Sunday School Lesson . . .

LESSON II

THE PROBLEM OF FORGIVENESS

Matthew 18:15—19:30

Golden Text — "Forgive us our debts, as we also forgive our debtors." Matt. 6:12.

THE LESSON IN ITS SETTING

Time — The teaching recorded in chapter 18 was given in the autumn of A.D. 29. All that is recorded in chapter 19 occurred in February and March of the following year, A.D. 30.

Place — All the teaching here recorded in chapter 18 was given in Capernaum. The nineteenth chapter opens in Galilee, but the events of the rest of the chapter are in Perace.

The Law of Forgiveness

21. Then came Peter and said unto him, Lord, how oft shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? until seven times? Peter's query indicated that he still regarded forgiveness as something outward and quantitative rather than something inward and spiritual. 22. Jesus saith unto him, I say not unto thee, Until seven times; but, Until seventy times seven. Jesus clearly means unlimited forgiveness here. 23. Therefore is the kingdom of heaven likened unto a certain king, who would make a reckoning with his servants. This is the first of the parables in which God appears as king. We are the servants with whom he takes account.

24. And when he had begun to reckon, one was brought unto him, that owed him ten thousand talents. (A talent was about a thousand dollars). 25. But forasmuch as he had not wherewith to pay, his lord commanded him to be sold, and his wife, and children, and all that he had, and payment to be made.

26. The servant therefore fell down and worshipped him, saying, Lord, have patience with me, and I will pay thee all. 27. And the lord of that servant, being moved with a compassion, released him, and forgave him the debt. The servant apparently had no indication of the enormity of his debt, which as a servant he would never be able to pay. The extent of the Lord's compassion is here indirectly compared with the vastness of God's forgiveness of sinners.

Towards One's Inferiors

28. But that servant went out, and found one of his fellow-servants who owed him a hundred shillings; and he laid hold on him, and took him by the throat, saying, Pay what thou owest. ("shilling" amounted to about 17c or about ten times that much in comparative value today). According to Roman law a creditor was allowed to drag his debtor by the throat before the tribunal. The harsh form in which he demanded payment demanded special attention. His address to the fellow servant implied his own condemnation. 29. So his fellow-servant fell down and besought him, saying, Have patience with me, and I will pay thee. 30. And he would not: but went and cast him into prison, till he should pay that which was due. Such is man, so harsh and hard, when he walks otherwise than in a constant sense of forgiveness received from God. Ignorance or forgetfulness of his own guilt makes him unforgiving and cruel with others.

The Wicked Servant Condemned

31. So when his fellow-servants saw what was done, they were exceeding sorry, and came and told unto their Lord all that was done. 32. Then his lord called unto him, and saith to him, thou wicked servant, I forgave thee all that debt, because thou besoughtest me: 33. shouldest not thou also have had mercy on thy fellow-servant, even as I had mercy on thee? 34. And his lord was wroth, and delivered him to the tormentors, till he should pay all that was due. For the first time we are told that the king was angry, and this is the main lesson of the parable. An unforgiving spirit is sure to provoke the anger of God. When sinners offend again, it revives the guilt of their otherwise forgiven sins. 35. So shall also my heavenly Father do unto you, if ye forgive not every one his brother from your hearts. Is not the great message here one concerning the attitude of the Christ toward those who have sinned against him? "As God has forgiven my brother who has sinned against me."

"Hunchbacks" of Finland Terrify Russian Troops

Carrying their knapsacks under the white coveralls that make them almost indistinguishable from the surrounding snow, these hardy Finnish ski troops look like hunchbacks as they glide to their front-line posts on the Karelian front. These men have been the terror of the Soviet invaders, swooping down on isolated parties, pistoling, machine-gunning and knifing the bewildered invaders. Then fading away like wraiths, leaving confusion, terror and death in their wake.

FARM... COLUMN

KEEP CULLING POULTRY

Cull and sill. This process will not only make more room but will also remove a profit destroyer from the poultry flock. There will probably be several pullets that are undersize and not as thrifty as they should be. The surest thing to do is to cull these out with the early molter. As a rule the average farm flock is too crowded and by giving the birds a thorough culling more room will be available. Then, too, it never pays to keep the "star-boarders" in the flock, nor the undersized birds as they are sure to decrease the income from the flock in more than one way.

—o—

ROOTS AS FEED

While roots are from 80 to 90 percent water, they are a great help in keeping the cow's digestive tract well supplied with this necessity. Chemists have termed them "watered concentrates," because they have in the water present in their natural state some elusive tonic agent that has yet no laboratory label on it. They are food and drink combined. They make just such an appeal to the cow's taste as apples, pears, peaches and other juicy fruits make to the taste of the human being.

