Sunday School Lesson

LESSON III
DEBORAH: EMERGENCY LEADERSHIP
Judges 4:1—5:31.

Printed Text, Judg. 4:1-9, 12-14.

Golden Text. — Who knoweth whether thou art not come to the kingdom for such a time as this? Esth. 4:14.

THE LESSON IN ITS SETTING

Time.—1296 B.C.

Place.—Hazor was in the tribe of Naphtali, at the extreme north of Israel's territory overlooking Lake Merom. Deborah lived on the confines of Benjamin and Ephraim, near the city of Bethel: Mount Tabor is in the midst of the great plain of Jezreel, in the very middle of Palestine, and in this mountain the river Kishon takes its rise.

1. And the children of Israel again did that which was evil in the sight of Jehovah, when Ehud was dead. The institution of judges over Israel is recorded in 2:16-23. The rise of each judge follows God's punishment of Israel for her repeated disobedience to him.

2. And Jehovah sold them into the hand of Jabin king of Canaan. That reigned in Hazor. No one knows exactly where Hazor was located, but it was certainly to the tribe of Naphtah, and overlooked the waters of Merom, far north in Israel's territory. The captain of whose host was Sisera, who dwelt in Harosheth of the Gentiles. The exact location of this city is also a matter of great dispute.

3. And the children of Israel cried unto Jehovah: for he had nine hundred chariots of iron; and twenty years he mightily oppressed the children of Israel. Trouble ought always to bring us to the Lord.

Deborah As Judge

4. Now Deborah, a prophetess, the wife of Lappidoth, she judged Israel at that time. There are two Deborahs in the Bible, the earlier one being the nurse of Rebekah (Gen. 35:8). The word "Deborah" means "the bee." Dr. Abraham Kuyper calls her "the Joan of Arc of Israel's astonishing history." She is one of the most remarkable women in al lthe Bible, and this account of her life will be found a most fascinating page of sacred history. The word "prophetess" here "implies the possession of poetic as well as of prophets gifts (Eod. 15:20)," andx we see her right to such a title in her predictions (v. 9), her lofty courage (5:7) and the splendor of her inspired song. She is the only female judge, or, indeed, female ruler of any kind in Jewish history, except the Phoenician murderess, Athaliah.

5. And she dwelt under the palm-tree of Deborah between Ramah and Beth-el in the hill-country of Ephraim: and the children of Israel came up to her for judgment. Cf. Gen. 14:13 and I Sam. 14:2. The two cities mentioned here were on the confines of Benjamin and Ephraim. The palm where she sat in judgment was called after her the Deborah palm. Her gift of prophecy qualified her to judge the nation, to settle such disputes among the people themselves as the lower courts were unable to decide.

6. And she sent and called Barak the son of Abinoam out of Kedesh-naphtali, and said unto him, Hath not Jehovah, the God of Israel, commanded, saying, Go and draw unto mount Tabor, and take with thee ten thousand men of the children of Naphtali and of the children of Zebulun? 7. And I will draw unto thee, to the river Kishon, Sisera, the captain of Jabin's army, with his chariots and his multitude; and I will deliver him into thy hand. Already known in Zebulun and Naphtali as a man of bold temper and sagacity, Barak was in a position to gather an army corps out of those tribes, the main strength of the force on which Deborah relied for the approaching struggle. Better still, he was a fearer of God.

The Victory

9. And she said, I will surely go with thee: notwithstanding, the journey that thou takest shall not be for thine honor; for Jehovah will sell Sisera into the hand of a woman. And Deborah arose, and went with Barak to Kedesh. To enter into the force of Deborah's statement, we must remember the humble and almost downtrodden position of women in the East, so that it could hardly fail to be a humiliation to a great warrior to be told that the chief glory would fall to a woman.

We can imagine Deborah in that time of trial growing up into tall and striking womanhood, watching with indignation many a scene in which her people showed a craven fear, or joined slavishly in heathen revels. In vain she looked for a prophet, a leader, a man of Jehovah to rekindle a flame in the nation's heart. A flame! It was in her own soul, she might wake it in other souls.

12. And they told Sisera that Barak the son of Abinoam was gone up to mount Tabor. 13. And Sisera gathered together all his chariots, even nine hundred chariots of iron, and all the people that were with him, from Harosheth of the Gentiles, unto the river Kishon. 14. And Deborah said unto Barak, Up; for this is the day in which Jehovah hath delivered Sisera into thy hand: is not Jehovah gone out before thee? So Barak went down from mount Tabor, and ten thousand men after him. The tremendous moment has come. "Up," cries Deborah. She has waited till the troops of Sisera are entangled among the streams which here, from various directions, converge to the river Kishon, now swollen with rain and difficult to cross. Barak, the Lightning Chief, leads his men impetuously down into the plain. The Kishon sweeps away many of the Canaanite host, the rest make a stand by Taanach and further on by the waters of Megiddo. The Hebrews find a higher ford, and following the south bank of the river are upon the foe again. Only the fragments of a ruined army find shelter within the gates.

