SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

LESSON IX—May 30.
THE REMAKING OF JACOB
(Genesis 28: 1—33: 20.)

Printed Text—Genesis 28: 16-22; 32: 24—30.

Golden Text—Be not fashioned according to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind. Romans 12: 2.

The Lesson In Its Setting.

Time.—God's appearance to Jacob at Bethel occurred in B.C. 1784. Jacob was married in B.C. 1777. Joseph was born B.C. 1752. The reconciliation between Esau and Jacob took place in B.C. 1749.

Place—Bethel is located 12 miles north of Jerusalem on the road to Shechem. Haran is in Mesopotamia on the great trade route from Nineveh to Carchemish. Penuel was near the brook Jabbok which flowed into the Jordan River about 25 miles north of the Dead Sea.

"And Jacob was awaked out of his sleep, and he said, Surely Jehovah is in this place; and I knew it not. And he was afraid, and said, How dreadful is this place! this is none other than the House of God, and this is the gate of Heaven." (See Job 33: 15—18.)—Bethel was become a place where Jehovah is, where the House of God is found, where the nature of Heaven is discovered. It is most significant, and may I not say interesting, that when this great phrase, "the House of God," first appears in the Scriptures of truth, it has no reference to a temple, or synagogue, no reference to a building. The House of God. Where is it? Just where you are.

"And Jacob rose up early in the morning, and took the stone that he had put under his head, and set it up for a pillar, and poured oil upon the top of it. "—Often in the night we make great resolutions, we pray earnestly and find our hearts moved anew with the love of God. We are stirred to new endeavors by the reading of the Bible, and we promise God and ourselves that the next day will be a new beginning for us. But so often when the morning light breaks and a new day has begun, and all the common, familiar things of the world are seen again, there is a danger that the hopes and vows of the night will be put away, and the day after will be no different from the day before.

"And he called the name of that place Beth-el: but the name of the city was Luz at the first."—The word Bethel is formed of two Hebrew words, Beth, which means house, and El, which is the name for God found thousands of times in the Bible in the name Elohim. Therefore this name means "the House of God," just as the name Bethlehem means "the House of Bread."

"And Jacob vowed a vow, saying, If God will be with me, and will keep me in this way that I go, and will give me bread to eat, and raiment to put on, so that I come again to my father's house in peace, and Jehovah will be my God. Then this stone, which I have set up for a pillar, shall be God's house: and of all that thou shalt give me I will surely give the tenth unto thee."—Jacob's promise to later erect an altar here for the worship of God was subsequently kept (35: 1, 15). This is the only time in the book of Genesis that we have any reference to the giving of one-tenth of one's possessions to the Lord, but, as Dr. F. B. Meyer has said: "There is no reason to doubt that this became the principle of Jacob's life, and if so, he shames the majority of Christian people, most of whom do not give on principle, and give a very uncertain and meagre percentage of their income.

"And Jacob was left alone; and there wrestled a man with him until the breaking of the day. And when he saw that he prevailed not against him, he touched the hollow of his thigh; and the hollow of Jacob's thigh was strained, as he wrestled with him."—God saw that what Jacob needed was first to discover his own weakness, and that, in order that he might discover as he never had done before, the power of God in whom he believed. On the threshold of possession of the land, he must be brought to that attitude of soul in which he would be willing to receive the possession as the gift of God; rather than imagine that he had gained it by his own cleverness and his own wisdom. It is not said that Jacob wrestled with the man, but that the man wrestled with Jacob; there is no question that Jacob wrestled to, but the beginning of the struggle was on the side of God.

"And he said, Let me go, for the day breaketh. And he said, I will not let thee go, except thou bless me."—Undoubtedly Jacob knew that he was not only facing a great crisis of his life, but that his own stubborn will that night would be broken, and that it was God himself with whom he was dealing, and he knew that this was the hour when he must either receive a new blessing from God or live as a failure the rest of his days. The desire to retain God binds God to us. All God's struggling with us has been aimed at invoking it, and all God's fullness responds to it. Prayer is power. It conquers God. We overcome God when we yield to God. When we are vanquished, we are victors. (See a rich comment on this struggle in Hosea 12. 4).

