

Religion and Life

By Very Rev. George C. Pidgeon, D.D., LL.D. First Moderator of the United Church of Canada (Copyright)

SPIRITUAL PARTNERSHIP

Once on a primitive farm in Eastern Canada there was a team of horses which worked together for years. They were not well matched—not in size nor color nor disposition. But they were all that the farmer had at that time, and the plough, harrow, mower and reaper they worked together, and when the day's work was over, their stalls were side by side. In time, the younger was sold and was put on a mall route by his new owner. Years passed, and this horse was one day in the blacksmith's shop having his shoes renewed, when he caught sight of his old team-mate trotting by. Immediately he neighed to him, and the other recognized the call and answered with such excitement that his driver had to turn and take him back to the shop. He explained to the men what had caused the excitement and they led the two horses together. They puzzled one another, and no swain ever greeted his girl in tenderer tones than the tones in which these two old companions in toil talked together. The boys on the farm had never imagined that those two tough old animals had any tender feelings for anyone, except when they came with their oats in the morning, but years of comradeship had formed a bond that a long separation could not sever.

This is a law given deep in Nature's heart, as anyone who has watched closely the relationships of living things knows. But in man, where we have the capacity for spiritual partnership, it appears at its height. One example is the spirit of comradeship between soldiers. Together they faced death as they fought through to success or failure; either was ready at any moment to risk his own life in defending or rescuing a comrade; the bonds between them time could only strengthen. A man once took a friend who had been a padre in the First World War, out to his golf club for a game. Unexpectedly the padre ran into some of his old comrades. The host of the occasion, who had been too old to serve in the army, stood amazed at the warmth with which they greeted one another. There are many still whose hearts leap with gladness when we meet a companion of those hard days.

The same law rules in all the relationships of life. Robert Burns wrote many beautiful songs about young love with its surprise and its captures here, and there a lance for its tragedies, but never did he touch a sweeter chord than in the following: "John Anderson my Jo, John, We climb the hill together, And morn a canty day, John, We've had w' ane another; Noo we maun totter down, John, And han' in han' we'll go; And we'll sleep together at the foot, John Anderson, my Jo." To find two human beings who are absolutely indispensable to one another and who can form no idea of what life could mean apart, you must seek out the wedded pair who have shared everything through the years, who have crowned love with fidelity, and whose union has been only strengthened by the strains and successes of their lot.

We just cannot imagine death breaking unions of that character. It is impossible for the failure of a bodily organ to split wide open the unity of spirits formed through our sharing the struggles and our sorrows and triumphs of earth. If memory enters the future union

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THE CENTRAL GUARDIAN

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SEA CADET TROPHY—Mr. C. M. MacLean, Vice-President of the Navy League of Canada (P.E.I. Division) is putting up a trophy for the Sea Cadet of R.C.S.C.C. Kent who has the highest proficiency rating and brings the largest number of recruits into the Corps. It was learned last night, during drill Friday evening at H.M.C.S. Queen Charlotte. Mr. MacLean spoke briefly to the members of the local Corps, stressing the importance of wearing the Queen's uniform and the qualities of good citizenship. There is an opening in the Corps for twenty-five new recruits within the next two weeks.

PERSONALS Miss Myrtle Vissey has left for Stella Maris Convent, North Rustico, where she is taking grade 11 and 12, after spending her Christmas holidays with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Vissey, West Royalty.

Anglo Rustico Christmas Concert The Anglo-Rustico Christmas concert was held in the school on December 22. Mr. Read Stevenson very capably fulfilled the duties of chairman.

After the program Santa Claus appeared and presented the pupils and teacher with gifts. The in-student provided the treat for the school children as well as the little ones in the districts. Mr. A. P. Gallant also treated the children to chocolates. The evening ended with God Save The Queen.

