

# The Spearman Reporter

VOL. 31—NO. 6

SPEARMAN, HANSFORD COUNTY, TEXAS, THURSDAY, JANUARY 27, 1938

8 Pages Today

This is the story of Little Orphan Hansford, the dutiful political child, of Congressman Marvin Jones, who always hollers the loudest, votes the most emphatic, minds the best of all of Congressman Jones children.

The story is for home consumption only. There will not be a marked copy of this story sent to President Roosevelt, or forwarded to Congressman Jones, or placed on record with any of the big political lights. The fact is this writer would like for all our Hansford people who read the story would forget the facts, and go right on with their nose to the grind stone, and still live in hopes of getting a break along about 1985. This writer makes this request because there cannot be any good accomplished from Raising Hell at this late date in the game of politics, and there could be some harm to a program that is GOOD, and that will benefit our people by reflection. We have reference to the Panhandle Water Conservation Program, which has progressed to the stage that three major dams have been approved for impounding water in lake beds, and three other projects within the boundaries of the Panhandle area have had tentative approvals, and some of the preliminary work accomplished. The three large dam sites approved are, 1. The so-called Amarillo Baby, Tierra Blanca, or Buffalo Lake. 2. Gray County Lake covering an appropriation of \$300,000 building an 800 acre lake. 3. Hemphill county lake near Canadian.

According to a statement of Secretary-Lobbyist, Carl Hinton of the Association, made at a meeting of delegates and others held at Amarillo Wednesday Jan. 26, preliminary work has been accomplished on proposed dam sites (major lake program) for Dallam county, Ochiltree county and Swisher county.

Right at this point in our interesting story of Little Orphan Hansford, let us go back to the beginning and see how the political child has been getting along over the many years of dutiful behavior.

We have been trustful, and diligently worked for our foster parent during these many years, and occasionally we have been just a bit selfish in asking for a small token of love and appreciation from our Congressman. Just candy and such like. Take back in 1933 when the whole world was unsettled and the great Democratic administration came to the rescue with the Triple A program. The program was new, and naturally mistakes were made. Hansford county had an honest county agent that worked hard for the perfection of his program. He was not versed in politics, and one of the squarest shooters one ever met. When the government asked for land quotas representing the land in cultivation at the base period (1932), our well meaning county agent argued that there were only 160,000 acres that would come within the program, and that was the figure that was sent to the Agricultural Department. When our check our present figures of 338 thousand acres in the government program we realize what a pitiful mistake was made. Did anyone worry. Sure not—there was Poppie Marvin Jones. He would get us out of this mess—cause father Jones was Big Chief down Washington way—and he had known us these many years, and knew we were a bit unsophisticated but HONEST and sure he would correct this error. What Happened. We met with father Jones and Agricultural Secretary Henry Wallace—and these boys gave us an interview over at Amarillo—and we sent one of the largest delegations over to Amarillo of any of the counties—and we spent our fast diminishing money for eats and beer and new neck ties—OH YES—I believe there was something missed connection. Nothing serious—but when the rest of the Panhandle and the state was called on for a 5 percent reduction in acreage, I think we had to take out 21 per cent of our acreage—because the error was never straightened out. Then came the matter of production per acre. Hansford county has been advertised and publicized as the GREAT wheat producing county, but when the quotas came in we were rated much lower than several surrounding counties. Course it did not make a great deal of difference, the allotment was a gift, and beggars cannot be choosers.

## TIME MARCHES ON!

The man of the hour Poppie Jones was largely responsible for the great soil erosion program. He was a guiding figure—and LORD knows he should be complimented for the wonders he has accomplished for the Panhandle country. So one of we Hansford people are criticizing our great father Jones. He is Tops—and he has been worth literally millions of dollars in material benefits to our Panhandle country. We take time out here to THANK him for instituting the great programs he has been responsible for in this area. BUT, and we are not crying, and not complaining—just recording facts. Many soil erosion camps were established over the country. Hansford county was right on the bor-

der of the badly eroded area. We Hansford citizens felt that within the great program, some county that was not quite so badly damaged would be selected and the methods of soil conservation taught our people while we yet had value and possibilities. We held meetings and resolved and begged and even tried our hand at politicking—but we were no good there because we are unfortunate in not having but a limited amount of voters—so the camps went to Dallam county, and the CCC organization and the state park program went to Ochiltree county.

