SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

LESSON IX.
THE PARABLES BY THE SEA.
Matthew 13; Mark 4:1-34; Luke 8:1-18.
PRINTED TEXT
Mark 4:26-32; Matt. 13:44-50.
GOLDEN TEXT.—Never man so spake. John 7:46.

THE LESSON IN ITS SETTING
Time.—Autumn, A.D. 28.
Place.—At the Sea of Galilee.

Crowth of Spirit

26. "And he said, So is the kingdo. of God, as if a man should cast seed upon the earth; 27. and should sleep and rise night and day, and the seed should spring up and grow, he knoweth not how. 28. The earth beareth fruit of herself; first the blade, then the ear, then the full grain in the ear. 29. But when the fruit is ripe, straightway he putteth forth the sickle, because the harvest is come." First the parable tells us that there is a mystery to the growing of that which is sown. How true this is. With all of our vast knowledge of botany there is one thing that man does not know, and that is how a plant really grows. Secondly, there is an emphasis placed on the gradual growth of the seed and this, also, is true in all normal, spiritual life. Finally there is a harvest. There is an end of growing; a maturity ordained of God. Life is of God. Growth is of God. The harvest is of God. We can co-operate with God, and use all those means which He has ordained to bring about that normal growth in our spiritual lives, which is according to His will.

Grain of Mustard Seed

30. "And he said, How shall we liken the kingdom of God? or in what parable shall we set it forth? 31. It is like a grain of mustard seed, which, when it is sown upon the earth, though it be less than all the seeds that are upon the earth, 32. Yet when it is sown, groweth up, and becometh greater than all the herbs, and putteth out great branches; so that the birds of the heaven can lodge under the shadow thereof." This parable may be interpreted as illustrating the phenomenal growth of the Christian Church. The growth of the mustard seed, the smallest of all seeds, is an abnormal growth, shooting out great brances and becoming, as Luke says, a great tree. It is true that Christianity did so grow, but it should be noticed that our Lord speaks of fowls lodging in the branches of this large tree. Fowls everywhere in Scripture have an unclean significance. They pollute a tree. They do not belong to the tree itself. This is exactly what happened in the so-called "conquest" of the Roman Empire by Christianity. It became so powerful that the nations, instead of opposing it, took shelter in it, and, therefore, brought pollution into the Church, worldliness and the things that pertain to secular government. By the nations of the earth finding shelter in Christianity, and giving it their superficial approval and countenance, they did not elevate themselves to the high level of a separated and sanctified people, but they brought the Church down toward their level of carnality and secularity.

Pearl of Great Price

44. "The kingdom of heaven is like unto a treasure hidden in the field; which a man found, and hid; and in his joy he goeth and selleth all that he hath, and buyeth that field." One who really understands the Gospel message will be ready to make any possible sacrifice that he himself may become an heir of the Kingdom. He finds in the Gospel of Christ the thing which satisfies his soul.

45. "Again the kingdom of heaven is like unto a man that is a merchant seeking goodly pearls: 46. and having found one pearl of great price, he went and sold all that he had, and bought it." We truly believe that the pearl of great price is the Church of Christ, and that it is found in the midst of human wreckage, is gathered out of it, exalted, and made the medium through which the infinite truth of God's grace and wisdom shall be revealed.

47. "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto a net, that was cast into the sea, and gathered of every kind: 48. which, when it was filled, they drew up on the beach; and they sat down, and gathered the good into vessels, but the bad they cast away. 49. So shall it be in the end of the world: The angels shall come forth, and sever the wicked from among the righteous, 50. and shall cast them into the furnace of fire: there shall be the weeping and the gnashing of teeth." This parable, addressed to the disciples, was mainly intended to exhort them to the conduct required of those who would be His followers; and impresses the necessity of moral purity as the indispensable characteristics of the true children of the kingdom.

KEEN BRITISH WAR WORKER

Edna Winstanley, volunteer worker in a British small arms factory, examines a rifle barrel.

The Meanest Thief

Domestic tragedy that only a war could cause caught up with Harold C. Hanson, a wheat broker, at the Chicago Board of Trade last week.

