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Sunday School Lesson

August 5, Lesson VI—Paul in a Pagan Country, Acts 14: 8-20, Golden Text—I know both how to be abased, and I know how to abound.—Phil. 4: 12.

ANALYSIS.

I. THE MIRACLE AT LYSTRA, 8-13.

II. THE DISMAY OF THE APOSTLES, 14-20.

INTRODUCTION.—Eighty-five miles east from Antioch was Iconium, a city of Pro-German sympathies, which was the next centre of mission work. Paul begins preaching as usual, in the Synagogue, and with such excellent results that many Jews and Greeks believed. However, the Jewish authorities were not convinced and tried to arouse opposition. The Christian mission continues for some time, perhaps several months, till the whole city is moved by this new preaching, and the citizens are divided into two parties. The Jews seek to arouse the enmity of the local magistrates, and when the Christians learn of the impending attack, Paul and Barnabas depart from the city, intending to return when the tide has subsided sufficiently. They pass into a district much less thickly populated, and where the people were more primitive in their habits. The region around is evangelized, probably by natives, who had joined the ranks of the apostles; and foundations are laid for small Christian communities.

I. THE MIRACLE AT LYSTRA, 8-13.

V. 8. Lystra was a town of the highway and was an important commercial and military outpost. The small population consisted of Roman soldiers and natives who made use of the Lycaonian speech. Among the beggars who were probably the poor of the local temple, was a poor cripple, who, according to one of the old manuscripts, had already taken an interest in the Jewish religion, being a proselyte.

V. 9. Heard Paul. The cripple was greatly attracted by the new preaching, and as Paul spoke so wonderfully of the power of Jesus, he doubted if it was the very kind of salvation which he so sorely needed, and now left his home to go to Tarsus. Paul seeing the faith was strengthened, decided that this was a case in which he should use his special power of healing. The salvation of Christ is meant to include eventually the body as well as the soul. Paul commands him to stand up, and he immediately did so.

V. 11. The gods are come down. The people are filled with wonder, and rush to the conclusion that they must be heavenly visitors. Their explanation is a little more intelligible as we consider that there was a famous Greek myth connected with this very district, according to which two gods, Zeus and Hermes, had come down in disguise, and gone about the country, as simple peasants, selling in vain for food and shelter from the great heat. Till at last they found it in the humble house of Philemon and Barnes. These unsophisticated and superstitious natives of Lystra think that this old story is being repeated, and they identify Paul with Jupiter or Zeus, and Paul with Mercury or Hermes, the element messenger of the gods. All the time they carried on their conversation in the five dialects, so that the apostles were ignorant of the strange situation which they had brought about.

V. 13. The city had a temple dedicated to the worship of Jupiter, outside the walls. The priest, who was an important personage, was told of the miracle, and sent to prepare a fitting sacrifice. He hurried off to get the sacrificial bull decked with garlands, and proceeds in a solemn procession to enter the gates of the temple to offer this tribute of worship to these men.

II. THE DISMAY OF THE APOSTLES, 14-20.

V. 14. Rent their garments. When the apostles learn of what has happened they are filled with dismay, and rend their garments as a sign that they regard this as an act of blasphemy. Read the story concerning the high priest at the trial of Jesus, Matt. 26: 65.

V. 15. They address the multitude in the Greek tongue which would be familiar to most of the inhabitants. All commercial and public transactions were conducted in that language. They assure the simple folk that they are only men in like passions or nature with themselves, and then Paul succeeds to give them a short summary to the extent of this new audience. It was quite different from the sermon which he had delivered to the Jews at Antioch, and shows how Paul suited his words to the understanding of his hearers. Three great religious principles are mentioned which would be known to the understanding of the people. (1) He reminds them that God is the creator of heaven and earth, and that he still lives and takes an active control over the world. Thus far, these pagans have not known this true God, but now he is being revealed to them. (2) Paul then states the difference which must always occur to one who carries the gospel to the pagans. Why was God angry in having given them this true light? The only answer which the apostle gives is that it seemed wise for God to permit these natives to walk in their own ways. (3) Yet all through these years God did not leave himself without witness in that he sent them sunshine and rain, and fruitful seasons. It was a simple element fitted for people whose religious education was very backward.