## TIME MARCHES ON

Came the days when our efficient and well liked present President of the Panhandle Water Conservation organization advised us that WPA programs were running out. Came the time when our Poppie Marvin Jones wanted to institute his pet scheme—and like all other ideas of our political father it was a worthy one, logical, and well meaning. Father Marvin had studied the erosion question for years. He realized that countless millions of tons of rich top soil was washed down the rivers to the gulf. This soil came from your land and other land over the country. Marvin realized that literally Billions of dollars was being spent by the government in trying to control the flood waters over the nation—and realized that the money was being wasted. He conceived the idea that the place to control flood water at the base. Impound this water on the immediate water bed as it ran off the watershed. This program would save much of the top soil, and would eliminate the vast expenditures for flood control that could not control, so long as the raging torrents were allowed to flow unhampered from the feeder streams over the nation. A world woke up. A nation got a vision. A people saw the error of their way—and the one program that ran smooth thru the coffers of our national government was the flood control idea that promised double savings—the saving of top soil and fertile land—the saving of count-

## Little Orphan HANSFORD

less millions of dollars in control of flood at the origin.

## TIME MARCHES ON

We are informed that a number of people interested in establishing a lake at the now famous Buffalo lake site organized themselves into a sort of promoting committee. We are informed that it included Deaf Smith citizens, and Randall county citizens. These citizens came to Amarillo and asked for the aid of the Panhandle's BIG BROTHER, Amarillo. We are informed that this small beginning was the start of the great Panhandle Water Conservation organization. We are informed that the original committeemen from Hereford became dissatisfied when the possibilities were apparent for an area-wide program, and thus came a change, and Deaf Smith citizens who have always been tops with Big Brother Amarillo, found out that they could carry their brotherly love a bit too far—so that's That.

But let us review the birth of the Panhandle water conservation organization. Prior to calling of the organization meeting Big Brother Amarillo said we don't want a lake, and we have our brothers over the Panhandle at heart. Tell you what we will do. We will pay the salary of our Chamber of Commerce secretary Carl Hinton, and furnish you one of the best lobbyist in the State of Texas. It sounded good—and at that time all of the entire Panhandle was grasping at any straw—we wanted working programs—we wanted revenue from Washington—and it looked like the finest sort of a program (and for that matter it is). All of the 21 Panhandle counties hurried to get into the program, and take some of our tax money and help pay Car Hinton's expenses in Washington—and believe you me it was money well spent. We organized, and perhaps thru the efforts of our Big brother Amarillo, the State of Texas was persuaded to appropriate \$25,000.00 and some needed legislation. The program really started with a BANG, and this writer was among the more than 2,000 people who went to Amarillo (seems like we are always going to Amarillo), spent 50c at the Barbecue and listened to the speeches of our people when the program was started. We remember that the main theme of the entire program (AT THAT TIME) was soil erosion and flood control.

This writer listened when President of the Association John McCarty stated that the location of the dam sites would be on MERIT alone. We heard Congressman Marvin Jones plea for cooperation—we heard him outline a long-time program—and advise us that all of us could not get a

lake in the original program of 9 major lake construction program. We heard our Congressman say that the lakes would be placed at the most advantageous locations, and we assumed from the publicity, and from his statement that we published in this paper that Congressman Jones wanted the lakes selected first that would do the most toward his flood and soil control program. We quote you here statements made under the signature of Congressman Marvin Jones:

We are losing value in dollars which dollars cannot replace, once the precious basis of our national wealth is gone. Of course we cannot rearrange nature, but we can do our best to prevent the waste for which man has been laid under responsible.

It is important to remember that conservation of soil, conservation of water must be considered together as essential features of any program which seeks to maintain a productive land. Economizing the rainfall and using the water supply in our section in the best possible way is an all-important parallel to the work now being done in soil conservation.

Last fall when the President's Drouth Committee visited the Panhandle, I suggested the following lines of action.

1. Building dams and creating small lakes.
2. Small irrigation projects where possible.
3. Simplifying the farm program with a large share of the responsibility in local hands.
4. Low interest rates for farm credit.
5. Provision to encourage ownership of farm homes.
6. An adequate range program.

