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FAVOURITE PSALM IS SERMON SUBJECT

J. D. G.

The subject of the morning service at St. John's United Church last Sunday was a favourite one: "The Shepherd Psalm". Rev. John M. Smith used the 23rd psalm as his text, and in doing so said that even the mention of the 23rd Psalm seems to bring soothing and comfort to stressed and troubled ones. Most have learned it in Sunday School days or at a mother's knee, and know that it has in it that which brings hope from a source above man's own.

It is old, written away back in a Hebrew background, yet contains the core of Christianity, of God's love for man as revealed in Jesus. It is the beloved psalm, the pearl of psalms, loved because it was written by a man, a man who knew God, who had taken time in his life to know God, who had truly experienced God in his Shepherd life and in his life as King, and knew that He was real. The psalm had power to sustain and comfort in David's day. It has had that power down through the ages since, and many times in our own day.

Eddie Rickenbacker, U.S. ace flier, brought down in the far east early in the war, testified that it was the little he could remember of the psalm and kept repeating, that sustained him through the many days he was lost, and which has him now witnessing for the God of the psalmist, almost the world over. And most of us can still remember the same testimony of the crew of the RCAF plane lost in our own Canada quite recently, that it was what they know of the 23rd Psalm, the Shepherd psalm that sustained, and encouraged them until their rescue came after many days. Truly the Lord when they called out to Him, must have been their shepherd, and brought them

back from the deep shadows.

And how often has He led us beside still waters in place of the turbulent streams of our present-day world, and given us rest in green pastures.

It is a personal psalm, "My shepherd, I shall not want, He leads me." And how affirmative it is. It affirms God's providence for each of us, His wise provision not only for our bodily needs, but for our mind and soul, quietness and rest in a busy world; hope and comfort through the valleys of the shadow; a table prepared for me in the presence of mine enemies; my cup running over, the abundant life here; and affirms too: "that goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord for ever," eternally with my Heavenly Father. The psalm affirms God's care and concern for each one of His children the world over and also gives encouragement for rejoicing as we go along our way unselfishly knowing for sure that He will bring us through because "The Lord is my Shepherd." This too was the appropriate title of the choir's anthem "The Lord is My Shepherd," with the closing hymn, "The King of Love My Shepherd Is."

At the evening service, Mr. Smith spoke on the call of Jesus to Peter and Andrew, James and John, Matthew and Paul, to "Follow Me." To the fishermen and the tax collector, it was a quiet, yet convincing "Follow Me" as they were busy at their daily tasks; to Paul, in a stronger, almost spectacular manner as befitted the strong fiery character. And so He still calls to us in many ways. "O'er our lives wild restless sea, Christian, Follow Me." In faith, as Jesus did with His Father, in full and confident surrender to God's way and will. In prayer, which the new followers soon found was a power Jesus had, which they hadn't, so asked

Funeral Service for William Presswood

Archdeacon W. G. O. Thompson conducted the funeral service last Wednesday at the McClure's Funeral Home for William Presswood, a resident of this district for 45 years, who succumbed to a heart attack the previous Monday.

Mr. Presswood farmed on the 8th Line until his wife's death last year. Since then he had made his home in town with his daughter Mrs. Gordon Spence. He was a native of Yorkshire, England.

He is survived by two children, Edna, Mrs. Gordon Spence and Jack of Georgetown and four grandchildren. He also leaves seven sisters and three brothers: Mrs. Emily Hill, Yorkshire, England; Mrs. Janet Bell, Georgetown; Mrs. Annie Patterson, Toronto; Mrs. Alice Sharpe, Rochester, N.Y.; Mrs. Charles Gibbs, Glen Williams; Mrs. Alvin Starret, Glen Williams; Mrs. Oliver Carey, Georgetown; Albert and Harry Presswood, Glen Williams; and Ralph Presswood, Georgetown. A brother Jack was killed overseas in the first war.

Him to teach them. In worship, true worship from the heart, anywhere, anytime. In a life of love, even our enemies or those we dislike, something the disciples found hard to understand, hard even in our own day. And in service, lowly service, harder still.

We open our church doors, hoping and expecting those still out of God's fold, will come in. Jesus went out and sought them, rubbed shoulders with them, showed them that He loved them, and was concerned to have them back in God's kingdom. Until we have done this, we should not rest, nor feel we are following Him as He meant when He said "Follow Me." Mrs. J. Evans was at the piano.

