

DYNAMITE FOR THE JAM

The International Sunday School Lesson
For November 26 Is "Jesus the
Great Missionary"—Luke 8

By WILLIAM T. HALL.
Lumbermen used dynamite to break up a desperate jam of logs in the spring drive. Is not that figure appropriate for the congestion of forces and events that today halts the smooth progress of civilization? Whoever way we look, things are "jammed." Where is the power to break open a way?

At once we remember the origin of that word "dynamite." It is Greek, and is the very word used by Jesus in his farewell promise to his friends, "Ye shall receive power" or "Dunamin." Christians should be dynamite! What is more, it was in connection with the great missionary commission that Jesus promised the gift of "power" or "dynamite" to his disciples.

When this old world got into a jam in 1914 the workmen to whom the task belonged, called statesmen, tried to pull it loose with diplomatic red tape; and later attempted to pry it apart with guns. In vain. Super-philosophy, or "Kultur" also failed. Treaties were drawn as wedges between the most obstinate logs, but without effect. After the armistice, the conference crowd was attempted, but it also was futile. All the devices and instruments known to man were tried, one after another, but today the entire structure of civilization is menaced by the flood which has been formed by the backed-up waters behind the jam.

Nothing is now left as a method of deliverance except dynamite, the "dunamin" of the New Testament. If Christianity cannot break this perilous jam, there is no other rescue in sight. That is why it is the most desperate present business of the Christian church to apply the "power" promised by Christ, to the conditions of our time.

Using the Amplifier.

Frankly, the Christian church is still slumbering, so far as actual participation in the world emergency is considered. Most ministers and their members are not even aware of the tragic failure of Christianity at the outbreak of the war, during the war and since. If the reader has any doubt about this, let him attend any meeting of clergymen, or any general ecclesiastical assembly. He will find the discussion, conducted in the stereotyped phraseology of a hundred years ago, confined to mere matters of millinery and methods, the shop talk of complacent craftsmen who do not know that the world is

afire all about them. The nearest that most religious organizations came to sensing the significance of the world-war was to use it as an opportunity for getting more money out of a sensitized public.

No open-minded person can contemplate the condition of crisis in the world, especially with respect to Christianity's possible part therein, without perceiving the humiliating fact that the church is today divided and squabbling, to an unwonted degree; and instead of moving toward war, she is taking refuge in institutionalism and in faction and in shibboleths.

All the while the call is for the use of an amplifier, such as was employed at the dedication of the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, whereby a hundred thousand persons could hear as one man. The church has the word. Here is the power. In the midst of a world which she is custodian there is life for the world. And God, who has put all things under His feet, has prepared the world, by the new marvels of science, to receive the good news with celerity and certainty.

As Man of Science Sees It.
In all the round of discouraging facts concerning Christianity's somnolence at the hour of destiny, none is more alarming than the evidence that so many men are apparently through with the church. They neither attend her services nor show any interest in her programme. They have passed by her. The proof of this is found in the empty pews of most houses of worship, and in the public prints and in the casual talk of thoughtful persons.

A recent magazine, the October Century, contained a depressing article by President G. Stanley Hall, theologian and psychologist, upon "The Stagnation of Civilization," wherein he points out the characteristics of present conditions, as revealed by current literature, and some possible remedies. With sadness he dismisses the church as inadequate. He seems to think that dynamite, "power," has gone from her.

This is startling, shocking, smothering. Doubtless it is all needed. Christianity may be vitalized into full and normal functioning by the shafts that are being hurled her way. As it Was, And Is
All of us have read, and I myself have seen, the story of lives changed by the power of the Christian gospel. Nothing can separate me from the conviction, born of personal experience and observation, in our great American cities, and in the principal foreign mission fields of the world, that the one agency equal to making over society as a whole is the truth that I have seen transform individual men and women. As it was in the days of Jesus, so it is in our own time, the gospel is dynamite, "power," to break up the jam of sin and let loose the beneficent currents of life. This is as great a reality as any other attested fact of history. It supercedes heredity and environment and education. The gospel of Christ possesses power to make life new. It has had the power to blow up old civilizations and systems and methods of life. It has literally transformed the nature of entire nations that have come under its authority. From the over-civilized Roman to the uncivilized man of the jungle, Christianity has made new creatures, saints of God, walking in holiness and beneficence. My friend Dan Crawford from "the center of the center of Africa," writes me of tribes of savages made into joyful Christians, true to the New Testament type. My own memory recalls a long line of such in Japan, Korea, China, India, Turkey, Egypt and Syria. The gospel works whenever truly tried.

