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OLD-TIME STUFF

REMINISCENCES OF THE OTTAWA OF EARLIER DAYS. Personages, Scenes and Incidents Recalled for Evening Citizen Readers

BYTOWN 'GAZETTE' AND ITS EDITOR DR. A. CHRISTIE; BOTH WERE "INSTITUTIONS" BACK IN THE THIRTIES; TOWN'S FIRST PAPER HAD CONTINUOUS STRUGGLE

Ran Out of Paper After First Few Issues. Editing, However, Had Some Sunny Spots. Gift of a Dish of New Peas. Story About Public "Squandering" in the Fifties. Garden Flowers of 70 Years Ago, and Other Things.

In the articles in Bytown there were two recognized "institutions." One was the Bytown Gazette. The other was Dr. Alexander Christie, the editor of the Bytown Gazette. The Gazette and its editor are not bracketed, as Dr. Christie had what might be termed a multiple personality. In other words he was a big factor in the little town apart altogether from the Bytown Gazette which he owned and edited.

The story which follows may be better understood perhaps if it is prefaced by the statement that Dr. Christie was a medical doctor, and when he came to Bytown immediately after the arrival of Col. By and his engineers he practised among the civilians of the little settlement. Col. By had at first appointed him medical officer to the sappers and miners. But when the military headquarters at Quebec heard about it they held up their hands in military horror, and wrote Col. By to immediately fire the non-military doctor. They didn't put it in just that language, but it meant the same thing.

Would Stay Anyway.

But Dr. Christie having come to Bytown, determined, with Scotch obstinacy, to stay here despite the military authorities. He stayed. What is more, he became one of the chief powers of the little settlement. Before coming to Bytown, Dr. Christie had been a newspaperman as well as a medical man. He had edited both the Montreal Gazette and the Montreal Herald. He was, therefore, what the Russian peasants call an "intelligent."

Was an "Intelligent."

There were not many "intelligents" in Bytown in the thirties and forties. It is an open secret that many of the so-called big men of that period could not read or write, though they made money and became "somebodies." So Dr. Christie as a literary man, or as an "intelligence," became much in demand. He was elected secretary-treasurer of pretty nearly every society or public gathering held in the thirties. He drew up most of the addresses presented to the notable dignitaries who visited the town.

A Dynamic Force.

From all that can be learned from old records, Dr. Christie was a sort of human dynamo. He was always organizing or helping to organize something for the uplift of the little community. He was what today would be called a "live wire." In the thirties he was a young man full of enthusiasm and a belief in the future greatness of Bytown, and he undoubtedly left his impress on the history of the town.

In the year 1836 he established the Bytown Gazette, and conducted it vigorously till his death in 1844. The first copy of the Gazette appeared on June 3, 1836. In a prospectus of the paper issued in April, 1836, Dr. Christie wrote:

Would Not Promise.

"In offering the above journal to the public the proprietor does not deem it necessary to enter into a detail of his political sentiments nor to imitate the example of those who indulge in long addresses or large promises. As respects the former it is only necessary to say he comes forward unfettered by a blind adherence to any party; the latter he abstains from as a practice too apt to raise expectations which are seldom realized, and consequently productive of deeper disappointment."

Short of Paper.

Running the Bytown Gazette was evidently no easy job. The printing between Montreal and Bytown was very slow and often much interrupted. On June 30, just a couple of weeks after the first appearance of the Gazette, Dr. Christie was forced to publish the following:

"After using every exertion in our power to obtain a supply of paper we are sorry to be obliged for this week to print on a smaller size than usual. Our thanks to our patrons the supply having left Montreal on the 7th—if so, the delay must be owing to the negligence of the Ottawa Forwarding Co., and we believe we are not the only complainers on that score."

Compositor Sick.

Things seem to have run along pretty well till Feb., 1837. Then the compositor got sick, and as Dr. Christie had not learned to set type the paper had to temporarily suspend publication. The doctor wrote on Feb. 18:—

"The sickness of our chief compositor who conducts the mechanical department of the Gazette must plead our excuse for the non-appearance of this paper last week."

Compositor Took Rest.

