

**Saturday Night Talks**  
By F. E. DAVISON  
Rutland, Vt.

**UNDER SEALED ORDERS.**

March 7, '09—(Acts 8:26-28).

When nations are at war with each other and it is deemed necessary to conceal campaign plans from the enemy, naval forces are often sent to sea under sealed orders. No one knows the destination of the fleet, but the government officers. The men who stand upon the bridges of the battleships are unaware of the field of their operations. Not until the fleet is out upon the high seas does the commander break the seal and read the program for his evolutions and the plan of attack.

**Plan of Campaign.**

It was much that way with the movements of the church in the beginning. They knew in a general way that they were to preach the gospel, "both in Jerusalem and in all Judea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost parts of the earth," but just when and how it was to be done was all unknown even to the wisest of the apostles. God's plan of campaign included the home, the relatives, the neighborhood, the nations, in ever widening circles, not overlapping each other, but never ceasing until the world was evangelized. The army of the Lord steadily recognized His invisible leadership.

**Unquestioning Obedience.**

A striking illustration of this principle is found in the career of Philip, the evangelist. He was in the midst of a great revival in Samaria, the whole city was being swept with revival fire, when without the slightest intimation of what was coming he received orders to report for duty in the middle of a barren desert 60 miles away, that lay between Jerusalem and Gaza. Philip did not hesitate a second. He knew that the trains of duty make schedule time and close connections, and he arose and went. At that very hour out from Jerusalem was coming an Ethiopian, a Prime Minister of Queen Candace of Northern Africa, a continent that had not yet received a ray of gospel light. In his hand he held a manuscript of Isaiah's prophecy, and he was trying to make out of whom the old Hebrew prophet was writing. In obedience to orders Philip and that Eunuch met at the junction of the roads in that desert, and the evangelist gave the Ethiopian his message, mustered him in to the service of a mightier monarch than an earthly queen, and sent him on his way to open recruiting stations for the kingdom all over Northern Africa. It seems like a mere fortuitous combination of circumstances, this floating together of two atoms on the boundless sea of life, but to the man of faith there is nothing unaccountable or accidental about it. It was a mighty illustration of prompt and unquestioning obedience to sealed orders. The hand that guides the planets in their courses arranged the schedule and secured the result.

**Secret of Success.**

Instances like this might be multiplied all through the ages. Some of the most far-reaching results in the realm of morals have been wrought when the actors were entirely unconscious of the consequences. Philip possibly never knew what that conversation in the desert meant to the world—certainly he did not know that day that he had kindled a continental fire. This is the explanation of many of the riddles of life. When David was fleeing through the wilderness, pursued by his own son, he was being prepared to become the sweet singer of Israel. Joseph was sold into Egypt but it was all a school of preparation for a throne. Hugh Miller said, "I will be a stone mason"; God said, "You will be a geologist." Men study law, and bring up in the ministry. Men resolve to settle in one place, and they become itinerants. They desire to stay in the East, and they go to the West. All the circumstances of life, all the work, different from that which we expected. We enlist in the infantry and serve in the cavalry. We think we prefer the army, and bring up in the navy. We have a taste for the rear guard and we are put on the picket line. We desire to join the sharpshooters and we swab the big guns. In other words, not what the individual chooses but what the Great Commander orders is the principle on which this campaign is waged. Philip could have found any number of reasons for staying right where he was. To all human appearance he could not be spared from Samaria. To leave a multitude of men to go after one man was preposterous. Jerusalem was much nearer the desert than Samaria; there was a whole theological seminary of ministers there, why not send one of them? But God uses the men that he can count on. Napoleon had a great army who gladly followed him to battle but he had his Old Guard upon whom he could depend to stand in any breach or storm any position. The noble 600 of Balaklava are immortalized because they charged the batteries even though they knew some one had blundered. This world will never be won for the Man of Galilee, until the militant host on life's battlefield takes its stand with Philip and accepts sealed orders with as much alacrity as when it understands the plan of campaign.

**CHILD THAT WILL NEVER DIE**

Dr. Asher Gluck Promises an Offspring That Will Talk at Birth —  
—Recipe for Perfection.

