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**The Sunday School Lesson**  
JANUARY 8, 1950

**POWER FOR THE CHURCH'S TASK**

Golden Text—"Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit." Ac. 2:38.  
Lesson Text—Ac. 2:1-4, 14-17, 37-41.  
Exposition—The Disciples Filled with the Holy Spirit, 1-4.  
The disciples had been bidden not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the promise of the Father, the baptism with the Holy Spirit (ch. 1: 4, 5). They had faithfully obeyed this command. After the ascension of Jesus they had returned at once to Jerusalem (1-12) to wait God's time and God's blessing. Though "they continued steadfastly" in prayer (1: 14) the entire time was spent in prayer (1: 15-20, Luke 24:33). There was absolute unity in their prayer (1: 15) with one accord their minds were all united in one thing "the promise of the Father," the baptism with the Holy Spirit (Luke 11: 13, Ac. 4: 31, 8: 15-17). They did not regard the positive promise of Christ (1: 5) as relieving them from the necessity of prayer, but as an incentive to and a foundation for prayer. The women were there as well as the men (1: 14). Ten days passed without an answer. The day of Pentecost, the day of "first fruits," the gathering of the church (Lev. 23: 15-21) came at last.

There was not only "wind" from heaven, but fire as well (Matt. 3: 11; Isa. 4: 4; Jer. 23: 29). The fire was under the forms of tongues, the new power was to manifest itself in a tongue of fire granted to them (v. 4). The tongues parted asunder or partitioned themselves out to "each one of them." They rested upon the women as well as on the men (vs. 17, 18). The blessing was not to the church as a body, but to "each one of them" as individuals. This is a fulfillment of ch. 1: 5. So the expressions "filled with the Spirit" and "baptized with the Spirit" are practically synonymous. The expression used here brings out the thought that the Holy Spirit takes complete possession of the faculties. The immediate result was that they began to speak with other tongues (10: 46, 19: 6). The baptism with the Spirit did not always manifest itself in this particular gift but always in new power for Christ (1 Cor. 12: 6-10, 30; Ac. 4: 31, 9: 17-22).

11. The Meaning of Pentecost, 14-17. Some thought that the disciples were drunk. That some sought to attribute the state of the disciples to intoxication is not strange. The effect of both wine and the Spirit is to stimulate. But the one stimulates unnaturally the other supernaturally. The stimulation in the one case is followed by wretched reaction, but in the other one is lifted permanently to a more exalted state of joy and blessing, vision and power (Eph. 5: 18 ff). It was but a fulfillment of one of the great O. T. prophecies (Joel 2: 28, 29).  
111. "What Shall We Do?" 37-41.  
These convicted Jews cried out to know what they were to do. Peter's answer was very plain, and perhaps nothing in the Bible makes the way of salvation and blessing plainer (1) "Repent," i. e., change their minds about Jesus. They were to change from that attitude of mind that crucified Jesus to that which accepted Him as "Lord and Christ." This, of course, involves repentance of sin, i. e., renouncing all sin. And it involves the absolute surrender of our wills to Jesus as our Lord.  
(2) "Be baptized." There was to be outward water baptism. But there must be more than the mere outward symbol—there was to be the great inward fact for which the outward symbol stood, the renunciation of sin, faith in Christ and the putting on of Jesus Christ (cf. Gal. 3: 26, 27; Rom. 6: 3, 4). Being "baptized in the name of Jesus Christ" means more than having some water sprinkled upon you (or being immersed in some water) while a certain baptismal formula is repeated. It means confession and renunciation of sin, faith in Christ's death and resurrection in our behalf, identification with Christ in His death and in His resurrection. When there is real repentance and real baptism there will be remission of sin and there will be reception of "the gift of the Holy Ghost" (v. 38).  
The gift of the Holy Ghost is the blood-bought birthright of every believer in Jesus Christ. If one does not have the gift of the Holy Spirit experimentally, it is either because he does not claim his birthright by simple prayer and faith (Ac. 4: 31, 8: 15, 16), or else because he has not really made Jesus Lord and Christ by the absolute surrender of the will to Him.  
"The Promise," i. e., as the language used and the context unmistakably demonstrate (cf. ch. 1: 4, 5; 2: 33, 38), the promise of the baptism with the gift of the Holy Spirit was for them as well as for the apostles, and not only for them (i. e., Jewish believers of the apostolic days), but for their children (i. e., Jewish believers of generations to come); and not only for them, but for "all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call unto him" (i. e., for Gentile believers of every coming century of the world's history). In other words, by God's own most explicit statement, the baptism with the Holy Spirit is for every child of God.