Shortly before the close of trading he received a telephone call. He left immediately. As he headed for the door a colleague called: "What's wrong?"

"Wrong?" yelled Hanson. "Plenty. My wife said burglars ransacked the house and stole the rubber tires off the baby's go-cart!"

Looking back over this chapter we are struck with the amazing hopefulness and confidence of Jesus. He is looking to the ultimate future, and trying to warn men that what they do now will determine how they will be judged when the day of judgment shall arrive.

An Interpretation Of Conscription

It is to be hoped that the following confused bit of conversation is not an example of the thinking being done on the subject of conscription in Canada at the present time. This conversation welled forth a few days ago from a lady who complained that her brother was wounded in the last war.

"It was conscription that caused it," she said. "My brother was wounded in November of 1917. You see he went up into the woods to avoid conscription and a hunter mistook him for a deer."

Something to Remember

If every driver would reduce his average speed by 10 miles per hour he would get about 6,300 extra miles out of his tires, according to a major rubber company.

RADIO REPORTER

DIALING WITH DAVE.

MART KENNEY

This is Mart Kenney, Canada's outstanding modern maestro, who is really 'on the air' these days in no uncertain terms! Monday night at 10 o'clock, he broadcasts a half hour show on the National Network for the Victory Loan; on Wednesday at 9.30, his regular weekly CBC Feature 'Sweet and Low,' and on Friday and Saturday nights at 11.15, broadcasts thru CKOC's facilities from the Brant Inn at Burlington. CKOC is also privileged to be with the National Network carrying the Monday and Wednesday night shows!

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Interesting sidelight on radio and Hollywood! Glamorous Lana Turner is dated by Bob Stack, young Hollywood luminary; they dance to Tommy Dorsey's great music: they lunch at Dorsey's table, and when the dance is over Dorsey takes Lana home. According to Stack, it's a swell idea and works fine! Perhaps the pay-off is Tommy's wonderful music—at any rate, and as a footnote, you hear the "Sentimenta. Gentlemen of Swing" daily at 12.15 from CKOC, 1150 on your dial!

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Perhaps one of the most interesting things about a great star is her versatility! Take Ona Munson, for instance: in radio, she is one of the top actresses, and when Hollywood wants a Belle Watling for a 'Gone with the Wind,' or some other outstanding characterization, the call goes out to Ona Munson — and — she always comes thru! As Lorelei in the 'Big Town' radio series, she has built up a great character into a great following. And, in versatile parts, ranging from flippant comedy, to tragic drama, Ona Munson demonstrates her versatility in the Sunday at 6.15 'Academy Award' plays broadcast from CKOC in Hamilton. To a great many, it is good news that the series will be continuing for another 39 weeks!

* * *

1150 Listening Tips:

The "Good News" program, saluting the weeklies of the Province, is now broadcast at 9.30 Monday nights from CKOC. Thursdays at 8.30 p.m., listeners will continue to hear broadcasts originating from the Army Trades School in Hamilton; show picks up a part of the entertainment being provided for the troops!

Two CKOC boys everyone gets a kick out of—Joe Chrysdale and Len Smith, during their 8.15 to 9.00 a.m. Toast & Marmalade program!

Record of the week: from the Swing World, 'That Did it Marie' by Benny Goodman!

Government Meets Farmers' Demands

Men of Prairies Say Ottawa Treated Them Very Kindly

"How ya gonna keep 'em down on the farm, now that they've seen Paree?" may well apply to the more than 400 wheat farmers from the plains of Saskatchewan who left Ottawa after a three-day sojourn in the Capital.

The business of presenting a petition to the Government urging increase in the initial wheat payment concluded, they left Union Station glowing with praise for the way they had been treated and fully convinced the delegation had established a spirit of fellowship and better understanding between the people of the east and west and that the ties of federation which some people believed to be in danger had been strengthened to a point that will materially assist the furthering of our war effort.

To a considerable extent the government will meet the demands of the "on-to-Ottawa" delegation of Westerners, in respect to wheat prices. The concessions made, however, will likely be linked up with a proviso that the wheat growers restrict their acreage in 1942 as they did in 1941.