In September, 1838, Dr. Christie had to go to Montreal on business. On the week of Sept. 19 the patients entered with very little editorial matter. The compositor took a hand and wrote:

"The editor being unexpectedly called from home must plead our excuse for the brevity of the editorial matter this week."

No Pay Subscribers.

On July 1st, 1841, Dr. Christie wrote:

"Our present number completes the 5th volume of the Bytown Gazette. We would embrace this opportunity of tendering grateful acknowledgment to our friends who have so kindly patronized our efforts by gently warning our errors and punctually paying their subscriptions. We have unfortunately another class of subscribers whom we feel somewhat at a loss how to address. We allude to those who have fancied they were patronizing the 'Gazette' by receiving it since its commencement, but who by some unaccountable mistake have never thought of paying for it." Should we be compelled to describe our acquaintanceship with this class of our readers we trust that the terms of five years will plead our excuse for not considering them our list."

Contributions to Editor.

One of the advantages of running a country newspaper has always been that the editor has received fresh, sometimes occasional contributions of farm produce. Often that is all he received, and Dr. Christie was no exception.

On June 24, 1841, he told about some nice green peas which John Chitty, a leading store and hotel keeper, had sent him:

"On Monday last, the 21st, we received from the garden of J. Chitty, Esq., of this town, and raised in the open air, a dish of most delicious green peas, a prime order for the table. The 4 foot drain and the editor are not then last year, for which mark of attention Mr. Chitty has our best thanks, as it affords us an opportunity of stating what our soil and climate can produce, and gives the best contradiction to those grumblers who indulge in readering the banks of the Ottawa as being too far north to bring to maturity any of the productions of the earth."

Rough on Mackenzie.

Dr. Christie was an extreme loyalist and a great Tory. Here is what he had to say on Jan. 2, 1838, (after the Rebellion) about William Lyon Mackenzie. As told on other occasions, editors in the early days did not mince their words:

"Every production of this notorious Catiline is a most scurrilous libel on the British government, the most vivifying treason and the most dire sedition. He has also been guilty of the most hellish blasphemy and the sacrilegious perpetration of the divine name. What should be done to such a character as Mackenzie death he well deserves and divine wrath will reach him for taking the Lord's name in vain."

In view of the impress left by Dr. Christie on the early history of Ottawa, the following sketch of his career will prove of interest:

Practised in Montreal.

Dr. Christie was the son of the Rev. Thomas Christie, the Dean of Aberdeen, Scotland. He obtained his M.A. degree from Aberdeen University in 1808, and subsequently studied medicine in Edinburgh and later practised his profession at Nairn, in the north of Scotland. In 1817 he came to Montreal, and by license dated 22nd July, 1817, obtained from His Excellency Sir John Cope Sherbrooke, the Governor of Lower Canada, was permitted to practice in Montreal. His literary proclivities, however, led him into journalism and he shortly afterwards became editor of the Montreal Gazette, which he edited for a short time, then became editor of the Montreal Herald, which he conducted for three years, and While in Montreal he apparently was active politically, known as he was, on 23rd Oct., 1826, one of a committee appointed at a public meeting to draw up a petition for a new charter to incorporate the city.

Pioneer Instincts.

Apparently the reports which came about Bytown induced the Montreal of the military settlement in the township of March. Dr. Christie has stirred his pioneer instincts as in 1822 he left Montreal and settled in March. On 27th March, advertising his profession amongst the settlers there declared that as he was in Hull and was appointed by Col. By medical officer to the work he paid his first visit to the foot of the Chaudiere Falls, he met them in Hull and was appointed by Col. By medical officer to the work. A few weeks later the military authorities at Quebec decided that as he was not a military officer his appointment should not have been made and it was cancelled.

Helped Civilians.

Dr. Christie then practised his profession amongst the civilians employed on the canal and in the little settlement which came to be known as Bytown. He was given by Col. By a lease of a lot on the most central west corner of Lyon and Wellington streets, and on May 25, 1827, this being the date when the original leases were granted and the settlement became known as Bytown. He was the first coroner in Bytown. On the formation in the early thirties of the Ottawa River Improvement Association he was appointed its secretary-treasurer. About this time he was also appointed the clerk of the Court of Requests, and of the predecessor of the present Division Court. It was composed of three justices of the peace, who sat monthly and adjudicated on matters of small debt.

