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Notes and Comments

The appearance of the town park on Dominion Day was quite pleasing to visitors, and reflected credit on the Park Committee who are charged with its upkeep. Let us always maintain this beauty spot for the village.

Talking About Employables

Unemployed men from the villages and towns of the district are being urged to offer their services to the farmers at this period of the harvest. That is the right thing for unemployed men to do, but there are so few of them that their aid will not be valued very high in the local district at least.

Almost every able bodied man in Stouffville has a job of some kind, and when we were asked by a government man the other day about how many could be mustered in Stouffville for help on the farms we told him he had better forget about this place, as everybody is now working, and any man not employed is not in condition to work.

High wages in war plants has hurt the farmer this year, even though high wages are more or less of a myth. Time a war worker pays to go to and from the works where he is employed, pays the high taxes demanded and taken from his salary, his pay is not so alluring. However, when he speaks of his pay envelope the whole story is never told, and misconceptions arise with the other workers not in the high brackets of the war worker. A man employed, on the farm is exempt from all these taxes, and from a good deal of worry too. Besides he is more sure of his money as the farm is likely to be more enduring than the war plant.

All Credit to the Lions

The Stouffville Lions Club are entitled to the thanks of the community and district for providing some form of entertainment on Dominion Day, and incidentally raising a fund with which to carry on the welfare work that they are obligated to do.

This organization seeks out small children who are in need of glasses to correct a faulty vision, and whose parents are not financially able to assume the task. The Lions take the child to a specialist and then provide the money for whatever treatment is required.

The fact that about \$100 will be added to the funds of the Local Lions by reason of the big Arena Concert on the holiday, is all to the credit of the folks who helped to raise funds. Incidentally Mr. John Public was given a couple of hours of fun and amusement, that doctors say is as good as a tonic.

Salt Helps Prevent Hot Weather Ills.

In order to protect the health of war workers and to aid them in combating the ill effects of summer heat, the practice is now wide-spread of equipping munitions plants with salt tablets in handy dispensers near every drinking fountain, according to an article in the June issue of C-I-L Oval.

The importance of salt in the fight against summer heat and possible prostration cannot be over-estimated, the article states; the most of the ill effects of exertion in hot weather are caused by the prodigious loss of salt from the body through sweating. Even the condition commonly referred to as "water poisoning" is caused not so much by the over-consumption of water, as is generally thought, but rather by the serious depletion of chlorides in the body.

While office workers can make up their depletion of chlorides with the salt normally consumed at meal time, workers in factories need extra amounts of this necessary mineral at frequent intervals during working hours.

The importance of salt is well known to the farmer who puts it in the pasture fields that the herd may lick at it any time of the day. Then again it is a great dust layer, and we should be very thankful that it is plentiful and cheap.

The Independent Farmer

While town people may become anxious about the slow delivery of coal this summer, the wise farmer who has provided his premises with a woodlot is again the most independent man on earth. Coal or no coal, he is not going to freeze.

Under proper management the woodlot should grow about one cord of fuelwood per acre per year. A 20 acre woodlot, says D. Roy Cameron, Dominion Forester, should provide 15 cords of fuelwood and five cords for fencing or other improvements around the farm. Generally speaking, he says, the farm woodlot should be restricted to the part of the farm that is not suitable for growing field crops or pasture. On most farms of about 200 acres, there are usually from 10 to 20 acres of poor land, which is too wet, dry, stony or in steep hillsides and consequently cannot be cultivated profitably. Such land should be planted to trees. But this does not always apply, especially in the Prairie Provinces, where fuelwood is often scarce and difficult to obtain. There it may be advisable to use a few acres of good arable land for a woodlot if there is not enough of poor quality land available.

Sunday School Lesson

THE LESSON AS A WHOLE

The preacher tells us that "God hath made man upright; but they have sought out many inventions" (Eccles. 7:29). We often say, "Necessity is the mother of invention." And this explains man's first invention, that of the fig-leaf apron, designed to cover his shame and make himself presentable after sin had robbed him of his innocence and given him a bad conscience, convincing him of wrongdoing and unfitness for the presence of God. The story of the temptation and the fall is so true to all that we know of humankind that it needs no defense. Is it the only logical way of accounting for all the sin and suffering of the centuries and millenniums since. The first pair that God created were in His image, set to represent Him in the world, and in His likeness as sinless beings, morally pure and free from any taint of evil. But this condition was of short duration, for before their first child was born, sin had come in, their innocence was gone, and the child begotten was in Adam's own likeness and after his image (Gen. 4:1, 2; 5:3). And every other child of Adam's race bears evidence of an inherited fallen, corrupt nature, with a tendency to sin from dawning consciousness. No child has to be taught to be angry or to be untruthful. These are characteristic traits. But we have to instruct our children to conquer these sinful tendencies, to which all are prone.

