

SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

LESSON XII.—December 27.
THE SUPREME GIFT OF LOVE
(Christmas Lesson)
1 John 4: 7-19

Printed Text 1 John 4: 7-19.
Golden Text:—Glory to God in the highest, And on earth peace among men in whom He is well pleased.
—Luke 2: 14.

The Lesson in Its Setting
Time:—We do not know the exact date of the death of the apostle John, though it is thought to have been about 98 A.D. John wrote his First Epistle not a great while before this.

Place:—There is no evidence in this epistle as to where John was when writing it. It is possible that he was at Ephesus.

Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God; and every one that loveth is begotten of God, and knoweth God:—The first word of our lesson reminds us that this entire passage is not for unbelievers, but for fellow-believers. An unsaved person simply cannot attempt to live the life here portrayed.

He that loveth not knoweth not God:—If you find a person who is not characterized by divine love bearing the name of Christian, you may be reasonably sure that such a one has never been born again. On the other hand, be careful about snap judgments lest you yourself fail to manifest divine love.

For God is love:—In these words we have one of the most tremendous statements in the Bible. It is the Bible in miniature. Here is all we want.

Herein was the love of God manifested in us:—Not simply towards us as the objects to whom the love was directed, but in us believers as the medium in which it was revealed and in which it was effective. The Christian shares the life of Christ, and so becomes himself a secondary sign of God's love.

That God hath sent his only begotten Son:—This glorious title, "only begotten Son" is found in the Greek translation of Psalm 22: 20 and 35: 17, but in the New Testament is found only in the writings of the apostle John, here, and four times in his Gospel (1: 14, 18; 3: 16, 18).

Into the world that we might live through Him:—There was no reason why God should send Christ into the world for us except that He loved us.

Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us, and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins:—The word "propitiate" means "to appease," "to render favorable," and, from it, our word propitious comes.

Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. This is the sixth and last time we have the word "beloved" in this epistle. These words are almost a duplication of the sixteenth verse of the preceding chapter. The little word if does not indicate a mere supposition, but is to be taken as virtually equivalent to the word "since."

No man hath beheld God at any time: if we love one another, God abideth in us, and His love is perfected in us:—By the phrase "His love" John means "the love which answers to His nature and with which He has endowed us. Man receives the love of God and makes it his own."

Hereby we know that we abide in Him and He in us, because He hath given us of His Spirit:—With this verse should be compared 3: 14. It is the Holy Spirit, the third Person of the Trinity in us who makes us aware of our abiding in God and God's abiding in us. It is not an intellectual comprehension, it is a spiritual apprehension.

And we have beheld and bear witness that the Father hath sent the Son to be the Saviour of the World:—This wonderful title of Christ, "the Saviour of the world," is found elsewhere only in John 4: 42. If we do not accept Him as the Saviour, we, of course, shall never know the love of God in our hearts.

Whoever shall confess that Jesus is the Son of God, God abideth in Him, and He is God. On the believer's confession of the Lord Jesus Christ, see similar expressions in 2: 23 and 4: 2. The moment we confess Christ as our Saviour we are accepted in Him.

And we know and have believed the love which God hath in us:—This is the natural order; progressive knowledge leads up to faith, but sometimes faith precedes knowledge (John 6: 69). In either case, each completes the other. Sound faith is intellectual; sound knowledge is believing.

God is love; and he that abideth in love abideth in God, and God abideth in him:—Love; the very love of God; of the Father sending the Son to be the Saviour of the world; is now the habitual home of our hearts. We remain; we abide; we stay in it.

That we may have boldness in the day of judgment:—This does not refer to any one particular day of 24 hours, but to that great period of time in which all men will be judged, though this judgment is believed by many to be broken up into a number of different periods, the judgment of the nations, the judgment of believers, the judgment of the wicked dead, etc.

Because as He is, even so are we in this world:—The reference is not to any one attribute, as love or righteousness, but to the whole character of Christ as it is made known.

