

# Murray

Omar Schlictemeier shelled and delivered last year's crop of corn to the elevator last Monday.

Jacob Kraeger had some very fine porkers which he had just finished, shipped a load to the Omaha market last Monday.

Walter Allen and two of his sisters, Laura and Donna Leigh Allen were visiting friends in Omaha for the day last Monday.

Mrs. Victor Wehrlein who returned from the hospital some time ago is making only fair progress following her operation for appendicitis.

The Murray cafe has changed the interior of the room and also added a number of additional booths which has made the service more convenient.

J. A. Scotten with his crew of workers began the construction of a bridge a few miles south of Louisville near the farm home of Phillip G. Hennings.

Mrs. Fred Hild, Mrs. O. A. Davis, Mrs. Will Minford and Mrs. Everett Spangler were enjoying the mother and daughter banquet at Mynard Thursday evening.

There is happiness at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Dan Hoschar on account of the arrival of a very fine little baby girl with the mother is doing very nicely.

Frank Marsh who has been having his wife at the institute in Kearney where she is receiving treatment for her lungs, was over to see the wife, taking the kiddies with him to see their mother.

Everett Spangler and family were attending church in Plattsmouth Sunday, and also visiting with Mrs. F. W. Nolting mother of Mrs. Spangler and with Mrs. F. H. Heitzhausen, a sister, who with her two small sons arrived Sunday morning from their

home in Billings, Mont., for a few weeks visit with relatives and friends.

Mrs. W. O. Troop was spending the greater part of last week with friends and relatives in Plattsmouth and spending the closing day at the school of her daughter, Mrs. Wm. Gorder who has been teaching a few miles west of Fort Crook and south of Papillion.

Mr. and Mrs. Sigal Nickles of near Weeping Water were guests for the day last Sunday at the home of Dale Tigner of Murray and with Mr. and Mrs. Dale Tigner went to Plattsmouth where they were guests for the day and a very fine dinner at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Tigner.

J. W. Holmes and wife of Plattsmouth with their auto brought Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Rawls to Murray last Sunday afternoon where they all visited at the home of Mr. and Mrs. W. S. Smith. Mesdames Rawls and Smith being sisters of J. W. Holmes, which added much to the pleasure of the visit.

Dr. and Mrs. G. H. Gilmore were in Omaha Sunday where the doctor spent the day with friends while Mrs. Gilmore was a guest of their son, John, who is a medical student there and who together with the other members of the fraternity house entertained their mothers at dinner on that day.

### Were Guests at Dinner.

At the dinner given at the home of Mrs. W. A. Cook a short time ago when Mother's day was celebrated, the following people from Murray which we were not able to secure for last week's issue, were present: Mrs. Addie Perry and daughter, Miss Helen, Mr. and Mrs. Virgil Perry and daughter.

The celebration was in honor of Mrs. Catherine Perry.

### Missionary Society Meets.

The missionary society of the Pres-

byterian church held a very pleasant and profitable meeting at the church Friday afternoon and in spite of the rain there were 27 present. Mrs. Anna Rhoden had charge of the lesson which was very interesting. Mrs. Stewart and Mrs. Gilmore gave splendid reports on the recent Presbyterian meeting at Pawnee City. Delicious refreshments were served by the hostesses, Mrs. C. D. Spangler, Mrs. Ray Hill, Mrs. Everett Spangler and Mrs. Margaret Todd.

### Hold Picnic-Homecoming.

A large and appreciative group enjoyed the picnic supper and homecoming at the school house Friday evening. The very efficient corps of teachers spared no pains to make the event a success. Many old time pictures of early residents and histories of early events of the town were in evidence and thoroughly enjoyed. People were present who had attended the Murray school more than 50 years ago.

### Many Schools Have Picnics.

The Lewiston school, the Kenosha school and the Amick schools had picnic celebrations closing the school year.

Miss Mae Wilson of the Kenosha school had a very fine gathering of both scholars and their parents at the celebration in the form of an out-of-doors picnic last Sunday when the patrons and scholars got together to celebrate the closing of the term.

The Lewiston school also enjoyed a most pleasant picnic, with a very fine basket dinner, with the entire neighborhood gathered to celebrate the occasion.

The Amick school which has eight pupils, also celebrated the closing of the term, with the pupils and a large number of the patrons in attendance. Will Seybolt and wife were over and took pictures of the assembled crowd. Forty years ago Will L. Seybolt was a scholar in this district and at that time there were forty-eight students, and a picture of the teacher and scholars was taken. The question is where have all the students of the country gone?