This writer met with the Hansford County Water Conservation body when they were preparing their application for a major project. The writer well remembers the hope and elation of that meeting. A large map showing creeks and roads of the entire Panhandle country was spread out on one wall. One could see at a glance that a major lake located in Hansford county would have the largest watershed of any Panhandle stream. The committee felt like Hansford county would at least be among the first five major lake projects—AND IT SHOULD HAVE BEEN. The committee later had a visit from some engineers. And I am quoting you what these engineers said: But mind you—it's a big fib if you ever call their hand—because they were just carried away with the natural physical conditions in our county, and since we did not get included in the original nine county program, they spoke out of turn. This is what they said in substance. We have visited several counties and none of them have anything to compare with this county in the way of lake sites. And the irony of the statement is that two government projects will be approved in places visited by these engineers.

## TIME MARCHES ON

Came the fruits of the water conservation campaign. One lake has been approved and the money is ready for disbursement. Five other Texas lakes will be approved, perhaps within the present fiscal year, ending June 30th. Three lakes will have to be selected in New Mexico—the so called "rabbit Twisters" helped us carry out our program. When the news finally got out, and our people sensed that the most important requirement of locating a lake was a big population—we lost hopes, in Hansford county.

## COMES THE EXPLANATION

This writer gathered from attending the regular meeting of the Water Conservation Body in Amarillo, that officials are explaining the location of the lake on the grounds of serving the most people advantageously.

You ask How serving? For RECREATIONAL PURPOSES. We have been laboring under the idea that this was part of a national program of soil conservation and flood control. Apparently it is not. It has turned into a Recreational Program.

In the meeting at Amarillo, Lobbyist-Secretary Carl Hinton explained that the locations were made by the Coordinating committee with the view of serving the most people, and of course considering physical conditions from the standpoint of MERIT.

Let us draw you a word picture of the lakes that will dot the Panhandle in the original 9 lake program. One will be near Amarillo, and naturally it will service the large block of voters. One will be near Canadian, and perhaps it will service the smallest block of voters, without the Coordinating committee consider the overlapping area extends over into Hansford county. One will be in Dallam county, and the go-getter from our left score again. One will be in Ochiltree county, and again the Federal government will pass up the Hansford people to pour more money into the laps of our "go-getter" neighbors. One will be down in Swisher county and comes as a tribute to the fact that five of the South Plains counties organized as a unit, that demanded attention from the standpoint of votes. THESE ARE FACTS!

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### SPERMAN REPORTER

**THE REST OF THE RECORD**  
By JAMES V. ALLRED  
Governor Of Texas

Throughout the history of Texas as the General Land Office has been one of the most important state offices. Its importance has increased tremendously during the past few years due to oil development in practically every county in the state.  
Along the Gulf Coast of Texas numerous men have been discovered and the submerged coastal lands belonging to the State have become potentially very valuable. Under the law the Land Commissioner has the right to lease these lands for oil development. Of course, he does not have to lease them unless he wants to. During the past year the new

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Land Commissioner, Mr. McDonald, has leased hundreds of thousands of acres of land, much of it along the coast. In nearly all instances he has leased this land for a very small cash consideration, and providing for a bigger royalty if oil should be discovered; but the trouble is that the State is taking a gamble on whether oil will be found or not.

It seems to me that if we are going to gamble on oil being under our land, we ought to gamble the whole thing rather than to sell 13-16ths of the oil, for instance, for two or three hundred dollars with no requirement for immediate drilling. The only reason for leasing land with a big overriding royalty is that we should know two things: first, that oil is certainly under the land, and second that it is going to be developed immediately.

Now in practically all the cases where the Land Commissioner has leased these submerged lands for from one hundred to two, three or four or five hundred dollars, he has not required immediate drilling and in most cases no drilling has been done, even though some of the leases are over a year old. On the other hand, he has been offered hundreds of thousands of dollars in cash and the usual 2-16 royalty. For instance, one cash bid was \$69,000.00 with 2-16 royalty. In other words, the company bidding \$69,000.00 was willing to gamble that amount for 14-16 of the oil if it should be discovered. The Land Commissioner, however, awarded a lease for \$310.00 with a 3-16 royalty. In other words, the people who got that lease got a 13-16 gamble for \$310.00, where we could have received \$69,000.00 for a 14-16

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THE SPEARMAN REPORTER

Thursday,

Dale Carnegie 5-Minute Biographies



MAJ. FRANCIS YEATS-BROWN What The Movies Didn't Tell About The Bengal Lancer

One afternoon about ten years ago, a slim, serious young Englishman by the name of Yeats-Brown sat before my fireplace in Forest Hills and kept me spell-bound for hours with tales of his adventures in the mystic and fabled lands of the East. He was 39 years old then; and ever since he was 19, he had seen death on many battlefields.

