SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

LESSON XII.—MARCH 22, 1908.
Review.—Read John 6: 41-51.

Summary.—Lesson I. Topic: Christ in his relations. Place: Ephesus. John's gospel was written between 80 and 90 A. D. John was the only apostle living at that time. He refers to Christ as the Word of God; all things were made by him; he was the life and the light of men; reference is made to John the Baptist, the forerunner of Christ; he was "not that Light, but was sent to bear witness of that Light;" Jesus was the true Light.

II. Topic: The believer's life-portrayal of his Master. Place: Bethabara. A crisis had arisen in John's ministry; the Sanhedrin sent a deputation from Jerusalem to ask John who he was; John said he was not the Christ, nor Elias, nor the prophet about whom Moses had written, but he was merely a voice crying in the wilderness, "Make straight the way of the Lord." John baptized with water; Christ would baptize with the Holy Spirit.

III. Topic: Secret of soul saving. Place: Bethabara. John pointed Jesus out to two disciples who followed Jesus; Jesus turned and said, "What seek ye?" They asked Christ where he dwelt; Jesus said, "Come and see;" Andrew found his brother, Simon, and brought him to Jesus; it is supposed also that John found his brother, James; James found Philip; Philip found Nathaniel; when Philip told Nathaniel that they had found the Messiah, Nathaniel raised an objection; Nathaniel was soon convinced that Jesus was the Messiah.

IV. Topic: Lessons from the temple cleansing. Place: Jerusalem. Jesus went up to Jerusalem at the time of the Passover, and found the temple decorated by the traders. He drove out sheep and oxen and overturned the tables of the money changers and commanded them not to make his Father's house a house of merchandise. The Jews asked him by what authority he did these things.

V. Topic: Jesus, the Saviour of the world. Place: Jerusalem. Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews, had an interview with Jesus; Jesus introduced the subject of the new birth which Nicodemus could not understand; the Saviour then spoke of the brazen serpent which Moses made in the wilderness, and said that as the serpent was lifted up, "even so must the Son of man be lifted up; that whosoever believeth in him should not perish."

VI. Topic: The way to find salvation. Place: Jacob's well. Jesus goes through Samaria; stops at Jacob's well; meets a woman; asks of her a drink; she expresses surprise; Jesus speaks of the gift of God—living water; she desires it; Jesus asks her to call her husband; she says she has none; has had five; calls Jesus a prophet; asks about place of worship; true worship must be in spirit and in truth.

VII. Topic: A study of faith. Place: Cana in Galilee. The Galileans received Christ gladly. A nobleman of Capernaum heard that Jesus had come into Galilee and hastened to him to entreat him to come and heal his son; Jesus told him to return and that his son was healed; the man believed Christ's words. The son began to recover at the very hour Jesus had said, "Thy son liveth."

VIII. Topic: Jesus saving the sinner. Place: Jerusalem. Jesus went to Jerusalem to attend the feast of the Passover; Jesus saw an infirm man at the Pool of Bethesda, who had been sick thirty-eight years; asked him if he desired to be made whole; the man replied that he had no one to put him into the pool; Jesus told him to rise, take up his bed and walk; the man did as commanded.

IX. Topic: The gospel feast. Place: Near Bethesda on the northeast shore of the Sea of Galilee. Jesus and his disciples went into a desert place to be alone; great multitudes followed them; Jesus taught them and healed their sick; in the afternoon the disciples suggested that the multitude should be sent away to buy food; Jesus decided to feed them there; a lad was found with five loaves and two fishes; five thousand men were fed, besides women and children.

X. Topic. Jesus Christ the food of the soul. Place: Capernaum. The multitudes seek for Jesus; he again heals their sick; many follow him for the "loaves and fishes;" we should labor for meat which endureth. What are the works of God? Answer, To believe on Christ. They desire a sign; think Moses greater than Christ; manna in the desert; their error; the Father giveth true bread; they desire this bread; Jesus the bread of life; will receive all who come to him.

