

MILITARY PREPAREDNESS IN SWITZERLAND



Switzerland continues to prepare for defence against any possible invasion of her territory by Germany. It has been rumored from time to time that Germany contemplates such an entry. The view in the top panel shows an old Swiss railway carriage which is at present being used as a military office; the one at the bottom shows the school room of a hamlet in Switzerland which serves as a sitting room for soldiers off duty.

SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

Comments By
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LESSON FOR FEBRUARY 25TH

Lesson Title—"Jesus at the Pool of Bethesda."

Lesson Text—John, 5:1-15. Memorize vs. 8, 9.

Golden Text—"It was Jesus who had made him whole." John 5:15.

I. SICKNESS

The lesson story tells of a man who had an infirmity thirty-eight years. He had been brought to the Pool Bethesda along with a multitude of others who were "sick, blind, halt and withered." In view of a certain philosophy assiduously exploited today it is proper to ask whether the man was really sick or not. If he was not sick, why did not Jesus tell him that the trouble was in his thinking? Was Jesus himself mistaken as to the facts? Dr. Robert E. Speer asks "if it is not easy to see the difference between the attitude of a modern school of thought which tells him that he only thinks he is not whole, but that he really is. Jesus changed facts. The modern opinion denies them. This contrast exists in spiritual things as well as physical."

The will to be well is an important factor in recovery. Undoubtedly there are many cases of sickness in which the will is at fault and not the circumstances. I have seen sick people who seemed to me to persist in being sick because the will to be well was feeble. Physicians say they sometimes lose patients who could be restored to health if they had cared to live.

"The same may be said in regard to the health of the soul. A thoughtful pastor told his congregation recently that in his prayers, instead of saying, 'Do not let me be feeble, do not let me be passionate, do not let me be irritable'; and instead of saying, 'Heal thou my temper, heal thou my courage, heal thou my passion'; he now said, 'Heal thou my will.' And he asked his hearers to join with him in this new kind of prayer: 'Not, put away, O Lord, temptation; not, Take the taste of drink from me; or Make me stop in time—but, Heal thou my will so that I may genuinely and powerfully resolve to do the things which thou givest me grace enough to accomplish!'"

II. The Helping God.

Let it not be forgotten that Jesus is God's direct representative. What he does shows us how God feels and is acting toward us. We see God's character in the kindness and the ministries of Jesus toward all who were sick and suffering. It would seem that any conception of God could not be more appealing than this. Let us think often of him as giving friendly help to men who are denied help by their fellows.

There are many working partners of the Great Physician. The following story taken from The Youth's Companion is suggestive: "Because of the great demands made upon his time, Doctor Goodwin is little known save in his professional capacity. Church life he has had little part in, at least since coming into active professional life. Society knows nothing of him. His pleasures and recreations are few, while his patients, regarding him as they do with a feeling akin to veneration are yet far from being on familiar terms with him.

One day, however, a woman whose husband had been brought thru a dangerous illness forgot her timidity as she addressed the man to whom she felt so much was due.

"It isn't," she said earnestly, "it isn't just your curing him, doctor, that makes us always glad to see you, but that we always feel different every time you come. When we see you come into the house, somehow we feel that you are going to do the right thing. And when you go out we know you are praying—doctor, you are a Christian, aren't you?" she asked abruptly. The doctor's face took on a crimson color. "Why do you ask that? What makes you think I am?" he asked huskily.

"Because,"—the woman hesitated—"because I think no one who was not a Christian could make others always think about—God. And every one does when you come into the house. So many have said so."

The doctor was deeply touched. It was some little time before he found words to answer. "I—hope—I believe—that I am a Christian," he said at length humbly, "and I thank you for your words, my friend. If I can make men and women think about the Lord when they see me, I am more successful than I ever dared to dream. And—yes, I do pray for my patients. Otherwise I could not hope for the results I have had."

And all day long the woman, about her tasks, as she recalled the expression of gratitude and joy on the physician's face, repeated over and over again, "I'm so glad I told him what his visits and friend-ship mean to us. I'm so glad that he knows his life is appreciated." And on his trips that day—yes, and for many a day, the physician's heart

sang rapturously: "Not only for my medical skill do they value me, but because he has made me a witness of himself they believe me a working partner of the Great Physician!"

If the readers of this column care to do so, they may send in questions on the comments which have appeared here since January 1st and they will be considered in the Review article, appearing the last of March. Address all letters to Ernest Bourner Allen, 2013 Lawrence avenue, Toledo, Ohio.

DISCARDING INFERTILE EGGS

System Gives Rest of Incubator Hatch a Better Opportunity.