The sequel to this shows us how fierce were these Galatians. For a time Paul and Barnabas continued to preach to these people, and with success, as we know from the fact that Timothy was among the converts, one after others. But for long the converts from Antioch had become estranged, and sowed seeds of discord and the crowd which a short time before had fallen down to worship these preachers now take up stones to kill them, and Paul is dragged out of the city as one dead.

From Lystra they go to Derbe, a further ten or fifty miles away. Here they have met with an experience, and after a short visit there decide to leave. They could have gone back by the highway that led from Derbe to Tarsus through the Cilician Gate, a distance of one hundred miles, but they felt it necessary to confirm the faith of these converts, and in spite of the dangers of returning to the same, they took up stones to kill them, and Paul is dragged out of the city as one dead.

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Preserving and Restoring Our Historic Sites

Marking of Sites of National Importance Carried Out by Department of the Interior

Pioneer Days Recalled

Canada's historical background contains some of the most romantic and interesting episodes in the history of North America. In many districts throughout the Dominion there still remain visible evidences of our history in ruins which have been preserved, but there are scenes of other and often important actions and events which are unmarked by any physical semblance of what transpired at those points. The Department of the Interior, has been carrying on a valuable work in preserving and restoring the ruins and faithfully marking the sites of national historic importance.

On the recommendation of the Historic Sites and Monuments Board, the Department of the Interior, through the National Parks Service, has marked 113 sites by the erection of suitable memorials. Each year at the annual meeting of the Board the suggestions of the various members are reviewed and a number of sites are recommended for marking. During 1927 tablets were placed on twenty-five sites and one of the most picturesque memorials in this connection was the unveiling of the cairn and tablet at Blackfoot Crossing, near where the Chinook-Mile section of the Alberta Provincial Highway crosses the Bow River. This memorial commemorates the signing of September 22, 1877, near this point, of Treaty No. 7 by which the white plains were thrown open to the white man, and peace and security was assured the Indians. The unveiling took place on the fiftieth anniversary of the signing, the principals in which were Hon. David Lard and Lt.-Col. James F. Macleod, representing the Crown; and the famous Indian leader, Chief Crowfoot, and other chiefs and councilors of the Blackfoot, Blood, Peigan, Stony, and other Indians. The Red Men relinquished their claim to 50,000 square miles of fertile prairie in southwestern Alberta by this treaty. The site of the memorial is also near the grave of Chief Crowfoot.

Indian treaties signed in each of the other Prairie Provinces, Manitoba and Saskatchewan, are also to be commemorated. Treaty No. 1 was signed at Lower Fort Garry, Manitoba, on August 3, 1871, and Treaty No. 6 at Fort Carlton, Saskatchewan, between the 22nd and 28th of August, 1876, and at Fort Pitt on September 9, 1876.

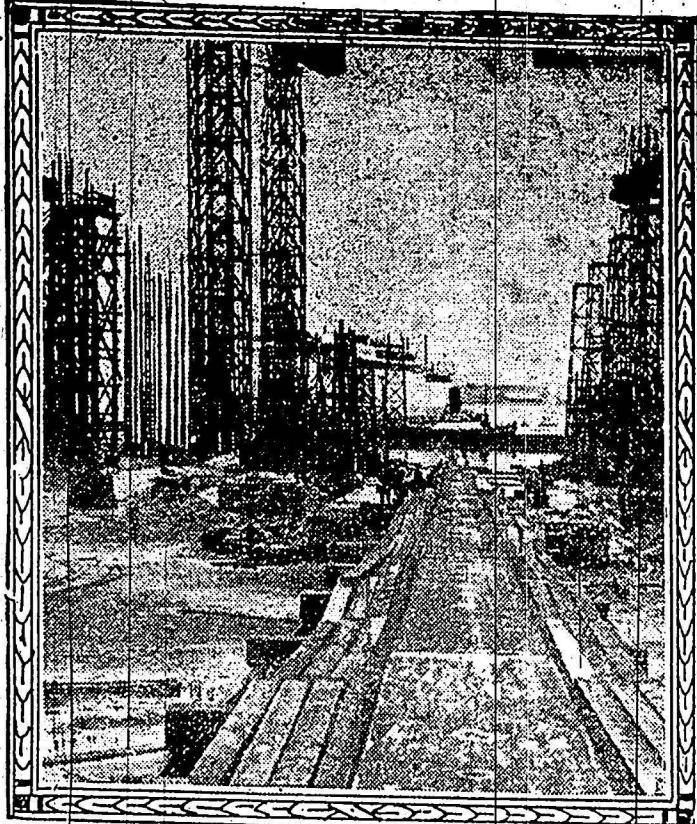
Recently the 1928 annual meeting of the Historic Sites and Monuments Board was held at Ottawa. One hundred and ten sites were reviewed and a number were selected to be marked as of national importance. Brigadier General E. A. Cruikshank, who is a recognized authority on the military history of Canada and is chairman of the Board, presided at the meeting. The other members in attendance were Dr. J. C. Webster, Shadie, New Brunswick; Judge W. Crowe, Sydney, Nova Scotia; Hon. P. Demers, Montreal, Quebec; Dr. J. H. Coyne, St. Thomas, Ontario; Judge F. W. Howay, New Westminster, British Columbia; J. B. Harkin, Commissioner, National Parks of Canada, representing the Department of the Interior; and Major A. A. Phaird, Secretary.