While dollar wheat may not be granted, it is probable the government will agree to pay at least 90 cents per bushel, an increase of 20 cents per bushel, as an initial payment on the 1942 crop. But, this would be on an arrangement that growers restrict their deliveries of wheat to about 325,000,000 bushels.

An alternative suggestion is if dollar wheat is granted as an initial payment the deliveries to be kept down to 250,000,000 bushels from the 1942 crop.

No one can tell in advance what the crop will be, so the plan worked out will be on an acreage basis which, under normal conditions would return 325,000,000 bushels for delivery under the one proposal, or 250,000,000 under the other.

Authorities here are concerned about getting as much as possible of suitable western land diverted to uses other than wheat growing, so as to provide ample coarse grains for feed, and dairy products.

Stand Up Against 'Em And Beat 'Em

"I believe that we will suffer reverses for aother year and a half before we'll have a large enough force to beat the Germans in the field," said John T. Whitaker, American newspaperman. "I've seen the Germans operate on three fronts. They're good. But I'm sure we'll beat them like no army has ever been beaten before.

"After watching them bully and beat a lot of poorly equipped Europeans, I'd like to participate with American troops when they make them whimper.

"It can be done because the mass of the German army lacks trained commissioned and non-commissioned officers. Until the Russian campaign we only saw the elite panzer units in action.

"Now the infantry is doing most of the work and according to first hand reports it's second rate. Anybody who stands up against the Germans can beat them."

The Book Shelf

DRAGON SEED
By Pearl S. Buck

The great masses of the Chinese people are peasant farmers, living on the lands that have been passed on to them by countless generations of honored ancestors. They are content to live and toil upon these lands, to cherish them and to hold them in turn for their sons. Of such was Ling Tan who lived with his family on a rice farm near Nanking when the East Ocean soldiers invaded his country.

The bestial, unbelievable savagery of the Japanese brought tragedy and heartbreak to the peaceful home of Ling Tan. Although his sons go away to the hills to join in guerilla warfare against the enemy, Ling continues stubbornly on the land he loves.

Dragon Seed is a tale of war, of four long years of war in China. It is a story told with sympathy and authority of the Ling Tans of a great peace-loving country, remaining on the lands of their fathers, suffering, resisting and refusing to be conquered. It is a story of simple people clinging steadfastly to their way of life and holding fast to their ancient philosophy that "it seemed the greatest thing a man could do in these days was to live and keep alive his own."

Dragon Seed . . . by Pearl S. Buck . . . The Macmillan Company of Canada . . . Price $3.00.

THIS CURIOUS WORLD

By William Ferguson

THE storks of Baghdad build their nests on the domes and minarets of mosques. Since the roofs are quite sloping, they hang the nests from the three balls on top, and here the glutinous saliva is used to cause the nest to stick to the glazed tiles.

NEXT: Why [illegible]

