

New Public School for Richmond Hill

It is expected excavation for the O. M. MacKillop Memorial School, to be built at north-west limits of Richmond Hill, will begin this week by the Varamae Construction Company. The Public School Board has received word of the approval of the tender price for construction of \$185,000 by the Ontario Municipal Board, and it is expected the school will be ready for occupancy by the end of January of next year. Most girls won't let a flat tire ruin their evening—if he's handy with the jack.

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THIS WEEK'S SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

SELF-DISCIPLINE FOR GROWTH (Lesson for August 15) Mat. 16:24, 25; 1 Cor. 9:24-27; 2 Tim. 2:5-8; Heb. 12:1-4. Golden Text—If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me.—Matt. 16:24 THE LESSON AS A WHOLE By J. C. Macaulay, D.D. Approach to the Lesson I can think of no better approach to this lesson than a presentation of the background of the three portions of text—Matt. 16: 24-25; 1 Cor. 9:24-27; and Heb. 12:1-4. The verses in Matthew's Gospel constitute the climax of a scene at Caesarea Philippi in response to the inquiries of Jesus, Peter had made his great confession, and received the warm commendation of the Lord. The time had now come to tell the disciples what lay before Him who was "the Christ, the Son of the living God"—not a crown, but a cross. But Peter would have none of it, and in the flush of the recent commendations, understood to impress upon Jesus the folly of the way of the cross. Here, then, was a man, a disciple, who was rejecting the cross for his Lord, and, by implication, for himself. Our first portion, then, stresses the way of the Cross as not only ordained for the Lord, but appointed for all who would be His followers. The passage which leads up to our portion in 1 Corinthians is one in which Paul defends and maintains his apostleship, which was being disputed by certain factions in Corinth. Here he gives his answer to those who examine him. It is a remarkable answer: not a recitation of great visions such as he gives in 2 Cor. 12:1-5, nor a recital of the mighty deeds wrought at his hands. Two words might cover his whole argument in this chapter—renunciation, and accommodation. He tells how, for the sake of the Gospel, he had renounced one right after another, fundamental human rights. Then he relates how he had become a servant to all men, accommodating himself to their particular situations in order to win them to Christ. Surely we must see that there is something more apostolic in such renunciation, than in such accommodation or the doing of mighty works. On the basis of his own testimony he presents the Christian life as an athletic career, calling for discipline, and the avoidance of all self-pampering. Those to whom the Epistle to the Hebrews was written were wavering in their faith, between intense persecution on the one hand, and the lure of the ancient ritual of the Temple on the other hand. The writer has presented the way of faith, illustrating it in the eleventh chapter by a whole series of the triumphs of faith, from Abel down through the centuries. Throughout, he has indicated the endurance of those heroes of faith, and now he challenges the waverers to like patient endurance in the race, as they fix their eyes on Jesus, not on the persecutions, nor on the ritual of the Temple, which, for all its ancient sanctity, was even now passing away. This background should help in an understanding of the lesson. Verse by Verse Matt. 16:24—"If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me." Examine this verse in the light of verses 21-23. Notice the three requirements for one who would be of Christ's company—denial of self, acceptance of the way of the Cross, and making Christ his pattern. Verse 25—"For whosoever will save his life shall lose it; and whosoever will lose his life for my sake shall find it." This does not call for a reckless throwing away of life. Self-preservation is both an instinct and a duty. But the man who puts self first will lose everything, while he who lives to fulfill the will and purposes of Christ will find life on the highest plane. 1 Cor. 9:24—"... they ... run all, but one receiveth the prize." Runners run to win, not just for the fun of it. So the Christian is called to a life of uttermost exertion if he would be classified as a winner. Verse 25—"And every man that striveth ... is temperate in all things ... they, a corruptible crown, we an incorruptible." Athletes who do not practice discipline of the bodily appetites are soon on the side lines. If a fading garland of laurel leaves was considered worth all the self-discipline, what about the eternal prize held out to the Christian? Verse 26—"so run ... so fight I." The two exercises of running and boxing are here in view. Paul's running was toward a fixed and known goal, and his boxing was not fancy passes at a shadow. Verse 27—"I keep under my body, lest when I have preached