Began the Gazette.

In 1836 he established and commenced publication of the "Bytown Gazette and weekly advertiser," and continued its publication until his death in 1844. From almost the very first issue of the Gazette he kept up a struggle to obtain paper and Lower Canada should be united into one with Upper Canada with the capital. In 1848 the union took place, and from then until the death the Gazette engaged in controversy with newspapers in Montreal, Kingston and Toronto, regarding the selection of Bytown as the capital, and it is interesting to note that the arguments advanced in the Gazette in its early days set forth the reasons which ultimately caused the selection of the city of Ottawa as the capital of the old province of Canada and later of the Dominion. He also agitated strongly for the improvement of the water communication between Montreal and Georgian Bay, which later took the form of the Georgian Bay canal. Mr. Shirreff, of Fitzroy, was the pioneer in this proposal, but his efforts were vigorously backed up by the Gazette.

Was High Tory.

Dr. Christie was an old fashioned High Tory. He was strongly opposed to William Lyon Mackenzie's agitation and the editorial columns of the Gazette during the year prior to the rebellion abound during the troublesome time of the rebellion showered abuse on Mackenzie and on Papineau. He was very doubtful of the benefits and advantages of democratic government which he used to refer to as "mob rule." During his publication of the Gazette, municipal government and the beginnings of the present public school system were instituted. Neither of these appealed to him, and while he did not oppose them vigorously in the Gazette he adopted an attitude of a doubting Thomas.

As a Politician.

In 1840, when the Act of Union between Upper and Lower Canada was passed by the British government, and Bytown given a seat in the legislature, he was requisitioned to become a candidate for the honor of being the first member of Bytown. There was only ninety voters in the village and the requisition to him was signed by seventy-seven of the ninety. It was signed, amongst others, by Nicholas Sparks, Lyman Perkins, Daniel O'Connor, Edward McGillivray, N. S. Blasdell, William Stanley, Watson Lyle, George Patterson, Robert Lang, George Christie, John Scurrah, and Henry Bishopric. The requisition read as follows:

"We, the undersigned freeholders and householders of Bytown, are satisfied with your zeal in advocating the general interests of the colony, and particularly the interests of this thriving and respected section of it, and looking forward to the bill now before the Imperial parliament granting to us the privilege of sending a member to represent us in that united legislature, hereby request that you will allow yourself to be put in nomination as our representative, promising to you our interest and support when the election takes place."

Gave Way to Newly-bytre.

Dr. Christie announced himself as a candidate, but later at the request of the Bytonians, Col. Rubidge-ham, the Governor General, retired in favor of Mr. Bruyere, Deputy Adjutant General, as told in "Old Time Stuff" some time ago.

In an interesting little book called "At the Sunday Breakfast Table," reference is made to his efforts on behalf of Bytown in the Gazette," as follows:

"It was only a journalist who first pulled Bytown out of baby linen and set it into breeches."

On the formation of the old district of Bathurst, and without proper, of Bytown as its district seat in 1847, Dr. Christie was appointed clerk of the peace for the district.

Mrs. Margaret Hill, of 211 Bronson avenue, is the only surviving child of the late Dr. Christie still living in the city. Mrs. Hill, whose maiden name was Christie, was the contractor for the Bytown Gazette when it was erected in 1843 and 1844. Mr. Hammond P. Hill, ex-M.P.A., is a great-grandson of Dr. Christie.

LADIES WERE FINELY ADORNED IN THE FIFTIES.

If anyone thinks that the Ottawa ladies of the fifties did not enjoy fine clothes and other items of adornment, he is mistaken. In 1853 a Mrs. Hutchinson opened a millinery and ladies' goods store. As far as known here was the first store devoted exclusively to women's apparel. The dry goods stores of the general stores had for years boasted of carefully selected assortments of ladies including silk shawls, Irish lace, etc., etc. Mrs. Hutchinson went a little farther and advertised that:

"She will be constantly supplied with the freshest of the season's fashionable patterns in bonnets, caps, mantles, etc., and by strict attention in executing orders and with superior work she hopes to obtain a share of the public favor. Ladies wishing to supply their own material can have it made up in the very latest style.

