

THE LOOK THAT LIFTS LIFE

By William T. Eiffe

"The International Sunday School Lesson for July 15th is, "Prayer."—Luke 18:1-5, 9-14.

In the East beggars abound. Many are of a squalor and abjectness that passes the knowledge of the West. It is a favorite device in Egypt for begging children to go about almost entirely naked. Another trick is for them to sit hunched up in rags, head between knees, in apparently speechless misery, alongside of a wall on a popular thoroughfare. The prevalence of mendacity in these oldest parts of the world is one of the sights that sadden travellers' eyes. Jesus knew these beggars, and healed some of them. But he never held them up as a type of prayerful thoroughfare. That is an important point to perceive in taking up the old, yet ever exhaustless subject of prayer. All our understanding of prayer depends upon how we regard it. It is not mendacity. God never portrayed his children as beggars in the Giver of alms. The attitude of the person who prays is rather that of a child toward a father, than of a beggar whining for charity. Of his unfathomable bounty, God has given man the right to a filial relationship with himself. He abates no lot of his abject sovereignty; nevertheless, he teaches us to say "Our Father."

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truth is taught. The analogy of the parent is employed to make clear the idea that God's thoughts toward us are father-thoughts; and that he seeks from us the loving, dependent relationship of children. "Like as a father pitieth his children, so the Lord pitieth them that fear him." When we pray, we are turning, as naturally, properly and instinctively as children to a father, to One whose love is as great as his power; and who has joy in granting the requests of his children.

The Up-Looking Life. The Epworth League has for its motto, "Look up, lift up." That is to say, ability for service results from devotion. Prayer precedes power. It is the up-looking life, the one that views all experiences in their heavenward relationship, which walks most serenely and helpfully among men. Prayer is an act; but it is also an attitude—Godward turning of the soul at all times. This spirit reverently and modestly takes God into account in its daily affairs. Nothing "happens" to it; all is ordered by a benign and wise Providence.

Would you know the secret of the placid, beautiful faces that we occasionally meet; of the spirits that are unfurled by the daily trials; of the joy that does not languish on the dreariest road? This is the answer: these are the upward-looking souls. Their sense of God is so real, and he is to them so near, that nothing less matters vitally. They are at peace, because they are ever in prayer. Life is to them a continual "looking unto Jesus."

Only yesterday, off here in Egypt, I visited a veteran American missionary who is confined to his bed by illness. It chanced to be a day of great anxiety for him, as for his associates. There have been developments in the Egyptian crisis that may turn the native sentiment against all things American, to the serious injury of the mission work that has been building up for three-quarters of a century. Was that veteran excited or fretted? Not at all. His smile was as serene, his face as untroubled as has been its wont throughout the years. He has a watchful eye upon current events; but he also has a trustful eye upon the Ruler of events. He walks quietly and beautifully among men because he talks confidently with his Father in heaven.

Getting Relations Right. Perhaps some "practical" persons say that this is a "dry" subject that the International committee has assigned for the present lesson; they would rather have a discussion of current problems. Wait a moment. Much as I should like to see all intelligent persons aware of the world and the current vexatious questions, hard as I am working to interpret fairly and without bias the complex and ominous Near Eastern situation, I say frankly that I deem it of far more practical importance for people to get a fresh hold upon the reality of God than to master all the intricacies of oriental statecraft; and I would do or say anything within my power that would send Christian people to their knees in renewed devotion. There is no measure in the universe more "practical" at the present time than at men and women should pray, "pray without ceasing."

ing. Only as we lay hold on God can we get any mastery of social and political conditions that grow more ominous.

If there is one bad idea that ought not to persist after the world war it is that mere physical force is the ultimate solution of problems. That is a pagan notion, which should have disappeared from the present generation when the might of Germany was broken. This belief in the omnipotence of the guns is one of the world's greatest dangers. So is trust in mere statecraft and worldly guile. What a muddle these have made of the nations! From his angle, it seems to be growing worse instead of better.

