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Ontario County Juniors To Judge at Peterboro Exhibition and C.N.E.

Ontario County was represented by a splendid delegation of Junior Farmers when the Junior judging took place at Peterboro exhibition, on Thursday, Aug. 24th.

The boys and girls judged beef cattle, dairy cattle, heavy horses, sheep and swine in the morning. In the afternoon, there was a quiz on general agricultural topics, and identification contest, and a tractor defects test.

The following boys and girls took part in the Peterboro Judging Competition:

Clarence Wilson, Uxbridge; Ross Hill, Uxbridge; Hugh Baird, Blackwater; Jean Miller, Sunderland; Richard Miller, Sunderland; Wm. Miller, Sunderland; Bruce Boyington, Uxbridge; Robt. Ashenhurst, Uxbridge; Herbert Furniss, Brechin; Ted Lamb, Cannington; Harold Howsam, Uxbridge; Marion Rodd, Uxbridge; Roger Ashenhurst, Uxbridge; Wm. A. Boyes, Pickering; Fred Wilson, Uxbridge; Lloyd Ball, Uxbridge; Jack Pearson, Uxbridge; Carol Lee, Whitby.

The judging at the C.N.E. for Junior Institute, and Junior Farmer members starts on August 31 with the girls' competition. Ontario County will be represented by the following girls:

Ernestine Cooper, Stouffville; Florence Betz, Stouffville; Marilyn Ross, Beaverton; Barbara Smith, Beaverton; Ilah Hackner, Uxbridge; Dorothy Oliver, Uxbridge; Mary Wilson, Burketon.

The Junior Farmers judge at the C.N.E. on Friday, Sept. 1st. Besides the usual live stock classes a number of boys will be judging grain and roots, fruits and vegetables, and will also take part in the Farm Machinery Test.

The following boys and girls made entry for the C.N.E. Competition:

Wm. A. Boyes, Pickering; Jack Pearson, Uxbridge; Hugh Baird, Blackwater; Lloyd Ball, Uxbridge; Jim Blackburn, Uxbridge; Bruce Boyington, Uxbridge; Everson Norton, Locust Hill; David Norton, Locust Hill; Roger Ashenhurst, Uxbridge; Robt. Ashenhurst, Uxbridge; Arthur Richardson, Ashburn; H. Furniss, Brechin; Ted Lamb, Cannington; Har. Howsam, Uxbridge; John Thomson, Brooklin; Alan Powell, Port Perry; Carol Lee, Whitby.

SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

Sunday, September 3rd

PETER, WHO BECAME A MAN OF POWER

Golden Text.— We ought to obey God rather than man.—Acts 5:29
The Lesson as a Whole
By H. A. Ironside, Ltd.D.

Approach to the Lesson
The power manifested in and through Peter was not of himself. It was not natural boldness, or inherent ability. While always generous and impulsive, he proved himself to be thoroughly unreliable in the hour of testing. He who confidently declared that he would be faithful although all others should forsake Jesus broke down completely when accused by a young girl of being a follower of the Nazarene.

But it was a very different Peter who, some fifty days later, bore his strong and virile testimony to the risen Christ, and confronted the enemies of the Gospel with a holy boldness that caused them to quake before him. What had made the change? It was the Pentecostal endowment of which the Lord spoke, saying, "Ye shall receive the power of the Holy Spirit coming upon you and ye shall be witnesses unto me in Jerusalem, and Judea, and Samaria, and unto the uttermost parts of the earth" (Acts 1:8, literal rendering). Filled with the Spirit, Peter drove home to the people of Israel the enormity of their sin in rejecting Christ and giving Him over to crucifixion (Acts 2:23); and empowered by the same anointing, he wrought mighty signs and wonders in the name of the one who had triumphed over death and was now by God exalted to be a prince and a Saviour. This did not mean that Peter was beyond any further failure, for we know how grievously he fell short of behaving according to the full truth of the grace of God, at Antioch (Gal. 2:11, 12). But he was never again intimidated by the enemies of the Saviour, whom he had thrice denied.

The Historical Setting

The miracle on which the present lesson is based, the healing of the lame man at the gate of the Temple in Jerusalem, took place very soon after Pentecost. Probably only a few weeks, at the most, had elapsed since that great event occurred, and the people were still excited and wondering about the message given on that day and events that followed in rapid succession. It was in the spring, probably of the year A.D. 30.

Verse by Verse

Acts 4:3.—"Peter, filled with the Holy Ghost." Peter's message was not, in any sense, merely his own. He did not rely on his own wisdom or understanding, but he spoke as the Spirit gave him utterance. It is the privilege of every child of God today to be thus filled with the Spirit, in order that he may serve God acceptably in whatever circumstances he is found.

Verses 9, 10.—"By the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth . . . doth this man stand here before you whole." Peter made it plain that neither John nor he claimed in themselves any peculiar power or ability to work miracles. He gave all the credit and the glory to the One whom Israel had rejected, but

whom God had raised from the dead, and who was now working in and through those who believed on Him and had been sent by Him to proclaim the Gospel message.