Like the sublime epoch of the Creation, fall, and regeneration of the earth, so different from the weird cosmogonies of the pagan world, so is the story of man's creation, testing, failure, and ultimate redemption for all who avail themselves of the provision God has made for them. There is nothing like it in the imaginary records of the heathen, nor in the deduction of philosophy. The record of Genesis 3 stands out like a clear-cut cameo upon the dark background of man's ignorance and his vain reasonings as he endeavors to account for the universality of sin, and the perverseness of the human will.

The test was a simple one. It only involved one prohibition, and that was with a view to man's blessing. But the voice of the tempter prevailed over the better judgment of Eve and her consort, and both fell, involving the whole race in disaster. So "by one man's disobedience many were made sinners" (Rom. 5:19) and so "death passed upon all men" (Rom. 5:12).

Verse by Verse
Gen. 3:1—"The serpent was more subtle than any beast of the field." The word translated serpent also means the shining one. We know from Revelation 20:2 that this was the form in which Satan, the great adversary of God and man, appeared. We need not think of a slimy, writhing snake, but of a beautiful creature, whose brilliance dazzled Eve and led her to think of him as one far superior to herself. He put a question to her which was designed to raise a doubt in her mind as to God's wisdom and love. "Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden?"

Verse 2—"The woman said." This was her first mistake. She should not have tarried to listen to or argue with the tempter. In trying to answer him she went beyond what God had commanded.

Verse 3—"Neither shall ye touch it." God had forbidden eating of the fruit of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil (chap. 2:17). He had said nothing about touching it. This was Eve's addition and implied resentment as to the divine prohibition.

Verse 4—"The serpent said . . . Ye shall not surely die." This was a direct contradiction of the Word of God. It is the basic error in all Satanic systems to this day. All of them declare that the sinner will not have to die, but promise him life even though he is guilty of disobedience and therefore under judgment of God.

Verse 5—"Ye shall be as gods." That is, as Elohim, the same word as that used throughout for the triune God. Thus does the Devil still hold before sinful man the promise of becoming as God by taking of the tree of knowledge. It was not necessary for man to know evil. He needed but to know the good. Satan here presents the exercise of self-will as a praiseworthy effort to become godlike, whereas it was the very opposite, and drags men down even to the level of the beasts of the forest.

Verse 6—"The woman saw" three things and these embrace the whole sphere of temptation: "that the tree was good for food"—the lust of the flesh; "pleasant to the eyes"—the lust of the eye; and "to be desired to make one wise"—the pride of life. These comprise all that the world-system is built upon (1 John 2:16). Eve, thus tested, succumbed to every phase of the temptation and gave also unto her husband, who with open eyes joined with her in her sin. She was deceived. His offense was deliberate (1 Tim. 2:14). Both were now under sentence of death.

NOW MISSIONARY IN CHINA. PREACHES AT NEW DUNDEE WHERE STARTED 33 YEARS AGO

Returning to the church where he preached his first sermon thirty-three years ago, Rev. Stanton Lautenschlager, missionary and Professor of Modern History at Cheeloo University, West China, until arriving home on furlough one year ago, addressed the United Brethren congregation at New Dundee, near Waterloo on Sunday morning. Rev. Lautenschlager has just returned to his present home at Kitchener from a lecture tour of the United States.

Speaking on "The Open Doors in China," the speaker said "China has been fighting our war and hers for five years and in that time Japan has been able to conquer only one-fifth of the country. Free China is twenty-five times as large as Germany and one-quarter of the people of the world live in China. Every time four babies are born in the world, one is a Chinese."

Rev. Lautenschlager told of the great bravery of the Chinese who are fighting on five fronts. "You need new uniforms," was the statement he made to a group of Chinese soldiers that had been fighting in the mountains in November weather with their sleeves torn out below the elbows and their trousers gone below the knees. Their only reply was, "These will do for a time, what we need is medicines and munitions."

He also told of the great "City of Caves," where thousands of people live in five caves which are safe from Japanese bombs and where they have established all the regular business of any modern city, banks, stores, hospitals, broadcasting stations and where a daily newspaper is even printed.

"China is suffering," stated Rev. Lautenschlager, "but in spite of the 500,000 soldiers she lost in the battle of Shanghai, she didn't surrender." He then pointed to the collapse of France in six weeks time after a loss of only 300,000 men.

