

NOVELS TO ORDER WAS HIS SPECIALTY

(By D. J. Walsh.)

MRS. AURELIA SMITH had enjoyed an affluent widowhood for more years than she cared to count. She also enjoyed a vague "poor health" which asked for little lunches between the three meals enjoined by normal civilization.

Most people in Lenville smiled on her vagaries with an amused tolerance; a few accepted her at her own valuation. These she liked. The tolerant she merely talked about.

But the librarian at the public library, Mary Fenn, frowned inwardly when she saw the slow, waddling form enter. Nothing ever suited Mrs. Aurelia. Modern fiction she abhorred. Style for her was not. Sense she shuddered from; nonsense she failed to understand.

Then came Leonard Varley. He was a nice young man with too much talent for happiness in a small community, and altogether too much good looks for a city with many girls. His aunt, Regina Wiles (one of those who tolerated Aurelia), declared he was like the young man in "Patience" he met by twenty lovesick maidens. The allusion hit Leonard, who knew his Gilbert and Sullivan, and he merely replied that if it were but twenty he could endure it, but it seemed more like a circus.

Regina told Mary, who was a pet of hers, and she sought to amuse Leonard. Mary professed herself far too busy finding suitable fiction for Mrs. Smith, who promised an additional room to the tiny fiction for Mrs. Smith, who had promised an additional room to the tiny library "when she passed on" if she could find sufficient novels "with happy endings, some tears and plenty of wholesomeness" while she lived. Otherwise the sum was to be diverted to a home for the Sons and Daughters of Those Who Died Young.

Mary in despair, at a Sunday evening supper, suggested that Leonard in the interests of the Lenville public library, himself write a novel with all the required improvements on current and classical fiction.

"By love I will," he cried, and darted from his aunt's dining room to start his masterpiece forthwith.

The "twenty (odd) lovesick maidens" grew weary of walking along Pine avenue. Leonard remained cloistered. His aunt considerably grieved at the corner drug store he was busy writing a book. She knew her broadcasting station.

In three months' time he had produced 30,000 words of such innate vividness that he was hopeful of its remaining with the obsolescent publishers to whom it was submitted. He whooped every time the mailman failed to offer him a bulky package. He took Mary to nice roadhouses where they danced until two o'clock in the morning. He drove his aunt reckless rides (which she liked, being still a redoubtable tennis player herself) and while Mary grew to like his fun and pep more each day, still, no hatless "returned with regrets" package made its reappearance.

At length a letter came from Messrs. Blite & Burberry the publishers. The book had been accepted by their reader. It stated, subject to the writer's consenting to change the title ("Suburban Still Subs"), which they declared, "might be considered by some of their readers to be a sarcasm," and provided a few more characters might be left alive and whole at the conclusion.

The sum offered was not large. But the publishers seemed sure of a large sale—"There is so little wholesome fiction published these days," they sighed. Leonard swore he could hear the sigh—and he whooped once again danced his aunt around the room and phoned Mary the news.

"You've saved my life," she cried. "Mrs. Amelia Smith is talking of calling her lawyer to alter her will this very afternoon, and now, well, I'm afraid you will have to meet her."

"But, of course, I will," he said. "Do I have to arrive in a hurry?"

"You foolish boy, of course not. Just tell her how frail she looks (she weighs 200 pounds) and that you think her hands are like Marie Antoinette's. And if any of your relatives ever did die young you might—"

"One of 'em was hanged at the age of twenty for smuggling in Cornwall in the old country in the Seventeenth century, and another was a drummer boy and was shot in the War of Independence."

"Well, talk about the caves of Cornwall and don't mention the smuggling. I can just see the nice, cheerful books that will go into that new addition after poor Mrs. Aurelia really has—"

"Done the wisest thing," replied Leonard, "and there is something else."

"Tell me later; there are ten old ladies at the desk waiting for books, and one of them is she."

