Sunday School Lesson

June ,16. Lesson XI—Judah Taken Captive—2 Kings 25: 1-12. Golden Text—Righteousness exalteth a nation. but sin is a reproach to any people.—Proverbs 14: 34.

ANALYSIS.

I. THE SIEGE OF JERUSALEM, vs. 1-7.
II. DESTRUCTION OF THE CITY, vs. 5-12.
III. THE VICTORS AND THE SPOIL, vs. 13-21

INTRODUCTION—The tragic story of the siege and capture of Jerusalem, and the carrying away of the captives and the spoil is told also in 2 Chron. 36: 11-21, and more fully in Jer. 39: 1-10 and 52: 1-27. A brief account of the numbers carried away in three successive deportations of capture appears in Jer 52 28-30. The events of our Lesson Story took place in the years B.C. 588 to 586. In B.C. 597, the city had previously been taken by the Chaldeans, and many of the best of the people exiled along with the young King Jehoiachin. (See 2 Kings 24: 1-17; 2 Chron. 36: 5-10; Jer. 24: 1.) This time, in B.C. 586, the city and the temple were destroyed, and only some of the poorest of the people left with Gedaliah, a Jewish prince of good character, as governor, 2 Kings 25: 22. Gedaliah was shortly afterward murdered by a renegade prince of Judah whom he had befriended and trusted, and the poor remnant of the people fled to Egypt taking Jeremiah, the prophet, with them. The kingdom of Judah came to an end with the fall of Jerusalem in B.C. 586, and was not re-established until the time of the Maccabees : the second and first centuries, B.C. Its entire history from the accession of David about B.C. 1010, covers about four hundred and twenty-five years. The kingdom of Israel, which separated from Judah after the death of Solomon about B.C. 934, came to its end when the Assyrians took Samaria, its capital city, in B.C. 722. The prophet Isaiah had witnessed the fall of Samaria. Jeremiah was an old man when Jerusalem was taken. There must have been many who, in the hard conditions of captivity and exile, remembered, and were helped by their teaching.

I. THE SIEGE OF JERUSALEM, vs. 1-7. Zedekiah, the last of the kings of Judah, a son of the great king Josiah, began to reign in B.C. 597. He was put upon the throne by the king of Babylon to whom he swore a solemn oath of submission and allegiance. This oath he broke when he rebelled against Babylon in the ninth year of his reign, that is in B.C. 588. Against this rash and foolish act Jeremiah, the prophet, had repeatedly warned him, assuring him that in continued submission to the king of Babylon lay the only way of safety for himself and his people, Jer. 27: 1-10; 27: 1-18, etc. From his place of exile in Babylonia, whither he had been taken captive in B.C. 597, Ezekiel also denounced Zedekiah for the violation of his covenant bond and oath, Ezek. 17: 11-21. The unfortunate king seems to have been a man of good impulses, and, on the whole, disposed to be guided by Jeremiah's good counsel, but he was too weak to resist the pressure brought to bear upon him by the evil counsellors with whom he was surrounded.

It was in this same ninth year of his reign, B.C. 588, that Nebuchadnezzar, King of Babylon, came he and all his host, against Jerusalem, v. 1. The siege lasted a year and a half. The defenders of the city made a stout resistance. At length famine prevailed and they began to seek safety in flight, vs. 3, 4. The king himself was among those who fled by night, but he was overtaken in the plains of Jericho, and was brought for trial to Riblah, on the river Orontes, about sixty-five miles north of Damascus, where the king of Babylon at that time had his headquarters. There he was treated with the barbarous and merciless cruelty of which even the highly civilized Chaldeans were capable. The last scene upon which his eyes looked was the murder of his sons, then blinded he was carried away to die in a Babylonian prison. Such was the tragic end of a weak, unprincipled, and unstable life, vs. 5-7. Compare the story as told in Jer. 39: 1-7.

II. DESTRUCTION OF THE CITY, vs. 5-12: Nebuchadnezzar began to reign in Babylon in B.C. 605 or 604. The nineteenth year of his reign will, therefore, have been B.C. 586, the eleventh year of Zedekiah who became king of Judah (in B.C. 597 (see vs. 2, 7). Nebuzaradan, commander of the king's bodyguard, was entrusted with the completion of the work of destruction and spoliation, and the deportation of the captives. Five years later he was again in Palestine and carried away thence another large body of captives, Jer. 52: 30. The temple, the palace, the city walls, the houses of the people, all were burned or broken down. The number of captives is given in Jer. 52: 29 as eight hundred and thirty-two, but the statement in our Lesson (v. 11; compare Jer. 39: 9; 52: 15), appears to indicate a much larger number. The poor of the land who were left, were place under the rule of a Jewish prince, Gedalia, v. 22.

