

Records Broken By Summer's Tourists

The public generally is becoming more aware each year of the importance of the tourist industry to every segment of the population, said Hon. Louis F. Ceclie, Minister of Travel and Publicity, to the Lake Erie International Convention held recently in Simcoe.

As proof of this, Mr. Ceclie said that this year, Ontario will probably be marking up its fifth consecutive record-breaking year in tourist entries from the United States are concerned. The office of the Department of Travel and Publicity have been flooded with an unusually heavy volume of mail; more letters were received in a span of 20 weeks than in any previous complete year. Consequently, the Department ran short of booklets which it had anticipated would last for some considerable length of time.

While pleased to see the advertising and publicity efforts of his Department get such results, Mr. Ceclie gave a warning: "More intensive effort than ever must be extended if Ontario is to continue its forward strides in attracting North American vacationists. We are aware that a good deal of the interest which has been shown by potential visitors this past year has been because they have been shopping around. We feel that people planned their vacations in greater detail than ever before this year and we are convinced that the vacationist of the future is going to be a more critical and more demanding visitor, interested in getting full value for every dollar expended. We have the advantage of a wonderful country, bountifully blessed with physical assets such as lakes, woods, streams and wildlife which are interesting and inviting to people from other parts of the country. But let us not forget that a friendly welcome, good food, courtesy and comfortable accommodations are equally important ingredients of a happy vacation."

During October, Ontario's tourist business continued good, the Dominion Bureau of Statistics reporting 82,231 entries on Traveller's Vehicle Permits an increase of 4.2 per cent over October 1949. The Dominion average for the month showed an increase of 1.4 per cent, some provinces showing a decrease.

October figures bring Ontario's total of T.V.P. entries for 10 months of the year to 1,168,475 cars, an increase of 2.0 per cent over the same period in 1949.

Sunday School Lesson

SUNDAY, MARCH 4, 1951
WAYSIDE MINISTRIES OF JESUS

Golden Text—Whoever would be great among you must be your servant. Mk. 10:43.

Lesson Text—Mk. 10:35-45.
Exposition—I. The Self-Seeking Disciple, 35-41.

How little did the disciples enter into the thoughts and purposes of their Master. He had set his face to go up to Jerusalem and there endure all the horror of His agonizing death that others might obtain eternal life. He had just been telling them, for the third time since His transfiguration, of His coming death. He had gone into the details with minute particularity (vs. 33-34). But they had not heeded what He had been saying so occupied were they with their own petty ambitions. At this most opportune moment two of the best men in the apostolic company come to Him with a request that they be preferred above all others. Matthew tells us that it was their mother Salome who made the request (Matt. 20:20, 21). This seems like a discrepancy between the two accounts, but it disappears when looked at closely. Salome may have proffered the request, probably at their behest, and so Mark is altogether accurate in saying that it was they who spoke.

It is quite a common practice for designing men to get some sympathetic woman to ask for them what they hesitate to ask for themselves (2 Sam. 14:1-19; 1 Ki. 2:16, 20). Jesus took the request as coming directly from them; for He addressed His answer to them (Matt. 20:22). It is quite likely that in their eagerness, when Salome began to speak, they broke in with the same request. They presumed upon the fact that Jesus had already bestowed upon them favors withheld from most of the apostolic company (Mk. 5:37; 9:2; 14:33). They may also have hoped something from the relationship existing between His family and their own. Their first preliminary request was a very large one (v. 35). Jesus promises to do the same wonderful thing for every one who abides in Him (Jno. 15:17). Jesus asked them in return, "What would ye that I should do for you?" He is asking the same of every one of us today (cf. v. 51; 1 Ki. 3:5).

Little did they realize how exalted was the position they were asking. They wanted a higher office than anyone else. The desire to have the highest position has brought more discord into the Church of Christ and wrought more mischief than any other thing. How often Jesus has to say to us when we pray, "Ye know what ye ask" (Rom. 8:20). Like James and John, we fail to get what we ask because of the selfish motive in our prayers (Jas. 4:3). There was a condition of sharing Christ's glory with Him of which His petitioners little dreamed, viz., that they share with Him His cup and baptism of shame and suffering (ch. 14:36; Matt. 26:39; Luke 22:42; Jno. 18:11; Luke 12:50). No one can share with Christ in His glories unless he first shares with Him in His suffering and rejection (2 Tim. 2:12; Rom. 8:17).

