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Notes and Comments

Council Must Protect Village Interests

The village of Stouffville has been willed the residue of the estate of Thomas Williamson, and since the will is being contested in the courts, it becomes the responsibility of the municipal council to protect the interest of the corporation. It is the duty of this body to engage eminent counsel in order that the interests of the corporation are protected, and the wishes of the testator, duly administered.

We never favored corporations getting into law suits if at all possible to avoid such issues, but here is an instance where they have no choice. If the authorities sit idly by and fail to defend what they consider is the rights of the corporation, then they might be charged with seriously neglecting their duty, in failing to protect the best interests of the village.

It is a case of receiving privileges, with which comes added responsibility.

Farmers' Income May Set Record

Cash income of Canadian farmers is expected to be well above \$1,000 millions this year. At this level it would compare with \$700 millions in 1939. There is an excellent chance that the final total will be greater than the previous all-time record of \$1,056 millions in 1929.

Aiding the large gains in farm cash income are the current bumper crops now being harvested. Late estimates suggest a wheat crop of upward of 550 million bushels with sales of dairy products, meats, coarse grains and other farm products also promising records.

Cadet Training in the Schools

Fifty-two secondary school teachers, many of them principals of the schools they represent in Ontario and Quebec, are attending a month-long course in cadet instruction at Niagara/Camp. Their "boss" is Major C. E. Read.

The pedagogues are stocking up on the fundamentals of soldiering and basic training. When they go back to their respective schools this fall they will pass it on to the students. In Ontario secondary schools, cadet training is now obligatory, and the girls, too, will be given more than a smattering of defence instruction.

The savants now in training at Niagara Camp are not confined to theory. They're going over the high fences along the assault course with the rest of the boys at camp.

So, when junior goes back to high school this term he's going to get a taste—a good taste—of map reading, field craft, rifle drill and many other phases of basic army training.

Farm Labor Problem

Some people have been heard to express surprise because there is not more farm work being done on Sundays, in view of the unquestioned emergency which exists in getting in the season's crops.

The answer is not hard to find. Farmers, after all, are human beings, and there is a limit to their physical endurance. Fourteen to sixteen hours a day for six days a week would seem to constitute a fair week's work. If city people would like to work longer they are welcome to try it. Of course there are a few chores to do on Sundays as usual. Then, too, there are still many farmers who have retained their faith in God and His moral law, and sincerely believe that the Lord's Day is not only for rest but for worship. Too many people today think loosely about such things and whenever pressure of work threatens to engulf them they have only one solution, to work on Sunday. Their reasoning is generally an indication of their own incompetence.

In respect to the harvesting of grain and other crops, there is no doubt this is essential and vitally important war work. The Government should so recognize it and release temporarily from the armed forces experienced farm workers to assist during the harvest season. This is a subject which the Director of Selective Service should be given authority to deal with the Whitby Gazette declares.

Little Read Government Publications

Few people in Canada ever read or see a copy of the Canada Gazette or The Ontario Gazette. They are small publications in which government announcements are made but which a mere handful of people ever see.

When a tax sale is held in Ontario the law requires the list of places liable to be sold to be advertised in the Ontario Gazette. The rates are not low for advertising, and the properties being sold for taxes bear the cost. A mere notice that a tax sale is to be held is inserted in the newspaper that circulates the district where the sale takes place. This insertion is necessary because the general public do not see the Ontario Gazette and wouldn't know a sale was to take place.

There is a policy of retrenchment on just now, and the Whitby paper points out that there is a feeling among the citizens of Canada that the Governments should adopt some conservation measures, such as they are urging upon the common people.

If a tax sale is to be held and advertised what useful purpose is served by advertising it in the official government paper that Mr. John Public never sees. The sale should be advertised in the paper that is read in the district concerned and no where else.

Sunday School Lesson

August, 23

JACOB'S VISION OF GOD

Golden Text — I am with thee, and will keep thee in all places whither thou goest—Gen. 28:15.

The Heart of the Lesson

God's revelation of Himself to a man does not necessarily imply submission on man's part. He declared His grace to Jacob, made clear His overshadowing care, and confirmed His covenant to him. But on the part of the wayward young man who was destined to spend many years away from the land to promise and never to see his scheming mother again, there was as yet no real surrender of soul to the One who thus manifested His loving care. He was Jacob, the bargainer, the crafty supplanter, still. He would even try to bring God over to his terms, promising recognition of His authority providing the Lord did as he desired. It is a sad illustration of what is in all of our hearts until subdued by divine power.

Verse by Verse

Gen. 28:10 — "Jacob went toward Haran." Some of Abraham's kinsfolk had remained in Haran after he and Lot went on to the land of Canaan. It was to find these relatives that Jacob was journeying. His mother, Rebekah, had been found in this region by Abraham's servant, and her family resided there still.

Verse 11—"He took of the stones . . . for his pillows." A homeless wanderer because of his own sin in defrauding his brother, he found himself alone in the waste country, and when night fell he improvised a couch upon the ground with the desert stones for headrests.

