

THE INTERNATIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

Interesting Bible History for Present Day Readers

The Rebirth of the Chief Sinner.

(By Andrew C. Zenos, in The Continent.)

Conversion of Paul, Acts 9:1-31. Golden Text, I Timothy 1:15: This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am chief.

With the exception of Jesus, no single event in the history of mankind has been fraught with such momentous significance as the conversion of the apostle Paul. Its difference from other great and critical events lies not so much in its astonishing unexpectedness and the clear presence in it of the supernatural as in its bearings on the future development of the gospel of Jesus Christ into a world religion. Paul stands a singular illustration of the truth that when the hour strikes for a great change in the world God always has a man ready.

Verses 1,2.—The story links itself with the martyrdom of Stephen. "But Saul, yet breathing threatening and slaughter against the disciples of the Lord," and so on. This apparently abrupt introduction carries the reader back to the point from which the evangelistic efforts of Philip had started, namely the death of the other evangelist, Stephen.

Of Saul before he joined the murderers of Stephen we learn many important details from his own references to his past life; but so far as the account in Acts is concerned, it notes only his participation in the death of Stephen and his conversion as an immediate sequel. The gulf between the enemy and persecutor of God's cause on the one hand and the zealous supporter and promoter of it on the other is also narrow enough to be bridged by one superhuman effort.

Sauv Advantage of Studying the Gospel.

Verses 19-31.—The promptness of Saul to work for Christ is striking. We know from other sources that he spent three years in Arabia readjusting his system of thought to his new faith. But that was later. To build up his theology, he needed time and opportunity to study and think. But to preach Christ, it was enough that he had come to know Christ in his own experience. But because he could preach Christ without further preparation, he did not decline to study and learn more of the depth and breadth and height of the gospel's meaning.

The preaching of the new convert was met by violent opposition on one side and by natural suspicion on the other. The Jews of Damascus were enraged, and conspired to destroy him. And the Christians of Jerusalem shunned him as a possible dissembler. To overcome the difficulties raised, he must needs depend upon the assistance of his new friends. It was these that saved him at Damascus.

Verses 3-9.—Saul probably went to Damascus by the direct route, known as "The Way of the Sea." The exact spot of the remarkable experience of Saul is fixed by tradition on a height twelve miles south of Damascus. At this point the party could catch the first glimpse of

the ancient city. It was a fit place for such an experience.

The accounts of that experience show some differences in minor details. Since, however, all of them must have had Paul as their ultimate source, and since all are reproduced by Luke, these differences must not be looked at as discrepancies, but rather as mutually complementary introduced to bring into view successively aspects of the extraordinary event that needed to be emphasized.

The central fact in the experience was the vision of Jesus the risen Redeemer. Whether this vision was subjective or objective, it brought Saul into real intercourse with Jesus, whom he had believed to be an impostor lying in his grave. Moreover, the vision was confirmed by a voice whose tone of authority Saul was constrained to recognize at once. The shock to Paul's physical system was so great as to cause a temporary loss of sight. Thus he was led into Damascus a captive of Jesus Christ to await his new master's pleasure.

Verses 10-18.—The visit of Ananias to Saul is illustrative of a principle in the workings of the divine Providence frequently brought into view in the Bible. After God has prepared men independently for work in his service he brings them into touch with one another through mysterious impulses and the operation of diverse motives. Ananias found it hard to believe that Saul would listen to him and be influenced by him, because he did not know what God had already done to prepare Saul's heart.

So, many a Christian is unwilling to approach others with the message of salvation through Christ because he forgets the power of God to open the way for him and create a receptive heart.

