Sunday School Lesson

August 28. Lesson IX—Gifts for Building the Tabernacle — Exodus 35: 21-29. Golden Text—Honour the Lord with thy substance, and with the firstfruits of all thine increase. Proverbs 3: 9.

ANALYSIS

I. THE SPIRIT OF G IVING, VS. 21.
II. THE GIFTS OF THE PEOPLE, VS. 22-26.
III. THE GIFTS OF THE RULERS, VS. 27-29.

INTRODUCTION—The tabernacle was a place of worship erected by a people who were wandering in the desert. Its architecture, althought elaborate in its details, resembled the simple architecture generally to be found in the desert. It was a tent of oblong shape, with a flat upper surface; it was made of curtains or hangings which were held by cords and tent-pins. Like the tents of modern Bedouin, it comprised two compartments, divided each from the other by hangings. The one compartment was a court for the lay worshipers, the other a shrine or holy place within which was an inner shrine or holy of holies. Only the priests had admittance to the holy place, and only the high priest could enter the holy of holies. "Let them make me a sanctuary," said God; "that I may dwell among them," 2: 8. "We may observe," says Driver, "that by one of its principal names, the dwelling the tabernacle expresses, in a sensible form, the truth of God's presence in the mids. of his people; by another of its principal names, the tent of meeting, it gives expression to the truth that God is not only himself with his people, but that he reveals himself to them; by its third name, the tent of witness or testimony, it reminded the Israelites that in the Decalogue (the Ten Commandments) inscribed on the tablets in the Ark, it contained an everpresent witness to the claims of God and the duty of man.

I. THE SPIRIT OF GIVING, VS. 21.

People living in the desert are usually very poor. The building of the tabernacle for the Israelites was a heavy undertaking. It could be carried through only by the co-operation, and especially the liberality, of all the people. The eager spirit with which they gave was wonderful. "Their heart stirred them up," or more properly, "exalted them"; their contributions were made in a spontaneous mood of religious enthusiasm and exaltation. Further, their spirit was made willing; they did not give grumblingly or grudgingly, but willingly and cheerfully.

II. THE GIFTS OF THE PEOPLE, VS. 22-26.

The common people brought their offerings in kind—metals, fabrics and hides. The principle of the tabernacle, with all its appointments and furnishings, was that material forms expressed spiritual ideas; everything had symbolical significance. So the gold, which was contributed in the form of ornaments for personal attire—bracelets, earrings, rings, v. 22, was melted down and used for making those vessels and parts of the sanctury that were nearest to God. The other metals, the silver and brass or more properly bronze, were used for those parts and vesels which were farther off from the Divine Presence, and hence less important, v. 24. The shittim wood, or rather the acacia, which was found in the Sinaitic peninsula, was used for making staves to support the sides of the tent and for building the ark. Among their possessions the Israelites had various cloths; they gave these also. Evidently there was not enough of these various cloths on hand. So the women who had technical skill in such matters ("whose heart stirred them up in wisdom") set to work to spin more fine linens and coarse goat-hair material vs. 25, 26.

III. THE GIFTS OF THE RULERS, VS. 27-29.

Like most people of the desert the Israelites had a simple, patriarchial system of government. Their rulers were the heads of families and chiefs of tribes. These rulers did not consider themselves exempt from the general call to sacrifice. They brought precious stones, notably the onyx. These were to be set as ornaments in a vestment of the high priest known as the ephod. The ephod was an elaborate waistcoat in the front of which was a so-called breastplate, or pouch, in which were the Urim and Thummim by which decisions were received from God. The onyx stones, each of which was engraved with the names of six of the tribes of Israel, were fixed on the top of two shoulderstraps holding the ephod (28: 9-12), while twelve precious stones, arranged in rows of four each, were fastened in front of the pouch of the ephod, 28: 17-21. The rulers brought also oil—olive oil for the light which was lit every evening in the sanctuary, and olive oil mixed with fragrant spices such as myrrh, cinnamon, sweet-smelling cane and cassia. This mixture was used for anointing the priests to their holy office. Further, they contributed the aromatic spices which were burned on the altar of incense. These offerings, both of the common people and of the rulers, were all given freely.

Facing the Future

By Pierre-Etienne Flandin, Former French Finance Minister in a Radio Speech From Paris.