It is only fair to add that Mrs. Aurelia was charmed with Leonard. He spoke feelingly of the smuggler's early demise and of his love for his aged mother, whose delicate hands played with the (smuggled) lace shawl his love had brought her. All painful details were deleted freely. Leonard gave himself up to an orgy of fatuousness that, he told Mary later, was like the proverbial tired business man at a feeble-minded show.

"We ought to thank Mrs. Aurelia," she said later, and then blushed. For why the "we"?

"We ought, indeed," said Leonard, "and that reminds me. You have not said if you will marry the new writer of fiction for the fatuous."

"I'll marry you if you want it, Leonard, for you're really nice. But only on one condition: After this one horrid success (and I am afraid it is going to be a big success, because there are such oodles of people like Mrs. Aurelia, who don't think and hate life as it is or ever has been), well, promise me you will write a novel for me in which nobody dies young and nothing unpleasant happens, excepting the kind of things that might happen to—well, for instance, to us."

"Two custom-built novels, eh?" exclaimed Leonard, drawing her pretty head down on his shoulder; "well, that one may please poor old Aunt Aurelia in one respect, too."

"How's that?" somewhat suspiciously.

"Happy ending," he grunted. And then they both giggled.

Windsor Chair in History

Should you have a Windsor chair, writes Catherine Shellabarger in the Brooklyn Eagle magazine, remember it was brought into vogue by King George I of England. King George, talking to one of his farmer subjects, admired the humble seat on which he sat, the back of which was made of slender spindles. He thought so much of the chair that he ordered a set made for his palace at Windsor and so established the popularity of the Windsor chair.

Among famous Americans who were partial to Windsor chairs was Thomas Jefferson. On this chair, with wide arms that served as a writing desk, and which also had a double seat, he wrote the first draft of the Declaration of Independence.

Archery

Butt shooting is an old English term which means the same thing as target shooting in the olden days the shooting grounds were equipped with banks of dirt, covered with sod, which formed the so-called butt. Over this sod was usually placed a piece of paper to act as a target, and the term "butt shooting" was used to distinguish it from rovers. Roving consists in shooting at various targets placed in fields at varying distances. The archers shoot from one to another, which helps develop their judgment of distances, and did in the olden days mean quite a lot to the yeomen, whose business was shooting the bow and arrow, and on days when they were not fighting they were in the fields practicing roving.

The Personal Touch

"I went into a hat store the other day," an observing individual remarked, "and the haberdasher said that no matter how carefully he placed a hat upon a man's head the prospective customer always gave it an extra touch, apparently to make it sit comfortably. Well, it is the same way in fitting a person with eye glasses. After adjusting them correctly the client will take a look at himself in the portable mirror, and then, in a majority of cases, he will just touch the spectacles, or the pince-nez, turn and twist his head to get the reflected effect, and be satisfied. But that little touch seems to be necessary to effect a comfortable setting of the glasses, but in reality doesn't disturb their position in the least."

"Alaska" Not "Alaskan"

Do not say "Alaskan," simply "Alaska." The territorial department of education for Alaska objects to the "b" ending of the adjective in Alaska can gold, Alaskan reindeer and Alaskan children, etc. The school bulletin says: "When Californians speak of their oranges they do not do so as 'Californian oranges.' Likewise it is Florida grapefruit, Iowa corn, Carolina cotton, or Pennsylvania coal. It is incumbent upon Alaska schools to let it be Alaska gold, Alaska salmon."

Tea for Plants

Cold tea poured over the soil in which house ferns are planted acts as a tonic and revives even dying ferns.

Improved Uniform International Sunday School Lesson

(By REV. P. B. FITZWATER, D.D., Member of Faculty, Moody Bible Institute of Chicago.)
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Lesson for April 13

THE CHILD AND THE KINGDOM

LESSON TEXT—Matthew 18:1-14; 19:13-15.

GOLDEN TEXT—Suffer little children, and forbid them not to come unto Me: for of such is the kingdom of heaven.

PRIMARY TOPIC—Jesus, the Children's Friend.

JUNIOR TOPIC—Jesus the Friend of Girls and Boys.

INTERMEDIATE AND SENIOR TOPIC—Growing in the Kingdom.

