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Notes and Comments'

Gives Advice to Horticultural Societies

Mr. John Clark of the Department of Agriculture gave the Mount Albert Horticultural Society some thoughts at their annual meeting, chiefly of which was the idea to carry on. The boys in Britain, he said, have seen the beauty of the old land, and when they return things should look good to them here. Over there the Horticultural Societies are carrying on, so why should we give up here. The beautification that has been accomplished should not be lost, and that is a thought that might be taken into the heart of every society in Ontario. Now as never before the good work should be maintained. We should not allow these splendid societies to fall apart. The diversion from the hard task of the war is worth a great deal to all of us, diversion that the work of these societies provide.

Blood Donors Urgently Wanted

From Uxbridge came a call last week for fifty more blood donors. They are asked to leave their names at Fred Mowder's store in Claremont or at Charles Watson's store, Goodwood if that is more convenient than to apply in the town of Uxbridge. Don't wait to be asked, says the appeal. If you are between 18 and 55 you can render a great service.

The blood is taken by a physician by a simple and painless process requiring about 15 minutes, and it does not incapacitate anyone. Your donation may save a life, so call up one of these stores today or phone H. Spofford in Uxbridge town. The campaign is under the sponshorship of the Uxbridge Red Cross and is worthy of anyone's support.

Over 100 Years of Service

The Green family at Greenwood has conducted the milling business there for 110 years. At one time it was a more pretentious business than in this day when the country mill is not so highly prized, but it stands as a great landmark in Pickering township. The country mill often saved the farmer walking 25 miles with a bag of grain on his back or horseback to get it turned into flour. Carrick Mills in Markham, operated by the Bruces was probably established much the same time as the Green family started. Where is there another business more essential to the welfare of the farmer that has carried on in the same location with so little change in their business, as the country mill.

Editor Tells the Merchants of a New Idea

The Newmarket Era came out with an editorial last week saying that the merchants of that town might well consider closing their places of business on Saturday nights at six o'clock until spring time arrives.

Probably the editor wanted to startle the business men of the town, or frighten the farmers, or probably business is so poor in Newmarket on a Saturday evening, that the merchants are not getting enough return for their effort of night work. Whatever the Era Editor had in mind, he suggested that the merchants ought to consider this drastic step.

One thing about the suggestion is that no other person will ever have thought of it, and therefore it will make the Era readers sit up and ponder the idea. Some day we are going to ask the merchants of Stouffville if they would consider six o'clock closing on Saturdays for the winter season.

Tax Forms Must be Simplified

One of the most timely editorials appearing in the Financial Post for some time, gave reference last week to the complicated income tax forms being issued by the government. It is safe to say that not one in a dozen persons liable for taxation knows how to figure out the tax, and scores of people are evading the tax because they do not understand it at all. Here is the reference made in the Post:

"Is there any good reason why our income tax forms should be so complicated?

True, the authorities face a tremendous task in making the tax as equitable as possible, so that citizens with special and private obligations will not be compelled to carry an unjust burden. But the tax form has become so complicated that the average person is completely baffled.

Local officers of the Department of National Revenue are besieged by all sorts of people utterly bewildered as to what information is required and the total of taxes expected. Indeed, this bewilderment is not confined to the average taxpayer either. Some officials of the local income tax offices have been known to give two entirely different answers to identical questions.

In far too many cases discouraged taxpayers have already turned the job of estimating their income taxes over to a lawyer or accountant. In other and more numerous cases the job has been left to employers who already have manifold extra tasks.

Where this is done the taxpayer likely has only the vaguest idea of how much he is paying and the vital feature of bringing the cost of war home to every individual is lost.

With the income tax now taking such a substantial part of all our gross personal earnings and involving such a large new group of Canadians, sweeping simplification is urgently necessary. To be effective the income tax form should be made simple enough so that at least a high school boy could understand it and readily fill in all the answers."

Sunday School Lesson

February 21 JESUS THE GOOD SHEPHERD

Golden Text-I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep.

