

Bible Reading The World Over

A marine on Guadalcanal in World War II wrote to his mother citing certain Bible passages and suggesting that they read them on the same day. When she called the local branch of the American Bible Society in Philadelphia to tell them of his suggestion she had before her both his letter and a telegram from the Navy Department notifying her that her son had been killed in action.

The woman's voice broke as she was telling the story, and she hung up the telephone. She did not give her name. The society was unable to trace the call and has never succeeded in identifying the person who made it.

Yet that telephone call has echoed around the world. Not long thereafter a chaplain from Guadalcanal, Dr. James Claypool, came to work for the American Bible Society. When told of the incident, he was inspired to launch a simultaneous Bible reading program known today as "Worldwide Bible Reading."

It takes place between Thanksgiving Day and Christmas and is now in its fourteenth year. The society has just issued its selected daily Bible readings from Nov. 29 to Dec. 25 — with passages for the remaining six days of the year for those who wish to continue. These are distributed through the churches and in many public places by the society.

The observance has gained dramatic emphasis from its anonymous origin and each year more people have made the holiday season an opportunity for closer acquaintance with the Bible.

Bible reading is some remote parts of the world is the only reading. Frequently a translation of the Bible, or some part of it, is the first written form of language there. Today the Scriptures, or portions of them, are available in more than 1,100 languages. These translations comprise the languages and dialects spoken by approximately 5 per cent of the world's population, according to authorities of the American Bible Society. Many times this means reduc-

ing a dialect to writing, then teaching the natives to read. One of the most recent projects of this kind brought the Bible to mountain tribes in Formosa. There are between 300 and 400 such projects under way in mountain villages and faraway jungle settlements all over the world.

The American Bible Society reports a great demand for the Scriptures in India where the Sermon on the Mount has been translated into fourteen languages, with four more translations now in progress. Mahatma Gandhi never professed the Christian faith, but it is known that he liked to read the Sermon.

Of the Bible, Theodore Roosevelt said: "Almost every man who has by his life work added to the sum of human achievement of which the race is proud — of which our people are proud — almost every such man has based his life work largely upon the teachings of the Bible."

Said Woodrow Wilson: "A man has deprived himself of the best there is in the world who has deprived himself of this (a knowledge of the Bible)."

Years ago a great Russian aviator, Fiodor M. Dostoyevsky, pleaded with the youth of Russia, "I recommend you to read the whole Bible through in the Russian translation. . . . One gains, for one thing, the conviction that humanity possesses, and can possess no other book of equal significance."

The American Bible Society today conducts its work in more than 60 countries and only last month commemorated the distribution of half a billion volumes of the Scriptures since its founding in 1816. From the distribution of 6,410 volumes in that year, the society has increased its circulation of the Bible until last year it reached a total of 15,170,058 writes Josephine Ripley in The Christian Science Monitor.

Even so, the society estimates that 90 per cent of the population is growing up in ignorance of the Scriptures. Much of the tension of our times, as authorities of the society see it, may be traced to ignorance of the Bible and the moral precepts it sets forth.

Working to eliminate this ignorance, the American Bible Society is associated with 23 other Bible societies around the globe — all engaged in the work of translating, producing, and distributing the Scriptures.

The work began centuries ago when a Baptist minister in Wales decided that something should be done to eliminate the scarcity of Bibles. This prompted a disquiet of how to publish a Bible at as low a cost as possible. And if low-cost Bibles were to be published for Wales, why not for England? someone asked. And if for England, why not for the world?

This was organized the British and Foreign Bible Society in 1804. A donation of 500 pounds from this society laid the foundation for its counterpart in the United States 212 years later. Today the American Bible Society has branches all over the country and headquarters at 450 Park Avenue, New York City.

MOH, BROTHER!

A motorist, charged with speeding through a red light at an intersection, explained to the judge:

"I always hurry through intersections to get out of the way of reckless drivers."

PERSON MERINGUE

BUTTERMILK PIE

1 package lemon pudding and pie filling
1/2 cup sugar
1 cup cream
2 egg yolks, slightly beaten
1 cup buttermilk
1 tbs. butter (optional)
1 baked 9- or 9-inch pie shell
2 egg whites

Combine pie filling mix, 1/2 cup sugar and water in saucepan. Add egg yolks and blend well. Add buttermilk and butter. Cook over low heat, stirring constantly, until mixture comes to a full boil and is thickened. Remove from heat and stir vigorously to make smooth. Pour into pie shell.

Beat egg whites until foamy throughout. Add 4 tablespoons sugar, 2 tablespoons at a time, beating after each addition until sugar is blended. Continue beating until meringue stands in peaks. Spread over pie filling. Bake at 425° F. until delicately browned, 5-10 minutes.