Our times are out of joint. The machinery of civilization is knocking and banging and rattling. Something has gone wrong. What is it? Nothing less than that it lacks adjustment to the Centre. Once let the world get right with God, and it will straightway get right with itself. A fresh consciousness of spiritual obligations and relationships would solve all our questions. A return to God would be a return to sanity and safety. If we could only get men to saying together in sincerity, "Our Father," there would be no need of treaties. Short of that, perhaps, the real peace is not coming to this old earth. The woman or man who is leading a group of persons, preferably children, to an understanding of the true place of God in every life is contributing most directly to the solution of the vast problems of our day.

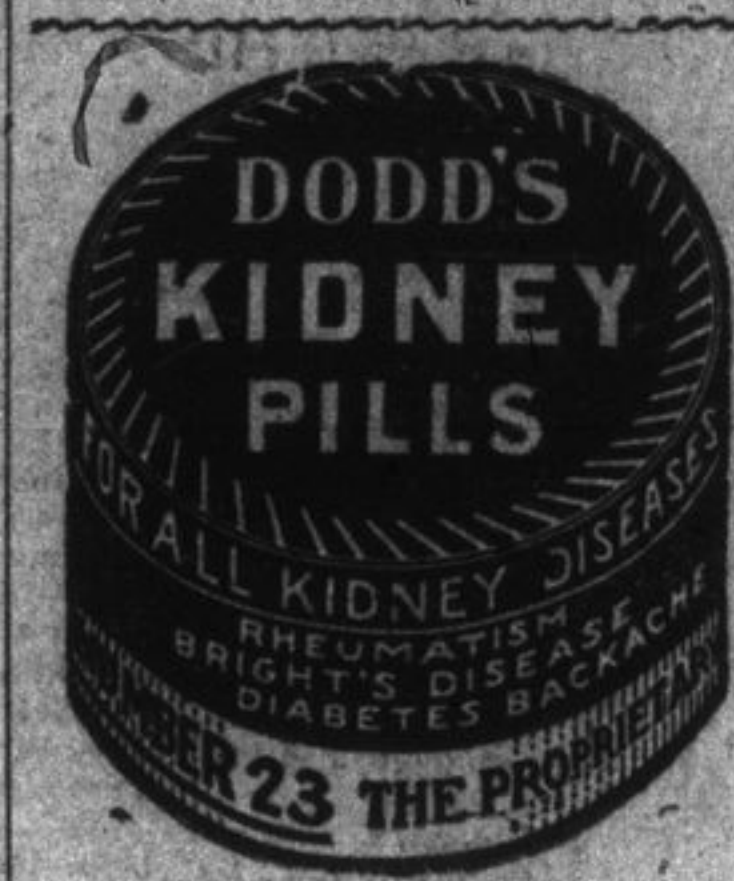
In the Statesman's Role. Hopeful new enterprises are afoot for a united world-service by Christians of all names. Thank God for every one of them! Would that behind all else, under all else, and comprehending all else, there might be a mighty covenant of prayer among all Christians—not a new organization or enrolment, but a general diffusion of purpose to pray daily, and often every day, in private as well as in public and at the family altar, for the coming of the kingdom of God among men.

Ambitious spirits are eager to go to foreign lands to have a personal share in shaping the new conditions. The shortest route of all is via the throne of God. One may directly and powerfully affect the course of events in Asia and Africa by way of the prayer closet. The lowliest and most sequestered Christian may through prayer play a statesman's role in the re-making of the world. More than it needs editorials or speeches or commissions or experts, this present mass of human society needs the divine help that may be insured by sincere prayer.

The Secret Tryst. Two characteristics of the prayer that counts are set forth in the day's Scripture lesson. One is the story of the widow who kept on asking until she received. There is an opportunity that God will not deny. All persisting prayer prevails, in God's own way. When a man is really in love with a woman, he will not be denied though she say him nay through long years. There flash across my memory the stories of friends now happily married, who refused to accept repulse at the hands of the women they loved. God prizes that kind of wooer for his favor. He asks patience and continuance in prayer as proof of a faith that will not be denied. Any boon from on high is worth waiting long years to receive. True prayer keeps on praying until it knows itself answered. The other incident in the lesson pictures two men at prayer: one a Pharisee, correct in posture and phrase, publicly displaying his devotions; the other, a despised tax-collector, in a corner scarcely daring to lift his eyes, and murmuring only, "God be merciful to me a sinner!" One prayed to be seen of men, and therein had his reward; the other prayed to be heard of God, and God heard him.

