

Sunday School Lesson

March 11. Lesson XI.—Jesus Feeds the Multitude.—Mark 6: 31-44. Golden Text.—I am the bread of life: he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth in me shall never thirst.—Mark 6: 35.

I. JESUS' COMPASSION ON THE MULTITUDE, 31-34.

II. THE GREAT SACRAMENT IN THE WILDERNESS, 35-41.

INTRODUCTION.—The feeding of the multitude marks the culminating point in the Galilean ministry of Jesus. It took place at the moment when Jesus was leaving Galilee and setting his face steadfastly towards Jerusalem. It had a solemn symbolic significance, must be understood by us in the light of that significance. Otherwise we have only the story of a marvel, not the revelation of a great divine mystery. The truth which Jesus wished to impress for ever on the hearts of the Galileans was that God would yet set up his kingdom. The feast in the wilderness was clearly intended to point forward to the feast in the Messiah's kingdom.

I. JESUS' COMPASSION ON THE MULTITUDE, 31-34.

V. 31. The words of Jesus to the disciples, "Come ye, yourselves, apart into a desert place, and rest awhile," were spoken at the moment of their return from their mission to the cities of Israel. The disciples came back flushed and excited as the result of their labors, and Jesus saw that they needed to have their minds composed. He, too, was weary, and—though the disciples did not yet know this—he knew that his days in Galilee were numbered. So he proposed to them this quiet retreat beyond the Lake. His desire was rest, rest for his disciples, and rest for himself. We shall see presently that this hope was not to be fulfilled. Meantime it may be of interest to observe that in the judgment of some modern scholars the words of Jesus here given have been handed down to us in another form in the great passages Matt. 11:28-30; "Come unto me, all ye who labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart," etc.

Vs. 32, 33. The plan of Jesus was quietly carried out. But the unexpected happened. A multitude of Galileans, who had followed Jesus from place to place, noticing his departure, and suspecting that perhaps they would seek him no more, hurried on foot round the lakeshore to the opposite side—a journey of several miles—and reached the landing-stage before Jesus and his disciples, who were cruising on the lake, arrived. It is a strange and affecting proof of the power of Jesus over their spirits that on this occasion they could not let him go.

Vs. 34. So Jesus instead of rest, found labor. When he saw the multitude on the shore, instead of feeling disappointment as he might well have done, he "was moved with compassion towards them, because they were as sheep not having a shepherd." The thought of leaving that great multitude, blind and ignorant and aimless as so many of them were, without spiritual provision for their needs, went to the heart of Jesus, and we read that once again "he began to teach them many things." Our Lord was always patient, always hopeful, always willing to spend and to be spent in his Father's service.

II. THE GREAT SACRAMENT IN THE WILDERNESS, 35-41.

Vs. 35, 36. Jesus spent the whole day in teaching, and the approach of evening found the multitude still hanging on his words. At this stage the disciples intervened. They were anxious as to what would happen if night overtook the people in that solitary place. They suggested the dismissing of the people to the nearest farms and villages that they might procure food.

Vs. 37, 38. Jesus answer is for ever memorable. "Give them food yourselves," he said. The disciples did not understand the Master's thought, and began to point out all kinds of difficulties. It would cost more than two hundred denarii, that is, more than fifty dollars, they said, to procure enough food to go round. Jesus answer was: "How many loaves have you on hand? Go and see."

Vs. 39-41. Then came the great sacrament in the wilderness. At Jesus' command the people were made to sit on the grass in orderly groups, resembling flower-pots in gardens. Jesus takes the slender provision which they had, the five loaves and the two fishes,

and begins with symbolic actions which are minutely described (1) He gives thanks for the loaves (2) he solemnly breaks them, and hands the pieces to the disciples that they may divide them to the people. Nothing is said about a miraculous multiplication of the loaves, though something of the kind is undoubtedly suggested by what follows. The physical significance of the event is subordinated to the spiritual. In view of this circumstance we ought to think of the whole proceeding, not after the analogy of a secular or real meal, but as resembling rather a Communion Service. The bread represents something beyond itself. What is that something? We may very properly say that it was the feast in the coming kingdom of God. Jesus was giving his followers a last, solemn assurance that God meant to redeem his people. Though he was himself going away from his Galilean followers, God would not fail them. They would yet inherit the kingdom, of which the feast in the wilderness was but the foretaste or sign.



