

Vol. 1 No. 7

Box 444, Soo, Ont.,

Saturday May 9th, 1942

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GUESTS OF THE MONTREAL RIVER CAMP.

Gentlemen, I salute you. You are making the first instalment at least on paying for your convictions.

I have the feeling that no man has any right to hold a conviction that conflicts with majority belief unless he does pay for it in one way or another.

In comparison with the pacifists of the first World War, our payment is very trivial; in comparison with the penalty for nonconformity in dictator-ridden countries, it is nothing.

Beyond the work camp experience we still have to find some way of demonstrating our Christian citizenship by a sacrificial service comparable in risk and costliness to the service given, willingly or unwillingly, by the enlisted men. The Quakers have given a lead in this direction. I deeply regret that my own church turned up its official nose at the request that it find or make suitable opportunity for such service for its conscientious objectors. I have a hope that the Conference of Historic Peace Churches may be able to organize or point out something of the sort.

There may possibly be an opening for some who can enter it in connection with the Corps of (Civilian) Canadian Fire Fighters for service in the United Kingdom. Information may be obtained from G. E. Huff, Commanding Officer, Department of National War Services, Ottawa.

May I offer you a quotation from Thomas Carlyle for your consideration:

"Two men I honor, and no third. First the toilworn craftsman that with earth-made implement laboriously conquers the earth and makes her man's . . . . A second man I honor, and still more highly, him who is seen toiling for the spiritually indispensable; not daily bread, but the bread of life."

Very good wishes to you all.

Sincerely,

Rev. R. Edis Fairbairn,  
United Church of Canada.

"Good Judgement" is not a gift of Nature--it's acquired, along with good information.

ENGLISH C.O.'S

Peterham's camp paper Days of Our Year carries an illuminating article on English C.O.'s as reported by Robert Yarnall of the Friends Relief Service Committee.

English C.O.'s undergo a rigorous training period preparing them for active service in relief and reconstruction. Their work consists of four major items and some lesser functions which are spasmodic and seasonal.

Most important perhaps is the every day duty of helping to operate bomb shelters. Two and a half million Londoners sleep underground. A typical shelter holds 200 and is found in the cellar of a warehouse. The people come streaming into the shelters at dusk and fill the place with confusion. The C.O.'s job is to straighten things out and replace chaos with organized activities. By 8:30 everyone is generally occupied with reading, with crafts or with a game, and the evening follows along as nicely as cold and compass permit. At 9:30 in the evening, friends serve tea and buns at one penny an item, and this too adds a spark of cheer to an unfortunate situation.

Second, the training period prepares C.O.'s as experts in First Aid. The standard First Aid kit now used all over England was designed by conscientious objectors. First Aid work goes on rather steadily and is supplemented at times of heaviest bombing by ambulance units.

The third major activity of C.O.'s is aiding "bombed out" families. They move these people into abandoned schools for First Aid and rest. Quaker clothing from America fits them out for a time and homes are found somewhere.

English C.O.'s are also considerably active in agricultural work. As in this country, farm labor is at a premium.

The Norom Flowshare adds: "80 English C.O.'s have been working with the Red Cross in Egypt with mobile surgical units. The whole of the China unit of 50 is now on the Burma Road transporting medical supplies. One was in Hongkong when it fell. A few men carry on village clinics in Syria that deal with more than a thousand civilians a week, and helped distribute food when famine threatened early in the winter. In England there are nearly 200 more in 18 different hospitals, in capacities ranging from floor scrubbers to administrators."

"Whispering Pines."

THE NORTHERN BEACON

Published the first and third Saturday of every month at Montreal River Alternative Service Camp, Box 444, Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario. Religious Director, Rev. J. Harold Sherk.

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SUNDAY SERVICES

Our opening service was Sunday School, which was taken in two classes by Sheldon Wilson and Harley Wideman.

Bro. Sherk back after an extended trip on camp business, conducted the Morning Worship Service. He spoke on the text in Rev. 1:10, "I was in the Spirit on the Lord's Day." He pointed out that John was in the spirit in spite of persecution and banishment and that because of it he has left us a message from God which has been a blessing and a comfort to man. God may not have a prophetic revelation for man today but there always is help and strength for the person who keeps the Lord's day as a special day of communion with his Maker.