A root cellar is just as necessary an equipment of the dairy farm as a silo. Root crops are a benefit to the land, a silage saver, a most excellent cattle feed, and a dairy safety valve.

Ontario Village Shows Surplus

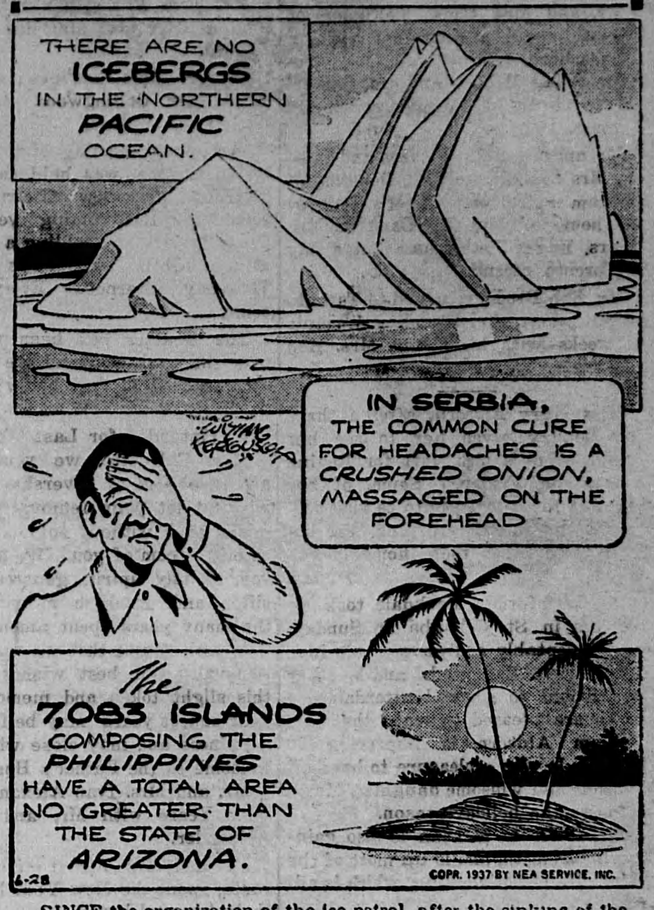
Things are getting better and better in the village of Rockcliffe Park, near Ottawa.

The annual report of the council showed an actual excess of receipts over expenditure of $28,268 for the fiscal year 1939. The excess for 1938 was $8,513.

Receipts this year were $140,792 and expenditures $112,524.

There were no cases of unemployment relief and during the year population increased 26 to 1,302.

THIS CURIOUS WORLD By William Ferguson



SINCE the organization of the Ice patrol, after the sinking of the Titanic, in 1912, not a single fatality has resulted from icebergs An area of 150,000 square miles of the North Atlantic is patrolled throughout the berg season.

NEXT: What formed the covering of the first rigid airship?

A LATE KING

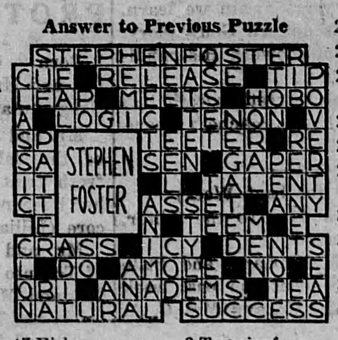
HORIZONTAL

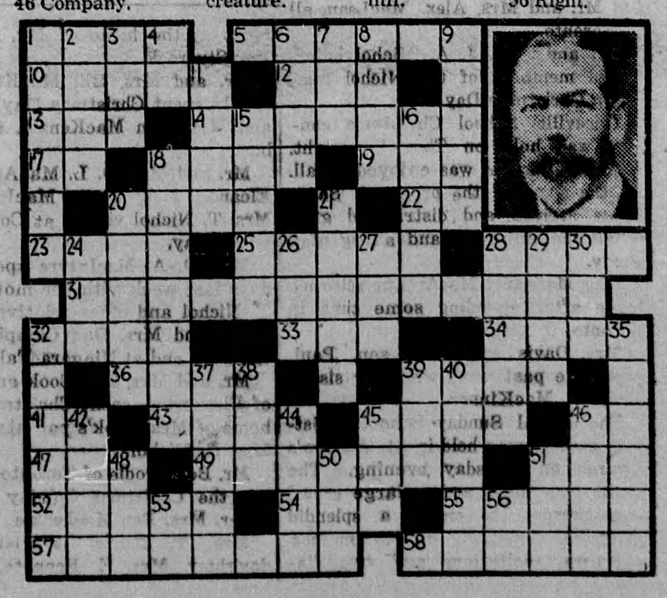
1, 5 Ruler of England during World War
10 Torpid.
12 Owing.
13 Cavity.
14 To make a surgical incision.
17 Father.
18 Grain food.
19 Male.
20 Persian coin.
22 Neuter pronoun.
23 Genus of frogs
25 Pertaining to the iris.
28 To extol.
31 He was a quiet —— ruler.
32 To fuse metals
33 To peep.
34 Metallic rocks.
36 Opposed to right.
39 Particle.
41 To suffice.
43 Simpletons.
45 Circle parts.
46 Company.
47 Fish.
49 Male fowl.
51 Uncooked.
52 Water wheel.
54 Falsehood.
55 To rub out.
57 He was Queen Victoria's ——
58 He was the —— of two English kings.

