Sunday School Lesson

October 4. Lesson I—The Macedonian Call—Acts 16: 6-15; Romans 15: 18-21. Golden Text—Go ye therefore, and teach all nations.—Matthew 28: 19.

ANALYSIS

I. A DISSOLVED PARTNERSHIP, Acts 15: 36-41.

II. GALATIA REVISITED: TIMOTHY, Acts 16: 1-5.

III. HOW PAUL TURNED WEST, Acts 16: 6-15.

INTRODUCTION—We come now to Paul's second missionary journey. Had Paul gone East instead of West, Chinese churches would probably be sending missionaries today to evangelize the natives of Britain and America. As it is, into our western hands has been committed the missionary enterprise.

I. A DISSOLVED PARTNERSHIP, Acts 15: 36-41.

After accepting the Jerusalem compromise, the church in Antioch had peace. Paul was again free for mission work. He longed to see the Galatian converts once more, v. 36. This personal affection and concern for his converts was one of the most attractive features in Paul's character. It appears in the letters which he wrote afterwards. "With great desire" he would see their faces (1 Thess. 2: 17), "night and day praying exceedingly" that he might see them, 2 Tess. 3: 10. Also, he recognized the importance of "following up" work begun.

Then came the unhappy disagreemene between the two leaders. Barnabas would take John Mark again. Paul, setting out upon a journey likely to be difficult and dangerous, would have nothing to do with one who had already failed him. Barnabas, perhaps unconsciously placing his kindly feelings toward his nephew before the interests of the work, was adamant. Unable to agree, they divided the field between them. Barnabas could take Mark and go to Cyprus. Paul, selecting Silas (15: 22), would go north overland to the cities previously visited.

Barnabas now disappears from the record. The church at Antioch agreed with Paul, v. 40. It seems inexpressibly sad. Paul owed a great deal to Barnabas, 9: 27; 11: 25, 26. His affectionate nature must have been deeply pained. It was a time when he felt that for Christ he must suffer loss of everything—even friendship, Phil. 3: 7, 8. That friendship, however, was restored later, 1 Cor. 9: 6. Even Mark eventually won his confidence (2 Tim. 4: 11), but the two leaders never worked together again.

God makes the wrath of man to praise him; two missionary enterprises, instead of one, were thus set on foot.

II. GALATIA REVISITED: TIMOTHY, Acts 16: 1-5.

After winning his fight for Gentile freedom from circumcision, Paul circumcized Timothy. Why? Timothy (v. 1), whom he himself had been the means of converting and of whom he was very fond, Paul would take with him, v. 3. But Timothy was uncircumcised. Being part Jew, he could reasonably be expected to come under the Jewish requirements. The missionaries would generally lodge in the Jewish quarters of the cities they would visit. They would begin their work in the synagogues. The presence of the uncircumcised Timothy would be offensive to the Jews, embarrassing to Timothy himself, and a hindrance to the work. Paul, therefore, since no principle was at stake, had Timothy circumcised, v. 3.

III. HOW PAUL TURNED WEST, Acts 16: 6-15.

To the north lay Bithynia with its populous cities. Thither Paul turned. Again the "Spirit of Jesus" (the correct reading of v. 7) forbade. The harvest of Bithynia was not for Paul, but for Peter, 1 Peter 1: 1. The only course left open for the missionaries now was westward to Troas, v. 8. Forbidden to preach there—for it was part of the forbidden Asia, they had not much choice; it was either to return home or cross the sea to Macedonia, which is today part of modern Greece. At the critical moment came a turning point in history. Paul's vision was the birth-hour of western civilization and western Christianity. Paul was evidently thinking and praying about Macedonia. Perhaps, as Ramsay suggests, a Dr. Luke meeting the travelers in the hotel at Troas, had suggested Macedonia to him. In any case, falling asleep to the swish of the sea, Paul dreamed a dream, v. 9. He took it to be a divine guidance. So did they all, v. 10.

