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**Notes and Comments**

**Churches are Taking Stock**

Annual church meetings are just being completed, where congregations are taking stock of their material and spiritual achievements and resources. There have been quite a number of these in the past two years in Stouffville and district, and if statistics are any criterion, the churches concerned have had a successful year.

Today, more than ever, with hundreds of young men and women returning from overseas, some from the very jaws of hell, so to speak, and with new and grave post war problems presenting themselves, there is need that the church take stock of past achievements involving success or failure, and plan for the future. Nor must the state of the treasury, as it so often is, be the main consideration, although this is important. The church must have a definite post-war program of spiritual import and broad, sympathetic understanding, a program that will appeal to the masses who do, and those who do not attend church—a program which will bring nearer the establishment of the kingdom of righteousness, love and truth. When that time comes more people will go to church and financial problems will vanish. A church that goes all-out spiritually will be deemed to have had a successful year.

**Good Advertising**

(Oshawa Times-Gazette)

Many million dozen Canadian eggs are to be shipped to Britain in the shell this year; and every egg will bear, stamped in indelible ink, the word "Canada."

If the eggs are good eggs (and let us pray that there may be no exceptions) this is a great opportunity for Canadian egg producers to advertise their wares in a receptive market.

Fears are expressed that after the war British and European egg production may increase so rapidly that Canada's new-found export market may disappear almost overnight. But the fact remains that before the war Britain imported from China alone as many eggs as Canada is now shipping under stress of war demand; and China will not return as an important factor in the British market for years, if ever.

If the quality of the eggs inside the trade-marked shells is guarded all along the line from Canadian nest to British table, wartime poultry expansion may prove a peace-time permanency.

Perhaps there is a hint here, too, for Canadian officials in charge of bacon shipments, which lose their identity before they reach the British housewife. Is there no simple way of marking bacon so that it also advertises its origin, and builds goodwill for a badly needed post-war market?

**Sunday School Lesson**

Lesson for February 11  
 Golden Text—"Ye are my friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you.—John 15:14"

The Lesson as a Whole  
 Approach to the Lesson

The twelve were disciples before they became apostles. That is, they were learners in the school of Christ before they were commissioned as apostles and sent forth as couriers of the King to proclaim that the long-looked-for Kingdom of the Heavens had drawn nigh. Their commission is given in the tenth chapter. It differs considerably from that given at the close of this Gospel, after the King had been rejected and when He was about to return to the Father. This earlier commission had to do with their ministry "to the lost sheep of the house of Israel" (chap. 10:6). The later one embraced all nations: "As the King's representatives to the chosen nation, they were to go forth counting upon the loyal subjects of the King to provide entertainment for them and to further them on their way; hence they were to go without purse or scrip or other provision as though for a long journey. If received in peace, they were to preach the Gospel of the Kingdom and heal the sick, as empowered by the Lord. If rejected, they were to declare that judgment was about to fall and were to proceed on their way to other towns and villages. The Lord Jesus Christ, forewarned them of the ill-treatment that awaited them in some places, but declared that the Heavenly Father would watch over them.

After they had left, two of John the Baptist's disciples came to inquire of the Lord whether He was indeed the Coming One or whether another was to be looked for. The Lord Jesus answered by demonstrating His power over disease and demons, and took occasion to give due recognition to John and his message. Then, foreseeing both the rejection of that message and of His own claims, He pronounced woes upon the cities in which most of His mighty works had been done, and proclaimed Himself as the Giver of rest to the distressed and heavy-laden who came in faith to Him.

Verse by Verse  
 Matt. 10:1—"When he had called unto him his twelve disciples, he

gave them power (authority)." These twelve had been with Him for some time. Now He separated them from others of His followers, setting them apart as His authoritative messengers. In verse 2, they are designated, for the first time, "apostles," that is, sent ones, or missionaries.

Verse 5—"Go not into the way of the Gentiles." The King must first be presented to Israel and the Kingdom offered to them. It was not until Israel had rejected both that the Gospel was sent out into all the world and to all nations (Matt. 28:19, 20; Mark 16:15, Luke 24:46, 47; Acts 1:8).

Verse 6—"Go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." It was to seek these out that the Twelve were to go forth, giving to Israel an opportunity to repent of their sins and to receive their King, and so He prepared to enter into His Kingdom.

Verse 7—"As ye go, preach." Their message or proclamation was a brief one: "The kingdom of heaven is at hand." For this Kingdom the nation had been waiting long. Now it was presented for their acceptance or rejection.

Verse 8—"Freely ye have received, freely give." Miraculous powers were granted to the King's couriers in order to accredit their proclamation. But they were not to misuse these things for their enrichment. They were to give of what had been given them, not seeking any return for themselves.

