Sunday School Lesson

April 3. Lesson I—God in Creation —Genesis 1: 1-5, 6-31. Golden Text —In the beginning God Created the heaven and the earth.—Genesis 1:1.

ANALYSIS.

I. THE PRELUDE OF CREATION, vs. 1, 2.

II. THE BEGINNING OF CREATION, vs. 3-5.

III. THE CLIMAX OF CREATION, vs. 26-31.

INTRODUCTION—This chapter stands as the frontispiece to the great historical section of the Old Testament, which extends from Genesis to 2 Kings, and which traces the story of Israel from the earliest times to the exile. It is not by accident that the chapter occupies this position. It is designed to show that God, who presides over the fortunes of men and the destiries of nations, also controls the forces of nature. Since he made the material world, its resources are at his disposal, to fulfil his purpose with men. Thus the aim of the chapter is religious rather than scientific. It comes from a pre-scientific age, and it is obviously unfair to treat it as an authority on questions raised by modern science. The point of paramount importance is that God stands behind the whole movement of the material forees of the world, and expresses himself in them.

I. THE PRELUDE OF CREATION, vs. 1, 2.

V. 1. Nothing could be more impressive than the simple statement that the universe (which the Hebrews called "the heavens and the earth") came into existence, not by blind chance, but by the deliberate purpose and the creative activity of God. There was a time, "in the beginning," when God was, and the world was not. "Behind creation is a Person," says McFadyen. That is the claim of religion, and faith holds stubbornly to that conviction.

V. 2. This verse is a parenthesis, describing the condition of the world prior to creation. Chaos and desolation prevailed. The earth was covered with a welter of raging waters, and all was shrouded with darkness. The sovereign power of God is all the more wonderful in that he quelled this confusion and turned it into an orderly and productive world.

II. THE BEGINNING OF CREATION, vs. 3-5.

Light was the first creation. Before there was light the world was lifeless and chaotic; without light there could be no life and no order. In each instance creation proceeds by God uttering his word, which is immediately fulfilled. His word is the expression of his will; and his will is the one power in all the universe which cannot be frustrated, but gets itself fulfilled. Just as an artist stands aside and looks at his finished work, so God surveys the first dawn of the world's light. He pronounces it "good," that is, for the end it is to serve. A similar pronouncement is made after each creation. Since it comes from God's hands the world, with all its marvels and beauties, is good, and should be so accepted by men. Thus all pessimism and despair is ruled out. The ancients thought that a thing did not really exist until it received its name. Therefore God, as the Creator, rightly claimed the prerogative of bestowing the name upon the light and upon all succeeding creations.

III. THE CLIMAX OF CREATION, vs. 26-31.

The creation of man is described more fully than the preceding acts of creation because he is the crowning work of God. The human personality is to be the greatest feature in the universe; before him the sun and stars pale into insignificance. This being so, God addresses the whole council of heaven (see Job 1: 6) and declares his intention of creating him, saying, "Let us make man." Man's nature is described in its God-ward aspect; he is made in the image of God. Whatever else this means, it refers at least to a resemblance which man bears to God. This implies a capacity for God which the brute creation does not share. Further, the nature of man is described as social, for God created him male and female. The instinct which leads man and woman together to form the family is good, because it has been ordained and blessed by God. Then also the purpose of man in the world is shown. He is to "replenish the earth and subdue it and have dominion" over the animal kingdom and the realm of inanimate things. Here is the original charter of human civilization. Just as man is under God, so the lower creation is under man, who is to be creatively active with God. Thus man is a steward, entrusted with the care of God's earthly estate, and he is so to serve in the world as to bring out its finest possibilities. Finally (vs. 29, 30) God provides sustenance for man and beast alike—for man, grains and fruits and for the beasts, wild grasses. The suggestion is that since man was not yet carniverous, there was, in the golden dawn of the world, a beautiful league of peace between man and the animals. The great thought, however, is that God, who creates, also provides.