He had been a prisoner of war in Bagdad and Constantinople. He had fought the Turks on the scorching hot desert sands of Mesopotamia, and he had fought the Germans on the muddy fields of Flanders. He had written a book entitled "The Bloody Ten Years" and yet, like Lawrence of Arabia, I found him a quiet, soft spoken English gentleman more interested in poetry and philosophy than in fighting.

He hadn't lived just one life like most of us in his 39 years, he had lived many lives—in fact, when he wrote the story of his hectic career in which he related many of the things he told me that afternoon, he called the book, "The Lives of a Bengal Lancer." It was the sensational success of 1930. At it made one of the most engrossing films that ever came out of Hollywood. But like most Hollywood films based on biographies, it deviated very, very far from the facts of Yeats-Brown's astonishing career.

Francis Yeats-Brown was only 19 years old when he first put on the dashing blue and gold uniform and the blue and gold turban of the Royal Bengal Cavalry—the proudest and lordliest cavalry in all the far-flung dominions of his British Majesty. They were a picked body of men, the crack regiment of India, these Bengal Lancers. Their pay was almost nothing—something like ten dollars a month—and they had to supply their own horses and their own equipment. But they didn't go out there to Mother India for

gain, these daring young men of England—they went there for glory—went out there imbued with the spirit that carried Kitchener and Chinese Gordon and Sir Francis Drake and Sir Walter Raleigh to the ends of the earth.

I asked Yeats-Brown to tell me of his narrowest escape from death. He said it occurred one day while he was out "pig-sticking". He and his men had flushed a great boar out of the bamboos. The savage pig was racing across the field, his huge tusks glistening in the sun. Yeats-Brown, mounted on his polo pony, was in hot pursuit. Just as he drove his spear into the pig, his horse stumbled; and horse, pig and Yeats-Brown went down in a screaming whinnying, helpless mass of tangled legs and clawing feet. Yeats-Brown was pinned under his kicking horse; the pig, impaled upon the spear, was struggling to get up. The horse heaved, and the pig got loose just as Yeats-Brown leaped to his feet and a rescue party rode up. He had lost a tooth, sprained a thumb, and was bruised and mashed from head to foot.

But I suppose the strangest episode in Yeats-Brown's strange career was the time he disguised himself as a woman. He had been fighting the Turks out in Mesopotamia or 'Mespot' as he called it. He had been taken prisoner by the Turks and had escaped from his 'vermin-infested' cell in Constantinople, but had not been able to get out of the city. The Turkish authorities were searching for him frantically.

Naturally they were looking for an English officer, so they never suspected a German governess who used to meet a Russian prince in one of the cafes. The Russian prince was also being watched by the authorities, but the sentimental Turks hadn't the heart to interfere with a little harmless flirtation. So when Yeats-Brown, all dolled up as a German governess in a picture hat, with a veil, a black fox seal around his shoulders and a muff over his hands,

to the cafe, the Russian prince would jump to his feet, bow respectfully and kiss the lady's hand. And the Turkish detectives would smile at one another knowingly and shrug their shoulders. After all, even a suspect Russian prince was entitled to a little romance.

He was unable to get out of Turkey disguised as Mademoiselle Josephine, so he played another role. Overnight he changed his sex and nationality and became a Hungarian mechanic who had lost his job in a munition factory. He grew a small, turned-up mustache and wore a derby hat, a pair of steel-rimmed glasses, a stained white vest and a pair of shoes with elastic sides. Actually he looked like a second rate comedian, but the Turks never doubted that he was the real McCoy.

AL JOLSON

Once Doomed To Die For Want Of Ten Cents—He Lived To Tear Up \$1,000,000.

So far as I know, there is only one actor in America who ever tore up a contract worth a million dollars. Who is he? Well, you ought to know, for you have seen him in pictures, you have sung his songs, you have laughed at his jokes. He made the first full-length talking picture. And he also made the greatest box-office attraction that was ever created in Hollywood—a picture that earned twelve million dollars, an all-time record that has never been approached by any other film.

That picture was The Singing Fool, and the man who starred in it was Al Jolson—Al Jolson to you.

