

Sunday School Lesson

R. E. Handy



Theme—The Better Revelation.

The Crisis which the Church faced at the time of the writing of Hebrews. A change was taking place of which all thoughtful Christians were keenly aware, but it cannot properly be described as corruption. Its nature is best indicated in the Epistle to the Hebrews, where the writer deplors the indifference which had come over the Church of his generation. It had lost the primitive ardor, the sense of something new and wonderful, the confidence that in Christianity God had given His final revelation. This change, as the writer himself recognizes, was partly due to the mere lapse of time (Hebrews 5:12; 6:10.; 10:32). The first enthusiasm had now died down, as it was certain to do. Those who were born into the Christian faith were unable to prize it like the original converts, who had discovered it for themselves. But there were two special causes which had led to the indifference, and it is well to note them, for they have a close bearing on the whole problem of the early church.

On the one hand, the first disciples had looked for the immediate return of Christ to establish His Kingdom on earth. It was on this hope that the church had based itself, and now to all appearances, it had proved illusory. The writer of Hebrews assures his readers that it still holds good. Years have gone by, but "yet a little while, and the Coming One will come and will not tarry." It was difficult, however, to restore the old vitality to this hope, and the Christian attitude towards it was becoming ever doubtful. Since the Lord had not yet come, would He ever come? Deeply religious natures were able, like the Fourth Evangelist, to understand the Coming in, in a spiritual sense and to perceive that Christ had already returned, as an inward presence, to those that loved Him. But for ordinary Christians the hope had largely lost its meaning. From habit and training they remained in the Church. They accepted its doctrines and valued its moral guidance, but their religion was growing cold and perfunctory, since it was no longer quickened by the glorious hope which had inspired the early disciples.

There was another cause, closely related to this one, which acted still more powerfully in changing the character of the Church. Since the Lord had not appeared and the kingdom was not to come immediately, it was evident that Christians must resign themselves to a continuance of the present age. They had believed at first that this world might be disregarded. It was so near to its end that they could hold aloof from it and submit themselves without reserve to that higher law which would prevail in the future. Now it was recognized that this could not be. The existing conditions were to last on, and the Christians, like other men, must conform to them. He must mix with his neighbors and defer to their customs and prejudices.—Ernest F. Scott.

Never Too Old To Learn

Review classes in arithmetic, spelling, English, penmanship, or other common branches are organized upon sufficient request. Often persons who are college graduates feel the need for short refresher courses in subjects that may seem elementary.

One principle followed since the organization of regular work in adult education is that adults are never too old to learn. Adults who do not know how to read or write and those who have not completed the elementary grades are invited to make inquiries regarding this phase of general adult education. A number of adults have participated in this program with a great deal of satisfaction. The tuition charge is small.

Opportunities in commercial education are being offered as a part of the general adult education program of the city schools, it was stated by Miss Ona Wagner, directing supervisor of general adult education.

Classes are now being organized. Persons interested in typewriting and bookkeeping may still enroll.

It will be possible to take shorthand and business english if there is sufficient demand. There is a small tuition charge for the commercial classes, and for typewriting there is a small service fee for the use of the typewriters.

For further information, call Miss Wagner at the Public Schools Administration Building, Phone 2-1681.

The Teen Agers of Kansas City

By Cleo Shakespeare

2817 Highland, Kansas City, Mo.

The Teen-agers of Kansas City, Missouri, are wide awake. There are several organizations in which we participate. They are Teen Town which is held at the Paseo Y.M.C.A. every Friday night. At Teen Town, the youngsters dance, eat, play all sorts of games and even go swimming. The youngsters elect a mayor and it is run on a student basis with adult supervision.

The Y-Teens are for girls only. They are the junior members of the Y.W.C.A. Our club this year has an extensive program which we hope to follow. In our Y-Teen clubs, you meet girls who are different, you have fun with parties, of various kinds, such as poler Dance, Gypsy, Pirate, Splash, Coke Party, and Sox Foot Dance. We study our community and work on service projects as helping at hospitals and Orphan Homes, we help girls who need help.

September 27-28, the Y-Teen Clubs of greater Kansas City met at Camp Washita, where we held our annual Setting-Up Conference. This was a two day session.

On Saturday the presidents, vice-presidents, one sponsor, and two inter-club or secretary or treasurer attended the conference. On Sunday, the other members of the cabinet came to get new club ideas, make new friends and solve club problems.

If you don't belong to a Y-Teen Club Pd suggest you join one now, for you need the club and the club I'm sure would enjoy having your membership.

Grid Rockets Shooting

by "Ches" Washington

While Buddy Young, comet of the star studded New York Yanks, was pacing the Gotham grid thoroughbreds to victory over the Baltimore Colts in the pro ranks, George Taliaferro, the Hoosier hotshot, was going to town to help his boys from back home in Indiana to beat Nebraska, 17 to 0. All the scribes agreed that Georgie was half the show for the McMillanmen.

Meanwhile, down in Wellsburg W. Va., Deacon Dan Towler, the terrific young track and grid sophomore, was leading Washington and Jefferson—the school that Charley West once helped to win a Rose Bowl call—defeat Bethany College, 32-25. Dapper Danny scored two touchdowns for the Presidents.

Playing fullback for Yale, Levi Jackson of Old Eli helped the Blues swamp Kings Point, 34 to 13, and proved himself a potential '47 star.

In New York City, bronzed Bill Hatchett from Verona, N. J., who is playing a whale of a game at end, scored a touchdown for dear Old Rutgers, despite the fact that his team lost to a fighting Columbia eleven, 40 to 28.

Throughout the country, many other sepia shooting stars proved worthy of watching this season.

Dark Merit

by Kathyne Favors

The Free Negro During Slavery

In old communities, the free Negroes showed that they had the ability and the intelligence to make good in hundreds of instances. Many Negroes showed a desire to make new discoveries by going to different communities. "Luke Mulber came to Steubenville, Ohio, in 1802, hired himself out to a carpenter for ten dollars a month during the summer, and went to school in the winter. At the expiration of 3 years he could do rough carpentry work and had about mastered the fundamentals of education! With this as a foundation he rose to a position of usefulness among the people of his town. Becoming a contractor, he hired four journeymen and did such creditable work that he was often called upon to do more than he could. David Jenkins of Columbe, O., was then a wealthy planter, glazier, and paperhanger. One Hill of Chillicothe was its leading tanner and currier.

In Cincinnati, where, as a group the Negroes had their best opportunity, many made rapid strides forward. By 1840, the Negroes of this city had acquired \$228,000 of real estate. One Negro was worth \$6,000 (a great deal of money in that time); another, who had purchased himself and family for \$5,000 a few years prior to 1840 was worth \$1,000. Another Negro paid \$5,000 for himself and family and bought worth from \$8,000 to \$1,000. A freedman who was a slave until he was twenty-four years of age, then had two lots worth \$10,000, paid a tax of \$40, and had 320 acres of land in Mercer County, Ohio. His estate altogether was worth about \$12,000 to \$15,000.

Out of this group in Cincinnati came some very useful Negroes. Among them may be mentioned Robert Harlan, the horseman; A. V. Thompson, the tailor; J. Presley and Thomas Bell, contractors; and Samuel T. Wilcox, the merchant, who was worth \$60,000 in 1859.

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