A NEW DAYTIME FROCK

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Collection Hat Reveals Spread of "Copperitis"

Taunton, Eng.—Caustic comments on growing "copperitis" of church collections in his church are made by the Rev. R. Lowman Lang, vicar of Holy Trinity, in a letter to parishioners.

He says under cover of secrecy of a hat people contribute a copper, and on January 1 there was no fewer than 240 halfpennies in the collection.

"I am not writing," he says, "in a bad temper, but am trying to kindle some glimmer of conscience in those who are fairly well-to-do people but who give halfpennies instead of six-penny bits. This 'copperitis' seems to be infectious, for it is certainly spreading."

La Fontaine was proverbially absent-minded. When he was to make a ceremonial presentation of his "Fables" to Louis XIV, he discovered, after delivering a very fine address, that he had forgotten to bring the book.

Farm Notes

Screenings Classified.

Screenings is a by-product of the grain industry and is now available commercially to Canadian stockmen. It consists of broken and shrunken grains, weed seeds, including wild buckwheat and wild oats, chaff, etc., removed from the grain delivered to the terminal elevators and constitutes about 1½ to 2½ per cent. of the total grain received. This by-product is re-cleaned and classified into re-cleaned elevator screenings, oat scalplings, and refuse screenings, a classification which although still unofficial, is recognized by the Grain Inspection Department and complied with by most of the elevators. A new Dominion Department of Agriculture pamphlet on Screenings as a Feed for Live Stock gives the composition of the grades. By far the most important grade is the one named re-cleaned elevator screenings. It contains about 50 to 70 per cent. of wild buckwheat, 20 to 40 per cent. of broken or shrunken wheat, some wild oats, and not over 3 per cent. of small weed seeds. When finely ground it has been proved by experiment to be a very valuable feed for growing and fattening pigs and for fattening steers. The second grade, oat scalplings, contains about 75 per cent. of wild oats, 15 per cent. of domestic oats, a small percentage of barley and an occasional wheat kernel. It has a feeding value distinctly inferior to that of re-cleaned elevator screenings. The third grade, refuse screenings, consists of small weed seeds, chaff and the dust and dirt accumulating from re-cleaning. It has been found to be of little or no feeding value in the rations of swine. Besides these three grades, a fourth grade, called elevator screenings, is used. It includes any screenings not falling into the first three classifications, provided the required minimum percentage of wild buckwheat and wild oats are put into this class. The pamphlet, which gives an account of the Experimental Farms experiments to ascertain the feeding value of the different grades of screenings, may be obtained from the Publications Branch, Department of Agriculture, Ottawa.

Roots As a Feed For Horses.

Roots are a valuable feed for horses under many conditions. For instance, they are good for horses doing moderate farm work during the winter. Two or three turnips or a few carrots thrown into the manger when the horse comes in at night will be greatly relished. Turnips or carrots are more acceptable to horses than mangels, and they should be given whole. According to a new bulletin of the Dominion Department of Agriculture on Growing and Feeding Field Roots, the merits of roots as a feed for horses may be summed up as follows: They increase palatability, increase the digestibility of coarse fodders, benefit the teeth and gums, form a splendid tonic, and cheapen the ration.

Roots in Horse Rations.

Idle horses during the winter season receive benefit from roots as a part of the ration. Feeding tests at some of the Experimental Farms indicate that a very good maintenance ration consists of one pound of clean cut straw, and one pound of turnips for every one hundred pounds of the horse's weight. This constitutes a day's ration. Carrots are even better than turnips because they are more relished by the horses. During a 150-day period from November 1st to March 31st, six work horses kept on this feed gained in weight an average of 28 pounds. During the first two weeks of the test the ration that had been used while the horses were working was gradually reduced to the winter quantities. With the approach of spring the last two weeks were used to build up the ration to a normal working diet. Bulletin 94 of the Department of Agriculture at Ottawa, "Growing and Feeding Field Roots," deals very thoroughly with the subject indicated in the title. The report states that for brood mares there is no better adjunct to the ration than roots, the succulent tonic and laxative properties are then of peculiar value as is the ease of digestibility.

