SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

LESSON III
USING WITNESSING POWER
Acts 2:1—4:31
PRINTED TEXT
Acts 2:1-4; 4:8-20

GOLDEN TEXT — They were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and they spake the word of God with boldness. Acts 4:31.

THE LESSON IN ITS SETTING

Time.—The day of Pentecost occurred as far as we are able to judge, on Sunday, May 28, A.D. 30. The events recorded in the third and fourth chapters of Acts took place in the summer of A.D. 30.

Place.—The City of Jerusalem.

We should come away from the study of this lesson with a new conviction concerning the divine origin and the greatness of the Church of Christ. We should be reminded that loyalty to the Church and to the Christ of the Church is the great privilege and obligation of every true believer and of every consecrated disciple.

Birth of the Church

Acts 2:1. "And when the day of Pentecost was come, they were all together in one place." The Feast of Pentecost was the second of the three chief Mosaic festivals. It fell on the fiftieth day after the second day of the passover. It celebrated the completion of the grain harvest. Special offerings were made, and two leavened loaves of wheat bread, significant of the finished harvest, together with two lambs as peaceofferings, were waved before the Lord. If passover reminded the Jews of their redemption from the land of bondage, Pentecost celebrated their possession of the land of promise.

2. "And suddenly there came from heaven a sound as of the rushing of a mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. 3. And there appeared unto them tongues parting asunder, like as of fire; and it sat upon each one of them." Probably the great noise was to be taken as a symbol of mighty power, whereas the tongues of fire would be symbolic of purging and of dedication to a prophetic ministry, somewhat comparable to the experience of Isaiah eight centuries before. 4. "And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance." This ability to speak in foreign languages not previously learned was merely a temporary endowment granted for a special purpose. It was one of those miraculous spiritual gifts which marked the age of the apostles. The gift of tongues was exactly the preparation needed by the disciples for the task of witnessing to the throngs who had gathered from all parts of the world to observe the feast.

Book of the Holy Spirit

The Book of Acts has often been called the Acts of the Holy Spirit, and truly so. The Spirit of God is referred to seventy times in this one book. It is He who is the energizing power, the sure guide and teacher of the Church of Christ, not only for the days of the Church whose history is recorded in this book, but for all the subsequent years of the Church's history in every land. The dominance of the Holy Spirit in the life of a believer is not ordinarily to be tested by the presence of any special gift, such as the gift of tongues. One who is obedient to his Master is granted the ability to do the will of the Master, for the "fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, meekness, self-control."

Salvation Only In Him

Acts 4:8. "Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said unto them, Ye rulers of the people, and elders,

9. If we this day are examined concerning a good deed done to an impotent man, by what means this man is made whole;

10. Be it known unto you all, and to all the people of Israel, that in the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom ye crucified, whom God raised from the dead, even in him doth this man stand here before you whole.

11. He is the stone which was set at nought of you the builders, which was made the head of the corner.

12. And in none other is there salvation: for neither is there any other name under heaven, that is given among men, wherein we must be saved.

13. Now when they beheld the boldness of Peter and John, and had perceived that they were unlearned and ignorant men, they marvelled; and they took knowledge of them, that they had been with Jesus.

14. And seeing the man that was healed standing with them, they could say nothing against it.

15. But when they had commanded them to go aside of the council, they conferred among themselves,

16. Saying, What shall we do to these men? for that indeed a notable miracle hath been wrought through them, is manifest to all that dwell in Jerusalem; and we cannot deny it.

17. But that it spread no further among the people, let us threaten them, that they speak henceforth to no man in this name.

18. And they called them, and charged them not to speak at all nor teach in the name of Jesus."

The Disciples Stand Firm

The Sanhedrin were compelled to acknowledge that the miracle had been genuine; but also realized that if these men kept on preaching, soon everyone would believe in what they had denounced. The Sanhedrin's conclusion was that the disciples should be threatened and commanded to speak no more in the name of Jesus. No doubt, they would be allowed to go out and preach if they would leave out the name of Christ and what Christ meant. 19. "But Peter and John answered and said unto them, Whether it is right in the sight of God to hearken unto you rather than unto God, judge ye: 20. for we cannot but speak the things which we saw and heard."