There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear, because fear hath punishment; and he that feareth is not made perfect in love:—The thought of boldness necessarily calls up that of its opposite, fear. There is fear in man naturally; but love ever tends to expel it.

We love, because He first loved us:—The omission of the pronoun "Him," which appears in the Authorized Version, should be carefully noticed. It is not so much that we love God, or His Son Jesus Christ, as that we love. Love becomes a part of our nature as it is a part of God's nature.

Duke of Norfolk is Engaged



The engagement of the Duke of Norfolk, Premier Duke of England, to the Hon. Lavinia Mary Strutt, only daughter of Baron Belper and the Countess of Rosebery, was announced recently. No date for the wedding was given, but it was thought it would take place next May. The Duke is shown with his fiancée (left background) at a meet of the Holderness Hunt, of which he is Master, at Everingham Park, in Yorkshire.

Girl College Players Rehearse For Show



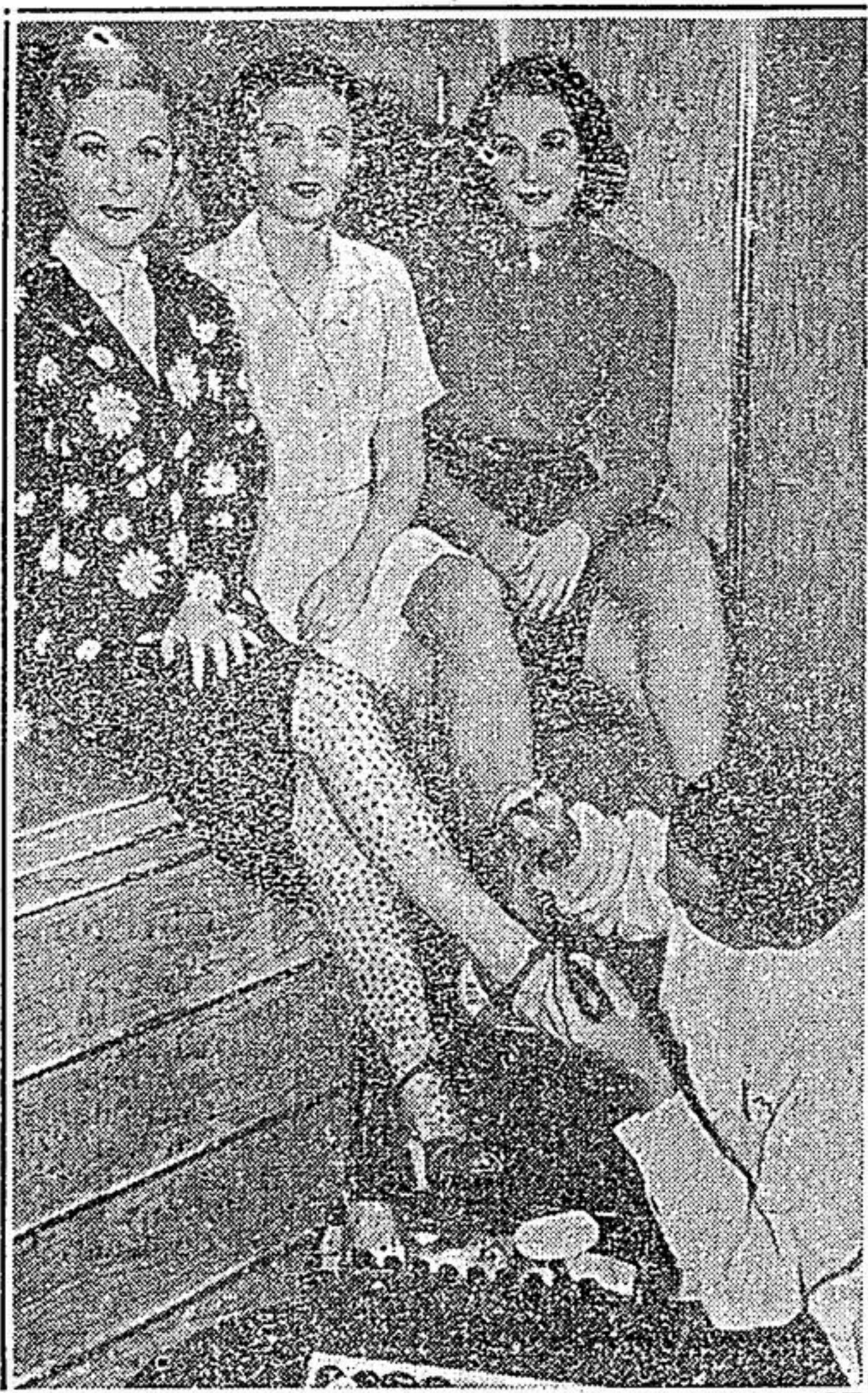
Varsity players of Bryn Mawr College who will be in the cast of "Holiday," play by Philip Barry, to be presented by Haverford and the Bryn Mawr colleges take time out for tea during rehearsal. Mary H. Hutchings of Boston; Olga Muller of Forest Hills, N.Y., and Edith Rose, of Mexico City (left to right).