After a good passage, carefully reported by Luke, who is now one of the party and acquainted with the sea, the missionaries arrived in Philippi early in the week. Philippi had few Jews and no synagogue. Paul found some women holding a prayer-meeting by the river. Among them he began his "venture of faith." Lydia became one of his famous converts. The evangelization of Europe had begun. So, by hindrances, embarrassments, apparently sinister experiences, God "sets our feet in steps that lead us upward yet."

Enter the Provost

A new ecclesiastical title is to make its appearance—that of "Provost," which is to be borne by the incumbents of parish church cathedrals, such as Birmingham, Bradford, Leicester, Newcastle, Portsmouth, and Sheffield.

The title is to carry with it the precedence accorded to the dean of a cathedral.

Although new in this connection, the title of provost is an old one. It is applied to the heads of certain colleges, such as Eton and King's College, Cambridge, and to the chief magistrates of citi d boroughs in Scotland. There the title is equivalent to that of mayor in England, and that of Lord Provost to Lord Mayor. There are five lord provosts—the chief magistrates of Edinburgh, Glasgow, Aberdeen, Perth and Dundee.

What New York Is Wearing

Illustrated Dressmaking Lesson Furnished With Every Pattern

BY ANNEBELLE WORTHINGTON

To be just right, the clothes of the growing miss must have a bit of dash.

The jacket dress, so splendid for school wear, has a definite smartness and practicality too, for it is equally attractive when the jacket is discarded.

This jaunty model is delightfully carried out in yacht blue linen. And to be ultra-smart, it trims its jacket with blue linen overplaided in deeper shade. The dress repeats the trim in bows at the front, and for the modish cap sleeves. The skirt is so cute in box-plait effect at the front and circular at the back.

Numberless fabrics are suitable for this swagger outfit as rayon novelties, Jersey and supple woolens in tweed effect.

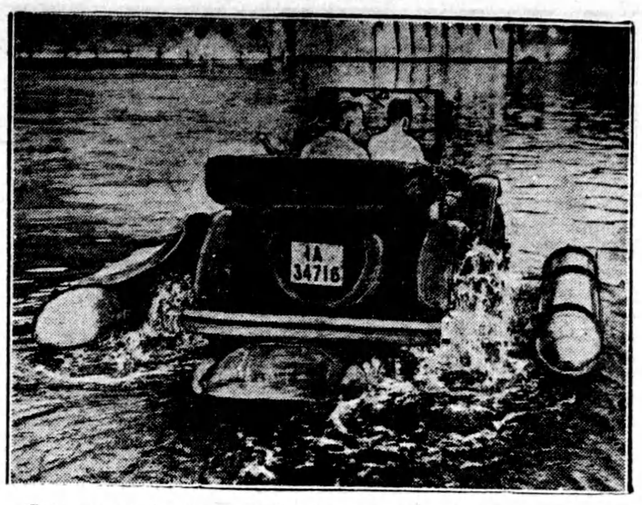
Style No. 3145 may be had in sizes 6, 8, 10, 12 and 14 years.

Size 8 requires 3¼ yards of 39-inch material with ⅝ yard of 35-inch contrasting.

HOW TO ORDER PATTERNS.

Write your name and address plainly, giving number and size of such patterns as you want. Enclose 20c in stamps or coin (coin preferred; wrap it carefully) for each number, and address your order to Wilson Pattern Service, 73 West Adelaide St., Toronto.

A Novel Idea



Gross, a mechanic of Berlin, has conceived this new idea of a water riding automobile. With special equipment any auto can be converted in a period of 15 minutes into a sea-going hack. Just the thing for detours.

Destructive Floods Cause of Erosion

China's Diaster Warning to Countries Being Denuded of Forests

One of China's greatest scourges—the flood—is again spreading death and destruction over a wide area, writes Hugh Hammond Bennett in The N.Y. Times. What is the reason for these periodic visitation entailing great loss of life and vast property damage? In China's recurring misfortunes there is a warning to younger civilizations, especially to America; for although in China with its densely populated lands the flood waters are more appalling in their results, the processes which are there at work are also to be found as a menace to the future of the United States.

