



1—Types of German war prisoners employed in building camps for the American troops in France. 2—English women, wearing protective masks, filling gas shells in a munition factory. 3—American steamship Lackenbach which was sunk by a German submarine three hours after destroying a U-boat with gun fire. 4—Miss Ann Morgan, sister of J. P. Morgan, who has been decorated by the French minister of agriculture for her work in the rebuilding of ruined villages in the Alsace district.

AMERICAN AND CANADIAN SOLDIERS FRATERNIZE IN PARIS



American and Canadian soldiers fraternizing in one of the boulevard cafes of Paris. They always enjoy themselves in the French capital when on leave.

ENGLISH SEND TANK TO THE UNITED STATES HORSE, ALSO, HAS GAS MASK

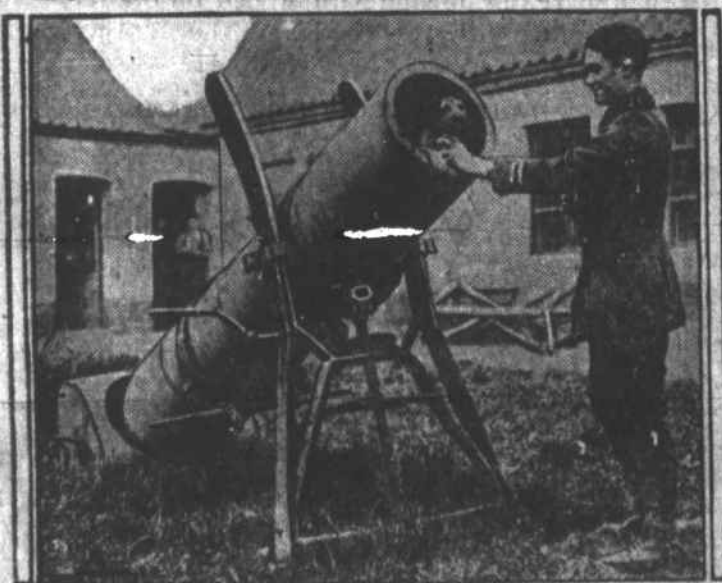


A British tank which but a short time ago was waddling across No Man's land in France has arrived in the United States with its crew of eight, all of whom have seen active service with the British land monsters on the western front. It was sent by the courtesy of the British government to be used as a war exhibit and is here shown being unloaded at a New York port. The portrait is of Capt. Richard Hatch, commander of the tank crew, who has been wounded twice and was awarded the military medal.



Both man and horse now wear gas masks at the front. The troopers in the front trenches long ago found the tanks a necessary protection against the poisonous fumes blown over from the German trenches, but it is only recently that protection of the same sort has been devised for the horses used at the front, though they are as susceptible as their masters to poison gases.

GERMAN TRENCH MORTAR MADE OF WOOD



This big German trench mortar was captured by the Canadian troops in a recent advance near Lens. It is made of wood and bound with strong wire.

CITY KITCHEN STOPS WASTE

Vegetables Received at New York Pier in Broken Crates Are Being Utilized.

New York—Vegetables received on steamship and railroad piers in broken crates or imperfect containers here are being utilized by the new city canning and drying kitchen as one of the many methods adopted by the New York city food aid committee to prevent waste in food supplies. The kitchen, located in an East side public school, purchased at bargain prices 70 cases of cabbage and hundreds of barrels of potatoes, beans and foodstuffs reaching here last week, which were wasted because of imperfect packing. For the present the kitchen will be operated eight hours daily, but later the time will be doubled.

For Convalescent Soldiers. Washington.—Convalescent homes for soldiers are being built at Fort McPherson and Fort Oglethorpe, Ga., by the Red Cross war council. These are for the use of men who may fall ill in the training camps, and who are able to leave the hospital but not yet able for duty. Amusement and recreation will be provided.

The Same Thing. "Mamma," said five-year-old Paul, "is there a country of Lard and what kind of a flag has it?" "No, there isn't," said his mother. He thought a minute and said: "Mamma, it wasn't Lard at all; it was Greece."

INTERNATIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

By REV. P. B. FITZWATER, D. D., Teacher of English Bible in the Moody Bible Institute of Chicago. (Copyright, 1917, Western Newspaper Union.)

