

A Better Land I Know

By FRED TOOLE
(McClure Syndicate—WNU Service.)

WILLIE was smart. No one could pull the wool over his eyes. Which was why his pocket bulged comfortably with a neat wad of bills and a ticket to Miami as he sauntered jauntily into Ben's Barbecue.

"One hot beef, one coffee," he nodded to Ben, throwing open his overcoat. "And make it good, boy, because it's the last one I'll have until I hit the sunny South."

"South!" Ben was startled as he smacked the sizzling beef on a roll. "The sunny South," Willie repeated, flashing a thin-lipped smile. "You might be going with me, Ben, if you weren't so soft-hearted. No handouts in my joint, Benny boy. Give as little as you can and get as much as you can for it—that's my motto. And you see how it works? I'll be lying on a beach while you're shoveling snow. Why don't you get wise?"

Willie turned in surprise as a chair cracked against the wall. He hadn't noticed the tall, gaunt old man who now rose hurriedly and went to the door, where he stood staring through the glass at the bleak street, swept clear by the icy blasts.

"What's eating him?" Willie asked, mystified. Ben flushed. "Guess you put your foot in it," he said, awkwardly. "Talking about handouts, I mean. And the South."

Willie's sharp face hardened. "Another chiseler, eh?" he asked grimly. "Listen—" "You listen," said Ben firmly. "Maybe it'll take some of the starch out of you, tough guy. You know what that old man makes? Fifteen a week! How'd you like to send half of that to your sick daughter, and live on the rest?"

Willie chuckled scornfully. "I hear that one ten times a day." "It happen to know it's true," Ben's eyes were somber. "His name's Merrifield. He comes from Georgia. If it weren't for his daughter I'll bet he'd rather starve on his old place. His heart and soul are down there, Willie. Just hearing him talk about the pines and cottonwoods, the swamps, the dunes, the way the darkies sing—" Ben dropped his knife abruptly and went to turn on the radio.

Willie looked thoughtfully at the shabby figure by the door, but when Ben returned his face was blank. "What did you give him tonight?" he asked.

"Barbecue and coffee," said Ben defiantly. "I thought so!" Willie's grin was mocking. "Don't even know how to treat his kind. I'll show you, Benny boy, and let it be a lesson to you!"

And before Ben could protest, Willie had gone to Merrifield. "Pardon me, sir; I understand you're from the South," he said easily. "I'm going down that way myself, and I wonder if you'd join me in a little—er—farewell repast?"

Merrifield bowed gravely. "A pleasure, Mr. . . ."

Ben introduced them, and took Willie's casual order for two steak dinners. "You're going south, sir?" "That's right," said Willie. "Miami. I need a vacation."

Merrifield nodded courteously. "I'm sure you do. The South is the place for rest—and peace." He went on to talk about his home, restrained emotion in his voice. Even Ben, tending the sizzling steaks, could feel it.

The music from the radio rose to a gleeful shriek, then ended; and the program followed that Merrifield loved. Mellow strains filled the little restaurant, and all at once the things the old man had been talking about were there. Peace and rest—cottonwoods, the scent of pines, swamps, the darkies' songs. And a rich vibrant bass began to sing.

"Gone are the days when my heart was young and gay, Gone are my friends from the gotten fields away Merrifield fell silent. He sat gazing out the window—gazing into Georgia, into the past, as the rich voice carried them all away.

... to a better land I know And then Willie laughed harshly and rose, shattering the spell. "That reminds me—I'm going south myself. Why don't you go back to Georgia, if you like it so much? I hear you've got a sick kid there."

Merrifield stiffened. The far-away look in his eyes vanished, to be replaced by wretchedness. But Willie went on tauntingly. "My train stops over in Atlanta. I'll give Georgia your regards."

The old man's head drooped; he didn't even notice the bump Willie gave him as he buttoned his expensive coat with a swagger.

Ben followed Willie to the door. "You meant to hurt him—" he accused. "—to break his heart? I didn't know anyone could be so low."

"That's the way I treat his kind, Willie snapped defensively. He walked fast. He was smart, all right. No one was going to catch him getting sentimental. But he wanted to get that song out of his ears, wanted to forget those tired eyes. And most of all, he didn't want to be around when a homesick old man found in his torn pocket a wad of bills and a ticket to the place he loved.