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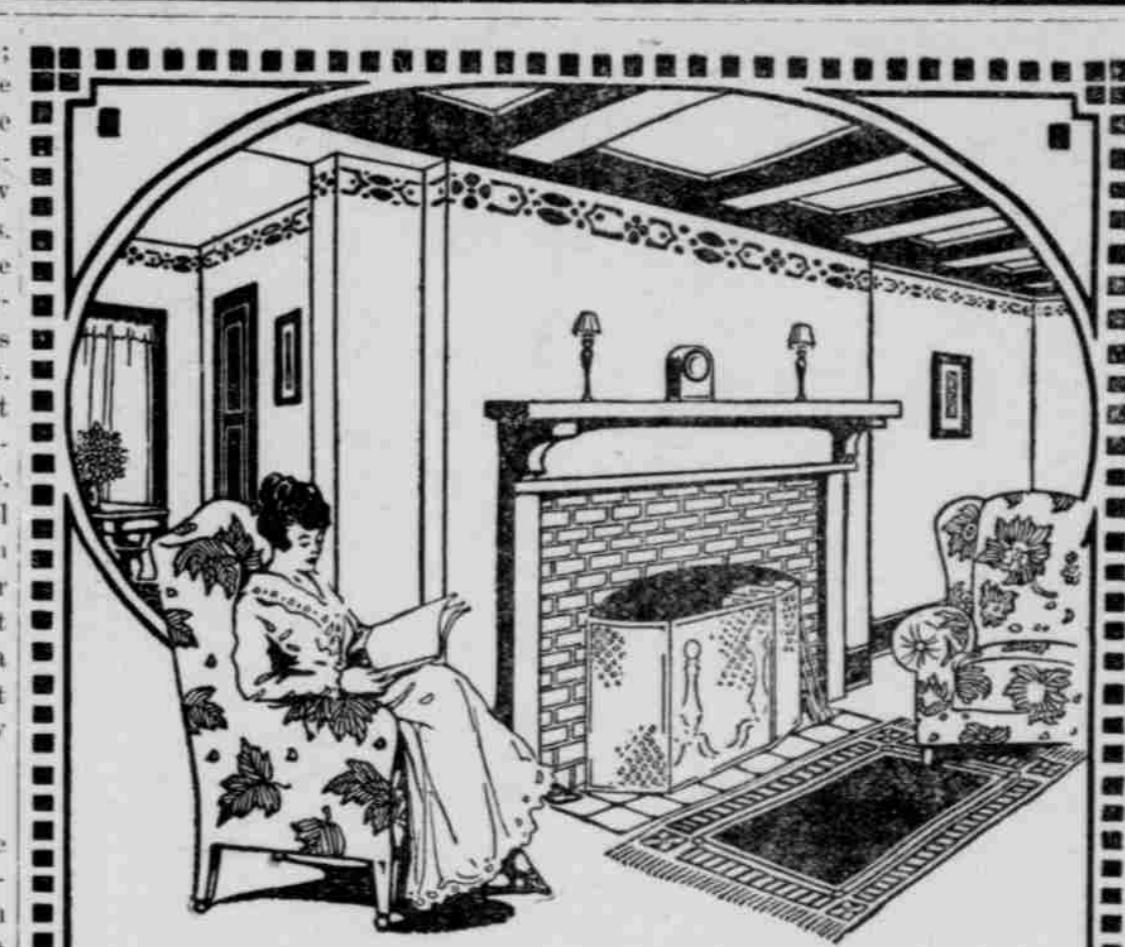
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Come to our store and let us show you some beautiful Mellotone combinations. An estimate on your requirements furnished gladly.

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the small plant is subjected to all the chances of hot days and cold nights and to the drying winds that so often come in spring, and they may be killed before they can get their roots down far enough for safety.

INDIANA INVENTORS.

The following patents were just issued to Indiana clients reported by D. Swift & Co., patent lawyers, Washington, D. C., who will furnish copies of any patent for ten cents apiece to our readers.