For a long time nations believed that they could remain isolated from each other and become immune against the contagion of the world crisis. Experience has proved the contrary, and it is to be hoped that they will now agree to look straight at the results. . . .

It is useless to believe that a miracle, with a magic stroke of the wand, will re-establish prosperity. We shall not be able to get out of the crisis except by employing efficient remedies.

To speak of international peace and co-operation while restricting in a thousand ways the free circulation of goods of capital and of individuals, is about the same as if one boasted of the liberty of people who are kept imprisoned.

The Lausanne conference has made European opinion stage a great step forward. It will be continued by a committee which will study the question of the restoration of the countries of Central Europe and by an economic conference which must resolve the problem of the reduction of the external indebtedness of certain nations and the more general problem of international economic relations.

However preoccupied American opinion may be with its own internal problems, I trust that it will associate itself with this work which is indispensable for the restoration of the world's business.

Germany' Security

By Kurt Von Schleicher, German Minister of Defence, in a Radio Speech.

I did not think it possible that after all the bitter, sad post-war experiences there should still be Germans who believe our small army is sufficient for the protection of our frontiers.

The naked truth is that no other European nation has so little of that security for which, paradoxically enough, the world's strongest military power keeps on calling. Stresemann characterized this attitude of our western neighbor as hypocrisy, and I believe there are few Germans who do not agree.

The other way for Germany to obtain security is by transforming—not expanding—her army so that it will guarantee a certain degree of security; and with reference to the final German declaration at Geneva, I do not want to leave the slightest doubt that we are going to choose this way if full security and parity are denied us in the future.

Azore Islands to Observe 500th Anniversary

Lisbon.—The five hundredth anniversary of the discovery of the Azores will be celebrated this month when the President of Portugal and some of the ministers visit the islands.

The presidential party will be conveyed by several Portugal warships and will arrive at the island of Santa Maria around the middle of August in celebration of the founding.

Women Sewing Again Embroidery Comes Back

Those old-fashioned girls who are clever with their needles and like doing embroidery work need no longer feel ashamed of themselves. They are not behind the times, after all, but right in the swim—a Modern Embroidery Exhibition is now open at the Victoria and Albert Museum, in London.

There is a distinct revival of all sorts of arts and crafts at the moment, and needlework is possibly the most popular of the lot. It is in a way a revulsion against the sameness of the old machine production, and it is already having its effect commercially by making industry pay more attention to variety and beauty of design.

But no matter how good a machine product may be, there are always people who prefer something which is hand-made. And as a visit to this exhibition will show, we are finding out new possibilities in needlework.

Not that the old work wasn't good. Even when they were merely trying to turn out something useful, our grandmothers often got on to a good thing. This was especially the case in the villages, and some of the old shawls, smocks, and other articles still preserved in country cottages are really beautiful pieces of work.

This is being realized now, and the village women of to-day are reviving these old crafts, with the encouragement of the rural institutes. There are about 5,000 village institutes which are interested in this movement, and county hand-work exhibitions are now being arranged, to prepare the way for a great national display of country crafts to be held in London in November.

The old craft of smocking will be one of those in evidence at these exhibitions. Smocks themselves are creeping back into favor—a number of women are realizing that they make very attractive overalls—and this process will be accelerated by the work of the institutes and the interest it will arouse. But smocking does not stop at smocks—it is being applied successfully to a number of other garments as well.

Another craft which the institutes are encouraging is carpentry, which is now being taken up a number of women. Even in the villages women are breaking into what were once purely masculine preserves.

Basket-making is also proving popular, and skin-curing, fur craft, and glove-making all have their adherents. The gloves are made principally from sheep and lamb skins, and the skins of rabbits, moles, and hares are pressed into service by the workers in furs.

"Are you going back to the city?"
"In about a week or so. I have two engagements to break before I go."

Cleaning Reveals Old Architecture

London—A "spring clean," that has lasted for 10 years, ended here recently when the delicate, carved work of the Henry II Chapel at the east end of Westminster was revealed in all its original beauty.

