

Religion and Life

By Very Rev. George C. Pidgeon, D.D., LL.D.
First Moderator of the United Church of Canada
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UNUSED SPIRITUAL GIFTS

"Thim as has, gis," remarked an old lady in the long ago. This was the strange conclusion to which she had been driven by her observations through a long life. It seems unjust; it really is a law of nature, and in certain respects, a law of grace.

Jesus put the truth emphatically when He said: "To every one who has will more be given, but from him who has not, even what he has will be taken away."

In a popular American magazine we read the following: "Life may be too easy for United States youths. They are growing weak because they get too little exercise in modern pampered living."

The writer went on to quote the following figures out of a new study sponsored by New York University. "Out of 4488 children given muscular fitness tests, 66.6 per cent, failed to meet a minimum standard for health. Out of 1,987 European children who were given the fitness tests 8 per cent failed to meet the same standard."

The writer went on to discuss the cause of this American decline in muscular power. One is the growing luxury of American life, and the lack of substitutes for the body-building exercise that work or harsher living conditions used to create automatically.

Walking obviously is not the great and unavailing source of exercise that it was before cars and school buses came along. Chores, such as chopping wood and carrying ashes, which once gave millions of boys a daily workout, are things of the past. Even on farms electric appliances, tractors and other machines have reduced work and exercise generally.

Now this is a perfectly natural law—Power undeveloped fades away. There is no place for standing still in our use of any of nature's gifts for body, mind or spirit; we must advance or perish. Back of that saying of Jesus which we quoted in the first paragraph in His "Parable of the Pounds."

A nobleman, who was going

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ATTENTION LITTLE THEATRE MEMBERS. — Annual Meeting tonight at 8 p. m. in the City Hall.

ENGAGEMENT. — Mrs. Robert Doyle announces the engagement of her daughter, Rotha Mabel, to Mr. Leo Dolron, son of Mrs. Lawrence Dolron and the late Mr. Dolron of Charlottetown. The marriage will take place the latter part of June.

GRAND VISITATION — Montgomery Temple No. 32 Pythian Sisters was honoured by a visit from Grand Chief, Mrs. Juanita Lakeman, Grand Manan, N.B. A large number of members welcomed Mrs. Lakeman at a special meeting on May 26, the presiding officer being Mrs. Lillian Smith. Other Grand Officers present were Miss Doris Stoyler, Moncton, N. B., Mrs. Margaret Brady and Mrs. Addie Aleck. Some of the work of the Order was exemplified in an impressive manner, after which Mrs. Lakeman gave an inspiring address. Other out-of-town guests were Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Hayward, Moncton, N.B. On behalf of the Temple a suitable gift was presented to the Grand Chief by Miss Ethel Sutherland, P.C. Corsages were presented to the visiting ladies by Mrs. Marion Buehl, Mrs. Jessie Beaton, Mrs. Amy Hamphill, Mrs. Nadean Wotton, Mrs. Janet Beaton.

So it was in all our classes. The one who entered them well-prepared was the one best fitted to take advantage of all that the teacher gave; the one who came in poorly prepared could scarcely understand what the professors lectures were all about.

This law governs the spiritual life. Spiritual endowments atrophy very quickly when unused. Sometimes people protest that they have had no experiences of Christ and His love such as their neighbors talk about. The obvious answer is a question: What have you done to cultivate your spiritual gifts? Like all other endowments they grow by exercise.

By divine wisdom the Sacred Day was set apart for soul culture. God claims our attention and service on this part of our time, and, by keeping it for Him, our spiritual perceptions grow keener, our sense of the Holy Spirit's presence clearer, and His guidance and help a reality. When men ignore God's will in life's ordinary decisions, they lose their consciousness of it; when they watch for His communication of His will and obey it, He makes it clearer and more compelling every day.

It is vain to ask: "It is wrong or right to do this or that on the Sabbath?" The plain fact is that by keeping apart the sacred day for spiritual uses, the soul is fitted for the life in Christ. So with Bible study, public worship, the sacraments, Christian service and other means of grace, neglect them and the soul that they were meant to feed will starve; use them and the soul will grow in grace and in the knowledge and love of God.

W.C.T.U. Notes

MEDICAL TEMPERANCE

Health is our greatest asset. It is our business to protect health by proving that alcohol is not a medicine to cure illness but is a narcotic and a dangerous drug.

Haven Emerson, M.D. says: "There is no evidence that human health is improved as a result of the use of alcohol."