"A select assortment of real Paris kid gloves, children's leggings, lace mits, lace collars, silk straw bonnets, chemisettes, collars and sleeves, head dresses, feathers, flowers, etc."

Mrs. Humphreys' "establishment" as she called it was on Wellington street next to Carden and Cousens' store.

REAL "HOMEY" HOTEL.

In May, 1855, H. F. Bonge of Portage du Fort opened a new hotel in the village. In the advertisement which appeared in the Ottawa papers Mr. Bonge emphasized the fact that his hotel was to be a "two-storey" one. Mr. Bonge evidently, as the capital of the old province of Canada and later of the Dominion, He also agitated strongly for the was alive to the fact that the "high" and "low" were both to be found in the hotel business, and he wished to make it clear that his hotel was to be "real homey." He announced that:

"His table and bar would always be furnished with the best the market could afford. He would also keep horses and buggies to convey passengers to and from the Calumet at all hours of the day, and a line of stages to convey passengers from the steamer to Pembroke."

"SQUANDERING" OF PUBLIC MONEY IN 1855.

Today when millions are spent by Parliament without any quickening of the pulses of the members, the following taken from the Bytown Gazette of May 31, 1855, as reprinted from the Montreal Gazette will be read with interest by members of Parliament and the O.T.S. readers generally:

"The other day when the estimates were brought up, the members of the House were not a little startled to see placed before them as a pill they must swallow, the item of $63,000 for their contingencies, over their own indemnity of six dollars a day. A portion of this was explained by the fact that the printing cost 170,000. One job of printing, that of Edits et Ordonnances, will cost for three volumes about £18,000. There is no doubt that immense sums are squandered upon the ordinary printing of documents laid before the House. Some time ago a return for documents relative to a tract of land between the inhabitants of Hawkesbury and the seigniors of Beauharnois was moved for. Considerable time was taken in examination, ordered to be printed. Yesterday the printed pamphlets of 130 pages were distributed with six lithographed maps, and will cost, it is said in the House today, £1,000, a perfect squandering of public money on what really concerns but a few individuals, and should be settled by the courts of law. It was suggested the other day that the powers of the printing committee will be enlarged and no printing ordered by the House till they had reported on some such precaution is absolutely necessary."

RELIGIOUS BOOKS OF THE YEAR 1854.

Here are a few of the religious books which were standard seventy years ago. They were advertised in 1854 by John Durie:

Bridges' Church History.
Dr. Cummings' Works.
Dr. Chalmers' Works.
Poole's Annotations.
Henry's Commentary.
D'Aubigne's History of the Reformation.
Orme's Daily Bible Illustrations.
Life of Dr. Alexander.
Virtue's Works.
Venet's Pastoral Theology.
Saints' Primeval, by Harris.
Venet's Homiletics.
History of the French Protestant Refugees.

GARDEN FLOWERS GROWN IN THE YEAR 1855.

Many of the members of the Ottawa Horticultural Society it may be told that on July 16, 1855, they had a splendid exhibition of fruit and flower show (the vegetables not yet contributed). Among the following prize list for flowers will give an idea of what flowers people cultivated seventy years ago:

Roses, best collection, 5 shillings.
Fuchsias and camellias, ditto.
Carnations, pinks, portus, ajeras, dr. azalea, rhododendron, hibiscus, 5 shillings each best collection.
Balsams, stocks, cineraria, penstemons, verbena, pinks, pansy, 5 shillings 6 pence each best collection.
Best bouquets, 2 shillings 6 pence.
Best bouquet wildflower, primrose, French marigold, valerian, zinnia, clematis, convolvulus, 2 shillings 6 pence.
Best round and flat bouquet, best garland, each 5 shillings.

OTTAWA'S POST OFFICE ERECTED ABOUT 1860

The O.T.S. was recently asked to publish a picture of the old post office on Elgin street, near Wellington. The photo from which the picture was made was secured at the Dominion archives by courtesy of Dr. Doughty. The building when erected was considered one of the features of the Capital. A description of the old post office and its staff, which included Mr. H. H. Cluff and the late C. S. Scott, was published by the O.T.S. several months ago.

KEPT FLOUR FOR PAY.