Canadian Envoy To Japan



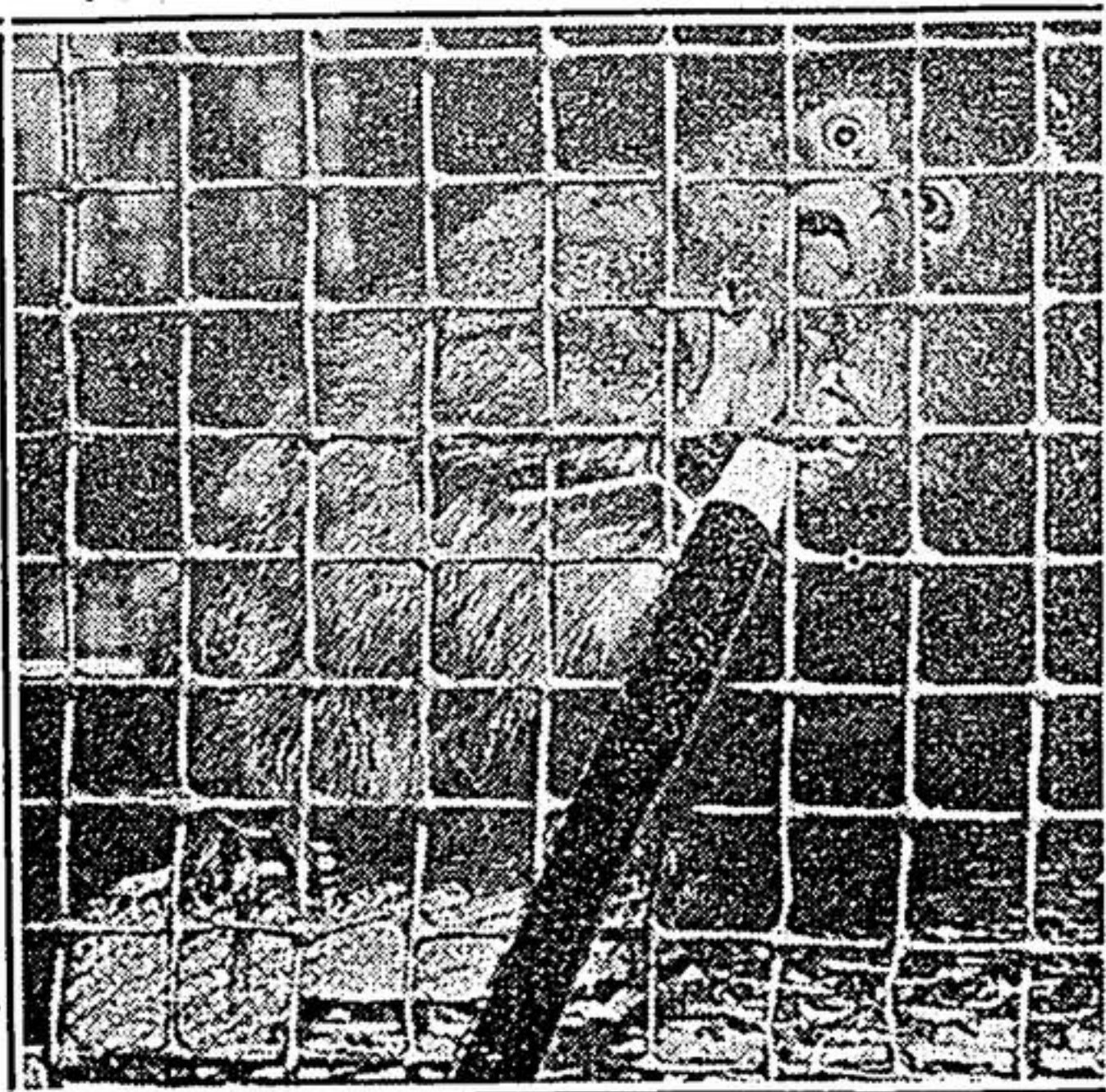
Hon. Randolph Bruce, new Canadian Minister to Japan, and Mrs. Bruce, as they arrived at the Imperial Palace in Tokyo where the new envoy presented his credentials and was received by the Emperor.