What New York Is Wearing

BY ANNEBELLE WORTHINGTON

Illustrated Dressmaking Lesson Furnished with Every Pattern

Here's the new raglan sleeve pantie frocks for little girls that love to romp and play.

It gives them all the freedom they need.

And it will interest mother because it's so easily made—and easily laundered too.

The color scheme makes it individual. It's a botton broadcloth print in yellow and brown. The trim is plain brown pique.

This darling Style No. 2509 comes in sizes 2, 4 and 6 years.

Size 4 requires 1⅞ yards 39-inch, with ¾ yard 35-inch contrasting.

Wool jersey in light navy blue with vivid red trim is so smart and wearable.

Linens, batiste prints, wool challis and ginghams are popular fabrics for playtime.

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.

Iceland Grant Air Concession Detroit-to-Copenhagen

London.—A recent despatch from Reykjavik, Iceland, said a bill authorizing a concession to the Transamerican Air Line Corporation for air mail and passenger service between Detroit and Copenhagen via Iceland had been passed by parliament.

The bill authorized the corporation to build radio facilities and other concessionaries which would be exempt from income and property taxes as well as import duties on building materials for the first five years.

It was further stipulated the company would pay a five per cent. gross income tax on all air traffic over Iceland.

The concession was to extend for a period of 75 years, and one condition was that for the first 15 years no other American company can be granted a similar concession.

"Ever had an accident with your car?" "Not exactly, but I first met my wife in a garage."

A Healthy Bird

An apple a day keeps the doctor away, says the Indian hornbill at London, Eng., zoo. "Bill" swallows the apple whole

Variety is Keynote Of Spring Fashions

Sport Ensemble Rules During Day — Organdie New Note for Evening

London dress designers decree that spring costumes should be of the utmost simplicity for both day and evening dresses. Dresses are cut on flowing, and in some cases almost classical, lines. They reach to the ground for evening wear and up to ten inches from the ground for day wear.

Day dresses are mostly being shown in light-weight tweeds in plain colors. For evening dresses a new and attractive material known as "Angel-skin Jersey" is much in evidence. This material gives the appearance of heavy silk stockinette. In pursuance of the aim of retaining simplicity, there is little trimming on any of the clothes, and artificial flowers, which last year were considered vital to every fashionable evening dress, are no longer worn.

New For Evening

While organdie is already a qualified favorite for evening, the adoption of printed lawn and pique represents something different. The acceptance of pique for evening is not news.

Sporty Wear

All daytime costumes show a sporty tendency, with the emphasis on knots for country wear, heavy silks for town, bright sweaters and sweater blouse effects.

Wrap Around Suit

The woman whose figure is not qualified for the youthful type suit, the long-coated straight wrap-around suit, with belted waistline, should be a good suggestion. It has, definitely, the approval of smart houses.

Belts

Belts play an important part in the spring fashions right on through the day. Long strips of material make sash-like contrasting belts for daytime wool dresses. Sash belts feature in both beach and lounging pajamas. A twisted girdle of plain material accents a printed crepe or chiffon evening dress. Belts of self-fabric are the rule for the majority of evening dresses. Velvet ribbons encircle the waists of youthful evening frocks. Rhinestone belts enliven dull fabrics.

Patou's Blues

Patou introduces three new blues in his spring collection and calls the shades "midnight," new blue" and "flax blue."

Liberty

This season, instead of being tied down to one color, or two obvious color contrasts, in one outfit you are free to combine two, three, or four subtly differing colors. The results, as seen in practice during the winter, will be delightful or appalling according to the wearer's taste.

The Large Chiffon Handkerchief

The vogue for carrying a large and pretty chiffon handkerchief has a great importance, since it serves to supply the contrasting color note that a frock so often needs.

Handbags

In Paris at the present time the flat satchel shape daytime handbag, with or without handle, remains popular. Rounded envelopes in stitched or embroidered satin or velvet, with rounded handles of pearls are smart for afternoon.