IMPROVED UNIFORM INTERNATIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

By HAROLD L. LAMOND, D. D. Of the Moody Bible Institute of Chicago. Released by Western Newspaper Union.

Lesson for March 26

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THE SACREDNESS OF LIFE (TEMPERANCE LESSON)

LESSON TEXT: Gen. 1:27, 28; Matt. 12: 11, 12; Rom. 14:15-21; Cor. 6:12, 20. GOLDEN TEXT: Know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit?—Corinthians 6:19.

A high and ennobling concept of the value of human life is an important element in Christian thought. The Word of God always regards human life as sacred—a gift of God to be used for His glory, never to be exploited for gain or destroyed at will.

This important truth needs constant reiteration in a social order which is so shortsighted and sinful that it will permit the destruction of man through the sale and use of alcoholic beverages. The lesson has a real application to the liquor problem.

I. God Honored Man (Gen. 1:27, 28).

It should be of primary interest and concern to discover what the Maker and Lord thinks of His creation, man. He knows what is in man and if we learn of Him we may come to evaluate man aright.

1. He Made Him in His Own Image (v. 27).

The teaching of Scripture makes it clear that this image was not anything material or physical, but rather a likeness of personality. As God is a personal, moral, intelligent Being, so is man. That man will not only reject that grace, but will subject his God-given personality to the narcotic and destructive influence of alcohol.

Not only did God make man in His image, but—

2. He Gave Him Power and Authority (v. 28).

This is the very thing man is seeking, and here we learn that the only One who had a right to give it—God Himself—bestowed it upon man.

Having dominion over the entire earth, man is in a place of responsibility, not only for his own moral choices, but for the welfare of others. Think that over as it relates to the ever-growing liquor problem.

II. Man Should Honor Man (Matt. 12:11, 12; Rom. 14:19-21).

Since God has such a high regard for man, it is clear that we ought to have real respect for our fellow man. "Man's inhumanity to man" is often declared to be the world's greatest difficulty. It would not be so if God's Word were obeyed. Man would learn that—

1. He Should Recognize His Fellow Man's Value (Matt. 12:11, 12).

Property values are so well to the front in the thinking of all, that it requires no argument to convince anyone that a sheep that has fallen into a pit should be rescued. But the sad thing is that the man who would run for help to rescue a sheep in that predicament will hardly cast an interested glance at the drunk in the gutter, or lose a few minutes sleep over the girls who are going to hell by way of our countless taverns.

The plain fact is that we do not regard a man as of more value than a sheep. Many a neighborhood has been stirred to angry reprisal over the poisoning of a pet dog, but will let the liquor dealer poison men and women—all for a small license fee.

The man who loves his fellow man knows that—

2. He Should Sacrifice for His Fellow Man's Good (Rom. 14:19-21).

Paul here states a high principle of Christian consideration. He makes clear that man is his brother's keeper and must do nothing which will tempt his brother to do that which will harm him.

III. Man Should Honor Himself (1 Cor. 6:19, 20).

Man is told not to think more highly of himself than he ought to think (Rom. 12:3), and that is good counsel. But at the same time he ought to think as highly of his own being as God does. He should recognize that—

1. His Body Is the Temple of the Holy Spirit (v. 19).

The Bible teaches that the moment a man believes in Christ his body becomes the dwelling place of the Holy Spirit. That means that he must never take that body in any place (such as a tavern) to do anything or partake of anything (like intoxicants) which would dishonor the Holy Spirit of God.

2. He Belongs to God (v. 20)

Men have been given a free will by God. He has given them the right of self-determination. That does not abrogate God's right to man's devotion and love.

The fact that we are free to choose should make us the more determined that the right choice should be made—that we shall glorify God in our bodies, which are His. Does it take even a moment's thought to tell us that the violation of that body (and every bit of scientific evidence proves it to be a violation) by the use of alcohol is not only disobedient, but sinful rebellion against God.

LEGION NOTES

THE LAST ROUND-UP

(By J. B. J.)

One year ago today the local branch of the Canadian Legion elected me, as chairman of Publicity and Transportation, and in this capacity I have tried to fulfill the duties assigned to me to the best of my ability, and as my term of office expires this week I am calling this write-up "The Last Round-up."

