

TO FLOW WITH MILK AND HONEY

RECLAMATION OF THE HOLY LAND INVOLVES THE DEVELOPMENT OF A GREAT IRRIGATION SCHEME UTILIZING THE WATERS OF THE MEDITERRANEAN, DEAD SEA AND SEA OF GALILEE.

(Francis Arnold Collins in Evening Post Magazine, New York.)

The reclamation of the Holy Land promises to be one of the most interesting by-products of the great war. The industrial possibilities of Palestine are generally recognized and there have been innumerable schemes for reclaiming this region, dating back to the time of David, but it has remained for modern engineering genius to solve the problem. Instead of attacking the problem in detail and bringing only partial relief, a general scheme of irrigation during its conception, has at last been laid out with the result that a few years should suffice to transform this arid land into a productive area which will "flow with milk and honey" or more profitable crops.

More than anything else the Holy Land needs water, or rather the demand is for an equitable distribution of moisture. Compared with other countries its natural supply of water is normal. The annual rainfall is some twenty-eight inches, and the land is well supplied with lakes. The rain falls, however, during a limited period each year, and the remainder of the twelve months reduces much of the land to an arid waste. There are many regions in America less favorable to cultivation which intelligent irrigation has completely transformed. The irrigation schemes formerly attempted in Palestine have been primitive, for the most part, and designed to help only limited areas. Every student of the Bible is of course familiar with the wells and cisterns of this region, which serve to collect and hold trifling supplies of water against the dry seasons. As vegetation has disappeared much of the land is now sterile. The present condition is believed to be due largely to the deforestation of Lebanon. One of the most important services of the famous cedars of Lebanon is to retain moisture and make the land fertile.

Once the arid land receives enough water, "vegetation will return. The natural climatic conditions of the Holy Land are excellent. Once restored, the land is capable of raising three crops of grain a year. Analysis of the soil has proved that great wealth may be reaped from the land. The region contains more than a thousand species of vegetation. Its range of temperature varies from 50 degrees to 90 degrees, with the average in the sixties. With the aid of intelligent irrigation on a sufficiently large scale the Holy Land can be made once more realize the description of Moses: "A good land, a land of water, of fountains and depths that spring out of the valleys and hills."

The new plan for developing Palestine is the conception of a Norwegian engineer named Albert Hirth. It is logical that the problem should be attacked by a Norwegian since this country has developed its land largely as a result of the skill of its people in utilizing water power. Like Palestine, the country is mountainous and its water is confined to deep and narrow courses with few broad waterways. Mr. Hirth has applied to the Holy Land already familiar ideas from his own country. There seems to be no adequate reason why the cedars of Lebanon should not be as common in a few years as the well-known Norway spruce which is largely a product of the conservation of water power.

In brief, it is planned to make use of the difference in level between the Mediterranean and Dead Seas and allow the force of gravity to do the work. By building a great tunnel to connect the two seas an unlimited supply of water may be drawn from the Mediterranean into the country, while the force of its flow can be transformed into electricity to light the land and drive its machinery, as well as to irrigate it. The plan is based upon a careful study of all conditions—meteorological, climatic and geological.

It is estimated that the project will cost \$600,000,000 and that the benefits of the enterprise will pay the interest on the investment. A tunnel thirty-seven miles in length will be dug, running from east to west, and passing under Jerusalem. The tunnel proper will extend from the Mediterranean Sea to the western slopes at the lower end of the Jordan Valley. The water would be carried the rest of the way to the level of the Dead Sea by pipes. There is a difference between the level of the Dead Sea and the Mediterranean of 1,367 feet. The water would therefore not only flow freely from one level to another, but it would properly be developed an immense amount of power in the bargain. The plan for transforming water power into electricity will be built at the lower end of the Jordan Valley, where the water emerges from the tunnel before entering the pipes. It is estimated that even with an efficient head of some 600 feet, more than 40,000 horsepower could be developed. The plans call for a tunnel twelve feet in diameter, which will carry twenty tons of water a second.

