THIS CURIOUS WORLD

By William Ferguson

ANSWER: A gunny sack.

NEXT: Painting on cobwebs.

SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

August 1

GOD DELIVERS HIS PEOPLE

Exodus 5—12

PRINTED TEXT, Exodus 5:22, 23; 6:1-7; 12:51

GOLDEN TEXT.—Call upon me in the day of trouble: I will deliver thee, and thou shalt glorify me. Psalm 50:15.

Memory Verse: Thou art nigh, O Jehovah. Psalm 119:151.

THE LESSON IN ITS SETTING

Time.—1445 B.C.

Place.—The Passover feast itself was observed only in the land of Goshen where the Jews were then living, but the plagues recorded here, of course, occurred throughout the whole land of Egypt, and the conversations that are recorded here probably took place in the city of Zoan, known also as Tanis, where was located Pharaoh's palace.

Moses' Prayer

"And Moses returned unto Jehovah, and said, Lord, wherefore hast Thou dealt ill with this people? Why is it that Thou hast sent me? For since I came to Pharaoh to speak in Thy name, he hath dealt ill with this people; neither hast Thou delivered Thy people at all." Moses was discouraged with the want of immediate success, which led him into a bold complaint against God; first for sending him; and then for failing, as it seemed to him, to keep His word in the deliverance of the people. Jesus knows our weaknesses and is ready to help. He knows what it is to have suffered and wept over a stiff-necked people — He knows how to be touched with this feeling of our infirmity.

God Reassures Moses

"And Jehovah said unto Moses, Now shalt thou see what I will do to Pharaoh: for by a strong hand shall he let them go, and by a strong hand shall he drive them out of the land. And God spake unto Moses, and said unto him, I am Jehovah: and I appeared unto Abraham, unto Isaac, and unto Jacob, as God Almighty; but by My name Jehovah I was not known to them."

The direction which Moses now received from God conveyed a fresh assurance that God would certainly accomplish His purpose; it gave a fuller revelation of His character as Jehovah, with the special promises which this implied (6:2-8); and it renewed the commission to Moses to undertake the work, accompanied by encouragement and assurance.

In His relationship to man, God manifested Himself, and He was known as Jehovah—as "He Who is that He is," in other words, as unchangeable, when after cenutries of silence and after the condition of Israel in Egypt had become almost hopeless, He showed that He had not forgotten His promise given to the fathers; that He had all along been preparing its fulfillment; and that neither the resistance of Pharaoh, nor the might of Egypt, could stay His hand.

The Seal of God

"And I have also established my covenant with them, to give them the land of Canaan, the land of their sojournings, wherein they sojourned. And moreover I have heard the groaning of the children of Israel, whom the Egyptians keep in bondage; and I have remembered my covenant. Wherefore say unto the children of Israel, I am Jehovah, and I will bring you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians, and I will rid you out of their bondage, and I wlil redeem you with an outstretched arm, and with great judgments: and I will take you unto me for a people, and I will be to you a God; and ye shall know that I am Jehovah your God, who bringeth you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians."

This is henceforth to be the word of encouragement, of authority, and of fellowship to Israel. It reminds them that God is now active in their behalf; that it is God who is thus active, and that He is present to dwell in the midst of them as a father among his adopted children. . . . They shall know by actual experience that He is all that is implied in the name Jehovah, an actual, and therefore tried, deliverer. . . . I am the Lord. This sentence is here repeated for the third time in this message, enhanced by all the emphasis which the distinction made between the divine names (v. 3) has added to its meaning. It is the seal of God thrice stamped upon His promise.

Exodus From Egypt Begins

"And it came to pass the selfsame day, that Jehovah did bring the children of Israel out of the land of Egypt by their hosts." Here we read that the number of males departing at this time was 600,000. The nation was probably one of above two millions of souls. The difficulty of handling so vast a body and marching them from Goshen to the Red Sea, and from the Red Sea to Sinai must have been very great. The whole Sinaitic district was probably occupied by the flocks and herds, and the herdsmen who tended them. But the main body of the people were encamped in front of Sinai, heard the Decalogue delivered and consented to the covenant.

Pin Money!

Corvettes cost about $700,000, but if Canadian housewives saved just one cent of every dollar they spend — they could buy enough War Savings Stamps to pay for two new corvettes every month.