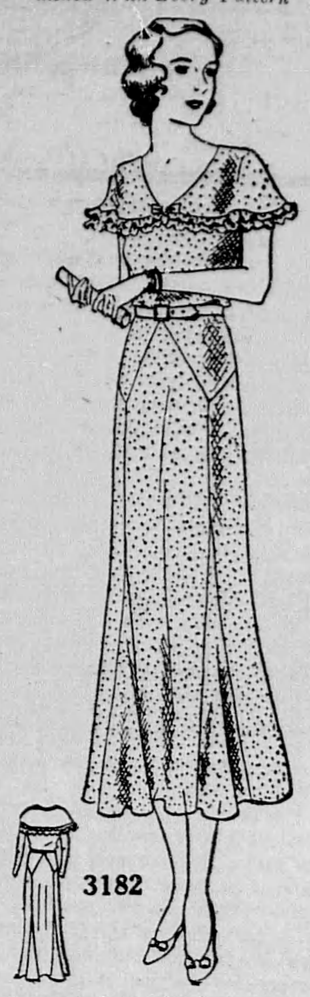
The chapel has been regarded since its construction, just before the Reformation, as one of the architectural masterpieces of England.

Airports at Nome Thriving

Nome, Alaska—Nome is becoming one of the busiest air terminals of its size in the world. There are eight planes operating out of here this summer. Teller, Deering, Kotzebue, Candle, Wales and Point Barrow, Fairbanks and Anchorage have regular air service.

What New York Is Wearing

Illustrated Dressmaking Lesson Furnished With Every Pattern



Cottons! Cottons! And more cottons!

Isn't it snappy? It's white batiste with vivid blue dots of course. Plain batiste ruffling on the edge of the cape collar is dainty touch.

Diagonal seaming gives lovely slimness to the hips of the fitted gored skirt.

Its very easily fashioned.

Style No. 3182 is designed for sizes 12, 14, 16, 18, 20 years, 36 and 38 inches bust. Size 16 requires 3⅝ yards of 39-inch material.

Printed and plain crepe silk are also very chic.

Tub silks in gay stripes, dots or in plain white or pastel shades is attractive.

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.

Hamilton May Buy Winter Coal Supply From Wales

Hamilton.—According to a recent statement issued by the Retail Coal Merchants Association, the price of fuel will not be advanced here this winter over the prices in force last winter. A report that the government might increase the duty on American coal following the Imperial Conference, for the purpose of encouraging Canadians to buy the Welsh product, has reached the dealers. If action along this line is taken, the coal men will ask the authorities to arrange for shipments from Wales of more convenient sizes.

Zoo Birds, Free, Always Return

Detroit—Wild fowl raised at the Detroit Zoological Park are free to go and come as they please. The birds fly to near-by swamps during nesting season, but return to the zoo ponds with their broods.

Accidents

We do not get rid of accidents by protesting; they ought not to happen. Let us remember that those laws of nature by which we sometimes suffer are always at work, and for our advantage. The ocean waves carry a thousand ships at the very time they engulf one.

Libraries of Ontario Growing In Popular Favor

The rapid increase in our cities of lending libraries of late years, and the growing appreciation of the service rendered by our public libraries, as evidenced by the demand of the citizens for reading thus offered, make the annual report of public libraries of the province one of great interest. During the year, seven new public libraries were established, six being of the association type, and one former library of this kind having become free. The travelling libraries have been well patronized, residents of small places with no library facilities availing themselves of the opportunity of getting good books at the minimum of expense. Another splendid service rendered during the year was the sending of thirty cases of books—5,890 volumes—to the construction camps of the province. This branch is therefore, playing well its part in Ontario's educational work.

The bringing of reading opportunities to rural communities is engaging the thoughtful attention of the library world today. To this end county library idea has been suggested, to reach even sparsely settled sections county library laws must, however, first be enacted, and a fund provided for library purposes raised, possibly by a tax levy. An increase of the Government grants to assist in the incipient stages of the undertaking might be obtainable. —Toronto Mail and Empire.

Sea Lions Biggest Enemies of Pacific Coast Salmon

Leave the sea lions alone, free to carry on their depredations unchecked, and the British Columbia salmon fishery would suffer seriously, and that's why the Dominion Department of Fisheries sends one of its vessels to the Pearl and Virgin rookeries, west of Rivers Inlet, to carry on a lion hunt for a few days every year.