The Dead Sea has a surface area of 4,000 square miles, and the calculations show that the rise due to this inflow of water, allowing for evaporation, would be less than three feet in a year. The sea would be allowed to increase its area up to 4,500 square miles—about one-fifth greater than its former area. Savings have been made along the proposed route of the tunnel, and the engineers estimate that its cost will be less than \$40,000,000. An additional \$20,000,000 will be expended in erecting a power plant, factories to utilize the power and a system of canals for distributing the water. The cost of construction, compared with the area affected, is rather less, it is said, than the sums expended upon many large irrigation schemes already carried out in America and Asia.

One of the most interesting features of the enterprise is the great pumping plant at the southern end of the Sea of Galilee, which will distribute water to several hundred thousand acres sloping towards the River Jordan. The power for pumping the water will be supplied from the station at the level of the Dead Sea. The water level of the Sea of Galilee will be lowered, dams will be constructed and the River Jarmuk made a tributary. Transmission of power from the Dead Sea to the Sea of Galilee is considered entirely feasible. It will be carried by heavy copper cables strung from metal supports running parallel to the River Jordan for its entire length. This famous river is a tortuous passage from the Dead Sea to the Sea of Galilee, measuring more than 200 miles in length. The

distance between the two bodies of water however, is only seventy miles measured in a straight line which would be followed by the wires transmitting the power.

The proposed system makes use of many of the ancient irrigation enterprises. Reference to the accompanying drawing will show how many of the deep valleys running down to the River Jordan will be converted into reservoirs. These valleys are arid wastes, but their form makes it possible to close one end by a dam, thus making a valuable storage place for water. A series of reservoirs will thus be created well up on both banks of the Jordan for its entire length from the Dead Sea to the Sea of Galilee. These in turn will be connected by canals. The water pumped from the Sea of Galilee will flow on either side of the Jordan from one reservoir to another. It will then be conducted from the reservoirs to irrigate the land in their region and will flow down towards the level of the Jordan. The slopes on either side of the river, now virtually arid, will thus be supplied with an unlimited quantity of water by the simple device of first raising it a few hundred feet above the Sea of Galilee. The power necessary to do the work meanwhile, as part of the same ingenious scheme, is generated by the inexhaustible flow from the Mediterranean.

But the irrigation project is not limited to the valley of the River Jordan; important as that is, it may be found possible to supply another canal running parallel to the Jordan and the coast line which will irrigate the Plain of Sharon. In going over this ground the engineers have found thousands of cisterns and many forms of waterworks, some of which date back to the time of David which could be utilized and made a part of the new system.

This water supply will also make it possible to reclaim the shallow portion of the Dead Sea at its southern end. A dam is planned to extend westward from Lisan. The general health of the region would be improved by this measure, and immense areas which are now practically waste land could be brought into cultivation. As vegetation increases the land will retain the moisture and the heavy rains of the wet season will be made to serve throughout the year. When this rainfall is utilized there will be water to spare which in turn can be used in further irrigation plans.

The great wealth of power developed by the water turbines should prove invaluable in developing a variety of local industries. One great source of wealth will be the development of the vast deposits of asphalt in the plains of Sodom and Gomorrah, which are now worked under present conditions. Large salt works are also planned to produce common salt from the sea water. The water brought from the Mediterranean Sea will of course be salt, and it is proposed to utilize this valuable by-product in a very ingenious manner. At the point where the turbine pipes join the tunnel a canal will be constructed which will carry off a thin film of brine, which will be allowed to escape down the rock towards the Dead Sea. The heat of the sun in this region will evaporate the water, leaving the salt, which can then be gathered at trifling expense.

It is further planned to utilize the surplus power to operate plants for the production of lime nitrates from the air. The mines of this region have never been properly exploited according to modern standards. The ample supply of power will make it possible to develop the mines while the power plants will distribute an ample supply of electric light and power throughout the country. Electric railways for both freight and passengers are included in the scheme of development.

The Holy Land fills so important a place in the imagination that one is surprised to learn that the region is only about 140 miles long and 80 miles wide. It is a mountainous region, with many valleys and few plains. Its population of less than 1,000,000 should increase at a surprising rate after the land is reclaimed, and the area will be able to support an immense population.