Run-Proof Hose Until It Starts Raining



Newest kind of film colony hosiery being put on Mary Alice Rice, Josephine McKim and Judith Barrett, movie starlets, by Louis Phillips. They are painted on with liquid makeup and, of course, are run-proof until they get wet. They can be repaired out of makeup carried in handbag.

Midget Marmoset Monkeys Around New Cage



The smallest grown monkey in the country plays with a pencil as his first picture is taken in Bronx, N.Y., Zoo. He's a pigmy marmoset, from Peru, weighing four and one-half ounces.

Scientist Makes a Discovery Regarding The Common Cold

Infinitesimal Virus Bodies Causing Influenza and Other Diseases Photographed For First Time

BERLIN. — An important step towards conquering that pest, the common cold, is reported by the "Nachtausgabe" to have been made by Dr. Kurt Herzberg, of Dusseldorf.

For the first time, it is explained, the infinitesimal virus bodies causing colds, influenza, smallpox and other diseases have been photographed, after Dr. Herzberg succeeded in making them visible by coloring them with blue. So it has been rendered possible to study the activities of the virus bodies.

The newspaper article gives the following description of the virus and its activities:

Hitherto the infinitesimal size of the virus has made it invisible under the microscope and disguised its character. The virus body is comparable to bacteria in size as a cigar is comparable to a railway engine.

By his coloration method, Dr. Hertzberg has discovered that the virus bodies are so small that they can slip through a cell wall, after which they multiply rapidly into thousands. Eventually the cell becomes overloaded and bursts, the bodies spreading into other cells of the body and continuing their unhealthy work.

It was further discovered that flu was caused by the presence together of both virus bodies and a certain bacillus. The bacillus must be surrounded by virus bodies before it is effective in causing disease.

Scientists had already isolated this bacillus found in influenza patients, but were baffled by the fact that the transmission of these bacilli to other people did not carry the sickness. It is now seen that both the virus and the bacillus have to work together, though it is not yet known whether they combine in harmony or discord.

Women Trustees For Rural Schools

The United Farm Women of Ontario discussed the subject of women trustees on rural school boards, at a resolution authorizing a campaign to ensure that there would be a woman on every board, was passed, writes the Galt Reporter.

There seemed to be general support of the idea although the experience of women trustees in the past was not encouraging. One woman related how she had been a trustee for nine years and was in continual conflict with the men members. The teacher was opposed to taking orders from a woman. Another woman told how the Board in her district had two women members and the men proceeded to exploit the situation by leaving the women to do all the work, such as measuring the fuel and putting up the storm windows on the school building.

It is likely that the active participation of women in school direction in the country districts would be beneficial to the cause of education. They probably would enlist better community interest and that would help to remedy undesirable conditions such as improper and inadequate lighting, heating, ventilation and sanitation. If the women of the rural districts would take an active interest in an effort to ensure that rural schools are brought up-to-date in these departments, it would be decidedly helpful. The country districts that are indifferent concerning the conditions prevalent in their schools, are permitting a regrettable handicap to the progress of their children in a sphere where initial neglect seldom can be overcome.