HELPING HAND OF ONT. MENNONITES EXTENDED TO STARVING MEXICANS

The helping hand of Ontario Mennonites has been extended to five starving Mexican Mennonite families who recently completed a 3,000-mile trek north in a two-ton truck carrying 32 persons and all their earthly possessions. Harvey Toews, associate director of the Mennonite central committee here, said relief has been given to the 32 who were ending a self-imposed 32-year exile. Give Food, Clothing Members of the denomination in the Niagara district have donated supplies, clothing, food and furniture to the families who now have jobs on farms in the Port Rowan area. Accommodation has also been found for the 32 who are occupying two houses. Mr. Toews said the MCC has investigated the problem and found there is no acute need at present. The MCC will keep in touch with the families and will be ready to help when and if assistance is needed. The returning group, or at least some of them, went to Mexico from Canada in 1922 and 1925 when their parents refused to send their children to schools in Manitoba and Saskatchewan to learn English. The group returned to Canada because the members are nearly starving. Hit By Sickness Chihuahua, where the colony has been established, has not had any rain to speak of for 10 years. Because of the lack of rain there were practically no crops and sickness has also descended on the colony. Despite the decision of the 32 to return to Canada, Mr. Toews does not expect any large migration from south of the Rio Grande. A scattered few may make their way north to Canada. Mr. Toews also said he does not believe there will be any school problem, such as the one that prompted their leaving Canada. He feels they will comply with the laws and send their children to school to learn English.

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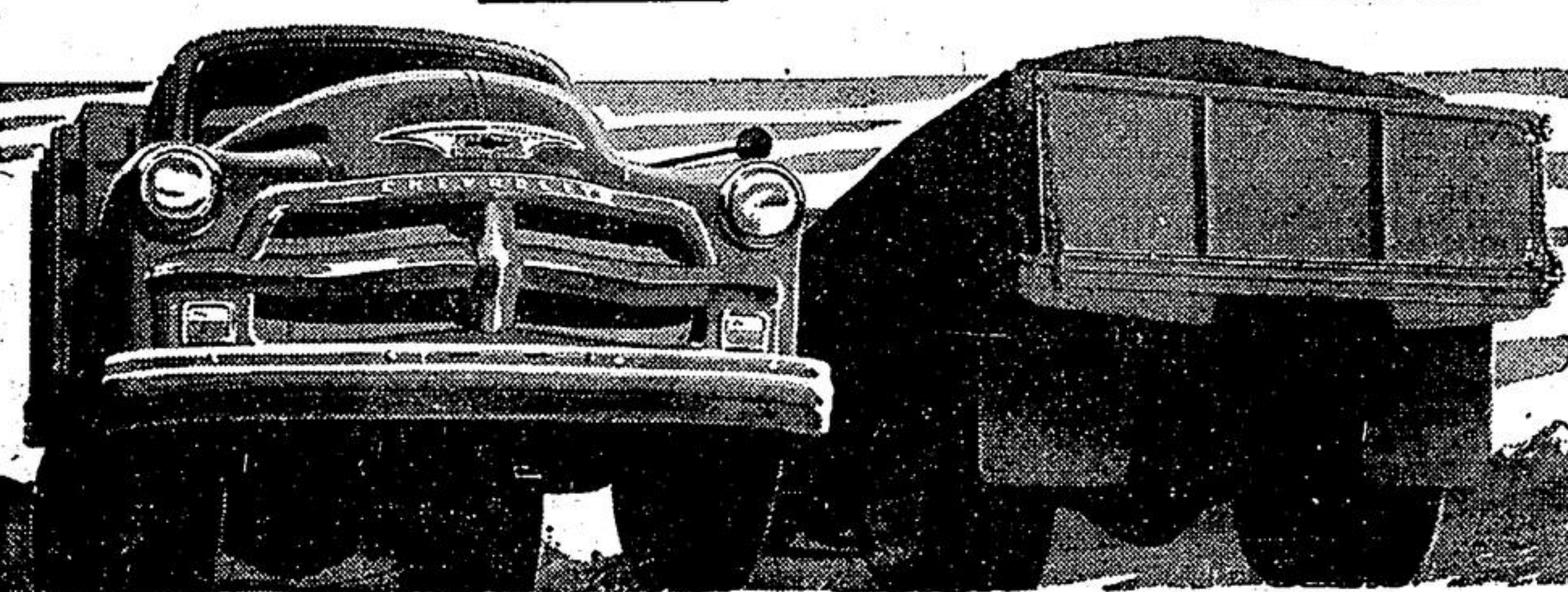
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