The proverbial milk and honey associated with the Holy Land are not the only products. At present, important crops of oranges, citrons, melons, grapes and olives are gathered, despite the aridity of the land. In a single year before the war the export of oranges alone from the port of Jaffa was valued at nearly \$1,000,000—an indication of the country's agricultural possibilities. One of the plans of the irrigation engineers is to stock the rivers, lakes and reservoirs of Palestine with suitable fish, so that in a few years an important food supply could be gathered from this source.

RELIGIOUS CENSUS OF TORONTO CITY.

Anglicans make up nearly one-third of the entire population of Toronto, according to statistics compiled by the assessment department and made public in the annual report of Commissioner Forman. The religious census of Toronto is shown as follows: Population as returned by the assessors taken between March 1 and Sept. 1, 1919: Anglican 149,900; Presbyterian 99,263; Methodist 83,518; Roman Catholic 83,045; Hebrew 38,087; Baptist 22,933; Congregational 4,406; Salvation Army 3,070; Christian Science 1,613; Lutheran 1,606; Disciples of Christ 1,062; Unitarian 961; Miscellaneous and not specified 41,294. 499,278

CHURCH SOCIALS.

At a meeting of the Philathetas of German street Baptist church last evening, a paper was read by Miss Lugsden on "A Retrospect of 1919" and an address was given by Rev. P. S. Poole on the Forward Movement. Refreshments were served. A delightful time was had last evening in St. John's (Stone) church by nearly fifty juniors of the Sunday school. They had supper, games and music and thoroughly enjoyed themselves. Those taking part in the programme were Miss Ethel McGinley, Margaret Martin, and Freda Cook, and F. J. Punter. Miss Ethel McGinley was in charge of the programme and the following arranged the games: Canon Kuhring, Miss

THE BOY SCOUTS



THE BOY SCOUT.

From the 17th, St. John Troop (Trinity), the following has been received: We are pleased to place on record a special meeting held Tuesday evening, Jan. 6, at this meeting, with the St. John's Troop in attendance, A. C. Skelton, president of the local branch of the Boy Scout Association, presided. Among those present were Lieut.-Colonel Murray McLaren and Major S. Skinner, both members of the St. John Ambulance Association. A very enjoyable programme was carried out as follows: Drill, by the St. John's troop. Drill and games, by the Trinity pack of Wolf cubs.

But tilting and blindfold boxing match, contestants from both troops. The admission of a tenderfoot. A first aid demonstration, including the bandages for broken collar bone, arm, thigh and fracture jaw, and the improvised stretcher.

Lieut.-Colonel McLaren then spoke to the boys and congratulated them on their showing and also congratulated the boys who took part in the first aid contest held by the St. John's Ambulance Association a short time ago, and the result of which placed the team of five from St. John's first and with the Trinity team a very close second. Colonel McLaren pointed out the importance of a knowledge of the uses of the common bandages and the fireman's lift. He also pointed out how nice it was to do things and not be asked to do them by fellow. He said this was an excellent thing and he hoped the scouts would always live up to it.

Major Skinner was then called upon to present the prizes to the winning team, St. John's five. As it was such a difficult matter to decide between St. John's team and that of Trinity, the winners of the contest, it was decided that the Trinity five should be honored for their work, so prizes were also given to them.

After the presentation of prizes, the Trinity troop gave their scout yell and this was immediately responded to by the boys of St. John's. The meeting then came to a close. St. Paul's Troop. St. Paul's troop met as usual on Tuesday evening and started the new year with a good attendance and by enrolling some new members as well. A large part of the evening was spent playing games among the boys. Some of the boys were divided into two teams and the teams started from opposite ends of the room. The race proved to be very close. Mr. McEwen, a Senator coming in about three steps ahead of the other.

Mr. Campbell, a returned army officer, was welcome visitor and he put the troop through a few minutes of good sharp drill and also showed them some new drills which are to be used in scouting. From now on, some of the boys made great progress in their studies for first and second class scouts during the evening under the direction of Norman and the assistants and the meeting closed arrangements were made for a trip to their cabin at Dark Lake and a bean supper while out there. So the boys look forward to a real good time.

Edith Patterson, Miss Gladys Burdell, Miss Helen Merritt, Douglas McKean, Mrs. G. A. Kuhring was convener of the tea committee, assisted by Mrs. C. F. Frazer, Mrs. M. McEwen, Mrs. A. MacRae and Miss Sadler.