VERTICAL

1 Male salmon.
2 Dolphine-like creature.
3 Tennis fence.
4 Grain.
6 Paradise.
7 Plural pronoun.
8 Quantity of paper.
9 Occurrence.
11 Law.
15 Overpowering fright.
16 Infection.
18 Stigmatized.
20 Little round hill.
21 Feverish.
24 Tennis point
26 To tear stitches.
27 Some.
28 Plunders
29 Epilepsy symptom.
30 Custom.
32 Walking through water.
35 Rain.
37 Unit of electrical capacity.
38 One plus one.
39 Wrath.
40 Tubular sheath.
42 Smell.
44 Song for one voice.
45 Devoured.
46 Box.
48 Age.
50 To do wrong.
51 Hurrah!
53 Into.
56 Right.

Answer to Previous Puzzle





RADIO NOTES AND NEWS

By MADGE ARCHER

DRAMA MORE POPULAR

Dramatic broadcasts increased their lead over other individual classes of programs during 1939. This conclusion was reached after a study of the annual reports mailed this week by NBC and the Columbia Broadcasting System.

NBC reports, for instance, that the output of radio drama has doubled during the past seven years. CBS lists no fewer than 6,131 dramatic broadcasts for the year. And these occupy about 20 per cent. of all broadcasting time.

The interesting point is that all other forms of popular entertainment when lumped together total only 30 per cent. of all air time, which amounts to about 10,000 hours for each individual network. And it must be remembered that popular entertainment includes the quiz and interview programs and programs of semi-classical music as well as those given over to variety.

There seems on the face of it to be a distinct decline in the variety type of program. Of course, the serial story takes up most of the time allotted to drama. According to the CBS report, about 90 per cent. of drama time is devoted to programs like "One Man's Family."

Review of The Year

As a matter of record, the following is a rough percentage of time the three principal American networks have given to the various branches of radio broadcasting during the past year: Popular Entertainment, 30 per cent; Drama 20; National and International Affairs 17; Education, 7; Fine Music, 7; Dance Music, 7; News and Sports, 7; Children's programs, 5.

In Canada the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation has reason to be proud of its handling of the Royal tour, one of the greater feats in the history of broadcasting. The visit lasted thirty days and included the relaying of the Empire Day broadcast with its complicated pick-ups from different parts of the world.

The CBC also must be credited with putting the Canadian symphony orchestras on the map. The summer series of Toronto Promenade Symphony concerts were broadcast not only across Canada but also in the United States over the NBC. The present series by the Montreal Orchestra, Les Concerts Symphoniques de Montreal and the Toronto Symphony Orchestra are being heard over the Mutual network as well as the Canadian.

PROGRAM FOR THE WINTER

It is doubtful if there will be very much change in programs during the next four or five months, generally speaking. On Saturdays the broadcasts of the Metropolitan Opera Company and the NBC Symphony Orchestra are the programs watched for most keenly by music-lovers. On Sundays there is the Philharmonic from New York in the afternoon at 3 o'clock. And in the evening there is Jack Benny's program, the new streamlined Chase and Sanborn Hour, and, if you can pick it up, the Ford Hour. "One Man's Family," paired with the Chase and Sanborn program, and Orson Welles' theatre and the Silver Theatre offer the principal dramatic fare.

This Turkish City One of Many Hit By Terrible 'Quakes

Street scene in the city of Ordu, on the Black Sea, after the last earthquake that spread death and terror through Anatolia, Turkey. Ordu is one of the sufferers in the 'quake that is reported to have killed or injured 100,000 people. Cities, ranging in population from 12,000 to 40,000, besides many small villages, were reported in ruins. When this photo was made, children were lining up at a relief station. Similar stations were set up as rapidly as possible in the stricken area.

POP—Reformed

By J. MILLAR WATT