Many interest readers will know that in the thirties and forties farmers who brought wheat to Bytown to have ground did not pay the miller for grinding. Instead the miller kept a portion of the flour as his pay and sold it to the town-people.

FIRST STONE ROAD.

The road between Ottawa and Aylmer was the first stone road in this part of Canada, and remained so for a long time.

OLD TIME PICTURES.

Mr. J. H. de Rinzy, of Ottawa, who is well known as an artist, has recently added a number of water-colors dealing with old time scenes. One is a picture of the old horse cars in winter; another portrays a typical scene in the early days of the streets during a blizzard; a third is a picture of the old-time "jag" or "jag of wood," and the fourth a representation of the same habitant going home seated on the bottom of his empty sleigh. These pictures vividly recall old time scenes.

FACTS ABOUT BYTOWN IN THE YEAR 1854.

Perhaps the best bird's eye picture of Bytown as it was in the year 1854, which closed its history as a town on the first day of January of 1855—is provided by an address which was issued by Mayor Henry J. Friel at the close of the civic year of 1854.

Mr. Friel began his address by saying that the heavy tax rate which had been imposed during the previous two years had not been due (as alleged) to money to reckless extravagance" (how familiar the ring) but to economical causes, and to the control of the town council. He explained that up to that time the county municipality, of which the town had formed a part, was by law empowered to fix a rate which the town could not escape from. The school trustees held like powers, could demand what they please and the town must pay." The railroad rate for the Bytown and Prescott Railway had been voted by the people. Then there was the asylum rate levied by the provincial government. The rate for 1854 had been 4 shillings, made up as follows:

Railroad rate	1½d.
County rate	9 d.
School rate	6 d.
Asylum rate	1 d.
Debentures	5 d.
Special rate	2½d.
Total	3 s.

The Civic Finances.

The mayor pointed out that apart from the £15,000 of debentures issued for the Bytown and Prescott Railway, the town did not owe more than five hundred pounds. The railroad debentures were not a public debt, he explained, as the city was actually only taking stock in the company and was not giving it the money. The money was really only an investment. Mr. Friel added parenthetically that the local improvement debt amounted to eleven thousand pounds (£2,800), but the local improvement debt was really not a civic debt as it was paid by the property benefited and not by the people at large.

The casual revenue for the year had been £1,879 exclusive of the fines paid in to the magistrates.

The town's imports for the year had been £48,931.

A Healthy Place.

The town during the year had been practically free of disease. The mayor remarked in this connection:

"The general healthfulness of the location cannot be excelled, owing, it must be presumed, in some measure, to the geological formation on which the city stands, its elevated position, and unlimited drainage facilities caused by the surrounding rapid streams and deshing waterfalls. The atmosphere under such influences ensures a character which must tend to promote longevity. These facts are worthy of the attention of those seeking a new, healthy and flourishing neighborhood. (The above is respectfully referred to Ald. E. D. Lewe and the civic publicity committee.)

About the Schools.

The common schools of the town, the mayor said, had no fewer than ten male and six female teachers. The male teachers received an average of £100 ($400) and the female ladies £37 each. There were 266 children on the roll, and the daily attendance each per month, and 259 free pupils. There was demanded by the school trustees for the year 1854 was £450 (a little over forty-two hundred dollars).

The mayor went on to say that the fire department was quite the equal of any in the province, and within the town of any other in the province.

Used Soft Pedal.

When referring to the pokey little town hall and the muddy streets the mayor stepped on the soft pedal. He said that the town hall was not as commodious as desirable, but of course public convenience. Of the muddy streets he said: "The center of our streets has been as much improved as their extraordinary width would permit, macadamizing being such a costly item."

The mayor went on to say that drainage had already been started and it was to be hoped the new council (Ottawa) would follow on in the matter. "Drainage, water and gas," he remarked, "are the great requirements of the city."

Read this bit of optimism:

Some Optimist.

"Wholesale stores are now numerous and it is fair to suppose that the new city of Ottawa will in a short time take the place of its elder sister Montreal as the furnishing depot of the great Ottawa country. The more so as the seaward American cities are turning their attention to this quarter. The Ottawa valley must furnish the woodwork of the Western States of the Union. A new channel of trade is hopened."