What boldness these apostles manifested! Standing before this awesome body of men, they frankly declared that even though they knew it might involve their immediate death, they positively could not be kept from speaking the things which they had seen and heard, namely, the teachings of Christ, the Resurrection. Thousands and thousands of men have said these words since, many of them suffering death as a consequence.

Noted British Flier Shuttles Between Canada, Britain

Complete with "Mae West"—inflatable life-saving jacket—and fur-lined trousers, stands James Mollison, former trail blazer of the air across the globe, but now turned ferry pilot for bombers to Britain. The picture was taken as Mollison arrived recently in Montreal.

RADIO REPORTER

By DAVE ROBBINS

"HOME FRONT CHATS"

A program that every Ontario woman will like makes its bow this week from CKOC, when Avis Carroll introduces Chats on the Home Front, a feature that will be heard from 1150 on the radio dial each week-day afternoon at 1.30.

Avis Carroll is a new radio personality with a style you will like, and her program is designed especially to interest the women. Ways to make life interesting while the menfolk are away in the service—wartime economies, and diet problems, are featured in this new bright spot.

So tune in tomorrow afternoon and spend fifteen minutes with Avis Carroll.

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AROUND THE DIAL

Taking stock this week after her first six months of broadcasting, WOR's woman's commentator Bessie Beatty, who used to be one of the nation's foremost woman journalists and editors, was asked which she likes better: radio or writing.

The answer was Radio: "You see," Bessie Beatty admitted, "I'm Irish, and there's nothing I like better than to talk."

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The finest Biblical drama on the air, we believe, is the program entitled "And It Came To Pass," originating in Montreal. This Sabbath interlude is heard over the CBC network at 1.30 on Sundays, and is outstanding for its reality in the dramatized Biblical happenings that it features.

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The ubiquitous Scattergood Baines heard over the Columbia chain at 5.45 in the afternoon, is one of the funniest of the domestic-patterned programs on the air. This troupe have been on the air a long time now, and are still providing as many laughs as any of them.

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Speaking of dance bands Bert Niosi's 10.15 spot on CFRB, on Tuesday nights, has many, many listeners. And well it might, for Bert's crew are one of the top Canadian bands.

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Radio slants: Dinah Shore, on the advice of a New York throat specialist, recently was forced to cancel an appearance on the Eddie Cantor show, and postpone, simultaneously, the opening of a two or three week engagement at New York's Paramount Theatre. She was stricken with a severe case of laryngitis, brought on from a cold.

The specialist ordered forty-eight hours of absolute rest for the ailing larynx — "no talking or even whispering" — after which she was to be re-examined . . . Glen Miller, ace Bluebird batoneer, has engaged the services of lovely Paula Kelly for his vocal department. . . "Just Plain Love," new tune by Henry Hull, Jr., former NBC page, will have its debut on the new early morning variety show, "Who's Blue?" . . . The premiere performance was given on April 3rd by Irving Miller's band.

Celebrate June 9 King's Birthday

A proclamation fixing Monday, June 9—the same date as last year—for celebration of the King's birthday has been published in the Canada Gazette.

The King's birthday actually falls on December 14, but the official celebration is held in June. His Majesty was 45 last December 14.

Gardening . . .

ARTICLE No. 7

A few special implements will make gardening more interesting and less arduous. These are not expensive. For ordinary digging both a spade and a digging fork have a place. The first is ideal for turning over soil in the Spring or for breaking up sod. The fork, lighter and quicker to operate, is excellent for cultivating anytime through the season and especially for breaking up soil that has been plowed or spaded sometime earlier. For killing weeds, thinning, cultivating large vegetables and shrubbery, a small, not-too-wide hoe, well sharpened is the ideal tool.

To Prevent Jungles

One can do wonders with flowers alone, but still more amazing results will follow where we combine flowers skilfully with grass, winding walks, shrubbery and bits of stone-work. In this combining, however, we must take care not to reproduce a jungle. A little preliminary planning and a rough sketch drawn approximately to scale will help wonderfully. Flowers and shrubbery must not be so crowded that they become spindly and weak.