XI. Topic: Christ is light of the world. Place: Jerusalem. Jesus saw a blind man; disciples asked Christ who had sinned, this man or his parents; Jesus replied that neither this man nor his parents had sinned; makes clay with spittle; anoints the blind man's eyes; commands the man to go to the Pool of Siloam and wash; he obeys; comes back seeing; his neighbors are stirred.

PRACTICAL APPLICATIONS.

Golden text: "In him was life; and the life was the light of men" (John 1:4).

I. Christ the true life. 1. A life of the highest knowledge, a knowledge of the moral nature of God, the spiritual nature of man, and the true nature of the relations between God and man. This knowledge is threefold in its contents, and is the blended result of the perceptions of the intellect, heart and conscience. Neither alone can reach it; for to obtain even glimpses of it we must be elevated above the uncertainties of the intellect, the selfishness of the heart and the bewilderments of conscience. "This is life eternal;" and Christ possessed it in its fulness, because he had this knowledge in absolute fulness and certainty, and came to bear witness to it, and thus to bridge over the gulf which the greatest geniuses had failed to span. 2. A life of perfect love. Knowledge the most perfect is only one element. Love is the grandest form of life, because it includes all the other virtues, which without it are nothing. Consider the infinite difference between the sentiments we cherish toward Shakespeare and Christ. We admire and wonder in the one case; we admire and worship in the other. The one added immensely to our literature and our knowledge; the other created a new religion and discovered a God of greater goodness than the world had ever known, because the keynote of his life was sacrifice and its crown the cross. 3. A life of perfect doing. The greatest life is that in which the grandest ideas, emotions and actions are perfectly blended. Such was his life. Human nature is ordinarily so poor, that often the men with large emotional natures have a difficulty in keeping themselves pure, and are not great in ideas, and vice versa. Consider the life that must have been in Christ. Not to insist on the wonderful quantity of work that Christ did! look at its transcendent quality, the nature of his acts and their motive.

II. Christ the life and light of men. Christ's life was a divine revelation. It is not speculation that can teach us the highest religious truth, but that truth embodied in a life. Christ is the light of the world, the revelation of the character and will of the Father, and of what man may become. Christ's life is the greatest miracle of history. Greatness and gentleness, holiness and pity, strength and sympathy are perfectly blended. His life was the light and Life of men in that He delivered men from ignorance, unbelief and vice, and from the ruin and misery which are their invariable attendants; and brought them to the knowledge of divine things, to faith and holiness, and to that temporal and eternal happiness with which these are inseparably connected. This change He effected 1. By His doctrine, which is divine efficacy, not only for enlightening, but for purifying and transforming the soul, and imparting consolation and happiness. 2. By His incarnation, life and death. For these were the clearest revelation of God, the benevolence of His nature, and His paternal love to men, of the Saviour, and His great and glorious work, of the dignity of man, and the certainty of a state of immortal existence beyond death and the grave. 3. By His example. The example (1) of His holiness, which gave evidence and efficiency to His doctrine; (2) of His "sufferings, and the glory that should follow," in which He is our pattern (II. Tim. 2, 11; Rom. 8, 17, 29). 4. By His institutions. Shedding down the Holy Ghost upon the apostles, instituting baptism, the Lord's supper, the Christian ministry, public worship, and other religious exercises, which are the most effectual means for banishing ignorance and unbelief, impiety and misery, from the earth, and for the diffusion and establishment of knowledge and faith, virtue and genuine happiness among men.

III. Christ's influence known by its fruits. What is the evidence that the sun is active? The fact that every root is sprouting. What is the evidence that the sun has brought summer? The fruits of summer. What is the evidence that the sun has been shedding down upon the earth its light and warmth and ripening power? The flavor of the fruit. Bring me an apple. If it is hard and acid, I know that it is the product of a rainy, sunless summer. Bring me another, and if it is mellow and full of sugar and aroma, I know that the sugar and aroma do not come out of the ground, but from where there was light and heat. And I can judge of the influence under which nations have been unfolded by the nature of the fruit they produce. Show me a nation developing coarse animation, and I will show you a nation that has not been true to the light. On the other hand, show me an individual, a family, a community that yields the products of a higher moral nature, and I will pronounce that higher moral nature to be the result of the life and light of men. "And the work of righteousness shall be peace; and the effect of righteousness quietness and assurance for ever."—From Biblical Illustrator.

