

THE HOUSE THAT JACK BUILT

(© by D. J. Walsh.)

RUTH DEANE had been away from her home for many months. Her precious little "Sun-Trap" was a veritable haven of rest after the noisy city. But one morning she was awakened by a loud "Clang! Chink! Tang!"

Whatever could it be? Surely no sound save the song of birds should ever be allowed to break the stillness of a golden morning like this, and yet the clink of metal, the ringing of tools brought an odd consternation to Ruth's heart.

Suddenly she sprang out of bed. There was a heavy knocking of nails and wood carpentering. What could it mean?

Drawing aside the curtains with a hand that trembled with apprehension, Ruth's eyes were suddenly blinded by a mist of tears.

"Oh, it just can't be! Builders! Houses right opposite. How dare they?"

After dressing, Ruth went downstairs and out to the front yard. A young man, busy with his motor cycle beside the wall, raised his hat when he saw her.

"Pardon me," began Ruth, rather fiercely, "but what does this all mean? I mean this building opposite my home?"

"The Happy Homes' do not meet with your approval, then?"

"Approval? Their presence is an outrage in this glorious spot. They are hideously alike, and alike in being hideous. Mine has been a dream house of peace and beauty—and now—"

"Pardon me, but you have revealed in its peace and beauty so completely—for yourself," he said quietly, "that you have forgotten the teeming hundred of every city who have to live in two rooms—or even one. You call your house 'Sun-Trap,' I see, but what about the children who are robbed of their rightful heritage—sunshine and fresh air?"

"Who are you?" demanded Ruth. He shrugged his shoulders and his blue eyes met hers steadily.

"Does that matter? I realize that there is no more pressing problem to day than finding houses to live in. The 'Happy Homes' are just a small attempt to solve this problem for a few homeless people."

The man raised his hat and was off. Ruth's housekeeper told her what she knew of the man who was said to be putting up the houses. His name was Jack Reed and his name "big" in the building world.

But gone for Ruth was the perfect joy of her glorious little garden; gone was the keen enjoyment of the house which she had made a picture of perfection within and without.

But one day she thought that after all the man at the gate had spoken the truth. The very truth of his indictment against her selfishness had stabbed her to the quick.

Several times during the weeks that followed, Ruth heard the starting and stopping of a motor cycle. She could not forget that man.

The first tenant to arrive was a young man with a golden-haired wife whose happy eyes shone brightly. A few weeks later there was a baby's cry in the new house—the gift which had come to complete the joy of the young couple's home.

It was a day of sweltering heat and Ruth looked at the few wilted plants the young husband had found time to plant in the bare garden, then at her own rows and rows of bright blooms. Almost before she knew it she was cutting the finest of the roses, till her basket was full to overflowing. Ruth carried her offering across the road, murmured a kindly message for the young mother and hurried home before she realized what she had done.

Somehow after that the new houses did not seem the eyesores they had been before. She often saw the man on the motor cycle, too.

Two weeks later the golden-haired mother came over to thank Ruth for the lovely flowers she had sent.

Ruth laughed softly and said: "I am afraid I have been very selfish in the enjoyment of my garden. I am just beginning to wonder whether I have not missed the very best in life after all."

"W—! I never knew what real happiness was till my husband, and now my baby, came into my life," said the young wife. "We were obliged to live in furnished rooms for a year after we were married and were so cramped and the people did not like chil-

dren. Oh, I did hope that my child might open its eyes in God's own countryside. We owe it all to Jack Reed."

"Reed? One of the building firm?" asked Ruth.

"Yes," said the neighbor. "He is still a young man, but wishes to give away the fortune he inherited. He is an architect and works right with his men. He builds these homes so that salaried people may purchase them on easy terms."

The noise of a motor cycle was heard; the man they had spoken about came up the path.

"I was looking for you, Mrs. Roberts," he began. "I came to tell you that your sister's house will be finished in time for her wedding day."

The happy little wife clapped her hands; then bent over her sleeping son in his carriage.

"Do you hear that, my wee one? Aunt Madge is coming to live near us." Then, lifting her eyes to Ruth, she said: "Mr. Reed spends his life making other people happy."

He did not answer, but his eyes sought Ruth's in a fashion that sent a crimson tide to her cheeks and set her wondering why it was that this man with all the qualities of the true home lover should spend his days providing homes for others and not make a home of his own?

