



SEVEN American league cities' club owners and managers, are already wondering how they are going to keep the Yankees from another common canter next season. So far they haven't found the answer. Maybe there isn't any answer. There is certainly no solace at hand in suggesting that the Yankees are growing old.



Grantland Rice

The vital statistics show that a ball player's prime is somewhere between 26 and 30. It is here he has the combination of youth and experience linked together. For example, Ty Cobb was 26 when he had his greatest season in 1911—when he batted .420.

How does this concern the Yankees? Well, DiMaggio is 27, Gordon is 26, Killer Keller is 25, Henrich is 25, Rizzuto is 23, Sturm is 25, and Bonham, Russo, Donald and Breuer are all under 29.

It's true that William Malcolm Dickey, better known as Arkansas Bill, is 34. But Dickey, always in condition, is good for 80 or 90 games, and Buddy Rosar, Dickey's understudy, is only 27. Red Rolfe is 33. Ruffing and Gomez are no longer in the kid class. But Priddy is only 22, and there is some first-class talent coming up from Newark and Kansas City.

The Yankees, in the main, are still a young team—a team that is in its active prime. And there is still Joe McCarthy at the head with his team blending influence. No wonder the other American league clubs are in a sadly baffled frame of mind.

For while the Yankees have been mauling all National league rivals with considerable gusto, they also have been mauling their own league just as lustily.

### Great Second Basemen

Joe Gordon's performance in the last World series will more than hold its place when the Hot Stove league opens its winter session.

In Gordon's case it might be remembered that he is still a young fellow, with 8 to 10 seasons left in his wiry system, and this is too soon to compare him with the masters of the past.

In this masters list you'll find Nap Lajoie, Eddie Collins, Frank Frisch, Rogers Hornsby—and these four are enough.

Lajoie, the most graceful of all ball players, was also a normal .350 hitter. Eddie Collins was faster than the big Frenchman and in addition was a .340 or .350 hitter. Hornsby was the best hitter of the lot with a consecutive four-year mark above .400. Bill Hanna, one of the wisest of all the baseball experts, always ranked Hornsby and Ed Delahanty as the two greatest right-handed hitters of all time—not even barring Wagner and Lajoie. Frank Frisch was another great second baseman, fast, aggressive, smart, and dangerous at bat.

It would be foolish to start ranking Gordon, in his fourth big league season, with these veterans who starred for 15 or 20 years each. I'll say in behalf of Gordon, however, that on the defense he can make plays I don't believe any other second baseman could match.

### About Third Basemen

In any event, there are no third basemen now around who even can be compared with the best of other years—Jimmy Collins of Boston, Bill Bradley of Cleveland, Buck Weaver of the White Sox, to mention only three.

Collins, a fine artist, was also a normal .330 hitter—almost as graceful at third as Lajoie was at second.

Buck Weaver is Ty Cobb's all-time pick and Buck isn't far away from the top. Red Rolfe, in better health, might have been a closer challenger.

Efficiency can also be costly at times. For example, there are the Yankees. They have needed just 36 games to win their last eight World series competitions.

If they had been somewhat less efficient and had needed the full seven-game quota to win their titles, these eight World series contests would have required 56 games. This means 20 possible extra games blown off the docket, or a matter of some \$3,500,000, which is quite a chunk of cash that combined ability and honesty have cost various club owners.

## IMPROVED UNIFORM INTERNATIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL Lesson

By HAROLD L. LUNDQUIST, D. D., Dean of The Moody Bible Institute of Chicago. (Released by Western Newspaper Union.)

### Lesson for November 9

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#### REPENTANCE AND FAITH

LESSON TEXT—Luke 15:11-24.  
GOLDEN TEXT—Repent ye, and believe the gospel.—Mark 1:15.

Sin with its devastating consequences has its only remedy in the salvation which is in Christ Jesus. He died to set us free from the penalty, the power, and ultimately the very presence of sin. However, His death, which was for all mankind, is effective only for those who in repentance and faith accept His redeeming grace and turn from sin.

