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Comments on the Lesson

Rev. John M. Smith
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 6
"Jesus' Early Teaching and Healing"

Following the period spent in the wilderness in which he pondered his task and message and was tempted to deny his Heavenly Father's will, Jesus returned to the settled parts of the country and began to preach his gospel of the Kingdom. Long since Israel's prophets had taught the people to look forward to a new age. Jesus came proclaiming the dawning of that long awaited era. This was the central theme of his message — God, His Kingdom, and man's relationship to them. This involved the introduction of entirely new thought opposing the current Jewish religious conceptions. It meant tearing away old props which were jealously guarded by tradition, sentiment and patriotic pride and favour. It meant the establishing of new foundations. To fulfill such a mission made great demands on the physical, mental and spiritual life of the Christ, but constant fellowship with the Heavenly Father in prayer and quiet devotion strengthened him for the task. Thus he was enabled to fulfill the ministry summed up by Matthew in these words: "Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing all manner of disease among the people." Matt. 4:23.

The Biblical Basis:

Mark 1:14, 15, 32-39; Luke 4:16-21

The Marcan passages give us a vivid word picture of Jesus at work. In spite of the fact that John's voice had been silenced by imprisonment and that probably the same fate awaited similar voices, Jesus proceeded with his ministry. He taught and preached in the synagogues, by the wayside, and wherever the eager crowds gathered to hear his message of the kingdom. He healed the sick and the afflicted according to their faith. Then he would draw himself off from the crowd and engage in private prayer. The message, the healing, the praying were all related to the Kingdom.

The Lucan passage speaks of Jesus' declaration of his life's work in his home town synagogue. It outlines briefly his ministry of preaching, healing, and subjection to God's will. It pictures Jesus declaring himself the fulfilment of this particular Old Testament prophecy — a declaration of his Messianic function.

The Application:

As we study this lesson we become aware that because Jesus' message denied the popular conception of the Kingdom, he encountered opposition which ultimately led to the cross. The message of His Kingdom, even today will bring its persecutions, denials and rejections because it still cuts across the popular conception of life. Christians must be willing to endure as Christ endured and for the Kingdom's sake. We need to examine our views of the Kingdom over against those of Jesus and see if our teaching, living, and worship are in accord with the Divine will. Like Jesus we shall find it necessary to depart into solitary places and pray for guidance, courage, strength and faith to live as good citizens of the Kingdom.

Helpful Quotations:

"Where God reigns in a human personality, there the Kingdom of God has come on earth."

"A great man's neighbours are keen critics of and slow believers in, his greatness."

"It has to be recognized that in

HIGH SCHOOL NEWS

(by Lloyd)

I scarcely know where to start this week, there's so much nothing to write about. Of course this is exaggerating things a little bit because there were two hockey games last week. Now I am back where I started, nothing to write about. But here I go writing about nothing. In the last column I gave you a brief resume of the hockey picture at GHS. This week I will collaborate, corroborate, demonstrate and elaborate. (take your Pic.)

Such a mangling, mauling, malicious, maudlin melodrama has never been witnessed on Georgetown ice as was enacted in the two games played among Sykes' and Kirkwood's teams last Wednesday and Monday. Before I go any further I would like to inform you that I was not present at either of these games and everything following pertaining to or in any way related to these games is all hearsay and imagination. Now that you have been warned I will continue.

The first game Monday was taken 2-6 by Sykes over Kirkwood. A few facts and data pertaining to it:

