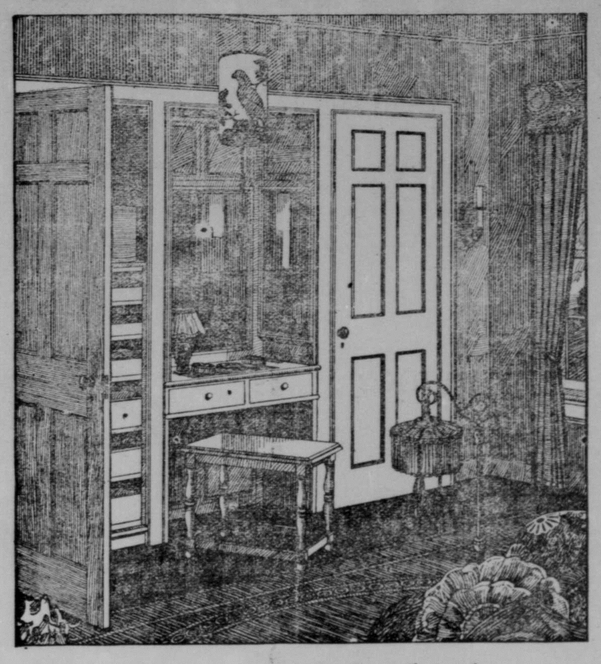
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Customary at this time of year to announce damage to the winter wheat crop, but the public does not worry so long as the baseball season opens on time.

Many young folks anxious for notice for their musical performance, and some of them can see they are getting it when the neighbors shut down their windows.

THE CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR TOPIC

By the Rev. Charles E. Schaeffer, D. D.

March 29—Friendliness as Expressed Through Evangelistic Missions. Math. 9: 35-38; Acts 8: 35-37.

Evangelistic Missions formed the first method of approach to non-Christian peoples. The early missionaries went forth and preached the gospel. They were primarily preachers, not teachers, or physicians or social workers. The educational, medical and industrial phases of mission endeavor came in later on. Evangelistic Missions were not only first in the order of time, but also first in importance. Nothing can ever take the place of the preaching of God's word as a spiritual force among men. It stood first in the program of Jesus, for He came to preach and to teach and to heal. The printed page, the high power organization are not so effective as the lively preaching of the Gospel by a living personality aflame with the message and the passion of Christ. So we do well when we continue to emphasize the need and the value of evangelistic methods in missionary work. We have been inclined to commit this all important work to other activities and agencies, and the Kingdom of God has suffered thereby.

But our subject calls for friendliness as expressed through Evangelistic Missions. This is strikingly set forth in our two Scripture references. The one brings to our attention the evangelistic work done by Jesus Himself. He went through all the villages preaching and teaching and healing. He was distressed and moved when He saw the multitudes. He had compassion on them, that is He suffered with them. No missionary has ever got on very far in his or her work who has not had this love and sympathy for the people to whom he or she ministered. It is very hard to preach to people whom one does not love. Folks soon find it out and then they refuse to come and listen. There is nothing so self-revealing in the world as love. Somehow folks feel it instinctively and they respond. Let a minister deal with his people in a cold, indifferent, loveless, lifeless way and they will not care to listen to his message. Jesus loved the people, the common people, and they came and heard Him gladly.

Then Jesus was seeking them and not theirs. He did not try to get all out of them that He could. He wanted the sheep to follow Him, not for their wool, but to feed them. Shearing sheep is rather exciting business, but feeding them in green pastures and leading them besides still waters is pleasant and quieting. Many of the disturbances which arise in congregations is due to the fact that the pastor is shearing instead of feeding the sheep. He is driving them rather than leading them and gently carrying the lambs in his bosom.

Jesus did not preach in any patronizing way. He never put Himself above His hearers and never looked down on them. He never made them feel their insignificance, but always their real worth and dignity. He was distressed at their condition, but He never made them feel that they were below Him. He was always one of them. That was the very heart of the incarnation itself. Here Jesus gives us the Key to successful mission work. The missionary must never go forth and make people feel that he is superior to them, that he confers a great favor on them, that he is not like the rest of them. Sometimes even workers in the home field come with this patronizing air. Recently I attended a big meeting of men, who had been unfortunate in the outward circumstances of life and who were dependent on the goodwill of others. One of the leaders of the meeting thanked God that he was not like the rest of the men, etc. We know a story of a similar character in which Jesus roundly condemned the boastful sinner. Never minister to people in a patronizing way, but always in loving, tender, affectionate, sympathetic, helpful ways, and they will follow you and gladly listen to your words and believe in your message.

