SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

LESSON VII
PETER ENCOURAGES SUFFERING CHRISTIANS
I Peter 4:12-19; 5:6-11

GOLDEN TEXT. — If a man suffer as a Christian, let him not be ashamed; but let him glorify God in His name.—I Peter 4:16.

THE LESSON IN ITS SETTING

Time. — The First Epistle of Peter was written about A.D. 64.

Place.—The epistle states (5: 13) that it was written from Babylon, but regarding the meaning of the Babylon as used here, commentators greatly disagree. It probably refers to Babylon in the Mesopotamia Valley.

The author of this and the Epistle which immediately follows it is the very familiar member of the apostolic company, Simon Peter, a native of Galilee and, by occupation a fisherman. He stands out pre-eminently as the principal figure in the first twelve chapters of the book of Acts.

"12. Beloved, think it not strange concerning the fiery trial among you, which cometh upon you to prove you as though a strange thing happened unto you." When we realize that through suffering God's hand is weaving us from the world and making us ready for going home, then out of the midst of sorrow, we will see God's designs justified.

"13. But inasmuch as ye are partakers of Christ's sufferings rejoice; that at the revelation of his glory also ye may rejoice with exceeding joy." There are two rejoicings in this verse, one for the present and one for the future, We may rejoice now, knowing that we are thus entering into Christ's suffering, and He knows all about our anguish; and we will surely rejoice when all the sufferings of life are over; when having remained faithful, we find ourselves in the presence of the Lord forever.

"14. If ye are reproached for the name of Christ, blessed are ye, because the Spirit of glory and the Spirit of God resteth upon you. 15. For let none of you suffer as a murderer, or a thief, or an evil-doer, or as a meddler in other men's matters." Even if a man is a Christian, and he takes a piece of property which does not belong to him, and for this he is put into prison, there is really nothing to rejoice over, but a great deal to be ashamed of. So the Apostle warns these Christians that they should beware of doing anything which would cause suffering on their part because of a justified punishment at the hands of the state.

"16. But if a man suffer as a Christian, let him not be ashamed; but let him glorify God in this name. 17. For the time is come for judgment to begin at the house of God; and if it begin first at us, what shall be the end of them that obey not the gospel of God?" Whatever our sufferings may be, because we are believers, there is a sure end to them, namely, the conclusion of this life. With the unbeliever and the sinner, it will be the reverse. Here he may not suffer at all, but in the life to come his punishment and suffering will continue forever. "18. And if the righteous is scarcely saved, where shall the ungodly and sinner appear? 19. Wherefore let them also that suffer according to the will of God commit their souls in well-doing unto a faithful Creator.

"6. Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God; that he may exalt you in due time of casting all your anxiety upon him, because he careth for you." God resists the proud because they are not obedient to his laws. God does not work with the proud, he works against them." Treat cares as you do sins. Hand them over to Jesus one by one as they occur. There is no surer path to rest than to pass on to Jesus all the anxieties of life.

"8. Be sober, be watchful. Your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may destroy." Christian people to-day who are conscious of being fiercely assailed by evil ought not to be alarmed, but should realize that this experience of theirs is general everywhere, of true believers and that there is sufficient grace for every need in such dreadful times as these. "9. Whom withstand stedfast in your faith, knowing that the same sufferings are accomplished in your brethren who are in the world." Resist the beginnings of evil; a mere remedy is all too late. If you have not resisted at the stage of thought, then summon every power of your soul to resist at the stage of the act. Bear in mind that each stage of a losing battle is more perilous, more difficult than the last.

10. And the God of all grace, Who called you into his eternal glory in Christ. After that ye have suffered a little while, shall himself perfect. 11. To him be the dommion for ever and ever. Amen." The glory of anything is its visible resplendence and majesty — the outshining of its inner character. The glory which will be ours is the very opposite of the shame and suffering that now is endured on earth. Things are imperfect here; they will be perfect there. Our Lord told the Apostle Peter, that after he was converted, he was to strengthen the brethren. It is God who will make them perfect; he can for he is the might for ever and ever. The Christian may well say his "Amen" with a thankful and adoring heart.