Infertile eggs should be removed from the incubator not later than the eighth day, to give the fertile eggs a better chance to develop evenly. Life inside of an egg shell develops some heat when in process of incubation, but an infertile egg absorbs the heat without giving off any.

An infertile egg which touches one containing a developing chick will reduce the normal heat at that point at least one degree in the fertile egg.

The eggs should be tested out again or the fourteenth day to detect any dead germs, which sometimes occur from low vitality or other causes.

A rotten egg in a heated incubator will exude foul gases which lower the hatchability of the fertile eggs in the same compartment. So eliminate the infertile eggs at beginning of second week of incubation, and go through the eggs again at end of the second week to remove all that do not show strong life germs inside the shells.

Always turn and cool the eggs before trimming the lamp or soiling the hands with any grease, for the embryo chicks are very sensitive to foreign oils on the shells.

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State Briefs

COLUMBUS.—Because Ohio troops now at the Mexican border are to be sent to their home stations immediately, the furloughs of all Ohio soldiers now at their homes will be indefinitely extended. This information is contained in a telegram received by Adjutant General Wood from Secretary of War Baker.

MARION.—Marion manufacturers publicly announced that they would turn over their plants to the government for the manufacture of munitions of war should Uncle Sam become involved in the European conflict.

PORTSMOUTH.—A canvass of the industries of the city show that every plant is ready to manufacture war material, if the government requests it.

YOUNGSTOWN.—S. S. French, general manager of the William Tod Co., has offered to turn over the plant to the United States government in case of war.

Columbus.—More than 250,000 acres of land are lying waste in Ohio, "forfeited to the state for taxes," state records show.

A plan to reclaim these lands has been presented Governor James M. Cox by M. E. Thrailkill, Columbus attorney.

"It's really plan to rehome-stead Ohio," Thrailkill said. "The farms have fallen into disuse by failure of their owners to meet taxes."

"Let the state pass laws to survey and take over all title to waste forfeited lands. Then let the state put up houses and barns."

"Divide them then into parcels of 100 acres or less and invite married 'settlers' to 'homestead' on them."

"The cost to settlers would be small. Or settlers might be given 50 years to pay off the state's total investment."

Baby Week

The nation-wide Baby Week campaign of 1917 will be held May 1 to 6. Ohio stood high in the campaign of 1916, and much is expected of her this year. A state-wide plan is being developed.

Japanese Honor Their War Horses

A Japanese correspondent writes in the current issue of Our Dumb Animals that despite the fact that cruelty to animals exists in his country, "no more to ignorance than to malice, there is a growing sentiment toward betterment in that direction. In the course of his letter, Masujir Honjia says:

"Memorial services were held for the horses killed and wounded both in

the Chinese and the Russian war, and a Buddhist priest is traveling all over Japan to raise funds for erecting a monument to the memory of the war horses lost in our recent national struggle. His idea is to set up in suitable place, a statue of a horse with the Buddha of mercy, Kwannon, on its back."

Where the Pumpkin Came From.
Despite the fact that the pumpkin in all its forms has found its fullest meed of popular appreciation in the United States is by no means certain that the plant had its first home on this continent. Some authorities claim that it did and produce evidence

to show that the aborigines of North America planted it among their maize. Others contend that it is of Asiatic origin and still others point out that pumpkins have been cultivated either as a curiosity or as an article of food in England since the year 1570. Even to-day we have not a monopoly of pumpkin culture. The orange hued orbs of joy are grown in various European countries, notably in France, where the market gardeners in the vicinity of Paris go to the trouble of sowing their pumpkin seeds in April, in a hotbed under glass and nurture them carefully until they are transplanted in May.

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New and Smart Spring Suits
Just Brimful of Style
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Notable differences from the styles of former season newness in fabric, in color, in design, in tailoring even.

Admirable points of finish that lift them far out of the ordinary. Smartness here and there that make them perfectly fascinating to the woman intent on her Spring wardrobe.

There has been something of a revolution in fashion, for the suits for Spring are different from those of the passing season. They set the imperative stamp of "must have" where many women hoped to use "may do." It is necessary to have a new suit if you would mark your adherence to fashion.

A very distinct little suit is of apple green poplin, with large collar and cuffs attached in plain green silk. This is a belted model and has two pockets above belt and two below, giving it a sport effect. This has large collar with the over-collar of silk poplin. \$25.

Navy blue, the color that one never tires of, is very charming in wool poplin with full plaited skirt and pleats in the skirt of coat that falls in fullness to match the skirt. This has a very deep collar and is used with beautiful grey silk. \$35.

Another in apple green poplin has the collar, cuffs and pockets stitched in gold silk with an over-collar of white silk poplin. This is a very stylish and an up-to-the-minute model. \$29.50.

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