**Chronicles of .. Ginger Farm**

Written Specially for The Acton Free Press  
**GWENDOLINE P. CLARKE**

It's safe at home we are... and very glad to be here. You see, Bob and I have just come back from Toronto. We drove there in a pea-soup fog and we came back in a fog, but before we returned a little more thickening had been added to the soup. It was a business trip, otherwise we would not have gone.  
Well, the year is young yet but already we have seen plenty of action around here. About a week ago every cow in our barn started to cough and two of them developed congestion of the lungs. We had a happy time... the men treating back and forth to the barn with mustard plaster, medicine and baking soda. We bought lot 125 in the west... hours to put a mustard plaster on a cow isn't exactly our idea of relaxation after the holiday season. In the midst of it all we had company for the weekend. We expected Daughter home too but she phoned that she could not come because she had just rented a house. Yes, it came to that and all because she could not find a decent room at a reasonable rent. Ten dollars a week she had been paying for one third floor room and not even an outlet where she could plug in an iron.  
The house Daughter has rented is interesting. I think it must have been built when Toronto was still Muddy York. Red brick on a stone foundation, hardwood floors throughout and such beautiful floors... and a fireplace in two of the rooms. The light fixtures are as old as the hills with two sockets for hydro bulbs and one for gas. The windows are large, the back ones overlooking a nice size lawn surrounded by flower beds and a board fence. Daughter has five of the nine rooms rented already. As I said before I found the house most interesting and wished so much I could find out something about its past history. Old houses like that, just three minutes walk from one of Toronto's busiest streets don't spring up like mushrooms. Not only that but Daughter has taken over some of the furniture with the house and it is equally ancient. There was a dresser she was showing me that was bigger than any dresser I ever saw in my life, and a bed to match it. Another suite was plain, concrete painted and a brass bed with such beautiful styling that it was really a work of art. But the paper on the walls! I'm telling you... if them must have been put on during the Victorian era... you know the kind I mean, the dais tapestry kind. And that is understandable because the owner of the house is eighty-five. I might add most of the rooms are going to be redecorated. But apparently the old lady was getting more modern in some ways with advancing years as a good oil furnace had been installed and was apparently in good working order.  
From now on I have a faint suspicion that anything not needed at home will be sure of a welcome at Daughter's house. In fact that was the purpose of our visit today taking down some of Daughter's belongings and adding a few of our own for good measure. But the poor dear she has been so busy trotting up and down stairs sweeping and cleaning, that she looked just about ready to drop. However, she won't let it all go to the ground floor is rented to a young married couple, friends of Daughter's, who are going to help run the house, as Daughter will naturally be away at the office all day. That they are only too glad to do... they have two small boys and until now the best accommodation they could get was one room in mother-in-law's house. And how necessary it is for young couples to have their own living quarters, whether they live in the town or country.

