

WASHINGTON SIDELIGHTS

Servants Hardest Things to Find in Washington

WASHINGTON.—"Mrs. Wash'n'tn, deed Ise gwine t' quit you all. Ise sorry, but Ise got t' do it—Goo-by—Goo-by," said the dusky pantry queen who had worked in the senator's family for years with more or less satisfaction.

"You're not going to leave us?" inquired Mrs. Washington.

"Deed Ise got t' leave—goo-by—goo-by," returned Miranda. "Ise gwine t' w'k in one ob dem musicians factories—gwine t' git three dollars uh day an' gits mah nights often all de time an' mah holidays an' kin go see de parades on dem natural holidays. An' Ah doan haf t' w'k on Sundays—no—more—goo-by."

"But look at the risk you are taking; look at the dangers of working with explosives," cautioned Mrs. Washington, entreating the cook to remain.

"Deed taint no dangers, Mrs. Wash'n'tn, you jes gits blowed up onct in a while. In de kitchen you gits burnt up and scalded an' dar you is; but in de musicians factories you jes gits exploded all t' pieces an' whar is you? Ain't dat better?"

"Well, will you send me your sister, Blanches?"

"She bin w'kin three months in de 'ospital gittin' two dollars a day."

"How about your other sister, Rose?"

"Mah goodness, she's uh lady! She's runnin' de elevator in dat big department house on Connecticut avenue an' gittin' twelve dollars uh week. She doan do nothin' but push uh l'il han'le, an' ride upstairs an' push uh l'il han'le again an' say 'Wash' yo' step, please'—real polite, like dat—an' den go downstairs agin an' say 'uh book all de res' ob de day. She ain't nevah goin' t' w'k no more!"

This is not fiction; it is plain, serious fact that confronts the housekeepers in Washington. Servants are the hardest things in this city to find. The call to the factories and the government has depleted their ranks.

Capital Rapidly Becoming an Educational Center

UNLESS present signs fail, one important result of the war which will be of lasting duration will be the making of Washington the most influential publishing and educational center of the United States. This will fulfill one of George Washington's dreams of the capital city named in his honor.

The government printing office is the biggest printing plant in the world, but since America's entrance into the war the capacity of that plant has been hugely overtaxed. The government has been required to let many printing contracts to private firms, in spite of the fact that the law prohibits such a practice except in case of absolute emergency. But the emergency has been absolute, because of the enormous volume of publishing work incident to the war which the government has felt called upon to do. New York and Boston have regarded themselves as the publishing center of the western hemisphere and of the two New York has held the lead. Now, however, government publications are being issued at such a tremendous rate that their prestige is jeopardized. In addition, many magazines are published here, and it is understood many more are to be published, some moving from other cities. Some two hundred periodical publications are now being mailed from Washington.

So much scientific work now is being done at Washington, or at least directed from the national capital, that Washington is gaining much prestige as a center of science and education. The George Washington university in this city was founded by George Washington and it was his dream to make the national capital a great seat of learning and education.

The Catholic University of America is at Washington, and Georgetown university, one of the oldest in the country, also is located here.

Miss Jeannette Rankin Has Her Day in the House

WHILE scores of women, some of whom reached the capitol before seven o'clock in the morning, were fighting with door tenders in a vain attempt to force their way into the house galleries the day of the vote on suffrage, a modest little woman, low voiced and rather timid, was sitting among 400 congressmen on the main floor of the house of representatives watching them do exactly what she wanted them to do.

That woman was Jeannette Rankin of Montana, the only woman ever elected to congress. It was "her day." Several thousand men and women who filled the galleries of the house looked down on her, and all realized that hers had been no small part in the resolution over the time the resolution should be debated.

The main doors directly in front of the speaker swung open. Miss Rankin entered. A black stole was thrown over her left arm. She held a bunch of sweetheart rosebuds, tied with yellow tulle, in her right hand. From force of habit she dropped into a seat in next to the last row.

She got up immediately and went to the big mahogany table half way down the floor. Members taking an active part in the passage of bills always sit there. Miss Rankin threw her bouquet carelessly on the table.

Mondell of Wyoming, referred to by "Joe" Fordney of Michigan as the "Wyoming geyser," because he gushes so much in debate, leaned over the back of Miss Rankin's chair. He gave her a tip on how to get the resolution through. She smiled and nodded understandingly.