Schoolgirls Save Babies When Flat Takes Fire

Two girls, aged 13, saved three babies from a blazing building at Shoreditch, London, Eng., recently. Ellen Wright was "making" the beds in her parents' flat above a second-hand furniture shop in Bridport, Pl., Shoreditch.

Her friend, Peggy McCleave, was helping. Her mother and father, Mr. and Mrs. Charles A. Wright, were out.

George Wright, aged five, and Joyce, aged three, were playing. Bobbie, aged one, was asleep.

Smoke suddenly filled the flat. It came from the kitchen.

Ellen and Peggy picked up George and Joyce, and ran for the staircase. It was in flames.

They dashed down through the fire and reached the street. Bobbie slept on.

Ellen said: "I had to go back for him, but all I could do was to pull him roughly off the bed."

"I caught him by the leg and dragged him across the floor to the head of the stairs. I felt too faint to pick him up, so I dragged him all the way to the street. He didn't have a scratch."

An onion growers' group is considering a publicity campaign of nation-wide scope. It sounds feasible if the wind is with them. — Detroit News.

The FARMER'S CORNER

Conducted by PROFESSOR HENRY G. BELL

With the Co-Operation of the Various Departments of the Ontario Agricultural College

1. Question: "I have been thinking of buying some manure from a local abattoir where I deliver hogs. It is the straw and hog manure from the pens plus all the blood, intestines and some bones from grease tank rotted in the manure. I was thinking of trucking it in large piles on the ploughing and spreading before seeding. Would this be a balanced fertilizer? They suggested one dollar per ton. Is it worth what they pay for the baled straw they use? Considering the hauling and spreading, would 150 pounds 2-12-6 be better to use on barley? Our land is considered to be in fair shape if the season is favorable, but we never get too much manure. Usually 25 acres is cover on the 10 acres each year. The land is good clay loam."
—L.K., Brant Co.

Answer:—It is difficult to arrive at a definite estimate of the plant-food content of the tankage which you describe on account of the many variable factors that may enter such as, whether or not all the blood is absorbed; what amount of excess water is added; whether the pile is protected from precipitation, etc. I have tried to arrive at a reasonable estimate. Basing my figures on 100 hogs, 200 pounds each, I figure that the mixture of manure, blood, straw, tankage and water would give you a manure carrying approximately to the ton, 10 pounds nitrogen, two pounds phosphoric acid (P2O5), and 6.2 pounds potash (K2O). At current prices, this would be worth approximately \$1.85.

I assume they pay about \$6.00 per ton for baled straw. A 100 hog run would require about 100 pounds, or \$3.00 worth of straw. This would constitute a litter for approximately 7000 pounds of the mixture, and the 7000 pounds of the mixture, on the basis of the plant-food content that I gave you for a ton, would be worth \$4.62, so that if the mixture were well taken care of and not exposed to any great loss from precipitation, drainage, etc., it should be worth the price they pay for the baled straw, if this price ranges between \$6-\$8 per ton.

Regarding the using of this mixture for barley on your good clay loam soil, I would point out the following comparisons:

	Nitro-	Phos-	Pot-
	gen	phoric	ash
	acid		
1 ton tankage carries	10 lbs.	2 lbs.	6.2 lbs.
150 lbs. 2-12-6 carries	3 lbs.	18 lbs.	9.0 lbs.

Comparing these, you will see that the nitrogen of the mixture is quite out of line with that of the fertilizer, and the phosphoric acid of the mixture is just one-ninth of what the fertilizer carries. I would not advise your using this on your barley crop. You would get better barley if you would apply 250 pounds per acre of 2-12-6. I would recommend that you apply the tankage mixture to the meadow, corn and turnips, although for the latter crop you would do well to supplement it with about 250 pounds per acre of superphosphate.