PRIZE OFFER TO END SLUMS.

Commission Announces Scheme to Improve 400,000 Homes.

Prizes aggregating \$6,000 have been offered by Vincent Astor, Alfred E. Marling, president of the Chamber of Commerce, and the New York Foundation for the ultimate destruction of all the slums in New York city. The New York State Reconstruction Commission announced yesterday that this measure had been taken of stimulating the architects and builders of the city to devise means to remove the conditions which had been revealed in the survey of the congested quarters conducted by the commission last spring. The competition has been made possible by the cooperation of the joint legislative committee on housing, of which Senator Charles C. Lockwood is chairman.

According to Clarence S. Stein, secretary of the housing committee of the reconstruction commission, there are more than 400,000 apartments in "old-law" tenements, the dwelling places of 2,000,000 New Yorkers, which are not fit to be called homes. The building of 400,000 homes would be a colossal task at a time when new walls were never so expensive. The problem is to use the old shell and make it into a well-planned, sanitary, light place, fit for habitation. Large-scale plans have been drawn of a characteristic block on the lower east side, showing every wall, door, window, plumbing fixture, court shaft and yard. The competitors are to make drawings showing how this block may be altered to bring it up to present day standards.

News of the Churches



Evangelistic Services Fairville Methodist Church

Touching Soloist Bible Readings Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Afternoons 3 O'clock

J. RITCHIE BELL, of Montreal

SUNDAY SERVICES, JANUARY 11

11.00 a.m. Subject: "Christ Crowded Out" 7.00 p.m. Subject: "The World's Greatest Tragedy"

NEXT WEEK

Monday evening "The Greatest Truth in the World" Tuesday evening "Just Like Your Father" Wednesday evening "Quit Your Meanness" Thursday evening "Salvation Made as Plain as Day" Friday evening "Heroes or Cowards, Which?"

EVERYBODY WELCOME!

Centenary Methodist Church

REV. H. A. GOODWIN, Pastor 11.00 a.m.—Rev. S. S. Poole, of Germain St. Baptist Church, will preach. 2.30 p.m.—Sunday School and Bible Classes 7.00 p.m.—The pastor will preach. Subject: "A Cake Not Turned" The Union Evangelistic Services will begin in this Church Monday evening at 7.45. The opening evening will be in charge of the young people. A full choir will conduct the music. Bright addresses will be given by Miss Bessie Holder and Rev. Robert Smart, of Westfield, Irish Evangelist Dixon, who, with his daughter as soloist, will lead these special services, will deliver his first address Tuesday evening. The public is invited to all these services.

Exmouth Street Church

REV. G. F. DAWSON, M.A., Pastor 11.00 a.m.—"Prepare Ye the Way of the Lord"—The Pastor 2.30 p.m.—Sunday School and Bible Classes 6.45 p.m.—Service of Song for fifteen minutes 7.00 p.m.—Rev. Wm. Hertz, D.D., Nova Scotia Conference Evangelist, will preach. Subject: "A New Departure" All Seats Free! Everybody Welcome! Monday, 7.45 p.m.—The first meeting of the great campaign in Centenary Church will be in charge of the United Epworth League.

Carleton Methodist Church

REV. JACOB HEANEY, Minister 10.00 a.m.—Men's Class Meeting Public worship at 11.00 a.m. and 7 p.m. Forenoon subject—"The Sword of the Spirit" Evening subject—"Men Wanted" 2.15 p.m.—Sunday School. All welcome A special meeting will be held at the close of the evening service for the purpose of considering and discussing some features of the Forward Movement. All Church members are earnestly requested to attend, and every one interested cordially invited. All strangers and visitors will be heartily welcomed!

Portland Methodist Church

REV. NEIL McLAUCHLAN, B.A., Pastor 10.00 a.m.—Prayer and Praise 11.00 a.m.—Rev. D. Hutchinson, D.D., will preach 2.30 p.m.—Sunday School 7.00 p.m.—Pastor will preach A WELCOME TO ALL

Queen Square Methodist Church

REV. GEO. MORRIS, B.D., Pastor 11.00 a.m.—Rev. Dr. Hertz, Conference Evangelist for Nova Scotia, will preach. 7.00 p.m.—The pastor will preach 2.30 p.m.—Sunday School and Bible Classes Monday evening—Grand rally of young people in Centenary Church and beginning of Evangelistic services. Be Sure to Hear Dr. Hertz Sunday Morning!