Prayer is not a pose nor a parade. It is not an affair for the public eye; but rather for the hidden ear of God. Prayer is a secret tryst with a loving Father. No man may know the soul's supplication; there is a personal mystery, sacred beyond all revealing. Barron indeed is the life which does not have its unsanctified spaces where it holds rendezvous with God. Out of that holy seclusion springs strength for all public life and endeavor.

SCHOOL FAIR MEETINGS. Held At Sharbot Lake, Mountain Grove and Inverary. A meeting of the teachers and officers of the Sharbot Lake school fair association was held on Saturday, May 31st, to elect the officers for the coming year. The following were elected: President, Austin Eryon; vice-president, May Fair; secretary, Beattie Erwin; treasurer, Vera Crawford; committee, John Cook, Douglas Hawley, Teddie Tremhale, Clair McCharles, Garnet Huffman, Milton Barker, Victor Gillespie, Percy McGinnis, Rosa Crawford, Sammy Cook, Edward Ebdour, Lancelotti McCharles, Hilliard Lutz, John McVeigh, Keith Edwin, Norris Thomlinson, Myrtle Boles, Mable Barr, Matilda Johnson, Edna McVeigh, Irene Garrett, Helen Chambers, Beattie Erwin, Vera Crawford, Elsie Conboy, Mary Fair, Garnet Huffman, Hilliard Watson, Lorne Leifave, Mary Badour, Ruby Allen, May Bourke, Helen McPherson. The teachers and chairman of the school fair board met at Mountain Grove township hall on Saturday, May 31st. The following officers were elected: Hon. President, J. A. Cox; president, George Hawley; vice-president, Earl Youmans; secretary, Mabel Johnston; treasurer, Irene Gendron; committee, Fred Alexander, Earl Youmans, Bruce Barker, James Conboy, Carmen Whan, Edna Walker, John Price, Lloyd MacPherson, Elwood Thomlinson. A meeting of school teachers and school fair directors was held at Inverary on Saturday, May 31st, to elect the officers for the coming year. The following were elected: President, Arnold Garrett; treasurer, Russell Moreland; secretary, Olga Arthur; directors, Frederika Ferguson, Warren Arthur, Clarence McBride.



Wedded at Wilton. Wilton, June 9.—At the Methodist parsonage on Wednesday, June 11th, Miss Mildred Newman and Fox Martin, youngest son of Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Martin, were united in marriage by Rev. R. Stocker. The young couple drove to the home of the groom's parents, followed by a merry crowd of strangers. Miss John Henderson has purchased the farm of William Miller near Collin's Bay. Mrs. Henderson and little son, who have been spending the past six months with her father, James Davy, will leave for her new home in a few weeks. Edr. Kensei Priest, who recently returned from overseas, is visiting friends in Wilton. Spr. Claud Asseltine returned from overseas on Saturday last. His many friends are pleased to see him home again. Harvey Mills has purchased a new Maxwell car. B. B. Moore spent the week-end with Mrs. Earl Perry. Several of the citizens are attending the camp meeting held near Yarker by the Standard Church of America. A Sydney, Australia, despatch says: An order was received recently from a Canadian dry district for 40,000 gallons of wine to make medicinal preparations.

Odessa Personal. Odessa, June 10.—Charles Cullagh, Toronto, spent last Tuesday the guest of his sister, Mrs. Thomas McConnell. Miss Mamie Gardner, New York, visited her sister, Mrs. William Ceider, last Wednesday. Mrs. Washington Benjamin, Detroit, is the guest of her brother, James Hillier. Lena Keane, Wilton, spent the week-end with Miss Eliza Tooney. Miss Maud Heaslip spent Sunday the guest of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. William Heaslip, Collin's Bay. Mrs. Bert Sproule and little daughter, Jean, have returned from spending a few days in Kingston. Mr. and Mrs. Henry Smith, Mr. and Mrs. William Vrooman and Mrs. George Delton spent Sunday guests of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Lucas, Moscow. Among those who had the misfortune to lose valuable horses from the extreme heat last week were Stanley Fraser, Mr. Woodcock, Daniel McConnell, S. Parks and Mr. Hill. The work of cleaning and scraping the roads through the village for grading is rapidly progressing.

