

BAPTIST FEATURES

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CHILDREN'S PAGE

TWENTY CENTS
By Frank Halbeck

Grandmother liked boys, at least that is what Ralph thought, for he loved to visit with her.

For a whole week he helped Grandmother with all of her work. He helped her churn the butter, he burned the trash, he carried in water from the pump, and he just helped in every way that he could.

Then along came Saturday. Surely, he thought, Grandmother will not forget that it is Saturday. And she didn't, for when the noon hour came Grandmother said, "Ralph, how would you like to go downtown this afternoon?"

"I would love to," said Ralph. "But, Grandmother, I don't have any money to spend."

There was a twinkle in Grandmother's understanding blue eyes. She opened her purse and handed Ralph a big coin.

"Grandmother," said Ralph, "this is a lot of money. It is a fifty-cent piece. May I buy a chocolate soda with part of this money, Grandmother?"

"Yes, you may, Ralph," said Grandmother.

Grandmother lived only a few blocks from town and the two of them immediately went to the drug store at the north side of the square. Ralph had a chocolate soda and Grandmother sat with him while he drank it. When he finished he paid the storekeeper and the man gave him back some change. When the two of them got outside the store Grandmother asked, "Ralph did you count your change? You must always do that after you buy something."

Ralph began to count the money which he still held clutched tightly in his hand. There was a quarter, two dimes, and a nickel.

"Why, Grandmother, I still have fifty cents," said Ralph.

"The man made a mistake, so we must take back twenty cents to pay for the soda."

"It's not our fault that he made a mistake, Grandmother. Can't we keep the whole fifty cents?"

Then Grandmother asked Ralph a question, "Do you think that Jesus would want you to keep something that didn't belong to you?"

Ralph thought for a moment and then he went back into the store to give the man twenty cents.

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SCARECROW
By Ellen Brown

The scarecrow dressed in rags
Cannot hurt you a bit
Although he always frowns
And his old clothes don't fit.

He frowns upon the birds
And frightens some away;
He must be gloomy 'cause
His head is made of hay!

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GOD'S WONDERFUL WORLD (with mat #1)

The word "muscle" comes from a Latin word meaning "little mouse." We can see the mouse ripple and move under the skin when we bend our arms.

Our muscles form the main bulk of our body. They are a built-in heat unit. When we exercise them, they produce heat. If we do not exercise them in cold weather, we shiver from lack of warmth. That's why people in very cold climates keep moving to keep warm. If we fail to exercise our muscles we become weak and stiff.

When we exercise, our muscles take in oxygen. Our heart beats faster, our breathing quickens. If we exercise too much we inhale more oxygen than our heart and lungs can stand. This is harmful to our body.

If we are to be healthy and strong, we must maintain a certain balance between oxygen we breathe when we exercise and the amount of oxygen our heart and lungs can stand.

Our Bible tells us to keep fit spiritually. "Be strong in the Lord," it says. "Put on the whole armor of God." Prayer, Bible study, and church attendance are great spiritual muscle-builders for they supply us with the warmth and strength of God's love.

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