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WITH THE LONE SCOUTS

International Brotherhood.
The following paragraphs will illustrate how world wide the Boy Scouts association has become, and if these boys maintain their friendly relationships with their foreign Brother Scouts in the years to come, the chances of further warfare will be reduced to a minimum.

Scout Scouts Tour Norway and Sweden
A troop of 20 Dundee Scouts biked through Norway and Sweden last summer, spending the nights at the headquarters of Norwegian and Swedish troops.

English Scouts For Czechoslovakia
Two Boy Scouts are among the English boys selected to go to Zlin, Czechoslovakia, for three years' training at the famous Bata Shoe Company's factory.

Official Dates of World Scout Meet
This year's world gathering of Boy Scouts at Godollo Hungary, will officially open on Wednesday, August 2nd, and close on the 15th. Scout contingents from other countries are expected to arrive July 31st and leave August 15th.

Scout Foreign Friendship Tours
Scouts of Kent, England, hold the record for international visiting. For 12 successive years at Easter they have visited other countries—in succession Czechoslovakia, Spain, Holland, Italy, Denmark, France, Switzerland, Belgium, Austria, Hungary, Poland. Last summer they visited Scotland. This Easter a party of 200 will visit Germany.

Scout Fraternizing in Europe
European camps or jamborees in which Scouts from other countries participated were held last summer in Poland, Denmark and the Netherlands.

Scouting and Education
A Hungarian Scout, Dr. E. de Kralfiath, has been made Minister of Education in the Hungarian Government.

Australian and Canadian Boys Eager
An offer to swap kangaroo skins and boomerangs for Indian Canadian basket and bead work and carving has been made to Canadian Boy Scouts by Scouts of Queensland.

Yugoslavia's 1932 Scout Gathering
Yugoslavia's Second National Scout Camp, held last year, was attended by contingents from each province, and by Hungarian, Czechoslovakian and Russian Scout troops, and representatives from Great Britain, Austria, Poland and France.

British Scouts to Holland and Poland
Contingents of Scottish and English Scouts will represent Great Britain at the Dutch Campcraft Camp and the Polish Sea Scout Jamboree in August.

Hungarian Scouts Will Write Others
The Hungarian organizing committee of the World Scout gathering planned for 1933 is working on a scheme to develop correspondence between Hungarian Scouts and those of other countries planning to attend the Jamboree.

A New Tribute to the Junior League of Nations
The owners of the Campagne Rigot, adjoining the park in which the new League of Nations buildings are being erected at Geneva, have invited Boy Scouts to camp there as guests. A special Scout dormitory is planned. Earl Bessborough Commends Scouting to Leading Citizens

Addressing the Dominion Executive Committee of the Boy Scouts Association His Excellency the Governor-General commended the quality of leadership reflected by the many Scout units reviewed by him during his summer tour of the west. He commented particularly upon the smartness of the Scouts in places where the interest of prominent public men was most evident. He commended the Movement to the attention of leading business and professional men everywhere.

Scouting is available, through the Lone Scout Department, to all boys from 12 to 18 years of age inclusive. If you live in a small town or village, or on a Rural Route, etc., and would like to be a Scout, write for particulars to The Boy Scouts Association, Lone Scout Department, 339 Bay St., Toronto 2. We shall be glad to hear from you and will send you particulars without any obligation to yourself.—"Lone E."

Arrival at Dawn

If I might choose the moment of arrival in a strange city, it should be dawn. I could then take the city unawares, before it had time to put on the preoccupied expression of everyday activities in which I had no part. Arriving at dawn, I should begin the day with those who belong there, not as an intruder. The early sunshine would smile its welcome and my first remark to a stranger, that it was a fine day, would make me feel at ease.

In the hour of dawn, I beheld Bombay for the first time. During the night, there had been unmistakable sounds of arrival. The throb of engines was subdued; somewhere in the ship's deep heart, shining steel and ponderous iron became ominously still. Bare feet went thudding overhead, and voices called out in the darkness. The night was still when we stopped, crouched forward, stopped again, and then made a mysterious slow advance. Behind us lay the wide seas we had traversed for three weeks.

At dawn we had arrived. I went up on deck to see palm fringed hills, dim islands of irregular shape, and a low-lying city huddled along its harbor. Round our great ship a score of little craft circled busily in the broadening light, and alien figures came clambering on board to stare at us with curious eyes.

I was to live in Bombay. Where in that opalescent sunrise, was my home? It was strange to reflect that soon many unfamiliar streets would become known to me, that the perfume of exotic flowers, wafted over the water, would hold, for all time, a poignant memory.