YOUNG PEOPLE AND ADULT TOPIC—The Sin of Neglecting and Misguiding Children.

I. The Greatest in the Kingdom of Heaven (vv. 1-4).

1. The disciples' question (v. 1). The prominence given to Peter in connection with the announcement of Christ's purpose to build the church and the payment of tribute with the "money in the fish's mouth, provoked jealousy on the part of the other disciples. The transfiguration scene revealed the divine person and the program of His kingdom. Seeing that the kingdom was to come to realization despite the tragedy of the cross, disciples wished to know their place of rank in the kingdom.

2. Jesus' answer (vv. 2-4).

He taught them by placing a little child in their midst.

(1) Condition of entrance into the kingdom (v. 3). The great question was as to whether they were really in the kingdom. Their behavior revealed the fact that they needed conversion. Before they could even see, much less enter into, the kingdom, they must be born from above (John 3:3, 5). (2) Whosoever possesses childlike humility is the greatest (v. 4). The child is dependent, lowly and modest. Those who have been born again, or converted, have these characteristics.

II. The Lord's Identification With His Believing Ones (v. 5-9).

1. Receiving the believer in Christ's name is receiving Christ (v. 5).

Through faith in Christ we become God's children and so completely is our life interwoven with His that He regards treatment of us as treatment of Himself.

2. The peril of causing a believer to stumble (vv. 6-9).

To cause to stumble means to give occasion for a moral fall. The particular reference was to the carnality and selfishness which were expressing themselves in their contention for pre-eminence. Their behavior was not only an injury, but a stumbling block to others. Everything causing one to stumble, though it be as vital as hands and feet, should be removed.

III. Believers Are Specially Cared for by the Heavenly Father (vv. 10-14).

1. They are under angelic guardianship (v. 10).

So precious is the believer in God's sight that angelic messengers are provided (Heb. 1:10). These angelic messengers have access to the very throne of God, even beholding His face. So high is the honor bestowed upon believers that the highest angels are sent to guard them.

2. The Son came especially to save such from their lost condition (vv. 11-14).

The Heavenly Father does not will that any one of these should perish. They are objects of the Father's seeking love. The salvation of the humble believer has been secured by the incarnation and the sacrifice of the Good Shepherd.

IV. Jesus Receiving Little Children (Matt. 19:13-15).

We should carefully note the setting of this text. Jesus had been speaking of the sanctity of marriage, which is the bulwark of the home. Into the sacred enclosure of the home come childhood to complete and enable it.

1. Children brought to Jesus (v. 13).

Doubtless they were brought by their parents. Many parents today who are careless as to themselves, desire to bring their children into touch with Jesus Christ.

2. Rebuked by the disciples (v. 13).

They regarded children as too insignificant to engage the Lord's attention. Christ places high value upon children.

3. The disciples rebuked by Christ (v. 14).

These words uttered by the Lord have placed a peculiar dignity upon the child. It is Christlike to care for children and no service in the world pays such large dividends.

4. Christ laid His hands upon the children (v. 15).

For More Peace on Earth

Less chestiness and more bow-downs make for more peace on earth.—Christian Monitor.

Dairy Industry Discards Timothy Alfalfa and Other Legume Hays Grow in Popularity as Feed.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

In the last few years there has been a great increase in the demand for legume hays on the part of the dairy industry, especially for alfalfa hay, and alfalfa, and other legume hays are displacing timothy hay for all kinds of live stock, because of their high value as food for the animal and for the production of animal products, their value in balancing the ration, and the economy in using them, says the bureau of agriculture economics, United States Department of Agriculture.

Decrease in Timothy Hay.

Statistics of the bureau show that in the seven years ended in 1929 the leading timothy hay producing states of the Great Lakes region—including New York, Ohio, Michigan, Indiana, Illinois, Wisconsin, Minnesota, and Iowa—increased the acreage of alfalfa cut for hay from one and one-third million acres to two and three-quarters million acres, and reduced timothy acreage from seven million acres to four and a quarter million acres.