China's history of floods is voluminous beyond comprehension. After 4,000 years of building levees and digging canals, the great Yellow River broke over its banks in 1877 in an appalling overflow that brought death to 1,000,000 human beings. In 1852 this swollen Titan changed its lower channel to enter the ocean 300 miles north of its mouth on the Yellow Sea.

The Yellow Sea, a part of the Pacific Ocean, is colored with silt swept down from slopes far up the Yangtse Kiang and Whang Ho, whose watersheds once were clothed with forests and grass. Stripped of these stabilizing agencies in nature, countless sloping areas were cultivated without protection against the evils of rain-wash, a process which has altered the surface of the earth more than the combined activities of volcanoes, earthquakes, tidal waves, tornadoes and all the excavations of mankind since the beginning of history. Every rain heavy enough to cause water to run downhill carries its toll of suspended soil, eating away the substance of the land down into the less stable substrata, where the destructive process speeds on at accelerated pace. Under nature's stabilizers of forest, shrubbery and grass, erosion works slowly; with these removed by man and his domestic animals the wastage is vastly increased.

There have always been floods and there always will be. There is evidence, nevertheless, that no such mighty flood ever before marched down the Mississippi as the one of four years ago. And now the Yangtse is reported to have surpassed its own long record of deluges, covering more than 4,000 years of recorded history.

What Wasteful Erosion Means

When soil is washed out of fields it cannot be hauled back, nor can it be restored with fertilizers or soil-improving crops. It can be improved, to be sure, but soil like the virgin surface layer, which averages only about nine inches deep over the uplands of the country, cannot be built back to its original condition. With some of the important agricultural soils of the country it has taken nature not less than 400 years to build one single inch of this productive humus-charged surface material, the principal repository of available plant food and the abiding place of incredible hosts of beneficial micro-organisms.

Not only is the more productive layer removed by unchecked washing, but the exposed subsoil which now must be farmed, or abandoned, is more difficult to till because of its usual high content of stiff clay; it absorbs moisture slower than the mellow loam now gone and gives it up faster with the increased baking of dry weather. Moreover, the washing is speeded up in many localities; and it is at this stage of land depletion that gullying usually sets in. Over the less absorptive eroded slopes water flows away with increased rapidity to augment floods.

It takes just seven years under continuous corn cultivation in Northern Missouri and Southern Iowa for one inch of an important type or rolling corn-belt soil to wash off land of gently sloping topography. On steeper land, that having a fall of eight feet in a linear distance of a hundred feet, the rate of removal is one inch in one year. In other words, under the prevailing system of corn production in this region the most productive part of the land, the seven inches constituting the top-soil, is being washed away within from seven to forty-nine years. Here the virgin soil produced in good years seventy-five bushels of corn per acre; the exposed subsoil produces at the rate of about twenty bushels per acre.

The plant food removed from the fields and pastures of America every year by erosion exceeds by twenty-one times that removed by the crops harvested. That taken by crops can be restored in the form of fertilizer, but that removed by erosion cannot be restored, because this malevolent process takes the whole body of the soil, plant food and all.

Notwithstanding the vast continuing losses caused by erosion, we are not yet on the verge of a land shortage. In spite of the appalling wastage, we are confronted with the anomalous situation of having on our hands large crope surpluses. With increasing use of fertilizers and soil-improving crops, together with the abandonment of worn-out land for land still retaining some of its top-soil, we continue to produce abundantly. In many localities, however, yields have dwindled markedly. With all the improvement which has been made with corn varieties and the widespread betterment of cultural methods, our acreage yield of corn has not increased. This means, obviously, that we are still cultivating much land of inferior quality.

The United States Department of Agriculture, co-operating with the States, has recently inaugurated a national program of soil conservation. Already much has been accomplished with field terraces, and experiments under way indicate that strip-cropping—that is, the growing of soil-saving crops in strips along the slopes, alternately with the clean-tilled crops—will prove tremendously important. A soil-saving culttivator recently devised at one of these experiment stations digs 10,000 holes to every acre, while operating as rapidly as any practical farm implement. These excavations hold on each acre of land aproximately 50,000 gallons of water, thus preventing run-off and erosion from numerous rains.