Jolson once drew a salary of \$31,250 a week and he drew it for more than six months without doing a day's work. That means he was paid almost a million dollars for doing absolutely nothing. To be sure, he was ready to perform; but his employers, United Artists, had no script ready to shoot just then; so he played golf and collected a salary that made the income of the President of the United States look like a stenographer's stipend.

Then he did one of the most unexpected and generous acts that has ever brightened the cynical darkness of Hollywood. The depression had just struck. Joseph Shenck, a life-long friend of Jolson's, had lost heavily. There was still more than a million dollars due Al Jolson on his contract; but he tore the contract up and handed it back to Joseph Shenck.

head of the United Artists, saying "Forget it! I'm not doing anything for you, and you don't need to pay me any more."

Al Jolson had tuberculosis when he was a boy. When he went to a free clinic at Bellevue Hospital for treatment, the doctors told him that if he didn't get away to the country at once, he would be dead in six months. The prescription they gave him was free, so was the medicine; but when he went to get it, he discovered that he had to pay ten cents for a bottle. He didn't have a dime—so to this day, he has never got the medicine.

He recovered without it, anyhow—and without doctors. But he has never forgotten how it felt to be doomed to die because he didn't have ten cents. That is why he now spends twenty thousand dollars a year supporting free beds for poor people in a tuberculosis sanitarium in the Adirondacks at Saranac Lake. He has been doing this for 11 years; and has never seen half of the people whose lives he has saved.

Jolson got his first job on the stage when he was a child—a small part in a play called Children of the Ghetto. He had just one line—he had to rush to the stage and shout "Kill the Jews!" His father had a job slaughtering cattle in a butcher shop during the sheets singing in the synagogue on sabbath. So when he in Hansford, his son was shouting imperators "Kill the Jews!" you if seen career almost came to its end.

When Jolson first came to New York, he was penniless, and he was so unsophisticated when he got to Newark, New Jersey he thought he was in New York. When he finally got to New York, he slept on park benches and on trucks down by the waterfront. For days he went hungry. The best he could hope for then was a chance to "jump for nickles" in some Bowery saloon. He saw the day when Broadway managers leaped at the chance of paying him ten dollars a minute.

Lee Schubert once remarked that there were only two legitimate actors in America who could go into any big town and fill a theatre on the strength of their names alone. One was Fred Stone and the other Al Jolson.

NOTICE TO LAND OWNERS

To: The Norton Properties, Louisville, Ky; and D. C. Dilley, of Borger, Texas, non resident

land owners of Hansford county, Texas:

You are hereby notified that the undersigned jury of assessors, acting under and by virtue of an order of the Commissioners' Court, of Hansford County, Texas, will on the 10th day of February A. D. 1930, proceed to lay out and survey a public road of the first class, sixty (60) feet in width (being 30 ft on each side of the section lines traversed by the road), commencing at the Northwest Corner (NW Cor) of Sec. 156, Block 2, G.H.&H.Ry. Co., Hansford County, Texas, and running thence east on section lines a distance of two (2) miles to the N. E. Cor. Sec. 181, Bk 2, G.H.&H.Ry. Co., and terminating at such last mentioned point; and which proposed road may run through or along the section line of certain lands owned by you, and will at the same time assess the damages incidental to the opening of said road, when you may present to us a statement in writing of the damages, if any, claimed by you. Witness our hands this 7th day of January A. D. 1930.

Ben Harris, Pete Dahl, M. F. Roy, D. J. Powell, Mrs. J. Dalhart, daughter Maxine. The percentage of their land in the major crops and placing it in soil building crops, such as grasses and clovers. Although officials say they hope the finished farm bill will require no acreage quotas for wheat growers this year, they are urging farmers to make a voluntary reduction of several million acres in spring wheat planting. Drought conditions in the wheat belt may help effect the reduction.

State and county acreage allotments are being calculated for each of the major crops except wheat. They will not be made until after the 1st of February.

