Sunday School Lesson

LESSON IV
ISAIAH COMFORTS AN AFFLICTED PEOPLE—Isaiah 40.
PRINTED TEXT, Isa. 40: 1-11
GOLDEN TEXT—God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Ps. 46: 1.

THE LESSON IN ITS SETTING

Time. — Probably about 701 B.C., although the time cannot definitely be ascertained.

Place.—The city of Jerusalem.

In this lesson we find a remarkable revelation of some of the fundamental relationships that ought to exist between God and men, and between men and God. On the one hand, God desires to rule men, to reward them, to guide them as a shepherd, to give power and strength to them in weakness; but on the other hand, if these things are to be bestowed by God, man must open his life to the Lord so that the Lord can fill it with his own greatness and goodness.

A Great Prophet

Of all Israel's celebrated prophets, Isaiah is the king. The writings which bear his name are among the profoundest in all literature. One great theme—salvation by faith — stamps them all. Isaiah is the St. Paul of the Old Testament.

Isa. 40: 1. Comfort ye, comfort ye my people, saith your God.

2. Speak ye comfortably to Jerusalem; and cry unto her, that her warfare is accomplished, that her iniquity is pardoned, that she hath received of Jehovah's hand double for all her sins. The chapter begins with the voice of God speaking to the children of Israel, who are said to be going to endure great sufferings and 70 years of captivity in Babylon. Isaiah sees beyond the suffering, and beyond the captivity, the infinite tenderness and graciousness of God, an unfailing love for his people, and the final victory and peace which come to them. The pronouncement of this verse may become a glorious reality in the life of any slave to sin, any oppressed or defeated person, if that one will recognize that all of one's sins have been atoned for in the perfect and precious sacrifice of the Lord Jesus Christ, by which sacrifice we are set free.

John Baptist's Coming

3. The voice of one that crieth, prepare ye in the wilderness the way of Jehovah; make level in the desert a highway for our God. 4. Every valley shall be exalted, and every mountain and hill shall be made low; and the uneven shall be made level, and the rough places a plain: 5. and the glory of Jehovah shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together; for the mouth of Jehovah hath spoken it. This great passage, where the second of four voices is heard, the voice of the forerunner, is well known to all Bible students, because of its quotation in all the four Gospels in the record of the appearance of John the Baptist, to whom certainly this prophecy points. John the Baptist, however, though the great forerunner, did not exhaust the prophetic implications of this verse, for all true servants of God are to be occupied in preparing the way for the coming of the Lord.

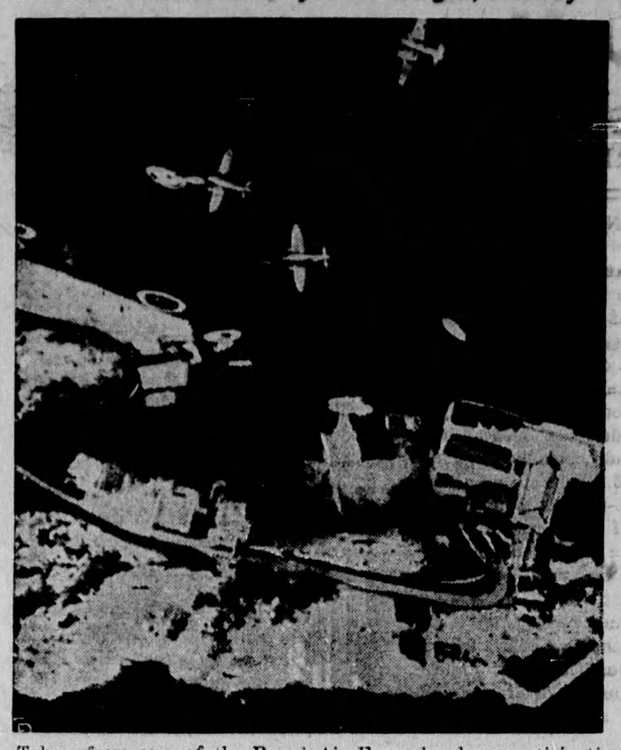
Greatness of His Word

6. The voice of one saying, Cry. And one said, What shall I cry? All flesh is grass, and all the goodliness thereof is as the flower of the field. 7. The grass withereth, the flower fadeth, because the breath of Jehovah bloweth upon it; surely the people is grass. The grass withereth, the flower fadeth; but the word of our God shall stand for ever. A third voice is now heard, of undetermined origin, proclaiming man's frailty and the eternal power of God's word. Man is here likened to the grass of the earth, because he too soon passes away (comparatively speaking). In contrast to the brevity of life allotted to man, Isaiah comforts the hearts of his people by reminding them that the word of God forever abides.