Through the medium of this column I would like to thank the readers of the Georgetown Herald for putting up with some of the nonsense appearing in the Legion Notes during the past year and also wish to thank my comrades of the Legion for the assistance given me in supplying most of the news items.

For the benefit of the many readers of The Herald I would like to point out that on many occasions items appearing in the Legion Notes concerned Legion members only and probably should have been omitted from the column, but on the other hand when you consider that over 150 families of members read the notes as well as their sons and daughters in the armed forces and a very large percentage of our own members stationed in the Veterans Guards are posted in various parts of Canada, to them the Legion Notes were like a letter from home.

To my estimation, the grand work done by the Canadian Legion deserved all the publicity they received and I sincerely hope that my successor will carry on and give this organization the publicity it rightly deserves.

This week winds up the affairs of the local branch for another year. Election of Officers for the year 1944-45 are to be held tomorrow night but it would not be right to pass up this opportunity without expressing the feelings of all comrades to the Executive that carried on the business of the branch during the past term.

President Fred McCartney who has held office for the past four years can be proud of the wonderful work accomplished during his term of office with the able assistance of his Executive. The financial report just issued shows that the affairs of the Legion are in very good shape and great credit is due to Comrade Wm. Roney for his untiring efforts. The chairman of the Entertainment, Comrade Robt. Muir did wonderful work during the past year, as well as all the other members of the Executive in their respective appointments.

The Imperial Section of the Legion, headed by Comrade Jim Roberts as Chairman and Comrade Chas. Parton as Treasurer will all members of this Section worked in the greatest of harmony with the Legion and assisted in no small manner to make the local Legion affairs for 1943-44 the most successful since its foundation.

The Ladies Auxiliary of the Canadian Legion, when called upon by the branch for any services, very willingly gave of their time and energy to make this organization one of the best in this district.

Comrades, tomorrow you are called upon to cast your ballot for your officers for the forth coming year. Every member this year whether he attends the meeting or not is entitled to vote and choose the officer who is best suited for different positions. After elections are over, whether the officers elected are to your liking or not it is your duty to give them your entire support during the coming year.

A tremendous task faces all members of the local branch probably during the coming year, that of the rehabilitation of our men and women now serving their country. It is up to us comrades this year to take more than usual an active part in all the meetings. This is your Legion as well as mine so with the full cooperation of all comrades let us resolve to make the year 1944 one that we will all be proud of.

It is a well known fact that the Legion, by its numerous acts of friendship and comradeship has helped greatly to keep up the morale of our fighting men and women. The constant shipments of parcels and cigarettes and other gifts have gone forward and greatly appreciated by all. Donations to all worthy organizations during the past year has been carried out and the Red Cross and other organizations have made use of the Legion Hall without charge. In all Comrades we should be very proud of our accomplishments during the past year.

NOTES

1. Cpt. Allen Roney, stationed at Bowmanville, spent a few hours last week with his brother, Wm. Roney, Branch 120 Georgetown, secured 48 new members during 1943, as shown on the honour roll scroll just mailed to the local branch, and now appearing on the bulletin board.

A donation of \$25.00 to the Red Cross and \$15.00 to the Navy League was voted on at the last meeting of the branch.

A surprise was in store for the comrades in the Club Rooms last Saturday night, when Comrade J. Fry, presented "cigars" to his pals. The occasion being that Jack was appointed by acclamation to the office of Chairman of Publicity and Transporta-