#### I. Worldly Pleasure Brings Sorrow (vv. 11-16).

Selfishness is at the heart of sin, which is essentially self-will over against God's will. The younger son, who represents the sinner, wanted his own way. He suffered from

1. Restlessness Under Restraint (vv. 11, 12). The father loved his son and sought his welfare by proper parental control, but the boy wanted to be free to live as he pleased. God loves all men and seeks by loving and gracious restraint to lead them in ways of righteousness and peace. But they, while they want His blessings, are often eager to get away from His guiding hand.

2. A Request Resulting in Responsibility (vv. 12, 13). When the prodigal asked for his inheritance he took upon himself full responsibility for its use. The man who refuses to have Christ rule over his life assumes a grave and heavy burden which he is not able to bear.

It is an awful thing to rule God out of one's life, to attempt to steer a successful course through the stormy sea of life. Why do it? It will always result in loss and failure.

3. Riotous Living Leading to Reproach (vv. 13-16). In the "far country" he found for a time what we call "fun," but it led to bitter sorrow. To the flesh there are "pleasures of sin" (Heb. 11:25), but they are only "for a season"; that is, "very short lived—and they come high. 'The devil is not such a fool as to go fishing without bait.' The pleasures of sin are the devil's bait, and they always have a hook in them. If you bite at the devil's bait you will soon have the devil's hook in your gills and be in the bottom of the devil's boat" (John W. Bradbury).

The end of Satan's "fun" road was a pigpen in a far country. That may not always be literally true (although it happens often enough), but it is always true spiritually. Men and women are in a state of spiritual collapse and disgrace because they have rejected God's way. But there is a way out.

#### II. Godly Sorrow Brings Joy (vv. 17-24).

Paul tells us that "godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation" and thus differs from "the sorrow of the world" which "worketh death" (II Cor. 7:10). The prodigal found his way back to the father's house. First, there came to him

1. Remembrance and Realization (vv. 17-19). He began to think. If men and women could only be made to think we would have more repentance, but Satan tries to keep them too busy to think. He remembered what he had as a son in his father's household. What memories will your boy have in his hour of need? You are writing that record now.

2. Repentance and Return (vv. 20, 21). To repent means to change your mind, to turn your life in an "about face" from sin to God. Repentance calls for more than thinking or talking or praying. One must act. The young man "arose and came to his father." That was his part, and then came the father's—

3. Restoration and Rejoicing (vv. 22-24). The son expected to return as a hired servant, but his father restored him to full family fellowship. God is gracious, and the repentant sinner finds himself clad in the spotless robe of Christ's righteousness, wearing the ring of sonship, with shoes on his feet, so that he may go on the errands of his Father.

God's plan of salvation brings no half-way redemption. There are no stepsons or distant relatives in His family. It is a full salvation which brings glorious fellowship in life and service.

You who are still eating the husks of this world, who are in the far country tending swine, we invite you too to come to God and share in the rejoicing in the Father's house.

## ASK ME ? ANOTHER ?

A quiz with answers offering information on various subjects

#### The Questions

1. What is a jury-rigged ship?
2. What is the unit of lumber measurement called a board foot?
3. What was the first place in the British colonies in America to have slaves?
4. What Canadian province extends along the border from New York to Minnesota?
5. In Greek mythology what was the name of the monster with 100 eyes?
6. What is a bowdlerized novel?
7. Who was the financier of the

American War of Independence?  
8. Who made the Gibson girl famous?

#### The Answers

1. One rigged for temporary service.
2. One foot by one foot by one inch.
3. Jamestown, Va.
4. Ontario.
5. Argus.
6. An expurgated novel.
7. Robert Morris.
8. Charles Dana Gibson.

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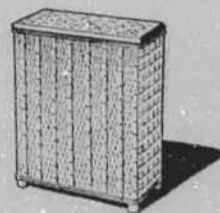
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