NAZI PROPAGANDA HAUL IN HAVANA

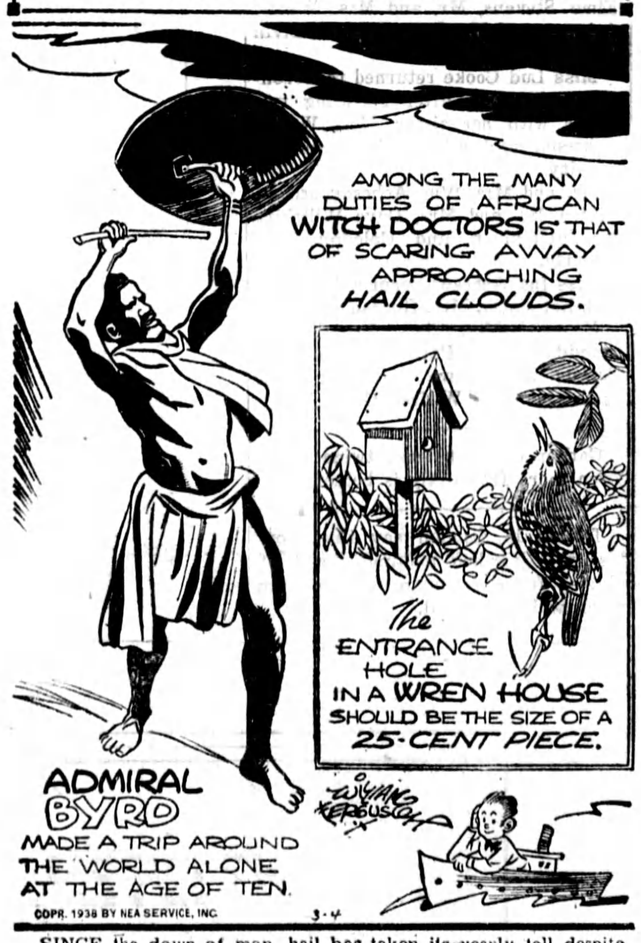
Two revolvers, a rifle, a statue of Hindenburg and a copy of Mein Kampf were a few of the articles picked up by Cuban police when they took into custody German-born Fernando Ernesto Bluhme Sanches in Havana.

Quilting Is Smart: A Victorian Touch

In attempting even a hit and miss list of Victorianisms in fashion, there must be included mention of quilting, which treatment turns up in jackets and in linings for other jackets and coats. Quilting the coat and its lining together is one of the unusual methods employed. Surface trims are increasingly important.

Tiers and peplums must also be added to the long list of family album details. There are, in fact, many of both. Tiered skirts straight or in spiral formation, are promising, while peplums and tunics are more cautiously introduced.

THIS CURIOUS WORLD By William Ferguson



SINCE the dawn of man, hail has taken its yearly toll despite man's efforts to combat it. Today this annual hail loss throughout the entire world is estimated at $200,000,000. Ancient Greeks offered sacrifices to approaching hail clouds, and even to this day in many parts of the world, various charms are worked to avert hail storms.

NEXT: What is the most widely used food?

Saving Ontario's Natural Resources

By G. C. Toner
(Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters)
No. 53

AGES OF OUR ROCKS

Over the top of the pre-Cambrian formations, the great mining area of the north, are the various sedimentary rocks that cover great areas in southern Ontario. The Pre-Cambrian shield is well known, and around its edges, and lying partly over it, are the unchanged limestones, sandstone and shales, usually in flat-lying layers but sometimes twisted out of shope by the movements of the earth. Many of the top layers have been removed by glacial action in places but by travelling across the country we can get a fairly complete picture of each formation.

Oldest of these sedimentary rocks are the Potsdam sandstone of the Cambrian period. They can be seen in the vicinity of Brockville and Ottawa, partly covering the Laurentian rocks. These sandstones were formed in the bays of a sea that stretched up the St. Lawrence valley many millions of years ago. They are so old that they have been almost worn away and only remnants are extant now.

Four Rock Age Periods

Above the Cambrian sandstones are various limestones of the Ordovician period. These rocks cover southeastern Ontario and south central Ontario except where the Pre-Cambrian comes to the surface, crossing the St. Lawrence in the vicinity of Gananoque. They reach as far west as the Hamilton escarpment and contain many fossile of the lower animals. Sponges, corals, echinoderms, crustaceans and other creatures have left their remains in these rocks but there are few plants and no higher animals. Millions of years were still to pass before the animals left the water.

The next period, the Silurian, forms an important series of rocks across Ontario. The eastern edge of these formations starts at Niagara and runs northwestward as the Hamilton Escarpment, the Blue Mountains of Collingwood, the Bruce Peninsula, and Manitoulin island. Silurian rocks were lalid down in shallow seas and consist of sandstones, limestones and shales of varying hardness.

The Book Shelf

"THE DARK HOUSE"
By Warwick Deeping

The announcement of a new novel by Warwick Deeping will at once arouse interest in fiction readers. Mr. Deeping is one of the best known and best loved English novelists. In thirty-seven years of writing he has produced more than fifty novels and has lost none of his skill and vigor in the telling of a story.

From the beginning of "The Dark House" we are interested in the living breathing characters. We enter into their problems and feel with them the romance and tragedy of their lives.