Grey—"How long has Meekleigh been married?"

"Greene—"For twenty awed years."

South Africa's Hippo Passes

Huberta, Whose Long Trek Through Town and Country Endeared Her to Thousands, Rests in a Museum

Cape Town.—In the Kaffrarian Museum at King Williams Town there stands a hippopotamus that gave South Africa thrill after thrill for more than two years. For this enormous stuffed hide was once Huberta the Hippo—the famous roving animal that was looked upon by white South Africans as a friend and by natives as the reincarnation of a great chief.

Flags were flown at half-mast in Durban on the tragic day when the "assassination' 'of Huberta became known. Four farmers convicted of the deed were each sentenced to a fine of £25 or three months' hard labor. A wave of protest swept through the country, and a museum director wrote: "I have entirely despaired of human nature. There are some people who cannot see an interesting specimen without itching to take a pot shot at it."

How did Huberta the Hippo capture the affection of the whole of South Africa? It is a diverting story. To realize the sensation caused everywhere by the appearance of Huberta, it must be understood that South Africa—apart from a few game preserves—is no longer a wonderland of big game. Thousands of people living in the cities have never seen game animals execpt in captivity. So when, in November, 1928, a full-grown hippopotamus strolled into the village of New Guelderland, fifty miles from Durban, the event received large headlines in all the newspapers.

Huberta Makes Debut

Indians and natives working in the fields of sugarcane were the first to raise the alarm. They heard a snorting and a bellowing, and ran for safety. The hippo remained until hundreds of people were staring wide-eyed with astonishment; then retreated into the thicket.

Undoubtedly this adventurous beast had wandered from the Umfolosi sanctuary, near Lake St. Lucia, Zulaland—the last known breeding place of the hippo within the borders of the Union. At first she was named Billy by correspondents who rushed to the spot, but it was as Hubert the Hippo that she became a national character. It was not until after her death that the mistake about her sex was discovered, and she was renamed Huberta.

From the day of her first appearance until her death Huberta was a marked hippo. After she had startled the plantation workers at Guelderland she quickly achieved notoriety. An enterprising press photographer went out among the sugar-cane, but when he leveled his camera Huberta charged him.

Curious crowds flocked to see her. As they grew larger they annoyed Huberta more and more, and finally she moved off. From that moment began her journeyings, which were to last two years and make her the most famous hippo that ever lived.

She moved first in the direction of Durban. As she approached the city she passed through areas which grew more and more thickly populated with every mile. Naturally, the sensation she caused was enormous.

As she approached Durban, which is one of the largest cities in South Africa, the excitement grew. "Hubert on His Way," said the headlines (they thought she was a bull then), and people waited eagerly to see where the animal would make its next appearance. Of course, had it been necessary, an organized hunt could have put an end to her career then and there. But by this time Huberta was a public character. She had roused the amusement, even the affection, of the entire population. It had been proved that she was quite harmless. Occasionally she charged people who were too inquisitive.

An Unwelcome Visitor

Her greatest escape followed. She called at a hotel just outside Durban one night, appeared suddenly and gave some of the habitues a severe nervous shock. After this, however, she decided that she was coming too closely into contact with civilization. She made a wide detour and was not heard of again until she reached the coast twenty miles south of Durban. Journeying on, she came to the mouth of the Umzimvubu River near Port St. John. There she settled down for a time and lived happily in the river. But again her fatal curiosity got the better of her and one night she visited the village of Port St. John. A town counselor, so it is said, was crossing the square to a meeting. He flashed his electric torch in front of him and saw the yawning mouth of a hippo. He did not attend the meeting!

Huberta sat down in the square and soon the entire population of the village turned out to see her. It was the most exciting thing that ever happened in Port St. John or is ever likely to happen there. Huberta bore the shouting of men and women and the barking of dogs for half an hour. Then she left Port St. John never to return. Her wanderings had begun again.