-John 10:11

The Lesson as a Whole When our blessed Lord spoke of Himself as the Good Shepherd, He was using a term that the Jews understood as belonging to God Himself. In the well-known Twentythird Psalm, David sang, "The Lord (Jehovah) is my shepherd," and in Psalm 80:1, we read, "Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, thou that leadeth Joseph like a flock." Jacob, in the blessing of the tribes, spoke of Messiah as "the shepherd, the stone of Israel" (Gen. 49: 24). Isaiah prophesied, saying, "Behold, the Lord God will come with strong hand . . . He shall feed his flock like a shepherd: he shall gather the lambs with his arm, and carry them in his bosom, and shall gently lead those that are with young" (Isa. 40:10, 11). Many other Old Testament passages picture Jehovah as the Shepherd, seeking the lost and caring for His flock. So when the Lord Jesus Christ announced Himself as the Good Shepherd who had come to seek His sheep and to this week. While they were not nec- which looks like butter, tastes like die for the flock, He was really de- essarily written for publication, we it and is said to be very nutrious. It claring His deity and His Messiah- considered them so full of interesting sells for about 20c. per pound. No ship. The word rendered "good" news, from such well known person- bacon is in sight. literally means "beautiful." It re- ages as Dr. Thos. Mitchell and Infers here to beauty of character. spector Archie Stouffer, that we know getting people to church. It is not His was the beauty of holiness. In our readers are going to enjoy them. because the heralds of the Gospel are tenderest love He came to find His Mr. Stouffer, of course, is a son of better than ours at home, indeed I sheep and to redeem them from Mr. Abram Stouffer of this place, and think that on the average, they are destruction, to lead them out of the a former principal of the local school. not as good. It is because the folks, fold of Judaism, with its narrow, legal restrictions, into the liberty of grace, where they would feed in contentment, gathered about Himself, and protected by His mighty hand. Every king in Israel was looked upon as the shepherd of his people and as Jehovah's undershepherd, who was responsible to feed and tend His flock (Ezek. 34). measure, at least, all of these had failed. So Jesus Christ came to fulfill God's ideal and to gather together the sheep, both of Israel and the nations, that all might be one

Verse by Verse : John 10:1-"He that entereth not by the door into the sheepfold . . . is a thief and a robber." The sheepfold does not refer to Heaven. It is not of man's vain effort to obtain entrance to that blessed abode by his own works, that the Lord here speaks. The fold was Judaism. Those who tried to enter other than by the door of God's apointment were the false shepherds, the pseudo-messiahs, of whom there had been many, and several of which are mentioned in Scripture. (See Acts 5:36, 37.) Barabas himself was one of these, who hoped to overthrow the Roman power and so among the nations. deliver Israel (Luke 23:18,19; Mark 15:7). These men did not enter by the door. They broke in like thieves and robbers, and proved that they had no divine authority.

flock (Ezek. 34:23).

Verse 2-"He that entereth in by the door is the shepherd of the Verse 28—"I give 'unto them sheep." This was the Lord Jesus Christ Himself, -who came in exact accord with the prophetic Word and in perfect obedience to the Father's

openeth." John the Baptist was the 1:6). He says "Neither shall any porter. He recognized Christ as the . . . pluck them out of my hand." expected One, and presented Him Note that, in the Bible, the word to Israel as the promised Messiah "man" is in italics. There is nothing (John 1:29-34).

for they know his voice." He came the Good Shepherd. Angels would seeking the lost sheep of the House not desire to. Demons and men canof Israel (Matt. 10: 5, 6; 15:24). not if they would. All are secure who These were those who were waiting belong to His flock. for the Saviour to appear and who Verse 29-"My Father . . . is received Him in faith. He led them greater than all." He speaks as the out of the Jewish fold, with its dependent man, who came to do the legal restrictions, into Christian Father's will. The Father ratifles the freedom, where they could enjoy work of His Son and guarantees the the liberty of grace.

voice of strangers." These Israelites, one." In chapter 8:16 we found a like Nathanael, recognized Jesus similar expression, "I and the Christ as Messiah (John 1:47-49). Father." If Jesus were not conscious They were a bit carried away by the of His own deity, it would be the pretensions of others. They knew height of conceited egoism, if not

herd." In contrast to the self-seek- equal. Though the Son had stooped ing pretenders, who had so often in grace to become man, He did not deceived the people and raised false cease to be God. He ever spoke and hopes, Jesus presented Himself as acted as One with the Father. the good shepherd, who had come to lay down His life in order to redeem the sheep.