But that question and many others were answered one evening sometime afterward when Mrs. Roberts saw Ruth and Jack Reed standing very close together on the porch of "Sun-Trap," where he was now a frequent guest.

"They are going to be as happy as we are," she said ecstatically, running in quickly to tell her husband. "Oh, Roger, I bet the house that Jack builds for Ruth will be a charming one, but she deserves the very best."

Find Old Secret Passage

A game of golf near Barnet, England, over the North Middlesex golf course, resulted in discovery of the underground passage to a monastery. While the match was in play the rear wheels of an automobile owned by one of the players sank out of sight. Investigations disclosed that the wheels disappeared in the entrance of the underground passages of the old Cistercian monastery, lost for more than 400 years. The place originally belonged to the Cistercian monks but was sequestered by Henry VIII, at whose death it passed to Queen Elizabeth. The site of the monastery now forms a major part of the North Middlesex golf course.

Cannibal Microbes in Water

Magnifying a drop of water one million times reveals ferocious cannibal microbes which make vicious attacks on other less hardy breeds, or even set traps for the unwary ones, says Popular Mechanics Magazine. One of the species is a "savage roller" whose pincerlike jaws devour other microbes, and another is a "blad derwort," which, although a plant, is a "meat eater," setting netlike traps for itinerant microbes. At the New York Museum of Natural History a glass device which enlarges microbe life has been installed. Four years of work was necessary to make the model of life in a drop of water, which was blown in glass.

Beauty of Gratitude

Gratitude is one of those bridges which tie the ancient world to the modern, which link decent men and women of all ages together in the gentle bonds which end in the land of love. The way is dark, and many millions groping for love find it not. But the lantern of gratitude, shining in the gloom, will lead them as near to it as they can go here below.—Boston Herald.

Proud Old Spanish City

Toledo, ancient capital of Spain, is her most crowded city. Physically crowded—with narrow streets and buildings squeezed inside the walls, leaving not an inch to spare. It is crowded, too, with associations and memories: of Spain in her glory under Ferdinand and Isabella; of the Moors who came before; of Cervantes and El Greco, Spain's great artists.

Permanent Point

A permanent phonograph needle has been perfected which does not injure the records and which will play loud or soft music as desired. The pitch is changed by a small adjustment screw working near the needle point. The claim is made that 50,000 records may be played with one permanent needle.

Jewish Atonement Day

"Yom" is Hebrew for "day" and Yom Kippur means day of atonement. It is the tenth day of October and is observed by the Jews by fasting and continuous prayer for 24 hours.

Our Next Problem

It is estimated that the lack of efficient and economical distribution costs the country not less than seven or eight billion dollars a year.—American Magazine.

Improved Uniform International Sunday School Lesson

(By REV. F. B. FITZWATER, D.D., Member of Faculty, Moody Bible Institute of Chicago.)
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Lesson for April 27

GIVING UP ALL FOR THE KINGDOM

LESSON TEXT—Matthew 19:16-30. GOLDEN TEXT—Lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven. PRIMARY TOPIC—Giving Jesus First Place. JUNIOR TOPIC—Giving Jesus First Place. INTERMEDIATE AND SENIOR TOPIC—How Shall We Use Our Money? YOUNG PEOPLE AND ADULT TOPIC—Stewardship of Possessions.

The lesson title is likely to be misunderstood and the teaching misapplied. Christ did not directly, nor by implication teach that eternal life could be obtained by parting with possessions.

I. A Certain Young Man (v. 16). For a full view of the characteristics of this man, see Mark 10:17-30 and Luke 18:18-30.

1. His virtues.
(1) Courageous (Mark 10:7). He was of high standing—a rich young ruler (Luke 18:18, 23). To come to Jesus at this time might mean ostracism, but with manly courage he came.
(2) Earnest (Mark 10:17). He knelt before Jesus, thus showing earnestness and sincerity.
(3) High aspirations (v. 16). He wanted eternal life. Though taken up with the things of his present life, he felt the need of preparing for a life beyond.
(4) Pious and moral (v. 20). From his youth he had conformed to God's moral law.
(5) He believed that Christ could inform him of the "good thing" to be done to inherit eternal life.