Professor Raymond Pearl, in his book, "Alcohol and Longevity" says "excessive drinkers have a life expectancy of 8.18 years less than normal life expectancy."

Sir Andrew Clark, M.D., says: "Alcohol is a poison; so is strychnine; so is arsenic; so is opium; it ranks with these agents. Health is always in some way injured by it—benefitted never."

John Hay, late Professor of Medicine, Liverpool University, says "Alcohol is not only futile, but detrimental, when administered in repeated doses to help a falling heart."

Let's face the facts! Let us rise up and build for Total Abstinence—Build the walls of FACTS about alcohol in its relation to the Health and Well-Being of our Nation.

N. B. Gets Health Services Grant

OTTAWA, (CP)—New Brunswick health services are getting a \$44,482 grant from the health department.

Announcing the grant Wednesday, the department said the funds are to assist the province in improving its diagnostic services generally. The money would be applied to the expansion of laboratory services in Saint John and establishment of a branch laboratory in Moncton.

FIRST WOMAN LAWYER

Clara Brett Martin of Toronto, Canada's first woman lawyer, was called to the Bar in 1897.

CHARLOTTETOWN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Grade I Enrollment for September 1954

Parents whose children are entering Grade I for the first time are requested to enroll them before June 25th with the Principal of the school which they expect to attend. Pupils for Grade I must have reached their 6th birthday by December 31st before they can be accepted.

Parents are also advised that vaccination and birth certificates must be presented when the pupil enrolls in September.

Strange But True

By F. H. MacArthur

The story behind the mermaids whose long tresses were combed by sea shells and whose enchanting voices often captivated the hearts of love-sick seamen (or so they said) can be told in a very few words. This uncouth, paradoxical mammal is not half human, half fish, but is half seal and half hippopotamus, yet in no way related to either the body tapering from the waist to the fish-like tail. This amazing creature has flapper arms and the female uses these when nursing her baby, holding it to her breast, she is careful, as she comes to the surface to breathe, that her offspring, too, may get a gulp of fresh air. The two heads lying together in the water, present a strangely human aspect which gave rise to the strange and startling story that the dougons—mermaids to you and me — are half human, half fish.

Mermaids, or dougons, are still in the waters within the great Barrier Reef. They are ruthlessly slaughtered for the blubber their bodies produce. Let us hope that the cruel hand of man may not exterminate completely those shy and harmless creatures upon whose existence was founded the quaint and engaging legends of the mermaid.

If the big diamond companies did not store these precious gems to keep the market from being flooded, you and you and you, could purchase fingers' full of 'em for approximately ten cents each.

To prove again that truth is stranger than fiction one has but to look into the life history of the tadpole. What do we find? We learn that most little tadpoles keep on growing until they become full-fledged frogs. But there's a tadpole in South America that grows in a pond and then starts shrinking until it ends up in a frog only 2 1/2 inches long! 3000 years ago the young men of Egypt hung wolf tails on their belts to attract the fair sex. In 1953 our young blades hung fur tails on their cars for the same reason.

It's harder for a rural mail carrier to quit his job than for an alcoholic to give up his booze. "Sort of gets into your blood," they tell us. This would seem to start with the water. The record chalked up by some country mail carriers and a Kansas couple, Mr. and Mrs. Martin Childers, believed to be the oldest mail carrier on earth. Martin is Jack MacDougall, who is reported to have voiced to Conservative leader George Drew the criticism which many members of all parties feel, for his bewildering action in requesting his party's one-man brains trust Mel Jack to resign. Just what he did say, Doc MacDougall professes to forget; according to those who heard the impetuous eloquence, Colonel Drew probably wishes he could forget too.

Chemical warfare has been carried on by termites of one species ever since bugs inhabited this planet. Their soldiers secrete, a corrosive, milky substance from their heads which puts their enemies to flight.

Strange as it may seem, the town of Nome, Alaska boasts but one horse. His name is Prince and he's owned by Herman Hoop of this one-horse town. Mrs. Ann Davison, 38-year-old British widow, recently crossed the wide Atlantic solo in a 23-foot sailboat in exactly 15 months and 3 days.

Better tap that wire! The Tass Agency of Soviet Russia has a complete telephone in the White House. It is in the press room along with the 40 phones of American press associations and newspapers.

Ammunition plants are the safest plants to work in Strange but True, as this kind of work in 1952 was only 1/4 as hazardous as that in the average factory. The reason is quite obvious: more precautions are taken. The fellow who has only half a mind to get that job done today usually never gets around to doing it till tomorrow or the next day.