Verse 12—"A ladder (or ascent) set up . . . and behold the angels of God ascending and descending on it." It was a vision showing how closely earth and Heaven are linked. Our blessed Lord indicated to Nathanael that this ascent, or ladder of light, between earth and Heaven typified Himself, the One Mediator between God and men (John 1:51).

Verse 13—"The land whereon thou liest, to thee will I give it, and to thy seed." Many seem to forget that the possession of the land of Canaan by the nation of Israel—as descendants of Jacob—is included in God's unconditional covenant made with Abraham (Gen. 13: 15- and Isaac (Gen. 26:3,4), and confirmed to Jacob. This is the Jews' inalienable title to their ancient homeland, and Palestine will yet be theirs through God's overruling providence.

Verse 14—"In thee and in thy seed shall all the families of the earth be blessed." The Seed is Christ, as Galatians 3:16 makes clear. The promise of Genesis 22:18

was reiterated as God spoke to Jacob. Already blessing has come to a large part of mankind through the promised Seed, but God's full program to bless all nations through Him awaits fulfillment at His second advent, when the world-kingsdom of our God and His Christ will come (Rev. 11:15, literal translation).

Verse 15—"Behold, I am with thee, . . . I will not leave thee." What words are these coming from the heart of God to poor Jacob, when he was suffering the consequences of his own deceitful and unbrotherly behavior. The grace of God was abundant toward him, assuring of present care and future blessing, with eventual restoration to the land he was about to leave.

Verse 16—"Surely the Lord is in this place; and I knew it not." To Jacob, the Lord was not yet known as he was to know Him in later years. He perhaps had thought of himself as going beyond the sphere of the divine care and influence. But he learned that the God of his fathers was omnipresent and ever watching over him for good. Henceforth Bethel would be to him in reality the house of God, although many years were to pass before he renewed his vows to the Lord who appeared to him there (Gen. 35:1-7).

Verse 17—"How dreadful is this place." It was not that he was terrorized, but rather his soul was solemnized. He used a word which expresses a sense of reverent awe, as he realized that the place of his desert lodging had indeed become the house of God, the very gate or entrance into Heaven. From henceforth he would have a deeper sense of Heaven's concern over him than ever before, and of his responsibility to honor God, who had manifested Himself to him.

Verse 18—"Jacob . . . took the stone . . . and set it up for a pillar, and poured oil upon . . . it." His stony headrest was turned into an anointed monument commemorating the divine mercy.

Verse 19—"He called the name of that place Beth-el." It was an evidence of a certain measure of spiritual insight that led him thus to change its name from Luz—a word of uncertain meaning—to the House of God, the name which it was to bear for many centuries after ward.

Verse 20—"Jacob vowed a vow, saying, If God will be with me." There was no occasion for an "if." God had spoken very definitely and declared that He would be with Jacob wherever he went. It was lack of real spiritual discernment, as yet, that led the wanderer to try to bargain with God. He sought to obtain or insure His favor by promising certain things, providing God fulfilled His promises. This is a most subtle form of unbelief.

Verse 21—"When shall the Lord be my God." There was no immediate yielding of his heart to the Lord, but simply a vow that he would do so if God did not desert

10 MILLION HOGS NEEDED FOR 1943

Ottawa — Canadian farmers will have to market about 10 million hogs next year if they are going to fill Great Britain's enlarged demands and keep the domestic market well stocked, it is estimated. This would represent an increase of about three million hogs over expected 1942 marketings. It would compare with 6.2 million hogs marketed in 1941, 5.5 millions in 1940, and 3.7 millions in 1939.

The British Ministry of Food is seeking at least 700 million lb. of bacon and ham compared with 600 million lb. contracted for the current year.

To boost Canada's hog marketings to 10 millions presents problems, chiefly that of persuading the farmers that raising more hogs can be profitable.

The answer may have to be some arrangement whereby hog prices can be raised above this year's top level of 19.9 cents a lb. under the present U.K. agreement.

him as he went on to Haran. Jacob was still Jacob. The Israel nature was not yet his.

Verse 22 — "Of all that thou shalt give me I will surely give the tenth unto thee." This was the concluding part of the bargain he sought to drive with God. It shows how incorrigible is the heart of man and how imperative the need of a new birth.

The best results are obtained from Tribune Classified Ads.

NORMAL SCHOOLS OPEN SEPTEMBER 22

Normal schools in Ontario will open this year on September 22 and not September 8 as provided in the regulations, it has been announced by the Ontario Dept. of Education. The postponement is made to enable students to spend as much time as possible assisting farmers with the harvest. The change in opening dates coincides with the order delaying the opening of some secondary schools two weeks.

KEEPS VILLAGE DRY

By a margin of 16 votes, Tottenham residents Thursday defeated a move to allow the introduction of beverage rooms to that village.

A large number of the 550 residents of the incorporated village turned out to cast their votes, and there was widespread interest as to the outcome of the plebiscite. Thursday night it was announced that the "Wets" were 16 ballots short of the three-fifths majority necessary to swing this centre over from its traditional "Dry" condition.

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