We gathered beside the lake for the evening service. After a hymn sing, Bro. Sherk challenged us with the question, "How is your courage?" and several responded, sharing their spiritual experiences. Our religious director then addressed us on, "Tests of Discipleship." A true disciple may have to give up home, comforts and the fellowship of friends who would hinder him from full obedience to God. The tests of discipleship may be severe, but the day will come when God's "Well done," will far outweigh them.

SUPERIOR WAVES

**HOME DUTY**—We welcome Bro. Sherk back to us again. He has returned to his first love as religious director here, after spending three months as a teacher of the Emmanuel Bible School at Stouffville, Ont.

**FATHER DONER**—One night Harold "Father" Doner was seen comfortable seated in an old armchair drawn up in front of his bunk. Says he is developing his paternal appetites should he get leave to see his Wife and Junior.

**HOLOR**—It is rumoured that a new group of Conchies will arrive soon. Who knows?  
(Cont'd in Col. 2)

MONTREAL RIVER CAMP

Montreal River Camp, located 80 miles north of Sault Ste. Marie and on the shores of Lake Superior where Montreal River empties, consists of 59 conscientious objectors to war, who represent 15 religious denominations. Trainees work 48 hours a week for 50¢ a day constructing highway #17, known as the Trans-Canada Highway. They supply their own clothing and serve for the duration.

BEAUTIFUL IN THE BEGINNING  
Editorial

How refreshing and invigorating is Spring! Nature is cleaning up for summer shaking off the blankets of winter with warm rain and soft zephyrs. The swollen river rushes out to greet the lake with its wanton laughter to have the waves slap back playfully and roll over and over. The grey rock rises pointedly in its strength, on an elastic carpet of rich moss and lets the tiny ivy climb its sides to clad it in leafy greenness. Springs gush forth with renewed energy and gurgle down the mountain sides to stimulate the plants to life. The trees break into bud and delicately perfume the air. Birds return and announce themselves by cheery note and saucy song. The earth is full of the glory of God!

This is a beautiful world--except in places where selfish man in search of gain has rended its sides. A majestic sunset over a glorious landscape--except it is soaked in blood today. A pure, blue sky with soft, woolly clouds--only bombs whistle down from it. All things of God are pure and good, and full of beauty, except those ravaged by man. Why can't man be in tune with God, and follow Him!

SUPERIOR WAVES  
Cont'd from Col. 1

**SPRING FEVER**—The recent excellent "Summer" weather has influenced camp styles considerably. In the evening and on Sundays, Campees doff their work clothes to don more respectable "store-boughten" apparel to really brighten the environment.

**HORSESHOE BILL**—Have you noticed Bill Young wrapping the peg with successive "Muckers"? He'll lay two on anytime requested. How about running a trainee tournament, Bill?

**SUGGESTION**—It is our suggestion this issue that everyone dress for meals. You know, wear a top shirt or sweater at the table. The fellow next to you can enjoy his meal much better than if you sit down in underwear or chest a la natural.

**SURPRISE**—Quiet Stan Conley secretly adorned his bunk with a lovely picture of his  
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THE LOVE OF JESUS

Mr. Frank G. Vinall, Lay-Minister  
Christadelphian Church, Hamilton.

Ever since the transgression of our first parents in the garden of Eden, periodical times of trouble have arisen in the earth, which to those who were alive at that time would be looked upon "as a time of trouble such as never was even to that same time," Dan. 12:1, but through all of these times, we, if we look closely, can see the light of God's love shining as a light in a dark place, guiding those who would remember, serve, and obey Him, to a haven of safety. It reminds us of the old hymn that we used to sing in the band of hope, and in Sunday School years ago, but is still new and will continue to be new, because there is always something new that we can discover in the "Love of God" for mankind. That song is "I love to tell the story of Jesus and His Love." When we speak or think of the love of Jesus we naturally speak of the love of God, for Jesus says, "I and my Father are one" and "whosoever hath seen Me hath seen the Father."