Our second Scripture lesson introduces us to another missionary. He was not a preacher, that is, he was not an ordained preacher. He was a deacon and he is sometimes called an Evangelist. He was in a sense the first missionary of the New Testament. That group of seven deacons whom the Apostles set aside for certain secular pieces of work had some choice characters among them. One was Stephen, who became the first martyr. What a lovely personality he was! Another was Philip, the first missionary. He is quite an interesting character. St. Luke brings out a number of his fine qualities. He was not an apostle, he was a layman, a deacon, but he went down to the city of Samaria and preached Christ to them—and we are told "there was great joy in that city." That is what the missionary must do—preach Christ,—and there will always be rejoicing among the people that hear the joyful sound. But Philip went not only to the city to preach but he went out into the country and there he did some real personal, hand to hand, heart to heart work. He interested himself in the multitude in the city of Samaria, but he was not the less interested in the individual, in the Ethiopian Eunuch whom he found in the place which was desert. That likewise was the method of Jesus, He preached to the multitudes, but He did not overlook the individual. It is so much easier to preach to a crowd than it is to talk to an individual about his soul.

The story of how Philip the Evangelist met with the Eunuch on the road is full of suggestive interest. Philip went where the Eunuch was—"Go, join thyself to his chariot"—and he came up and sat with him. There was no aloofness, no absent treatment, no proxy arrangement, no appointment of, and assignment to any committees—Philip was his own committee, and he identified himself with the man whom he wanted to win for Christ. The two traveled together. The record tells us that when the Eunuch desired to be baptized they "went down together" into the water. There you have the secret of Philip's success. He became one with the man to whom he preached. There you have the very essence of friendliness in Evangelistic Missions.

But Philip did more. He opened the Scriptures to this man and preached Jesus there in the desert. To the Samaritans in the city he preached Christ, to the Eunuch in the desert he preached Jesus (see Romans 8: 11), and later on we are told that Philip was "preaching good tidings concerning the Kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ." No wonder that the ministry of this early missionary was so richly blessed of God. Even his own children were endowed and employed and honored above Philip himself. Both Jesus and Philip show us the power of friendliness in missionary endeavor. That spirit wins when everything else fails. Eloquence and knowledge and miracles shall fail, but love never faileth. Preach Jesus wherever you go, but preach Him in the spirit of love and friendliness, and then souls will be won for Christ.

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"Mark Every Grave"

IMPROVED UNIFORM INTERNATIONAL

Sunday School Lesson

(By REV. P. B. FITZWATER, D.D., Dean of the Evening School, Moody Bible Institute of Chicago.)
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Lesson for March 29

CLOSING PERIOD OF CHRIST'S MINISTRY—REVIEW

DEVOTIONAL READING—Rev. 1:9-18.

GOLDEN TEXT—"Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and today and forever."—Heb. 13:8.

PRIMARY TOPIC — How Friends Cared for Jesus and Paul.

JUNIOR TOPIC—Helping the Missionaries by Our Gifts.

INTERMEDIATE AND SENIOR TOPIC—Living Lessons From the Quarter.

YOUNG PEOPLE AND ADULT TOPIC—Closing Scenes in Christ's Life.

The lessons of the quarter have been so rich and full that perhaps the best method of review will be to summarize the outstanding teachings of the quarter. The following suggestions are offered:

Lesson I—The so-called triumphal entry was the official presentation of Jesus of Nazareth to the Jewish nation as their Messiah. He was the predicted king coming in the name of the Lord (Psa. 118:26).

Lesson II—Coming judgment is absolutely certain. The judgment portrayed in this lesson is that of the nations living on the earth when Jesus comes. The judgment pronounced—reward or doom—will be on the ground of the attitude of the nations towards Jesus as expressed in their treatment of His brethren, the Jews.

Lesson III—Before Jesus went to the cross He instituted a memorial of His broken body and shed blood. This should be gratefully and strictly observed by believers until Christ come again.

Lesson IV—Many are the trials through which the believer must pass as he goes through this life. The sure cure for "heart trouble" is the assurance that Jesus has gone to prepare a place in His Father's house, and will come again and receive His disciples to Himself.

Lesson V—Jesus is the true vine and believers are the branches. Abiding in Him will result in fruitfulness, success in prayer, fellowship in the love-life of God, fullness of joy and love-life like that of God.

Lesson VI—It is not the purpose of God that Christians should be taken out of the world at once when they believe on Christ because the world needs their influence and testimony. Christ needs them as His representatives and they need the trials of the world to strengthen the grace of God in their hearts. Those whom God has given to Christ are eternally secure even though they must pass through great trials.

Lesson VII—The agony of Gethsemane was due to the fact that Jesus was bearing the burden of the sins of the world.

Lesson VIII—The heart of this lesson is that Christians should be obedient to civil authority because human government has been ordained of God. The more loyal the believer is to Jesus Christ, the more loyal he will be to rightly constituted authority (This lesson has no logical connection with the others of the quarter and should be omitted where time is limited).

Lesson IX—Jesus Christ gave clear proof that He was the Messiah promised in the Scriptures, but the wicked nation rejected Him and chose a murderer instead. Both Pilate and the nation went down under the guilt of the rejection of Christ.

Lesson X—Christ on the cross is the supreme expression of unselfish love, a revelation of the moral nature of the world, and stands as an exhibition of a cross section of the world in any generation.

Lesson XI—Christ's resurrection is an absolute certainty. This unquestioned fact certifies that He is the divine Son through whom we get eternal life.

