Sunday School Lesson

August 19. Lesson VIII—Paul Carries the Gospel Into Europe,—Acts 16: 9-15. Golden Text—Come over into Macedonia, and help us.—Acts 16: 9.

ANALYSIS.

I. THE VISION AT TROAS, 9-11.

II. A CHURCH BY THE RIVERSIDE, 12-15.

INTRODUCTION—The council at Jerusalem cleared the air, and the way now lay open for Paul to make further adventures in missionary work. But at the outset there arises a difference, or "sharp contention," Acts 14: 39. The immediate cause was the unwillingness of Paul to take Mark who had turned back during the first journey; but it is possible that behind this lay some further reason, and that Paul felt that one with full Roman citizenship like Silas would be more suitable for the campaign in heathen territory. Silas belonged to the Jerusalem church, was in high standing and was equipped in many ways. At a later time he acted as secretary for Peter and helped considerably in the composition of the first letter which Peter sent to the churches of Asia Minor.

These men pass hurriedly through the scenes of the first campaign in South Galatia, where they found the small Christian communities in a flourishing state. They choose Timothy, a convert of Lystra, as a companion, and start west with the manifest purpose of going to Asia, but the Spirit forbids them and they then turn north intending to enter the Province of Bithynia, where there was a considerable population of Jews, but again they are stopped, and they therefore come to Troas, on the Hellespont, which is to be the starting point for the new conquests.

I. THE VISION AT TROAS, 9-11.

V. 9. At this time Macedonia was an extensive province including not only Macedonia but Thessaly, Illyricum and Greece. The vision which Paul receives at Troas was one of the ways in which he obtained divine direction for his future actions, and he now gets an explanation of the many hindrances which had been placed in his attempts to go elsewhere. There comes over him a great feeling of relief as he realizes that his plans are made clear, and that he is now to seek a new scene for his labors in Macedonia. It was the peace which all people feel who have been confused as to their duties and plans and suddenly have all things made clear to them.

V. 10. It is evident from the way in which the divine agency is mentioned thrice in four verses that the author regards this mission as of the first importance. But the significance of this has been differently explained. Some call attention to the geographical importance in that the gospel passes now from Asia to Europe. The apostle is now, for the first time, on the great highway that leads ultimately to Rome. The church is to be now planted in Europe, which is henceforth to him the great scene of Christian victories. Others seek for the significance not in geography but in the grammar of Acts. The personal pronoun "we" now appears, and it is suggestive that at this point Luke joined the company and now begins to describe what he had himself seen. Henceforth we meet this personal note in several chapters.

V. 11. The sea journey was short and without any important incident. Luke has a liking for geographical narrative and he here says that the course was straight, implying that the winds were favorable. Samothrace was an important island, where they probably rested for the night, while Neapolis is to be distinguished from the much more famous Naples of Italy.

II. A CHURCH BY THE RIVERSIDE, 12-15.

V. 12. Paul carries on a mission in three different cities, and most effectually in Philippi. This city had been founded by Philip the great king of Macedonia on the banks of the river Gangitis. The surrounding plain was fertile and the neighborhood was rich in minerals. Here also was a military settlement or colony, consisting of disbanded soldiers to whom grants of land had been made, and who would inspire the native population with respect for the rule of the Empire. Paul being himself a Roman citizen was specially fitted to bring this new gospel of Christ to this class of people, and we know from the letter he wrote to this church how well he succeeded in winning the affection of the people.

V. 13. The Jews here were evidently few in number and were unable to have a synagogue for their worship, so that the small number of Jews had to be content with an outdoor place of worship, which they chose near the river for the sake of those lustrations which formed part of the service. The audience consisted mostly of women who welcomed Paul when he came, as was his custom, to the place where his own people worshipped. One of these women was a remarkable character. It would seem as if she was conducting a business in her own name. Lydia was a city in Asia Minor famed for the manufacture of purple dye. Inscriptions have been discovered in which mention is made of a guild of purple selers. It is probable that this woman took her name from this city, and that she represented some firm from Lydia. She had evidently joined the Jewish Church, and had become a leading member. It was to be expected that one of her open mind would be the first to welcome the message of Paul. This is beautifully described in v. 15, "Whose heart the Lord opened."