And this:

"Upwards of one hundred new buildings have been erected during the past year, many of them substantial and costly stone buildings. A lighter and more pleasing style of architecture is also being introduced, which promises to be an additional ornament." Among the new buildings was Her Majesty's theater on Wellington street, near O'Connor.

The mayor stated that in public institutions there were two libraries, the Mechanics' Institute and the Young Men's Institute (both literary and educational). There were also five weekly newspapers with the hope of a daily soon to be added.

Few Dissolute Characters.

With regard to the police force, the mayor said that during the year there had only been some 200 minor offences before the magistrates. Most of the cases were explained as repeated offences by "certain dissolute characters." There was only one criminal case during the whole year, one of forgery "by a stranger but lately arrived in the neighborhood."

The city did not make much out of its police court cases in those days as the mayor told that "the amount paid by the magistrates to the treasurer in 1854 was £65 5s. 6d. The total paid by magistrates from 1848 to January 1854 had been £126."

In closing his address Mayor Friel said:

A Civic Mecca.

"Permit me, gentlemen, to hope that the brightening prospects and opening on our young city is but a foreshadowing of its future greatness. The center of the Ottawa valley, its local importance cannot be questioned; the center of a whole province, its general importance must be conceded.

"To this common center all parties must turn ere long; the finger of destiny points hitherward, and I doubt not that metropolitan honors await the city just ushered into existence."

So that the real optimism of Mayor Friel may be better understood, it should be told that at that time Ottawa had less than five thousand population and an assessment of probably a couple of millions. The earliest recorded assessment is that of the year 1847 when it was only a little over five millions. It is altogether likely that even the mayor's propaganda, flamboyant as it was, took well with the people.—G. H. WILSON.

FIXING THE BLAME FOR A PEOPLE'S PLIGHT

By WILLIAM T. ELLIS.

The International Sunday School Lesson for June 8 is "Ezekiel Encourages The Exiles." Psalm 134:1-6; Ezekiel 34.

Two business men, my hosts in an automobile, riding to a convention of community builders, were talking about their pastor. Nothing was said about his preaching ability, but the burden of it was, "He's a real man." In all my life I had never heard men grow so enthusiastic about their minister—his helpfulness, his tirelessness, his humanness, his leadership. He was not afraid of things. To him they credited the condition in their new suburb, with its one church and with 1,200 new seventeen different creeds, and its Sunday school of over 1,000 that contain the congregations.

Even personal laymen, and others, I learned that the minister reports himself as a member, but preaches twice on Sunday and sometimes on week days, organizing and directs the church's activities. He has headed even the nomination to instal him as pastor of the new church. Indeed, he refused to do so unless he would make the church democratic; that therefore he secured ordination from another reasonably lowly jew related for sectarian advantage.

All of which is a rather long introduction to the use of the simple illustration of the qualities of the one community church. I found the people overflowing with good will to their pastor because of real fellowship; the singing by choir and congregation of the old Gospel hymns quite thrilled a visitor; and there was no question that here was a congregation, containing an unusual proportion of men, united, happy, busy and purposeful. It was a real church. Its leaders are not by one Christian leader; for "like priest, like people." The pastor determines the condition of the church.

And that is the nub of this Lesson; the Prophet Ezekiel, inspired by the word of Jehovah, pictured the rights of the "under shepherds" as the fault of the shepherds.

An Arraignment of Bad Shepherds

Paraphrasing this vivid figure of Ezekiel, one of the auditors of mine ere delivered this famous epigram: "In olden times we had golden lilies on ops with wooden crosiers, and the ese days we have golden rods and have wooden bishops, with golden ivies." Ezekiel was no respecter of shepherds. He "Ezekiel version is: "Woe unto the shepherds of Israel that do feed themselves!" Should not the shepherds feed the sheep?"

Any preacher who has the trend of the times in modern Christianity, with the individualistic preacher-ministry and salaried officials, and with the swift multiplication of institutions and organizations, may fortify his convictions by reading this thirty-fourth chapter of Ezekiel's prophecy. Laymen's association, and every ministerial union or conference, could profitably devote a session or a season to its study.