Chicago.—Dr. Asher Gluck, inventor of the "Simple Life and Equality System" and author of "Olam Habbo; or, The New Immortality, Another Existence of a Future State," announced that he would disband his Chicago "colony." He is to join "Sercombe Himself," not in reality but in spirit.

Gluck's "Sanitarium" is at No. 1171 Milwaukee avenue. Although the leader says there are sixty members in his colony in Chicago, neighbors say they have not been appearing at the headquarters lately. The Lead of the cult asserts that both he and his wife are now perfect. "In fifteen months," he adds, "a child will be produced that will be able to talk at birth and that will never die. That child will be myself reborn."

The "doctor" said he intended selling all his possessions in Chicago and moving to some quiet spot where there would be no danger that either he or his wife would depart from the principles of "perfect conduct."

It is hinted that Gluck has become discouraged because other members of his band did not become "perfect." The temptations of the world, it is asserted, proved too strong for the majority of those who took up the "simple life and equality system," and they dropped the teachings of Gluck.

Among the things said to be responsible for the backsliding are women, cards, drink and theatres. Gluck's recipe for perfection is: Vegetarianism, sackcloth garments, abstinence from lovemaking, isolation from the world and prohibition of kissing.

**EVANS HAS A FAVORITE.**

In Next Russian-Japanese War, but Admiral Won't say which.

Pittsburg.—Admiral Robley D. Evans, has exploded a story which close friends of Andrew Carnegie have been exploiting for years, that Carnegie sacrificed his own money and comfort to establish an armor plate mill at Homestead for the Government. Said Admiral Evans:

"I was the first man to suggest to Andrew Carnegie that he build an armor plate mill. It was when I was inspector of steel at the Homestead mills that I said to Mr. Carnegie that I thought he should build such a mill. I pointed out to him that it was going to be a great industry and that he should get in on the ground floor in America. He took to the idea at once and sent for Julian Kennedy, the engineer, laid the plans before him and asked how much it would cost. 'About \$500,000,' replied Kennedy. 'Go ahead and build it,' replied Carnegie, and that's how the first armor plate mill was built at Homestead."

Asked his opinion about the possibility of another war between Russia and Japan he said:

"There will be a war there some time. It's bound to come. Russia is too big and powerful to sit down calmly and permit Japan to whip her without retaliation. But it won't come until Russia is ready for it, and then there will be a fight worth seeing."

"Who do you think will win?"  
"I wouldn't like to say, but I know who I hope will win, but I'm not saying," he said, laughing.

**BABBLERS ENCOURAGE SATAN.**

Women Have Been Talking Ever Since the Garden of Eden.

South Norwalk, Conn.—"Women commenced to babble in the garden of Eden and she has babbled down through the ages from that day to this," said the Rev. Hugh B. Carpenter in the Baptist church here when preaching to a club of young women called "The Silent Seven."

"Nothing will send the devil back to the Satanic regions, to die and rot, like silence, but the gentler sex is not pushing his migration very hard."

A few months ago Dr. Carpenter had occasion to rebuke a number of young ladies from the pulpit for whispering during service. They banded themselves together in a club termed "The Silent Seven." They sewed for charity, and their sessions were mum affairs with lines for talking, the money going to charity.

The Doctor commended them on their club this evening, and expressed a wish that they would form the church into a "Silent Four Hundred."

**SAW "UNCLE TOM'S CABIN" IN VISION.**

Mrs. Stowe's Son Says She Received Idea for Story in Church.

Hartford, Conn.—The Rev. Charles E. Stowe, in a speech here before a church club, said his mother, Harriet Beecher Stowe, received the idea of "Uncle Tom's Cabin" in a vision which she had in church, in which she saw clearly depicted the pathetic death of old Uncle Tom. He said his mother began the story with this scene, writing the book backward.

In a recent court case it was shown that Mrs. Stowe's sister, Mrs. Isabella Beecher Hooker, held communication with spirits concerning her will and the phases of her everyday life.

**Warrant for Bunyan Brings \$22.**

London, England.—One of the two warrants issued in 1671 for the arrest of John Bunyan was submitted for sale by auction here and evoked a bid of only \$22. The first amount offered was \$5. The other warrant, presumably a duplicate of the specimen offered is owned by J. P. Morgan, who is said to have paid \$2,000 for it.

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