Of the new sites or events selected for commemoration the following are in Ontario and Quebec:

St. John, Quebec.—Site, near here, of the Battle of Montgomery's Creek, September 6, 1775, with Montgomery's invading army. The defeat of the invaders had the effect of repelling a formidable invasion for the time being and created great enthusiasm in the country.

Norfolk, Hastings County, Ontario.—On 13th November, 1813, the Norfolk volunteer militia, routed a band of marauders who had terrorized the country. This exploit in

Controlling Sea Trade



HERE IS THE LONGEST KEEL IN THE WORLD
The keel of the new White Star liner laid down in the shipyard in Belfast. A true giant of the waves.

splintered the military forces, restored the confidence of the people, and was an important factor in the immediate recovery of lost ground.

Fort Drummond, Queenston Heights, Ontario.—Fort built by military labor for the defense of the frontier and named in honour of Sir George Drummond.

Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario.—Commemorating the treaty concluded with the Chippewa and Mississauga Indians by Colonel Guy Johnson, May 9, 1781, and Lt.-Col. John Butler, May 22, 1784.

Kingsland Navy Yard, Kingston, Ontario.—The British naval station for lake Ontario during the years 1788-1813. Here were built four iron King ships. In the war of 1812-14 this naval force enabled the army to retain control of Upper Canada.

Amherstburg Navy Yard, Amherstburg, Ontario.—The British naval station for lake Erie and Huron during the years 1790-1813. Here nine ships were built. In the war of 1812-14 this naval force enabled the army to retain control of that frontier.

Kingston Naval Station, Ontario.—The British naval station for lake Ontario during the years 1788-1813. Here were built four iron King ships. In the war of 1812-14 this naval force enabled the army to retain control of that frontier.

FINANCING OF CHINA

T. V. Soong, Nationalist finance minister, who presided at a meeting in Shanghai for the consideration of the problems relating to financing the re-

building of the Chinese fleet.

British Launch 8000-Ton Cruiser

Government Builds Vessel Smaller Than Washington Treaty Maximus

London.—The cruiser York, one of the new ships authorized by the British Navy estimates of 1926-27, has been launched by the Duchess of York at Yarrow-on-Tyne. It is the first of the new 8000-ton type which the Government desires to substitute for the larger 10,000-ton cruisers hitherto favored.

This the other two cruisers of the 1928 program are still on the stocks.

Dorsetshire at Portsmouth and the Norfolk at Fairfield Yard, Govan.

Both belong to the 10,000-ton type.

One only cruiser was provided for in the 1927 estimates. This vessel,

which is to be named the Exeter,

is about to be laid down at Devonport

and it will be of similar size and de-

sign to the York.

In voluntarily building cruisers of

a smaller size than the Washington

treaty maximum," says the Daily

Telegraph. "Great Britain is setting

an example of armament limitation

which the other signatory powers,

with the exception of Italy, have not yet seen fit to follow."

Charged With the Leviathan Mail Robbery

Official in Steward's Office Said to Have Secured \$6,000

New York.—Archibald Chapman, assistant linen keeper in the steward's department, was charged recently with theft of registered mail from United States liner Leviathan, between June 16 and June 22, while the vessel was in the high seas.

Chapman was held in \$7,500 bail for a hearing on August 9, when arraigned before United States Commissioner Francis A. O'Neill. He is 32 and comes from London, England.