Landing at dawn, the city had still an uncaptured beauty, and its breath was sweet as an ocean breeze. It might have been a dream city, evolved from night shadows, nebulous and fair. Later there would be crowds, discordant noises. I, with everyone else, would have a distinct reason for going here or there with a sense of serious undertakings. But, as a stranger, I could roll in my carriage at ease down almost empty streets, dust colored under trees of scarlet ginkgo, and with houses in bowery gardens still asleep. Too soon the enchantment of dim lovelines would give place to hard outlines of photographic clarity. The Bombay of my arrival was beautiful, a city of domes, slender columns, soaring arch and carved balcony, set among lawns of emerald greenness, shadowy palm, and flaming flowers. The Bombay of my arrival was quite different to the Bombay, often wonderfully beautiful, of my later experience. Yes, it is good to arrive at dawn.

MUTT AND JEFF— By BUD FISHER



Sunday School Lesson

February 12, Lesson VII — Jesus Teaching By Parables (Four Kinds of Hearers)—Mark 4: 1-10, 13, 20. Golden Text—Herein is my Father Glorified, that ye bear much fruit; so shall ye be my disciples.—John 15: 8.

ANALYSIS.
I. GOSPEL HARDENED, Mark 4: 1, 15.
II. CHARMED BUT NOT CHANGED, Mark 4: 5, 6, 16, 17.
III. PRE-OCCUPIED, Mark 4: 7, 18, 19.
IV. RESPONSIVE, Mark 4: 8, 20.

INTRODUCTION.—Until now Jesus had preached so that any one who happened to listen could understand. This method would no longer do. People were watching him, looking for something to use against him. Some form of instruction was necessary which would be meaningless to the casual or critical hearer, but which would convey truth to those whom he wished specially to instruct. To those who were really interested and sincere he would explain the meaning. From now on he never spoke in public except in parables. He gave private explanations to his disciples, v. 34.

Verse 12 seems to contradict this reason. Matthew's account says "because" (Matt. 13: 10-16), instead of Mark's "in order that," the passage which evidently came to Jesus' mind, as he reflected upon the hardness of people's hearts, was the discouraged exclamation of Isaiah, in similar circumstances, Isaiah 6: 9, 10. In Hebrew literature, when some event could be confidently predicted, it was spoken of as having been planned or purposed. Isaiah knew so well how his people would react to unpleasant truth that he had predicted that they would harden their hearts against all that he was going to say. They themselves were bringing about their destruction, not God. Matthew, familiar with this characteristic of Hebrew literature, wrote down in plain language, so that none need misunderstand, what Jesus really meant. "I speak to them in parables because."

GOSPEL HARDENED, Mark 4: 1, 15.
Again, taking to the boat to avoid the pressure of the excited crowds, Jesus also to guard against a surprise by the police, Jesus told the parable of the four kinds of soil. The seed which fell by the edge of the beaten path (v. 4) referred to people whose hearts are hardened by continually hearing, but not doing the truth. The gospel calls, in Hebrew literature, for action. Ruskin said, "Every duty we omit obscures some truth we might have known." What could Jesus say, or any other preacher do, with such hearers? At the moment, nothing. The seed, with its characteristic of Hebrew literature, some trivial item of gossip immediately snatch up the seeds of truth. Until life drives some ploughshare of pain or trouble into such lives, truth will make no hold.

CHARMED BUT NOT CHANGED, Mark 4: 5, 6, 16, 17.
The stony ground (v. 5) is a thin layer of good earth on a ledge of rock. It promises a rapid growth which, in dry weather, quickly withers. This figure pictures the alert mind and the closed heart. "Delighted with your sermon this morning!"—but it merely stimulates the mind, and changes neither the character nor conduct. This soil pictures the people who start but never finish, enthusiasms which do not last. "I will follow thee whosoever thou goest" (Luke 9: 57, 58), but the Master gave him no encouragement. He knew that when "following" him would mean giving up cherished plans, undertaking some unwelcome service, being misunderstood, standing up against the cynic's talk that Jesus' ideal is beautiful but impossible, and has not captured both mind and will, can never stand up against life's trials and perplexities.

PRE-OCCUPIED, Mark 4: 7, 18, 19.
Verse 7 indicates a soil that is rich and promising, but already sown with the seeds of competing plants. People with splendid gifts of personality, intelligence, character, become so engrossed in business, the making of money, social activities, the struggle for a living, that their spiritual promise never comes to fulfillment. Each life is a limited area. It cannot contain everything. We must select. It is not so much a question, "Is this good or bad?" as "Will this crowd out something better?" As a potato plant becomes a weed if it appears in a flowerbed, so many activities, good though in themselves and in their proper place, become evils when they

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Parable of the Sower

occupy time, energy and thought which is needed for greater purposes. Anything that interferes with the best, the "thorn" that chokes the word, rendering one's life unfruitful.