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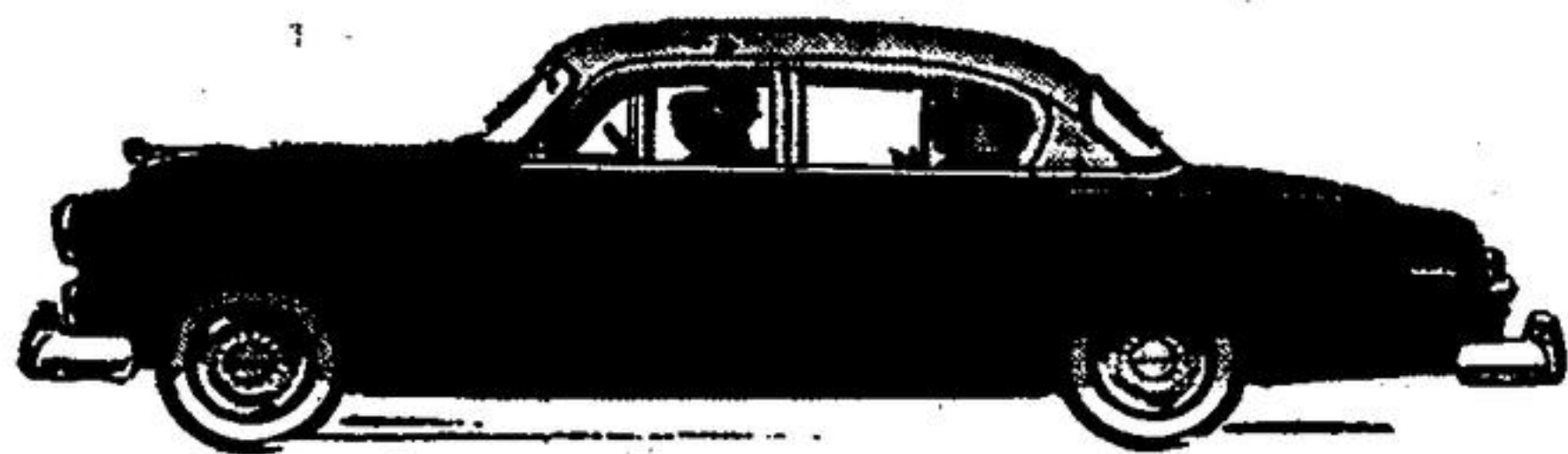
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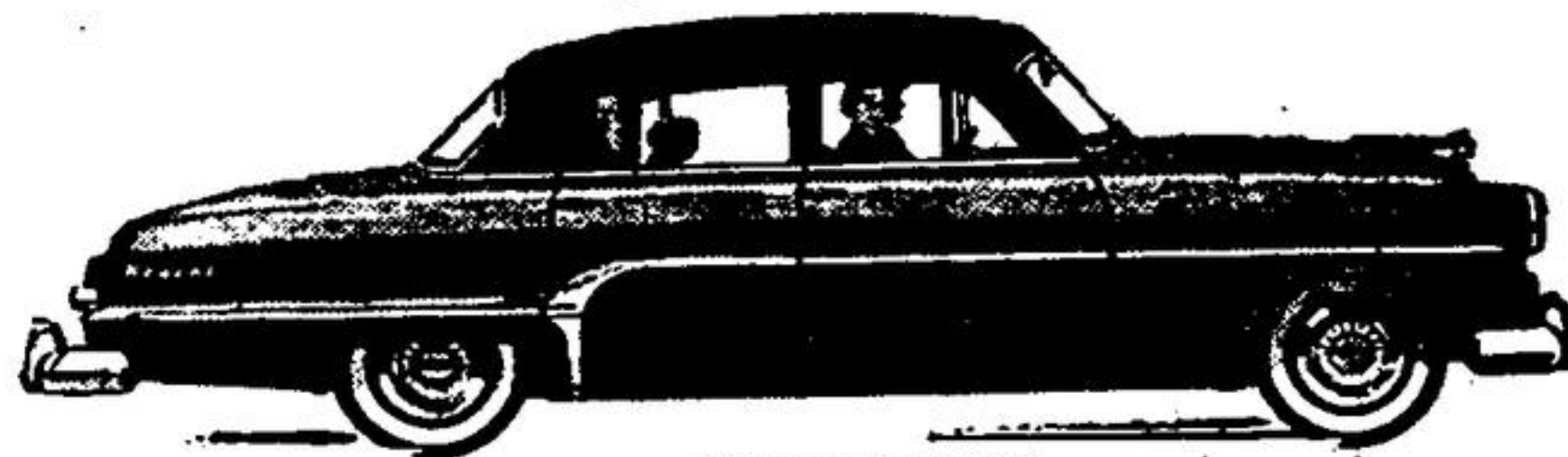
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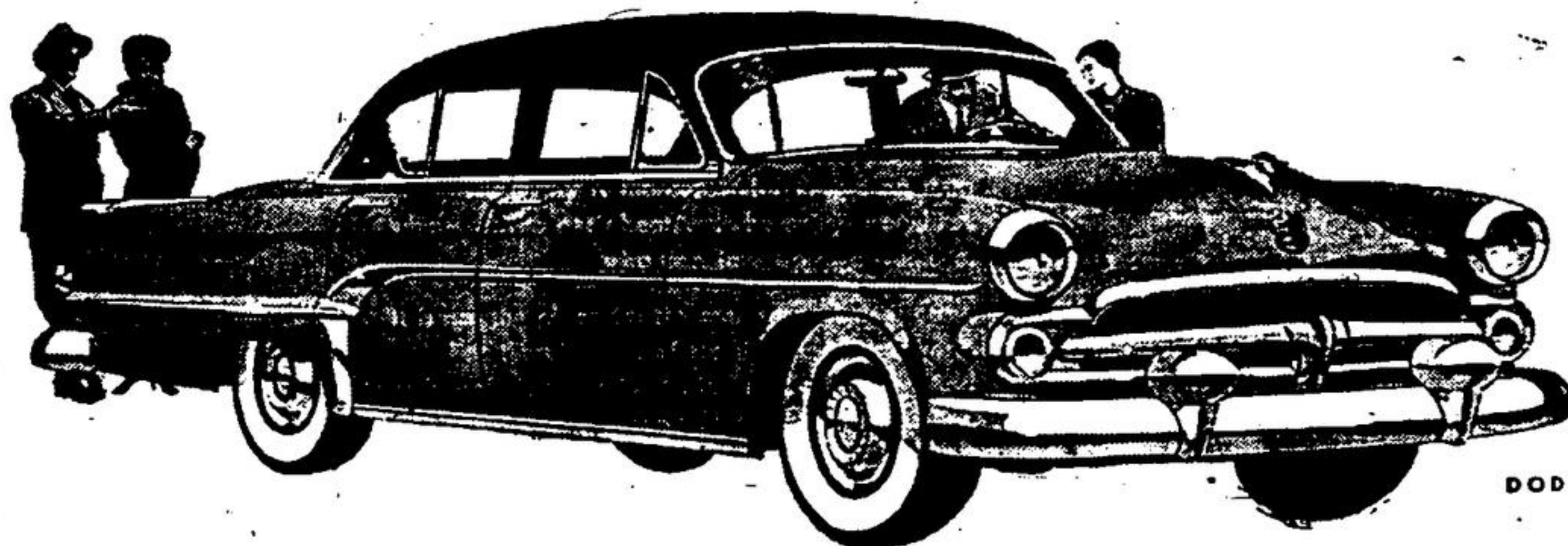