Chas. D. Bennett, Seipio, fence post (sold); Michael Burnes, Evansville, inductance regular for alternating current circuits (sold); Mortimer Bye, Frankfort, syringe (sold); Nelson W. Cady, Logansport, splint; M. S. Chapman, Elkhart, pastry; William L. Franks, Evansville, motor cultivator; J. J. Gaynor, Elwood, bottle labeling machine (sold); William W. Heylman, South Bend, bearing device (sold); Bernard C. Holthaus, Schenelleville, hoisting rope catching cart; Jno. A. Jackson, Chestertown, car truck construction (sold); B. H. Lett, Evansville, gasoline turbine; Jas. B. Ludlum, Marion, telephone bracket (sold); Chas. McBride, Indianapolis, rail tie; W. P.

McGreen, Logansport, spring seat attachment; E. M. Millhouse, Peru, burial vault (sold).

Estimates of the value of stable manure on the farm indicate that in eastern Pennsylvania the manure produced by one adult horse or cow nets the farmer on an average \$15.80 per year, while in southern Michigan the manure of one such animal nets the farmer \$8.22.

ATTENTION, FARMERS

Remove Hog Cholera Germs.

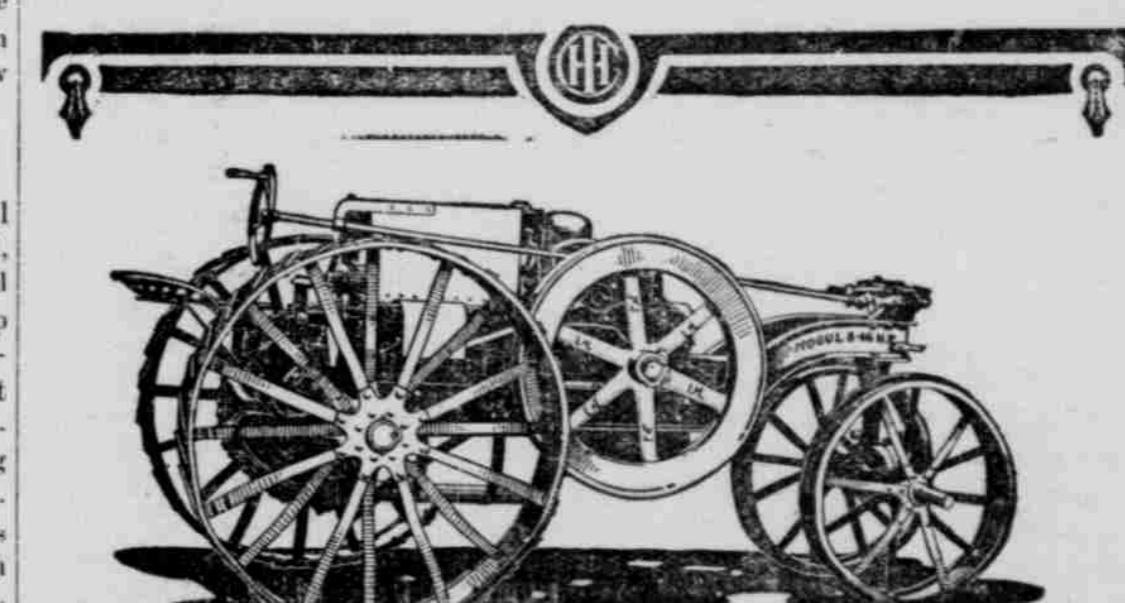
The Silver Creek Fertilizer Company is licensed to remove cholera hogs. Save danger and labor of burning by notifying John Brecker, proprietor. Telephone 45-i, or night 287.

SILVER CREEK FERTILIZER CO.

NOTICE OF FINAL SETTLEMENT OF ESTATE.

Notice is hereby given to the creditors, heirs and legatees of Frank Fowler, deceased, to appear in the Union Circuit Court, held at Logansport, Indiana, on the 17th day of April, 1916, and show cause, if any, why the Final Settlement Accounts with the estate of said decedent should not be approved; and said heirs are notified to then and there make proof of their right, and receive their distributive shares.

[SEAL] WITNESS, the Clerk of said Court, this 21st day of March, 1916.
JOHN B. BURTON, CLERK OF UNION CIRCUIT COURT.
4134 C. Clerk of Union Circuit Court.
Pigman & Roberts, Atty.