We have an illustration of the love which Jesus has for his friends in the Gospel according to John in the eleventh chapter where we have the account of the death and burial of Lazarus. He was with his sisters Mary and Martha very near and dear to Him and we have the faith of Mary and Martha held up to our view when they said, "Lord if thou hadst been here our brother had not died." We also have the record of the fact that "Jesus wept" because His friend had died, but there was a loving purpose in this; that the God in whom we trust and whom we love because He first loved us, might display the power which He had bestowed upon His Son that it might be made manifest to His people when He raised Lazarus from the dead.

There is a lesson in this for us whom God through His Son has raised from a condition of degradation and death into a place from which we can look unto the time when He will say unto us as He said unto Lazarus "come forth."

I want now to take the other side of this incident in the life of Christ and consider the words of Jude in the 12th verse where speaking of those who had turned from the Love of God because of the inclinations which are within us have turned like a "Sow wallowing in the mire;" those who in the eyes of God were dead and had come under the operation of "God's love turned aside and went after the gainsayings of Core." Jude says that they are "twice dead, plucked up by the roots". You can see the force of this lesson in the fact that Jesus weeps over those of His friends who die. Here in this epistle are those who are Spiritually and naturally dead given to us as an example of deserting the Love of God and causing our Saviour to weep.

There is provision made by God which shows His love and care for mankind. Provision for the restoration of peace and tranquillity. Such as was in Eden. Isa. 51:3, "For the Lord shall comfort Zion He shall comfort all her waste places; and He will make her wilderness like Eden, and her desert like the Garden of the Lord; joy and gladness shall be found therein, thanksgiving, and the voice of melody."

Provision, for the restoration of the ground. Instead of briars and thorns, shall come up abundance of fruit and produce of the ground. Amos 9:13. "Behold the days come saith the Lord, that the plowman shall overtake the reaper, and the treader of grapes him that soweth seed." He makes provision for the restoration of the wilderness and the solitary place; and the desert shall blossom as the rose, Isa. 35:1, 43:19.

There is I believe another way in which the first verse of chapter 35 can be applied and that is in a spiritual sense. Where or when in the history of the world could you have a more solitary condition or a greater wilderness of ideas than are prevalent at the present time? Where can we learn about God and His love toward mankind when we have men's hearts failing them for fear, when we are almost afraid in our solitary condition to speak to those around us, about the things of God, when we on account of our love for God and our fellowmen are forced to go into dens and holes in the rocks, for fear of those things that are coming upon the earth? But God says that the time is coming when all this will have passed away and we shall have a glorious condition of peace and righteousness with the Prince of Peace ruling the earth as its everlasting King.

There is provision made for the humblest workman. The mechanic, the tiller of the soil, the blind, the dumb, the lame, the fearful and the weak. The animals also come under the operation of God's love, Isa. 65:21-25. "and they shall build houses and inhabit them, and they shall plant vineyards and eat the fruit thereof,--They shall not build and another inhabit, they shall not plant and another eat--they shall not labour in vain; nor bring forth for trouble,--the wolf and the lamb shall feed together and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain saith the Lord."

There is a provision made for the restoration in all its glory of God's City Jerusalem. Isa. 65: 17-19, "For behold I create new heavens and a new earth and the former shall not be remembered, nor come into mind. But be ye glad and rejoice in that I create, for behold I create Jerusalem a rejoicing and her people a joy, and I will rejoice in Jerusalem and joy in my people; and the voice of weeping shall no more be heard in her; nor the voice of crying."

What a contrast from the condition of carnage that is prevalent today, when we pick up our papers and read of the thousands who are killed, maimed and injured in the

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THE LOVE OF JESUS

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gigantic struggle of mankind, that is to pave the way for the loveliest provision that could only be conceived and can only be brought into actuality by a divine mind and an omnipotent God. That is the provision that is made for kings and rulers. Isa. 32:1.

"Behold a King shall reign in righteousness and princes shall rule in judgement, and a Man (Christ) shall be as a hiding place from the wind, a covert from the tempest, as rivers of water in a dry place as a shadow of a great rock in a weary land.