Verse 11.—"This is the stone which was set at nought of you builders." The reference is to Psalm 118:22, where it was prophesied, that Messiah would be refused and rejected as the Stone of Salvation, but in resurrection God would make Him to be head of the corner of the new and glorious temple, composed of living stones, which He was about to build (1 Pet. 2:7). Our Lord had used the same message when speaking to the Pharisees and had applied it to Himself. (Matt. 21:42).

Verse 12.—"None other name." The Lord Jesus declared in the upper room: "No man cometh unto the Father, but by me" (John 14:6) There is no other who can save, nor is any other needed, for Christ is all sufficient. We are told elsewhere: "There is . . . one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus; who gave himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time" 1 Tim. 2:5, 6.)

Verse 13.—"They took knowledge of them, that they had been with Jesus." The people were amazed at the remarkable way in which these uneducated fishermen preached the word. They could but realize that the three years or more spent with Jesus, under His direct instruction, had done more for them than any of the rabbinical schools could ever have accomplished. There was an assurance and authority manifested which could only be accounted for by the fact that they knew Christ not only as their teacher when He was here on earth, but also as the risen Christ, who was guiding and directing their testimony.

Verse 14.—"Beholding the man which was healed . . . they could say nothing against it." The formerly lame man, whom they had known for so long, now standing before them, gave mute evidence to the reality of Peter's declaration.

Verse 15.—"They conferred among themselves." The rulers commanded the apostles to leave the council room while they consulted privately as to what their attitude should be. On their part, there was no exercise of conscience; nor any desire to know the truth, but a firm determination to hinder the progress of the new movement.

Verse 16.—"A notable miracle hath been done . . . we cannot deny it." They recognized the fact of the miracle, but failed to see in it the power of the name of Jesus. It would be useless to try to make the people believe that no miracle had been wrought, but they felt that, at all costs, something must be done to discredit the apostles.

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Verses 17, 18.—"Let us straitly threaten them, that they speak henceforth to no man in this name." It was a striking instance of the perversity of their unbelieving hearts. Instead of inquiring more particularly in order to ascertain the truth, they decided to forbid any further preaching in the name of Jesus.

Verses 19, 20.—"We cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heard." Peter and John boldly faced their judges and put the question directly to them as to whether it would be right, in the sight of God, to hearken unto them rather than to obey the Lord Himself, insisting that they must continue to declare the things which they had seen and heard. They deliberately defied the rulers, even though they knew they did so at the very risk of their lives.

The Heart of the Lesson

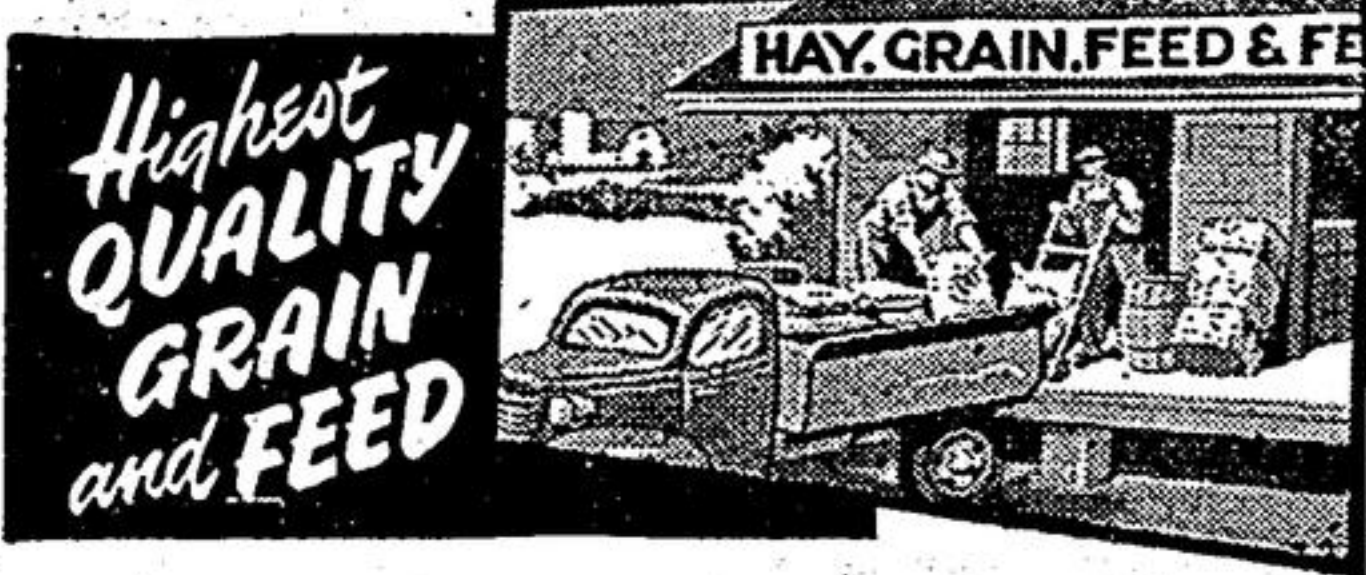
In seeking to account for the stirring ministry of the Apostle Peter, we should keep two things clearly in mind: first, the background of his association with the Lord Jesus during the years of His ministry; and, second, the endowment with the Holy Spirit, who came at Pentecost. The training he received as he listened to the teaching of Jesus and observed the power of God manifested in His daily life made an indelible impression on Peter's mind and helped to form his character. It was an education such as no schools of this world could ever have given him, but something more than this was needed to enable him to preach the Word with convicting power and holy boldness. It was for this that the Holy Spirit came. When He filled Peter with his brother apostles, they were lifted above merely human possibilities and enabled to proclaim the Gospel convincingly and to perform signs and wonders in the name of Jesus as the Spirit directed.