Symbol of Conflict

The defeat was crushing. The immediate enemies of Israel were utterly routed. The Hebrews were safe for years to come from the warlike tribes which held so tenaciously to the land. We cannot help looking upon these conflicts in the book of Judges as certainly symbolic of the great conflict that every Christian knows as he wrestles, not with flesh and blood, but against principalities and powers, against the world-rulers of this darkness, and spiritual wickedness in heavenly places. Victory is certain only when the Lord is with us and only when we walk in his will and contend against evil in his power. We are more than conquerors, but only through the Lord Jesus Christ.

The Song of Deborah. Judges 5:1-31. Commentators of every age, conservative and liberal both, have vied with one another in their praise of this remarkable ode. The song of Deborah is unsurpassed in Hebrew literature in all the qualities of poetry, and holds a high place among triumphal odes in the literature of the world.

While Germany is reckoned, by tradition, to be a nation of beer-drinkers, figures show that Britain is, in fact, the greatest beer-drinking nation. The consumption per head of beer in the British Isles is given as 136 pints, while in Germany it is 118 pints. England ranks first as a beer consumer, Austria is second and Germany third. Germany, however, drinks more hard liquors and wines per person than England.

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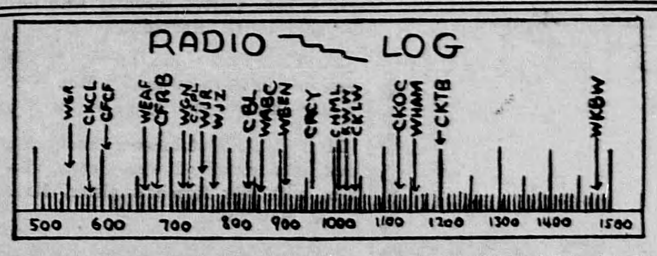
Are You Listening?

By FREDDIE TEE



In inaugurating this column of "Air Wave News" the editorial department ask the co-operation of its readers to write and tell us what interests you the most in radio comments and news. Just address "Radio Column," Room 424, 73 Adelaide West, Toronto.

AIRLANES GOSSIP

Many of the outstanding Metropolitan Opera Singers may be heard in a series of operas which will be broadcast each week from the Cincinnati Zoological Gardens. This program is now under way and may be heard over the NBC Red Network at 11 to 12 p.m. Eastern Daylight Saving Time Saturdays. Many of the best loved operas will be featured during the 6 weeks in July and August.

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For an amusing half-hour of fun and nonsense, be sure and hear Kaltenmeyer's Kindergarten, heard over the NBC Red Network on Saturdays from 8.00 to 8.30 p.m. Eastern Daylight Saving Time.

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The most ambitious undertaking of its kind ever attempted on the air is now under way in the weekly hour programs presenting the Pulitzer Prize Plays from 1918 to the present. These interesting plays represent the pick of contemporary American dramatic literature. The programs are heard over the NBC Blue Network on Thursdays from 10.00 to 11.00 p.m. Here is the schedule of plays to be heard:

July 28—"Beyond the Horizon" by Eugene O'Neill (1920).

August 4—"They Knew What They Wanted" Part 1, by Eugene (1925).

August 11—"Strange Interlude," Part 1, by Eugene O'Neill (1928).

August 18—"Strange Interlude," Part II.

(The dates after the authors' names indicate the year the prize was won).

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For the first time this year the popular Toronto Promenade Symphony Concerts, conducted by Reginald Stewart from the University of Toronto Arena, are being broadcast to the United States from the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation as an international exchange feature. They may be heard over the NBC Red Network on Thursdays from 9.00 to 10.00 p.m.

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The Canadian Radio Corporation —producers of DeForest Crosley, Majestic and Rogers Radios have just released a very complete radio log, listing all domestic, foreign and U.S.A. long and short wave stations, also a Weekly Menu of best weekly night chain programs. Copy will be mailed free to anyone writing to Canadian Radio Corporation, 622 Fleet Street West, Toronto.

SUMMER SPORTS

Here are some of the big summer sports programs that will be heard over the NBC Networks:

Horse Racing

July 30 Futurity and Handicap (2 races) from Arlington Park, Chicago, Illinois.

August 16—Ladies' Cup for Trotters from Good Time Park, Goshen, N.Y.

August 17—Hambletonian Stakes —premier event of the trotting race world —from Good Time Park, Goshen, N.Y.

Tennis

Here are some preview schedules for the outstanding tennis tournaments:

August 11-12-13—North American Zone Tennis Finals from Germantown, Pa.

August 18-19-20—Inter Zone Tennis Final from Germantown, Pa.