The Leviathan docked here recently.

Commodore Cunningham, her master, said that it had been learned

that the loss from the mail could

not exceed \$6,000, but a postal inspec-

tor placed the loss \$4,000 higher.

THE CHAMPION SHOT OF THE BRITISH ARMY

Lance-Sergeant E. Poulton of the 3rd Battalion Grenadier Guards was

presented with the champion shot cup by Field-Marshal Sir George Milne.

Sherlock Holmes Wins Victory in Slater's Appeal

Scottish Court Unanimously Sets Aside Murder Verdict

NOVELIST JUSTIFIED

Edinburgh, Scotland.—Sherlock Holmes won his latest victory over his rivals, the police, last week, when the Court of Criminal Appeal, presided over by Lord Clyde, unanimously set aside the conviction of murder as the result of which Oscar Slater had spent 18½ years in prison.

Slater was convicted of the murder of an aged woman, Miss Marion Gilchrist, but always maintained his innocence. After many years, he succeeded in winning wide support for his demand that he be freed from a life sentence.

Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, creator of Sherlock Holmes, took charge of the case, and spent many months investigating it. He reached the conclusion that Slater was innocent, and summed up his reasons in a book.

Last November the Government ordered Slater's release. Not satisfied, Slater appealed to the Court of Criminal Appeal—which did not exist when he was convicted—so that the stain on his character might be removed.

The recent decision leaves him where he was before the crime was committed, legally, but he is on old, broken man after 20 years of suffering.

Jewels Were Stolen

In 1908 all Glasgow was shocked by the brutal murder of Miss Marion Gilchrist, elderly spinster, who lived alone in a flat with one maid servant.

One evening, while the servant was beaten to death and her jewels stolen.

About three weeks later Oscar Slater was arrested in New York. He had left Scotland shortly after the murder. Certain witnesses identified him as the man they had seen leaving the Gilchrist neighbor-

hood.

He had pawned a brooch in Scotland, but proved it was not the property of Miss Gilchrist. None of the dead woman's possessions ever was traced to him.

Finally Got Life

Slater waived extradition proceedings and went back to Scotland. In 1910 a jury convicted him. The death sentence was commuted to life imprisonment, and Slater was sent to Peterhead prison. That seemed the end of Slater.

But Sir Arthur Conan Doyle raised his voice. The creator of Sherlock Holmes, using some of the logic he attributed to his famous detective character, analyzed the evidence and stoutly maintained that a grave miscarriage of justice had been committed. Something like a government review of the case was thereupon undertaken and Slater's guilt was reaffirmed.

Years passed. The man, still lay

in prison. Originally in Great Britain he was released on parole after doing 15 years, but Slater was kept beyond that period. Then a Scotch journalist wrote a book in which he claimed the conduct of the case by the police was faulty.

Another Review

Slater's release followed. But

Conan Doyle and others would not let

it rest at that. Questions were asked

in Parliament. The Secretary for

Scotland finally agreed to refer the

whole case to the courts.

Craighead Aitchison, one of the greatest of Scotch lawyers, was retained by Slater's friends to represent him. This Crown was represented by William Watson, Lord Advocate, Scotland, and Lord Clyde, Lord Justice General of Scotland, presided.

Contention was made that identification of Slater as the man seen leaving Miss Gilchrist's apartment was erroneous, that the trial judge erred in instructing the jury a "bar character" for Slater had been proved, and therefore he had not the presumption of innocence in his favor; that new evidence shows Slater was not at the scene of the crime.

It was, therefore, of vital importance that the doctor should issue a certificate of death.

Dr. Waldo also said that

doctors should use the greatest care

in dispensing with an inquest.

The new law which made this procedure possible might lead to the discovery after burial of poison and crime.

Creation was not without its special danger in the same connection.

Reds Gain Upper Hand in Australia

Resolution Agrees to Affiliation With Pan-Pacific Secretariat

Sydney, New South Wales.—With an overwhelming majority, the Red element, by a snap vote, carried a resolution at a recent section of the all-Australian Council of Trades Unions supporting affiliation with the Pan-Pacific secretariat. Supporters of the "white Australia" policy were at the Communists who they charged was responsible for the partiality of the secretariat.

The resolution, which they

were instrumental in introducing in view of the relations already existing