Perfumes

Women are using the lighter type of flower perfume this spring in preference to the more exotic type of scent, according to the statement of a representative of the famous Bond Street perfumery establishment whose carillon is one of the "sound sights" of London.

English garden scents are much in favor, and this applies to all toilet accessories. The newest powder has the delicate intangible perfume of a bouquet of mixed flowers.

New Ringlets

The new coiffures look sufficiently inviting that it won't be long before the sausage roll steals quietly into oblivion. If it weren't for the almost excessive use of brilliantine and nifty lotions, the new hair arrangements might be likened to a blizzard, but it so happens that all the amusing little ringlets are plastered tightly to the head with various hair dressings.

For six months, French girls have been toying with their coiffures in place of changing their appearance with expensive hats and new jewel sets, and now this fancy is striking America. The ringlets should be various lengths to give the modern, skyscraper, set-back lines to the hairdress. There should be ringlets near the temples, the ears, the nape of the neck and occasionally on the forehead. Keep the effect well flattened, and change your hair-do for day and evening, or as often as you like. It's a pleasure to report this new item of public entertainment.

Smart Men

Give your husband's clothes the "once over" at this season. Men care too little for dress, and will let themselves go if their wives don't keep them up to the mark. It is the well turned out man who gets the business these days, and a wife shares her husband's business successes—also the spruce looking man is as pleasing as the fashionable turnout of the feminine members of the family.

Client—"Justice is blind."

Lawyer—"Perhaps that's the reason so many of you crooks think you can get away with it."

"I notice your 'usband always has his hair cropped short, Mrs. Thumps." "Yes—the coward!"

Very stout woman (to friend): "I 'ates goin' out in company, bein' so fat. People laugh at me an' I feel so bloomin' small."

"But are you sure he's highly bred?" "Highly bred! Why, mum, to get the best out of this little dog, your husband will have to wear spats an' a tall hat!"

The World's Fastest Speed Driver

There may be some New York taxi drivers rounding street corners who hold unofficial records, but Sir Malcolm Campbell still has the undisputed title for the fastest traveling over land. Recently at the wheel of his racer on Daytona Beach, he went eight miles an hour faster than he had ever gone before. His speed was nearly 254 miles an hour.

Breaking records has became a Campbell habit. Only seven years ago he held the world's automobile speed record of 156 miles an hour; now he has clipped almost 100 miles from that. And when he touched 206 miles an hour four years ago, it was said that the brain and nerve reactions of man would make it impossible for him to achieve more than 250 miles an hour over the ground.

Sir Malcolm has two apparently incurable ambitions; one is to drive 300 miles an hour, and the other is to seek pirate gold. He has attempted both. He is 47, looks 35, and says he will be driving racing cars when he is 70. He prefers to travel by plane rather than by train. He would rather walk than ride, and he would rather sail a small boat than do either.

The man who drove a mile in less than 13½ seconds has no fondness for being at the wheel of a car in city traffic. The latter is dangerous, he believes. On the other hand, he has not been before a judge for speeding for more than thirty years.

"I was riding down hill on a push bicycle and going 27 miles an hour," he says of that incident. "A brazen cop stopped me at the bottom of the hill. I was not arrested, but only 'had up,' which is the more euphemistic term we have in England for the same thing. They had me up and fined me 30 bob. A man who was 'had up' at the same time for beating his wife got off with a fine of half a crown. From that I deduced that it was safer to beat your wife than to go fast in England."

Nevertheless, Sir Malcolm doesn't beat his wife, and he has gone fast in England. Mechanically he has progressed from bicycle to automobile, to airplane and to automobile again. He was a flier before the war, and in the war, too. A few years ago the idea occurred to him that in all the desert wastes of the Sahara there might be a smooth stretch of hard sand ideal for testing in secrecy his four-wheeled motor projectiles, and this project he abandoned after a venturesome airplane flight.—The N.Y. Times.

The Peace of the World

By Dr. Mary Emma Woolley.