V. 15. Her household is baptized. This may have included the slaves who worked for her, or the hired people whom she had with her. It is probable that she would select such as were in sympathy with her religious views. Perhaps the names of some of these are mentioned in Phil. 4: 2, 3. She invites Paul and his companions to be her guests. Thus far the missionaries had followed their usual custom of supporting themselves with their own hands, and of hiring their own lodging. Paul was a tent-maker; Luke was a physician. The letter which Paul wrote to the church at Philippi is full of tender feeling, and shows how kind these people must have been to these missionaries of the cross.

A Good Sport

SKIPPER WHO WON YACHT RACE

Captain Barr who piloted the Yacht "Elena" across the Altantic to win.

On the Road to Mandalay

RANGOON

Scarcely have the sun's rays revealed the jeweled glory of the great Shwe Dragon's golden crown when the miles of docks along the yellow river break into a seething activity that continues until well into the tropic night. As many craft as throng the Huang-pu at Shanghai or the Hoogly at Calcutta struggle with the strong tidal currents which sweep ever past the long Rangoon water front. The sampan threads a laborious way through the maze of vessels from all the East and most of the world, drifting up or down stream with the violent tide faster than it can be propelled across the narrow river. The far-come liner tugs at her double moorings as the flood of turgid water surges against her. And the broad paddle wheels of a dozen river craft splash wildly as the Irrawaddy fleet puts off and heads for the canal entrance which is the gateway of the road to Mandalay.

For myself I have chosen one of the smaller craft which my 'ricksha man has found with considerable difficulty in the turmoil of the river front, and only just in time. And once more I find myself in the not unsatisfactory position of being the sole European passenger, for this is a little river boat which touches at many villages through the delta and along the tributaries of the winding Irrawaddy. She is not unlike the stern-wheeler upon which I made the Bagdad-Basrah trip down the Tigris a few months ago, but there is no further comparison, for this throng of gayly adorned and smiling Burmese is as different to the grave and silent Arabs as the vivid color along the Irrawaddy is in sharp contrast to the dull monotone of the Arabian desert. There is no doubt of their friendship as I walk among them, and this is strengthened beyond the possibility of a rupture as I buy several handfuls of the native sweetmeats for the bright-eyed children who crowd around me.

For such Europeans as may chance to travel by this leisurely and time-scorning means a small space is provided on the upper deck at the tip of the bow. This, with a table and a few chairs, is partitioned off from the rest of the crowded steamer. If one's journey be through the night he must provide his own equipment, but he will be undisturbed and quite comfortable. Moreover, fare of such sort as he may supply will be prepared for him by the ship's cook on a small stove at the stern "reserved for Europeans." Then, too, there is a "canteen" of sorts where plenty of fruit is procurable, together with a variety of edibles, some familiar and more interestingly mysterious. Bottles cryptically labeled "limonade" are cooled by a generous supply of ice, and of filtered water there is enough to provide for everyone on board.

I find that my interest in natives does not permit me to remain long in the privacy of the "first class" space. This is my first actual contact with the Burmese folk and it is quite the sort of contact that the student of my type seeks. On the lower deck, which is but a few inches above the water, and about the upper, they squat and recline and lie, these Burmese of the Irrawaddy villages, young and old, women and children. There are, of course, a few Chinese among them; and the blends of the two peoples strongly favor the Chinese, especially in the case of the women. And there is as much difference between the Bengalis, among whom I have lately spent a few weeks, and the Burmese, as there is between the two great cities of Calcutta and Rangoon.

It is impossible not to like these Burmese at the very first encounter. They are a light-hearted folk; always smiling, it seems; always apparently happy. "As irresponsible as children," I have heard them called, and it may be that they are. But I like that sort of "irresponsibility" when it produces contented faces, bright eyes, ready smiles. Their keen glances follow me about the deck as I step carefully among the family groups. Their interest is avid as I purchase something at the "canteen."