In a standard work on natural history I have read that the natives in the Torres Straits are actually remove the overlapping plates of tortoise shell from the hawkbill by lighting a fire on the creature's back, causing them to peel off easily. When the plates are removed the animals are then liberated and after a time they are furnished with a second set of plated armour. But no humane tortoise hunter would resort to such cruel practice. Professional tortoise shell hunters either trust to the heat of the sun or bury the shell in clean sand, and when decomposition sets in the valuable plates are detached freely.

Most old maids keep cats. Cats take their toll of field mice that play havoc with honeybees. Honeybees enable the clover plant to spread its seeds. Clover helps fatten livestock. Livestock provides the meat which gives strength to the men who defend our fur-flung empire. So, you see, old maids are really the backbone of the British Empire.

The first light used on railway trains in South Carolina was supplied by burning pine knots placed on a flat car hitched in the front of the locomotive.

AUSTRALIAN CONTRIBUTION

CANBERRA, (CP)—Australia has spent the equivalent of \$18,000,000 on economic aid to Colombo Plan countries up to the end of last February, according to a report just issued. The breakdown shows \$9,000,000 to India, \$7,000,000 to Pakistan, \$1,600,000 to Ceylon and more than \$450,000 to Indonesia.

Ottawa Report

By Patrick Nicholson

The shindig in white tie and tails which the Governor General staged this month for Parliamentarians and their wives left its backwash of coffee-time tales.

One local newspaper reported: "It was a mixed crowd. A prominent socialist M. P. was seen to jostle an old line 'Tory' causing him to spill his brimming glass of champagne. Except for the decidedly cold glance from the Conservative who lost a couple of sips, there was no incident."

The jostler was the physically and politically prominent member of Moose Jaw, Ross Thatcher; the cold-glancing not-so-old-line was Woodstock's Wallace Nesbitt.

Keeping the family score even, Mrs. Peggy Thatcher did as much for a very brassy bit of air force brass; talking with her hands in the infectious Quebec manner, she caused his glass to make an assisted let take.

Also, belying the comment that there was no incident at the Ball was Vancouver's Liberal M.P., Jack MacDougall, who is reported to have voiced to Conservative leader George Drew the criticism which many members of all parties feel, for his bewildering action in requesting his party's one-man brains trust Mel Jack to resign.

Just what he did say, Doc MacDougall professes to forget; according to those who heard the impetuous eloquence, Colonel Drew probably wishes he could forget too.

Diefenbakers On Israel

The audience-gripping series of Diefenbaker talks on the interesting Diefenbaker tour of the Holy Land is off to a gala start. Mrs. Olive Diefenbaker described their visit to the Holy sites to the Parliamentary Wives Association, in what listeners claim to be the most interesting talk they have ever enjoyed. John Diefenbaker himself opened in Montreal before a million dollar audience of more than 400, gathered by the Zionist Organization sponsoring the drive to sell Israel Government Bonds. The door charge was a purchase of at least one \$1,000 bond per head.

Gall's Liberal M.P., Art White, has a sore shoulder: too many pats on the back for the official recognition accorded to his long one-man protectionist fight on behalf of Canada's woolen textile industry. His persistent claim that the tariff levied against imported British worsteds is unrealistically low, and now been referred to the Tariff Board for study.

May Moves

May seems to be moving month for top politicians, just as it is for less prominent families. Nova Scotia's representatives in the Cabinet, Bob Winters, has just bought a large home on the once-was-exclusive Glenow Avenue in the heart of Old Ottawa. The significance of this purchase is that it seems to scotch the suggestion, even made by his political opponents here, that he would be the best successor to the late Angus L. Macdonald as leader of the Liberal Party and Premier in his native province. This suggested draft has not been popular either with Mr. Winters himself, or with Mr. C. D. Howe, who handpicked him for the Cabinet and has been grooming him to take over the Howe mantle as Minister of Trade and Commerce.

Bill Benidickson from Kenora, new Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Finance and senior enough to expect early Cabinet rank himself, has just bought a large attractive home in Ottawa's exclusive residential suburb of Rockcliffe. There the Benidicksons will be knitting tiny garments for an expected August addition to their present family of two boys.

MONTREAL, (CP) — Norman Kall of Ottawa, Sunday was elected president of the Syrian Orthodox youth organization, Canadian sector, at the closing session of its first annual convention.