CLIP THIS ANNOUNCEMENT FOR FUTURE REFERENCE

RATION BOOK 4

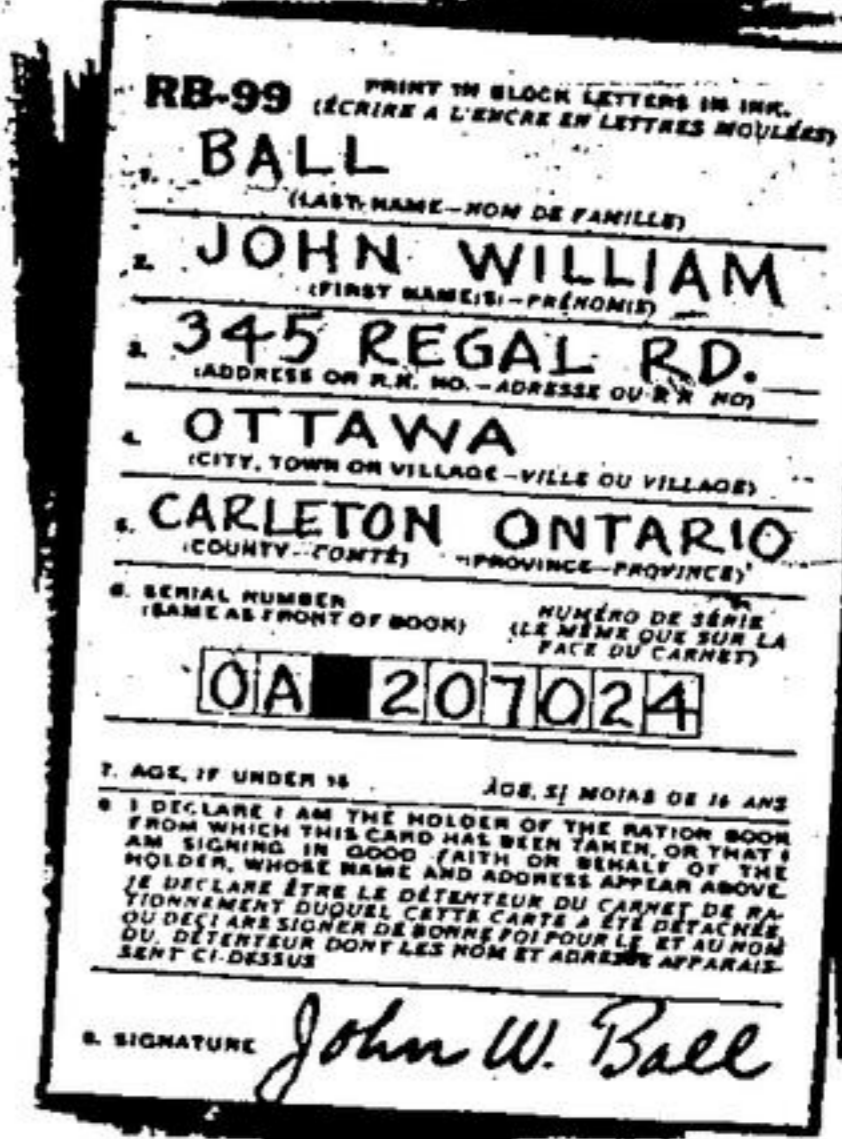
—WHEN AND WHERE YOU GET IT

Distributing Centres will not be open on all days of next week. Make sure that you know exactly what days and hours the Distributing Centre you intend to go to will be open. Help the volunteer workers by following instructions carefully.

RATION BOOKS WILL NOT BE MAILED OR DELIVERED—THEY MUST BE CALLED FOR

HERE IS WHAT YOU DO TO GET YOUR NEW BOOK

1. Fill in the application card—the first post-card in your Ration Book 3. Do this at home. The application card is printed in red and is numbered RB-99. DO NOT USE ANY OTHER CARD. Follow the method shown.
2. Be sure to PRINT clearly, accurately and completely all information required on the card—including the COUNTY in which you live.
3. Sign at the bottom with your usual signature. Persons of 16 years or over must sign their own cards. Cards of persons under 16 years must be signed by parents or guardians.
4. Applicants must bring their Ration Books with them to the Distributing Centre. Children under 16 may not apply for Ration Books for themselves or for other members of the family.
5. Do not detach application card from your Ration Book. This must be done by an official at the Distributing Centre. If accidentally detached, bring the application card along with your Ration Book.
6. ARMED FORCES: All members of the Armed Forces, whether on permanent subsistence or not, will obtain their Ration Cards from their own Units.



7. APPLYING FOR BOOKS FOR OTHERS: Any responsible member of a household may apply for Ration Books on behalf of other members of the household, or for neighbours unable to apply in person, providing Ration Book 3 with properly filled in application card is presented.