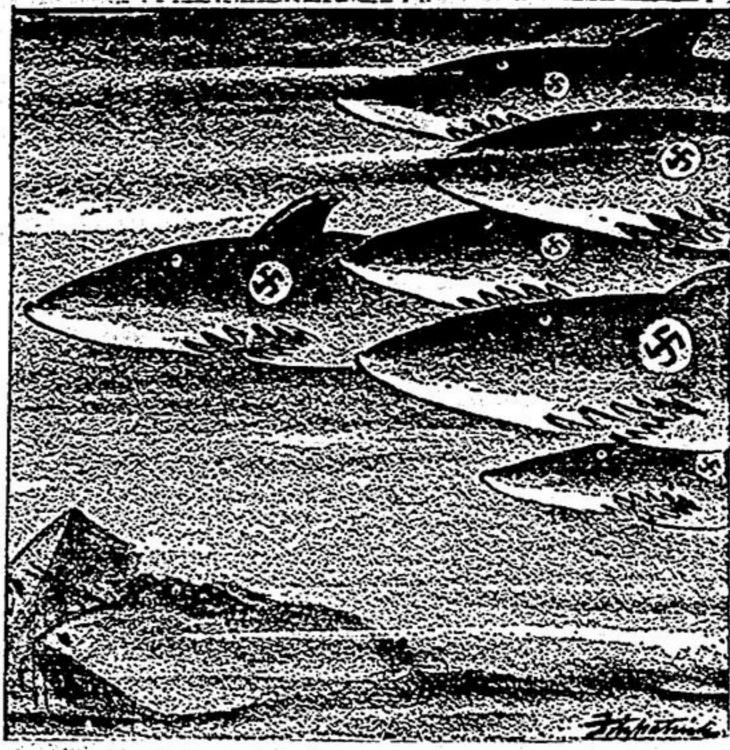
Verse 12-"An hireling : . . leaveth the sheep, and fleeth." These false ones fled in the hour of danger and left their poor, deluded followers exposed to their cruel enemies. He came to stand between the flock and the foe, to die that the sheep might live.

VeVrse 13-"The hireling . careth not for the sheep." Actuated by selfinterest, the hireling thinks only of his own comort and safety. It was far otherwise with our Lord. to whom the sheep of the flock were dearer than His own life.

Verse 14-"I ... know my sheep, and am known of mine." To this good Shepherd every individual sheep is precious. He knows each one intimately and they learn to know Him, and so to depend upon His loving care.

Verse 15-"I lay down my life for the sheep." In no other way could He redeem His flock from the death that hung over them, because of

NO. 1 NAVAL PROBLEM



The Editor's Mail

The Editor's Mail on page two pro- ful. We can't get butter, but there vides two highly interesting letters is a substitute for it called "nutley"

· Hotel Bates, St. Petersburg, Florida Dear Mr. Nolan:

This is Monday morning, yesterday and today we are having quite a cold spell. At such a time most of the houses here are colder than at home. We have an oil stove in our cottage and we are quite comfortable. I think the winter wear for the year around here would be light wool. Evenings and mornings are always cool, and the usual thing is for the sun to break through about 10 a.m. The sunshine is really glorious.

The folks here are being quite heavily rationed. Sight-seeing vehicles are all off the roads. Private

for many a day. What wonderful the violation of God's holy law. It voices these negroes have and how was His life or ours. He died that well they can use them. we might live.

Verse 16-"Other sheep I have, which are not of this fold." He meant those from among the Gentiles, who would turn to Him. He died, not for the Jews alone, but for all men (John 11:49-51; 1 Tim. 2:-5; 6). When saved, these both are united in "one flock" with "one shepherd." This was spoken, looking forward to God's present work

Verse 27-"My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me." No one belongs to His flock who does not hear His voice and seek to follow where He leads. All such He knows by name and

eternal life." Eternal life is nonforfeitable, otherwise it would not be eternal. Those who possess this life "shall never perish," for He who began the work of grace in the Verse 3-"To him the porter will bring it to completion (Phil to represent it in the original. None Verse 4-"The sheep follow him: can take a sheep of Chrst away from

safety of all who trust Him.

Verse 5-"They know not the Verse 30-"I and my Father are the Shepherd's voice and obeyed it. actual blashphemy, so to speak. But Verse 11-"I am the good shep- the persons of the Godhead are co-

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cars are not allowed for pleasure.

The exception is for use in carrying

people to church. There is no cocoa

in this city, coffee and postum are

hard to get. Tea is a bit more plenti-

The preachers here have no trouble

who come here are for the most part

church going people, and in addition

they are ailing in some degree and

are therefore in need of the rein-

a church that has two services in

succession every Sunday morning, in

when one service ends ten or twelve

hundred people are at the door wait-

ing to get in for the next. All over

The other evening I went to a ser-

vice in a colored church. The sermon

was not strong at all but the spon-

taneity, enthusiasm, and the dignity

of the other parts of the service cer-

tainly did surprise me. The singing

was by all odds the best I have heard

Well, we expect to stay here a

couple of weeks more and then we

hope to meander about the State to

see other parts before we leave for

home. If you find yourself unable

(Continued to page 6)

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