Mayor Camille Houde attended the installation of officers by Archbishop Stephen H. Ripon, Toronto, spiritual advisor to the organization.

Other members of the new executive are: Bob Kouri, Montreal, vice-president; Denise Habib, Montreal, and Mrs. Norman Kall, Ottawa, secretaries; and Adele Sava, Toronto, treasurer.

Junior League of the Charlottetown Hosp.

Hear Annual Reports

The annual meeting of the Junior League of the Charlottetown Hospital was held May 25, at the Queen Hotel following the annual dinner. Forty-two members attended. The president Mrs. Urban MacQuaid occupied the chair.

A sum of money was voted to send the president, Mrs. U. MacQuaid and vice-president Mrs. Mitchell MacDonald as delegates to the Maritime Hospital convention.

The various committees gave reports: Telephone, Mrs. Jack MacEachern; sick, Mrs. Byron Burns; Magazines, Mrs. M. Wilkie; membership, Mrs. Gerald Nanters; catering, Miss Emma Whelan reported successful year; sewing, Mrs. Thomas Monaghan reported a total of 574 articles completed. Mrs. Monaghan had a special word of praise for Mrs. Allan Murphy who completed the largest number of articles during the year.

The ways and means committee under the capable convenship of Miss Ethel Brown and her assistant Mrs. Reg Mahar reported a most successful year. The net proceeds of all activities amounted to \$1764.12. Miss Brown thanked all the members for their good work, especially those who convened special committees, and urged them to keep up the good work. Resolutions were read by Mrs. J. A. MacMillan, chairman of the committee.

The president, in her report, welcomed the members to the meeting with a special welcome to Miss Mary Carroll, supervisor of Obstetrics, as guest for the evening.

Mrs. MacQuaid outlined the work during the year, mentioning the Baby Booth at the Hospital Bazaar, the Fall Formal at the Clover Club, the Christmas Tree Jackpot, a cake sale in January, a Penny Auction in February, the Spring Bonnet Tea, the Nurses' Graduation Reception and the cooking school, all of which were quite successful. To the conveners and committees of all these activities Mrs. MacQuaid extended sincere congratulations and thanks. Mrs. MacQuaid also expressed her thanks to the chairmen of the standing committees for the year, especially to Miss Brown and Mrs. Mahar of the Ways and Means; to Miss Whelan of the Knitting and to Mrs. Monaghan of the Sewing, all of whom were especially busy and active during the season.

Mention was made of the many donations given including the Catholic Girls Scholarship and the Obstetrical Nursing Scholarship which was won this year by Miss Mary Morrison, St. John. A bottle washing machine was supplied to the Nursery and a floor polisher for the fourth floor.

At the conclusion of her report, Mrs. MacQuaid presented a cheque

200,000 Final Graham Service



Billy Graham, U. S. evangelist, shown with his wife, ended his three-months' British tour with the largest evangelical gathering in the history of Christianity. On his last day in London he addressed nearly 200,000 persons, who converged on the city by bus, private cars and trains from all over Britain. Thousands accepted his invitation to "come forward and make a decision for Christ."

for \$500 to Miss Mary Carroll as a payment on the subsidies. Miss Carroll thanked them for this and other donations received during the year.

Mrs. Bernard Hughes, chairman of the nominating committee brought in the following slate of officers who were elected by acclamation: President, Mrs. Mitchell MacDonald; 1st vice-president, Miss Ethel Brown; 2nd vice-president, Miss Emma Whelan; recording secretary, Mrs. Kip Hughes; corresponding secretary, Mrs. Bert Croken; treasurer, Mrs. Byron Burns.

A small gift was presented to the retiring president in appreciation for her fine work during the year. The new president addressed the meeting and asked for the continued co-operation of all the members.

HONORED AUTHOR

SASKATOON (CP) — Dr. Hilda Neatby, author of the book "So Little for the Mind" and only woman member of the Massey commission on arts and culture, has been named Saskatoon's "Citizen of the Year." She is a member of the University of Saskatchewan's history department.

HEAR

MR. and MRS. FRANK REMPEL ON INDIA
Monday, May 31st, 1954 — 8:00 P.M.
in CENTRAL CHRISTIAN CHURCH, Charlottetown

- GENERAL IMPRESSIONS
- PRESENT OUTLOOK FOR MISSIONS
- CHRISTIANITY'S GAINS
- INDIA BIBLE COLLEGE
- COLORED SLIDES
- IMPRESSIVE DISPLAY OF CURIOS, INDIAN HANDICRAFT, ETC.

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