**BURLINGTON**

Another record year for the issuing of building permits will again be reached this year, William Metcalfe, Building Inspector, stated to The Gazette on Tuesday evening. Last year's total was \$940,000 half as much again as the previous year, but this year will even exceed that figure, being approximately \$280,000.  
On Friday evening last, Clifford Russell, a Burlington truck driver, was injured in a truck accident, and taken to the hospital at Brantford with serious head injuries. Rodger Vanderbush, driver of another truck escaped with facial lacerations.  
Boys and girls of the town, now enjoying their Christmas holidays, are saddened because of the lack of skating and no snow to sleigh-ride. Once again the necessity of an arena for Burlington is brought home. The Lions Club commenced their open air rink early in December at the park, and while there was a couple of days skating, the old weatherman does the same trick each year—turns mild periodically with the result—no skating.  
So far as the local police were concerned, Chief Smith reports that it was the quietest holiday season a week-end ever recorded here for a Christmas. Not a single accident was reported to the police, nor were there any arrests for being drunk or disorderly.—Gazette.

**MILTON**

Appearing for sentence after spending a week in jail, Charles O'Hara, 19, of North York, was fined \$50 and costs of \$24, or in default of payment was to spend a month in jail. O'Hara was convicted last week on a charge of causing a disturbance in the Town Hall here the previous Saturday, which developed into a street fight before it was broken up. "This court takes a serious view of this type of offence," Magistrate Langdon observed as he passed sentence.  
A man escaped serious injury last Wednesday afternoon when several small elm trees prevented the heavy truck he was operating from toppling down a 10-ft. embankment.  
The accident occurred late in the afternoon when the concrete bridge over the Sixteen Mile Creek located on the Denison Side Road, just west of Highway 25, collapsed. Garth Carter, driver of the heavy sand and gravel truck, owned by Halton Sand and Gravel Co., told police he felt the rear of his vehicle take a severe bounce and go out of control as it crashed through the guard rail into the trees. Getting out of the truck, Carter found the bridge had collapsed into the raging waters of the creek, filled from the heavy rains recently.  
William J. Lindsay passed away at his home, West Mary St., Milton, on Saturday, December 17th, 1949.—Canadian Champion.

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she should at least get a little sun out of the deal.  
As for the farm, Partner has just come in for supper and he thinks we are definitely winning the Battle at Barn. Maybe these ordinary, everyday omens are not so very important but when there are clouds in the sky it is just as well to make the most of every little bit of sunshine that comes our way. Don't you think so?  
By the way, old folk and young folk, hailing from the Old Country, should not miss the serial currently running in the Ladies Home Journal about the Princesses—Elizabeth and Margaret Rose. It is most interesting and amusing. Eight installments, no less!

**GEORGETOWN**

Following an illness of three weeks, Mrs. Walter Thomas Foreman died on December 19th at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Alfred Sykes, Georgetown.  
Change of ownership of a local implement business is announced with the news that E. L. "Jim" Taylor has sold his Massey-Harris agency which he operated as the Taylor Tractor Service to Douglas Swackhamer of Brampton. Mr. Swackhamer will operate it under the name Georgetown Tractor Service.