MISSING MAIL.

Question in Parliament as to Valuable Packages Gone Astray.

London, March 16.—Replying to a question in the House of Commons yesterday regarding the disappearance of fifteen registered mail packages in transit by the Steamer Celtic, which arrived in New York, on January 22, Postmaster-General Buxton said that after a careful investigation there was every reason to believe that only letters had been forwarded from this country by the steamer Celtic on that occasion.

It is understood that the contents of the packets were very valuable, and it is not known whether they have been stolen or lost.

Regarding the matter, the Postmaster-General said: "I have already made urgent representations on this subject to the postoffice department in the United States."

BOY INSTANTLY KILLED.

Hurled Two Hundred Feet by Boiler Explosion.

A Sarnia despatch: The boiler of a portable saw mill, owned by William Johnston, of Sarnia, exploded this afternoon while in use on the farm of Chas. Wilson, on the Murphy side line, about three miles from Sarnia. The force of the explosion was terrific. A sixteen-year-old lad named James Harkins, son of John Harkins, of the ninth concession, was hurled nearly two hundred feet and instantly killed. James Kemsley was badly cut about the face and Chas. Kemsley was painfully scalded, but their injuries are not serious. The boiler was in charge of a man named Brown, of Sarnia.

BRITISH PREMIER WEAKER.

London, March 16.—The health of Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman, the Prime Minister, has caused renewed anxiety. During the past week there has been a weakening of his vitality, which is regarded as a serious symptom.

The Premier has practically isolated himself for the past three weeks, and has given no attention whatever to political affairs.

It is said that the return of the King from the continent will be forced almost immediately by a change in the Premiership.

BOMB FOR KING ALFONSO.

EXPLODED AT THE WRONG TIME UNDER A PAVILION.

Republicans Disappointed at the Undoubted Success of the Royal Visit to the City.

Barcelona, March 16.—King Alfonso and the Ministers who accompanied him on his visit here started on their return to Madrid this afternoon, to the great relief of those responsible for His Majesty's safety. The visit demonstrated the efficiency of the precautions taken by the authorities, the ardent loyalty of the Monarchists, and the absence of anything more serious than indifference among the great bulk of the population. The hearty ovations given the King at the theatre and elsewhere are attributable to the loyalists, and if the mass of workers were not enthusiastic they were at least politely quiet.

There is disappointment among many keen Republicans that the visit was so successful. They certainly did not wish for any display of violence, but they would have welcomed universal coldness. One also hears complaints that many persons were prevented from seeing the royal spectacle by occasional unannounced alterations of the route taken by the King in coming and going, but on the whole the warmth of his greeting surpassed the most sanguine expectations, and His Majesty is described as highly delighted.

The occasion did not pass without a scare, which, appropriate to the city's reputation, took the form of an explosion. What is declared to have been a bomb burst on the quay near the Customs House at 3 o'clock this morning. Common report says that petard was hidden in the ground at the side of the quay, either through fear of detection of for future use. Anyhow, it was harmless.

The King visited the Austrian squadron at mid-day and took luncheon on the flagship, whither his launch was escorted by a fleet of steamers, yachts and other craft, all of which were crowded with loyal admirers.

Bomb Under a Pavilion.

London, March 16.—A despatch to the Telegraph from Barcelona gives the following version of the bomb incident.

At 4 o'clock in the morning a loud explosion was heard all over the town. Everybody believed it was a gun on one of the warships, and therefore little importance was attached to it. An enquiry showed, however, that a bomb had been placed under a pavilion erected at the landing stage where King Alfonso was to embark in his launch to visit the Austrian squadron. The bomb was loaded with a powerful explosive and pieces of iron. Had a crowd of people been on the spot when it exploded, undoubtedly many lives would have been lost.

TO CURE A COLD IN ONE DAY
Take LAXATIVE BROMO Quinine Tablets. Druggists refund money if it fails to cure. E. W. GROVE'S signature is on each box. 25c.

BEATEN TO DEATH.