"And he said unto him, What is thy name? And he said, Jacob. And he said, Thy name shall be called no more Jacob, but Israel: for thou hast striven with God and with men, and hast prevailed."—The name "Jacob", supplanter," while the name "Israel" comes from a root meaning "to be chief;" hence the name means as we have seen before, means "a "prince," and, with the termination "el," the word means "prince of God." It was a prophecy of the new type of victory over men which he would win because God had won a victory over him. If a man will prevail with God, he will do so in the hour in which he is mastered by God.

"And Jacob asked him, and said, Tell me, I pray thee, thy name. And he said, Wherefore is it that thou dost ask after my name? And he blessed him there. And Jacob called the name of the place Peniel: for, said he, I have seen God face to face, and my life is preserved."— The word Penuel (Peniel) means "the face of God," and must have been close to the Jabbok River, though there is no place near there bearing this name today. (See Ex. 33: 20,; Deut. 4: 33; Judges, 6: 22, 23). Fellowship with God changes Jacob to Israels. Fellowship with God gives insight and foresight, peace and patience, calm and courage in every emergency. Fellowship with God dispenses with subterfuges, natural craft, and clever resourcefulness. Not by unworthy expedients, not by moral human acts, not by natural energy, but in union and communion with God, all grace and blessing becomes ours. We must see the face of God.

Our solar system contains about 50,000 particles large enough to be called planets.

Because it protects the stonework from corrosion by acids in the air, limewash is used extensively on London buildings.

As Baldwin Opened Imperial Conference

This radiophoto, transmitted from London, shows Premier Stanley Baldwin (centre), as he opened the British Imperial Conference May 14th. "We deplore the necessity, but we have no choice," Baldwin said, in commenting on the unprecedented armament building program being carried out by the Empire.

Bridget Wrote To Pat

An Irish soldier in France during the 1914-18 war received a letter from his wife saying there wasn't an able-bodied man left, and she was going to dig the garden herself.

Pat wrote at the beginning of his next letter: "Bridget, please don't dig the garden; that's where the guns are."

The letter was duly censored, and in a short time a lorry-load of men in khaki arrived at Pat's house and proceeded to dig the garden from end to end.

Bridget wrote to Pat in desperation, saying that she didn't know what to do as the soldiers had got the garden dug up, every bit of it.

Pat's reply was short and to the point: "Put in the spuds."

ENERGY IN PLAYING PIANO

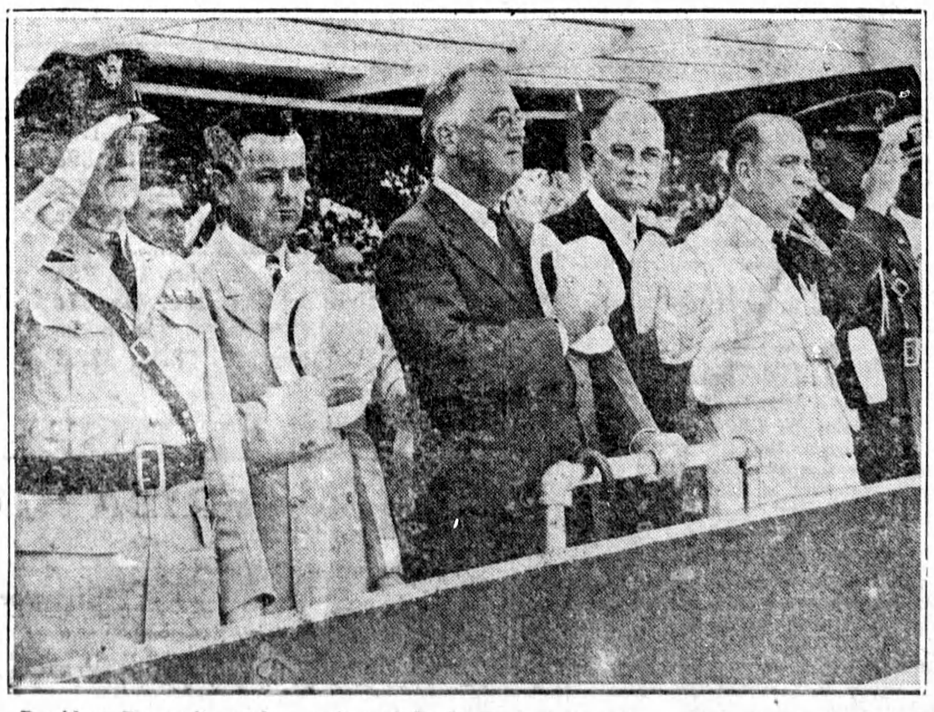
The amount of energy expended by a person while playing the piano varies greatly with different compositions. A study of the subject shows that the per-minute energy required to play "Tarentella" by Liszt, is 150 per cent more than that required to play "Songs Without words," by Mendelssohn.