III. THE VICTORS AND THE SPOIL, vs. 13-21

The pillars, the bases and the brasen sea (or basin) are described in 1 Kings, ch. 7, in the account of the building of the temple. The brass thus taken must have been in those days of immense value. For vs. 14-17 compare Jer. 52: 18-23. For the words "without weight" (v. 16), see 1 Kings 7: 47.

The language of Psalms 74 and 77 in several passages seems to give expression to what must have been the terrible agony and distress of that dreadful time:

O God, the heathen are come into thine inheritance;
Thy holy temple have they defiled;
They have laid Jerusalem on heaps.

It is the same pitiful cry of unrelieved pain that is heard in the Lamentation of Jeremiah:

How hath the Lord covered the daughter of Zion with a cloud, in his anger,
And cast down from heaven to earth the beauty of Israel!"

If you have knowledge let others light their candles at it.

"I suppose," said the casual acquaintance, the day after the wedding, "it was hard to lose your daughter?" "No," replied the bride's father. "It did seem as if it were going to be hard at one time, but she landed the fellow just as we were beginning to lose all hope."

Higher Duties Or Better Friends?

Frank H. Simonds in the Reviews of Reviews States the American Side of This Very Timely Topic

By FRANK H. SIMONDS

There have been many indications that tariff is going to furnish a new chapter in American foreign relations. From Canada and South America alike have come warnings of the certainty of evil consequences if our new Congress shall dedicate its measures of farm relief upon a further and considerable raising of the tariff as it affects the agricultural and cattle interests of our American neighbors.

To-day we are faced by the fact that if we raise our tariff we make more difficult the task of our European debtors to pay us in goods and services the only method by which they can pay. And we are likewise confronted by the fact that if we raise our tariff in such ways as will affect our Canadian and South American neighbors, we destroy the famous good-will recently brought about by Mr. Hoover's journey, and at the same time give unmistakable advantage to our European rivals in South American economic and political spheres.

The Canadian detail is most immediately important. Canada's exports to us are precisely those which would be most affected by any tariff made to please the western farmer. It is Canadian livestock, in particular, which is to be aimed at in all schemes so far proposed. But any blow aimed at Canada will lead to immediate and far-reaching reprisals.

Moreover, Canada is in the position to strike back. While American exports to Canada amount to nearly a billion annually, Canada sends us no more than half as much. And much of what Canada gets from Britain, Germany, and Belgium. In recent years we have overtaken Britain in the Canadian market; but it would require no considerable elevation of the tariff upon American goods, as contrasted with those of British manufacture, to permit John Bull to ride back to his old situation.

As for South America, I recall one expert in Latin American affairs who warned me that an increase of a few cents in the duty on linseed oil would destroy the last lingering benefit incident to Mr. Hoover's excursion, at least in so far as Argentina is concerned. Nothing would be more easy or more natural for Argentina than a policy of reprisal, which would advantage the European nations eagerly seeking to regain lost ground and ready to make reciprocal tariff arrangements to please the Argentinians.

Moreover, what is to be looked for is not merely a spasmodic raising of tariffs among nations severely affected by our own action, but a combined action of the American nations—to-day our most promising markets—and of the European countries which are our most active competitors.

There are a certain number of suffering farmers in our West and Northwest. A simple remedy for their troubles may lie in the raising of duties on such things as live cattle and wheat. But over against this relief must be set two items: an immediate contraction of the Canadian market for American manufactures, incident to reprisal and the worsening of our relations with Canada. The same situation manifestly exists in South America.

Is Canadian friendship worth keeping? Are Canadian markets of sufficient importance to be worth retaining? Is it a wise policy to make an American tariff system the foundation of European economic supremacy and political predominance in South America, predominance in the sense of freindship? These are questions which the present Congress must face.

Europe is steadily organizing a supreme attempt to recover its preeminence lost to the United States as a consequence of the War. It is definitely setting out to reduce our hold upon its own markets and to recapture those markets in Asia and both Americas which we have successfully invaded since 1915. It is prepared to offer all sorts of tariff advantages in its own markets in return for better rates than we have in foreign markets.