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SILVER-WOOD

CORONATION TALK AT W.I. MEETING

The Silver-Wood Women's Institute met in the Stone School, on Thursday evening, Nov. 12th and every member thoroughly enjoyed a talk by Miss Joan Mackenzie. She told of her Coronation trip so enjoyably that everyone could share her experiences, and snapshots and booklets added much to the pleasure. The Coronation itself was neatly summed up in a conversation she overheard when a young chap said it was "Better than Walt Disney could have dreamed up even at his dreamiest."

Miss Marjory Shaw, teacher at the Stone School was a guest at the meeting, and she received many compliments on her beautiful plants in their cheerfully painted flower pots in every window.

Mrs. H. Marchington, the second vice president was in the chair; the roll call was answered by giving an interesting fact from the last issue of "Home and Country" and current events were given by Mrs. D. Lindsay; the motto by Mrs. Batkin "Read more, know more and broaden your outlook." Further layettes are planned for the Children's Aid, and all Institute members were reminded of the Monday afternoon ACWW broadcasts. Mrs. A. Stull, Mrs. H. Marchington, and Miss Charlotte McCullough were hostesses for the evening. The next meeting of the Silver-Wood W.I. will take the form of a Christmas party for Institute members and their families.

Mrs. Horace Bell is in Guelph Hospital having had an operation, but recuperating satisfactorily.

Sympathy of the community is extended to Mrs. A. Stull in the loss of her sister, Mrs. H. Rogers of Ballinad.

William Presswood, a neighbour on the 8th Line for many years, died suddenly on November 9th. Mr. Presswood had been living at the home of his daughter Mrs. Gordon Spence since the death of his wife last year.

Mr. and Mrs. William Norton visited friends in Agincourt over the week-end.

Laura Henderson recently celebrated her fourth birthday and a number of little friends were at her party.