Three sheep and shepherd chapters of the Bible—the twenty-third Psalm, the thirty-fourth chapter of Ezekiel, and the tenth chapter of John's Gospel—should be read and considered together, in connection with the present lesson. All three are of extraordinary literary beauty, and of searching spiritual significance.

There is no dodging the fact that in our assigned text, Ezekiel, who was perhaps the most pictorial of the prophets, the best master of imagery, makes a terrific arraignment of the spiritual and civil leaders of the Jews. He unsparingly lays the responsibility for the fate of the exiles upon the shepherds. He is the faithless, "this old prophet, who himself dwelt near Baby , along with , exiled in Babylon, and who still stirred within him; and like Jesus, "when he saw the multitudes, He was moved with compassion on them, because they fainted, and were scattered abroad, as sheep having no shepherd." This spirit of compassion, this shepherd senses, is the outstanding quality of every great servant of men.

Prophets and Politics

Small and sentimentalizing conceptions of Christianity give no heed to this large shepherd-prophet function of leadership. They are inclined to think that Revised Version and fearless condemnation which characterized the utterances of Jesus and of the earlier Hebrew seers. Whereas the loftier teaching is clear that the leader with a "Thus saith the Lord" on his lips should cry aloud and spare not.

If we would follow the example of Ezekiel, we must lay the responsibility for the spiritual, political and economic ills of our day squarely where they have been, responsible for proclaiming God's truth and for teaching spiritual and moral standards. Some years ago a Philadelphia banker, who had been a leading layman" in his denomination, turned out to be a rogue, and committed suicide. I wonder what were the thoughts of the preacher under whose work he had been sitting throughout a career of hypocrisy and crime? What is lacking in our pulpits, our schools, religious and secular, our homes and our Christian social relations, is not out from them can go boys and girls, men and women, to carry on as we know many are doing today?

If we follow the example of Ezekiel, we must lay the responsibility, not upon the individual, but upon the economic life of our day squarely where they have been, responsible for proclaiming God's truth and for teaching spiritual and moral standards. Some years ago a Philadelphia banker, who had been a leading layman" in his denomination, turned out to be a rogue, and committed suicide. I wonder what were the thoughts of the preacher under whose work he had been sitting throughout a career of hypocrisy and crime? What is lacking in our pulpits, our schools, religious and secular, our homes and our Christian social relations, is not out from them can go boys and girls, men and women, to carry on as we know many are doing today?

Here's present course of studies in Old Testament history and prophets is not made clear that God's word had a direct and vital relation to all the affairs of life, public and private. Religion cannot be fenced off into a separate compartment. The old prophets were bent upon applying the principles of God to national life, to civic life, to social life, to industrial life. Their contention was that Israel possessed but one basic loyalty to Jehovah that the people displayed in their everyday affairs. Many—indeed, the chief concern on earth. If the dynamic of religion is not applied to the ordinary expressions of life it is altogether powerless. The divine law that has been revealed is not in heaven, but for earth. Our supreme theorie is primarily the responsibility of the religious leaders. A stern doctrine that; but it is the lesson of this Lesson.

A Programme For Today

Incapatant and derelict as were the old Jews, their will may have been sent into exile in vain if they can but get their major messages across to our own times. Their sins, their punishment, their repentance and their prophecies may save us. For in their case even the most superficial observer may see the threefold work of today's prodigal people of the peoples.

The programme is not mere pious phraseology; it is more practicable than the Decrees for Europe. First of all it declares that there must be a quickened sense of God in the hearts of men before the assorted outward forms of mal-adjustment and of wrong may be made right. Nations and individuals have lost the consciousness of the better and authority of the living Lord. We have made idols of our own wishes and impulses; we have set up in the holy places an image of God made in our own likeness. Man-worship and mind worship are our Twentieth Century Baalism. The simple, majestic, masterful idea of God, a holy and exalted Father, with a moral sense and with settled purposes, to Whom we are every one responsible, must come back to the old place of primacy.

That implies, in the second place, that the clear and explicit laws of God must be obeyed. "Thou shalt seth the Lord" must take precedence over "I want" and "I want." God must be God over all, else he is not God at all. Such practical, workaday obedience to the commandments will of Jehovah, as the old prophets proclai...ed, must be more become the master motive of life.