Roots For Sheep.

A moderate ration of roots, particularly sweed turnips, are of great benefit to breeding ewes an dthe lambs



PROUD AND CROWS ABOUT IT The prize-winning Barred Plymouth Rock cock who represented Bermuda at World's Poultry Congress.

will benefit accordingly. In a new bulletin of the Dominion Department of Agriculture on Growing and Feeding Field Roots it is pointed out that since for sheep, roots are mainly useful as a source of succulence, a relatively small quantity is sufficient. Occasionally as much as 4 pounds per head per day may be profitably fed, but 1½ to 2½ pounds of roots are sufficient when feeding, say, 1½ to 2 pounds of hay. Mangels are not as safe a feed for sheep as turnips. Carrots may be used but they are more difficult to grow than turnips.

The Cost of Raising Dairy Calves.

The cost of raising calves from birth to one year old or over varies, of course, with the quantity and quality of feed given and the prices paid for the feeds. Nevertheless the record, kept at the Dominion Experimental Station at Ste. Anne de la Focatiere, of the cost of raising young cattle should be of interest. The station has kept accurate records of the cost of raising a number of dairy heifers from birth to one year of age and to date of first calving and of bull calves to one year of age. All the calves were pure bred of high milk production ancestry. They were fed correctly and plentifully with the aim of developing them into high class dairy cattle. As calves they were fed the necessary quantities of whole and skim milk and later the rations consisted of hay, silage, meal and roots, and the animals were on pasture in the summer. The average cost of the feed, including pasture, for a heifer up to one year of age was \$9.50, and to date of first calving \$58.57. The average cost of feed for the bull calves from birth to one year of age was \$39.64.—Issued by the Director of Publicity, Dominion Department of Agriculture, Ottawa.

Quest for Gold is Expensive

"Though there is now about \$9,000,000 worth of gold in the possession of man, it is generally accepted as a fact that the gold that has been taken out of the earth is not worth what has been spent in its pursuit," writes William A. Du Pu, currency expert of the United States Bureau of Efficiency, in February "Current History." "Many men have spent lifetimes in the hunt for gold and have never found it. Innumerable shafts have been run into lonesome mountainsides that have never encountered a drop of dirt. He who wanders among the solitudes of the Rockies, for example, is quite likely to encounter the scars on the hillsides left by prospectors who have worked claims that never produced. The occasional claim has proved to be a bonanza. The occasional strip of sand has yielded its yellow dust most profitably for a time. On the whole, however, more has been spent in the quest for gold than was ever realized from it." Necessity apportions impartially to high and low alike.—Horace.

FLOWERS and VEGETABLES No. 4

Starting a Garden

Too often one sees a garden fade after a few years. Sometimes the soil gives out, or it may be the gardener's enthusiasm, or perhaps the plants become so crowded together that the whole thing reverts to a wild, jumbled state with little or no bloom. Choice flowers are often crowded out by vigorous growers whose only excuse for existence at all is to act as a limited background to show off their more richly colored neighbors. A good plan and thorough preparation in the first place would probably have prevented these failures. Whether it is intended to grow flowers, fruits or vegetables, the ground should be plowed or spaded. In the case of flower beds it is best to go down a couple of feet. Work in plenty of rotted manure. If the soil is stiff clay straw manure should be used. The top soil should be raked fine and after the growth starts a little nitrate of soda should be worked in to hasten things along. Walks may be made with gravel or sod, or ordinary soil packed hard. If gravel is used, dig out at least six inches of soil before filling in the small stones. Decide where your flower garden is to end, and the vegetables start, and divide with a hedge of tall bushy flowers.

Garden Paths.

Paths add much to the attractiveness of any flower garden or lawn. If a supply of limestone is plentiful and cheap, a pleasing effect may be produced by paving crazy style or in regular fashion. Simply dig out sod or soil the same size and exact depth of your stone and plant irregularly. If this is done carefully the lawn mower will run right over and no trimming will be necessary. The central path of the garden should be in line with the centre of the back porch or with a window commanding the view if the porch is so placed that it is impracticable as an axis. To round off have the path lead up to a rose covered garden seat or archway through the flower garden into the vegetable patch. If there is room, the main path may encircle a garden pool in which water plants are growing, or if this is too elaborate, a bird bath or sun dial may be used for similar effect.