Legume Hays Superior.

Experimental work in feeding dairy cows, says the Department of Agriculture, has repeatedly shown the superiority of legume hays over timothy for milk production. Although it is considered inadvisable to substitute legume hays entirely for protein concentrates in rations, farmers are being urged by the department to feed legume hays instead of less productive hays. Many soils, says the department, can be made suitable for the growth of alfalfa or clover by an investment in lime and phosphates. Many farmers in these states could increase their farm incomes materially by growing high quality legume hay for market, says the department.

Careful Planning for Two Vegetable Crops

By careful planning at least two good crops of vegetables may be taken off the same ground in one season. This system of succession cropping enables the gardener with limited space to supply a large quantity of palatable products throughout the season with little extra work.

Early crops, such as green onions, spinach, lettuce, peas, etc., may be followed by a second crop of the same kind or by beans, sweet corn, turnips, cabbage, cauliflower, carrots, beets, etc., according to A. M. Binkley, associate horticulturist at the Colorado agricultural college.

Many of these vegetables, when maturing in the fall, have the flavor and quality of those grown in the early spring.

Pulverize the soil from which the first crop was taken, make new rows and plant the seed or set out the plants as the case may be. Ex- care in irrigating and cultivating should be given these late crops during the hot weather.

Carefully Capping Silo Will Prevent Big Loss

If there is any silage left in the silo, it will probably prove to be exceedingly useful during the summer months when the pastures become low. Careful capping of the silage will prevent excessive loss due to fermentation and decay.

A covering of roofing paper, cut to fit the inside of the silo and weighted down with silage or dirt, has proved to be satisfactory, according to the reports of many cow testers. The idea is to prevent evaporation of moisture. When the moisture evaporates, molds will form, thus destroying a portion of the silage if it is not covered.

Some men also recommend smoothing off the top of the silage, packing it tightly and sprinkling with salt. The salt helps to seal the surface layer and also helps to prevent molds and decay. A layer of old newspapers, tar paper or similar material will also serve the same purpose.

Agricultural Hints

Corn is the great feed grain of the north central United States.

Other things being equal, it is better to buy baby chicks as near home as possible.

Soy bean pasture may be used in late summer and early fall when perennial pastures are short.

Chicks can be fattened in close confinement in storage brooders or fattening crates, and grade higher than range-fed birds when dressed.

PAIN'S

No matter how severe, you can always have immediate relief:



Bayer Aspirin stops pain quickly. It does it without any ill effects. Harmless to the heart; harmless to anybody. But it always brings relief. Why suffer?

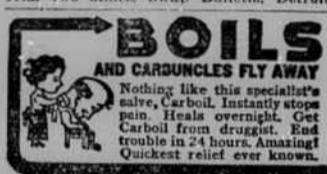
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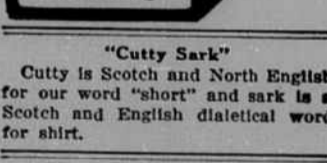
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A Rare Case

Blinks—Bill's wife has the utmost confidence in him, hasn't she? Jinks—Say, she even lets him buy his hats and suits without going along to do the choosing for him.

Kidneys bother you?

If troubled with backache, bladder irritations, and getting up at night, don't take chances! Help your kidneys at the first sign of disorder. Use Doan's Pills. Praised for 50 years. Endorsed by thousands of grateful users. Get Doan's today.



"Cutty Sark"

Cutty is Scotch and North English for our word "short" and sark is a Scotch and English dialectical word for shirt.



Makes Life Sweeter

Too much to eat—too rich a diet—or too much smoking. Lots of things cause sour stomach, but one thing can correct it quickly. Phillips Milk of Magnesia will alkalize the acid. Take a spoonful of this pleasant preparation, and the system is soon sweetened.

Phillips is always ready to relieve distress from over-eating; to check all acidity; or neutralize nicotine. Remember this for your own comfort; for the sake of those around you. Endorsed by physicians, but they always say Phillips. Don't buy something else and expect the same results!

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