### Surprise Their Friend.

Mrs. Jennie Jenkins was passing her birthday anniversary last Saturday and was surprised by some fourteen of her lady friends who came with a plenteous dinner as well as gifts, where they spent the afternoon and evening, extending the wish for many more such happy occasions.

### New Minister for Christian Church.

The Murray Christian church has been supplied by a number of ministers during the time when they have had no regular minister but recently a minister was secured who formerly was located in Iowa, but who has been attending school in Kansas, was called by the church here and will come after next week and will be a regular citizen of Murray and pastor of the Christian church here. The interest in the church and Bible school has been growing and on last Lord's day there were 82 in Bible school.

### Minister to Serve Three Churches.

In order for the pastor of the Murray Christian church to look after the three churches which he will have, those of Murray, Weeping Water and Louisville, the hour for the Murray Bible school will be advanced to 9 o'clock instead of 10 as heretofore. This is to allow the minister to get an early start and get to one of the other churches. The third church will be served in the evening. The minister will live in Murray as there is no parsonage in the other two places.

### Visited in Murray Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Roy Gerking and daughter of near Forest City, Mo., were visiting with friends in Murray last Sunday, attending the Presbyterian church and as well visiting at the home of the parents of Mrs. Gerking, Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Frans of Union. They returned home late in the evening.

### Showing Free Pictures.

The business men and citizens of Murray and vicinity are to give a free picture show in the streets of Murray next Saturday.

### Thinks Cass County Best.

Last Sunday being a very fine day Mr. and Mrs. George E. Nickles took a drive, looking over Cass county, and while it looked fine here they found the wheat, oats and alfalfa looking absolutely perfect in the western part of the county. They visited Manley, Murdock, Greenwood, Eagle and Elmwood, dipping down into Itoe county where they visited at Otee, Syracuse, Palmyra and Dunbar and up to Nebraska City.

George says he does not think anything can prevent a good crop of wheat and oats and also hopes that the corn will make the old time bumper crop.

### DECIDE COUNTY ATTORNEYSHIP

District Judge Spear, of Fremont, sitting in district court at Papillion has decided the important and long standing case that involved the county attorneyship of Sarpy county.

When Ralph J. Nickerson in the summer of 1936 became a candidate for the district judgeship, his office was to expire at the November election regardless of the outcome of the primary or general election.

Ralph Tate, formerly of Omaha, was a candidate for the county attorneyship and a bitter struggle ensued as to his legal residence. It was contended that he had not resided in Sarpy county the time specified by law.

The election resulted in the naming of Tate as the county attorney but the occupant, Mr. Nickerson, refused to turn over the office on account of the illegality of the residence of Tate at the time of his being named as democratic candidate.

Judge Spear Saturday held that Tate was ineligible for the office on account of his residence and that Mr. Nickerson will continue in office until a successor is elected this November.

Dockage facilities make Plattsmouth an ideal factory site. Wellcome and a splendid opportunity to expand should be an inducement to those contemplating a change in location from the more thickly populated centers and flood areas of the east.

### NOTICE

State of Nebraska } ss. County of Cass } ss. To Charles Barrows, Non-Resident Defendant:

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to an order of attachment and garnishment issued by A. H. Duxbury, County Judge of Cass County, Nebraska, in an action pending before said County Judge wherein George E. Nickles was plaintiff and Charles Barrows, defendant, to recover the sum of \$189.44 plus interest at the rate of 6% per annum from April 15, 1938, plus a reasonable attorney fee and costs of this action, a writ of attachment and garnishment was levied upon the credits due you from Loretta Naevae on a certain promissory note in the amount of \$500.00 plus interest, dated September 14, 1937 and due March 14, 1938, which said credits were paid in to the said Court upon the order of the said County Judge, and the said case was, on the return day of the summons issued therein contained for trial to the 11th day of June, 1938, at 10 o'clock a. m. GEORGE E. NICKLES, Plaintiff.

By J. Howard Davis, His Attorney. m16-4w

### NOTICE

To Prudential Insurance Company of America, Newark, New Jersey, Cassius C. Conn, New Jersey, Castle, Roper & Matthews, Lincoln, Nebraska, and Drs. Thomsen and Ferclot, Lincoln, Nebraska, creditors of the estate of Edna Conn, deceased; and to all heirs, devisees, legatees, and others interested in said estate: You and each of you are hereby notified that Cassius C. Conn, Executor of the estate of Edna Conn, deceased, has filed a petition in the District Court of Cass County, Nebraska, the object and prayer of which is to procure authority to execute a mortgage for the sum of \$4,750.00 upon the following described property: North Half (NE 1/2) of the Northeast Quarter (NE 1/4) of Section thirty-two (32), and the Northeast Quarter (NE 1/4) of the Southwest Quarter (SW 1/4) of Section twenty (20), all in Township twelve (12), North Range nine (9), East, in Cass County, Nebraska, containing 120 acres.