Victoria Street Baptist Church

REV. G. D. HUDSON, B.Th. Join Us in Our Special Service Campaign Beginning Now

The pastor will conduct a series of Special Evangelistic Services every evening (Saturday excepted). He will be assisted in the singing by an orchestra of seven pieces. Come, help and be helped. A friendly greeting to all. Inspiring music. PROGRAMME FOR SUNDAY 10.30 a.m.—Prayer, Circle. Every member called out 11.00 a.m.—"Permonitions of Faith" 2.30 p.m.—Sunday School and Bible Classes 4.00 p.m.—Miss Hazel Clark will address W. M. A. S. 6.40 p.m.—Song Service—Orchestral accompaniment 7.00 p.m.—"Back to Bethel" WATCH THE ANNOUNCEMENTS—FOLLOW THE CROWD

Tabernacle Baptist Church Haymarket Square

REV. A. LAWRENCE TEDFORD, Pastor 11.00 a.m.—Rev. J. H. Jenner, special preacher 2.30 p.m.—Sunday School Hour for Bible Study 6.45 p.m.—Evening worship and sermon: "The Most Essential Thing in the World." Special music. Monday, 8 p.m.—Remember the Young People's Meeting Tuesday, 7.50 p.m.—Inter-church Training School, German Baptist Institute. Wednesday, 8 p.m.—Church Prayer Hour. Thursday, 8 p.m.—Annual Business Meeting. WE GLADLY WELCOME YOU TO WORSHIP WITH US.

Coburg Street Christian Church

F. J. APPELMAN, Minister 11.00 a.m.—Preaching 2.30 p.m.—Bible School 7.00 p.m.—Prayer meeting 8.00 p.m.—Christian Endeavor Prayer meeting Thursday evening, 8 o'clock.

One Foundation

Why did Christ say to St. Peter: "Thou Art Peter and Upon This Rock I Will Build My Church." Subject At Bible Students' Hall, 38 Charlotte Street Sunday, 3 p.m. "Whom Shall He Teach Knowledge? Then Who Are Weaned from the Milk." (Isa. 28:9). ALL ARE WELCOME

Presbyterian Churches

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (West St. John) REV. JOHN A. MORISON, Ph.D., D.D., Minister 11 a.m.—Divine worship. 2.30 p.m.—The Sunday School and Bible Classes. 7 p.m.—Divine worship. ST. DAVID'S... Sydney St. REV. J. A. MacKEGAN, B.A. Public worship, 11 a.m. and 7 p.m. the minister preaching. A memorial tablet to the first minister, Rev. John Thomson, D.D., will be unveiled during the morning service. Sunday School, 2.30 p.m. and 4 p.m. Mass meeting for Presbyterian men, St. Andrew's school-room, Wednesday, 8 p.m. ST. MATTHEW'S... Douglas Ave. The North End Presbyterian Church REV. H. L. EISENOR, Minister Morning worship, 11 a.m. Evening worship, 7 p.m. All welcome. Seats free. ST. ANDREW'S... Germain St. REV. F. DOWLING, B.A., Minister 11 a.m.—Divine worship. 7 p.m.—Divine worship. All are welcome. 2.30 p.m.—Sunday School and Bible Classes. 8 p.m. Wednesday—A united meeting for men of the Presbyterian Churches of the city in the interest of the Forward Movement.