Little flowers must not be hidden by tall things like full size marigolds, cosmos or zinnias. Beds must be so arranged that we can keep down weeds and remove fading foliage. Above all we must remember that unless we are very skilful, it is best to use a fair amount of lawn as a foreground for our flowers. Lawns are almost vital in creating garden pictures.

Feed the Lawn

Thin lawns badly mixed with weeds almost invariably have poor soil. Sometimes only a liberal application of commercial fertilizer or well-rotted manure is necessary to restore rich greenness. Well fed, well watered grass will usually crowd out most weeds, though it will appreciate some help from the gardener who does not mind spending a few hours with a sharp weeder.

Food Takes Third Of Average Wages

Canadian Families Living In Cities Spend 31.9 Per Cent. Of Income on Edibles

The average Canadian family living in the city—just plain Mr. and Mrs. So-and-so with from one to five children—spends 31.9 per cent. of its annual income for food.

For clothing it spends 12 per cent.; shelter, 19.2; personal care, 9.1; education and vocation, 1.6; transportation, 5.3, and welfare and gifts, 2.4.

These facts and a vast quantity of relative information are shown in the first family-living expenditure survey ever compiled in Canada and recently issued by the Dominion Bureau of statistics.

RESULT OF SURVEY

The survey, which began in January, 1938, on the initiative of the late Norman Rogers, then minister of labor, was conducted in 12 cities, compiling 45,000 records on 6,252 families coming within certain limitations which made them "typical average families."

An analysis of the debt and savings of the families under survey brought out that 36.3 per cent. of the total number showed increased debt; only 37 families broke even and 62 per cent. of these average earners save money regularly.

THIS CURIOUS WORLD

By William Ferguson

ANSWER: Only three oceans are now generally recognized the Atlantic, the Pacific, and the Indian. The Arctic Ocean, of only 4,000,000 square miles, has been incorporated with the Atlantic, as the Arctic Sea, and the Antarctic has been reapportioned over the three named above.

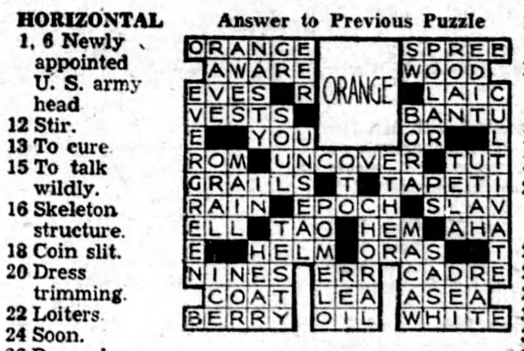
NEXT: What insect sometimes lays eggs and sometimes brings forth its young alive?