The first goal of the series was scored by Jim 'Tubby' Ford for Kirkwood. It was a sensational solo effort beginning at his own blue line. Quickly snatching a scorching shot Jim stick handled furiously until he reached the red line. Here changing his tactics by necessity Jim tripped, fell on his face on the puck and helped by his momentum slid up to the goal mouth. There he stood up, leisurely swung at the puck and as Ireland was out to tea he easily put the disc in the net after his twentieth try. Speaking of being out to lunch, Jim Kirkwood was unable to attend this opening game. Paul Barber played his usual game in net for Kirkwood. (What is his usual game you ask? Rotten). Before leaving this game a few words should be said about Ab 'Abigail' Carter who played a sensational game defensively for Sykes. Ab was there every second handing out stiff body checks to all opposing opponents. He also played a neat bit of golf, swinging vigorously at all shots that came his way. (P.S. he missed them all.) Bill Hewitt that ex pro served well for Sykes. He scored several goals and deserves a star. Here's hoping one drops and hits him. Ross the captain set an example for the rest of his team. He was given the only penalty of the game. This came in the dying seconds and was called manhandling, slugging the referee or something like that.

The second game was also a win for Sykes 4-4. It was a repetition of the first game and little need be said about it. Andrew Robert Molozzi Jr. did play a swell defensive game for Ross and I might say it was only equalled by Ab's effort in the previous skirmish.

Last week I was crossed up in matters pertaining to the proposed trip to the Museum. This week let me straighten things out. The initial rate of \$1.00 has been lowered to 50c. The meal price of 50c remains the same, making a total of \$1.00 for the trip and 1 meal. The date for the trip has been set as Wednesday, February 23rd unless they change it. Tickets will be on sale, I hope, when this reaches you (from Miss Inman).

Thursday last the student council held a meeting. John Farmer

modern times, in some churches and in some homes, prayer has lost the prestige it once had.

"Conventional Christianity is always tempted to place Jesus where it will be easy to adore him but impossible to follow him."

and Mrs. Ray Conn were on hand to have the council choose a boy and girl rep. to attend the Regional meeting Feb. 2nd. Results: Joan Latimer and Jim Kirkwood were nominated.

THE END

Norval Resident Since Coming from England, Charles Williams Dies

A well-known resident of Norval, where he had made his home for the past 43 years, Charles Cox Williams died on Sunday, January 30th at the age of 83. He had been in failing health for the past year and had been confined to bed for a month.

Mr. Williams was born in England and came to Canada in 1906, settling in Norval. He was employed at the Noble mill in the village until it was burned down several years ago. He had been caretaker of Norval Presbyterian Church and was for byterian Church, until his retirement in 1945.

Surviving are his wife, formerly Sarah Brown, and one daughter, Mrs. Jack Rankin (Edith) of Toronto. There are six grandchildren, ten great grandchildren, and four great-great-grandchildren. He also leaves three brothers, Thomas, George and James and a sister, Mable in England.

The funeral service was conducted in Norval Presbyterian Church on Tuesday by Rev. J. L. Self. Pallbearers were Garfield McClure, Craig McClure, Harold McClure, James Davis, Malcolm McNabb and Robert Reid. Interment was made in Hillcrest Cemetery, Norval.

GEORGETOWN UNITED CHURCH NEWS

A service of special interest was held in the Georgetown United Church on Sunday, January 30th when the Tower Music System and Hearing Aids were dedicated "to the Glory of God and His Service and to the Memory of those of the congregation who paid the supreme sacrifice in World War II." Rev. J. M. Smith basing his remarks on the text Exodus 12:24-26 spoke on the subject "What Mean Ye By This Service?" in which he emphasized the main thoughts of Memorial, Glory to God, and Service for God. The choir under the direction of Miss Lynda Stewart sang the anthems "When All the Saints" and "Yea Though I Walk."

The evening message was entitled "The God's Ye Have Chosen" and was based on the biblical passage Judges 10:10-16. Mr. W. R. Gerrie sang the solo "One Sweetly Solemn Thought."

The flowers decorating the church were placed to the memory of the late Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Erwin by members of their family. It was announced that the Sacrament of Infant Baptism would be observed on Sunday, February 6th.

Young People's Organization Is Formed at Stewarttown

At a meeting in Stewarttown schoolhouse last Thursday, a Young People's Organization was formed. It will function as an Anglican Young People's Association, with meetings every other Friday in the school. The next meeting will be held on Friday, February 11th at 8 p.m. and all in the community interested in Young People's work are invited to attend.

