

THE MAN WHO WAS A FINGERBOARD

The International Sunday School Lesson For January 6th is "John Prepares the Way For Jesus."—Mark 1:1-11.

By William T. Ellis

A six months' journey through the Gospel of Mark now opens with the new year to every student of the International Sunday School Lessons. And Mark's message to the man or woman that sheds a flood of light upon the intricate ways over which we are passing.

The Forerunner

Once upon a time there lived that rare wonder, a man who did not pretend to be what he was not. There was almost as much posing and pretending and "bluffing" in his day as in ours; but nevertheless this remarkable man would not "put up a front" that was not genuine.

OPEN NOSTRILS! END A COLD OR CATARRH

County fifty! Your cold in head or catarrh disappears. Your clogged nostrils will open, the air passages of your head will clear and you can breathe freely. No more snuffling, hawking, mucous discharge, dryness or headache; no struggling for breath at night.

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conceived of himself as a fingerboard. For that office he did not need polish or social graces or the approving seal of the Sanhedrin. Nobody was expected to pay attention to him, but only to look and to go where he pointed.

Everybody points somewhere. The least of us cannot escape standing for something. The very first office of life is bearing witness. One's "do-as-I-please" devil-may-care attitude is rather checked by the thought that one is pointing somebody somewhere.

The Man With Something to Say. In the wilderness, John came to self-realization and acquired his message. Some preachers are affecting the camel's hair cloth and the leather girdle and brisque speech without the message.

Who Art Thou? Some men make their living by hunting up, or making up, distinguished names for themselves—antipodes of the Bes for persons—having acquired money or power, want also social distinction. They desire to be prepared to answer the world's inevitable question, "Who are thou?"

Holding a Job or Doing It. These Pharisees were known for the jobs they held and the positions they occupied; and contemporaneous religious life has plenty of analogous figures. But John was a person to be reckoned with because he was himself. He did not need an ecclesiastical job or a rich or fashionable pulpit; he had a message. And a man with his own message may go to the sand of Sahara and lift up his voice (not a voice trained in a school of elocution, either), and the world will resort to him.

A Stick May Point. Any kind of a stick, so long as it is not crooked, may point. John

PATRIOTIC CHILDREN.

Canadian Officer Has Teaching Experience in England.

When the first Canadian contingent sent to France landed in England, as related in "The First Canadians in France," the passion of the children of Devonport, where they landed, for souvenirs in the shape of buttons and buttons became violent. In a few hours, writes F. McKelvey Bell, our small cot was likely to become extinct and our buttons merely things that used to be.

Canada, a Nation. "A nation that has made the sacrifices of Canada in the war possesses a great heart and a great soul, and now that the opportunity has come to test the country's judgment on the patriotic act of sinking party differences, the approval of the people is added testimony to the solidity of its national sentiment and sound public honesty.

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"CASCARETS" FOR HEADACHE, COLDS, LIVER, BOWELS. Enjoy Life! Don't Stay Bilious, Sick, Headachy and Constipated.

A Devoted Missionary. Canadians should know more about the thrilling story of the life of the Rev. John Davis, the strong, athletic, very attractive, Canadian missionary, who in India became a leper. A friend of his describes the shock when the doctor in London told Mr. Davis what it was, and how he said: "I may be mistaken. It may not be so bad as I think. And how Mr. Davis said: "I took out my purse and paid him his fee, and he put his arm round my shoulder and walked with me all the way to the door."

Guelph electors approved a by-law proposing a change in the mode of electing the Mayor and Council and increasing the size of the Council. New passport forms are in use at Windsor, requiring serial numbers and requiring statement of the holders' destination and dependents. The Halifax newspapers, crippled as they were by the catastrophe, have issued commendable special New Year editions. Hugh Cant an ex-Mayor of G.I.T. and President of the Gore Mutual Fire Insurance Company, is dead.

BRITISH TANK GOING INTO ACTION BEFORE CAMBRAI



The upper left shows the tank creeping on a slope leading downward into a ditch. Fumes are issuing from one end. A heavy bar is visible above the rails in close proximity to the big links above the body of the tank. The upper right photograph shows the forward portion of No. 5 lying on soft ground. The travelling links are loaded with soft earth.

An idea of the strenuous time Crusty has had in the earlier part of the day. Two heavy sponges are visible carrying useful guns. The centre shows that when the Allies drove the Germans out of the French village of Cambrai the Hunns began bombarding the town. The inhabitants had to flee. On the way to the rear they passed the British supply train and their needs were looked after.

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