Sufferers of STOMACH ULCERS HYPERACIDITY DEFINITE RELIEF OR MONEY BACK THE WILLARD TREATMENT has brought prompt, definite relief in thousands of cases of Stomach and Bowel Ulcers, due to Hyperacidity, and other forms of Stomach Distress due to Excess Acid. ONLY 12 DAYS TRIAL. For complete information, read "Willard's Message of Relief." Ask for it—free—at

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The SNAPSHOT GUY DECORATIVE SILHOUETTE



A puppy is likely to move, a photographic flash, afternoons, a flash of light, was used in many instances. Three sixty-watt electric bulbs will provide good results. Time exposures, using Semina with its lens at least at other cameras as lens at stop movement when peepholes are appearing in use a flash bulb behind the with two or three large bulb snapshots can be taken. When using the flash bulb, one can flash it at the correct moment at an "okay" signal from the person operating the camera. The should be regular household bulbs, be behind the sheet for the "cameraman" to see the silhouetted images and to know when to give his "okay" signal.

When the silhouette is snapped, of course, all lights must be turned off in the room which contains the camera and subject. Unless this is done, detail in the subject, spoiling the silhouette. The photographer should also be careful of stray light from windows, mirrors which might catch light from the illuminated sheet and throw it toward the shadow side of the subject. John van Guilder.

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International Sunday School Lesson

J. E. GOWEL

By Dr. J. E. Nunn

Room 2  
McLain B  
Phone res. 98

Topic: Ministering to the Sick  
Lesson: Mark 2:1-12

DR. J. P. Eye Ear No.

And when he entered Capernaum after some days he was notified that he was gathered together with many people that there was no room for them, no, not even about the door: and he spake the words unto them. And they come, bringing unto him a man sick of the palsy, borne of four.

And when they could not come nigh unto him for the crowd, they uncovered the roof where he was: and when they had broken it up, they let down the bed whereon the sick of the palsy lay. And Jesus seeing their faith said unto the sick of the palsy, Son, thy sins are forgiven.

take up thy bed, and walk. 10. But that ye may know that the Son of man hath authority on earth to forgive sins he saith to the sick of the palsy, 11. I say unto thee, Arise, take up thy bed, and go unto thy house. 12. And he arose, and straightway took up the bed, and went forth before them all; insomuch that they were all amazed, and glorified God, saying, We never saw it on this fashion.

Golden Text: Son, thy sins are forgiven.—Mark 2:5.

Introduction Wherever Jesus went, from first to last, he found need; every time he turned around he ran into someone seeking healing. There was no end of poverty, sickness and misfortune. Their rich were heartlessly indifferent; the relief of charity or of any reasonable medical treatment was unknown. As for the mentally diseased, we fairly shudder when we learn how they were treated in that age.

We should be very clear about two facts of Jesus' ministry: (1) He was an eater of the body, and of course, he was super-sensitive to and infinitely sympathetic with suffering in others. (2) But he was preeminently a healer of souls. We should always keep this in mind in considering Jesus' healing miracles. And that the greatest of them were those that "made whole" in a spiritual

Jesus Returns To Capernaum. Mark 2:1, 2.

It is very probable that considerable time had passed since the events recorded in the first chapter. Mark 1:39 states that he made an extensive tour "throughout all Galilee" which must have required considerable time. Capernaum was the most favored city of all Palestine. Matthew 4:13 tells us that it was the place where Jesus dwelt after he left Nazareth. It was the place where he performed many miracles and preached many sermons, and where he taught in the synagogue. Whenever he appeared in Capernaum, whether in the synagogue or in a private home, the people crowded to hear him.

The Fate of Capernaum Matt. 1:23, 24

Bishop Ryle says the history of Capernaum strikingly illustrates "what great spiritual privileges some persons enjoy, and yet make no use of them." The most faultless preaching, and saw it confirmed by them at surprising miracles, and yet remained dead in trespasses and sins." Jesus tells the story of how they were exalted and of the condemnation they called down upon themselves by their hardness of heart. "Thou, Capernaum, which art exalted unto heaven, shalt be brought down to hell: for if the mighty works, which have been

done in thee, had been done in Sodom, it would have remained until this day. But I say unto you, That it shall be more tolerable for the land of Sodom in the day of judgment than for thee" Matt. 11:23, 24. The people of Capernaum sinned against greater privileges and greater light than did Sodom; therefore they deserved the greater condemnation.