Chap. 11:1—"When Jesus had made an end of commanding his twelve disciples, he departed thence." Left alone now, the Lord went into other places to preach and teach, that the word of the Kingdom might reach throughout all Galilee.

Verse 25—"At that time" that is, after abundant witness had been given. But it was evident that the Lord Jesus and His message met with ever-increasing rejection. It was then that the Lord Jesus Christ looked up to Heaven and said, "I thank thee, O Father, because thou hast hid these things from the wise and prudent, and hast revealed them unto babes." So subject was He to the Father's will that He could rejoice even when His mission seemed a failure, for though the great among the nation spurned Him, the poor in spirit and lowly in heart received Him, and found in Him the peace their souls craved.

Verse 26—"Even so, Father," as

**Family Allowances**  
 Cost \$256 Millions  
 When family allowances come into effect, July 1 of this year, 3,535,934 children under 16 are expected to be eligible for payments. Average cost per child per year will be \$72.48, and cost to the Treasury about \$256.3 millions (outside of administrative costs, and without deduction of income-tax rebates).

Figures produced this week show that, of all children eligible for family allowances next July:

- some 40.2 per cent (1,424,900) will be five years of age or less, hence will draw only \$5 a month;
- 23.8 per cent (839,700) will be between six and nine (\$6 per month);
- 17.5 per cent (618,400) will be between 10 and 12 (\$7 per month);
- 13.5 per cent (652,900) will be between 13 and 16 (\$8 per month).

(These amounts are cut by \$1 a month for the fifth child in a single family, \$2 a month for the sixth and seven children, \$3 a month for the eighth and subsequent children.)

The figures throw more light on the six-months-old argument about how Quebec "benefits" from family allowance payments, how much Ontario "contributes."

The Province of Quebec will contribute a fraction more (proportionately) to federal coffers than the proportion of benefit it receives: a 34 per cent slice of the taxes compared with 33 per cent of the family allowance payments.

Ontario will apparently make a major contribution to the provinces outside central Canada. Her share of the tax bill is 47 per cent, and of the allowance payments 29 per cent, as age and family distribution will stand this spring. The difference will help to balance out the nonindustrialized, less wealthy provinces, who have recently pointed out that these contributions from Ontario and Quebec will help them defray the cost of educating and training children who often subsequently go to join central Canada's labor force.

The trial spot for family allowance administration is Prince Edward Island. There, questionnaires will soon go out, and records will be checked, to get ready for the stream of 3.5 million cheques which must start going out from Ottawa on and after July 1, 1945.

**Fox Stages Come-Back**

Ontario is being invaded, quietly and unobtrusively, by an animal known as the gray fox. Before the coming of the white man, the gray fox was a common animal in southern Ontario. This we know from the bones found in pre-historic Indian village sites. Then it disappeared from our area. Its range shrank southward, for reasons unknown. It has been absent from early historic times until recently.

Twenty years ago the gray fox population began to spread northward again. The Royal Ontario Museum received its first specimen in 1942. Subsequently others were secured and the front of the invasion is now known to be from the St. Lawrence to Lake-of-the-Woods. Only time will tell how successful this animal will be in re-establishing itself in Ontario.

The coat of the gray fox has a "salt and pepper" colour effect and the tip of its tail is black. These features will distinguish it from the red fox in any of its phases. The Museum will appreciate information which will add to its knowledge of the gray fox in Ontario, none of which have been shot in Markham or Whitchurch, so far as this paper is aware.

ion. All who are truly subject to Him find rest of heart in the midst of all the cares of life as they learn of Him, the meek and lowly one.  
 Verse 30—"My yoke is easy, and my burden is light." Many shrink from submitting to His yoke, fearing it may involve greater sacrifices than they are ready to make. But all who submit to His authority and blend their wills with His find they enter a rest such as the weary of this world never know.  
 The Heart of the Lesson  
 Christ Jesus is, God's anointed King, to whom all authority in Heaven and earth has been committed. He therefore, has the right to claim our individual allegiance. As subject to Him we find relief in all earth's trying experiences. For, when His will is supreme in our lives and we yield ourselves wholly to His control, we enter into rest such as they who rebel against His will can never know.

**700 MOTHERS BENEFIT**

There are 700 mothers receiving assistance in the County of York through the Mothers' Allowance Act it was revealed at the recent County Council sittings in Toronto. W.C.Gohn, secretary, said that it was not customary to hand out this information, and that he did not have it, when the reeve of Stouffville pointed out that the figures submitted to council did not indicate how many mothers were benefitting under the Act.

Chairman John Warren, said he thought the question should be answered by Mr. Gohn and he ruled that the information be given. It was then that Mr. Gohn said it was approximately 700.

From now until Nov. 15th farmers may transport harvest help in their trucks.

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"In future, young man, you'll refer to them as Colonel; so and so, or Major so and so, and NOT as the High Priced Help!"