It is not an overstatement that the possibility of world peace hinges upon the important question whether law is to prevail over force. The principle of the sanctity of contract is vital to the new order, and it is unthinkable that the League of Nations should not win out, that the disarmament conference should not succeed in a further achievement based on this principle.

In the winning of success you at home are an important factor. Do not for one instant relax your wholehearted support of your delegation in co-operation with what the delegates of other nations are trying to accomplish. The need of patience and perseverance becomes more apparent as the complexity of the problem grows; but with the realization of this complexity comes increased optimism. The determination of the representatives of the nations that there shall not be war is another good augury. We are thinking peace, not war, and we are determined to succeed.

"I suppose your little girl is quite big enough now to be a good deal of help to her mother?"

"No, she won't be any help to her mother until she can play a better game of contract."

Trade of World Drops 27 Per Cent.

Compared With 1930 and About 41 Per Cent. Compared With 1929

London.—World trade in 1931 decreased by approximately 27 per cent. compared with 1930 and by approximately 41 per cent. compared with 1929, according to figures compiled by the Board of Trade.

With the decrease came increased unemployment, increased bread lines in most countries and decreased dividends by business corporations, all contributing to decrease still further the purchasing power of the masses and to make the hoped-for expansion of trade in 1932 still more difficult.

Imports into Britain decreased by 16.6 per cent. compared with 1930. Exports from Britain decreased by 31.8 per cent.

Imports into the United States declined by 32 per cent. while exports from the United States declined 37 per cent.

Of 16 important countries for which complete details of 1931 trade are available, Australia showed the largest percentage decrease in imports, namely, 54 per cent. This was brought about by the highest tariff walls in the world and by import restrictions and quotas. Australian exports declined by only 17 per cent.

Canadian imports decreased by 33 per cent., while her exports decreased 32 per cent.

German imports decreased 35 per cent., exports only 20 per cent.

Italian imports decreased 33 per cent., exports 17 per cent.

SMALL DECREASES.

Of the 16 countries listed separately Switzerland had the smallest percentage reduction of imports, 12 per cent. The Belgo-Luxemburg economic union had the smallest percentage decrease of exports, 11 per cent.

Compared with 1929 Australia had the largest percentage decrease of imports, namely 70 per cent., the United States being second with a decrease of 52.5 per cent.

British Malaya had the largest percentage decrease in exports, 57 per cent., the United States having the second largest decrease, 53.9 per cent.

The United States, British India, Germany and Czechoslovakia were the only countries of the 16 which had favorable balances of trade for all three years, 1929, 1930 and 1931.

In the case of the United States and India the favorable balances became progressively smaller. Only Germany showed a progressively increasing favorable balance. Her favorable balance was less than £2,000,000 in 1929, more than £80,000,000 in 1930 and more than £140,000,000 in 1931.

Czechoslovakia's favorable balance was greater in 1931 than in 1929, but smaller than in 1930.

Great Britain, France, Japan, Switzerland and Denmark had progressively greater unfavorable balances of trade during the three years.

Italy and The Netherlands had unfavorable balances all three years but they became progressively smaller.

Australia turned an unfavorable balance in 1929 and 1930 into a favorable balance in 1931. British Malaya turned a favorable balance in 1929 to an unfavorable balance in the succeeding two years and Sweden did the same. While Canada did not quite rectify her trade balance in the calendar year, her fiscal year is expected to reveal the former unfavorable balance converted into a favorable one.

Travel Figures Show Heavy Falling Off

Ottawa.—About 5,000,000 motor cars entered Canada from the United States last year, which is 500,000 fewer than in 1930. Nearly two-thirds of these were for a period not exceeding 24 hours, and only 700 were for more than 60 days.

The number of Canadian motor cars going out fell off proportionately to a greater extent, being only 537,000 in 1931, as compared with 747,000 the previous year. Nearly three-quarters of the American motor cars entered Canada by way of Ontario.

MUTT AND JEFF— By BUD FISHER

Big Testimonial Banquet Sometime in January.