Verse 7—"They knew that they were naked." Stripped of their innocence, they were ashamed as they stood before one another. They "sewed fig leaves together, and made . . . aprons." These aptly picture sinful man's endeavor to cover his guilt and hide his shame from the eyes of a holy God, and from his fellows.

Verse 8—"Adam and his wife hid themselves." As they walked in the garden in the cool of the day, measurably complacent over their invention of the apron, they were startled to hear the voice of the One whom before they had loved and trusted. Terrorized by a sense of their sinfulness, they fled, and hid in the recesses of the forest, realizing that their carefully made coverings would not do for God.

Verse 9—"Where art thou?" It is the first question of the Old Testament, as the first of the New is, "Where is he?" (Matt. 2:2.) God was seeking the sinner in order to bring redemption to him.

Verse 10—"I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself." Adam's conscience accused him. He knew he had lost his robe of innocence. He tried vainly to hide from One who sees into the depths of the darkness (Dan. 2:22) and from whose face none can hide. (Job. 34:22).

Verse 11—"Hast thou eaten of the tree . . . ?" God knew well all that had taken place, but He would have the sinner confess his wrongdoings in a very definite way.

Verse 12—"The woman whom thou gavest to be with me, she gave . . . and I did eat." It was not exactly that Adam was putting the blame for his own sin upon his wife, as many suppose. It was worse than that. In his uneasy sense of his wretchedness he endeavored to make God Himself responsible for the wrong done. "The woman whom thou gavest me" Gods gift had caused all the trouble! This was to make Him the blameworthy one.

Verse 13—"The woman said, The serpent beguiled me, and I did eat!"—And this was true. Deceived by the honeyed words of the shining one, she had fallen into a grievous snare, from which no human power could extricate her.

Verse 23—"The Lord God sent them forth" That earthly Paradise was closed to them forever. Driven out in the world from the garden of delight, they were henceforth to prove in toil and sweat and tears what an evil thing it is to disobey the voice of God.

Our War Effort

A Weekly Review of Developments on the Home Front

1. Army Week. In every province gave honor to her gentlemen in battledress. Speaking on Dominion Day in the House of Commons, the Prime Minister indicated that the day is soon coming when Canadian army will have an honored place in the van of attack.

2. Sugar rationing by coupon became effective July 1. Gasoline ration in Maritime Provinces raised from two to three gallons per unit.

3. Thousands more Canadian soldiers and airmen arrived in Great Britain.

4. Canadian-built merchant ship brought safely to a West Coast Canadian port after determined attack by Japanese submarine.

5. Victor Sifton resigns as master-general of the ordnance. Mr. Sifton succeeded by Brig.-Gen. J. V. Young, deputy master-general who becomes acting master-general of ordnance.

6. R.C.A.F. squadrons take part in repeated bomber attacks on Bremen, Germany.

7. Maximum prices at which canners may sell number of items of their 1942 pack set in orders issued by Wartime Prices and Trade Board. Affected are canned tomatoes, tomato justice, peas, corn, green and wax beans, peaches pears plums and apricots.

8. Dollar volume of retail purchasing 12 per cent higher in May than in corresponding month last year; up three per cent from April.

9. Employment showed further advance at beginning of May, when 13,064 establishments reported to Dominion Bureau of Statistics a working force of 1,674,665 persons compared with 1,652,925 on April 1, an increase of 21,740.

WHAT THE BEGINNERS PAY
The single man earning \$700 per year will now pay in taxes \$40 per year and the married man earning \$1,250 will pay \$50, provided neither has any dependants, according to the new budget. In both these cases, one half the annual tax will be paid back after the war, plus interest at 2 per cent. The Defense Tax will be dropped in lieu of the new tax.

In all China has lost five million people as a result of the war and there are 60,000,000 refugees.

"There is a great door open to the gospel in China," said the speaker, "and even the so-called communists are asking for Bibles and desiring to hear the gospel preached." In two years time Rev. Lautenschlager had the privilege of seeing 6,000 students become Christians through his evangelistic and teaching efforts.

"Although we are in the midst of world's greatest revolution, it is the Christians that will hold the world together and it is the small group of them in all countries that will reach out hands of healing after the war is over. Right now the world is going in all directions but it is the business of the church to make it go in one direction—Christ. If we spend a few more thousands for missions in the next twenty years we won't need to spend billions for another war," he stated. "We must win this war and win peace," concluded Rev. Lautenschlager who referred to a saying made by an old Chinese sage in 400 B.C., "Those who do not delight in war will finally win."



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