This well planned story reads smoothly with sustained interest and suspense and we acknowledge that Warwick Deeping still has the power to give us a few hours of pleasant entertainment.

"The Dark House" . . . by Warwick Deeping . . . McClelland & Stewart Limited, Toronto . . . Price $2.75.

Charcoal Product Used As Car Fuel

The Quebec Government believes that automobiles powered by gazogene, a product of charcoal, might become common in the province if gasoline is rationed. Hon. Oscar Drouin, minister of municipal affairs, trade and industry, said recently.

Mr. Drouin said that a number of provincial government trucks had already been equipped to use gazogene and had been giving satisfactory service.

Britain Calls Older Workers

Men of Fifty and Women of Forty to be Registered For Essential War Work in Britain

Growing demands for manpower by the armed forces and industry may require mobilization of men of 50 and women of 40 for essential war work, it was reliably forecast.

The prediction was made as the British Labor Ministry disclosed plans for registering, between August 2 and December 6, men of the 1897, 1896 and 1895 classes, estimated to total 900,000 and about 2,100,000 women of the 1916 and 1910 classes, inclusive.

REPLACEMENTS NEEDED

It was predicted that the registrations may not stop even with men of 50 and women of 40 because replacements are needed in the growing industrial army for younger men called up for the armed forces.

The women are needed not only for industry but for auxiliary services as well.

Bandits in Disguise

Two little black kittens sat still
in their chair
With never a sign of their mischievous flair;
Their tiny green eyes gave no hint
of their plan
To stir up a rumpus as little cats
can.

A angling green vine hung a few
feet away,
But these little kittens were harmless today;
Then all of a sudden without fuss
or sound
One little black kitten was off in
a bound.

A quick sword-like thrust and
there on the floor
Lay part of the vine which was
hanging before;
The lady in anger gazed straight
at their chair.
But two little kittens were now
sitting there.

VOICE OF THE PRESS

PRECAUTIONS

Before crossing a busy street the pedestrian should stop and look. And before venturing into unknown water the swimmer should wade and see.—Kitchener Record.

CONTENTS FOR PARCELS

A news item from London states that the canteen supply of chocolate, sugar and candy for the fighting services has been cut in half because of shortages. Now you know what to put in parcels. —Woodstock Sentinel-Review.

IMPRESSIVE RECORD

Canada has practically eradicated smallpox. In the nine provinces of Canada no deaths from smallpox were reported in 1940, and only 11 cases. Even more impressive is the record for 87 Canadian cities, in which there was not even a case reported.—Metropolitan Life Bulletin.

LABOR IN WHEAT

The amount of human labor required for raising wheat has within one generation been reduced 60 per cent. This was estimated recently by a member of the Ithaca State Agricultural College. It was shown that today there can be grown in 100 minutes the same quantity of wheat which required 248 minutes 25 years ago.—Toronto Star.

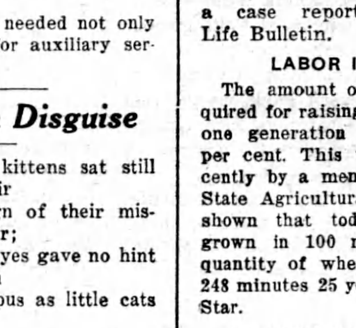
UNANIMOUS ENLISTMENT

The village of Tobermory at the tip of the Bruce Peninsula is a patriotic hamlet—peopled by native-born Canadians of English, Irish and Scottish ancestry. In the last war the village was well represented in the 160th Bruce Battalion. Today the sons of the 160th veterans at Tobermory have signed up to a degree not equalled perhaps in any other community. There are about sixty houses in the village. So far sixty-five Tobermoryites have offered their services, including the reeve and the municipal clerk.—St. Marys Journal-Argus.

