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THE TOUCH OF HEALING INSPIRING SERMON

J. D. G.

On Sunday morning the congregations of Knox and St. John's worshipped together as last Sunday, in St. John's Church, with the guest minister again being Rev. Royal E. Newman of Paris, Ont. Mr. Newman announced his subject as being, "The touch of healing," and used for his scripture reading and meditation, Matthew 9, verses 20-21-22, "Behold a woman, diseased 12 years, came behind Him, and touched the hem of His garment; But Jesus turned Him about and when He saw her, said, Daughter, be of good comfort, thy faith hath made thee whole." The touch of healing.

To the disciples the thing that seemed to impress them most was not the grace and power of Jesus in this healing, but rather that it came from just a touch of the hem of His garment, and yet He knew, even with the throng about Him, that someone had touched Him, not just in the jostling, but with faith and for healing, for He said, "I perceive that virtue (or strength) has gone out of Me."

And in our world of today, there are still very many, harassed with problems, difficulties, anxieties, sins, which they struggle against often for years, with little success, and who welcome the opportunity to touch even the hem of some garment of life-giving power, where also is love and mercy. And though the garment which this woman touched is long since worn out, surely God has still many garments left; channels through which can pass His healing power, with His love and mercy, to these needy ones, if they will but have faith as this woman and put out their hand even to touch but the hem of these sources of healing power. Nature itself is often one of them. Often when the mind is harassed, the body worn, the spirit crushed, a time in God's green pastures, beside His flowing streams or still waters, touching this garment of His, the mind is cleared, the body renewed, things are brought into right perspective, the touch is healing. Art can be another garment; rightly used it can lift life above the material struggle and grind. Mr. Newman illustrated by a walk through the buildings and churches of Oxford universities with their massive stained glass windows, pro-

ducing a feeling of solemnity, almost awe and dwarfing many of the usual problems of our lives. And how often has music of the right kind, soothed man's troubled breast.

The medical profession, with its nurses and institutions can be God's garment too, to be used for the healing touch to body, mind and soul. Through four and one half years in World War I, Mr. Newman, at hand to comfort and help, had often heard the doctor say, "That is all we can do, cleanse the wound, and leave the rest to God."

God uses words too as His healing garment; the words of His bible — Jesus, the Word itself telling us about God; and the words of His many followers. What a healing blessing, down through the ages, has been the 23rd Psalm; and John 2 — 16 "God so loved the world"; "Come unto Me all ye that labour"; How many have touched the hem of these and been healed?

The church is another garment of God to be used for the healing of the nations. This is God's house wherein He abides, and is easily reached. Here His words are spoken, and the estranged from Him are shown the way home, and brought into close fellowship again; the weary find rest and comfort, and here faith is strengthened. Here the healing touch is often made, and Jesus' reply is heard "Go in peace, thy faith hath made thee whole."

Miss Ruth Evans sang "The Lord is my Shepherd." Mrs. James F. Evans was at the organ.

The joint congregations worship again, in St. John's Church next Sunday.

Society items are an important part of the Herald's weekly news budget. Phone yours to No. 8.



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FARM NEWS

Suggest Minimum Price For Seed Wheat, Rye

The Seed Marketing and Publicity Committee, Ontario Soil and Crop Improvement Association recently suggested the following minimum prices:

Wheat—Commercial No. 1 Seed—\$2.20 per bushel Registered No. 1 Seed—\$2.50 per bushel.

Rye—Commercial No. 1 — \$1.75 per bushel.

Winter Barley—Certified No. 1—\$1.60 per bushel.

These prices are based on retail sales at farm or local shipping point—in new bags, for treated seed and in the case of registered, inspected, and sealed.

These suggested prices, may, to some of our readers, seem high. However, anyone who has had experience in growing and selling of registered seed will agree that any narrower margin would hardly justify the additional expense and bother in the growing of registered seed. On the basis of cost per acre for seed, when bags and seed treatment are deducted, it only means an additional dollar bill per acre. That is a very small difference between a 25 and a 50 bushel crop. In any event, good seed is one factor—others, as revealed by the investigational work done in Halton a few years ago, were:

- (2) Amount of commercial fertilizer and manure applied.
- (3) Time between plowing and seeding.
- (4) Date of seeding.
- (5) Times worked before seeding.

FARM NEWS

Near Record Forecast In US Grain Supplies

United States Department of Agriculture estimates, based on July conditions, indicate a near record supply of feed grains and other concentrates in prospect for 1953-4. The total of 177 million tons is 8% larger than last year and within 1% of the record supply of 1950-51. The increase is largely due to a prospective corn crop, estimated at 3,337 million bushels, plus an 800 million bushel corn carryover on October 1st. If these prospects materialize, the corn supply would exceed 4.1 million bushels—higher than any previous figure and 17% above the 1946-50 five year average. Hay supplies are calculated at 120 million tons; slightly larger than last year. Emergency needs of drought stricken areas may reduce the feed bank available October 1st.

Larger supplies of feed in prospect, plus reduced numbers of hogs and lower prices for dairy products and cattle, contributed to feed price declines in May and June. The price index for feed grains dropped to the lowest level since November, 1950.

Many Georgetown people have attended the Shakespearean Festival in Stratford which continues for another few weeks in August. English stars Alec Guinness and Irene Worth head a large cast of Canadian and British stars.

Jim Mudie

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Ontario Hotels spend \$6,385,369 a year for New Equipment and Renovations

The Hotels of Ontario have a policy of providing guests with the best type of service and accommodation. This year they will spend more than six million dollars for new equipment and renovation. These millions of dollars will be distributed among the suppliers of hotel equipment, their employees, and the builders engaged throughout Ontario. In this way the Hotels of Ontario make a great contribution to the welfare of business and industry in many Ontario communities.

And the money spent on new equipment and renovation means better accommodation and a more pleasing atmosphere for Ontario hotel guests.



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