"What is the white man going to buy?" I can fancy them saying to one another. "What will he eat? Where is he going? Why is he traveling, the only European, on this little boat?" If I could but talk to them in their own tongue, the only true means of gaining the confidence of an alien people! As a hundred times before I deplore the lack of universal language in which all, of whatever nation, race or creed, might talk to each other and thus develop a friendliness beyond the possibility of further misunderstanding or conflict.

However, the smile possesses a sort of universal significance in its manifestation of kindly intent, and I have found the world over that it rarely fails to find its response. And the Burmese are like the Polynesians in that they would far rather smile than not. You can go into a Burma village, as you can into a Polynesian, commence with a broad smile, continue with a chuckle, and conclude with hearty laughter, and in a few minutes you will have old and young about you merry as school children at recess. They may not know what it means—indeed, it may not mean anything—but it is a certain way to establish friendly relations.

Here on this little Irrawaddy river steamer, making its leisurely way along the road to Mandalay, no one speaks English, or French, or German, the three languages in which I am able to express myself in a more or less limited fashion. But I have been in far worse linguistic dilemmas, with sometimes a little of insecurity attending them as well. And so I commence with the children, usually a sure way to the hearts of the elders among Oriental folk; and before long we are all friends, and I abandon entirely the silly privacy of the "first class" apartment.

The road to Mandalay, by whatever steamer, leads first through the 20-mile canal which connects Rangoon with the Irrawaddy. Many a native village of thatched huts, with its adjacent rice paddies and its cymmetrical pagoda dominating the landscape, clusters comfortably upon the green banks. As we come into the river itself there are more villages, and as the distance from Rangoon increases they partake less and less of the character of what we call "civilization," and thus become more interesting.

Here and there narrow creeks lead from the river, and far among the rice fields the sails of native craft are visible, seeming to move mysteriously across the land itself. One longs to navigate some such toylike waterway, if only to see where it might lead and what might be at its end. At every riverside village the little steamer pauses while some of the passengers leave and others promptly take their places, to the accompaniment of much chatter, much laughter and nothing resembling haste. Little in existence is of less consequence than time to the Burmese. Clocks and calendars hold for him as little significance as to a five-year-old. Haste is merely misdirected energy, and the four-mile-an-hour Irrawaddy steamer, with her long wayside tarries during which plenty of social intercourse is possible, is the ideal method of travel.

As the soft tropical twilight gathers, then quickly yields to night while the blazing stars of the low latitudes find their reflections in the gently flowing river, a conviction comes to me that there is something to be said for the Burmese viewpoint, especially when one is in Burma and leisurly traveling the road to Manadalay.—(M. T. G., in Christian Science Monitor.)

Sunday Evening Supper

Cold Bouillon Saltines
Deviled Eggs—Pickles
Shrimp Wiggle
Tomato, Cucumber and Lettuce Salad
Fresh Fruit Small Cakes
Iced Chocolate Flavored
With Crushed Mint Leaves

Shrimp Wiggle

One and one-half cupfuls of shrimp, three-quarters of a quart of sweet milk, 2 cupfuls of cooked peas, one-quarter teaspoonful of salt, a dash of white pepper, one-quarter teaspoonful of paprika, one and one-half tablespoonfuls of butter.

Heat the milk in a double boiler, thicken with flour, wet with cold water, add salt, pepper, butter and paprika. Cook until of the right consistency, then add shrimps which have been rinsed in cold water, split and have the intestines removed; then peas, drained and rinsed, and, last, a dash of nutmeg.

Serve on fresh white-bread toast with small points of toast as a garnish, sprinkled with very little parsley.

Tomato Aspic

One tablespoonful of gelatine, ¼ cupful of cold water, 1 slice of onion, 1 stalk of celery (or ½ teaspoonful of celery salt); 1 No. 2 can of tomatoes, 2 tablespoonfuls of vinegar, 1 tablespoonful of sugar, ¾ tablespoonful of salt.

Soak the gelatine in cold water, boil the tomatoes, onion and celery, or celery salt, together for five minutes and strain. There should be 1¾ cupfuls of juice. Pour hot juice over the gelatine and stir until dissolved. Add vinegar, sugar and salt.

This aspic may be used with various combinations, suitable for tomato, or molded separately and placed on lettuce and dressed with mayonnaise

In a small way I am a journalist myself.—Sir Arthur Conan Doyle.