Revealed In His Works

9. O thou that telleth good tidings to Zion, get thee up on a high mountain; O thou that telleth good tidings to Jerusalem, lift up thy voice with strength; lift it up, be not afraid; say unto the cities of Judah, Behold, your God! 10. Behold, the Lord Jehovah will come as a mighty one, and his arm will rule for him: Behold, his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. 11. He will feed his flock like a shepherd, he will gather the lambs in his arm, and carry them in his bosom, and will gently lead those that have their young. The fourth voice is now heard, and while it is not specifically identified, we may take it to be the voice of the prophet himself. Here Zion and Jerusalem are, of course, synonymous; from this city were good tidings to be proclaimed to all the other cities of Judah, calling upon them to look unto God, because he with his strong arm will rule the nations, and in his infinite tenderness he will feed his flock like a shepherd, carrying the lambs in his bosom.

R. A. F. Bombers Fly Over Bergen, Norway



Taken from one of the Royal Air Force bombers participating in the raid, this aerial view shows Nazi seaplanes moored in the harbor of Bergen as R. A. F. bombers roared over the Nazi-held Norwegian city. A German cruiser of the Koln class was believed to have been struck during the raid and sunk. A munitions warehouse was also blown up. This picture was flashed to New York by radio from London.

Farm Notes . . .

Bigger Profits From Potatoes

Four years ago the Ontario and Dominion Governments commenced experiments on three soil types in Middlesex county at the request of the Caradoc Potato Growers' Association. In 1938 similar experiments were begun in the Alliston area, South Simcoe county. Growers in these famous potato growing areas asked investigations into such problems as low yields, and difficulties in producing potatoes of high quality. In addition to the main experiments, demonstrations have been conducted on 38 Middlesex farms on one-acre plots with adjacent check plots.

Results obtained on the experimental plots and put into practice on the demonstration plots showed five main factors contributed to more profits from potatoes — these were:

Certified seed of a suitable variety.

Plentiful supply of plant food supplied by barnyard manure, and green manure crops and artificial fertilizers.

Early planting.

Efficient spraying.

Proper methods of harvesting, grading, packaging and labelling.

FEWER ACRES, HIGHER QUALITY

Growers should recognize that profits are not necessarily measured by the number of acres grown, but by the yield of good quality tubers produced per acre. The objective of Ontario potato growers should be "More bushels of high quality potatoes from fewer acres."

RADIO REPORTER

By DAVE ROBBINS

SPRING CHANGES

Well, we have an official communique from the weather front that Spring is actually here. And Spring is sure to make changes in radio programs just as Spring makes changes everywhere.

For instance the Metropolitan Opera Company leaves the air — and the "mike" goes to the ball diamond every Saturday afternoon. Not only in New York, but everywhere, will the radio bring to millions of listeners the well-known — strike three — he's out.

In this part of Canada three radio stations will feature baseball very shortly — CBL and CFRB in Toronto and CKOC in Hamilton.

The two Toronto stations will bring baseball to the front verandah fans from the International Legaue games in Toronto — while in Hamilton CKOC will bring to Canadians the play-by-play action of the PONY League games.

So ball fans, get ready for a big baseball season!

* * *

Gracie Allen can always be depended on for something new in the world of maniacs and crackpots — and this year she is running for president, as a candidate on the surprise party ticket. Gracie will make her nomination speech on Wednesday night, May 15, at 7.30.

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WHALE OF A PART

Word that Bernard Herrmann, the capable composer, has written a dramatic cantata named Moby Dick, reminds us of the funny incident that occurred when John Barrymore made his Canadian debut in the picture by that name. Moby Dick, of course, was a great whale that all the whalers sought to catch. However, after this picture critic in question had watched the preview through, probably with only one eye open, he went back to his paper and reported that Barrymore played the role of Moby Dick remarkably well.

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TALK OF THE TOWN

Ontario towns are going on the air, one at a time, each Thursday night at 8.15 . . . Tune in the "Town Crier" and learn more about our own rural Ontario. (Note time change for summer months).