IV. RESPONSIVE, Mark 4: 8, 20.
There is always some good soil. Therefore Jesus sowed in hope. Some honest souls and good hearts were to be found everywhere. Luke 8: 15. They were not faultless, but they were sincere, very much in earnest, practicing faithfully, pursuing patiently every new truth that is revealed to them.

The parable tells, not so much of four persons or classes, as of four possible conditions of every heart and mind. We, ourselves, are responsible for the kind of reception we give the truth. Learning needs to be followed by action. A fitting prayer after every meeting is, "Eternal God, our Father, we have thought together seriously; now help us to go out and live seriously."

Money in Sweet Potatoes

According to a newspaper report, Dr. O. L. Fitzsimmons of Delhi, has disposed of his entire crop of sweet potatoes at the satisfactory price of \$2.50 per bushel. This speaks well for the quality of Norfolk-grown sweet potatoes and as they become more widely-known they should displace imported sweet potatoes to a great extent. Dr. Fitzsimmons has made a start which will doubtless be followed by other farmers of the district this coming season. He did not wax wealthy this year as the initial investment makes the first year the hardest, but in the seasons ahead he should profit liberally in the branch of agricultural industry which he introduced in Canada. (Simcoe Reformer.)

LAW.
A multitude of laws in a country is like a great number of physicians, a sign of weakness and malady.

Farm Queries

Henry G. Bell, B.S.A., Dept. of Chemistry, O.A.C. Address All Letters to Farm Editor, 73 Adelaide St. West, Toronto. All Answers Will Appear in this Column. If Personal Reply is Desired, Enclose Stamped and Addressed Envelope.

Building the Soil With Supplies From the Farm
Average Ontario farm soils, after being worked for some time, develop weakness in one or more of the following respects: 1. In plantfood. The plantfood in a soil is determined very largely by its type. Successive cropping will naturally use up considerable of the original plantfood. 2. In organic matter. After cultivation for some years if insufficient attention is paid to the upkeep of the soil, a decided weakness in organic matter will develop. 3. In soil Reaction. Continuously cropping will deplete lime from the soil, leaving the soil sour in an unfit condition for crops to thrive in it. Moreover, as long as it remains sour, good stable manure and fertilizers added to it will not function at their best. All of the foregoing defects must be corrected as far as possible if largest yields of best quality produce is to be realized.

Relative Values of Manure
In the early days of Ontario agriculture, much manure was hauled from the barnyard to the river to rid the farm of this material. Farmyard manure is a highly valuable by-product of the livestock farm. When well handled, it is a prominent carrier of the important plantfoods, nitrogen, phosphoric acid and potash. A ton of manure contains 10 to 15 lbs. nitrogen; 5 to 9 lbs. phosphoric acid and about 10 lbs. potash. The amount and quality which manure supplies depends upon at least three things: 1. The character and age of animals; 2. The degree of protection which has been given the manure; 3. The type of feed that has been supplied the animal.

Growing beef stock retain most of the body-building elements supplied in fodder. The manure of dairy animals supplies relatively the least amount of plantfood in that these animals are making use of these elements in producing milk. Hogs and sheep produce manure of great value. In order of plantfood content, sheep manure carries the highest per cent. of nitrogen; poultry manure carries the next highest per cent. of nitrogen and also the highest supply of phosphoric acid, while sheep manure carries the highest per cent. of potash.

Horse manure is stronger in nitrogen and potash than is manure of dairy cattle. As a rule, manure of young animals is the least valuable as a source of plantfood since young animals retain the elements of nutrition for the building of their bodies. Extra protein fed dairy cattle in order to increase milk flow improves the quality of manure. This is why the manure of dairy cattle is usually of distinctly high value.