How weary the land is today after six thousand years of man's misrule and how weary it will be when the other part of this chapter is fulfilled for it will continue, "Until the Spirit be poured upon as from on high, and the wilderness be a fruitful field be counted a forest and the work of righteousness shall be peace; and the effect of righteousness shall be quietness and assurance forever; and my people shall dwell in a peaceable habitation and in sure dwellings and in quiet resting places--Blessed are ye that sow beside all waters, that send forth thither the feet of the ox and the ass.

That is the old old story of Jesus and His love and I will conclude this little story with the last two verses of the new testament.

"He which testifieth these things saith. Surely I come quickly, Amen. Even so come Lord Jesus.

"The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all, Amen."

SUPERIOR WAVES

Cont'd from Page 2.

lady-friend after four months. Who would have thought it?

**CLEAN UP**--Have you noticed the difference around camp? Boss Sider has sure made a dandy job of "housecleaning" the camp grounds. Now we can all follow his example and clear the land behind "Chef" Brydges' cottage and around our new recreation building. Volunteers to clean up the "fire hazard" so close to these buildings may report to Mr. Sherk "at once."

Bill Herbert is working again at Merriton. Considering, seriously, joining the Canadian Fire Fighters. Ross Bearss of Ridgeway is back at his electrical store. Enjoying a "second" honeymoon and wife, Rose's cooking.

Alex "Starchy" Kirby of Stouffville is now in St. Catharines. No doubt enjoying renewal of acquaintance with fellow C.O.'s. Foster Moore of Toronto is working in a shoe store as a salesman.

THIS HIGHWAY MUST GO THROUGH

The job we had ahead of us after the last blast at the rock-cut was a gigantic one, but under the able management of straw boss Ken Williams things were moving fast. Great progress was especially seen when our friend Starr alias "Malcolm" took command of the black "colts" Rock and Susie. So great was his influence upon these great creatures that they had enough will power to pull old Ben's team over on their heels. As a result of Ken Williams, and a few minor individuals, becoming ill, two teams hadn't enough work to operate at full capacity, so our Don Juan of the rock cut (Mr. Starr) was promoted to work at the culvert. Strange as it may seem the progress of work was not completely stalled in spite of these several losses. What made us masters of our destiny was the fact that "Bulldozer Ben" with his gang "the cream of the camp" we are told, worked from the other side. Ben as a good example throw his shirt aside to which Nick Siblock responded immediately. Thus, as a fruit of cooperation a roadway was cleared at 3 o'clock Saturday, one week after work was begun. Looking along the line we saw Mr. Starr following his faithful animals in his original birthday suit (save a pair of shorts.) "In a sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread" has apparently become very real to Mr. Starr, judging by his appearance.

Friends of our new dishwasher Bill Grigg must either think he looks like a girl or that he should like one. Recently Bill received in the mail a package containing a dainty little apron and a quaint little bonnet or hood or something that is supposed to be used to adorn the head. "Boss" Sider insisted on trying them on and they reminded him so much of something down in Weston that he was able to go out to work the next day. So maybe Bill's new gadgets would be better used as a morale booster than dishwasher's accessories.

Harold Evans returned to camp Sunday evening after spending a few days downtown in the hospital. He tells us that after he was there a couple of hours he took a turn for the nurse.

Ross Blotsoe, at the table the other evening, "This meat is so tough that I can't put my fork in the gravy."

Mel Baker of Richmond Hill was married May 6th to Miss Effie Mashinter of Maple. The wedding took place at Gormly in the M.B.C. parsonage. Mr. & Mrs. are now residing in Richmond Hill.

Paul Storms is in Toronto writing exams at the Toronto Bible College. Unable to obtain work.

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RECREATION

No sooner is supper over than volleyball enthusiasts rush the court. Experts (so-called) and beginners mingle to settle supper just consumed and slap the ball back and forth. Teams chosen, the game starts in earnest and fun-making takes on a new edge. Back and forth goes the ball till some beginner forgets and catches it! Come come Kaytor, get in there. Oh, Oh, "Oinky" is serving--better lower the net boys for this little fellow. Tuck in your thumb, Ben, when you hit the ball and don't bat it a mile out of the court! So goes the merriment till darkness calls quits and the bunters wearily come in to wash the dust off.