* * *

Radio spotlight . . . Sunday . . . And It Came to Pass, from CBL at 1.30 . . . Glen Gray's band from WEAF at four . . . Prof. Salmon analyzes the war from CKOC at five . . . One Man's Famliy from WEAF-CBL at 8.30 . . . Sweet and Low, with Mart Kennedy's band at Vancouver, via CBC at 11.30 . . . Monday — Stars Over Hollywood from CKOC at 1.15 . . . With the Troops via CBC at 8.30 . . . Alec Templeton Time from CBL at 9.30 . . . Mammoth Minstrels from WOR-Mutual at 10.30 . . .Thursdays — Carson Robison and His Buckaroos from CKOC at 7.30 . . . Session in Swing with Sammy Kaye from WEAF at 7.30 . . . Talk of the Town out of CKOC at 8.15 . . . Stag Party on CBC at 11.30 . . . Friday — Along Gypsy Trails CBL at seven . . . 13th Battalion Overseas band at 8.30 from CKOC . . . Woodhouse and Hawkins via CBC at ten . . . Benny Goodman from WEAF-Red network at midnight.

"Devil of Sea" Value To Man

Octopus Is Used As Food and Also In the Manufacture of Ink

No mythical monster was that 10-foot octopus recently reported to have been killed off the coast of Oregon after an attack on a 30-foot fishing boat.

"One of nature's nightmarish creations," observes a National Geographic Society bulletin, 'the octopus is as tangible as breakfast kippered herring — and is, in some parts of the world at least, an equally familiar dish on the family menu.

"With the giant squid, chambered nautilus, argonaut and others, this marine animal is a member of the class cephalopoda (meaning 'head-footed'). Found in deep and shallow water of most of the world's seas, its various species range in size from less than 12 inches in full arm-spread to a super 'boarding-house reach' of nearly 30 feet.

PRODUCES "INDIA INK"

"More conventional, and credible is the use of the animal's glandular product of ink, or sepia, for water-color work and dyes. This sepia was the ancient 'India ink.'

"The octopus also makes good fish bait, its main value among the Western nations. For human consumption, cephalopods have been prized by various peoples since ancient times. The octopus is a favorite oriental dish, and in split and dried form is frequently found in Eastern stores.

More Are Trying To Learn French

English-Canadians Are Taking Up Sister Language For Cultural Reasons, And Because It is Useful

Little by little English-Canadians are realizing the error they have committed in the past by neglecting the many opportunities presented to them in this country to learn French, says "Le Canada" (Montreal). They are eager to make up for lost time. This is a tendency we have had occasion to note at the Protestant Board of School Commissioners. It seems now to be spreading across Canada. For some time there has been an exchange of students between Quebec and Ontario during the summer vacation which has given satisfactory results to all concerned. The comment of Ontario newspapers on the movement points to a significant change in the attitude of our English-speaking compatriots. A growing number of them wish to learn French for cultural reasons, to strengthen the bonds of unity among our people and, finally, because it is useful. Canada is moving toward the right formula of bilingualism.

Rideau Hall Stately Home

Fine Mansion in Ottawa Awaits New Governor-General and Princess

The Earl of Athlone, Canada's new Governor-General, will take up his official residence in a stately limestone mansion on the banks of the Ottawa River in a setting of gently rolling lawns and fine old trees.

MEMORIAL TO GOVERNORS

Rideau Hall, traditional home of the vice-regal incumbent, stands as a memorial to the long succession of governors-general who have lived there since Confederation. Each has added something structurally to the three-storey residence or its surroundings.

Rideau Hall stands in the eastern part of Ottawa, about 1½ miles from the Houses of Parliament and slightly east of the confluence of the Rideau and Ottawa rivers. An ornamental iron fence sets off the beautiful gardens and green parklands from the bustle of city traffic.

The building dates back to the days when Ottawa was still the little village of Bytown, unthought of as the future capital of Canada. The late Hon. Thomas McKay, a lumber magnet, purchased 1,000 acres of woodlands on which to build a family homestead. As the blocks of limestone gradually rose on the site in 1837, Queen Victoria was ascending the throne.

