

THE BOOK

... the first line of which reads, "The Holy Bible,"
and which contains Four Great Treasures ...

by BRUCE BARTON

ACKNOWLEDGED BODY OF BOOKS

JOSEPHUS, the great Jewish historian, does not name the books of the Old Testament, but he limits the period of their production to the end of the Persian rule and gives the number as twenty-two, the number of letters in the



Bruce Barton

Hebrew alphabet. This was counting the five books of Moses one, the twelve minor prophets one, and certain other combinations. The Old Testament books that survived were in the old classic Hebrew. Those that bore a later stamp were received with suspicion, if at all. The other factor which tended to fix a canon, or acknowledged body of books was the translation of the Old Testament into Greek by a group of scholars whose work began under Ptolemy, King of Egypt, about two centuries before Christ. In this translation, called the Septuagint, or work of seventy scholars, was included a body of sacred literature already in Greek, the books known to us as the Apocrypha. These were a part of the Bible of Jesus and the apostles and were, of course, held sacred, as were also certain books from which the New Testament quotes, but which have not come down to us. The Apocalypse of Enoch is an example. Jude quotes it in the

first chapter of his little epistle, the fourteenth verse.

Thus, while certain books from the ancient Hebrew had come to be accepted before the time of Jesus as entitled to special reverence, the fringes and margins of that collection were still open to dispute and were, in fact, disputed vigorously for two hundred years. For instance, a very early bishop of Sardis who made a journey to Palestine for the express purpose of learning, if he could, precisely what books the Jews accepted as canonical, omitted Esther, Ezra and Lamentations from his list. And the question of whether the two books, Ecclesiastes and the Song of Songs, should be accounted sacred was not settled until the Council of Jamnia, about 90 A. D.

We may sum it all up by saying that the ancient books which were most used and gave most inspiration survived and, by being translated, secured a place for themselves in the canon. These include an out-and-out love song which has no religious motive; a book which does not mention the name of God, and another, Ecclesiastes, which is very contradictory. But the selection, made by the process of survival and on the basis of those books which were best beloved, is probably much finer than it would have been if a group of men, however devoted, had set themselves at any one time to assume the whole responsibility.

So much for the Old Testament. How were the New Testament books selected? Again, by the process of use.

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ROOSEVELT IN GOOD HEALTH

President Proves Fitness By Planning Western Speaking Tour

(Special To The Press-Maconian) WASHINGTON, July 24.—About the only person in Washington who is not completely worn out by work and worry in the jungle heat of a Capital Summer is the President of the United States. That fact is noted here to dispel rumors that the President's health is failing.

Washington's "silly season" always produces a crop of gossip and rumor about whoever happens to be occupying the White House. Sly whispers are exchanged, passed on and magnified in the passing, about the incumbent President's morals or his health. These get circulated around the country, until a lot of people who ought to know better than to credit irresponsible gossip, get to believe that there is something seriously wrong.

This year's gossip touches the President's health. Nobody is whispering about his morals, but you can hear in any bar or club, at almost any social gathering or even on street corners "inside" but false information to the effect that Mr. Roosevelt is physically in a bad way. The gossip mongers will tell you that the infantile paralysis, which has deprived him of the use of his legs for the past fourteen years, is creeping upward, affecting his nervous system and his digestion and causing his doctors alarm, etc., etc.

President Spikes Rumor

That is not true, but the rumor has become so persistent that the President himself took notice of it, and at a recent press conference called attention to his robust physical condition and the calmness of his nerves.

While he cannot take any form of exercise that involves the use of his legs, such as riding, golf or tennis, he gives great attention to keeping fit, gets his exercise by swimming in the White House pool for half an hour every day, and is probably now in better general health than when he took office.

He plans to demonstrate the truth about his health to the whole nation next month, when he will cross the continent and make several speeches at strategic points.

The President has one advantage over Congress, in that he sleeps in the same building that he works in, and does not have to expose himself to 100-degree temperatures in passing from one air-conditioned room to another. Congressmen, although their working quarters are air-cooled, cannot escape exposure to the torrid, humid climate.

The result is the greatest collection of frayed nerves and hair-trigger tempers ever gathered on Capitol Hill. Congress as a whole is physically unfit to debate calmly and reason clearly over any legislative proposal.

Senator Royal S. Copeland of New York, a physician and former Health Commissioner, said frankly and publicly the other day that such a worn-out, dog-tired, heat-mitten and generally run-down aggregation as the Senate and House at this time could not possibly give balanced, well-considered or statesmanlike judgments.

Look for Adjournment

Senator Copeland prescribed an immediate and long vacation, and the indications now are that Congress will act on that prescription and go home around the middle of August, perhaps earlier, leaving the President's new tax program for cooler consideration, either at the next regular session in January or at a special session beginning in November.