In England, boots which can't be repaired are converted into fertilizer?

Radio Reporter

It has always been said in radio circles that about the quickest way to find out whether a program has an extensive listening audience or not, is to make a very obvious mistake . . . have the announcer give the wrong time . . . describe Winston Churchill as the Prime Minister of Czechoslovakia . . . make a jibing remark about some particular political party, or religious sect .. .. .. or something like that. When these things happen on the radio, listeners who couldn't be induced to phone or write a radio station even on the chance of winning a $50,000 cash prize, rush to their telephones, or grab pen and pencil with which to assail the unfortunate person who made the mistake or the offending remark. CFRB was recently the target of a mass barrage of telephone calls following a mistake made during the "Spin to Win" program, on the air every Monday evening, 8.30 to 9 o'clock. You've probably heard the show, a quiz affair, in which the studio and air audiences compete for valuable cash prizes. The question was "With what animal was the Scottish writer Robert Burns associated? . . . and the answer acknowledged correct by the master of ceremonies was "a spider." Shades of Scottish history! It only took a few seconds before the telephones began ringing at CFRB, and irate Scotsmen in rapid succession pointed out that it was Robert Bruce and not Robert Burns who gained inspiration from watching a spider.

While we're on a subject suggested by quiz shows, it seems appropriate to mention that there have been fewer summertime casualties among them than among any other types of radio entertainment. For instance, all the popular quiz shows on CFRB are carrying right through the warm weather, including "Spin to Win," "Treasure Trail," "Super Quiz," "What's the Answer?" and "Easy Pickin's." Even though the temperatures climb high into the nineties, those shows are being played before packed studio audiences. It all goes to show that when there's the chance of winning a few free dollars. Mr. and Mrs. and the kids will brave the discomforts of humidity and heat. Apparently also there are lots of people who will forsake the coolness of their verandahs, and go inside for a load of quiz questions . . . and maybe the chance of picking up the jackpot.

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Radio's most-listened-to program in North America, the Lux Theatre, is now off the air for a few weeks. It is being replaced by two half-hour programs. The first half hour, 9 to 9.30 Monday night, CFRB, romance fills the air in dramatic form . . . followed by a musical presentation, 9.30 to 10 p.m., the Broadway Band Box, with the currently popular singing star, Frank Sinatra, heading the vocals.

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For several weeks past radio stations across Ontario have been co-operating in the effort to get temporary workers to go out on the farm. The CBC and privately owned stations who have been working together in the national agricultural interests appear to have done quite an effective job. Girls from the city have flocked to the farms right after school closing, to lend a hand during the summer months. Farms say they can use them all and more. The response from 'teen age boys, however, has not been as good as the farmers hoped for. There is still plenty of opportunity whereby young lads can offer their services during the harvesting season. How about it, boys? You wouldn't want the girls to beat you out, would you?

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You've no doubt heard of the great four-motored Lancaster bombers which have been blasting away at Germany and Italy these last few months. Lancaster bombers are now being made in Canada The first one to be built in the Dominion will be christened July 23. The R.C.A.F. will celebrate the event as the highlight of the "Comrade in Arms" broadcast, 10.15 p.m. that same evening over the coast-to-coast network of the CBC.

SUPER SERVICE ON THE JUNGLE FRONT

Jeep just out of the New Guinea jungle tanks up at "filling station" for military vehicles run by three American soldiers. "The Three Yanks" have posted the usual gas station signs, including "No Smoking," "U-Curve Inn" and one reading "It's Hot Up Here, So Take It Easy, Boys, We're Only Human. We Want to Go Home, Too."

A Farm Wife Chats To Women

by Gwendoline P. Clarke

Hullo, everybody—and a special hullo to farm women everywhere!

Here is a brand new column for you—one in which you and I will meet together to laugh a little, talk a little, and perhaps even weep a little—who knows?

Now don't think this column is just another story, because it isn't. It is real—written by an honest-to-goodness farmer's wife who knows, and has experienced, the same problems, the same hardships, and the same joys that have come to you, day after day and year after year.

