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THORNHILL UNITED CHURCH

The Parsonage, Thornhill, Ont., Monday, May 26th, 1941.

Today we come to the last of these little weekly messages until mid-September; what will take place in this world between now and then? What will happen in your life, and mine? We do not know. It is not given to us average people, us very human mortals, to see beyond the immediate present, to penetrate either the clouds or the sunshine of today. It may be that it is just as well; such knowledge might ill-prepare us for that which is to come, or perhaps limit our efficiency and spoil our happiness in the present. So does the fortune-teller who tells the gullible young man or young woman that he or she is going to inherit a large sum of money, or meet a charming person who will take away the heart, suffer some terrible tragedy, or bereavement, or illness, or perhaps come soon to the hour of death itself; such knowledge is not given to fortune-tellers, nor is it wise to either give or receive such supposed revelations. One would need to be very strong in order to remain sound and sane in the light of what a revealed future might foretell, as well as in the light of what many would-be fortune tellers delight to make known. Had certain tellers of fortune of some repute been accurate in their prognostications, this particular article would not be in the process of being written, for this particular writer would not be here! It may be that there are those who have an ability and insight beyond the average when it comes to the

reading of character; such gifted souls, naturally, could tell one quite a bit about oneself, and about the probabilities of one's successes and failures, but all would be in direct relationship to character; when it comes to foretelling exact events, with nothing to go on, not even a character analysis, nor yet a picture, it would appear to be just so much nonsense, and not even funny. Money spent on tea-cup reading, or the desire to discover before things happen what is going to happen, and money spent in such silly and witless methods as the haphazard arrangements of leaves in a tea cup, would be better used in other ways; when one is possessed of a healthy, normal, wholesome outlook on life, one does not worry about the future any more than one worries about the past, but sees to it that life lived in the present is rich and full; then the future will look after itself. In other words, we do not know what the future holds, except in an uncertain way; even then, what we think we know is necessarily based upon that which is taking place in the present, upon what we are like in the present, and upon what the past has taught us. If we are foolish enough to make predictions at all, in relation to either persons or events, then let us do so on the basis of what we already know, with respect to human nature, and to the great and eternal principles upon which life is founded, and not upon the particular direction in which a fork happens to fall, the causeless arrangements of leaves in a tea cup

or other whirligigs of chance. So, what will take place in this world between now and September, what will happen in your life, and in mine, we cannot tell, but why worry, or wonder, or ponder about it? Let us make the most of the present and leave the future in the hands of our Maker, endeavouring to shape it to our liking only by that which we do and say and think in the here and now. As long as we have a Champion of the rights of man in the person of Christ, and a divine Universal Father, why worry about the future? Is it not more to the point that we should be concerned with the present, and that the quality of our present life should square with the will of that Divine Father as it has been made known to us through Christ? So why worry about the future? It ought to give us no terror except that which we do in the present which gives us cause so to be afraid.

"I know not what the future hath Of marvel or surprise, Assured alone that life and death His mercy underlies.

I see the wrong that round me lies, I feel the guilt within; I hear, with groan and travail-cries, The world confess its sin.

Yet, in the maddening maze of things,

And tossed by storm and flood; To one fixed trust my spirit clings; I know that God is good!

I long for household voices gone, For vanished smiles I long, But God hath led my dear ones on, And He can do no wrong.

And if my heart and flesh are weak To bear an untried pain, The bruised reed He will not break, But strengthen and sustain.

And so beside the silent sea I wait the muffled oar; No harm from Him can come to me On ocean or on shore.

I know not where His airships lift Their fringed palms in air; I only know I cannot drift Beyond His love and care.

It is in this faith, dear friends, members and adherents of our own congregation and thoughtful readers everywhere, that we express the hope that you may have a happy, health-giving summer and that we may meet again in the fall, God willing, to carry on in fellowship and mutual helpfulness for another year.

Our Young Ladies' Guild will be taking the evening service this coming Sunday, and for the occasion, Mrs. Robertson, teacher of the Young Ladies' Class of Runnymede United Church, has been secured as speaker.

The speaker for the morning service this coming Sunday will be Miss Harris, Missionary to China who is now home on furlough. Miss Harris spoke to our congregation for a few moments some weeks ago, and we are glad to be able to welcome her back to our pulpit once again.

The Y.P.U. is going to miss Gordon Weedon, our popular and genial President, who leaves us to take up training in the Air Force as Pilot this week. We all think a lot of Gordon, and he can rest assured that we will be keeping in close touch with him insofar as that is possible as long as he is a member of the Air Force of our Empire and until he is with us once again. Incidentally, we are sorry that Gordon will not be with us to go along on our closing picnic and drive on the afternoon of June 21st. This will be a mystery tour, ending with a picnic, perhaps a bonfire and a sing-song, and plenty of happy fellowship at a predetermined destination; this will be an occasion not one of our young people will want to miss.

Our sports fans will appreciate this little bit: "I was reading some good poetry today."

"I prefer prose."

"I'll take amateurs, but what's that got to do with poetry?"

And in conclusion, and until September, we will close with these few lines called SUCCESS, and a thought for the summer, and leave you with kind wishes and all happy thoughts:

SUCCESS

"What is the secret of success?" asked the Sphinx.

Push, said the button.

Take pains, said the window.

Never be led, said the pencil.

Always keep cool, said the ice.

Be up-to-date, said the calendar.

Don't do business on tick, said the clock.

Never lose your head, said the barrel.

Do a driving business, said the hammer.

Aspire to great things, said the nutmeg.

Never do anything offhand, said the glove.

Find a good thing and stick to it, said the glue.

Spend much time in reflection, said the mirror.

Strive to make a good impression,

said the seal.
Turn all things to your advantage, said the lathe.
Make much of small things, said the microscope.
Never take sides, but be round when you're wanted, said the ball.
Make the most of your good points, said the compass.
And your thought for the summer: "To seek the truth, wherever it leads; to live the life of love, whatever it costs this is to be the friend and helper of God."
And so, until we meet again in September, and expressing the wish that this summer may be one of greatest happiness for each of you, we say goodbye and God be with you.

Sincerely,
Your Minister.

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R. B. SUTTON, Owner.

Purebred Percheron Stallion
ROBB DALE CARBERT (15692)
The property of William Glass, Lot 11, Con. 5, Vaughan, phone 79r3 Maple. This horse is black and weighs about 1950 lbs. This horse will stand in his own stable for service for the season from 6 p.m. D.S.T. Terms to insure foal \$1.00, service \$10.00, payable on or before 1st March 1942. Persons disposing of their mares before foaling time or not returning them regularly to horse will be charged whether in foal or not. All accidents at owner's risk.



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