On presentation at a Distributing Centre of your Ration Book 3, with properly completed application card, you will be issued your new Ration Book 4; and your Ration Book 3 will be returned to you.

WARNING: Be sure you get your new book while your Distributing Centre is open next week. Otherwise, you will not be able to obtain your new book until April 17.

RATION BOOK 3 CONTAINS UNUSED COUPONS YOU WILL NEED. DON'T DESTROY IT.

LOCAL DISTRIBUTING CENTRES

Addresses	Dates	Hours
Georgetown—Municipal Building	MARCH 29-30-31 and APRIL 1	10.00 A.M.—5 P.M.
Acton—Town Hall	MARCH 29-30-31 and APRIL 1	2.00 P.M.—5.00 P.M. Saturday 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Ballinafad—Rev. A. O. W. Foreman	MARCH 29-30	10 A.M.—6 P.M.

RATION ADMINISTRATION

THE WARTIME PRICES AND TRADE BOARD

INDIAN POPULATION OF CANADA INCREASING

Contrary to popular opinion Canada's Indians are not a vanishing or degenerating race. The Indian population is nearing the 120,000 mark at the rate of about one per cent a year and, with the assistance and guidance of Federal officials, is improving both physically and economically. It is estimated that approximately 60,000 Indians depend for a livelihood in whole or in part on farming; 50,000 are engaged in the time-honoured pursuits of hunting, fishing, and trapping; and the remainder might be described as laborers or industrial workers.

The welfare of the Canadian Indians is considered by the Dominion Government to be a special and distinct responsibility. Because of its importance, welfare officers of the Indian Affairs Branch of the Department of Mines and Resources are constantly on the alert to improve conditions among these native people and to assist them in their advance to a position of self-reliance and self-dependence.

Various measures have been taken to improve their conditions. Probably the most marked progress has been made among the Indians who depend in varying extent on agriculture for their livelihood. Indian welfare officials have found that Indians under careful supervision can and have become successful and progressive agriculturists, and in many cases have been known to take a great interest in the care and utilization of their land and stock.

There is practically no branch of farming which the Indians have not entered. On reserves in the prairie provinces, grain growing and beef raising have been markedly successful. All kinds of root and other vegetables have been raised with success, and dairymen and poultry raising are common to most reserves across the Dominion. The younger Indians, particularly the graduates of residential schools, have shown a particular interest in what might be termed me-

chanized farming. They appear to have recognized the advantages of tractors and other motor-driven farm equipment, and, in recent years, the demand for such equipment has been increasing.

Mr. Churchill performed a useful bit of lexicography in his war report to Parliament. "Unconditional surrender" is a term that needs definition and the British Prime Minister offered a clear concise and simple definition when he said:

"The term does not mean that the German people will be enslaved or destroyed. It means that the Allies will not be bound to them at the moment of surrender by any pact or obligation. The German people will have to trust us, when their armies are beaten to pursue the course we think best for all without having us state that course in advance of their surrender. They will have to acknowledge their defeat this time to themselves as well as to us, and not, as they did in 1918 and afterward, pretend they were tricked into an armistice."

One footnote to Mr. Churchill's definition may be useful among the Allied peoples. In America and Britain there are people who argue that "unconditional surrender" is a frightening phrase that will make the German people fight to the end. These people may well be reminded that the offer of the "Fourteen Points" in the last war did not prevent the Germans from making an all-out attempt at victory before capitulation. They were not really even for a "soft peace" until they were sure they were beaten.

When they are sure they are beaten they still need not offer them a soft peace this time. Like the war itself, "unconditional surrender" is a policy dictated by experience, an experience in which giving the enemy "a break" produced nothing but a brutal determination on his part to rob us of the victory our soldiers had won.—Christian Science Monitor.

SHOPPERS CAUTIONED ON LOOSE COUPONS

Shoppers who present loose ration coupons are just as much responsible for black market operations as the dealers who accept them, according to official interpretation of regulations governing use of coupons. At a meeting in Toronto recently, a ration official appealed to shoppers not to embarrass their retailers by asking them to accept loose coupons. Consumers may detach the coupons in the presence of the dealer, he said, but they may not present loose coupons or send children to do the shopping with loose coupons.

RATION BOOKS

The production of consumer ration books is the biggest printing job now done in Canada.