Ken Murray is president of the new group. Other officers are: vice president, Bleuy Mottershead; secretary, Mrs. Robert Harris; treasurer, June Hicken; entertainment

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Noah: Why don't you leave the Ark the way the other animals did?

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committee, Donald Lawson, Mrs. William Huffman, Corey Herrington, Jr., Mrs. E. Hodge; refreshment committee, Jeannine Humphreys, Evalonne Smith, Mrs. L. Barrow, Mrs. C. A. Grant.

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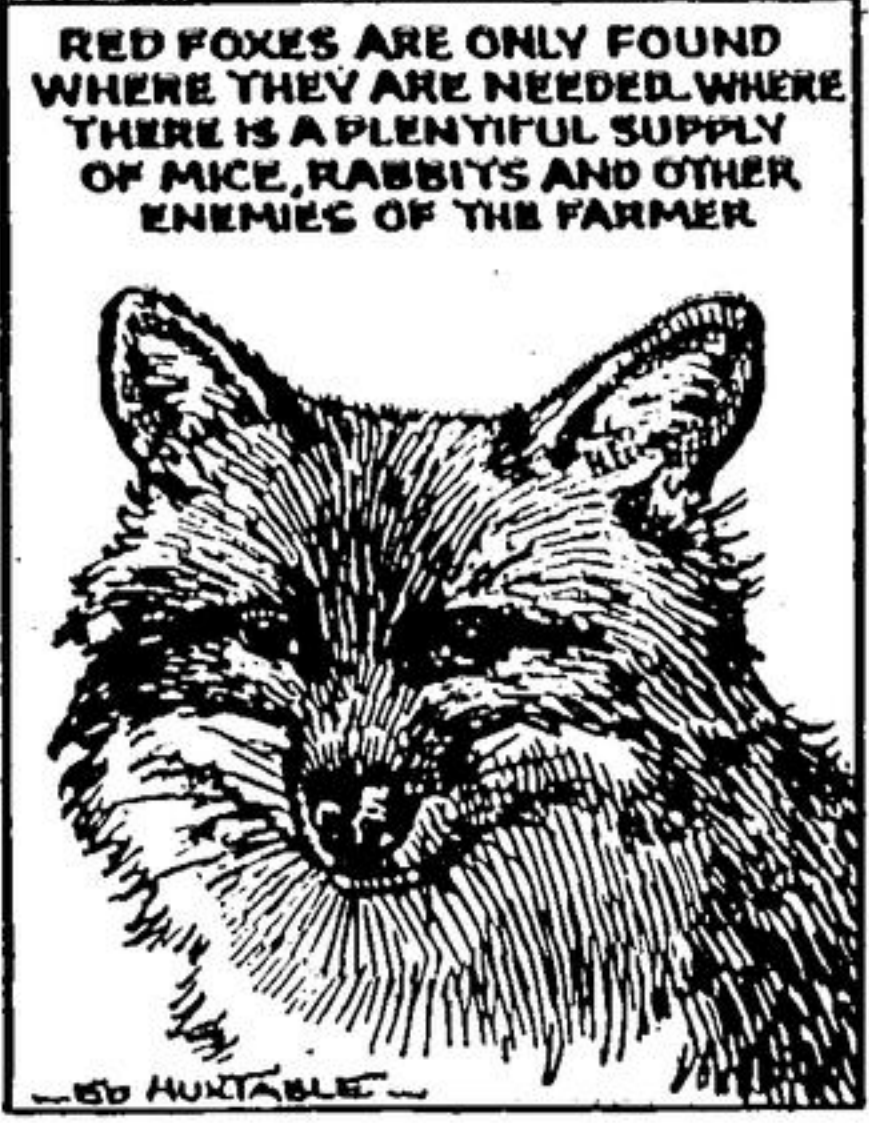
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