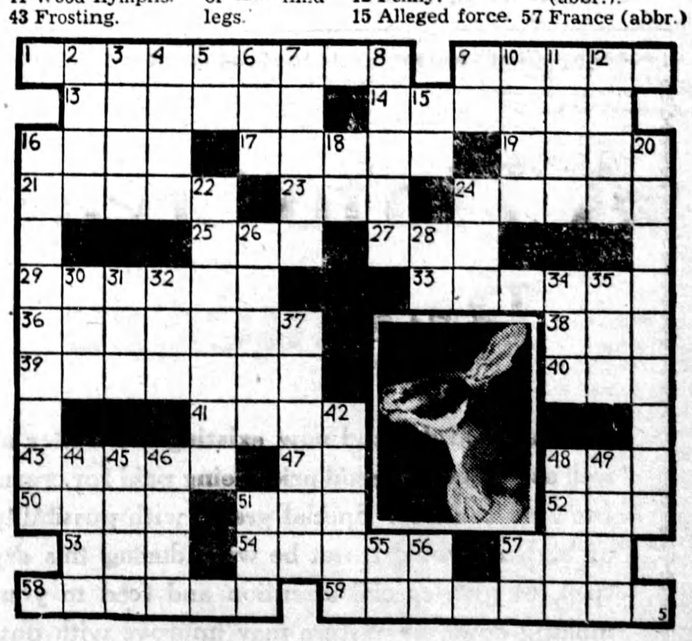
LEAPING MAMMAL

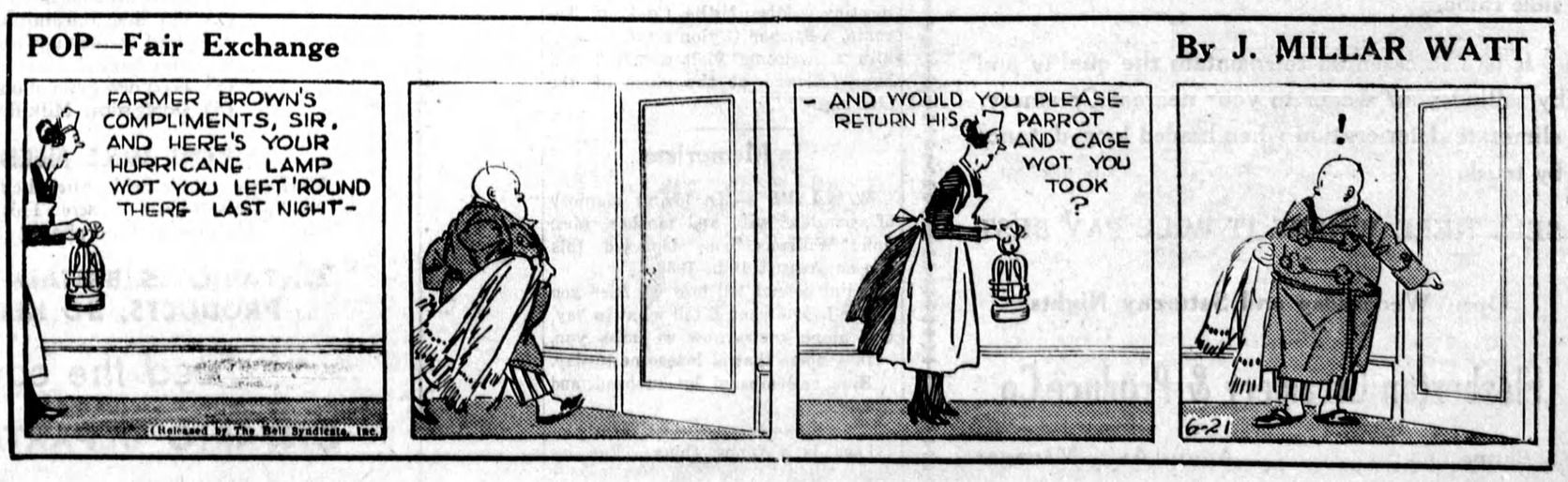
HORIZONTAL
1 Pictured leaping mammal (pl.).
9 It carries its young in a ——.
13 Made of wood.
14 Dog.
16 Poker stake
17 Fearful.
19 Small hotels.
21 Consumers
23 Grain.
24 Scythe handle.
25 God of flocks.
27 Roof ornament
29 To pierce the skull.
33 Watching secretly
36 Altar screen
38 Coin.
39 Stupid and obstinate.
40 View.
41 Wood nymphs.
43 Frosting.
47 Exclamation.
48 Wheel mark.
50 Officer's assistant.
51 Color.
52 Before.
53 Lion.
54 Newspaper paragraphs
57 Grazed.
58 It eats ——.
59 It has strong or —— hind legs.

Answer to Previous Puzzle



VERTICAL
2 Barley spikelets.
3 Short letter.
4 Walker.
5 Advertisement
6 To rot flax.
7 Vegetable.
8 Pique.
9 Italian river.
10 Norse god.
11 Arm bone.
12 Penny.
15 Alleged force.
16 It is found in ——.
18 Parent.
20 Office of a shogun.
22 Digging.
24 To drink slowly.
26 Provisions.
28 Postscript (abbr.).
30 Thing.
31 Silkworm.
32 Pig sty.
34 Kind.
35 Born.
37 Coterie
42 Ram.
44 Foundation.
45 Notion.
46 Gaseous element.
48 Chain of rocks in water.
49 Hindustani.
51 Pronoun.
55 Month (abbr.)
56 Southwest (abbr.).
57 France (abbr.)



POP—Fair Exchange

By J. MILLAR WATT