

ANDOVER NEWS

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BY J. HARVEY BACKUS & SON

OUR KEYNOTE:

"If There is Not a Way, Cut a Way."

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MEMBER



Radio Churches

A SMALL country church in Indiana, which couldn't afford a pastor, installed a radio and listens every Sunday to a famous Chicago minister, supported by a church which can well pay to have high-priced talent in the pulpit.

Is this a forecast of the future for the country church, or is it merely an isolated case?

Is this a makeshift to meet emergency or is it the beginning of a new kind of preaching in the country churches?

It may be the solution of a problem that confronts some rural congregations, which have not the means to support a pastor regularly, but no church will ever be able to get the inspiration from a radio sermon that it could get from the words of a pastor standing in its own pulpit.

Radios will never supplant pastors. Given the choice, any rural church would select a resident, or even a circuit pastor, in preference to having its pastoral work done by absent treatment.

The rural church pastor does more than preach. He functions where the radio can be of no service. He congratulates the parents when the new born arrives and he performs the ceremony when members of his "flock" are married. In times of sickness and trouble, he is a constant source of comfort, and when death stalks in the home, it is he who is the support of flickering faith, and his words hold out hope for the future. His advice on moral and civic questions is always sought.

The radio will never dislodge the rural pastor. His mission is too big and his services too much in demand.

Some cities have established schools for speeders, but how do they expect to teach them anything?

The Simple Faith

CHAUNCEY M. DEPEW, not long ago, in recalling experiences of his boyhood in a village on the Hudson, said that almost from infancy to old age, everybody went to church.

"The gatherings there for Sunday services," he said, "the Sunday school, the weekly prayer meeting and the social service work were periods of intense community interest."

How vastly different from this was that day. Now only a comparative few go to church either on Sunday or for the weekly activities.

Is it possible that the people of his day, not having the counter attractions of the present generation, should not be given too much credit for their faithful performance of religious duties?

Rather, is it not true that the amusements of almost a century ago had the same appeal to people, tho not so elaborate and varied as now?

The steam was followed by electricity, by radio and radium and discovery has revealed the secrets of nature and overcome the handicaps of health and longevity, there is no reason for soul starvation.

Tho some preachers want their independence and weaken reverence by denying the divinity of Christ, there is no reason for the pews being emptied.

The numbness caused by the appalling tragedies of the war and of political revolutions do not require assaults on faith to wake up and interest people, but a revival of the simpler life and comforting belief of normal times.

Some people hide behind the excuses that the churches are full of hypocrites and that Christianity is divided into numberless sects and creeds, but this is not tenable ground.

The world will have to get back to the simple faith and practices of the forefathers, as described by Mr. Depew, before any progress is made in the direction of building up the shaken foundations of the church.

There's a Reason

SOME farmers can work twelve hours a day on a piece of land and make a bare living.

Other farmers can work on the same piece of land ten hours a day and make a living and profit besides.

Some men can take a business enterprise, and not only fail to make a living, but go seriously into debt.

Other men can take the same enterprise, with all its handicaps, and make it profitable.

There's a reason for the difference.

The successful man studies conditions and analyzes suggestions and makes improvements as rapidly as it is possible for him to do so. His returns are in proportion to the activity of his brain.

The failure is slow to change. He doesn't take any stock in new fangled notions. What was good enough for his father is good enough for him. And that is all he gets.

When put to practical use, brains become a valuable asset. When merely carried around in a skull, they are useless.

The County Agent

THERE was a time when the county agricultural agent was not regarded as essential. In that day, farmers looked upon him with suspicion, because of his new-fangled ideas. Many thought he was going to try to tell them something different about farm work, when they were following the practices handed down from generations back.

Gradually the attitude of the farmer changed until he began to view the county agent as an integral part of the farm program, a necessary asset in intelligent agriculture development.

There is one danger in the situation, however. The tendency exists to take up too much of the county agent's time with organizations promoting production, marketing or social activities among the farmers.

This is not the real duty of the county agent, and the purpose of establishing this agency in rural communities will be defeated if farmers lose sight of the larger field for the county agent.

He is essentially a teacher and his work is educational in character. He is a public official, representing the state college of agriculture and the United States department of agriculture.

His duties lie along extension lines, rather than in organization executive work, and the sooner farmers appreciate this fact, just that much sooner will they realize greater benefits, because relieved from tedious organization work, the county agent will be enabled to distribute more helpful information in all fields of farm work, which is his real function.

Moralizers are not always moralists.