You may think I am a stranger to you—perhaps I am—but I hope I won't be a stranger very long. However, let me tell you this: YOU are not a stranger to me. No, for if you have lived all your married life on a farm, then I know you. If you have sometime lived in a small town or city, I know you. If the Old Country gave you birth and your heart just aches over the devastation of well-loved places, then I know you very well indeed. Or if you come from the prairie, I, too, know something of the heartache that grips you when you think of the vastness that you knew; of that intangible something that you cannot describe but which you know to be the soul of the West.

If you have a son, a husband, or brother in the Army, Navy or Air Force, I know only too well the anxiety that is yours. I know how you practically live from one mail time to another, and how long the day when the expected letter doesn't arrive.

I know your uneasiness if you have a daughter in the city—trusting her, yet fearful of dangers which even you can hardly visualize. But if sorrow has already come to you through this war; if the War Office has sent that last of all messages to your home, then I do not presume to say I know you. I can only ask to sympathize with you in your grief and trust that in some way, unforeseen at present, healing will come to your stricken heart.

But now to our ordinary, everyday life as we know it. The chickens are fed, the eggs gathered for the last time today, and now here I am sitting by the front door of our old Colonial farm home. The air is still sultry but clouds in the western sky are at least giving some protection from the sun's blistering rays.

And what do I see from where I am sitting? Well, in the immediate foreground there is a lawn that needs cutting, shrubs that need trimming and weeds that need pulling. It doesn't sound too attractive, does it? But then you see this isn't a model farm—far from it. But, model or otherwise, I wonder if there is a farm anywhere in Ontario where the work is really done up to date, as it should be. I know it isn't here because at the present time Partner and I are alone on a hundred acres — and milking twelve cows without benefit of a milking machine.

Yesterday I came home from an Institute meeting, changed into an old dress and went out to the hayfield to help—that is to say, I was on the wagon building the load while Partner pitched on. Years ago I used to help in the field a lot and so I thought what I had done before I could do again. But, in spite of my willingness, I soon discovered that, like the old gray mare, "I ain't what I used to be." I found it hard to keep my balance. Every time the horses stepped up I promptly fell down. Scrambling to my feet again was quite some job. But as I remarked to Partner yesterday, what I lack in bounce I now make up for in weight. And that should help keep the load on the wagon—providing, of course, that I don't go off the end of it'

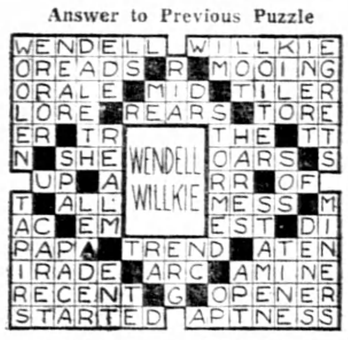
When I started to write this column, the war news was very quiet. Now the day we have been waiting for has come. Anxious days lie ahead but, however great our worry, don't, for goodness sake, let us indulge in self-pity. To be sure our boys are in danger—they have to be, even your boy and mine. But this is total war, and in total war there are two fronts—the battlefront and the home front. You have heard that before. Now we have the opportunity to show that we not only heard but realize that WE have a part to play Let us prove that we can take it on the chin—work, save, give of our very best to back up our boys at the front.