In another comes the ring of horseshoes is heard. Sure enough, all the farmers, including Farmer Brown, are gathered for their shoe to peg game. Bill Grigg complained after a game that he got a sore arm and leg out of it. Bill really gets a kick out of the horseshoe! Bill Young is the expert, and Basil Brock is a close second. Beginner Siblock has a twirl on his shoe that would make a revolving-door attendant dizzy, but can wrap the steel around the peg in a most surprising fashion.

In the meantime the baseball is scorching over the plate in practice pitch and the catcher fondly takes it from the centre of his mit and as a "nice" one.

Just wait till the new group gets here, then watch the organization of teams and regular schedules of play.

TUCK & LADDIE

You can't teach an old dog new tricks and camp dogs, Tuck and Laddie, are no exceptions. Three times this week they have tried to nip a porcupine and retreat before it struck them. Each time "porcy" has proven much faster, slapped each of them for a good count of quills in their faces. The last time "porcy" was over-generous to Tuck and quilled him charitably. Trainees had a difficult job in holding Tuck but finally Ben Bergen held his neck to the ground with a crotch stick while Nick Siblock and Jake Willms sat on him and Henry Wichert pulled the quills with pliers. Laddie makes a better patient and sits quietly while one of the boys acts as dentist to extract the quills.

Ed. Byers has quit Toronto Bible College for the farm back home.

FIRE FIGHTING IN BR. COLUMBIA

Due to the little rainfall in British Columbia this year its valuable timberland is dry and subject to greater fire hazard than usual. Added to this danger is the possibility of Japanese bombers attacking their valuable natural resources with incendiary bombs to destroy them and lay a smoke screen sufficiently heavy to ground Canadian planes. In a questionnaire given trainees at Montreal River Camp by the Northern Beacon it was shown that campers would volunteer to fight forest fires if opportunity was granted. It would be a civilian service of national importance in the first lines of defence.

Civilian Public Service Camps in the United States have already instituted courses in fire-fighting so that hundreds of trainees in their 27 C.P.S. Camps may be sent to fight forest fires on the west coast during the dry season. It is hoped that a similar arrangement may be made for Canadian Conchies to serve their country.

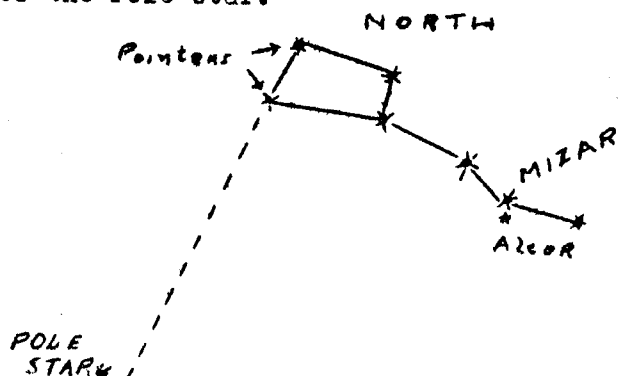
AMATEUR ASTRONOMY

To those who are unfamiliar with the heavens the sky appears to be not only a beautiful spectacle, but also a rather confusing conglomeration of stars. In ancient times men noticed certain arrangements of stars in groups; today these groups are known as constellations.

Let us first take a look at "Ursa Major" or the Great Bear. This constellation is not particularly well-known although seven bright stars in this group form the Big Dipper. The Dipper can be easily picked out in the sky because it looks exactly like a dipper with a somewhat bent handle.

Looking at the handle we notice "Mizar" the star at the bend, with Alcor the very faint star close to it. It is said that many years ago the Arabian Army used Alcor as a test for eyesight. Although there appears to the naked eye only two stars we find upon closer study a group of six stars in all.

Let us look now to the two stars of the Dipper sometimes known as pointers. A person may strike an imaginary line from these two stars at any time of year and this will enable them to find the Polars or the Pole star.



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