JUNIOR FARMER CHURCH SERVICE

The Ontario County Junior Farmer Association held its fifth annual open air church service at Beaverton on the United Church lawn recently.

The service, which was largely attended, was led by Ted Croxall, Uxbridge, president of the organization. He was assisted by Doris Risebrough, Uxbridge, and Everson Norton, Locust Hill.

The special speaker for the occasion was Ross Beattie of Stayner, past president of the Ontario Junior Farmer Association. Special music was supplied by Port Perry Junior Farmers.



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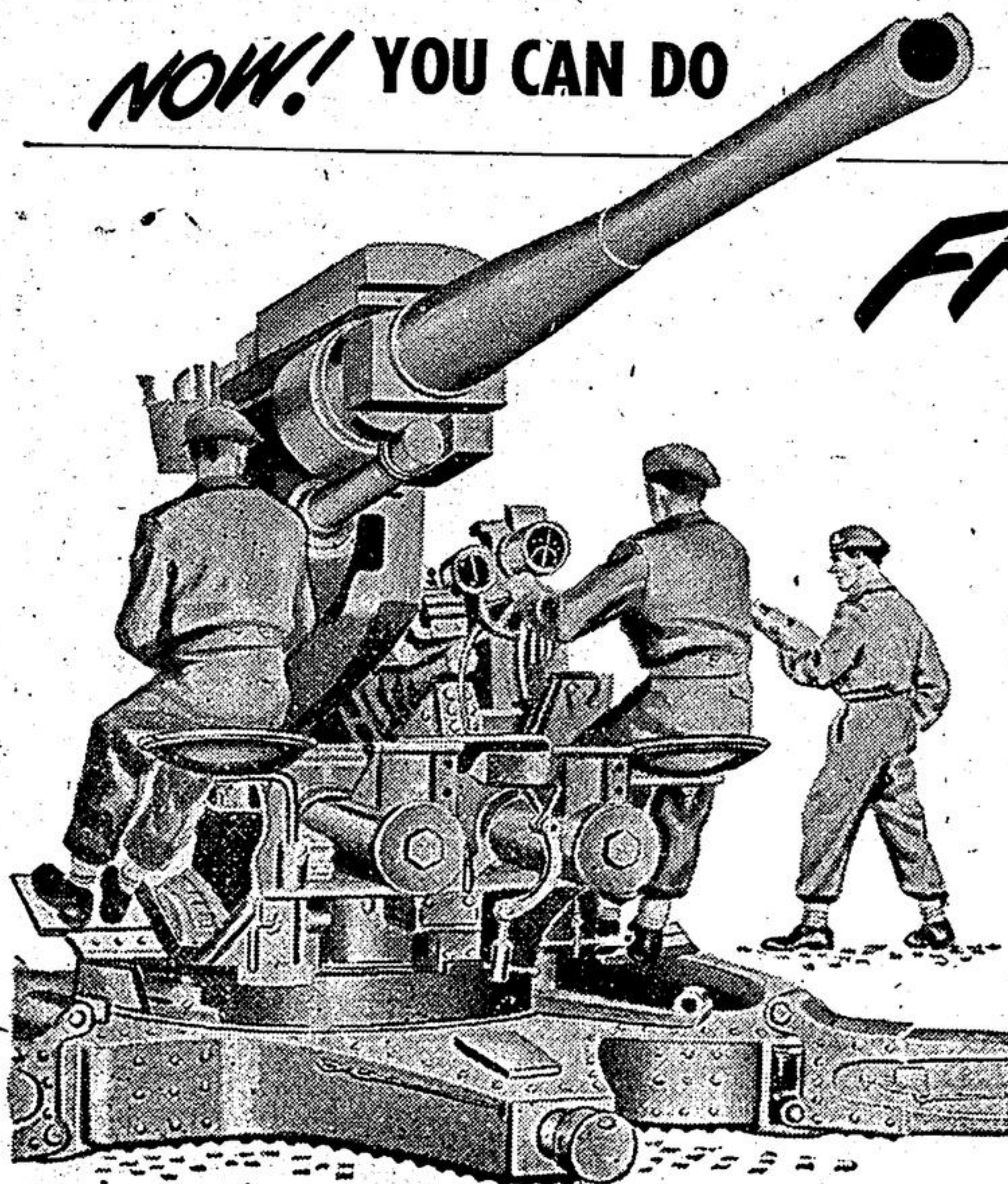
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