A Kingdom Teller
Recently a friend came to me in great concern over certain signs of heterodox preaching. I could only affirm to him that "the truth does not need to be defended, but only proclaimed." As we read of Jesus, in this lesson chapter, touring cities and villages, "preaching and bringing the good tidings of the kingdom of God," we perceive that likewise what the truth needs today is simple proclamation. In the homeland, in our Christian pulpits, is the halls of state and in heathen lands, we have but to tell and retail the story that makes over individual men and women, and transforms all their relationships. There is health and wholeness for civilization in a gospel preached and applied.

One would be less than fair to the application of this missionary chapter to our times did one not recall that part of the missionary work of Jesus was the driving out of devils. Some scoffing saints would draw a veil of charity over the act of the Master as he consigned the evil spirits to the swine, so that all this good pork went to waste in the waters of Galilee. They shut their eyes to His wielding the whip of cords to drive out the corrupters of the temple. His "woe unto you, ye hypocrites" shocks their sense of refinement. They profess a faith that would hurt nobody's feelings. The most corrupt and corrupting political crooks will never receive anything but kind words from these good and gentle spirits; who politely allude to the devil only as "His Satanic Majesty."

Such sweet and tolerant and spineless folk might be good citizens of heaven; but they are poor missionaries of the righteous Christ on earth. When Jesus walks our world today it is with words of love and enticement for the weary and the penitent; and with biting, lashing words of scorn and condemnation for all who do disservice to mankind and dishonor to God.

SEVEN SENTENCE SERMONS
Life is a progress and not a station.—Emerson.

The greatest of all faults is to be conscious of none.—Carlyle.

Let a man content to the uttermost for his life's set prize: The sin I impute to each frustrate ghost

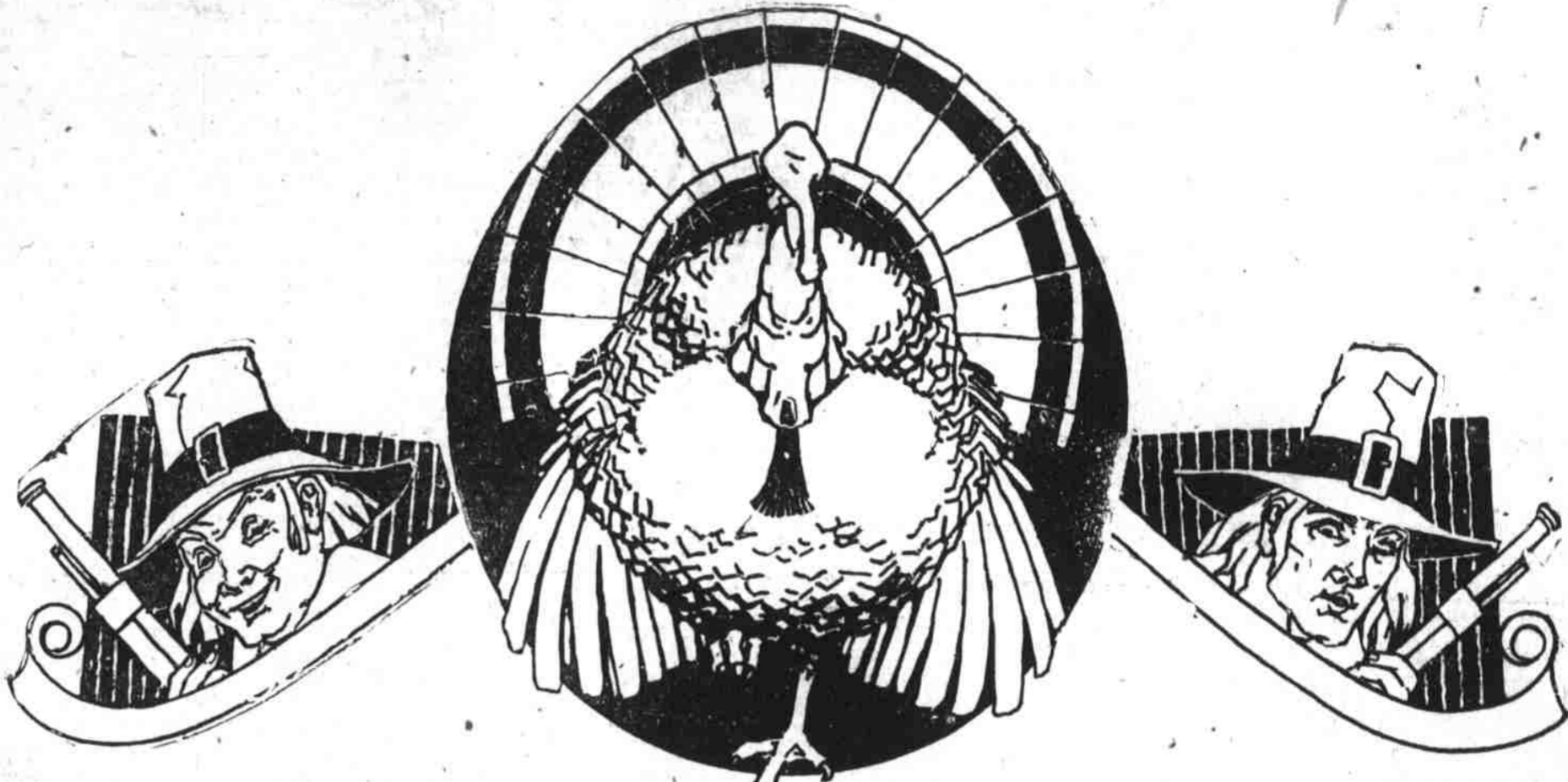
Is—the unlit lamp and the unglint loil.—Browning.

