only" (Mk. 9:23; Jno. 11:40). III. Jesus Rebuking the Ostentatiously Sorrowful and the Scornful, 37-40. Jesus made no parade of His miracles. He rather concealed them (see v. 43). He suffered no one to follow Him save Peter and James and John, the inner circle of the apostolic company (cf. Luke 9:28 Mk. 14:33). Jesus is always displeased with undue lamentations over departed friends (1 Thes. 4:13). He gives a good reason why the lamentation should cease at once. "The child is not dead, but sleepeth." The reason holds for all our friends who have fallen asleep in Jesus; they are not dead, but

sleep (1 Thes. 4:14; Ac. 7:60). They may not wake quite as soon as did Jairus' daughter, but wake they surely shall, and it will not be long (1 Thes. 4:16, 17). And, the sleep into which they have entered is not state of unconsciousness, but of blessed fellowship with Christ (Phil. 1:23; 2 Cor. 5:8). So far as sense could see, the maiden was dead indeed. The scornful had reason and common sense on their side. But they were wrong. On the other side was nothing but the word of the Son of God; that was the only ground for faith and hope that Jairus had, but it was enough. When reason and common sense are on one side, the truly wise man will not hesitate which to accept; he will say "let God be true but every man (including our own reasoning and common sense) a liar" (Rom. 3:4). The "superstitious, ignorant people" who accepted the word of Jesus against the testimony of their own senses came out better at the end than the "reasonable" people who scorned them. Jesus entered into no argument with the scorners: He simply "put them all out" (Rev. 21:8).

IV. Jesus Raising the Dead, 41-43. And now come the wondrous story. The scorners and the formal mourners are all gone, Jesus works. He approaches the bed, He takes the dead child by the hand, He utters two words, "Damsel, arise." It is done; she rises, walks. O glorious Christ! And some sweet day He will speak the word to our sleeping loved ones; and they, too, shall arise to sleep no more (Jno. 5:28, 29). Note the taking by the hand. It was a frequent practice of our Lord (cf. ch. 1:31; 9:23; 9:27; Matt. 14:36). He was always powerful in that hand grasp. He is ready to take all by the hand today (Jno. 4:13). To the Jewish mind there was contamination in the touch of a dead hand (Num. 19:11), but the Prince of Life will not be contaminated, but communicate life. And Jesus spoke—to what? The spirit that still lives when the body dies (Luke 8:55; 1 Pet. 3:18, 19). And that departed spirit could hear and responded to the call. The spirit returned to the body (Luke 8:55). Death is evidently separation of body and spirit. It was the voice of Jesus that had power to thus call back the departed spirit and raise the dead. Who was He? There can be but one reasonable answer to that question—He was God in human form (cf. Heb. 1:6-8; Jno. 1:1, 14). Having completed His part, He commanded to give her something to eat. What they could not do, He had done; what they could do, they must. When Jesus raises the spiritually dead, it is our business to feed them. In this lesson again the Deity of Jesus Christ comes out very plainly and unmistakably.

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QUEEN MARY'S CARPET

The Queen Mary's carpet fund has already reached \$50,000. Half the minimum offered by the Imperial Order Daughters of the Empire to purchase the rug for Canada, the IODE has reported. Recent showings of the rug in Newfoundland and the Maritimes swelled the fund by \$8,400 in admissions and donations. Officials said. The IODE has undertaken to raise \$100,000 for purchase of the carpet, hand-made by the Queen Mother. The money will be used to relieve Britain's dollar shortage.

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"SALADA" TEA

Advertisement for NEW Beatty STAINLESS STEEL WASHER. Features include: Everlasting stainless steel, Safety wringer, 6 minutes wash cycle, and price of \$129.50. Dealer: W. D. TALBOT HARDWARE, ACTON, ONT. Includes an illustration of the washer and a small diagram of its mechanism.

Advertisement for J. S. Holden, Optometrist, 7 DOUGLAS STREET GUELPH. Services include: EYES EXAMINED, GLASSES FITTED.

Advertisement for an OIL OR GAS CONVERSION BURNER, A FRANKLAND FUEL CONSERVOR. Claims to cut fuel bills as much as 40%. Includes an illustration of a person using the device.

Advertisement for B.F. MURFIN, Sheet Metal Works, PLUMBING & HEATING. Phone 1338W.

Advertisement for HAROLD WILES, featuring skiing and bus travel. Text: "HAVE THRILLS ON THE HILLS. Pack up your togs and enjoy the fun and thrills at the popular skiing spots. The bus will take you there—and home again in carefree comfort." Includes an illustration of a skier and a bus.

Large advertisement for the Royal Canadian Navy. Text: "PLAY YOUR PART IN BUILDING CANADA'S DEFENCES. Join the Royal Canadian Navy. Canada's expanding Navy needs more men! The Navy's job is important to every Canadian—important to you in more ways than one. By doing your duty to your country you can gain a fine career. Life at sea is a challenge, and you must be physically fit and able to live up to Navy standards—but it's a man's life, and the Navy offers you a life job—a job full of interest—a healthy job. You'll see foreign places, and there are fine chances for advancement. Be a Sailor save your country and yourself. If you are between 17 and 29—have Grade 8 education or better—are a Canadian citizen or other British subject, write to the Recruiting Officer, Naval Headquarters, Ottawa; or write or see in person THE RECRUITING OFFICER. H.M.C.S. STAR, Catherine St. N., Hamilton, Ont. H.M.C.S. YORK, 57 Lakeshore Blvd., Toronto, Ont." Includes an illustration of a sailor and a ship.