TALES OF HORRIBLE CRUELTY IN PORTUGUESE WEST AFRICA.

General Pienear Tells Mothers' Congress at Washington of Men, Women and Children Mutilated on the Cocoa Plantations.

Washington, March 16.—A vivid description of atrocities alleged to be perpetrated upon slave laborers on cocoa plantations on the Islands of Principe and Saint Thome, Portuguese West Africa, was given in an address on "Children's Lives in Africa," by Gen. Joubert Pienaer, of South Africa, at to-night's session of the International Congress on the welfare of the child, under the auspices of the National Mothers' Congress.

"The atrocities I have witnessed in Portuguese West Africa have taken such a hold upon me," declared Gen. Pienaer, "that I cut myself loose from all my business, and leaving my family thousands of miles away, I have consecrated my life to the freeing of the men and women that are daily being done to death, and the little children I have frequently seen being beaten until the blood flowed to the ground."

After stating that the "cruelties meted out to these degraded human beings on the mainland were beyond description," Gen. Pienaer continued: "Children are torn away from the breasts of their mothers and sold as slaves. Slaves in the employ of their taskmasters are beaten to death; men, women and children are mutilated. Often after a native has been done to death he is quartered, and the different portions of his body are hung on trees to terrorize the other natives."

SURELY A LUNATIC.

A Recently Arrived Immigrant Spat in a Nun's Face.

Toronto despatch: An attack on Sister Mary Presentation of West Lodge Avenue Convent, which in its nature indicates a diseased mind on the part of Henry Donovan, aged 35 years, of 188 Adelaide street west, took place last night. Edward Mooney, a boy from the convent, was driving the Sister on King street west, when Donovan walked up and deliberately spat in her face. The boy says this is not the first time he has insulted the Sister.

Donovan was arrested and brought to Esther street station. When questioned about the affair he wandered off into a rambling statement, and said: "It will all come out later. The newspapers will tell all about it."

Donovan, who is said to be a recent arrival from England, had over $260 in his possession, including about £10 in English money.

This woman says Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound cured her. Read her letter.

Mrs. J. A. Laliberte, of 34 Artillerie St., Quebec, writes to Mrs. Pinkham:

"For six years I have been doctoring for female weakness, heart and nerves, liver and kidney trouble, but in Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound I can safely say I have found a cure.

"I was continually bothered with the most distressing backaches, headaches, and bearing-down pains, and I kept growing more and more nervous.

"Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound relieved me of all these distressing symptoms and made me a well woman. I would advise all suffering women, young or old, to use Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound."

FACTS FOR SICK WOMEN.

For thirty years Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound, made from roots and herbs, has been the standard remedy for female ills, and has positively cured thousands of women who have been troubled with displacements, inflammation, ulceration, fibroid tumors, irregularities, periodic pains, backache, that bearing-down feeling, flatulency, indigestion, dizziness or nervous prostration. Why don't you try it?

Mrs. Pinkham invites all sick women to write her for advice. She has guided thousands to health. Address, Lynn, Mass.

THE JURY DISAGREED.

Eleven for Conviction, One for Acquittal in Montreal Case.

Montreal despatch: The jury in the Court of King's Bench this afternoon found Antonio Carboni guilty of attempted murder. Carboni is accused of having struck another Italian named Matafero with an axe, inflicting wounds which put the life of the injured man in danger. This occurred last November in a tumble-down house on St. Paul street.

The jury in the case of Fatzari, accused of attempted murder in a house in St. David's lane, have been discharged after having sat for 24 hours. One of the members held out for a verdict of not guilty, while eleven others were for conviction.

A PRECEDENT IN RUSSIA.

Foreign Affairs Discussed in Public for the First Time.

St. Petersburg, March 16.—The Douma to-day made its first incursion into foreign policy, the incident marking also the first time foreign affairs have ever been publicly discussed in Russia. The Government submitted a bill raising the legation at Tokio to an embassy, and fixing the Ambassador's salary at $30,000. With the exception of reducing this amount to $25,000, the bill was passed unanimously.

Marvelous case of Leo Corrigan

which shows that skin diseases heretofore considered hopeless can be cured.

