

June 22, 1952

“Let love be without dissimulation. Abhor that which is evil; cleave to that which is good. Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love; in honour preferring one another.” Romans 12--9, 10

The Bible teaches us to love everyone in spite of his faults or actions; which is a very wonderful thing if it could be practiced by all peoples and would surely end frictions and wars between any countries.

But it doesn't work this way; man is not forgiving enough to overlook evils by his fellow men and not willing to shake hands when he is in doubt whether the fellow will use the gesture for friendliness or a means of overpowering.

It is very hard to go to your enemies and say all is forgiven and I love you; whether you are a devil or not. A person with a forgiving nature is most likely dubbed a weakling and too many times used as a tool.

Yes, it would be a very beautiful world if all men's hearts contained love instead of hate and greed; then we could feel trusting to all; but there is so much deceit it is a mystery to sieve out the bad. This makes it a problem to live by the Bible and love all men as we should.

It is wise to show brotherly love as a good example for others; but there are a few stinkers who couldn't see good from anything no matter how it is shown them. So it is a question, should one love everyone even to the point of being hurt or should there be exceptions?

The word “hate” shouldn't have ever been coined. We can say we hate and actually don't always mean it. Sometimes hate for a particular person can gradually be worn off by better acquaintance and a balancing of the good and bad.

So it really is better to love everyone in the broad sense of the word; and those to whom we feel might weaken our concept of love, leave them in the outer circle.

June 23, 1952

United States is the same country from the Atlantic to the Pacific and the people speak the same language—but with variations in expressions and dialects. This is not noticeable too much until you visit across the continent.

In some parts of the U.S. a city block is referred to as a square; at first the Westerner is a little puzzled; but in a few days he, too, is using the same expression.

We refer to our conveyance as the “car” whereas in the East it is the “machine”. And to go traveling, we were “motoring” there; not down the road or highway; but on the “pike”.

Electricity is “electric”. The word “let” is replaced with “leave”. There are probably more variations of minor words; but these we noticed the most. Our Western versions seemed just as odd to them and we speak with a much more distinct pronunciation of words.

The different expressions and phrases of out of state peoples aren't as noticeable when they visit here as it is when you visit among them; because everyone there uses the same “lingo”.

I wouldn't doubt but what they are laughing at some of our versions of the English language, too.

Good strawberry jam is appreciated the country over and is known by the same name no matter where you are.

To one quart of sliced berries, add 2 cups of cane sugar. Bring to a rolling boil and boil, stirring constantly for five minutes. Add one more cup of sugar and boil vigorously for another five minutes. Pour into a shallow pan and cool. Stir several times until it sets. Can be left overnight; then pack into sterilized jars and seal.

June 24, 1952

Traveling gives one a vacation and builds your interest in other places and so is worth more than given credit for. When moments get dull and some job is wearisome, I can always think about the places I have been and recall a happy incident.

After we are home awhile, all the discomforts of the heat and poor food and uncomfortable motel beds are forgotten. And any traffic troubles and detours become laughing stock. Traveling encounters many human interest stories that remain in memory for years.

Places are remembered by unusual incidents; like the kitten in North Dakota bulldozing a hole in a new made ditch by the road and the flat milk shake (undrinkable) served in a certain town; and in Montana cows being herded by a 1951 Ford.

The fellow who sits in one spot is a dull conversationalist. The traveler has something to yap about for years as conversation reminds him of some happenings encountered in his travels.

When you are away from home, there is always something or someone to remind you of home and through these comparisons the trip is well remembered. Roaming around is educational, too, actually seeing and feeling things read about in books sticks with you longer; and you learn History without studying.

The fellow who begins a vacation trip should free his mind of all the home cares and make room for several brains full of new things.

Try this for really good lemonade—a recipe I learned on our trip East: The strained juice of six lemons, 2 oranges, 2 cups of sugar; and 10 cups of water.

June 25, 1952

Six months from today is Christmas. Pleasant thought isn't it? It doesn't seem possible six months have elapsed since that winter's day; but the older we get, the faster the elevator of time rises.

Some people make preparations for the winter holidays back in the summer; but I don't think they enjoy the spirit nearly as much as those who do last minute planning; and it is certainly much more worrisome to have it on your mind so long.

How can anyone enjoy the good old summer time thinking about a winter's holiday? It costs twice as much to make early preparations for Christmas; because most everyone changes their mind about what to give who before the holiday arrives and last minute shopping doesn't give time for changes.

Anyway, I am not going to be embroidering and sewing for gifts when I can be in the sunshine and getting some very necessary Vitamin D; that isn't always here in the winter. We should take our holidays as they come and fully enjoy them without weariness of preparation. It's like the Fourth of July—we don't prepare for it in December; and have more pleasure from it, if it is a last minute affair.

Commercialism has ruined the spirit of most holidays; and made too many people poisoned on the idea. Stores are advertising gifts months before the date and I have of late seen ads for Christmas cards. This is ruining the spirit and the original idea.

None of the holidays hold the same meaning they did twenty years or so ago; because they are all taken for granted and nothing is exciting about them. When I was in pig tails holidays were looked forward to as a real treat; and now the kids have a holiday nearly every day.