Perhaps you'd like to make some saucey pie? Here is one made with apple sauce and one made with rhubarb.

BLUSHING APPLE PIE

Graham cracker crust:
1/2 cup melted butter
1/2 cup sugar
1 1/2 cups crushed graham crackers (24 crackers)

Combine ingredients and mix well. Measure out 1/2 cup for sprinkling over finished pie.

MASSIVE MOLARS — Despite his position, little Benjamin Kassim doesn't seem at all down in the mouth, as he finds himself caught in a set of massive molars. The 5-year-old was one of 12 finalists at the eighth annual Dental Health Contest at Children's Aid Society shelter.

SAD FAREWELL — Close to tears, actress Ingrid Bergman is shown at the airport in Rome as she departed for Paris. With her is attorney Ercole Grotziedi, who made the announcement of her separation from film director Roberto Rossellini.

PUZZLEMENT

Policeman: "You saw this lady driving toward you. Why didn't you give her half the road?"
Unhappy driver: "I was going to, just as soon as I could find out which half she wanted."

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Across:
1. Public
2. Periodic
3. Carbon
4. Light bear
5. Leave out
6. Decade
7. Steel War
8. General
9. Affirmation
10. Model for use
11. Person
12. Carbon
13. Moved upward
14. Dig cool
15. Wall-hang
16. Tall money
17. Wall
18. Name
19. Person
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21. Wall plan
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1000. Paraphrase

BIGGER NEWS THAN SPUTNIK WAS EVERYONE'S THOUGHT... BOB WAS SELLING... HE FINALLY BOUGHT!

IT PAYS TO ADVERTISE — This billboard in downtown Milwaukee carries the latest, and perhaps last, message in the romance of Robert Brachman, 33, and Arlene Hale, 27. Brachman started the billboard romance last spring after the couple had a spot. The board carried a series of friendly messages. They must have worked because the couple plans to be married in the near future.

TIME TO REMODEL — Demolition would seem to be the only answer for this 1910 building in Felixstowe, England, a true household's nightmare. Actually, it's designed for laughs. The "structure" adorns the outside wall of a fun fair and is meant to attract curious visitors to the scenes behind it.



HOMES FOR A MOBILE NATION — More than three million Americans are living in mobile homes the year round or using them for weekend holidays and vacations. Newschart above illustrates the make-up of this population on wheels. The use of mobile homes has shown a phenomenal growth. In 1930 sales amounted to less than two million dollars; in 1956, 140,000 units were sold for nearly 600 million dollars. Modern trailer homes range in size from 24 to more than 50 feet, have as many as three bedrooms and cost from \$3,000 to \$7,000.

TABLE TALKS

Even in covered-wagon days, Kansas City, Missouri, was known as the crossroads for travelers going North, South, East, and West. Now it is known also as the city that lies in the heart of America, with travelers passing through it going in many directions.

Joe Kilbert's Airport Restaurant is known to thousands of these travelers, and his whipped-cream pies are their favorite dessert. Celebrities, as well as more ordinary people, have admiringly suggested that they would like to know how to make these pies. But Mr. Kilbert has always smiled tactfully and ignored the hint to give away his recipe. Now, for the very first time, he has parted with this information — to your columnist for you, writes Eleanor Richey Johnson in The Christian Science Monitor.

Chocolate is the pie most often ordered, but there are several other flavors also. I will give the recipe to you just as my chef wrote it out for him, and you can reduce it to any quantity you like. Put this mixture in a baked, cooled pastry shell and keep it in the ice box until dinner time. Then spread all over it, right to the edges, seasoned whipped cream. The layer of cream should be almost as thick as the filling. Here's the culinary scoop!

AIRPORT CHOCOLATE PIE MIX

4 quarts milk
4 pounds sugar
1 pint egg yolks
1 ounce vanilla
1 ounce salt
1 pound cornstarch
8 ounces cocoa

Place half the milk in a double boiler and let come to boil. Put the other 2 quarts in mixer, turn to slow speed, add yolks and dry mix. Stir until well mixed, then pour this into the hot milk and let cook until stiff, stirring all the time. Return to mixer and run medium speed until cooled and smooth.

Buttermilk is one of the ingredients of the following pie. Make it with pudding and pie mix, pour it into an already baked pie shell, bake it in a hot oven for 5-10 minutes, and serve it with fruit.

BUTTERMILK PIE

1 package lemon pudding and pie filling
1/2 cup sugar
1 cup cream
2 egg yolks, slightly beaten
1 cup buttermilk
1 tbs. butter (optional)
1 baked 9- or 9-inch pie shell
2 egg whites

Combine pie filling mix, 1/2 cup sugar and water in saucepan. Add egg yolks and blend well. Add buttermilk and butter. Cook over low heat, stirring constantly, until mixture comes to a full boil and is thickened