Since childhood, Leo Corrigan had been tortured with the burning agony and itching of Eczema. His parents had spent a great deal of money in consulting physicians and buying medicines—but all to no purpose.

As he grew older he sought other doctors—some of them specialists. He was eleven weeks in a Toronto hospital—eight weeks in bed. At times the irritation and pain caused by the Eczema were so severe, life was a burden. He would get so bad he could not walk. Several winters he could do no work.

He wrote, on February 20, 1906:

"In November, 1905, I had another attack, and was advised to use **Mira Ointment.** (I thought this would be like the other remedies I had tried, and of no use to me). But, to my great delight, a few hours after the first application, I felt great relief.

I have used it, now, two and a-half months, and unhesitatingly state that it is the best remedy I ever used. It has worked wonders for me. Since using Mira Ointment I have been able to work every day—without irritation or pain—no stiffness of the limbs or soreness. I feel a new person.

"From a state of great irritation and sometimes excruciating pains to freedom from all such, being capable of doing hard work every day, is a marvelous change. **Mira Ointment** has effected it.

"I strongly recommend any person afflicted with this terrible complaint—Eczema—to use **Mira Ointment.**"

What this wonderfully effective Ointment has done in this extreme chronic case, it can do in other seemingly incurable conditions. If you suffer from any form of skin-disease, don't delay. Certain relief and cure is waiting you in Mira Ointment. Get a box to-day. 50c. —6 for $2.50. At drug-stores—or from The Chemists' Co. of Canada, Ltd., Hamilton—Toronto. 15

Mira
TRADE MARK REGISTERED

MARKET REPORTS

TORONTO MARKETS.

Live Stock.

The total receipts of live stock at the city market since Tuesday, as reported by the railways, were 100 car loads, composed of 1,655 cattle, 1,975 hogs, 505 sheep and yearling lambs, and 115 calves.

Prices ranged from 15 to 25c per cwt. lower than on Monday, and from 50c to 50c lower than two weeks ago.

Exporters—A few choice quality export steers sold at $5.20 to $5.25; these same cattle would have brought $5.30 to $5.35, which was the top price of picked steers two weeks ago. T. Halligan bought one load of exporters, gathered up on the market in small lots, at $5.12 1-2 to $5.75.

Butchers—Good butchers and light exporters, at $4.50 to $4.90 per cwt.; fair to medium butchers', $4 to $4.30; light butchers' and good cows, $3.50 to $3.85; common to medium cows, $3.50 to $3.85; light, inferior cows, $2 to $2.85 per cwt.

Feeders and Stockers—Best feeders, 1,000 to 1,100 lbs, each, at $4 to $4.50 per cwt.; best feeders, 900 to 1,000 lbs., each, at $3.60 to $4; best stockers, thin, 700 to 800 lbs. each, at $2.75 to $3; butchers', from $3.50 to $4.50.

Milkers and Springers—About 40 or 50 fresh arrivals of milkers and springers, the bulk of which were of medium quality, with a few good and an odd choice cow, interspersed in the lot, sold from $30 to $56 each, but only one cow at the latter price.

Veal Calves—Prices for the bulk of the veal calves sold at $3 to $6 per cwt., with a very few choice at $6.50 to $7 per cwt.

Sheep and Lambs—Prices for sheep and lambs generally were easier. The best lambs were quoted at $6.50 to $7 per cwt., but there were a very few selected ewes and wethers that sold at $7.25 per cwt.; common rough lambs sold at $5 to $6 per cwt.; export ewes $4.25 to $4.75 per cwt.; rams, at $3 to $4 per cwt.

Hogs—There was a fair delivery of hogs, about 2,000. Mr. Harris quoted prices unchanged at $5.15 for selects, and $4.75 for lights, fed and watered.

Farmers' Market.

Grain receipts very small to-day. The only offerings were 200 bushels of barley, which is lower at 65 to 68c.

Hay in limited offer owing to the bad state of country roads; a few loads sold at $21 a ton. Straw is nominal at $16 a ton.

Dressed hogs in limited offer, with prices steady. Light sold at $7.25, and heavy at $6.75.