Therefore it is of vital importance to know whether the new Congress will limit itself to keeping the foreigner out of the American market, or whether it will consider the interests of the United States in foreign markets as well as the immediate difficulties of a singel American industry, namely agriculture. Canada and South America are waiting to know the answer to this grave question.

It should be apparent that the time is at hand when the country and its rulers wil lhave to appreciate the fact that new conditions require new treatment, that tariffs will have to be framed not merely with an eye to the interests of specific domestic producers, but quite as much to the general interest of American exporters in foreign markets. Anything which makes relations more difficult and less friendly, anything which even tends to lead the American countries to turn toward Europe, is extremely dangerous for us.

Considerable and crippling tariff changes adopted in the present Congress would certainly strengthen the hands of every political party and group in Canada and in South America hostile to the United States.

Canada is our greatest present and prospective market. The Canadian people are our closest neighbors and the nation most friendly to us of all on this planet. While every sensible citizen of the United States recognizes that Canada is rapidly developing a national sentiment and a national soul utterly distinct, that all its evolution is toward complete independence of even the shadow of an American control, it remains true that there is a steadily expanding community of conception. We and the Canadians instinctively think the same thoughts about many subjects and primarily about European problems.

Both our friendship with Canada, and Canadian markets are involved in the question of farm relief which is coming up for final adjustment at Washington. Certainly nothing could be more absurd than a good-will tour of the President-elect, with all its immediate and prospective benefits, sacrificed to satisfy the demands of a few linseed-oil producers in the Northwest.

The proposal solemnly advanced, that we should put a heavy duty on bananas in order to encourage our people to consume oranges and apples instead, furnishes a fair sample of present-day tariff conceptions in many quarters. One can easily conceive how readily European countries would encourage banana imports, and in return obtain low duties for their own exports, which would enable them to replace the United States in the markets of the banana-raising countries and enlist the governments of those countries in their campaign to recover lost influence in Latin America.

For several generations tariff discussion has centered in the doctrine that the American workingman must be protected against the cheap labor of Europe in our home market. But now our own tariff legislation may easily become the insuperable obstacle to the sale of the products of the American workingman in those foreign markets which have become a vital circumstance in our domestic well-being.

Every European country which competes with us is watching the new Congres with divided emotions. While all will certainly protest our action as it affects them directly, they will with equal unanimity hail it as it restores to them their old customers and brings back their lost markets.

Canada to Take Part In Congress

P. B. Fowler to Attend International Chamber of Commerce Meeting

For the first time, Canada this year will take its place among the great countries of the world at the biennial congress of the International Chamber of Commerce at Amsterdam, Holland. As first of the men to represent Canada, P. B. Fowler, president of the Victoria, B.C., Chamber of Commerce, and manager of the Canadian Bank of Commerce in that city, has been chosen.

When the congress is held, from July 8 to 15, leading business men from 43 nations will be gathered together.

Belonging to the international chamber are 950 business organizations in addition to many business houses which have joined individually.

The world-wide organization arose nine years ago out of the need for discussions on commercial and business problems of international importance.

Alberto Pirelli, president of the international chamber, who is a rubber manufacturer and a senator of Italy, sent a special invitation to the chairman of the Canadian Chamber of Commerce, Dr. John W. Ross, saying that it was felt imperative that Canada should be represented.

The St. Lawrence Route

Victoria Colonist (Cons.): The Canadian Pacific Railway Company recently sent a questionnaire to 300 travel experts in the neighborhood of Buffalo, Detroit, Cleveland, Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Louis. In the answers received it was shown that only 35 of these knew that Montreal was 200 miles closer to Europe than New York. There were 208 who were unaware that Montreal is the second largest port in North America. Only 41 knew that Montreal has a thousand miles of navigable tidal water. Fifty-five only knew that 75 per cent. of the population of the United States is only seven days from Europe via the St. Lawrence. Forty-one showed acquaintance with the fact that a ship leaving Montreal is in sheltered waters for two days' steaming. The lack of knowledge of transportation conditions affecting such a port as Montreal is amazing when it is apparent among those whose business it should be to know.

"I hear you have a new position." "Yes, I'm a manicurist in a Bakery." "Manicurist in a bakery?" "Yes, I have charge of the lady-fingers."

Adding Interest to the Show

QUEEN VISITS EXHIBITION

Her Majesty Queen Mary, with Prince George and Princess Marie Louise, recently visited the silver exhibition at Seaford House, Belgrave Square.