To pay the first mortgage, debts against the estate, costs of administration and loan costs. The hearing will be had on said petition at the court house in the District Court room on the 31st day of May 1938, at ten o'clock a. m. or as soon thereafter as the same may be heard.

CASSIUS C. CONN, Executor of the Estate of Edna Conn, Deceased. STERLING F. MUTZ, Attorney for Said Estate. m12-3w

### NOTICE OF AUCTION SALE

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Educational Lands and Funds or its authorized representative will offer for sale at public auction on the 6th day of June, 1938, at 2 o'clock p. m. in the office of the County Treasurer of Cass County in Plattsmouth, Nebraska the following:

**Walter H. Smith**  
LAWYER  
Plattsmouth State Bank Building  
Plattsmouth, Nebraska

**J. Howard Davis**  
Attorney at Law  
Plattsmouth

lowing educational lands in Cass County upon which the contract has been forfeited or canceled, the said public auction to be held open not less than one hour:

Lot 4 or SE 1/4 NE 1/4 SW 1/4 of Section 16, Township 12 North, Range 9 East, containing 10 acres more or less.

The Board of Educational Lands and Funds reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

Dated at Lincoln, Nebraska, May 10, 1938.

BOARD OF EDUCATIONAL LANDS AND FUNDS.  
LEO N. SWANSON, Secretary.

### NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION

In the County Court of Cass County, Nebraska.

To all persons interested in the estate of Ronald Baker, deceased. No. 3332:

Take notice that a petition has been filed praying for administration of said estate and appointment of Dick Baker as administrator; that said petition has been set for hearing before said Court on the 27th day of May, 1938, at ten o'clock a. m.

Dated April 25, 1938.  
A. H. DUXBURY, County Judge. (Seal) m2-3w

### NOTICE

In the District Court of Cass County, Nebraska.

Village of Alvo, Nebraska, a Municipal Corporation, Plaintiff

vs. The heirs at Law, and all other persons having any interest in the Estate of either Thomas W. Barry, deceased, or Carrie J. Barry, deceased, real names unknown, et al. Defendants

To the Defendants: The heirs at law, the creditors and all other persons having any interest in the estate of either Thomas W. Barry, deceased, or Carrie J. Barry, deceased, real names unknown; Carrie Muir and husband,

Muir, first and real name unknown; Cora Snavely and husband, Snavely, first and real name unknown; Amanda Snavely and husband, Snavely, first and real name unknown; Nancy Snavely and husband, Snavely, first and real name unknown; James H. Wood and wife, Wood, first and real name unknown; Anna R. Wood and husband, Wood, first and real name unknown; Furst and Thomas, a co-partnership composed of Frank E. Furst and Fred G. Thomas; Frank Tappens and wife, Tappens, first and real name unknown; Savilla Bird and husband, Bird, first and real name unknown; and all persons having or claiming any interest in, right or title to, or lien upon the following described real estate, to-wit:

The north 20 feet of Lot 10, Block 2; Lot 13, 14 and 15, Block 4; Lot 5, Block 1, and Lot 9, Block 2; Lot 5, Block 2; Lot 5, and Lots 14 and 15, Block 2; Lot 8, Block 2; the north 24 feet of Lot 3, Block 4; Lot 14, Block 5; Lot 15, Block 5; Lots 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5, Block 5, Munger's 1st Addition, all in the Village of Alvo, Nebraska, real names unknown, Defendants:

You and each of you are hereby notified that on the 1st day of April, 1938, the Village of Alvo, Nebraska, a Municipal Corporation, plaintiff herein, filed its petition in the District Court of Cass County, Nebraska, against you and each of you, which cause appears in Docket 8, page 275, No. 9647 of the records in the office of the Clerk of the District Court of Cass County, Nebraska, the object and prayer of which petition is in accordance with a resolution adopted and passed by the Board of Trustees of said Village of Alvo, Nebraska, and which is for the foreclosure of the separate tax liens on each and all of the following described real estate, to-wit:

The north 20 feet of Lot 10, Block 2; Lots 13, 14 and 15, Block 4; Lot 5, Block 1, and Lot 9, Block 2; Lot 5, Block 2; Lot 5, and Lots 14 and 15, Block 2; Lot 8, Block 2; the north 24 feet of Lot 3, Block 4; Lot 14, Block 5; Lot 15, Block 5; Lots 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5, Block 5, Munger's 1st Addition, all in the Village of Alvo, Nebraska.