Wheat, white, bush	$ 0 96	$ 0 00
Do., red, bush	0 96	0 00
Do., spring, bush	0 93	0 00
Do. goose, bush	0 92	0 00
Oats, bush	0 55	0 00
Barley, bush	0 65	0 68
Rye, bush	0 84	0 00
Peas, bush	0 88	0 00
Hay, timothy, ton	20 00	22 00
Do., clover, ton	16 00	0 00
Straw, per ton	15 00	16 00
Seeds, Alsike, No. 1, bu.	9 50	10 00
Do., No. 2, bu.	8 40	8 75
Do., red clover, bu.	12 50	13 00
Do., timothy, 100 lbs.	7 00	8 50
Dressed hogs	6 75	7 25
Eggs, new laid, dozen	0 29	0 30
Butter, dairy	0 28	0 32
Do., creamery	0 32	0 35
Geese, dressed, lb.	0 10	0 12
Chickens, per lb.	0 14	0 16
Ducks, dressed, lb.	0 12	0 15
Turkeys, per lb.	0 20	0 23
Apples, per bbl.	1 75	3 00
Potatoes, per bag	1 10	1 25
Cabbage, per dozen	0 40	0 50
Onions, per bag	1 30	1 40
Beef, hindquarters	8 50	10 00
Do., forequarters	5 50	6 50
Do., choice, carcase	8 00	9 00
Do., medium, carcase	6 25	7 00
Mutton, per cwt.	8 00	9 00
Veal, prime, per cwt.	9 00	11 00
Lamb, per cwt.	11 00	13 00

Sugar Market.

St. Lawrence sugars are quoted as follows. Granulated, $4.70 in barrels, and No. 1 golden, $4.30 in barrels. These prices are for delivery; car lots 5c less.

Winnipeg Wheat Market.

Following are the closing quotations on Winnipeg grain futures to-day:

Wheat—March $1.09 bid, May $1.11⅛ bid, July $1.13½ bid.

Oats—March 46c, May 49½c.

New York Sugar Market.

Sugar, raw, firm; fair refining, 3.55c; centrifugal, 96 test, 4.05; molasses sugar, 3.30c; refined, steady.

British Cattle Markets.

London.—London cables are steady at 10½c to 13c per pound, dressed weight; refrigerator beef is quoted at 9c to 9½c per lb.

Bradstreet's Trade Review.

Montreal—There continues to be shown forth some improvement in the tone of wholesale trade here. Retail business is still on the quiet side and in many directions collections are slow. The number of unemployed is still large, although in many lines men are being called back to work.

Toronto—There has been a better tone to trade here during the past week. Wholesale lines of spring goods are moving more briskly. This has been particularly noticeable in drygoods. Goods are going forward well, there being less difficulty in this connection than was the case last year. The millinery openings have been largely attended and orders have been good.

Winnipeg—Out of town orders are keeping the wholesale busy and all goods for the spring trade are going forward rapidly.

Vancouver and Victoria—The volume of business all along the coast is now fairly active.

Quebec—Considerable snow has fallen in country parts during the week, as a result, roads in some instances are bad, travellers' movements are retarded and orders are behind.

Hamilton—There continues to be a fairly good tone to all lines of business here, although the volume of trade does not compare with that of this time last year. Retail trade is quiet and while the wholesale movement is rather brisker than a week ago, collections are only fair.

London—Bad roads through the country have affected trade here to some extent, but during the latter part of the week these conditions improved and a better tone was felt in wholesale circles.

Ottawa—General trade is fairly steady, although there has been little increase in the general volume.

ACCEPT CHALLENGE.

LORDS HAVE TAKEN UP THE GOVERNMENT'S GAGE.

London, March 16.—Undismayed by threats of penalties to follow the second rejection of the Government's Scottish small holdings bill, the House of Lords this evening, after a debate which lasted for two days, refused by a vote of 153 to 33 to give the measure a second reading.