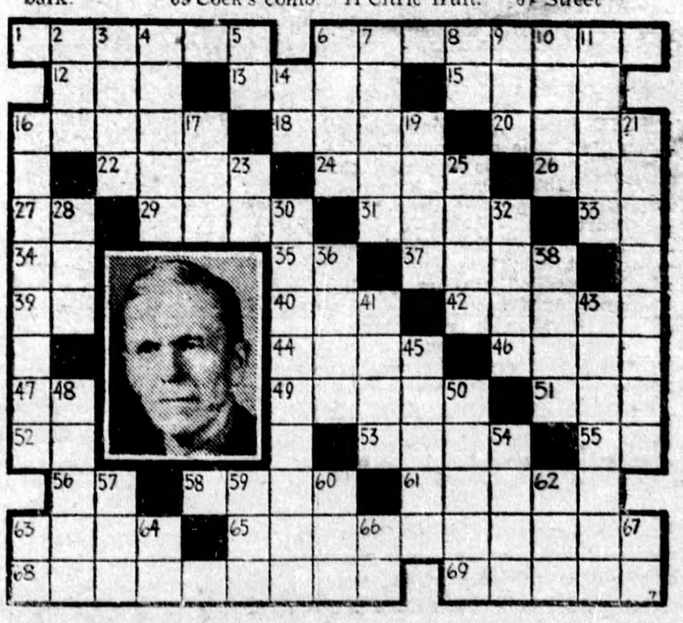
ARMY CHIEF

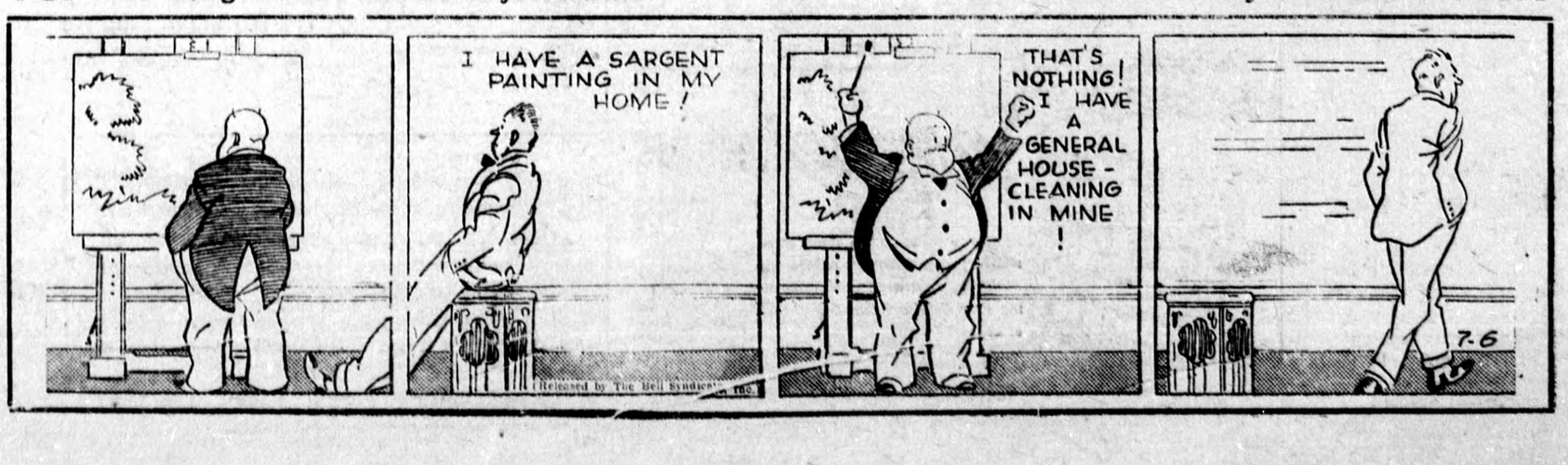
HORIZONTAL
1, 6 Newly appointed U. S. army head
12 Stir.
13 To cure
15 To talk wildly.
16 Skeleton structure.
18 Coin slit.
20 Dress trimming.
22 Loiters
24 Soon.
26 Drone bee.
27 Preposition.
29 Weaving frame.
31 Sand.
33 Negative
34 Toward.
35 Subsists
37 Astir.
39 Common verb
40 To haul
42 Good name
44 Frozen desserts
46 Paper mulberry bark.
47 Pound.
49 Melts.
51 Brink.
52 Musical note
53 To con.
55 Like
56 Year.
58 Boundary
61 Fold.
63 Needy
65 Sells
68 He will be ——to General Craig.
69 Cock's comb
14 Electrical term.
16 He was an honor student and —— star.
17 Self.
19 Law.
21 He will direct a rearmament —— (pl.).
23 Therefore.
25 Near.
28 Enemy.
30 Fights.
32 To honk.
36 Certain.
38 To snarl.
41 Appliances.
43 Narcotics.
45 Brushed with a broom
48 Lake inlet.
50 Code of laws.
54 Expensive.
57 Bird
59 Being.
60 Since.
62 Devoured.
63 Postscript.
64 Red Cross
66 Either
67 Street

VERTICAL
2 Organ of hearing.
3 Land right
4 Braided thong.
5 Sound of inquiry
6 Evils.
7 By the length.
8 Senior.
9 Ugly old woman
10 Greedy.
11 Citric fruit.

Answer to Previous Puzzle





POP—As Long As It's Not a Major Disaster

By J. MILLAR WATT