Then, to end where we began, and to summarize the mighty word of Ezekiel which is the Lesson text, the shepherds must be faithful unto litigiously. As the opening of Deborah's song in Revised Version records as the truth, which is as pertinent today as when uttered by that ancient ago before ever Israel had a king:

"For that the leaders took the lead in Israel,
For that the people offered themselves willingly,
Bless ye Jehovah."

Shepherds must be faithful to their flocks. National economic and administrations are important; but they are ultimately dependent upon the kind of leadership the people have. Things spiritual. Politics and business and social life will inevitably be made right when we have shepherds of the spirit function faithfully.

SEVEN SENTENCE SERMONS

With everything we gain, something we lose.—George D. Herron.

Our bodies are gardens; to which our wills are gardeners.—Shakespeare.

* * *

Say not, "The days are evil. Who's to blame?"
And fold the hands and acquiesce—oh, shame!

Stand up, speak out, and bravely, in God's name!

—Maltie D. Babcock.

* * *

It is better to follow even the shadow of the best than to remain content with the worst.—Aun Dyke.

* * *

I will be a father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty.

—2 Cor. 6:18.

* * *

"Count that day lost whose low-descending sun
Views from thy hand no worthy action done."—Aun.

* * *

"There are two freedoms—the false where a man is free to do what he likes; the true, where a man is free to do what he ought."

—Charles Kingsley.

* * *

WHO WAS WHO IN BIBLICAL DAYS

A Daily Notebook of Scriptural Biographies.

By Rev. E. F. Allen, M.A.

HANANIAH.

There are a dozen people of this name mentioned in the Bible, the best known being the "lying prophet" whom Jeremiah condemned for false prophecy. Hananiah, seeking popular approval, prophesied what the people wanted to hear, contrary to Jeremiah's pessimism. The false prophet, to appease and propitiate the people, staged a dramatic encounter with Jeremiah. Confronting him he prophesied that within two years the captive king (Jeconiah) and the people would return from Babylon, and bring back the treasures of the temple with them. To give point to his prophecy he broke the yoke which the prophet Jeremiah carried, and said, "Thus saith the Lord: Even so will I break the yoke of King Nebuchadnezzar . . . from off the neck of all the nations."

In reply Jeremiah refuted the prophecy and in turn prophesied that because Hananiah had caused the people to trust in a lie he should die within the year. The prophecy was fulfilled, Hananiah died within the year.

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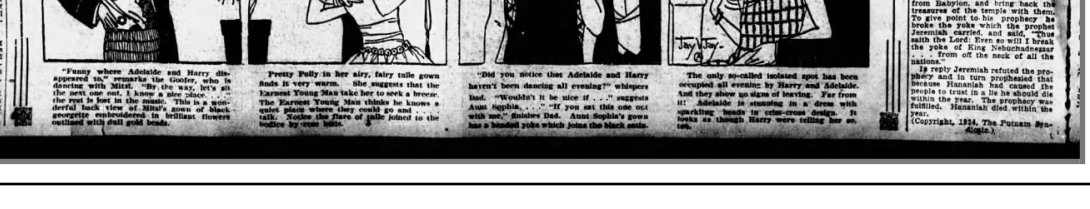
MODISH MITZI—And Again—Harry and Adelaide Appear Together!

—By Jay V. Jay.



"Funny where Adelaide and Harry disappeared to," remarks the Gooter, who is dancing with Mitzi. "By the way, let's at the next one out. I know a nice place."

Pretty Polly in her airy, fairy tulle gown finds it very warm. She suggests that the Earnest Young Man take her to seek a breeze.

The Earnest Young Man thinks he knows a quiet place where they could go and talk. Notice the flare of tulle joined to the bodice by rose bows.

"Did you notice that Adelaide and Harry haven't been dancing all evening?" whispers Dad. "Wouldn't it be nice if . . ." suggests Aunt Sophie, . . . "If you set this one out with me," finishes Dad. Aunt Sophie's gown has a beaded yoke which joins the black satin.

The only so-called isolated spot has been occupied all evening by Harry and Adelaide. And they show no signs of leaving. Far from it! Adelaide is standing in a dress with sparkling beads in criss-cross design. It looks as though Harry were telling her so.