OBSERVATION

There's not a flower so grand and gay,
Nor humble bloom along the way;
There's not a bird with sweetest song,
Or one that chirps the whole day long,
Nor those in gorgeous plumage dressed;
The homeliest in the homeliest nest:
There's not a beast that roams the land,
Or worm that burrows in the sand;
There's not a storm that rends the sky,
Nor tiny cloudlet floating by,
But in God's scheme for human weal,
They have a place.

There's not a man however good,
But evil lurks within his breast,
While those, it seems love cannot heal,
Still have some good like all the rest;
There's none so vile, so mean or base,
But in God's scheme of human weal,
All have a place.

Twenty Years Ago

From the Issue of The Free Press of Thursday, February 23rd, 1922

Mr. J. W. Barkeree has sold his house on Main Street to Mr. John Mellon.

Mr. D. McIvor, Main Street, has sold his farm to Mr. Daniel Young of Erin.

Friday morning was the coldest of the season. The mercury dropped to seven degrees below zero. By noon on Saturday the temperature had risen to thirty-six above.

Mr. J. A. McGill formerly of Acton, has been promoted to the position of general agent for the C. P. R. in Ottawa after serving for six years as city passenger agent. He becomes the first general agent of the company in Canada.

Milton's new $21,000 hockey arena was officially opened last Thursday night by Dr. R. K. Anderson, M.P. of Milton.

Mr. H. Damper of Crewsons Corners has sold his house and lot to Mr. John Burnside, Ballinafad. Mr. Damper and Miss Ethel moved to Guelph last week.

Rev. J. P. Henderson, M.A., who has been enjoying a couple of months' furlough from his missionary field Pouce Coupe B.C., returned this week.

DIED

FRANK — At the family residence, lot 19, con. 5, Nassagaweya, on Saturday February 18, 1922, Ellen McClaughlin, widow of the late Christian Frank, in her 85th year.

SPEIGHT — On Thursday February 16, 1922 at her late residence, Toronto, Sarah A. Crosby, widow of the late William B. Speight, in her 79th year.

Axis Wants Malta But What a Hope!

Britain Has No Intention of Letting Italians and Germans In

CAIRO, (CP) — One of the things the Axis would like most to hold in a death grip is the little island of Malta, less than 100 square miles in extent yet one of the most bombed spots in the world.

It sites across the main path of shipping in the war-ridden Mediterranean, 58 miles off Sicily, a perpetual thorn in the side of the line between Axis men and materials in Europe and Axis armies in Africa.

Germany and Italy reportedly are building up a great force in Sicily, perhaps for the purpose of storming the British-owned fortress. But Britain has no intention of permitting it to become another Crete. hence is reinforcing the batteries and coastal defences, building new secret anchorages and submarine bases and overhauling the bomb-proof shelters and rock-tunnelled galleries where men, munitions, food and guns are kept in readiness.

TYPHOONS FOR HITLER!

LONDON, (CP) — Several squadrons of Typhoons, one of the latest and fastest RAF fighter planes, are expected to go into action soon. The Typhoon, details of which are still on the secret list, has a speed of 400 miles an hour and terrific fire power.

Britain's "Clippies"

Will Like South African Buses

South African trolley buses, used by the same as these now running in the streets [illegible] have to obtain [illegible] by the London Passenger Transport Board, the result of an order placed on contracts which certain South African municipalities had in Britain.

The first of these vehicles is about to be licensed and will soon be plying in a busy London suburb. They are six inches wider than those at present used in London and the extra space will be greatly appreciated by the "Clippies," the women conductresses, during rush hours.

Each trolly-bus is equipped with a 100 h.p. motor, probably the largest ever used in Britain, and some of them can seat 72 passengers.

A feature in the South African buses which is novel to Londoners are the drop windows fitted throughout with Purdah glass in the upper halves, giving plenty of ventilation and reducing glare from the sun.

There are 43 vehicles in all, 25 of them intended for Durban and 18 for Johannesburg.

The Sunday School Lesson

FOR SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 22

JESUS APPOINTS AND TEACHES THE TWELVE

Golden Text. Even so let your light shine before men; that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven. Matt. 5:16.

Lesson Text. Luke 6:12-26.

Exposition. I. The Twelve Appointed, 6:12-16.

Before our Lord selected His disciples He spent a whole night in prayer to God. This reveals the high estimate Jesus had of prayer. Undoubtedly, He was as physically weary as His companions for He was in all points tested as we are (Heb. 4:15, 16), the only difference being that His infirmities were sinless. Although tired He has important work to do and so He spends the night in prayer. Jesus, example teaches us that we may overrule the flesh in the strength of our purpose to commune with God. This was a habit of Jesus (Matt. 14: 23; Mk. 3:7, 8; Jno. 8:1).

The disciples He was led to select the next day were an interesting group. Prominent among them were fishermen, a tax-gatherer and a traitor. None seems to have been talented or broadly cultured. Their chief merit lay in their obedience to Christ, their willingness to follow Him and their faith in His mission. These are the primary tests of all who would follow Jesus (Matt. 7:21).

II. Christ's Healing Virtue, 17-19.

Coming down the mountain to the plain with His newly ordained disciples our Lord is met by a mixed multitude out of all Judea and Jerusalem and as far away as the coast of Tyre and Sidon. This meant that some of the people had travelled scores of miles to come to Christ. They desired to hear Him and to be healed. This shows how far already the reputation of Jesus had spread. It was worth while in that day to travel a long distance to hear the word of Christ and it is equally as worthy to do so today. It is better to go a long way to get it than to be without it. In some pulpits anything and everything but the word of Christ seems to be preached, but there are faithful preachers who do not disappoint Christ or the people. The exhortation of the Bible to all preachers is to preach the Word (2 Tim. 4:1, 2; 2 Pet. 1: 19; 1 Pet. 1:22-25).

The multitude had also among it those who came to be healed. Not only were they afflicted with diseases (v. 17) but they "were vexed with unclean spirits." They were people filled with troubles. Undoubtedly they had tried countless remedies only to be disappointed. Jesus was the object of their faith. He healed them (v. 18). So wonderful were the results that the whole multitude sought to touch Him, the healthy as well as the sick. It is written that virtue went out of Him (v. 19). This was only the beginning of His saving work which has been repeated in every generation since. Think of the innumerable multitudes who have received life through His grace. The disciples were witnesses of these things (1 Jno. 1:1). They never forgot what they saw. Throughout their lives they never lost faith in the power of Christ to bestow life to sin-cursed and diseased humanity (Ac. 5:6, 16-31; Rom. 10: 11; 1 Tim. 1:2).

III. Christ's Direct Teaching, 20-26.

The first word is addressed to the disciples. He refers to them as being poor. This is due undoubtedly to the fact that they had left all to follow Him and He could not enrich them materially because of His lowly condition (Matt. 8:20). Jesus had emptied Himself of His divine prerogatives in order to be found in fashion as a man (Phil. 2:6-8). In this condition He became identified with the poor of earth. He could offer His disciples only poverty, hunger, tears, persecution, hatred and rejection from His enemies (v. 22, 23). It was not cheerful enlistment but they followed Him just the same.

We cannot and must not make it a basis of Christian discipleship that to follow Christ means prosperity and riches. The contrary is often true [illegible] Many are rewarded with worldly success and some are called to be stewards of riches [illegible] [illegible] was called to [illegible] [illegible] Christ [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]