Let a man stand where he will, there is a chance to be and to do, ways without number of bearing the crosses of love and making its sacrifices.—Hamilton Mabie.

I was eyes to the blind, and feet was I to the lame.—Job 29:15.

It matters not how deep entrenched the wrong
How hard the battle goes, the day how long;
Faint not—fight on! Tomorrow comes the song.—Maitlis D. Babcock.

Do life's plain, common work as it comes, certain that daily bread and daily duties are the sweetest things of life.—Stevenson.



\$1 DOWN GETS THE GOODS

Clothing for Thanksgiving Just One Dollar Is All You'll Need

Bear in mind that this is not a regular installment house. It is built up on an entirely new and improved credit system. Only difference between this and a cash store is that we allow you to dissolve your account by paying what you can spare each week or each pay day, while the cash store requires complete settlement in 30 days or the following month. Now you don't miss paying a dollar or two do you? But it is not always convenient to settle the whole bill in one payment, is it? So why pay cash or open a 30-day charge account, when you can have it charged indefinitely here.

Don't Bother About the Money

\$1 DOWN GETS THE GOODS

**Don't Baby
Corns—Use
"Gets-It"**

Thousands of people have only
yellows to blame for corn agony,
poison, etc. Trimming and

"treating," cutting and paring merely makes a bad matter worse. Millions of others are wiser. They know how easily and quickly "gets-it" shrivels and peels corns and calluses off—in one place. Get your money back if it fails. Wear new shoes with comfort. Get a bottle today. E. Lawrence and Co., Mfrs., Chicago. Costs but a trifle—everywhere.

**ACID STOMACH!!
MEALS SOUR OR
FORM GAS, GAS**

Chew a Few Pleasant Tablets
Indigestion Gone!



Instant stomach relief! Harness! The moment "Paper's Diapedin" reaches the stomach all distress from acid stomach or indigestion ends. Immediate relief from flatulence, gases, heartburn, indigestion, fullness or stomach pressure.

**HEAD STUFFED FROM
CATARRH OR A COLD**

Says Cream Applied in Nostrils
Opens Air Passages Right Up.

Instant relief—no waiting. Your clogged nostrils open right up; the air passages of your head clear and you can breathe freely. No more hawking, sniffing, blowing, headache dryness. No struggling for breath at night; your cold or catarrh disappears.

Get a small bottle of Ely's Cream Balm from your druggist now. Apply a little of this fragrant, antiseptic, healing cream in your nostrils. It penetrates through every air passage of the head, soothes the inflamed or swollen mucous membrane and relief comes instantly. It's just fine. Don't stay stuffed-up with a cold or nasty catarrh. hd



Easy Credit on Stylish
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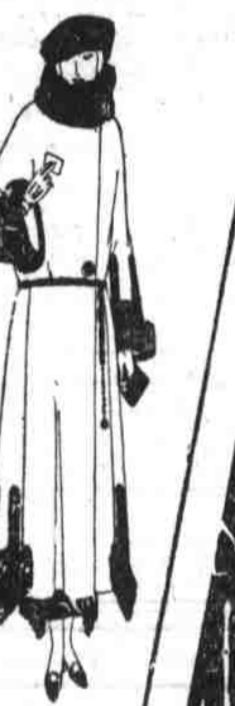
Thousands of new Overcoats — all good makes. These garments were purchased from a prominent New York manufacturer at a big concession, and you won't find a better time than right now to buy. They are the world's most perfect materials.

Priced **\$15.00 UP**

Your Own Terms on
Suits

Not even for cash can you go to another store in the city and duplicate the beautiful models shown here. Exclusive from every point of view. All the newest materials. All the newest shades. Just a Dollar Down will deliver you one of these handsome Suits.

Priced **\$29.50 UP**



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BOYS' SUITS
Plenty of Suits for the youngster, and they are made to stand by him — and on the easiest plan **\$12.98**

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