Chairman Baker of the suffrage committee left his place at the table. He had brought his committee clerk to the floor to handle his papers. It was the first time there ever had been a young woman clerk on the house floor. There will be more when suffrage is universal. She had on a black silk dress, white silk patch pockets, and collar of the same material with two sharp points in front.

Walsh of Massachusetts suggested that Baker allow Miss Rankin to open the arguments for suffrage. Baker was embarrassed, but agreed. Miss Rankin put her hand on the reading stand and looked at the speaker for recognition. She made a quiet speech for suffrage and was given close attention. She finished before her time expired and returned to her seat amid applause.

Government Clerks Likely to Get More Pay Soon

IT SEEMS as if the much-maligned government clerk is soon to come into his own. He has suffered for a long time on small wages. But now there are several bills in congress designed to help this financial situation. One of these measures, known as the Keating bill, stipulates temporary salary increases for employees making \$2,500 or less. The increases graduate from 5 to 30 per cent.

Another measure, known as the Nolan bill, provides that no person who has been in the employ of the government for three years and who is twenty years old shall receive less than \$3 per day, \$90 per month, or \$1,080 per year.

Hearings are now going on before congressional committees upon these bills, and it seems likely that one, if not both, will pass congress. The scale of living has increased so much in Washington that it is declared necessary for the clerks to receive higher wages in order to get along.

Neither of the bills is regarded as ideal. The Keating bill is only for temporary relief. In the case of the Nolan bill the clerks say that there are many in the ranks who, even though they receive more than \$3 per day, still need more money.

Even if both these bills pass congress there is a strong likelihood that still another bill carrying a complete reclassification of salaries will be drawn up and presented.



IMPROVED UNIFORM INTERNATIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

(By E. O. SELLERS, Acting Director of the Sunday School Course of the Moody Bible Institute, Chicago.)
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LESSON FOR FEBRUARY 17

JESUS TEACHING FIVE PARABLES—FOUR KINDS OF GROUND.

LESSON TEXT—Mark 4:1-20.
GOLDEN TEXT—Take heed therefore how ye hear.—Luke 8:18.
ADDITIONAL MATERIAL—FOR TEACHERS—Matt. 13:1-30; 26-43.
PRIMARY TOPIC—Jesus telling a story about sowing seed.
PRIMARY MEMORY VERSE—Be ye doers of the word.—James 1:22.

Jesus tells us plainly why he taught so much by means of parables (Matt. 13:10-13). The truth had to be taught; hence the parable, that those to whom it was given to know the messages of the kingdom, those who sought it, might know and understand, and that to the others it might be hidden (Mark 4:11, 12). Like all his parables, Jesus draws his pictures from the common experiences of life—the field, the home, etc. Paul draws his illustrations chiefly from the city, the army, the market. In studying this lesson we must turn to the parallel account as given by Luke and Matthew to get the full and complete picture.

What is the seed? Luke says that Jesus told his disciples that the seed was the Word of God (Luke 18:13). We get the same thought in verse fourteen of the lesson. A great deal is being made today of seed selection. Some wonderful results have been obtained. How much more important for those of us who deal with immortal souls that we select the best seed, i. e., the Word of God.

The second consideration is the sower (v. 4). Notice he went forth not to "sow," not as it recorded that he was "sore" because the people did not all receive the seed alike. He did not have a grouse; he did not enter into his work that he might receive the adulation of men (Matt. 6:2). It is, however, the "soil" that seems to be most emphasized in both the direct teaching and also the explanation of the parable. There are four kinds of soil. The manner by which the seed came into contact with each kind of soil is significant. Some fell "by" the wayside; the path was well trodden; the ground was preoccupied; e. g., it was used for other purposes than to yield a harvest; it was hard to be broken, and hence it was an easy matter for the birds of the air (v. 15) to come and pluck it away. We need to remember that if men receive with meekness the implanted word, there will, of course, be no such opportunity for the evil one. The trouble in this case was that the Word was not implanted. Thus it is that one-fourth of the seed is lost. The result is a deplorable one as we see from Heb. 2:1-4. Is the soil of our life so hard that God must drive the plowshare clean through it ere there is a chance for the seed to take root? (Ps. 129:3).

The next fell "on" the rocky ground. The first is a picture of the hardened, and this is a picture of the superficial hearer. For a time they did run well. They even received the Word with gladness (v. 16); but they had no stability because they had no root. They were superficial. There was no chance for the seed to get a real grip on their lives. The earth yields its increase though we do not understand. So God will add his 95 per cent to our 5 per cent. The oak tree comes from small seed.