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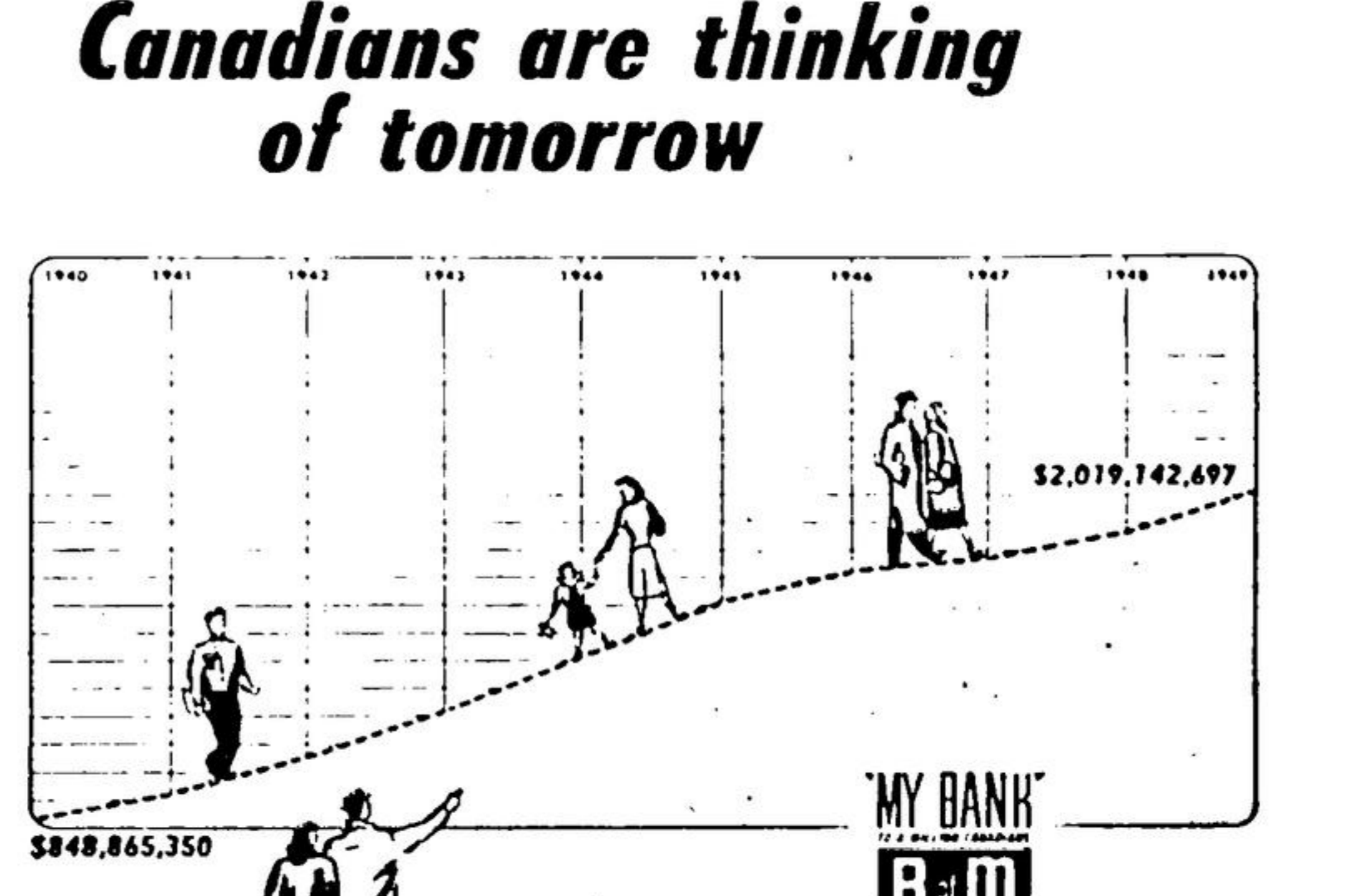
**PLANTING A NEW FOREST**

A new 20,000 acre forest is to be created in Wales. The Forestry Commission have worked out a coordinated scheme which will be spread over the next 40 years. It is proposed that about 450 acres shall be planted each year.

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Their habit of saving for the years ahead has not only persisted since the war but has gained in strength. Today, their deposits stand at more than two billion dollars—an all-time B of M record and the largest Canadian deposits of any bank. Of this money, well over a billion dollars is in savings.  
The fact that the B of M's resources also have topped the two-billion mark during the past year proves one thing clearly—that the size of a financial institution such as the Bank of Montreal simply reflects the measure of confidence a million and a half Canadian men and women share in it.  
And by thinking of tomorrow, these people are helping to build the Canada of today and tomorrow. For their savings determine the support the Bank can bring—through investments and loans—to the enterprise of men and businesses across the nation. Indeed, this year, loans made by the B of M are the highest they've ever been.  
Working with the people of Canada for the past 142 years, the Bank has kept continually before it these two guiding purposes—to assist actively the nation's economic development and to justify always the confidence of its depositors.

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