

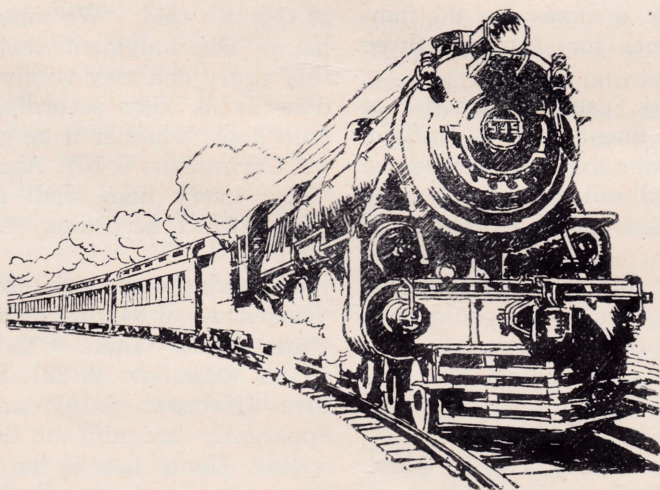
# TIMELY TOPICS

No. 184

TOM M. OLSON

Issued Monthly

## Railroad Rewards 11-Year Old Boy





## Railroad Rewards 11-Year Old Boy

**T**EARS rolled down the cheeks of eleven-year-old Jimmy Colclough of Canastota, N. Y., when the New York Central Railroad brought him rewards for reporting a rail defect near his home.

Jimmy stood silently, his arms folded in front of him, during most of the speech-making in the living room of the Colclough home. Suddenly, overwhelmed by the tributes paid him, Jimmy burst into tears. But he recovered quickly when he saw his new electric train.

Other gifts from the railroad included a \$100 check, a dinner for the family and presents for Jimmy's three sisters.

J. J. Frawley, general manager of the railroad's lines east of Buffalo, told the youngster that he "showed the traits of a good railroad man," when he reported discovery of a broken rail joint.

Mr. Frawley said the defect was on a freight track, but that it could have caused a serious smash-up. Several passenger trains, including the Empire State Express, whiz past the spot at an eighty-mile-an-hour clip.

In a letter to Jimmy, Gustav Metzman, New York Central president, offered the youngster a job when he reaches the "proper age."

Jimmy's overwhelmed feelings and

joyful tears are easily understood and appreciated. Praise and rewards for a worthy deed are bound to affect one. The subject of rewards invariably causes us to think of the Judgment Seat of Christ, where believers shall receive their rewards for deeds well pleasing to the Lord.

In addition to salvation, the Lord has promised believers a series of rewards. Salvation is by grace, through faith, entirely apart from our works (Ephesians 2:8-9). But rewards must be earned by good works.

The apostle Paul writing to believers at Corinth said: "We must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad" (II Corinthians 5:10). Again he wrote ". . . every man shall received his own reward according to his own labor."

Rewards are promised for good deeds (Ephesians 6:8), for suffering for Christ's sake (Luke 6:22-23), for sacrifices (Matthew 19:29), for labors of love (Hebrews 6:10); and even for apparently insignificant things (Mark 9:41). Hence now is the time for believers to be doing all things to the glory of their Lord. How joyful shall believers be at receiving praise of God (I Corinthians 4:5) and rich rewards!

## Gold from Sawdust?

**R**AYMOND H. Reiss of Sheboygan, Wisconsin, is president of a furniture factory and a clothing manufacturing company and also owns a coal mine.

Sixty tons of sawdust pile up in his furniture factory every day. He burns it to get it out of the way.

He is offering, so it is reported, \$2,500 to anyone who has an idea how to dispose of it—profitably, that is.

Two chemical engineers have been

trying for 10 years to make the waste material into a profit for Reiss.

He is trying to make furniture out of sawdust, by molding it under pressure. "Using sawdust for fuel is like a farmer burning grain for fuel in the depression," he said.

There are multitudes of people who are attempting to discover a gold mine in a mountain of spiritual sawdust. All their efforts are foredoomed to

(Continued on next page, column 2)



# Retrial of Christ Requested

## PETITION TO ISRAELI COURT

**A** CAREFULLY documented petition of more than thirty pages was sent by registered mail to the Israeli Supreme Court in Jerusalem recently, asking for a review of the trial of Jesus Christ which occurred nineteen centuries ago.

The petitioner is said to be that noted Dutch writer, Robbe Groskamp, author of the book, *The Re-Trial of Jesus Christ*.

The petition points out that the Israeli Supreme Court sitting as a high court of justice has the jurisdiction to review the "mistrial" of Jesus, who was condemned to death on charges of blasphemy. It also declares that the Jewish court has a moral duty to review the trial and exonerate Christ from the charges which resulted in His death sentence and crucifixion in the Holy City.

It states that the seventy-one judge court of the Sanhedrin was not qualified to sit at the trial. It also questions the jurisdiction of Pontius Pilate, the Roman governor, in confirming the sentence.