That all of the real estate above described was subject to taxation for State, County, City, School Districts and Municipal purposes, for the several years set out in the petition of plaintiff and the Exhibits thereto attached and by reference made a part thereof; and that unless said taxes are paid by you, or any one of you, on said real estate, respectively, a decree will be entered in this court foreclosing and barring you and each of you of any and all claims upon, interest in, right or title to, or lien upon or equity of redemption in and in all of said real estate described herein; that the same, or so much thereof as may be necessary, to satisfy plaintiff's lien, together with interest and costs, shall be sold in accordance with law, and for such other and further relief in the premises as may seem just and equitable to the court.

You and each of you are hereby notified that you are required to answer said petition on or before Monday, the 27th day of June, 1938, and failing to do so, your default will be entered and judgment taken as prayed for in plaintiff's petition.

VILLAGE OF ALVO, Nebraska, a Municipal Corporation, Plaintiff. By J. A. CAPWELL, Plaintiff's Attorney. m16-4w

### NOTICE OF Hearing on Petition for Final Settlement of Accounts

In the County Court of Cass County, Nebraska.

In the matter of the Guardianship of Sophia Nielsen, Incompetent. To all persons interested in the matter of the Guardianship of Sophia Nielsen, Incompetent:

You and each of you are hereby notified that Henry A. Tool, Guardian of Sophia Nielsen, Incompetent, has filed in the County Court of Cass County, Nebraska, his final report as Guardian of said Incompetent, together with his petition for the final approval and allowance of his accounts since his appointment, not already approved and allowed, and for his discharge as Guardian and for an order of Court accepting his resignation as such Guardian;

You are further notified that the said petition prays for the appointment of a suitable person to replace the said Henry A. Tool as Guardian of the person and estate of the said Sophia Nielsen, Incompetent;

You are further notified that a hearing will be had upon said matter on the final report, together with all other matters pertaining to said guardianship, and upon said petition herein filed as aforesaid, on the 3rd day of June, 1938, at the hour of ten o'clock a. m. in the County Court room in the court house at Plattsmouth, in Cass county, Nebraska, at which time and place you or any of you may appear at said hearing and make objections to said accounts and petition, if any you have to said accounts;

You are further notified that the County Court will on said day of hearing make such orders as may be for the best interests of said incompetent person.

By the Court. A. H. DUXBURY, County Judge. (Seal) m9-3w

### SHERIFF'S SALE

State of Nebraska } ss. County of Cass } ss.

By virtue of an Order of Sale issued by C. E. Ledgeway, Clerk of the District Court within and for Cass County, Nebraska, and to me directed, I will on the 18th day of June, A. D. 1938, at 10:00 o'clock a. m. of said day at the south front door of the court house in the City of Plattsmouth, in said county, sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash the following described real estate, to-wit:

Lots 5 and 6, Block 5, City of Plattsmouth, Nebraska; Lot 4, Block 36, City of Plattsmouth, Nebraska; Lots 11 and 12, Block 16, City of Plattsmouth, Nebraska; Lot 8, Block 37, City of Plattsmouth, Nebraska; Lot 9, Block 41, City of Plattsmouth, Nebraska;

The east one-half of Lot 8, and all of Lot 9, Block 45, City of Plattsmouth, Nebraska; Lot 9, Block 62, City of Plattsmouth, Nebraska;

Lots 1, 2 and 3, Block 111, City of Plattsmouth, Nebraska; Lot 9, Block 122, City of Plattsmouth, Nebraska;

Lot 19, Block 122, City of Plattsmouth, Nebraska; Lots 1, 2 and 3, Block 123, City of Plattsmouth, Nebraska; Lots 9 and 10, Block 138, City of Plattsmouth, Nebraska;

Lots 2 and 3, Block 152, City of Plattsmouth, Nebraska; Lot 4, Block 152, City of Plattsmouth, Nebraska;

Lot 5, Block 152, City of Plattsmouth, Nebraska; Lots 1 and 2, Block 46, Young and Hays Addition to the City of Plattsmouth, Nebraska;

Lots 8 and 9, Block 3, O'Neill's Addition to the City of Plattsmouth, Nebraska;