Monsoons blow from land toward th sea, in winter and from the sea toward the land in summer.

Service For Three

Sabu, Indian boy who appeared in a British film, acts as waiter for a chimpanzee luncheon party at opening of Pet's Corner in the London Zoo. The service is a little awkward, but, after all, it is the food that counts.

Reviews Students



President Roosevelt watches review of R. O. T. C. unit at Texas Agricultural and Mechanical College, which he visited on way home from fishing trip. L-R: General H. J. Brees, Governor James V. Allred, the President, Dr. Thomas Otto Walton, president of the college, and Dr. F M. Law.

Farm Problems

Conducted by
PROFESSOR HENRY C. BELL
with the co-operation of the various departments of Ontario Agricultural College

1. Question:—"I am preparing a field for potatoes. It is pretty heavy clay and I want to use some fertilizer. What would be the best way of getting fertilizer on the potatoes, and what kind of fertilizer do you think would give the best crop?—M. J. P., Wellington Co.

Answer:—If you are planting your potatoes with a plow, strike out the furrow, then draw in 1½" to 1" of soil on top or mixing it with the fertilizer, then drop the potatoes and cover them with the plow or by hand.

If you are planting them with a hoe, dig the potato holes, drop a little fertilizer, pull in ½" to 1" of soil, drop the potato pieces and proceed as usual.

We have obtained best results from 4-8-10 fertilizer applied at 750 lbs. per acre. If this fertilizer is sown broadcast on the soil and worked in, you will not get as good results as if applied the way we have described. Broadcasting results in a large amount of the fertilizer being fixed in insoluble form so the immediate crop does not get the full benefit of it.

I note that your soil is a heavy clay which is not well adapted for potato growing. I would, therefore, change the fertilizer recommendations to 2-12-6 instead of 4-8-10. We have found the latter fertilizer to do best on clay soils.

2. Question:—"We would be glad if you could send us results of your experiments of commercial fertilizers with the ground limestone as a filler. Any results of the limestone and barnyard manure seems to be better than with the commercial fertilizers. Would be glad if you could give us the right amount of the different chemicals to use to, say a ton, of the finely ground limestone."—C. A. M., Grey Co.

Answer:—Regarding lime as a filler, quite a little bit has been said about this with limited justification. Of course, any free lime that there is in a fertilizer will function just as any other lime applied to the soil, but in the higher brands of fertilizer there is room for so little filler that the good it would do would be very, very small. Understand, I am not decrying the use of lime. You understand lime is a soil corrector, not a fertilizer. Conversely, fertilizers are carriers of plantfood and do not function as soil correctors. Hence, if your soil is acid and needs lime, by all means apply lime. Fertilizer will function best for most of our valuable crops if the soil is about neutral in reaction. Recent investigations show that a very heavy application of lime which will make the soil distinctly alkaline, tends to tie up in an insoluble form, any phosphorus applied in fertilizer or alone. Do not mix lime with fertilizers, but apply it at least one week or ten days ahead of fertilizer, working it into the soil broadcast.