The manner of storage definitely influences the value of manure. If it is exposed so that rain and snow wash through it, at least 30% of the nitrogen and 65% of the potash is lost. When one considers that there are kept on Ontario farms over 4½ millions of horses, cattle, sheep and hogs, the enormous amount of this valuable source of plantfood and soil betterment is apparent. Only the manure which is collected from the stalls during the period of housing of the livestock, however, can be estimated as an active source. The quality of this manure will depend directly upon the type of handling which is given it. If it is thrown loosely on an open pile, bacterial action may quickly proceed to a point where the manure becomes fire-fanged or burnt in the center of the pile. This fire-fanging liberates nitrogen in the form of ammonia and destroys much of the organic matter. Losses will occur with any method of handling but when one weighs the cost of increased labor necessary to take the manure out all at once in the spring, against the loss from exposure in continuous application, it is considered good business to remove the manure to the field daily or at least weekly. If the soil is well supplied with organic matter, especially if it has been fall plowed, top-dressed during winter will afford a profitable means of handling manure. Investigations in England indicate that where the rainfall exceeds 35 inches during the period of non-growth

Amusing Anecdotes Of Famous People

The visit of John Masfield recalls to mind that poet laureates in recent times have been a long race, so that Mr. Masfield, who is only fifty-six, has, fortunately, a long way to go to keep the record intact. Dr. Robert Bridges, his immediate predecessor, was eighty-six when he passed on. The age of his three immediate predecessors in the office—Alfred Austin, Tennyson and Wordsworth—averaged eighty. But the record of age among laureates is held by the actor-manager Colly Cibber, who died in 1758 at the age of eighty-seven, although goodness knows who called him a poet.

The first coffee-house (forerunner of the club) was opened at Oxford in 1650, by "Jacob, a Jew," and Cambridge quickly followed suit (says Agnes Repplier in "To Think of Tea"). The first London coffee-house was opened in 1652; and nine years later we read in a London newspaper that there were a dozen and more of these agreeable resorts throughout the city. "There is at this time a Turkish drink, sold in almost every street, called Coffee, and another kind of drink called Tea, and a drink called Choccolate, which is a very hearty drink."

In the churchyard of Kingston, in Dorsetshire, is the grave of a smuggler. He was shot in an encounter with revenue officers in the days when tea smuggling was almost as popular as rum-running is today. "His epitaph shows how his family, friends and neighbors felt about his taking off," chuckles Miss Repplier. Here it is: "A little tea; one leaf I did not steal. For quittance bloodshed I to God appeal. Put tea in one scale, human blood in 't'her. And think what 'tis to slay a human brother."

Isaac D'Israeli's "Curiosities of Literature," was first issued in six volumes containing over half a million words. It took him forty-three years to write. The first volume appeared in 1791, and the sixth and last, in 1834. Following D'Israeli's death in 1849, his famous son Benjamin, the great statesman and novelist, edited a new edition of it which has lasted down to the present, when Edwin Valentine Mitchell has hauled down the six volumes into one, until now it is all meat.

Recalling the honors paid to poets in the early state of poetry, D'Israeli relates an anecdote of Margaret of Scotland, wife of the Dauphin of France, and Alain the poet. "The person of Alain was repulsive," he says, "but his poetry attracted her affections. Passing through one of the halls of the palace, she saw him sleeping on a bench; she approached and kissed him. Some of her attendants could not conceal their astonishment that she should press with her lips those of a man so frightfully ugly. The amiable princess answered smiling, 'I did not kiss the man, but the mouth which has uttered so many fine things.'"

"Who is not charmed with that fine expression of her poetical sensibility?" asks D'Israeli.

Violet Hunt's brilliant biography "The Wife of Rossetti" gives a favorite Rossetti story. While engaged in painting the now famous redwoods at Landaff Cathedral, Rossetti took so long over them that the Dean and Chapter became weary of waiting, especially as replies to letters sent Rossetti concerning them were not forthcoming. So one day the Bishop of Landaff being in London, called at Rossetti's rooms in Blackfriars to ask to see them, and thus discover the reason of their non-arrival and of the painter's silence.

But the maid who opened the door there at once informed him that Rossetti was absent, and on hearing what the Bishop had come about, she exclaimed: "Oh, lor', sir, Mr. Rossetti don't paint now—he's married!"

Someone once asked Rossetti how he managed to get such lovely models—the loveliest of all being the tragic Elizabeth Elleanor Siddall, "the Blessed Damozel" who after years of weary waiting became his wife. "Well," said he, "often on a wet day I stand at the window watching the passers-by, and if I chance to see a beautiful creature I rush out and say, 'I'm a painter; I want you to sit to me.' Sometimes they scream, then I rush in and slam the door."

James Stephens, the Irish poet and author of "The Book of Gold," tells of meeting a woman at a reception in Dublin, who could not remember the title of his book, but his association suggested "Money" to her, and that brought "Hard Cash" to mind, though she had forgotten that Charles Reade was its author. So she remarked, "Oh Mr. Stephens, I'm delighted to meet you. I did so enjoy your book 'Hard Cash'." "Thank you, ma'am," he answered through the misty shadow of a grin; "and how did you like my 'Uncle Tom's Cabin'?"

Jeff Can Do a Hundred Yards in Nine Seconds Flat