New Process Enables Amatuer to Take Color Motion Pictures

George Eastman Shows Filter Film Which Plays Part of Lens, Producing Delicate Tints—Edison and Others See Demonstration

Rochester, N.Y. — Color photography for motion pictures by a new and revolutionary process in which the film itself plays the part of a camera lens to repdroduce its subject in perfect and natural colors has just been presented to the world by George Eastman, chairman of the board of Eastman Kodak Company.

The new process, hailed here as the goal sought by photographers and inventors for half a century, was witnessed at its first public showing by 19 of the Nation's leading natural scientists and journalists. Kenneth Mees, director of the Kodak research laboratories, demonstrated and explained the invention.

Besides outstripping for perfect reproduction all known methods of color photography, the process also does away with expensive and detailed apparatus which so far has kept the art out of range of the amateur.

DEVELOPED FOR AMATEURS.

Developed for amateurs at the outset, the process photographs objects on amateur-sized film which is later developed without negative. No color is apparent on the film. The objects, appearing in black and white, are diffused on the screen by a color lens and the film itself.

The film, according to Dr. Mees, is embossed with tiny cylindrical lines placed lengthwise on the surface of the side facing the lens Light is admitted through a three-color filter striped in green, blue and red, the three primary colors of the spectrum. Each filter strip admits only its own color, the embossed denses diffusing the various colors and spreading them on the emulsion as separate units as they themselves are affected through the camera lens.

Delicate tones and tints are made possible automatically by the diffusion of the primary colors by the film lenses.

PRODUES NATURAL COLOR

In reproduction, the apparently black and white objects are diffused in the other direction through the embossed lenses, the projector lens and another filter to the screen. The result is perfect and natural color.

The processes, according to Mr. Eastman, represents years of study and experiment in the kodak laboratories. It was evolved only after the principle of the separate embossed lenses by which colors could be received, set down and rediffused, had been discovered.

The amateur "movie" operator will have only to insert a filter in his machine, thread through a special film, pull a trigger and operate.

Among those at the first demonstration was Thomas A. Edison, personal friend of Mr. Eastman and inventor of motion pictures. Mr. Edison's invention was made possible by Mr. Eastman's discovery of flexible film. Frederick E. Ives, holder of a Royal Photographic Society medal for early work in color photography, was another guest.

Let Us Follow

Radio Announcers Are Freed From the Attacks of Critics

London.—British radio announcers who have suffered much criticism in the past on their alleged faulty pronunciation of English are rejoicing in the publication of the recommendation of the Advisory Committee on Pronunciation, which was headed by Robert Bridges, Poet Laureate.

At the same time the committee felt it necessary to protect its decisions regarding certain words from assault by the academicians, and Floyd Jones, lecturer on phonetics and a member of the committee, said: "It must not be forgotten that a pronunciation is not bound to be right merely because it appears in a dictionary; it appears in a dictionary because it was correct in the view of the lexicographer at the time. It is evident that we are not entitled to conclude that there is one standard pronunciation—one and only one right way of speaking English. There are, however, varieties that are acceptable throughout the country and others that are not. No special degree of authority attaches to these recommendations which are primarily intended to secure some measure of uniformity in the pronunciation of broadcast English and to protect announcers against criticism."

Announcers hereafter will therefore pronounce "celtic" with "s" instead of "k"; and will say "de-ficit" instead of "def-icit" and "airplane" instead of "aeroplane." "Dal" must rhyme with "oil." "Esthetic" is now "eesthetic." The "h" is sounded in "humor," and "pat-riot" must be used instead of "pa-triot."

"The educated speech of London" (of which the foregoing words are examples), concludes Mr. Jones, "starts with a heavy handicap in its favor." When will our Toronto stations insist that the proper pronunciation of ordinary every-day words and first-book grammar be the first qualification of their announcers? What we are putting up with at present is a shame.

Now We Will Know

"K" and "W" To Be Prefixed to U.S. Amateurs' Call Signals

Washington—Beginning October 1 some 16,000 radio amateurs in the United States will be required to use the prefix letter "W" on their call letters, in accordance with international regulations.