August 22-28—National Doubles for Men and Women—from Longwood Tennis Club, Boston, Mass.

Boat Races

August 21—International Fishermen's race off Grand Banks, Nfld.

Miscellaneous

August 14—Soap Box Derby—an annual event in which boys race their homemade poypower autos for college scholarships as prizes—from Akron, Ohio.

POPULAR CANADIAN SINGER

Frances James, CBC artist at Toronto, hails from Saint John, N.B., and is in private life Mrs. Murray Adaskin. Born of a family that has been Canadian for four generations, Miss James has married into a well-known musical family. Murray, her husband, is an accomplished violinist and has played with the Hart House String Quartette and the Toronto Trio.

FRANCES JAMES

It never has been any effort for Frances James to sing. She cannot recall a time when singing was not a delight to her. The Canadian Pacific Railway Festivals have engaged her for recitals in many parts of Canada, and she has toured the country several times. She spent last summer at Banff with her husband, who was playing with the Toronto Trio at the hotel there for the season. When not on tour, Miss James and her husband live in Toronto.

Frances James is one of Canada's foremost classical singers. She prefers recitals to any other form of work except singing with the Toronto Symphony and the Mendelssohn Choir. She sang the leading role from Wagner's "Die Walkure" with the Symphony last year, and considers it the highlight of her singing career to date.

In radio, Miss James has appeared frequently as guest artist on various programs for the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation. Last season she was heard on "Strike Up The Band" and "Christie Street Capers," both from Toronto.

How To Brew The Best Tea

One Teaspoon or Bag For Each Cup Is Recommended

Some of you may enjoy the English custom of serving an early morning cup of tea with a buscuit. Or you may like tea with any meal. Or perhaps you look forward to the afternoon tea hour. However you like your tea, it must be brewed right, says Katharine Fisher, director of Good Housekeeping institute, who gives this advice on how to brew tea:

Be sure the water put on to boil for brewing tea is fresh from the tap. Use one teaspoon of tea or a tea bag for each cup of tea. If you like you can add an extra teaspoon or bag for the pot.

Then heat the teapot with hot water, drain it, and add the tea. Over the tea pour the bubbling boiled water and let stand in a warm place to brew. Never pour the boiling water in the pot or teacup and then add the tea.

A brew of five minutes — or in some cases a little longer, depending on the tea you use—will bring out the flavor of the leaf. Some people prefer a shorter time.

Goes to Antarctic

James (Red) Lymburner, above, of Montreal, will replace Herbert Hollick-Kenyon as No. 1 pilot of the forthcoming Ellsworth expedition to the Antarctic. Another Canadian flier, Burton Trerice, of Amherst, N.S., will take over Lymburner's old post as second pilot of the expedition.

Britain plans to spend $500,000,000 on military aircraft in 1938.

She Comes Back Eighth Time For Title

Losing only four games to her arch-rival, Mrs. Helen Wills Moody defeated Miss Helen Jacobs on Wimbledon's famed centre court to capture the all-England women's singles tennis championship for the eighth time in her career in straight sets. The scores were 6-4, 6-0. The veteran Californian was invincible in the climax to her Wimbledon comeback while Miss Jacobs was hampered by a leg injury. Mrs. Moody is shown here in a typical action picture.

Ball Player

HORIZONTAL

1, 6 —— (Lefty) ——, baseball star.
11 Constellation.
12 Solitary.
13 Billow.
15 Nobleman.
16 Vends.
18 Rootstock.
19 Moor.
20 Exclamation.
21 Sun.
23 Exists.
24 Lad.
26 Policeman.
28 Toward.
29 Humor.
30 Food container.
32 Twitching.
34 Lean.
36 Laughable.
38 Lacerated.
40 Derby.
41 Writing tool.
42 Young dog.
44 Plaything.
45 Diaphanous.
47 Valued.
50 Ocular.
52 Less common.
54 Toilet box.
56 Pertaining to the sun.
57 Male ancestor.
59 He is a World Series champion ——
60 He is also an excellent —— (pl.).

Answer to Previous Puzzle

VERTICAL

1 Promise.
2 Rubs out.
3 Split.
4 Christmas carol.
5 Upon.
6 African.
7 Jar.
8 Fastens a boat.
9 To implant deep.
10 Letter Z.
14 Deadly pale.
17 Plunder.
18 To blow a horn.
19 It was his —— World Series victory.
22 Lunatic.
24 Flour box.
25 Beret.
27 Cavity.
29 Lacking.
30 To peruse.
31 Frost bite.
33 Clique.
35 Possesses.
36 Cherry color.
37 Resinoid extract.
39 Wand.
41 House cat.
43 Nominal value
46 Narrative poem.
48 Examination.
49 Vigor.
51 Heart.
52 Hurrah!
53 Affirmative.
55 Musical note.
58 Railroad.