

Under the watchful care and guidance of Almighty God, the earth's covering soon will take on a beautiful coloring, as various trees, shrubs, grass, and flowers annually come forth.

The Birmingham Post-Herald

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Friendly Thoughts By G. Dewey Kimball



Measures of thoughtful consideration, of friendly concern, contain more real value than the baubles of barter. Recognize the good qualities of a friend if you would make him rich in happiness, and add to the stature of his and your own soul. Invite him into your life.

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DEDICATION SERVICE ENDS

Unity Of Churches For Life Asked By Detroit Pastor Here

Dedication of the First Baptist Church of Birmingham is completed today following a week of activities which made church history in Birmingham.

Sunday marked the close of the services with the dedicatory address by the Rev. Ralph T. Anderson, former secretary of the Michigan Baptist convention. During the evening service Dr. William G. Spencer, president of Hillsdale College, spoke on "Three Philosophies of Life."

Friday night was another marked occasion with the Rev. Edgar DeWitt Jones, pastor of the Central Woodward Christian Church of Detroit, the principal speaker. It was interdenominational and pastors from other Birmingham churches took part in the services.

Asks Unity
Pleading for unity among Christian churches, the Rev. Jones said he believes within 25 years two-thirds of Protestantism in the United States will be united. He believes persons will go from one church to another with the same freedom persons enter one country from another and that this same spirit will extend to denominational colleges and also to missions. This will preserve the best of denominationalism, he said. "Those who remain in their original faith will be the loyal persons who are sticklers for form and precedent," he declared, referring to the remaining one-third.

The divided house of God is the scandal of the present day church, he said, emphasizing that the biggest problem in the church today is its union.

Divided Church Weak
"A divided church is a weak church," Dr. Jones emphasized. "A divided church was unable to prevent a world war. The perpetuation of age-old controversies among those who profess to follow Christ is a scandalous thing."

"In the shadow of the cross, Jesus prayed for the unity of all who should believe in Him. That prayer is yet unanswered. So long as the scandal of division and rivalry among Christians continues that prayer cannot be answered, but the signs of the times are encouraging. In the last 25 years 500 volumes have been written in the interests of a united Christendom. At no period since the historic divisions began to appear in the church has such agitation against sectarian strife been in evidence as now."

"I confess to a very great interest in this matter of Christian unity. I propose to specialize in Christian unity for the rest of my ministerial life. I have never consciously said or done anything that would make it more difficult for Protestant and Catholic to live together amicably. Never shall I speak an unkind word from this pulpit of my fellow Christians. Fundamentalist, Modernist, or of any other school of theological thought, I am interested in unifying our agreements and minimizing our differences. The solidarity among Christians continuing of Christianity is spirit, the attitude of mind and heart is all important."
Dr. Spencer Sunday night told of three types of characters, illustrating them from Biblical scenes.

AMONG THE WOMEN

Interest In People Decides Librarian's Career

By DOROTHY E. WILLIAMS

It was her keen interest in people that made Mrs. Nancy B. Thomas decide to become a librarian. She was always fond of reading but for her, books were dead things unless they brought her contact with people.

"It fascinates me to study people and to fit books to them," she said. "Books alone are too remote, but when I think of choosing them to fit the various tastes and whims of readers I become intensely interested in them. But I will never be one of those persons who can bury herself in the mustiness of shelves and shelves of books and be happy," she put in.

Mrs. Thomas came here almost two years ago from her home in Es-anaba where she had held a position as librarian for five years. Since that time she has been librarian at the Baldwin Public Library. She received her B. A. and M. A. degrees from the University of Michigan and completed a year's library course at the University of Wisconsin in 1922.

Undecided
She was not one of those persons who knows from childhood where her profession will be. It took her a long while to decide upon library work, she said, "and it was not until I was doing my master's degree at Ann Arbor that I considered it seriously."

Until that time she had planned to enter the advertising field and had done considerable research work in that line. While in Ann Arbor she was given an opportunity to work in the foreign language reading room of the University Library. She spent six months there and definitely decided upon her life work.

"Reading is very common at the present," Mrs. Thomas said. "Formerly the person who read was considered unusual but now it has become the thing to read, and just as in a great many other instances it is advertising more than any one thing which has created this vogue. I believe."