The Scottish clans have not risen in support of the bill since it was rejected by the House of Lords at the last session. During the recess the Ministerial spokesman threatened freely that if the upper House again threw out the measure the Government would promptly introduce the necessary legislation to restrict the power of the hereditary chamber. Since these threats were made, however, there have been a number of by-elections disastrous to the Government, and considerable difference of opinion has developed among the rank and file. As a result of these circumstances the silence of the Ministers today on this subject leads to the belief that the Cabinet is not yet prepared to inaugurate its threatened active campaign against the House of Lords.

LOCAL OPTION CAMPAIGN.

Widespread Veto Movement in Progress in Manitoba.

Winnipeg, March 16.—Reports from rural districts indicate a greatly increased interest in the veto movement, and upwards of seventy municipalities are now in the lists preparing petitions for a vote, while there are prospects of seven or eight more. The campaign will be managed in a systematic manner with simultaneous action throughout by the Royal Templars of Temperance Executive of the whole Province.

All the petitions will be filed with the municipal Councils in September, and all the votng will take place on the municipal election day in December. In many municipalities petitions will be signed by from 80 to 90 per cent. of the electors, the latter fgure having already been reached in one municipality.

As the latter part of the season is often unfavorable for campaigning, the period between seeding and harvest will be made use of for public meetings, outdoor picnics and the distribution of literature.

MEANS SLUMP IN DIAMONDS.

Threatened Break in Combine Has Alarmed the Trade.

London, March 16.—The threatened break in the diamond combination at the expiration of the agreement between the de Beers and Premier Diamond Mining Companies a few days hence, is causing great uneasiness in the trade. Leading diamond dealers affirm that the price of the gems must fall off 50 per cent. if the Premier Company attempts to place its large output on the market. Its mines are now fully developed, and they are capable of supplying a large part of the world's demands in ordinary times.

The Transvaal Government receives 60 per cent. of the proceeds from the mines, and it objects to the curtailing of the supply to the extent the present operations of the diamond syndicate necessitates. Diamond shares continue at a low ebb in the market. The decision of the Premier Company regarding its future policy has not yet been announced.

KIPLING'S TRIP TO CANADA.

He Commences Series of Articles in London Paper.

London, March 16.—Rudyard Kipling opens a series of articles in the Morning Post as a result of his recent trip to Canada. "Our Elder Sister" having intimated that he went to the Dominion to escape the blight of the present Government for a few weeks, he points out that Canada has to deal in the lump with most problems which affect other parts of the Empire separately, but it is tacitly conceded that she takes the lead in the Imperial game. Having seen the goal more than a decade ago, she has been working the ball towards it ever since.

Kipling outlines the conversation between himself and Canadians in mid-Atlantic, wherein it was discussed whether England would "cut the painter," to save the expense, remarking, 'It was an experience to move in the midst of the new continent. If it sounds a little mad, remember the mother country throughout is considered as a lady in violent hysterics."

UNLEAVENED BREAD.

Toronto Jews Object to High Prices or a Monopoly.

Ottawa, March 16.—Mr. Claude Macdonell and Mr. Edmund Bristol were actively engaged yesterday evening trying to straighten out an odd difficulty which threatens the peace of the Jews of Toronto, Montreal, and presumably of other Canadian centres.

The Passover is approaching, and it is obligatory upon all Jews to eat unleavened bread, prepared with certain special precautions and ceremonies. This bread has been allowed to come in free in consideration of the fact that it was made only in New York, but last February the Customs Department had its attention drawn to the fact that the National Matzo and Biscuit Company had been started in Toronto, and unleavened bread was put on the dutiable list. As an unenumerated article it will be charged 20 per cent., and the effect apparently will be to throw the whole Canadian trade into the hands of this firm.

A prominent rabbi of Toronto called up Mr. Macdonnell by telephone yesterday to protest, and the latter and Mr. Bristol discovered that the Department had no option in the matter. It is a case of protecting an infant industry and the home market.

BRIDGE ENGINEER DEFENDS HIMSELF.

THROWS BLAME FOR QUEBEC DISASTER ON MR. COOPER.

Mr. Szlapka Criticised Design of Very Chord Section That Failed—Pointed Out Weakness to Mr. Cooper, and Received Peremptory Order Not to Alter It.