LESSON FOR NOVEMBER 18

NEHEMIAH'S PRAYER ANSWERED LESSON TEXT—Nehemiah 2:1-11. GOLDEN TEXT—Ask, and it shall be given unto you.—Matthew 7:7.

It was four months after Nehemiah learned of the desolation of Jerusalem that he had the opportunity to make known his request to the king. Just why he did not test the king's attitude toward him and his project earlier, we have no information. Perhaps there was no great function at which he was called upon to minister in this interval, or his turn of service had not arrived, or his duties were so exacting that no opportunity was afforded for him to unobscure his grief to the king.

1. Nehemiah's Request to the King (vv. 1-5) (1) Its occasion, v. 1. An cup-bearer he was ministering before the king. The cup-bearer was more than a mere valet. He entered very closely into the life-interests of the king, so that the inner life and spirit of the cup-bearer was known. It was expected of such servants that they manifest perfect happiness while in the presence of the king. To appear in his presence otherwise would likely be to the displeasure of the king. Nehemiah's sad countenance, while thus serving awakened the king's suspicion. The matter was serious for Nehemiah was afraid under the circumstances.

(2) The king's inquiry, v. 2. The king perceived that Nehemiah's countenance was sad, though he was not sick, and he knew that something extraordinary had come into the life of his cup-bearer.

(3) The effect upon Nehemiah, v. 2. His heart was filled with fear. He did not know what this inappropriety was so great as to cause his dismissal. His fear was more than that of losing his position; to be dismissed from being cup-bearer would mean the loss of an opportunity to present his request to the king; and without the king's sanction and aid, his enterprise would fall.

(4) Nehemiah's tactful reply, v. 3. He seeks to conciliate the king by expressing a deep interest in the royal life and person. He says: "May the king live forever," and then tells that the cause of his grief was the desolation of the city where his fathers were buried. This note of patriotism met a response in the king's heart, causing him to inquire as to his wish.

(5) The contents of Nehemiah's request, vv. 5-8. (a) To be sent to Judah to build the walls of Jerusalem, vv. 5, 6. This request virtually meant to be granted a leave of absence from the Persian court and to be appointed military governor of that part of the kingdom of Artaxerxes. The king, doubtless, saw that such a move would be of particular benefit to his kingdom, politically, owing to the strategic position of Jerusalem, between Babylon and Egypt. In the case of the breaking out of hostilities between these powers, to have a fortified city in Palestine would be of immense importance. At the king's request, a definite time was set for this leave of absence, v. 6. He remained in Jerusalem for twelve years. A side light on the king's gracious attitude toward Nehemiah is given in this: "The queen also sitting by him." She is not named, but in all probability it was Esther. Her presence would embolden Nehemiah to ask, and influence the king in granting the request. She had "come to the kingdom for such a time as this," Esther 4:14.

(b) For letters to the governors beyond the river, v. 6. Doubtless the path of his journey was a dangerous one, and the travelers' safety depended upon having credentials from the king. These letters were more than mere credentials. They were orders for actually conveying him and his party to Judah. Ezra, years before, had desisted from taking a band of soldiers, but Nehemiah was free to ask such a favor. It was right in both cases, but not expedient in that of Ezra. Many problems are clear, if we distinguish between that which is lawful and that which is expedient.

(c) A letter of requisition for supplies of timber, v. 8. This timber was needed, first for the palace or castle, that is, for the fortress near the temple; second, for the walls and gates of the city; and third, for the king's official residence.

11. Nehemiah's Request Granted, v. 8. Nehemiah was a tactful diplomat. He exercised sound sense and prudence in all things, but he supremely depended upon God and prayed for God's disposal of the king's heart as he made his request known, v. 4. The king granted his request "according to the good hand of my God upon me," v. 8. He ascribes the success of his undertaking to God. We should learn in all things to give to God the credit for our success.

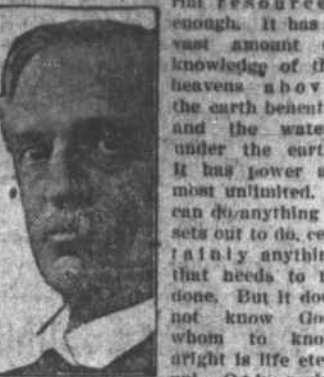
111. Nehemiah's Journey to Jerusalem, vv. 9-11. He journeyed from Shushan to Jerusalem under the protection of a military escort. This was of double value: protection and safety. When it was known that Nehemiah was undertaking this work with the consent of the king, Sanballat and Tobiah were greatly grieved. It always is a grief to the enemy when that which will further the interest of God and his people is being made to succeed. When he reached Jerusalem, he did not at once make his purpose known. He waited for three days and then viewed the situation at night. It is wise to lay well one's plans and to have the work of the Lord well in hand before announcing our purpose to the people. To disclose plans at the "improper time means defeat of your purpose.