"The President has worn out, not himself but Congress," remarked one of the shrewdest Washington observers the other day. That is literally true, and the result is rather languid and indifferent approval of current Administration measures by a body of men who haven't enough energy left to be either critical or constructive.

All that is keeping Congress from adjourning this week is the pledge of the Democratic party leaders to Senator LaFollette that if he would refrain from offering his own "soak-the-rich" tax program at this session, and keep his Progressive followers on the reservation, they



Fall Suit Forecast

NEW YORK... June Clayworth, screen star, forecasts the Fall with a smart suit of green and gray wool. The plaid skirt is cut on the bias. The jacket is plain gray with novel metal fasteners. Green patent belt, plaid ascot scarf, gray hat with green band and gray bag and gloves complete the ensemble.

would put the President's pet plan through at once, at least to the extent of reporting a new tax bill out of the Ways and Means Committee.

The Crescent

Among fundamental patterns in nature, which, by the law of correspondence, mean so much in our mental and spiritual life, is the crescent, sign of Diana, or Artemis, goddess of the chase, forests, streams—and of the moon under which dew falls to replenish the earth. Her emblem is on the breasts of birds, in many variations in the vegetable world, as in the seeds of the mystic moonseed, Menispermum canadense, the beautiful woodland vine that lovers and poets like to find because it brings happiness.

Watch Your Kidneys!

Be Sure They Properly Cleanse the Blood

YOUR kidneys are constantly filtering waste matter from the blood stream. But kidneys sometimes lag in their work—do not act as nature intended—fail to remove impurities that poison the system when retained.

Then you may suffer nagging backache, dizziness, scanty or too frequent urination, getting up at night, swollen limbs, feel nervous, miserable—all upset.

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THE FAMILY DOCTOR

By JOHN JOSEPH GAINES, M.D.

THE DIETARY PROBLEM

I believe the time will come when DIET is reduced to an exact science, as it surely is destined to become. But not yet.

You will read all sorts of theories by men with differing ideas all of which expressions are based on varying experience. It is in that frame of mind that I am writing you this letter. More than forty years of experience and observation are behind what I shall say here. Hence I am more practical than technical in these remarks.

Formerly the doctor cautioned his patient against "dark meats" of any kind. In this ancient custom I am a reformer. If my weak brother can dispose of a dry lump of asbestos, like breast of fowl, it seems to me he can digest a cedar shingle!

I advise wing of chicken instead of breast, when I want my invalid to have real nourishment. To me

there is no more real food in the breast of fowl than there is in so much brown paper!

I have heard much of war against the use of pork and in favor of the flesh of the ox. I prefer mutton to either, for the invalid. If well-prepared I have been a substantial advocate of ham and bacon when my patient needed strength.

There are very few cases where I permit half-raw beef-steak. There are indeed times when actual blood must be introduced into the veins to sustain life. But that is not a strictly dietary procedure.

I have much of praise for crisped bacon in certain cases of debility I believe in meats being thoroughly cooked if the sick man be entrusted with them.

I am a friend of that easily-prepared, readily-digested, highly-potent dish, boiled bacon with spinach or other "greens" for "average cases" in weakened, run-down conditions that cry for strength.

Replacing Worn Money

A constant stream of used paper currency and worn coins runs from the banks into the treasury and is exchanged for newly made and minted money. The exchange amounts to millions a day. A \$1 bill, for instance, rarely is in circulation more than six months before it goes back to the treasury to be replaced by a new one. The old paper money is destroyed. The coins are melted down and reminted.

Founding of Oxford University

Traditionally, the founding of Oxford university was by Alfred the Great, about 871, but the authentic origin was the result of a quarrel between Henry II and Thomas a Becket, about 1164, when the king forbade English clerks to study at Paris, and they returning, boomed the school at Oxford. The earliest document giving the school of Oxford the title of university was in 1201.

FALSE TEETH

Needn't Worry

or Fall You

Don't endure loose false teeth as they are very embarrassing to you and your friends. They make your gums sore, and interfere with proper chewing. This is often a cause of indigestion. Thousands of grateful users of FASTEETH have found real security and comfort with their false teeth. It holds the plate tight all day, eases sore gums, sweetens breath,—cool and soothing to the mouth membrane. FASTEETH sprinkled on your plate each morning gives all day comfort. No gummy, sooty, pasty taste or feeling because FASTEETH is alkaline and will not sour or seep away. Buy it today at any drug store.

COMMON CAUSE OF BALDNESS

One of the chief causes of premature grayness, falling hair and ultimate baldness is lack of circulation in the scalp.

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