Mogul 8-16 Price Announcement The Real Kerosene Tractor

ON and after April 1st the price of the Mogul 8-16 will be \$725 cash f. o. b. Chicago. All sales made and bona fide orders taken up to April 1st will be filled at the present price of \$675 cash f. o. b. Chicago. We want to post you ahead of time on the coming change.

Mogul 8-16, as you know, is the famous tractor that has cut fuel costs squarely in half—operates on cheap, common kerosene or coal oil—doesn't have to be the highest grade either. It pays for itself in the saving over gasoline. That is why the rise in price—necessary because cost of raw materials has risen so high—is of minor importance.

Mogul 8-16 is saving and making profit on thousands of farms of all sizes. It will do much more for you than your horses can. Get in your order now—be ready for spring work. See the dealer who sells the Mogul 8-16.

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The Mogul 8-16 kerosene tractor is sold by
ALBERT BIAS
LIBERTY, INDIANA

Department of Agriculture

Weekly News Letter from Washington, D. C., in the Interest of Better Farming

BETTER MILK SUPPLIES.

Federal Dairy Specialists Co-operating With City Health Officers to Improve Conditions.

The Dairy Division of the Bureau of Animal Industry and the Bureau of Chemistry of the U. S. Department of Agriculture are now co-operating with the health officers of a number of cities in an effort to improve the local milk supply. The Federal specialists, when invited by the local authorities, investigate milk conditions, make suggestions for proper supervision of market milk, and finally visit farmers whose milk is below grade and help them to improve the sanitary conditions of their dairies. As these officials realize that it costs more to produce thoroughly clean milk than carelessly produced article, they frequently conduct educational campaigns in which consumers are shown that the production of clean milk entails additional expense on the farmer.

In a recent statement on the subject the dairy specialists said that one of the most vital suggestions that they can make to city health officers is that all milk that does not come from tuberculin-tested cattle should be pasteurized by the holding process. In this process the milk is heated to 145° F. and held at that temperature for thirty minutes. Such pasteurization, without producing appreciable change in the flavor of the milk, kills large numbers of the bacteria and, even more important than this, destroys the disease-producing bacteria,

such as those that cause typhoid fever, diphtheria, septic sore throat, or tuberculosis. Other important considerations in the production of clean milk are healthy herds, sanitary barns, and the proper sterilization and cleaning of all utensils. No one with an infectious disease or who has been exposed to contagion should be allowed to work in or around a dairy or milk-handling establishment. Another point which must not be overlooked is the cooling of the milk on the farm to a temperature which retards growth of bacteria; at no time in its handling or delivery should the milk be allowed to become warm. The experts say that it is not enough for a milkman to deliver a clean, cool product at the house. Milk allowed to stand on a porch in the sun or that is left in open bottles or kept in warm rooms quickly deteriorates until it becomes dangerous for children or even for adults.

The following statement outlines what are regarded by the dairy specialists as the essentials in dealing effectively with the sanitation of a city's milk supply:

"The Department of Agriculture, in working with State and municipal officials for the betterment of milk supplies, urges that ordinances relating to the dairy industry should be more concise, understandable, and uniform. Diversity of laws has led to considerable misunderstanding among dairymen and has been the cause of considerable conflict. Another thing that the department urges is that dairy inspectors be selected who are fitted for this particular line of work. Many cities have appointed inexperienced and unqualified men, who have, through a misunderstanding of the prob-

lem involved, unnecessarily aroused the antagonism of the milk producer, and in this way have hampered the cause of clean milk. Dairy inspectors should be familiar with farm problems, so that they can meet the farmers on their own ground and help them with their economic problems, as well as with the improvement of sanitary conditions. The Department employees endeavor to aid the state and municipal dairy inspectors in adopting a uniform system of inspection, whereby the greatest good can be accomplished with the minimum outlay on the part of the farmer. Inspectors are taught to pay particular attention to the health and cleanliness of the cattle, the use of a covered milk pail to exclude dirt, the prompt and efficient cooling of milk, and the proper sterilization of all utensils with which milk comes in contact. At the plant of the city distributor inspectors are again shown a uniform method of inspection and are urged to pay particular attention to the building, the proper sterilization of all apparatus, the physical condition of employees, the promptness with which milk is handled, its protection from contamination, and proper methods of pasteurization."