Following is the program: Chorus: "Welcome" Recitation: "Have You Bought Your Dad A Tie"—Clayton Nunn. Recitation: "Christmas Angels"—Billie Nunn. Song: "Christmas In Killarney." Recitation: "Neighbours"—Marjorie Hooper. Dialogue: "Mr. Oscar and Santa Claus." Recitation: "The Little House-keeper"—Sandra Buntain. Recitation: "Wondering"—Charles Stevenson. Dialogue: "The Anti-Gossip Club". Drill: "Dressing The Snowman." Intermission. Chorus: "It Came Upon The Midnight Clear." Recitation: "A Treat On The Baby"—Hazel Parkman. Dialogue: "Nursery Rhyme Novelty." Song: "In Grandma's Day." Monologue: "Concert Rehearsal"—Lorne Stevenson. Recitation: "She's Changed Her Mind"—Marilyn Stevenson. Song: Sandra Buntain and Hazel Parkman. Dialogue: "The Truth Telling Machine." Song: Alma Craswell and Norma Parkman. Chorus: "In Parting"—Allie Craswell.

IN MEMORIAM In loving memory of our dear daughter and sister, Shirley M. Gallant, Mayfield, who departed this life January 11th, 1950. In Jesus loving arms she sleeps, Secure from every care, And though we miss her here on earth, We know she is happy up in Heaven. Lovingly Remembered by Daddy, Mummy, Sisters and Brothers. May her Soul rest in Peace.

Thanks We wish to thank the Box holders of New Wiltshire R. R. 1, who so kindly remembered us at Christmas. Mr. and Mrs. Amos Clarkin.

Card Of Thanks We wish to extend our sincere thanks for the many acts of kindness and cards of sympathy during our recent bereavement. Mrs. Fred Crossman and Family.

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Strange But True

Special arrangements were made for Mrs. John Charles Wood, of Peterborough, Ont., confined to her home by illness, to hear the funeral service for her husband. By use of microphone at the church the widow heard the entire service in the telephone at home. The pigeon softens the corn in her crop and turns it into a sort of milk diet. At a given signal the young pigeon puts its beak into that of its parents, who, with convulsive efforts, forces the corn both into baby's inexperienced tummy. Some insect babies are fed in much the same way at the start. To assist their first attempt at swallowing, the mother prepares for it, in her crop, a light and nourishing cream. But the food is not passed from mouth to mouth as in the case of the 'pigeon. It is disgorged in the nest and picked up by the youngsters at will.

The longest journey ever chalked up by a lake trout was entered in the books of the Department of Lands and Forests in Sault Ste. Marie. The member of the finny tribe was tagged at Montreal river, 90 miles north of the City of Lake Superior. It was caught off the Illinois shore of Lake Michigan, 500 miles from the tagging place by the shortest water route.

Dr. Edith Summerskill, of England, favors prison terms for husbands who refuse to give their wives the necessary money to run the home cupboard efficiently. Such a bill was actually introduced in the Commons before the late government gave up the ghost. Had it become a law a wife would be justified in hauling hubby into court and suing him for more shekels to buy groceries and keep the home shipshape.

One does not have to travel the world, by land and sea and air, from pole to pole; to cross-question life, under every clime, in the infinite variety of its manifestations; that would no doubt, be a wonderful experience and has been the fond dream of many persons everywhere. However, one may gather data without going on distant expeditions.

Jean-Jacques Rousseau herbarized with the bunch of common chickweed which he fed to his canary. Bernardin de Saint-Pierre discovered a world on a few strawberry plants that grew by accident on his window-sill. Shakespeare wrote eloquently and accurately of places he never saw. Xavier de Maistre, using an arm-chair, made a famous journey that never extended beyond his own room.

We, too, can take such a journey right at home if only we use our eyes as we wander about. It is interesting to note that some bug couples act very much like

Annual Meeting Of New Glasgow United Church The New Glasgow United Church held its annual meeting after the morning service on Sunday, January 4th. Rev. George Gough who was appointed chairman, opened with prayer. Mrs. Andrew was appointed secretary of the meeting. Favorable reports were received from the Auxiliary, the Mission Band, the Ladies' Aid and Sunday School. The treasurer's report was given by Miss Elsie Laird, showing finances in good standing, insurance to be paid out of balance on hand. The grounds are to be finished in the spring, and also a new fence erected. William Semple and Chalmers Laird are the two newly appointed managers. Mrs. Edwin Stevenson, whose work for the year has been commendable as caretaker, agreed to attend to same for the new year. Mr. Cecil Laird and Miss Elsie Laird were re-elected treasurer and assistant. Mr. Gough spoke in appreciation of their good work and the meeting extended to them a standing vote of thanks. Stirling Howatt and Huntley Dingwell were appointed offering bearers. On motion, the meeting adjourned with prayer by Mr. Gough. —AY

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