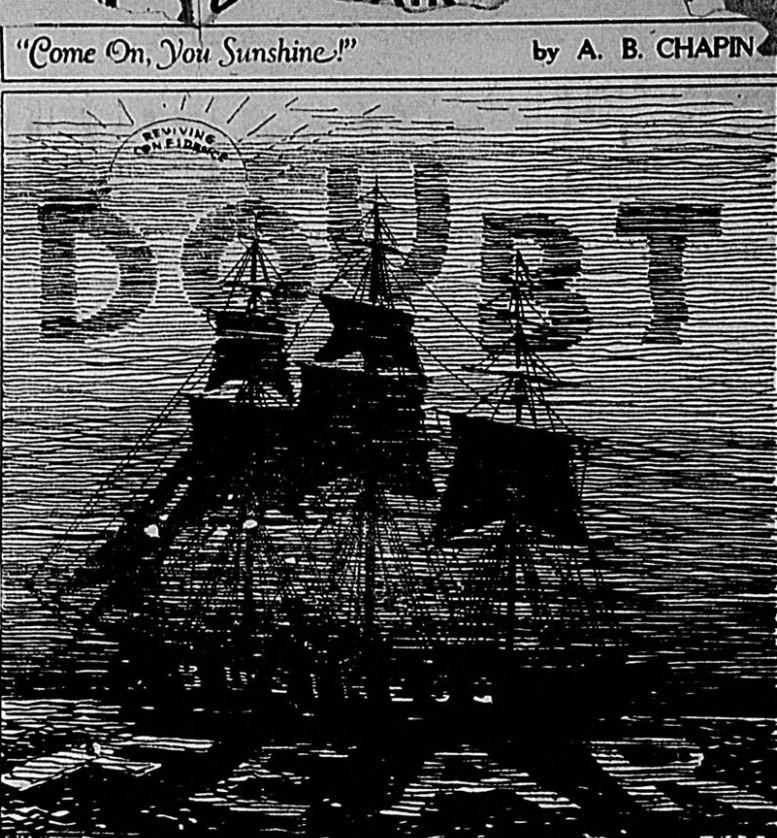
Jesus Heals A Paralytic Mark 2:3-5.

Here we have a perfect example of what has been called Mark's pictorial definiteness and vivid description. One can easily visualize Mark's four men bearing the paralytic into the presence of Jesus in spite of difficulties. Doctor Carroll points out four vital lessons suggested by this incident. First, disease may be, and often is, the direct result of sin. Second, intelligent cooperation is always commendable and most effective in Christian service. Third, the determination these four men displayed in overcoming difficulties is evidence of their deep conviction that the sick and sinful man needed Jesus. Fourth, they proved their faith by their works. They believed that Jesus was both able and willing to save and heal. These are Christian virtues worthy of the emulation of all Christians.

The First Clash Between Jesus And The Pharisees. Mark 2:6-12.

The "certain scribes" mentioned by Mark are classified by Luke as Pharisees and doctors of the law. They were mainly of the Pharisaic party. They had "sected heresy from afar and had come to pry censoriously and inquisitorially" into the merits of this new teacher who had stirred all Galilee. They were critical but not openly hostile. But the moment Jesus assumed the prerogative and power of God in granting forgiveness of sin, they at once saw the point and his hidden hostility of their hearts was revealed by their changed facial expressions. They were not courageous enough to register an outspoken protest, but whispered among themselves. Since they did not admit that Jesus was the son of God, having divine rights in himself, his claim to grant forgiveness was to them blasphemy. He not only had assumed the prerogative that belongs to God, but also had demonstrated that he possessed the power of God. They could not explain either, but could and did complain concerning both.

The Son of Man Mar. 2:10 "But that ye may know that the Son of man hath authority on earth to forgive sins (he saith to the sick of the palsy), I say unto thee, Arise, take up thy bed and go unto thy house." "We are met for the first time in Mark's Gospel the title which Jesus gave himself: 'the Son of man.' It is used only by Jesus himself, except in John 12:34 and in Acts 7:56 and reflects Matt. 26:64. Jesus always used it as a subject or as object, always in the third person. He is fully conscious that he is the Son of man, yet he never says 'I am the Son of man.' Fur-



thermore, it is never found in the plural 'of men'. That the human nature of Christ is thus expressed is beyond question. But 'the Son of man' lifts this one man out from among all men as one who bears this human nature in a way in which no other bears it. In the use of Jesus makes of this title two lines of thought converge: the one is lowliness, suffering; the other, power, exaltation, beyond man... Here is a case in which Jesus did not touch the sick man, but uttered only the word as the expression of his mighty will. As in all the miracles, the proceeding is astounding and overwhelmingly three short, sharp commands and a terrible disease like paralysis is literally blown away, and the man's body made sound and whole.—R. C. H. Lenski.

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