Well, Christmas will be here soon enough; so I am not going to worry about it until a few weeks or days before—in the meantime I am going to enjoy the good old summer time.

June 26, 1952

Up to this time, I haven't thought much about all this ado over the presidential election; and now the time is nearing for the big conventions and the papers are filled with editorials and all the news on the radio concerns "politics".

Elections cost the people money; and yet, in a presidential primary, the people have little choice in selecting a candidate; but vote for a dozen names unheard of, who are supposed to go to the convention and vote for the party's choice.

In the time between the primaries and the convention, these representatives can change their minds a dozen times. Why have all this fuss and bother of party conventions? Why can't the people vote out and out for their choice as is done in county and state primaries?

This money used for conventions could be employed to some very useful charities—like a home for retired politicians, or muzzles for the filibusters.

There will be some heated discussions in a hotter atmosphere. Seems a bad time of year to hold political conventions. I can imagine the steam that will be flying and what an exhausting, and boring meeting it will be.

Chicago, of course, feels very fortunate to have all these thousands and thousands coming to their city and naturally there will be some wealth poured into the business vaults. Trade and tourists are lacking out West this year; and it just now, dawns on me that this is the reason—all the money is going East.

Everyone is passing out some advice. "Don't build this year, wait until the election is over—don't gamble in business; wait until the election is over, etc." What and with the war situation and the strikes, a fellow begins to shake in his boots and wonders where to turn and why.

Election is big business; but does it affect the little fellow as much as we are scared it does?

June 27, 1952

On a long trip the shaving cream ads along the way provide much entertainment. In some states we noted an absence of much billboard advertising; but always there was a variety of shaving cream limericks. Here are some we wrote in the travel notes:

"Train wrecks few, reason clear, fireman never hugs engineer---His tomato was the mushy type until his beard grew over ripe---Unless your face is stinger free, you better let your honey be---A beard that is rough and overgrown is better than a chaperone.

"She eyed his beard and said no dice, the wedding's off I'll cook the rice.---The band for which the grandstand roots is not made up of substitutes---Train approaching whistle squealing. Pause! Avoid that run down feeling.---Cautious rider to her dear, let's have less bull and more steer.---Spring has sprung, the grass has riz where last year's careless driver is.

"Pat's bristles scratched Bridget's nose; that when her wild Irish rose.---Proper distance to him was bunk, that when they pulled him out of someone else's trunk.---Altho insured, remember kiddo, they don't pay you, they pay your widow.---Another redskin

bit the dust when Pa tried what these signs discussed.---Drinking drivers don't you know big bangs from little binges grow.

“Soap may do for lads with fuz, but, sir, you aint the kid you wuz.---The hobo lets his whiskers sprout, it's trains not girls he takes out.---I know he's a wolf said Red Riding Hood, but Grandma dear he smells so good.---We've made Grandpa look so trim, the local draft board's after him.---Missin' kissin', perhaps your thrush can't get through the underbrush.---We can't supply you with a date, but we do know the danged best bait.---The wolf is shaved so neat and trim, Red Riding Hood is chasing him.”

Besides entertainment there is good advice packed in these black and yellow signs and contain some of the best safety lessons any one can read; and probably these lessons are read by more people in this manner than in any book or paper.

June 28, 1952

There are a hundred different ways to travel; but probably the fellow in his car sees more of the country than any other way and can spend the amount of money to fit his pocket book. The best advantage to auto travel is the freedom to stop when you wish—unless someone is along who wants to break all the speed records.

Travel must fit the pocket book; but I made up my mind if I were to have a real vacation I would go in style and would not cook any meals and stay in the better motels—if possible. This might be argued by some; but we found it doesn't cost any more to eat in the better restaurants and stay in the best places.

A poor meal often costs as much as a good one and requires supplement for satisfaction and a place with a “bum” bed slows down travel and causes dissatisfaction among the passengers. So I either go on a vacation with enough money to thoroughly enjoy its comforts or I stay home. Take in consideration, too, it costs to eat at home; and fuel and other utilities are not being used in your absence, either.

It costs about \$10.00 a day for each person to travel; this includes car expenses, food, lodging, souvenirs, and entertainment. This can be more or less; but figured in average comfort; not unnecessary luxury.

Comfortable, better motels to accommodate three are \$5.50 to \$12.00 a night. Motels are cheaper than a hotel where it is expected to tip the bellboys; and the motel, too, is handier for the car. (And they are usually newer and have better beds.)

It will cost from a dollar to two for a dinner in a better café or hotel dining room; but there will be plenty for you to eat as you will have everything from soup to dessert and with a good breakfast you will only need a lunch to feel more satisfied while traveling. Whereas, you can pick some greasy cheap café and not have enough to eat; although you may not have paid as much; but before the day is done will have as much spent in food satisfaction; and most likely have to have an alka seltzer in the bargain.

The car expenses, of course, vary with the brand of automobile and how much gas it consumes and how many breakdowns. There will be toll bridge and ferry costs; according to your itinerary. Souvenirs can be a big expense; but we spent about five dollars apiece for the 19 days away from home.