The Book Shelf

BY MAIR M. MORGAN

BUCKSKIN BREECHES
By Phil Strong

(Farrar and Rinehart, Toronto)

This is Mr. Strong's first long novel and his first historical theme. It ranks with the great historical romances of America, this tale of Jesse Ellison, his wife Margaret, and their four children.

Jesse Ellison had fought in the murderous forest battles of 1812. Lithe as a panther, his aim with rifle or knife was deadly. When he married a belle of Cincinnati he did not tame easily. He took his gentle bride to the pioneer country of Western Ohio. But in 1837, Merkumville was no longer pioneer country. The Ellison tavern prospered, but Jesse saw his children degenerating and he feared he was losing the love of his wife. He decides to go on and escape the intrusion of civilization — to give his family the freshness and innocence of a new land. They find it, and at the same time, adventure, love, drama of settlement and struggle for existence.

This novel is alive — you are transported into the atmosphere of growing, uncouth, honest America.

"ABOUT THE MURDER OF A MAN AFRAID OF WOMEN"
By Anthony Abbott

(Farrar and Rinehart, Toronto)

A Thatcher Colt detective-mystery. Sauve and debonair as ever, Thatcher Colt, Police Commissioner of New York City, faces the most subtle and intricate problem of his career.

The body of Peter Slade, dead from two bullets, is found hanging out the front window of his Greenwich Village apartment Many women loved Peter, and his acquaintances came from all walks of life. His lovely secretary ,Carol Burgess, his protegee, Eleanor Foxhall, the Broadway star, Norma Sutton ,all had something to conceal and all gave clues to the strange happening on that cold winter night when murder stalked.

The style is breezy, racy and humorous. One of the "must" detective yarns.

"THE HEART HAS WINGS"
By Faith Baldwin

(Farrar and Rinehart, Toronto)

Because of her life-long devotion to a father, an aviator, who saw duty in France, Gail develops a neat father complex, with the result that she falls in love with Peter Harris, a married man, the father of her school chum.

Bill Smith, a young inventor, blithely ignores his rival, until events assume a serious aspect — then he disappears ,disappointed and bitter.

This is a more profound study of a girl's heart than Miss Baldwin's previous novel.

How Gail tames her wayward heart and eventually finds happiness, makes engrossing reading, and you will be curious until the very end, how these people untangle the web of emotions that suddenly enmesh them all.

Movie-radio gossip

By DOROTHY

Marion Claire, who for the past two years has been trouping around the country with "The Great Waltz," has been signed to play Bobby Breen's mother in "Make a Wish." Schulberg has signed Lenore Urlic, who was so good as the vicious grafting friend of "Camille," to play in "The Great Gambini." A girl in her 'teens named Wyn Cahoon who has had considerable success on the New York stage has been signed by Columbia, who have also nailed the veteran Dick Arlen down to a contract to keep him from gallivanting off to England again.

For those audiences that like chills and fever, horror and suspense, blood and thunder, there are two new pictures just made to order. "The Soldier and the Lady," and RKO picture which is really that old classic of spine chillers, "Michael Strogoff," is the more spectacular since it introduces army scenes made in Europe. More intimate, but less blood-curdling, is "Love From a Stranger," which stars Ann Harding and Basil Rathbone. It is a story of a mild young woman who wins a sweepstake prize and marries a fiend who has dispatched several wives via morbidly-contrived murder.

Odds and Ends:—Bing Crosby has been kidded so much about his tennis in an effort reduce. Incidentally, did you hear his old friend Harry Barris on his program? And wouldn't you love to see him in a picture with Bing? . . . Basil Rathbone, as I kept reminding myself all through his horrifying antics in "Love From a Stranger," keeps 86 kinds of tea on hand at his house so as to have just the flavor he wants of an afternoon . . . All Hollywood swooped down on the Selznick-International studios to watch the Coronation scenes in "The Prisoner of Zenda." And then Madeline Carroll broke up the scene by whispering to Ronald Colman just as the hundreds of extras in the procession got under way, "Don't look now, but I think we are being followed."