Lime a Necessity.

It is, however, a mistake to suppose that clover will grow on any soil however such run down. There are certain things that clover demands, and the most important are a good supply of lime and phosphorus. There are, it is true, conditions under which clover thrives on acid soils. These conditions are not yet fully understood, but they appear to be related to cool summers and plenty of moisture, which can not be expected in most of the clover belt.

It is not always easy to tell when a soil has enough lime. There are several methods for testing the "lime requirement" of soils; but for practical purposes, this may be roughly determined by the kind of plants growing on the land. If trouble has been experienced with red clover, but if a fair growth of timothy and of alsike clover can be gotten, the land probably needs some lime, say 1,000 pounds of ground limestone per acre; if timothy and alsike clover are crowded out by redtop or if such weeds as sorrel are abundant the land needs plenty of lime, at least a ton of ground limestone to the acre, and probably more. While the functions of lime both in the soil and in the plant are not thoroughly understood, we can confidently say that the clover plant is healthier when there is plenty of lime than when the soil is sour, and being healthier the young plants will withstand a dry spell better, and the old plants will come through the winter better than plants growing on sour soil. To sow red clover seed on so-called acid soils is usually to waste time and money.

The addition of phosphates has also been found to be very beneficial, but here again there is no way to tell how much is needed without trying. If clover has not done well on a farm, the need of lime or phosphorus, or perhaps both, is indicated, and the farmer would do well to buy a bag or two of ground bone or of phosphate and a ton of fine ground limestone and apply separately or in combination to a part of the field. The growth of the clover during the following season will tell the story of the needs of his soil. The bone meal and phosphate may be applied at the rate of 200 or 300 pounds per acre. Of course, if there is time and opportunity it will be well worth while to try different rates of application so as to find what rate will give best returns at smallest expense. On sandy soils potash may also be needed. For the healthy growth of the clover plant then, lime, phosphorus, and potash must be present; the presence of nitrogen is of minor importance, though, of course, the young plants will do better if nitrates are available. If clover has not been on the land for many years it will be wise to scatter dirt from a clover field or to inoculate the seed with the nitrogen germ. When this is present the clover plant can draw on the nitrogen of the air.

Value of Humus.

The mechanical condition of the soil must be good. A soil that becomes hard, excluding the air from the roots, will not grow good clover. Lime will help loosen up such a soil, but decaying vegetable matter or humus is the greatest need of such land. This can be furnished in stable manure or by turning under other crops that are not as sensitive as clover. A soil without humus will dry more readily than one with plenty of vegetable matter, and in a dry season this fact may be all important to the young plants. Most of our partly run-down soils have lost much of the organic matter they had originally. The growing of wheat and corn uses up the soil humus at a rapid rate, and so the time comes when a severe drought destroys the plants on a soil that does not hold the moisture to the extent that it formerly did. Then the plants die, and the farmer blames the dry weather. While it is true that a severe dry spell may kill all vegetation, even when the soil is in good condition, it is just as true that clover plants can endure drier times and hotter weather on soil that has lime and humus, and that consequently produces stronger plants and holds what moisture there is, better than on a soil worn out by overcropping.

Good seed, of course, is used. Even though seed is high in price this year, poor seed is relatively higher than good seed and should never be used. Clover seed is small, and only those seeds can be expected to make plants that are dropped within a half inch or an inch below the surface. This is for the average loam or clay loam soil. In sandy soil a little deeper planting will do no harm. Seeds dropped on the surface will sprout, if there is moisture, but