WINTER SPORT

HORIZONTAL

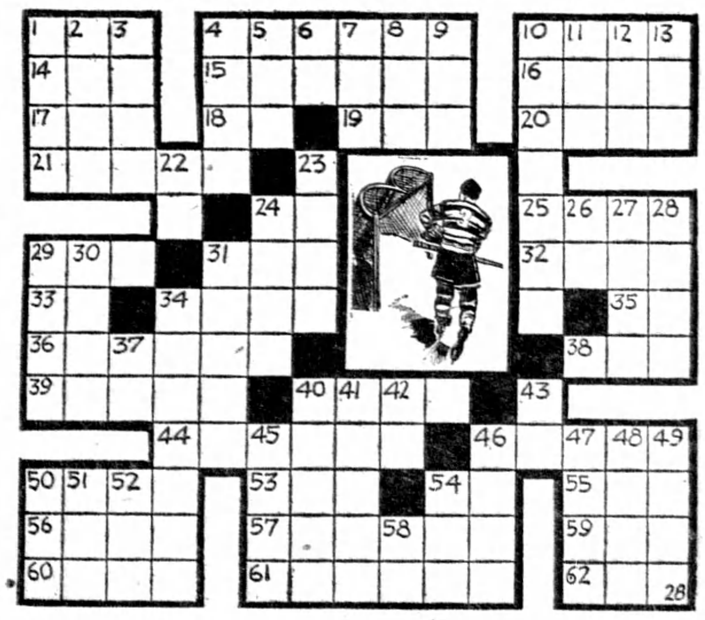
1 Apex.
4 Pictured winter sport.
10 Its playing field is called a ——.
14 Charm.
15 Annual receipts.
16 Sheltered side.
17 Grief.
18 Music note.
19 Place.
20 Weaver's reed.
21 Courage.
24 Mother.
25 Bend.
29 It is played on ——.
31 Sailor.
32 Erudition.
33 Toward.
34 Small piece.
35 Either.
36 Fixed line of devolution.
38 Fear.
39 Variety of clover.
40 Wound with knife.
44 Players of this game wear ——.
46 Rubber disc used in this game (pl.).
50 Baseball clubs
53 Insect.
54 Perform.
55 Border.
56 Repetition of sound.
57 Vegetable.
59 Beverage.
60 Sorrow.
61 Thistle-like plant.
62 Cut down.

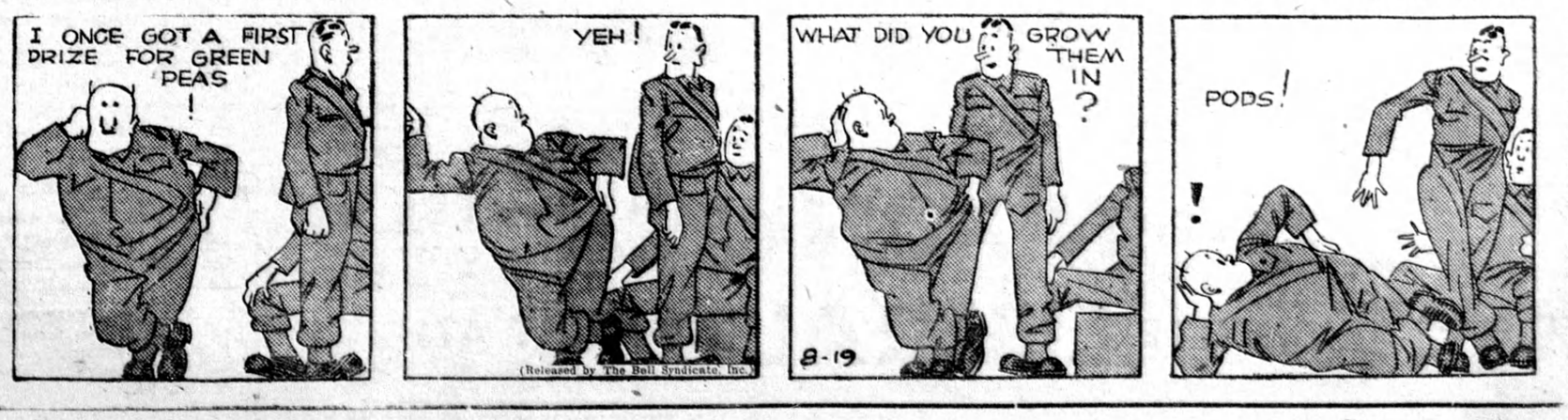
Answer to Previous Puzzle



VERTICAL

1 City.
2 Wind instrument.
3 Dock.
4 Employ.
5 Unit.
6 Chamber of Commerce (abbr.).
7 Hill.
8 Bird.
9 Still.
10 Knaves.
11 Sick.
12 Born.
13 Lock opener.
22 Vermont (abbr.).
23 Stringed instrument.
24 Letters.
26 International language.
27 Bird.
28 Present.
29 Article.
30 Geometrical figure.
31 Not thin.
34 Ammunition wagon.
37 Clay pipe.
40 Guide.
41 Tiny.
42 Like.
43 Greek letter.
45 Qualified.
46 Horseback game.
47 Stuff.
48 Thousand (prefix).
49 Diving bird.
50 Wager.
51 Aviator.
52 Article.
54 Excavate.
58 Thoron (abbr.).



POP—What, Not in a Garden?

By J. MILLAR WATT