James and John, full of self-confidence, unhesitatingly declared themselves able to drink the cup Christ drank and be baptized with the baptism with which He was to be baptized. Like many of us, they did not stop to measure the meaning of the words they so glibly uttered. We should be careful about our professions; for Jesus may take us at our word. They both drank of the same cup of shame and suffering that Jesus did. James was the first of the apostolic company to suffer martyrdom (Ac 12:2), and John was the last to suffer for the word of God and the

testimony of Jesus (Rev. 1:9). All who have part with Him in His kingdom must experience a similar baptism of suffering (Jno. 15:20; 17:14). Jesus did not promise them that they should have their desire. It lay with the Father to decide that (Matt. 20:23). The ten others who had not made a similar request were nevertheless just as selfish, and they showed it by manifesting their indignation when hearing it formulated. There was cause for censure, but selfishness prompted their displeasure; they wanted the places themselves. Already they had had a controversy as to "who should be the greatest" (ch. 9:33-35), and the same dispute would come up again—and that too at that solemn occasion when the Lord would announce once more His impending death and institute the Lord's Supper (Luke 22:24). They needed sorely to learn in honor to prefer one another (Rom. 12:10; Phil. 2:3). So do we.

II. The Self-renouncing Master, 42-45.

Jesus dealt very gently with their

selfishness. "He called them unto Him." He always draws us nearer to Himself when He would win us from our low lives to a higher one. The method of Christ's kingdom is utterly at variance with the methods of the kingdoms of this earth. In the kingdoms of this world, he that rules is great; in the kingdom of Christ, he that serves is great. If any one who wills to be great in Christ's kingdom he must take the place of a servant of others, and he that would be the very first must take the place of a slave of all. (Mk. 9:35; Matt. 20:26, 27; 23:8-12; Luke 9:48-49; 14:11; 18:14; Jno. 15:15-17; 1 Cor. 9:19-23; 1 Pet. 5:5, 6).

The Head of the kingdom is the supreme illustration of this principle which governs it. "The Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister." His ministry cost Him all He had He laid down for a wicked world that forfeited it. He paid the price that would purchase life for others, though it took all He had (2 Cor. 5:21; Gal. 3:13; Titus 2:14; Isa. 53:5; 2 Cor. 8:9).

C-O-D-E

On a crowded country bus, a youngster occupied one section of the seat just ahead of his father and mother. When the space beside him was pounced upon by a lady of gargantuan proportions, the boy turned to his mother and announced discreetly, "F-A-T, huh Ma?"—The Reader's Digest.

PATIENCE PAYS

Sweet are the uses of even the most adverse human beings—if you are as clever as a waitress I know. On my first day as waitress in the restaurant where she worked, she claimed as one of her regular customers a thoroughly disagreeable man. He found fault, she said, no matter how hard she tried to please and he rarely tipped her. Still, she wanted to serve him. Baffled, I offered to seat him at the other girls' tables in turn.

"Don't you dare!" she exclaimed. "He makes my other customers feel so sorry for me that they double their tips!"—The Reader's Digest.

SPRING

I see springtime from my kitchen door way,
Warm sunshine and the melting snow.
Familiar rivulets across the fields and pastures,
While larger streams like grand rivers flow.

The earth has taken on peculiar fragrance,
Warmed by the sun, new blades shoot from the sod;
Snow drops poking through and crocuses—
Foretelling promises anew from God.

And down the lane are busy willows bustling,
While fresh drops from the maple branches flow,
And in the old pine tree across the gully,
I hear the lusty cawing of the crow.

I leave my daily chores and jolly wander,
I marvel at earth's re-awakening,
When from the apple tree I hear a robin,
Ah! Now I know that it is, really spring.

—Laura B. Dixon

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