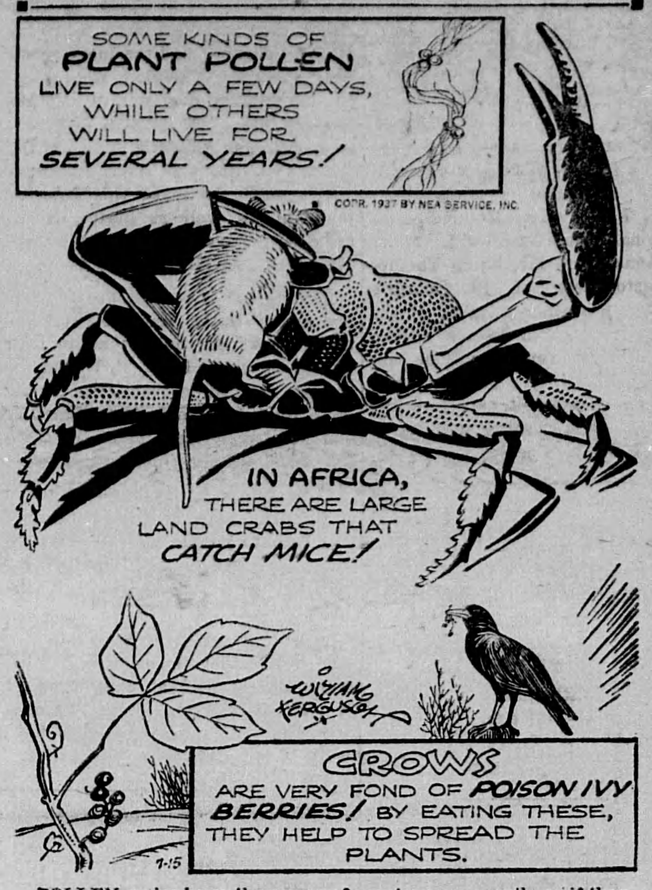
LEASED IN 1865

The modest retreat of the McKay family was leased in 1865 by government authorities of Upper Canada. In 1867, Confederation year, the property was purchased outright for $82,000 as the official residence of the Governor-General, but neither Mr. McKay nor Viscount Monck, the first vice-regal tenant, would recognize their former home amid the additional wings, storeys and added chambers which constitute the Rideau Hall of today.

Gold production in Canada during 1939 totalled 5,092,134 fine ounces compared with 4,725,117 fine ounces in 1938.

THIS CURIOUS WORLD

By William Ferguson



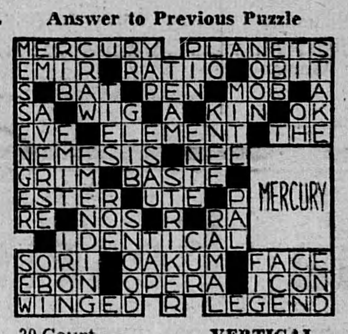
POLLEN grains have the power of spontaneous growth, as if they were seeds in their own right. Pollen of the palms, if kept dry, may retain its life for years. The Arabs save some from their date-palms from year to year to place upon the flowers the following season.

NEXT: Does a bee recognize other members of its hive?

FLYING HEROINE

HORIZONTAL
1 Pioneer girl flyer.
12 Long outer garment.
13 To rent.
14 Vigilant.
16 Meat.
17 Wholly.
18 To prick.
19 Unit.
20 Mountain laurel.
21 She first gained —— as a plane passenger.
22 To subsist.
23 Musical note.
24 Silkworm.
25 To observe.
26 Pretense.
27 Fresh tidings.
29 Slender.
31 Angry.
33 Upon.
34 Palm lily tree.
35 Sound of a bullet.
36 Toward.
37 Sound of a dove.
38 Electric unit.
39 Court.
40 Concurred.
45 To marry.
46 Summer residence.
48 Least whole number.
49 Pool.
50 To redact.
51 Ireland.
52 Mohammedan nymph.
53 She was a —— worker.
54 She made a solo —— flight.

Answer to Previous Puzzle



VERTICAL
1 To make amends.
2 Greater in quantity.
3 Deer.
4 Musical note.
5 Partner.
6 Snaky fish.
7 Preposition.
8 Brought into accord.
9 Bitter herb.
10 Scarlet.
11 Transposed.
12 Games.
15 Oak.
17 She made many new —— records.
18 Father.
20 Fury.
22 She was the —— of the feminine flyers.
24 Tree.
25 To exchange.
26 Brooch.
28 Goddess of discord.
30 Card game.
32 Typhoid fever
34 To work.
36 Ponderous volumes.
37 Raccoon type animal.
39 Tendrils.
40 Style.
41 Inferior dog.
42 Cetacean.
43 Nick.
44 And.
45 Tight.
47 Stir.
49 To peruse.
51 Ell.
52 Laughter sound.

POP—A Little Service Makes the Heart Grow Fonder

By J. MILLAR WATT