Finds People Honest
"I find people are very honest about their reading. They read particular books because they want to read them more than because they are recommended. Whatever their tastes may be, the majority reads. They have come to accept reading as a part of their lives."



C. M. Hayes & Co. Photo
MRS. NANCY THOMAS

Mrs. Thomas is convinced that advertising has played a great part in making reading popular. "The attractive manner in which the books are offered to the public, the colorful jackets and even the monthly reading organizations have all done their work in increasing the amount of reading," she said.

There are styles in reading as in everything else, Mrs. Thomas declared. Now, in the fiction class, the mystery story is very much in demand, replacing the adventure element of a few years ago. But I doubt if this interest will be long lived. The public is becoming too demanding in the type of mystery book.

In the non-fiction class biography is the most popular here as elsewhere, she said. "The interest in travel that was so obvious some time ago has almost completely died out in favor of the fiction-like biography."

But whatever the vogue of the hour may be in reading, fiction of any nature is always the most popular. That is because fiction brings them the closest to life and the thoughts and feelings of real people.

WOMAN DIES HERE AT 74

Family Survives Woman Who Succumbs After Long Illness

Mrs. Emily Taylor Wall, 74 years old, was buried yesterday in Lakeview cemetery, Clarkston. Funeral services were held at 2 p. m. at her residence, 222 Park street, with Rev. Robert M. Atkins, pastor of the First Methodist Church, officiating.

Mrs. Wall died at her home Sunday afternoon following a long illness. She came here from Detroit eight years ago and was a member of the First Methodist Church. She was a native of Bristol, England.

Three sons and five daughters survive her: Arthur George Wall, Omaha, Neb.; Frank E. Wall, 2234 Harding avenue, Detroit; and Fred S. Wall, Ferndale; Mrs. Nell Wall Jones, Ogden, Utah; Mrs. Edna M. Shepherd, Oak Park, Ill.; Mrs. Blanche O'Hara, Minneapolis; and the misses Ruth and Florence Wall, of Birmingham.

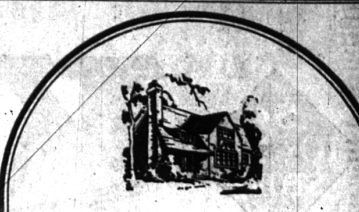
An apparatus for testing the ripeness of peaches before shipment has been invented by a New Jersey horticulturist.

Years between 10 and 14 seem to be the greatest reading years for children, Mrs. Thomas believes, and in many cases of the entire life. "That of course depends upon the individual and his time distribution," she said. "I am convinced, however, that in the average individual it is the period between 10 and 14 years of age that decides whether they are to become readers."

Whatever the age of the child, Mrs. Thomas believes that the utmost care should be exercised in selecting the reading matter. "I do not believe in dictating to a child as to his reading, but I do believe that he should be exposed from the earliest reading years to good books. We have talked unusual care in selecting the books in the children's department of this library," she said, "and hope that through use of good books they will develop a genuine interest in reading."

Mrs. Thomas is emphatic on one point. "I do not believe that too much care can be exercised in the child's reading from the time he first looks at his picture books. Even the first year's reading is a little more so than is commonly granted, she said."

It is this constant contact that makes library work so interesting to Mrs. Thomas. "But there is one thing I am certain of," she said, "public library work brings the librarian much nearer to people than any other branch of the work," she said.



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are leaving next Friday, March 29th, to visit the Lower Rio Grande Valley in Texas. If you, too, are interested in seeing this beautiful country . . . plan now to go on the 29th. The Spring is a most delightful season to travel, and it will be a real joy to spend Easter in the land of flowers.

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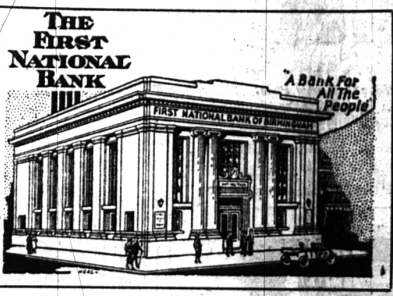
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