FOOD FISH

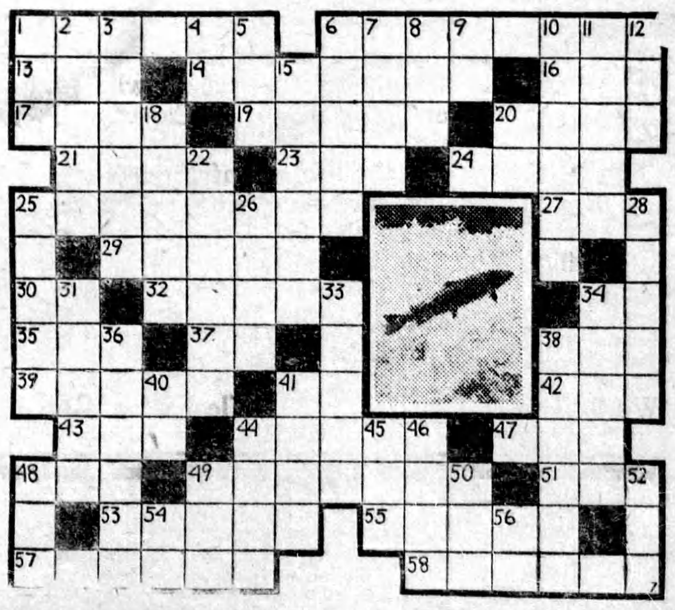
HORIZONTAL

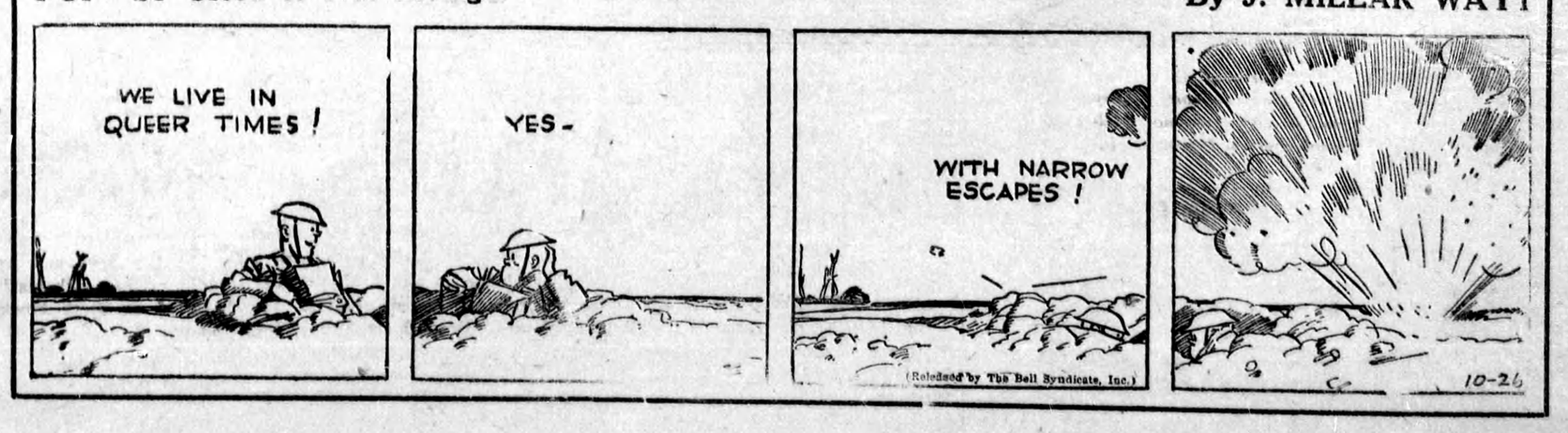
1 Pink food fish.
6 Its size, beauty and —— or endurance are characteristics.
13 Beer
14 Resembling a digit.
16 Opposed to stoss
17 To lay a street.
19 Turning point.
20 Back of neck.
21 To care for.
23 Emerald
24 Granted facts.
25 Red snappers.
27 Sprite.
29 Pertaining to seta.
30 You and me.
32 Wanders.
34 To exist
35 Lump.
37 Northeast (abbr.).
38 Possesses.
39 Rubbed in dirt
41 Father.
42 Tree.
43 Fuss.
44 Ruby spinel.
47 Work of genius.
48 Ancient.
49 Storage place for guns
51 Scarlet.
53 Roof edges.
55 Adult insect.
57 It is a soft —— fish.
58 It —— or lays eggs in fresh water

Answer to Previous Puzzle

VERTICAL

1 Tree fluid.
2 Winged.
3 Makes even.
4 Alleged force.
5 Frost bite.
6 Donates
7 Particle.
8 Door rug.
9 Ell.
10 Snapping beetle.
11 Calyx leaf.
12 To observe.
15 Silly laugh.
18 To come in.
20 North America (abbr.).
22 Musical term.
25 Its —— fish stay a year or two in fresh water.
26 Wheel hub.
28 Its —— is canned.
31 Pertaining to the leg.
33 Not fresh.
34 To sew loosely.
36 Offered.
38 Farm tool.
40 Month (abbr.).
41 To promot
44 Brought u.
45 Cuckoo.
46 Softens leather
48 Away.
49 Farewell!
50 To lick up.
52 Dower property.
54 Form of "a".
56 African trib.



POP—So Close to Not Living

By J. MILLAR WATT