2. His errors.
(1) About Christ (v. 16). He esteemed Jesus to be good, but did not apprehend Him as God; otherwise he would have known Him not merely as one who did good, but as one who is essentially good; that is, God.
(2) Concerning himself. He thought he was good and that he could do something good.
(3) Concerning eternal life. He thought that it could be obtained by good works. He did not know that the only way to gain eternal life was to receive it as a gift from God (Rom. 6:23).

II. The Lord's Dealing With Him (vv. 17-22). Jesus skillfully led the young man to see his errors.

1. His question—"Why callest thou me good?" (v. 17). Before giving him a chance to answer He declared that only God was good, as if to say, "I am good, and therefore God." He was God manifest in the flesh, and repudiated the thought of being known merely as a good man.

2. Jesus' answer to the young man's question (vv. 17-20). "If thou wilt enter into life, keep the commandments," Christ met him here on his own ground, namely, that of the law. He took the young man's level that the young man's real worth might be revealed (Rom. 3:19, 20).

3. Christ's command (vv. 21, 22). Replying to Christ's citation of the commandments of the law, the young man asserted that he had kept them from his youth. Yet in his inner conscience he knew that there was something lacking. When he had to make the supreme decision between Jesus and his possessions, he chose wealth.

III. The Relationship of the Rich to the Kingdom (vv. 23-26). This teaching concerning the peril of riches was most timely. Covetousness was fast taking hold of the people.

1. It is difficult for the rich to enter into the kingdom (vv. 23, 24). This difficulty lies not in the possession of riches, for a man may possess great riches and be an heir of the kingdom. Money in itself is essentially good. It will help the poor and help bring the gospel to the lost. The difficulty lies in trusting in riches.

2. Entrance into the kingdom, though difficult, is possible (vv. 25, 26).

(1) It is possible for the grace of God to sanctify riches, to open a man's eyes that he may see his downward course and repent, to change a man from self-seeking to self-sacrificing.

IV. Rewards for Following Christ (vv. 27-30).

Those who turn their backs upon their kindred and possessions for the sake of Christ shall receive an hundredfold in this life, and eternal life in the world to come.

Obedience is the secret. Not slavish obedience, but sympathetic, loving, eager obedience. "His delight is in the law of the Lord." May the law in holiness be to me welcome as the light, sweet as the flowers, more to be desired than much fine gold.—W. L. Watkinson.

Cool Milk Right to Prevent Loss

Work Is Easily Done With Little Additional Equipment of Labor.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

Dairymen in the United States lose millions of dollars annually because of poorly cooled milk and cream, says the United States Department of Agriculture in Farmers' Bulletin 976-F, "Cooling Milk and Cream on the Farm," a new edition of which has just been printed. These losses occur because inferior milk or cream is returned by dealers to the farmers, and because low-grade products bring low prices.

Ice Is Available. Eighty per cent of the country's milk and cream supply is produced on dairy farms where ice is available, the bulletin says. Even where ice is not available, milk and cream, by better use of available cooling facilities, may be cooled more effectively than is often done.

The bulletin points out the necessity for prompt cooling of milk and cream and discusses the use of surface coolers, milk-cooling tanks, well or spring water, and mechanical refrigeration. Keeping milk cold during shipment and winter care and handling are other subjects discussed. Proper cooling is just as important with cream as with milk, especially as cream is often delivered less frequently than milk. Proper cooling is easily done with little additional equipment and labor.

Copies May Be Obtained. Farmers' Bulletin 976-F is a revision of an older publication bearing the same title. It may be obtained from the office of information, Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C., as long as there is a supply available for free distribution.

Station Says Hens Lay in Cycles or Clutches

Do you know how your hens lay? At the West Virginia experiment station the poultrymen studied the time factor of laying hens. They found that hens laid in cycles or clutches. The rate of laying is directly in proportion to the number of eggs laid in a clutch.

When a bird lays for several days in succession the first egg of the cycle or clutch generally is laid relatively early in the forenoon. The remainder of the eggs are laid later and later on succeeding days, the last egg of the cycle being laid relatively late in the afternoon. Then the bird ceases to lay for one or more days, and when a new cycle is started, again the first egg is laid early in the forenoon, and so on. The length of the interval between the laying of successive eggs is fairly uniform for any particular bird.