Lots 6 and 7, Block 3, O'Neill's Addition to the City of Plattsmouth, Nebraska;

Lots 7 to 12, Block 2, O'Neill's Addition to the City of Plattsmouth, Nebraska;

Lots 7, 8 and 9, Block 2, Donellan's Addition to the City of Plattsmouth, Nebraska;

Lots 7 to 12, Block 22, Duke's Addition to the City of Plattsmouth, Nebraska;

Lots 13 and 14, Block 7, Thompson's Addition to the City of Plattsmouth, Nebraska;

The North 1/2 of Lot 6, Block 1, Stile's Addition to the City of Plattsmouth, Nebraska;

The West 1/2 of Lots 8 and 9, and the South 1/2 of the West 1/2 of Lot 10, and the West 24 feet of the East 1/2 of Lots 8, 9 and 10, Block 31, City of Plattsmouth, Nebraska;

Lots 55 and 56 in the SW 1/4 of the SW 1/4 of Section 18, Township 12, Range 14, East of the 6th P. M. Outlots to the City of Plattsmouth, Nebraska;

Lot 9, Block 149, City of Plattsmouth, Nebraska;

Lots 3 and 4, Block 41, Young and Hays Addition to the City of Plattsmouth, Nebraska—The same being levied upon and taken as the property of William J. Streight, single, et al. defendants, to satisfy a judgment and decree of said Court recovered by the City of Plattsmouth, Nebraska, a Municipal Corporation, plaintiff against said defendants.

Plattsmouth, Nebraska, May 14, A. D. 1938. H. SYLVESTER, Sheriff Cass County, Nebraska. m16-3w

Rubber Stamps, prompt delivery, lowest prices. All sizes at the Journal office.

### NOTICE OF FINAL SETTLEMENT

In the County Court of Cass County, Nebraska.

To all persons interested in the estate of Ethel Hill, deceased. No. 3295:

Take notice that the Administrator of said estate has filed his final report and a petition for examination and allowance of his administration accounts, determination of heirship, assignment of residue of said estate and for his discharge; that said petition and report will be heard before said Court on June 10, 1938, at ten o'clock a. m.

Dated May 14, 1938. A. H. DUXBURY, County Judge. (Seal) m16-3w

### NOTICE OF FINAL SETTLEMENT

In the County Court of Cass County, Nebraska.

To all persons interested in the estate of Henry Greer, deceased. No. 3307:

Take notice that the Executor of said estate has filed his final report and a petition for examination and allowance of his administration accounts, determination of heirship, assignment of residue of said estate and for his discharge; that said petition and report will be heard before said Court on June 3, 1938, at ten o'clock a. m.

Dated May 4, 1938. A. H. DUXBURY, County Judge. (Seal) m9-3w

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

In the County Court of Cass County, Nebraska.

To the creditors of the estate of Verna Baker, deceased. No. 3300:

Take notice that the time limited for the filing and presentation of claims against said estate is September 6, 1938; that a hearing will be had at the County Court room in Plattsmouth on September 9, 1938, at ten o'clock a. m. for the purpose of examining, hearing, allowing and adjusting all claims or objections duly filed.

Dated May 5, 1938. A. H. DUXBURY, County Judge. (Seal) m9-3w

### NOTICE OF PROBATE

In the County Court of Cass County, Nebraska.

To all persons interested in the estate of Amelia Schroeder deceased. No. 3333:

Take notice that a petition has been filed for the probate of an instrument purporting to be the last will and testament of said deceased, and for the appointment of Albert Schroeder as Executor thereof; that said petition has been set for hearing before said Court on the 3rd day of June, 1938, at ten o'clock a. m.

Dated May 6, 1938. A. H. DUXBURY, County Judge. (Seal) m9-3w

### NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to an Order of Sale issued by the Clerk of the District Court of Cass County, Nebraska, under the terms of the decree of said court rendered in an action therein pending wherein Vincent W. Straub, revived in the names of H. J. Requette and Max Straub, Jr., Administrators of the Estate of Vincent W. Straub, deceased, are plaintiffs, and Ole Olsen, doing business as the Cass County Quarries et al, are defendants, I will at ten o'clock a. m. on May 28, 1938, at the south door of the court house in Plattsmouth, Cass county, Nebraska, offer and sell at public auction in the order herein-after stated, the following described real estate in Cass county, Nebraska, to-wit:

First, that part of Lot 1, also described as Tax Lot 1, in the northwest quarter of the northeast quarter of Section 19, in Township 10, Range 13, lying south and west of the middle of the Weeping Water river; all that part of Lot 2, also described as Tax Lot 2, lying east of the ravine or ditch running north therein in the northwest quarter of the northeast quarter of Section 19 in Township 10, Range 13, subject to a road 40 to 60 feet wide running east from ledge of rock across the middle of said Lot 2, also described as Tax Lot 2, lying east of the ravine or ditch running north therein in the northwest quarter of the northeast quarter of Section 19 in Township 10, Range 13, described as follows: Commencing at a point 2 rods north of a stone at the southwest corner of the northeast quarter of the northeast quarter of Section 19, running thence east 15 rods, thence north 16 1/2 degrees west by magnetic meridian 12 rods, thence north 18 1/2 degrees west 12 rods 7 links, thence west 12 rods and 4 links, thence south 24 rods to the place of beginning, containing 2.1 acres, more or less.

Second, shall be sold Lot 2, also described as Tax Lot 2, except all land east of the ravine or ditch running north therein, in the northwest quarter of the northeast quarter of Section 19 in Township 10, Range 13, together with the right to a road 40 to 60 feet wide, running east from ledge of rock across that portion of said Lot 2 lying east of said ravine.

Sale of said last described premises to be made only in the event that it is necessary so to do in order to satisfy the lien of plaintiff, all as in said decree provided.

Dated April 22, 1938. H. SYLVESTER, Sheriff of Cass County, Nebraska. By—CASS L. SYLVESTER, Deputy.

Wm. H. Pitzer and Marshall Pitzer, Attorneys for Plaintiff. a25-5w

## Bible School Lesson Study!

Sunday, May 22nd By L. Neitzel, Murdock, Neb.

### "Serving Through Christian Citizenship"

Mark 12:13-17: 28-34.

We are hastening to the culmination in the ministry of our Lord—only four more days and the drama will be enacted. For the last time, Jesus offered himself to his nation—on Palm Sunday—as their king.

The masses acclaimed him as the "Son of David," the promised and hoped-for Messiah. That was one great day in the life of Jesus—and a sad day, for He knew that in four days this same mass of people would cry, "Away with Him, cruelly Him." So much for public popularity.

The leaders were embittered by the cleaning of the temple; all the traffic therein had brought great profit to them. Four questions are propounded to him, either one so worded that they were certain to give them the desired opportunity to bring charges against him, to destroy him. (a) They question His authority for his acts in the cleansing of the temple; (b) the paying of taxes; (c) about the resurrection, and (d) the relative value of the commandments.

In each case Jesus proved himself Master over his adversaries. The second and fourth questions and their answers form the basis for our lesson.

This is Tuesday of Passion week, April 4, A. D. 30. The place is Jerusalem. Jesus' experience with this group who came to "trap him" and the wonderful way in which he silenced them, are also to be found recorded in Matt. 22:15-22 and Luke 20:20-26. "And they sent him to him certain of the Pharisees and of the Herodians, that they might catch him in his talk." Evil forces often combine to destroy the good. Pilate and Herod—enemies—become friends. The result—the innocent Jesus must die. These emissaries were chosen because they occupied different sides of the question proposed to Jesus. The Pharisees owed their popularity partly to their intense nationality and their hatred to foreign rule. The Herodians were adherents of the Herods, who owed what power they possessed to the Roman government. The Herodians favored the Roman tax, while the Pharisees continually opposed it. The insincerity of these is illy disguised, their flattery was apparent to Jesus. The flatterer lays his snares, like a snake charms his victim; he robs you like a "gentleman," he oppresses from the "hold up man." Flattery disarms the unsuspecting; he is the most dangerous of the two. Just read the address (verse 14). Honeyed words—the slime of treachery covers them—will fall into the trap!

Their words do not ring true, although they spoke the truth. But Jesus saw through their hypocrisy and turned the tables very neatly, so they could answer their own question, thereby proving Himself to be their Master. The Roman coin, with which they paid their taxes, became their undoing.

While they stand there perplexed, Jesus hurls a shaft at them with a barb: "Give unto God the things that are God's." The question is: "What does man owe God?" He is a dependant creature; if God would withhold from man the air which he breathes so freely, what would become of him? Or light? Or dry up all water for one week? Man is dependant on God for his existence. Being of a dual nature—material and spiritual—he owes God loyal allegiance; made in His image, he must return it to God, holy, pure, clean. Being defiled by sin, it can be cleansed, restored to its original condition—the remedy!