Baptist Churches On Sunday

LUDELOW ST.... West End REV. W. R. ROBINSON, B.D., Pastor 10 a.m.—Prayer Service. 11 a.m.—Pastor will preach. 2.15 p.m.—Sunday School. 7 p.m.—Memorial service conducted by the pastor in memory of Mr. Fred Nic and others of the congregation who passed away during the year. At this service a dust, "Some Day the service the choir will render special Silver Cord Will Break," by Mr. and Mrs. Murray W. Long. Organist—Miss Annie Mullen. Choir master—Murray W. Long. MONDAY 8 p.m.—Young People's Society. WEDNESDAY 8 p.m.—Weekly Prayer Meeting. All Cordially Invited. FAIRVILLE... Church Ave. REV. A. S. BISHOP, Pastor 11 a.m.—Rev. Ellery Dakin will preach 2.30 p.m.—Sunday School. 7 p.m.—"Where Are the Fields Ripest Unto Harvest?" Mr. Dakin is new to our people. Come out to hear him. You will enjoy the evening service, and so will your friends. GERMAIN ST.... South End (Cor. Germain and Queen Sts.) REV. S. S. POOLE, Pastor 11 a.m.—Rev. H. A. Goodwin will preach. 2.30 p.m.—Sunday School and Bible Classes. The Young Men's Association meet in Brotherhood Hall. 7 p.m.—Subject: "The Joys of True Christianity." A Cordial Welcome to All. Central Church... City Centre Rev. M. L. Gregg, pastor of Baptist Church at Sydney, N.S., will be the speaker both morning and evening. Morning service, 11 o'clock. Sunday School, 2.30 o'clock. Evening service, 7 o'clock. Prayer service Wednesday evening at 8 o'clock. All are welcome. Seats free. MAIN ST.... North End REV. D. HUTCHINSON, D.D., Pastor 11 a.m.—Preacher, Rev. Neil McLaughlan. 2.30 p.m.—Sunday School and Men's Bible Study Class. "Gambling." In his evening sermon, Dr. Hutchinson will give reasons why no man who wished to be a man, can gamble. Come and enjoy our Sunday evening "Bible Hour Service." Come early. WATERLOO ST.... East End REV. ELLERY G. DAKIN, Pastor. Sunday:— 11 o'clock—Morning worship. Rev. A. S. Bishop, of Fairville, will fill the pulpit. 2.30 p.m.—Bible School. 7 o'clock—Evening worship. Wednesday:— 8 o'clock—Evening Prayer and Praise Service. Thursday Evening:— 8 o'clock—A full meeting of the Advisory Board is requested.

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints

Services Sunday 3 p.m. and 7.30 p.m. "The Faith Which Was Once Delivered Unto the Saints." Seats Free! ALL WELCOME SUNDAY SERVICES St. Philip's Church REV. R. H. W. PINKETT, Pastor 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.—Preaching by pastor. 2.30 p.m.—Sunday School. 6 p.m.—Missionary Prayer Meeting. 8 p.m. Wednesday—Prayer Meeting. All are invited and made welcome. Christian Science Society 141 Union Street Lesson sermon Sunday, 11 a.m. Subject: "Sacrament" Wednesday evening meeting at 8. Reading room 3 to 5 p.m. daily, except Saturday.

Palace Theatre

Services Sunday 3 p.m. and 7.30 p.m. "The Faith Which Was Once Delivered Unto the Saints." Seats Free! ALL WELCOME SUNDAY SERVICES St. Philip's Church REV. R. H. W. PINKETT, Pastor 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.—Preaching by pastor. 2.30 p.m.—Sunday School. 6 p.m.—Missionary Prayer Meeting. 8 p.m. Wednesday—Prayer Meeting. All are invited and made welcome. Christian Science Society 141 Union Street Lesson sermon Sunday, 11 a.m. Subject: "Sacrament" Wednesday evening meeting at 8. Reading room 3 to 5 p.m. daily, except Saturday.

First Church of Christ Scientist

Service at 11 a.m. at 98 Germain street. Subject: "Sacrament." Wednesday evening meeting at 8. Reading room open daily from 3 to 5 p.m. public holidays excepted.

Seventh Day Adventist Church

Carleton Street W. M. C. YOUNG, Pastor Question Box half hour, 6.30 p.m. Lecture at 7 p.m. Subject: "Belshazzar's Feast."

Zion Methodist Church

REV. M. E. CONRON, M.A., Pastor 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.—Divine Service. The pastor preaches. 2.30 p.m.—Sunday School.

Services and returns which will be paid willingly for better accommodations.

According to the statistics gathered by the commission between February, 1919, and March, 1919, there were 58,552