The data examined apparently justify the following conclusions:

The longer the cycle, the shorter are the intervals between the laying of successive eggs.

The interval between the laying of the last two eggs in a cycle is usually greater than any other interval in the cycle.

The intervals between the laying of eggs at or about the middle of the cycles are shorter than the intervals at either extremity.

As the birds become older the intervals between the laying of successive eggs become longer.

The shorter average intervals between the laying of successive eggs are usually associated with the more prolific layers.

Agricultural Notes

Manure for alfalfa land should not contain much straw and should be applied before growth starts.

The place in the rotation that gives the best returns for manure is either on clover sod before corn or on the land after it is plowed for corn.

Sweet clover plowed under often increases corn yields 20 to 30 bushels per acre over the previous crop when no sweet clover was plowed under.

No matter how large or small the space, the fruit garden should be planned for a continuous supply of the various kinds throughout the season.

An early spring application of a quick nitrogenous fertilizer is very helpful in a sod-mulch orchard. The first mulch can be applied early in spring.

The cheapest and most certain method of improving crop yields is by the use of clovers and manure. Some farms will not grow clover without liming.

Way to Get At a Cold Is Through the Bowels

As soon as you catch cold, the pores close; perspiration is checked. Gases and waste can't escape through the skin. That's why your doctor's first advice in case of colds is a mild laxative like cascara. Medical authorities agree it actually strengthens bowel muscles. You get cascara in its most pleasant form in candy Cascarets.

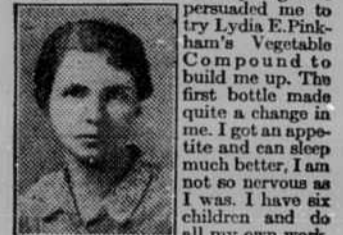
Remember this when you catch cold; whenever breath is bad; tongue coated; or you're headachy, bilious, constipated.

Why resort to harsher things when Cascarets activate the bowels so quickly, so harmlessly and pleasantly—and cost only a dime?

TOOK IT TO BUILD HER UP

Strengthened by Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound

La Junta, Colo.—"After my little daughter was born, one of my neighbors



persuaded me to try Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound to build me up. The first bottle made quite a change in me. I got an appetite and can sleep much better. I am not so nervous as I was. I have six children and do all my own work.

I can do so much more now than I could when I began taking the Vegetable Compound and I shall certainly recommend your medicine whenever I have an opportunity."—Mrs. JOHN OSBORN, R. #2, Box 216, La Junta, Colorado.

Men! Use Creasine. It keeps your trousers "sprink and span." 50c. Clothing Specialty Service, 317 Forster St., Harrisburg, Penna.

BOILS ENDED IN 24 HOURS

No matter how large and stubborn, Carboll instantly stops pain, ripens and heals worst boil or carbuncle often overnight. Get Carboll today from druggist. Pain ends like magic. Boils vanish with amazing speed.

Cheaper Railroad Ties

Metal railroad ties from used rails are coming. The General Electric company can make them for 60 cents, says Capper's Weekly. Wooden ties cost \$2.50. The scrap value of the metal, however, is \$2.50, but this still may be recovered whenever a metal tie is discarded. One eastern railroad will adopt the new ties which are economical and will save our dwindling supply of timber. They will go to make a more substantial roadbed on which before many years trains may run at a speed of from 100 to 200 miles an hour.

A story written by a modern "intellectual" seldom comes up to one by Alexandre Dumas.



Makes Life Sweeter

Next time a coated tongue, fetid breath, or acrid skin gives evidence of sour stomach—try Phillips Milk of Magnesia!

Get acquainted with this perfect anti-acid that helps the system keep sound and sweet. That every stomach needs at times. Take it whenever a hearty meal brings any discomfort.

Phillips Milk of Magnesia has won medical endorsement. And convinced millions of men and women they didn't have "indigestion." Don't diet, and don't suffer; just remember Phillips Pleasant to take, and always effective.

The name Phillips is important; it identifies the genuine product. "Milk of Magnesia" has been the U. S. registered trade mark of the Charles H. Phillips Chemical Co. and its predecessor Charles H. Phillips since 1875.

PHILLIPS Milk of Magnesia