In the third place Jesus speaks of the seed that fell "among" the thorns. Here is the worldly soil. It is not so much the character of the soil, it is the character of that which already occupied the soil ere the sower sowed the seed. The cares of this world, the deceitfulness of riches and "other things" had so entered in that the good seed never had a chance in the soil of the human heart. It was choked and yielded no fruit. There was no real grip of the will, no whole-hearted surrender. The cares of life that keep the housewife or the business man; the deceitfulness of riches that snare men and choke the word which at one time gave such promise in their lives; the lusts and other things which the evil one knows so well how to use keep us from the Word, for Satan knows that by it we are to be saved (Luke 18:12). Are we impulsive? Do we make vows soon forgotten, ties that soon fade away or fall beneath the temptations for lack of root? May God blast and turn up the subsoil of our hearts by strong convictions of sin, and so occupy the soil that there is no opportunity for other things.

We have thus seen three-fourths of the seed lost. Of the remaining fourth, that which fell "into" (R. V.) the good soil, not all yielded the same return. It all brought forth (v. 7); it all yielded; it all sprang up, but not all in the same ratio.

There are three distinguishing features of this last kind of hearers: (1) They hear the Word. These are the ones who appreciate its value and give good heed to its precepts. (2) They accept it e. g. they understand its teachings. They take it into good and honest hearts. (3) They hold it fast (Luke 8:15 R. V.). These are the ones of which martyrs are made.

Jesus was a great open-air preacher (vv. 1 & 2) and like all others he has various kinds of hearers the half-hearted hearer the shallow-hearted hearer. The way to reach the masses is to go where the masses are.

RAID ON CAR OF COAL MADE BY HUNDREDS DRIVEN TO DESPERATION



The seriousness of the coal shortage which brought about Doctor Garfield's drastic order is illustrated by this photograph. Hundreds are shown raiding a coal car in a yard at Philadelphia. They came with all sorts of wagons, carts, bags, perambulators, and anything and everything that could be used to carry the precious coal and loaded them up with a supply of the sorely needed fuel. No guard could have stopped the rush of people, who knew that they must get coal or freeze.

GERMAN NAVAL GUN, CAPTURED AND HAULED IN BY A BRITISH TANK



One of the massive British tanks, after having smashed the Hindenburg line in the great Cambrai battle finished up the day by bringing back one of the prizes of the victory, a 5.9 German naval gun. The tank lumbering through the muck easily hauled the big naval gun along in its wake.

AMERICAN AMBULANCE MEN DECORATED



Lars S. Potters of Buffalo, N. Y., and Theodore Miles of Mount Carroll, Ill., members of the American army ambulance corps, being decorated with the Croix de Guerre for gallant work on the western front. The men are lined up with several French Polus, who also were awarded decorations for acts of bravery. At the right is Mr. Miles, who was a Beloit college student.

CONDUCTOR WEDS A JACKIE



Because of the scarcity of male labor, women are being employed as conductors on surface lines in New York and elsewhere. And now girls are quitting their jobs to get married. The photograph shows Mr. and Mrs. Charles H. Lawver. Mr. Lawver when aboard one of Uncle Sam's cruisers is a chief gunner's mate and Mrs. Lawver is the first of the women conductors to fall victim to Dan Cupid's darts. The war is really responsible for it all. Lawver met his bride two years ago when she was Miss Jora Hannan. They had not seen each other until recently when Gunner's Mate Lawver boarded a Broadway car. Miss Hannan was the conductor, and one more war romance was added to the list.

HIGHLANDER BRINGING IN A PAIR OF BOCHES



During a recent British advance on the west front this Highlander was caught by the camera bringing in two Germans whom he had captured, and he was compelling them to carry in their own machine gun.

Lobsters Are Marked

Over 1,000 seed lobsters have been liberated along the Maine coast recently, and an additional 2,000 are ready as soon as the authorization of the commission of sea and shore fisheries is obtained for their liberation, says the Fishing Gazette. Every one of these has been marked and as they are the property of the state of Maine, it will be necessary for all lobster fishermen who may gather them in their traps to release them or stand the penalty of a \$50 fine which was provided in a new law enacted at the last session of the Maine legislature. The 1,000 female lobsters that were liberated recently were the first to be given the special marking, a small hole having been punched through the middle flipper, and those later to be released will have the same marking.