The One Thing Needed

By REV. HOWARD W. POPE, Moody Bible Institute, Chicago.

TEXT—9:24. earth, earth, hear the word of Jehovah!—Jer. 23:23.

What this world needs, and all it needs is to know God. It has material resources enough. It has a vast amount of knowledge of the heavens above, the earth beneath, and the waters under the earth. It has power almost unlimited. It can do anything it sets out to do, certainly anything that needs to be done. But it does not know God whom to know afloat is life eternal. Otherwise there would not be so many wails and wretched lives, so much doubt, and fear, and despair, so much cruel oppression, and bitter hatred, and rivers red with human blood.



For some time the Moody Bible Institute has been urged to add to its activities the work of promoting daily Bible reading. There are several organizations already doing excellent work along this line, but most of them reach only a limited number of people. For this reason, and for the further reason that in spite of all that is being done, there yet remains a large number of professing Christians who are doing "no systematic reading of the Bible," and millions of others who almost ignore the book, we feel led to urge the readers of this column to cooperate in this work.

We realize that the members of Christian Endeavor societies, and smaller organizations, are already pledged to read the Bible daily. Furthermore, the covenants of most churches require their members to do the same, but a large proportion of God's people, both young and old, are not doing it, and therein lies their weakness.

Make it interesting. How to induce them to do what they already admit is their duty, is the problem. To scold them is worse than useless. To bind upon them additional pledges is unprofitable. The only method which seems likely to succeed, is for pastors and lay workers to make the Bible so interesting and attractive that people will feel that they cannot afford to neglect it. That we cannot make it interesting to others, unless we enjoy it ourselves, is evident, but we must enjoy it, or resign our position as leaders to those who do enjoy it.

A man might lecture eloquently on the geological formation of Alaska, and the possibility of finding gold there, without persuading any of his audience to become miners; but the man who comes from the Yukon with his pockets full of nuggets will fire the community and start a stream of miners toward the great Northwest. Even so, the pastor or lay worker who is continually opening up the riches of God's Word, and showing his people how to find it for themselves, will soon have a Bible-reading, Bible-loving flock who will not be satisfied with anything else, and who will co-operate with him in any reasonable effort for the extension of the kingdom.

If all church officers would, with the pastors, insist upon daily worship and daily Bible reading in the homes of all the Christians in the land, themselves becoming examples and inspirers therein, God would answer the effort and service with such a blessing to his church as the world has never known. The people would be more godly, and the world would have preached to them the greatest sermon of these nineteen centuries.

To Pastors Especially. And now, pastors, will you help us, and let us help you? We do not claim to have any special light or wisdom on this matter, and we would not presume to teach you who have long and prayerfully pondered this problem. But we have a vision of a widespread and appalling need, a mighty famine of the Word of God, and we believe that a wise and persistent campaign to promote daily Bible reading is greatly needed.

We know there is power in the Word. Almighty power, power sufficient for every need, and we believe that with your co-operation we can let loose some of that power, and make this column a blessing to multitudes of hungry hearts and homes. By giving helpful methods, timely illustrations, brief expositions, and stirring testimonies, we believe that you and we together can prove a blessing to thousands and tens of thousands.

Will you join hands with us in this campaign? Will you preach on the theme of daily Bible reading, and stir up your people on the subject? Will you tell us of any plans you have found helpful in arousing an interest in the Bible? And will you pray for us, as we do daily for you?

Learn Two Things. You want to be true, and you are trying to be. Learn these two things: Never be discouraged because good things get on slowly here, and never to fall daily to do that good which lies next your hand. Do not be in a hurry, but be diligent. Enter into that sublime patience of the Lord.—George MacDonald.

Power of the Upward Look. Only in looking heavenward, not in looking earthward, does what we can call union, mutual love, society, begin to be possible.—Carlyle.

School of Hard Knocks. Much of our education is to be obtained only in the school of hard knocks. There is an age limit and the sooner we are graduated the better for us.

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