This year over 1,100 lions and pups were destroyed on these two rookeries when the hunt was carried on by C.G.S. Givenchy in June. Bad weather interfered with operations, especially at the Pearl Rocks, and the lions were very wild and difficult to reach, but, nevertheless, the result of the hunt, will be that the sea lion family won't work as much damage to the salmon fishery in the future as they would otherwise have accomplished.

The purpose of these annual hunts is not the extermination of the sea lions; the hunts have been undertaken for some years but the lions are still numerous—too numerous to suit the salmon men. The purpose sought is not to exterminate the herds but to keep them within something like reasonable limits in numbers and thus to protect the salmon resources, which mean so much to British Columbia and, indeed, to the Dominion. Just how much these resources do mean is indicated by the fact that, in normal times, the value of the prodution from the British Columbia salmon fishery may be as much as $16,000,000, and even more. The salmon runs are worth too much to allow them to be jeopardized by marauding sea lions.

Where Churches Are Fullest

The larger the community, the smaller the percentage of church attendance, according to a survey by that noted statistician, Roger W. Babson. Thus:

"In incorporated areas and villages under 2,500 population, the churches showed an average attendance of 71 per cent. This dropped to 66 per cent. in villages of 3,500 to 5,000 population. Towns of 5,000 to 10,000 showed an attendance average of only 46 per cent. In the cities of 10,000 to 50,000, the attendance was 42 per cent. Cities of more than 50,000 population could show an average attendance of only 30 per cent.

A much-married man had arranged with his wife that they should spend their holidays separately. On the eve of the wife's departure, she asked fussily, "When does my train go exactly, John?" A trifle tactessly he answered, "In three hours twenty-eight minutes and sixteen seconds."

Writing Good English

To write good, forcible English, which will be read and remembered, requires constant practice and careful thought. The other day Lord Riddell told me a story of a talk he had with President Wilson. I have no permission to use it, but I am sure he will not mind my repeating it for your benefit. He asked the President how it was he had acquired such a fine literary style. He was told that, at an early age, Mr. Wilson pere, who was a great admirer of good English, made his boy read a page or two of the best examples of literature. "Now take a pen," he would say, "and mark every unnecessary word." President Wilson said it was a difficult and weary task, but, in doing it, he began to perceive how exquisite was the workmanship, and so gradually developed a clear and limpid style of his own.

Nobody who aspires to write English can do so without a close study of the Old Testament, Shakespeare, and the Prayer Book. There are many other authors with whose works a writer should make himself intimately acquainted, but these three are the foundation of good literature. Take a few verses from Samuel. You remember how David mourned for his son Absalom, who had driven his father out of Jerusalem. . .

This is perfect literature for you! You can see the brave Joab and the depressed king, and hear the ringing words of remonstrance. It is a real word-picture. You have not to shut your eyes and hear the sonorous sentences, to bring the whole thing before you.

I will give you another example. You remember the women who were brought before Solomon, each claiming the same child. We are told how the two mourned and lamented over the baby, and then, suddenly, from the oblique narrative the writer drops into the direct narrative.

"And the King said: Bring me a sword." Not: "And the King asked for a sword," but, "And the King said: Bring me a sword." The introduction of direct narrative into oblique narratives gives a lightness and color to the story that otherwise would not be possible. Study these old writers, for they knew all the tricks of the trade.

Words are the journalist's tools. He must learn to use them rightly and to understand their uses. A leader-writer must before everything learn to write good English. When he has done that, his own particular style will develop of itself. Therefore study the best masters.—From "Journalism," Leader-Writing, by H. A. Gwynne.

"Mr. Huggins, you seem to be quite a favorite with the ladies at this hotel. If I give you free room and board will you agree to flirt with all the wall flowers?"
"Not me. I'm no lemon squeezer."

Florence-to-Sea Motor Road Open to Traffic in October

Florence, Italy.—One of the most important public works projects in northern Italy, a fifty-mile highway connecting Florence with the Mediterranean coast, will be opened in October.

Twenty-five of its 32.5 feet of width are reserved for motor traffic and it is crossed at no place by either roads or railways. Its connections with the net work of ordinary roads are made only at stations in the principal towns.

Words

Words are very clumsy things. I like less and less to handle my friends' sacred feelings with them.

MUTT AND JEFF— By BUD FISHER

One Doctor Leads to Another.