Sick Headache And Constipation CURED BY MILBURN'S LAXA-LIVER PILLS. When your liver becomes sluggish and inactive, the bowels become constipated, the tongue becomes coated, the breath bad, and the stomach all out of order. Then come those terrible sick headaches. They take out every bit of life and ambition, bring on depression, and often end in complete mental and physical prostration. To keep the liver active, and your bowels moving regularly is the only way to get rid of the constipation and the distressing sick headaches. Milburn's Laxa-Liver Pills will do this for you by stimulating the sluggish liver into manufacturing sufficient bile to act properly on the bowels, thus making them active and regular. Mrs. Winslow McKay, Jordan Branch, N.S., writes:—"I have been sick for a number of years with sick headache and constipation. I tried all kinds of doctors' medicines but none did me any good. I tried Milburn's Laxa-Liver Pills, and after using four vials I am completely cured. I would heartily recommend them to all sufferers. Milburn's Laxa-Liver Pills are small and easy to take; and do not gripe, weaken or sicken as so many pills do. Price 25c a vial at all dealers, or mailed direct on receipt of price by The T. Milburn, Co., Limited, Toronto, Ont. Give and take ought only to apply to right and square dealing.

The New Twenty-year Capital Return Policy (Issued by The Canada Life) Absolutely guarantees the return at the end of twenty years of all annual deposits, with accumulated profits, after giving you insurance protection for twenty years. Easily Understood: 1st. Deposits are made yearly. This is what you are saving, and at the end of 20 years the Canada Life guarantees the return of every dollar paid in. 2nd. Your life is insured from the day you make the first deposit,—for \$5,000, or whatever amount you decide. 3rd. Profits are paid at stated intervals in addition to the return of all deposits at the end of 20 years. 4th. These profits may be used to reduce the amount of your yearly deposits, or be allowed to accumulate at interest for 20 years. 5th. The cash value of Policy and Profits represents a valuable asset, useful in business, and your "estate" is protected by the insurance. 6th. At the end of Twenty Years you can draw out all you have paid in, along with the profits. ---OR--- you can draw a Special Cash Guarantee, together with the Accumulated Profits, making a substantial sum, and leave the \$5,000 Policy fully paid for and continuing to earn Dividends as long as you live. And in addition— suppose some day before you reach age 60 you should become totally and permanently disabled through accident or illness. Immediately, all your future payments would cease and soon after you would receive a cheque for \$50 each month as long as you lived and the \$5,000 would be paid in full at your death without any deduction on account of the monthly income paid you. (This valuable feature is added for a small extra payment yearly, which is not returned along with the regular deposit). Do Not Pass This By Canada Life J. O. HUTTON, Agent Kingston, Ont. He takes his first step in business affairs, is examined by the doctor, and creates an estate of \$5,000. He improves the shining hour and impresses upon an important person that he is in possession of an "estate." His tendency to save and invest is noted by his employers. He finds his savings of great assistance in buying a home. And as time goes on he is enabled to enjoy many of the good things of life.

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AN ADAMLESS EDEN FOR LONDON GIRLS Unmarried Women Propose to Build Model Community Houses in London.

London, June 11.—The establishment of an Adamless Eden from which perchance even boy cats will be excluded in favor of feminine felicity, is projected by a group of London bachelor girls, who have announced that they will bring their plans before the Municipal Housing Commission.

The original organizers of the project, six in number, have not as yet disclosed their identity, excepting to a prominent architect and contractor who have been asked to develop their community plans. The girls anticipate that they will be husbandless, and they are arranging matters strictly on that basis. Each of the original six will have a cottage with living room, two bedrooms, bath and kitchen. The houses, according to their stipulations, will all face a central common area, which will be maintained as a private park, each of the six being responsible for a share of the upkeep. They specified a central heating plant in their first plans, but finding that arrangement too costly they have now decided in favor of a furnace for each little bungalow. The girls have already purchased a block of land in the south-eastern section of the city.

No Blight on Ontario Berries. Toronto, June 11.—Strawberry growers in Ontario are more fortunate than the growers in the adjoining Province of Quebec. Officials of the Ontario Department of Agriculture said yesterday that there had been no reports of any blight affecting the crop in this Province, as has been reported in Quebec.