Duty On Live Cattle Would Affect Canada

Ottawa.—The amendment, which the house of representatives at Washington has placed in the new tariff bill to increase the duty on live cattle, if it becomes law, will have a very considerable effect on the Canadian cattle-raising industry. That seemed to be the concensus among members of Parliament from the districts most affected and from live stock officials of the Department of Agriculture, when questioned over the weekend.

The first result of the increase coming into effect would be to boost the prices in the United States just that much. At the present time there is a shortage of cattle in the United States and, as a result, of the demand there, a shortage has also been created in Canada so that live stock men here think the present prices in Canada would hold regardless of the duty and the United States consumers would pay the higher prices. Three or four years from now Canadian cattle raisers would more likely feel the pinch of the increase. If the tariff accomplishes the object which its framers have in view, it would encourage United States farmers to raise more cattle and this takes from three to four years.

Western members of Parliament expressed the opinion that the prairie farmers have already this spring turned more to cattle raising because of the comparatively low price of wheat and the high price of beef.

The increases which the amendment propose is larger than would appear at first glance. It would raise the tariff on the bulk of the cattle shipped by Canada to the United States from one and a half cents to two and a half cents a pound. The live cattle shipped across the line would average perhaps under nine cents a pound at Canadian yard prices, since a considerable portion of them are stockers. Accordingly, the two and one-half cent rate would be easily equal to a twenty-five per cent. ad valorum.

Maximum Effect

The amendment has been so drafted that the increase will have the maximum effect on Canadian shipments. As the law now stands, cattle weighing over 1,050 pounds meets a duty of two cents a pound, and under that, one and a half cents.

The new proposal would make the rate on cattle weighing over 800 pounds two and a half cents and under 800 pounds one and a half cents. The experts point out that of the 200,000 head of cattle which Canada shipped to the United States for the year ending March 31, 1928, and of the even greater numbers she has shipped since the bulk weighed between 800 and 1,050 pounds. They would therefore have a one-cent increase if the new proposal comes in force.

Few changes which the new bill proposes would have a greater ultimate effect on Canada than the amendment on live cattle. When the new bill was first made public one of the bright spots from a Canadian standpoint was the fact that live cattle rates were unchanged.

Cattle prices are as high as at any time since 1920, when they soared to a 15-cent-a-pound top in Chicago yards. Then they dropped suddenly to seven and a half cents. Last month the average top for steers in the Toronto yards was $10.40, as compared with $10.58 for April, 1928, and $8.42 for April, 1927. Average tops for stockers was $8.33 last month, $8.72 a year ago and $6.72 in April, 1927.

Canada sells United States cattle over a year old to the value of around $12,000,000, so that the proposed increase in the tariff wall is one to which considerable attention will doubtless be given.

On the other hand, the change in the butter rates does not cause much reaction locally because of the relatively small amount shipped out.

Overcrowding of London

Truth (London): Two or three years ago London practically awoke to the fact that its innumerable and priceless "squares" were all in danger of being built over. If a certain number of them have now been rescued, it is only with the voluntary consent of the owners, not because the public had any power to act in its own defence. If the six acres in the heart of London occupied by the old Foundling Hospital and its gardens are not covered with tenement houses accommodating hundreds of families, it will be due to the generosity of one millionaire, not to the power of any public authority to avert the calamity, though a calamity every thinking person knows it would be. It is only by the creation and exercise of such power in regard to all new building and rebuilding that the overcrowding of London can be checked.

Ten Notorious Traps For Unwary Spellers

What words are most commonly misspeled in the English language? A survey of the orthography of students at the University of California reveals the ten words most frequently misspelled by college students. Members of the faculty declare that the words most often found misspelled by writers of all ages and classes are: separate, lose, ninety, privilege, villain, Chautauqua, accommodate, all right, repetition and ecstasy. Other words commonly misspelled by college students as well as many university graduates are: exhilarate, ocrisy, indispensable, irrelevant, oneself, sacrilege, supersede, councilor, embarrass and harass.

Proposes Quota for Canadians

Bill Introduced in U.S. House Makes Further Restrictions

Washington.—A bill to make the quota restrictions of the Immigration Act of 1924 applicable to peoples of the Western Hemisphere including Canada and Newfoundland, was introduced in the House of Representatives last week by Adolf J. Sabath, Democrat, Illinois. The bill which began by mentioning Canada and Newfoundland and thereafter mentioned Mexico, Cuba and other countries, would permit wives and unmarried children under 18 years of age to follow the immigrant.