Lesson XII—The various appearances of Jesus Christ after His burial demonstrate the reality of His resurrection, confirm the truthfulness of the Scriptures and reveal Him as not only the supreme and grand center of the Scriptures, but the supreme interpreter of them.

Goodness Outshines Genius

Man is created for virtue. It is his supreme endowment coupled with his capacity for affiance in God. Ever and anon a trumpet sounds. From the hidden battlements of Eternity, summoning him to noble living. If he refuses to obey the summons he sinks in the scale of being. He surrenders manhood to accept animalism. The degree in which a man is striving after virtue and obedient to the law of duty determines his real value. "Goodness," says Emerson, "outshines genius, as the sun makes the electric light cast a shadow."—Rev. R. P. Downes, LL. D.

God's Best Messages

God sends His best messages to people who are faithful and busy.—Presbyterian of the South.

Song of the Stars

All the stars of heaven sing the faith of Bethlehem.—Western Christian Advocate.

Modesty and humility are the sobriety of the mind; temperance and chastity are the sobriety of the body.—Winchcote.

FARM POULTRY

EGG PRODUCTION IS AIDED BY DRY MASH

One of the most common mistakes which many poultry keepers make is to leave the dry mash out of the ration which they feed their laying hens. The most common mistake of those who feed a mash is that they leave animal food out of the mash.

To obtain economical egg production without a well-balanced mash is an uphill proposition. The principal reason for this is that a hen will eat more feed when a portion of it is fed in the form of a dry mash. When a mash is fed the hens will hold up in production longer, as it improves their physical condition and prevents early molting, which throws them out of laying condition. A well-balanced mash also helps the hens to molt quickly when the proper time comes.

A dry mash without animal food, such as tankage or meat scraps, or a substitute for such food in the form of skim milk, buttermilk, powdered milk, evaporated milk, etc., is but little better than no mash at all. Those who feed a mash of ground corn and oats without a protein feed might just about as well not feed mash at all.

For those who have not been using a dry mash it is suggested that they try the following simple mixture: 100 pounds ground corn, 100 pounds ground oats, 100 pounds wheat middlings and 100 pounds of meat scraps or tankage. If plenty of skim milk or buttermilk is available, put only 50 pounds of the meat scraps or tankage in the mixture. For the scratch feed use a mixture of 200 pounds corn, 100 pounds oats and 100 pounds of wheat. Feed the dry mash in a hopper from which the hens can eat at any time. Feed about one-third of the scratch feed in the morning and the remainder just before roosting time. Adjust the amount of scratch feed so that the hens will eat at least one and one-half pounds of the mash to two pounds of the scratch feed. If the hens do not take readily to the dry mash, feed a portion of it at noon in a slightly dampened, crumbly condition. A ration of this kind, supplemented by some succulent food, such as sprouted oats, will make the birds lay if they are reasonably well bred.

Undersized Pullets Are Low Producers of Eggs

Unlike chickens, turkeys do not lay during the winter and therefore no nests need to be provided for them until spring. Then, if at liberty and left to their own resources, they sometimes select locations for their nests that are much more suitable to the turkeys than to the owner. Often they are in such secluded places that the eggs are liable to get lost, chilled or broken.

Hence it is often advisable to place nests here and there about the place. Old barrels turned toward a fence or placed in a bush heap, or in the corner of a board pile and bedded with leaves or old hay with a china egg or two, will sometimes prove tempting. Old boxes with nests in them, placed in out-of-the-way corners or simply nests of hay containing china eggs in corners of the shed will prove satisfactory.

If any of these places are adopted by the turkey she will lay there and the eggs may be taken care of until she wants to sit. If the weather is cold the good eggs may be gathered and china eggs put in their places. The same thing may be done if they are in danger of being destroyed by rats, crows, or other varmints. However, it is never advisable to use new barrels or boxes, or anything which suggests the hand of man when making nests to attract the turkeys.

Standard Bred Poultry Should Always Be Used

In reply to the question, "What is the best breed of chickens?" the answer is, "There is no best breed." There is often a greater difference between strains of the same breed than there is between different breeds. From the 46 breeds and 125 varieties of chickens recognized by the American Standard of Perfection it should be easy to suit every one, no matter how discriminating. In choosing a breed or variety of chickens three things should influence the breeder. First, the availability and adaptability of the breed; second, personal preference; and third, choosing a breed or variety suitable to the purpose for which it is to be used. In any case decide on a standard breed because they are more efficient and profitable. Products from such a flock are uniform. There is nothing in the popular idea that cross breds lay better or are healthier than standard breds.

Mold in Oat Sprouter

The easiest method of stopping mold in the oat sprouter is to add ten drops of formalin to the water that is used to soak six quarts of oats or a similar proportion to other amounts. The formalin does not injure the feeding qualities of the oats, but helps to check the mold. In addition to the use of formalin, care should be exercised in keeping the containers sweet by cleaning. The use of only heavy oats will remove many which will not sprout.

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