Israeli Chief Justice Moshe Smoira said his court will not act on the appeal until supplementary evidence is submitted.

### Earlier Appeals Unsuccessful

Similar appeals for such a review have been unsuccessfully made in the past; but they were made before May 14, 1948—the memorable date of the establishment of the State of Israeli. Now it remains to be seen what the Supreme Court will decide.

Will the Chief Justice accept as "supplementary evidence" the testimony of eye-witnesses to the resurrection and ascension of the Lord Jesus Christ (I Corinthians 15:3-7; Acts 13:31)? It is a certainty that if the Lord Jesus had been guilty of

blasphemy, as charged, He would not have been raised from among the dead and seated at the right hand of the Majesty in the heavens.

If the Israeli Supreme Court in Jerusalem "exonerates" the Lord Jesus, will it not mean that they now admit that He was what He professed to be; and, if so, will they immediately acknowledge Him as their Messiah?

Regardless of what decision the Israeli Supreme Court makes in the matter, it must be recalled that the Godward aspect of the death of Christ cannot be changed by anyone. On the manward side, the crucifixion of Christ was cold-blooded murder (Acts 7:52); but on the Godward side, it was the exhibition of divine love to a guilty world. "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life" (John 3:16).

That marvelous manifestation of God's love calls for an immediate and hearty response from each person hearing of it. Have you responded with a "Thanks be unto God for His unspeakable gift"?

### Gold from Sawdust?

(Continued from preceding page)

failure—even though Mr. Reiss succeeds with his literal sawdust—for Jeremiah wrote: "The prophet that hath a dream, let him tell a dream; and he that hath My Word, let him speak My Word faithfully. What is the chaff to the wheat? saith the Lord" (Jeremiah 23:28).

Human dreams, theories, philosophies and platitudes are as chaff (or sawdust) when compared to the inspired Word of the living God.

Cease looking for the golden truth of redemption in the chaff, and find it in the incorruptible Word of God!



## G. Bernard Shaw Seeking a Faith

**A**N editorial in *The Christian* quotes a writer in *The Times Literary Supplement*, giving the information that, as a youth of nineteen, Bernard Shaw heard Moody and Sankey, during their campaign in the Exhibition Building, Dublin, in 1875.

Yet instead of being captured by Moody's message, he was so much upset by it that he published a letter denouncing Dublin middle-class folk for "mixing themselves up in pietistic orgies suitable only for the slums."

As the writer goes on to point out, Mr. Shaw has been searching for a faith ever since, and at the age of ninety he has practically confessed that he has not found it.

True it is that he professes enthusiasm for his creed of Creative Evolution, and has employed it recently as a whip to chastise his fellow-members of the Rationalist Press Association.

## General Lee's Shoe Debts Still on Books

**A**CCORDING to the press, two pairs of shoes purchased by Robert E. Lee for \$2.88 are still on the books.

Students of Washington and Lee University sent a check for the amount—plus interest—to the shoe store where the purchase was made, but it was returned.

Mrs. Clinton Ballenger, of Alexandria, Virginia, descendant of the store's original owner, found the item among old accounts now in her possession.

Both she and the shoe store say they won't accept any of the various offers to pay the bill, which have been made, since she disclosed that purchase price apparently never had been paid.

Possibly the reason the store refuses to accept payment is the fact that the person paying the debt would have a right to demand that the bill be marked "Paid" and given to him—whereas the bill is worth an inestimable amount of money as a historical record.

Although Mr. Shaw claims to believe "firmly in Providence and in what used to be called the will of God," his God is not personal in the Christian sense, nor has he any place for a doctrine of redemption.

Creative Evolution is only Humanism with a theistic tinge, and Mr. Shaw is essentially pessimistic in his view of mankind. Life is too short, he declares, to enable bad men to become good, and he has no belief in a divine power that can transform a sinner into a saint through faith in a once crucified and risen Savior.

Our suggestion would be that Mr. Shaw cease seeking "a faith" and accept wholeheartedly **THE FAITH**—the whole body of revealed truth as given us in the Scriptures. "What is the chaff to the wheat?"

The Gospel of Christ is still "the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth" (Romans 1:16).

Our thought is that if the store refuses to allow interested persons to pay that debt, someone in the firm should pay it or mark it "Cancelled" to clear the charge of indebtedness.

The incident serves to increase our thankfulness to God for not refusing the payment made by the Lord Jesus Christ for our sins.

When the precious blood of the Lamb of God was shed for the remission of our sins (Matthew 26:28), God gave assurance unto all men of His perfect satisfaction with that payment in raising Him from among the dead (Acts 17:31), and seating Him "at His own right hand in heavenly places, far above all" (Ephesians 1:20-21).

In addition to singing: "Jesus paid it all, all to Him I owe," the believer hears the Lord saying to him: "I, even I, am He that blotteth out thy transgressions for mine own sake, and will not remember thy sins" (Isaiah 43:25).