The bill was referred to the immigration committee and will probably not be considered by the House until the next session of Congress.

Representative Cabath said that immediate restriction on immigration from the countries mentioned in the bill was needed because he felt that it was easier for the United States to assimilate some Europeans than it was some of the immigrants from countries of the Western Hemisphere.

The suggestion that the quota provisions of the immigration law be made to apply to countries of the Western Hemisphere has been made from time to time by Members of Congress. The Immigration Act of 1924 placed immigration from European countries upon a basis proportionate to the number of natives of those countries living in the United States in 1890. The national origins clause since passed will go into effect July 1, unless postponed by legislation. It will change the date for calculation from 1890 to 1790, allowing greater immigration from Britain and less from Germany and Scandinavian countries.

2,000 Are Killed In Battle In Arabia

Tribal Warfare Result of Violation of Unwritten Law

Jerusalem.—The number of killed in the battle between two Nejd tribes in the vicinity of El Sarar, Central Arabia, was reported recently to have reached 2,000. It was one of the fiercest battles ever fought in the desert. It began over the violation of an age-old unwritten chief law whereby a chief visiting another was immune from attack while in his host's territory.

Reports received here explained that the Jelawah tribe had entertained the sheik of the Ajmaan tribe. When the sheik departed the Jelawah followed him and murdered him and his escort. The Ajmaan tribe then attacked the offenders in reprisal.

Went to Far South Africa to Try to Win Segrave Record

CAPTAIN CAMPBELL'S SPEED TRIAL IN AFRICA

First photo to reach America of Captain Malcolm's speed car, Blue Bird, in which he has been trying to break Segrave's record. He attained an average of 218.54 miles an hour.

Training Courses For Fliers to Open

Royal Canadian Air Force Class of 40 Men

Ottawa.—Training courses of the Royal Canadian Air Force will shortly be opened for 40. A class of 40 will be in training in flying during the three months. Later on courses will be undertaken in the mechanical and other branches of the force.

Commissioned personnel are of two general classes—permanent and non-permanent. Permanent commissioned officers expect a career in the Royal Canadian Air Force, whereas non-permanent officers are appointed for periods of service, which may, at the time of their time, be renewed according to the demand for pilots. The permanent and non-permanent officers all practically purpose the same.

The main source of supply of commissioned officers is the Canadian universities, the Royal Military College. Under these institutions who are single, under 21 years of age, and over 18 years at the commencement of the course, and who are recommended by university and Military College authorities are eligible for a course of flying training. This training is carried out during the summer vacation for the successive years. Candidates selected for this course are appointed provisional pilot officers, non-permanent Royal Canadian Air Force. They are undertaking to complete college and are then eligible for a commission in the Canadian Air Force, but obligation to join the completion of training, training the rate of $3 per year, $3.50 per day for, $4 per day for clothing, quarters, attention and rations from their homes.

The above training is the university authorities, who have on the subject is given to applicants to the Canadian Air Force.

Cure

Jews and Westminsters is not the slightest Soviet delusions communities British religion at once British it finally. It continuous campaign to the churches and persecution. Now the Russian the nettle by the also taken Russia an astonishing rival. Even Moscow 15,000,000 people or other of twenty sects. Stalin and more than any and incalculable influence. They intend to much easier to organize a bloody revolution religious instinct of Stalin may yet make the cost both of the and of the stability of the.

Problem

mes: General Hertzog stand. Still no circumstances will to the placing of on a par with South Africa must country, and for declares, he is opposed to the suggestion should enter into close Northern the nature of the main "native" States. nalists have been trying the South African political equality with General Hertzog to have anything to gestion.

No Murder

Guardian (Lib.): It is really going to enforcement of will be the first to must employ means inclusive lawful and to further con- And the first neglect is the reform of In this matter, as in violence breeds use of unnecessary police is not only but also a direct lessness which it is down.

Immigrants to the U.S.A.

Press (Lib.): Taking unrestricted immigrant born Canadians and quotas, it would amount 75 per cent. of the United States here from countries This should be a United States, and thing for both countries to maintain friendly the British Empire States.

one of his flock leaning drunkenness against" cried the bishop ked. "Oh, Wilkins! I am sorry. I am y!" As the bishop Wilkins pulled himself hiccoughed after bishop." The bishop the hope of hearing pentance. "Bishop, sorry, I'll forgive you."