Huberta's odyssey now became a less pleasant one. The Bloomfontein Zoo had sent a party out to capture her alive. They were hard upon her trail. But Huberta by this time had lived upon the fringes of civilization for nearly two years. She had developed amazing cunning. She passed through areas inhabited by natives and they saw not the least sign of her.

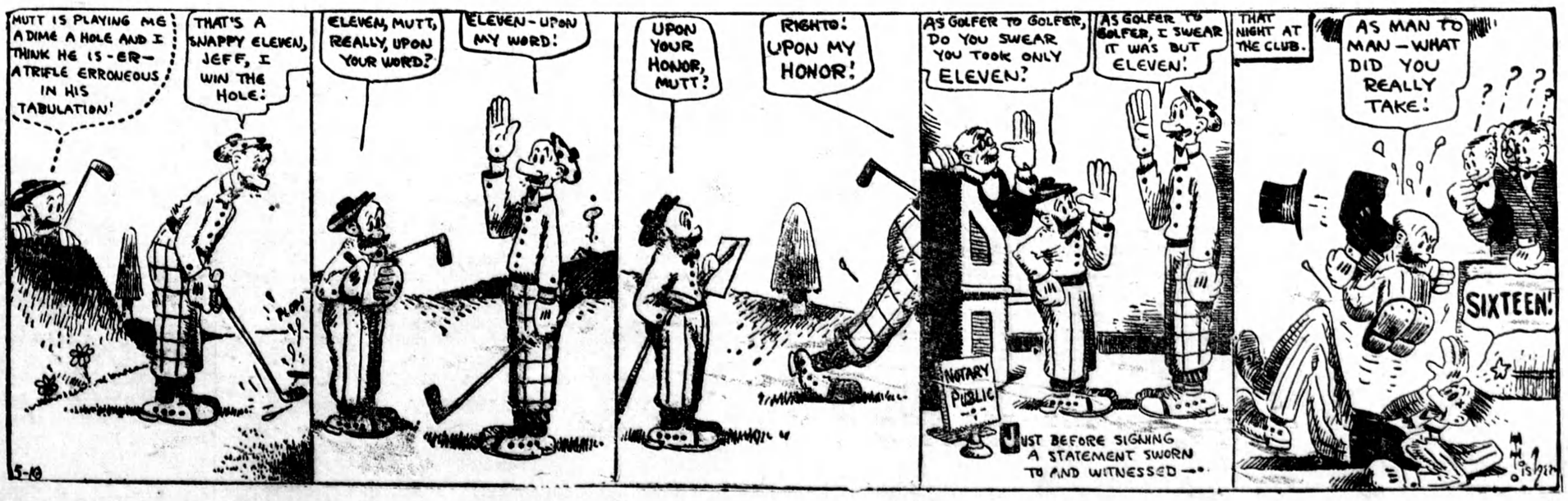
Then one day a farmer reported to the magistrate at Peddie, near King William's town, that he had seen a dead hippo in the river. Men went to the spot and, with eighteen oxen and chains, hauled out the body. It was Huberta, with bullet holes above her eyes. She was a full grown cow hippo 9 feet 2 inches in length and with a girth of 8 feet 1 inch. She must have weighed nearly four tons.

Every paper in South Africa published an obituary. Museums quarreled for the right to preserve her hide. There was a popular outcry against the unknown marksmen who had shot her. Eventually, four men made voluntary confessions. They were charged under the game laws and fined $125 each.

Huberta will always be remembered with affection in South Africa. To the natives the stuffed carcass will remain an object of awe for generations. While she lived they quickly surrounded her with legends. To many of them she was the reincarnation of one of the great chiefs of the past who had come back to earth to lead the Bantu Nation to the greatness that once was theirs.

Wheelbarrows should have legs eighteen inches long, according to British experts in industrial health research.

Wolfhound Entry

Mrs. Osborn of London, England, enters her Irish wolfhound in the Richmond champion dog show.

MUTT AND JEFF— That's His Story—He's Stuck With It. By BUD FISHER