All ships, both governmental and commercial, must have four call letters and land stations must have three call letters.

The International Radiotelegraph Convention stipulates that stations must have call leters designating the country of their location. The regulations of the convention will become effective January 1, 1929. To enable the radio division of the Department of Commerce, the national supervisory body, to put its records in order for the other changes, rules regarding the call letters have been made effective in this country October 1.

The radio officials decided that the three call letters requirement for land stations is not applicable to broadcasting stations, as the change would work a severe hardship on some broadcasters, who have become widely known and have won prestige with their present four-letter designations.

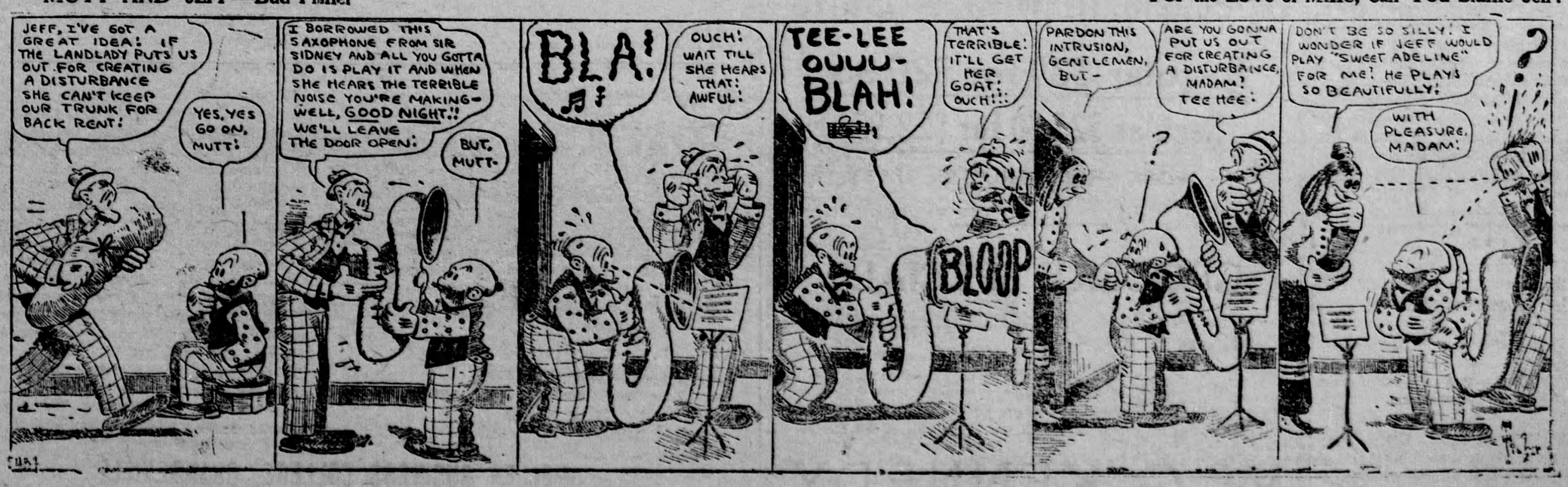
Amateurs in the territories and possessions of the United States, such as Alaska and the Philippine Islands, have been assigned the prefix letter "K." The key letters are for the purpose of identification in case the stations wander from their assigned frequencies. It is expected that these prefixes also will facilitate identification when amateurs on different continents converse with each other.

The key letters of the Canadian amateur are "C" or "VE," the Cuban is "CL" and the Mexican "XA." Prefixes in other countries are England, "G" and "M"; Spain, "EA"; Italy, "I"; Norway, "LA"; Sweden, "SM"; Australia, "VH"; South Africa, "ZS"; New Zealand, "ZK"; Argentine, "LO"; Brazil, "DP," and Chile, "CI."

Safety First

Another of life's unsolved mysteries is why, when you have a swatter in your hand, the fly nearly always alights on something fragile.—Detroit Free Press.

No. Mystery about it, brother; the fly is simply too fly for you.

MUTT AND JEFF—Bud Fisher

For the Love of Mike, Can You Blame Jeff?