Phoenixville, Pa., March 16.—After reading the official report of the Canadian Government's commission of investigation, Peter L. Szlapka, who, with Theodore Cooper, the eminent bridge engineer of New York, is blamed for the defective design which caused the bridge to fall, consented for the first time to be interviewed. One statement he made is remarkable for the manner in which he holds Mr. Cooper, the consulting engineer, responsible for the bridge's failure, and vindicates himself. According to the statement made by the Phoenixville engineer, and which appears in his sworn testimony, taken by the commission of investigation, he criticised the design of the very chord section that failed, calling the attention of Mr. Cooper to the weakness which Mr. Szlapka saw in it. Mr. Cooper, however, overruled the objection, and the design was accepted by him. Mr. Szlapka said, when asked to comment upon the report:

"The findings of the commission are about what we thought they would be, and we are not surprised at any portion of the report. We have no criticism to make of the commission, who, we believe, did their work faithfully and well.

"You must understand," Mr. Szlapka continued, "that every plan or design worked out in the drawing rooms of the Phoenix Bridge Company was made according to the specifications furnished us by the Quebec Bridge & Railway Company or by Mr. Cooper. Every plan that was drawn was sent to Mr. Cooper in New York, and there either approved or discarded by him as the consulting engineer. Each line paint had to bear his signature before work was begun in the shops."

Mr. Szlapka then stated that when the drawings of the chord sections, the failure of one of which caused the bridge to collapse, were made under his direction in the local drawing rooms, he did not have entire faith in them. The designs of these chord sections were made according to the specifications furnished by Mr. Cooper, and when they were completed they were sent to him for approval.

They came back with the consulting engineer's "O.K." on them, but still Mr. Szlapka was not satisfied, and returned them with a criticism of them, in which he called attention to what he thought was an element of weakness. Mr. Cooper's reply was, "They are all right. Don't alter."

Illustrating his position, Mr. Szlapka said: "There is a patient seriously ill. The family physician is instructed to call in an eminent specialist. This specialist sees the patient once or twice and gives the family physician orders which he is to carry out. These instructions are carefully followed and the patient dies. Who is to blame? The position of Mr. Cooper and myself I consider exactly similar. He is the eminent specialist, I am the family physician."

Mr. Szlapka is firm in his belief that a bridge of the design of the one that fell can be built across the St. Lawrence River at Quebec, and that his company can do it. He said: "It is not impossible to build a bridge of the cantilever plan 1,800 feet long, or much longer, and the Phoenix Bridge Co. can do it. We are better equipped to build such a bridge than any other bridge-building concern, for the reason that we have been working on it for a dozen years, and the collapse of the first bridge is a valuable, though very sad, experience to us. It has led to the discovery of a method of testing bridge members which was used here for the first time in the history of bridge engineering. We can build it if we are let alone."

PROTECTION OF SCHOOLS.

Montreal Society to Petition for Law Requiring Fire Escapes.

Montreal, March 16.—The Society for the Protection of Women and Children this morning took up the fight for better protection of the schools of Montreal against fire and adopted resolutions providing for petitioning the Provincial Legislature for the passage of laws compelling the authorities to properly equip all school buildings with outside fire escapes.

These fire escapes, it is proposed, shall consist of outside iron galleries on every floor above the first, running completely around the building, wherever possible, and that such galleries have one or more staircases from one to the other on each side of the building. The width of the galleries, slope and width of staircases and height of steps to be regulated by act.

A bill is to be introduced at the present session of the Legislature embodying these recommendations.

A SECOND ORCHARD CASE.

Binghamton Man Charged With Using Dynamite.

Binghamton, N. Y., March 16.—What promises to equal the Harry Orchard case from a labor point of view was called in court here to-day in the trial of an indictment found against Louis Eastman, charged with dynamiting street cars during the late street car strike here. Eastman was arrested by a Pinkerton detective and two local officers, and charged with placing dynamite on the tracks. The prosecution will endeavor to show the act was authorized by labor agitators.

The defence will allege conspiracy to break up the unions, in which Pinkertons were engaged to assist, and, it is charged, arranged the plot for this purpose. The National Board of Street Car Employees' Association is interested in the defence.

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