Tax-Free People

WITH less tax-free bonds, there would be more tax-free people, tho public improvements might suffer some in the immediate future.

More than a billion dollars, according to a recent survey, is diverted every year from agriculture and business by bonds, upon the income of which no taxes are paid.

Congress at its next session will have for consideration an amendment to the constitution which provides for taxing the income for future issues of state and municipal bonds by the federal government.

It also provides that states may tax the income from future issues of government bonds that are owned within their borders.

This is a knife that will cut both ways. It means that if the income from tax-exempt bonds of states and municipalities is taxed by the federal government, the states will retaliate by taxing federal bonds.

If this amendment is passed, agriculture and business will thrive as never before, because the tax-exempt bond is depriving industry of needed capital and shifts a heavier tax burden upon agriculture and business.

C. Bascomb Slemph may be a good presidential secretary, but he is a poor judge of styles in names.

A Good Sport

IT IS said that Calvin Coolidge died a martyr to the Young America idea of being a "good sport."

With a blister on his heel caused by playing tennis he stuck it out until he became delirious with fever. Then it was too late. The septic infection had spread thru his system and he did not have the endurance to throw it off.

Everybody admires a boy with courage, with "nerve" and Spartan-like endurance, but risking one's life thru a notion that it is weak to admit suffering, is not part of courage.

This is a fact that every American boy should learn. Health comes foremost in the life of every youth, for without it, he is handicapped in the struggles that come with manhood.

Health is impossible without good care of the body. Young Coolidge is not to be blamed for the course he pursued. He acted in accordance with the customs among boys.

It is a foolish idea that must be corrected by parents, because it may cost the life of many a fine specimen of American youth.

Pushing Ahead

IT IS an anomaly of American life that success is accepted as commonplace, while failure is described in all of its sensational details.

When the 'round-the-world army aviators started to encircle the globe, they met with the opposition of the elements which they could not overcome and which caused the commander to turn back.

But because of the smoothness with which the intrepid conquerors of the air are progressing toward their goal, we seldom ever see their names in print.

Yet they are overcoming almost insurmountable difficulties every day. With persistency and unflinching courage, they are pushing ahead.

The crews of the three planes have made their way three fourths of the way around the earth without serious accident of any kind.

The flight may be robbed of its alluring sensationalism, but the steadfast persistence of the fliers challenges the admiration of everybody, especially American citizens, because they represent the crusading spirit of our ancestors, whose courage and fearlessness carved the cradle of liberty in the western hemisphere.

The fellow who predicted there would be no summer in 1926 is not employed by the summer resorts.

No one has ever discovered any real excuse for whiskers, except as a disguise for the villain in the movies.

Winning an argument does not necessarily mean that you are smarter than the other fellow, but you have stronger lungs.

Bobbed hair is reported to have played havoc with the hairpin business, but it's an ill wind that blows nobody good, the barbers say.

The dawn-to-dusk flier beat the sun across the North American continent, but he can't make the trip every day like the sun does.

It is said that Cato learned Greek after he was 80 years of age, but nowadays when a man reaches that age, he certainly thinks there is little more to be learned.

Clothing

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HOMEWARD BOUND



RADIO HINTS

The tendency of the newest advance in radio art is simplicity of control. No longer is radio a complicated mass of wires and controls which discourage women in trying to master it. One of the best and simplest sets in the world is the one-tube, one knob set which takes two hours to assemble and hook up. With no manipulation all local stations can be tuned in quickly and long distance stations as far away as 2500 miles can easily be reached. Most of these sets will not, however, support a loud speaker.

I am asked to explain the variations of a condenser. Variations in condensers and coils correspond

to changing the tension and weight of a piano string. Such an adjustment, by changing the tuning, changes what is called the "natural frequency" of the radio tuner or the musical string. This natural frequency is the rate of vibration which is the easiest for the tuned system. If a piano string is tuned to the frequency of 250 cycles per second, which is the pitch of middle C, it will give off a note of that frequency whenever it is disturbed or struck. That happens because tuning the string to 250 cycles is nothing more than making its natural frequency 250 cycles, so that its easiest, or natural rate of vibration is 250 cycles per second.

Don't be discouraged if you "can't get anything" out of your set that acted so well in the shop. The cause is probably not in the set but in your aerial and your location.

A brass plate condenser is not as satisfactory as an aluminum plate one, because brass plates corrode quickly, especially if you are near oceans, rivers or lakes. Aluminum will not corrode and its resistance is low.

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