Vegetable Rotation Crops.

Even in the smallest garden it is well to rotate your vegetables throughout the patch each year. In other words, do not grow the tomatoes this season where they were planted last year. Of course, it will be necessary to save the garden plans from year to year, but this should be done anyway. It is a good plan to have leguminous crops such as peas, and beans, which add fertilizer to the soil, follow such gross feeders as corn, and the root crops. In planting vegetables in a large garden, put in a few extra early rows on the chance that they will escape frost, and produce a crop two or three weeks ahead of average, but save the bulk of the seed until the time specified in the seed catalogue. Have a sufficient supply also to replant any rows which may have been ruined by flood or frost or even by some small though energetic young gardener who may have dug them up by mistake.

Don't be afraid to start sowing seed with the snow still on the ground. Grass seed, annual larkspur, poppies and bachelor buttons, or cornflowers will take care of themselves if sown at almost any time now.

Do not neglect to label each row or clump as planted. It may take a little longer to use stakes and string in laying out the vegetable garden, but straight rows are not only more pleasing to the eye but also more economical of space than those which jog all over the place.

It is not possible to get your sweet peas in in the very near future, it is best to start them indoors in pots or boxes.

The word we had not sense to say—Who knows how gladly it had rung?—Edward Rowland Hill.

Manitoba Award Revives Old Alaska Dispute

Success of Dominion in Getting Lake of Woods Acquire Brings Demand for Resurveying of Boundary

Outlet to Sea Is Sought

Within a month Canada will have increased its territory by two and a half acres at the expense of the United States. In a long series of boundary negotiations, ever since 1783, Canada has lost territory every time a treaty was signed with the States until the present one which adjusts a century-old surveyor's error. Manitoba gains something more than 1,900 square yards, and a bill to extend its borders is now before the Legislature. The United States has handed over the territory of its own free will and without price.

As if encouraged by the success in Manitoba, a resolution has been introduced in the British Columbia Legislature asking the Dominion to reopen negotiations with Washington for a satisfactory settlement of the Alaska panhandle boundary. Bottled up by the award which gave the entire coast line of northern British Columbia to the States, that part of the coast province and the Yukon feels the time has come to seek an adjustment—in other words a secession—which, the resolution claims, would be to the mutual advantage of the Dominion and the United States. Some supporters in British Columbia are even willing to offer a little cash to make Uncle Sam feel better about parting with property which all Canada has long felt was wrongly awarded.

Alaska Award Irksome.

Of all the boundary awards the Alaska one was the sorest of the Dominion. Many more square miles of territory to which Canada had a claim was given to the States in earlier treaties. The Alaskan settlement was the most recent and perhaps the most glaring example of Canada being sacrificed on the altar of Anglo-American friendship. The feeling in 1903 was not aimed against the States but against Britain. The action of the British Chief Justice, Lord Alverstone, whose swing to the United States' side after telling the Canadian members that he would vote the other way, gave to the United States all that they asked, was the target of a storm of protest, vigorous, widespread and sustained beyond anything in the country's annals. For the first time in Canada there was serious talk of secession; independence was hailed as less dangerous than imperial connection.

All the other boundary treaties were recalled, as they are being recalled again in Canada now that the vexed question has been raised once more. The Ashburton treaty made direct connection between Ontario and the maritime provinces and turned over to the States territory claimed by Canada equal to more than the whole area of Massachusetts. The Oregon treaty brought the States north of the forty-ninth parallel and lost to Canada hundreds of square miles on the Pacific Coast.

Canada Called Victim.

"By the Ashburton treaty," wrote Lieutenant-Colonel Coffin in a history of boundary disputes in 1876, "he gave up one-half of the territory in dispute, but by the next—the Oregon treaty—we gave up the whole. In both cases Canada, like an animal doomed to vivisection for the benefit of science, has been operated upon unsparringly for the good of the empire. Diplomatic doctors, in constantly recurring succession, have given her up and given her over. She has been the victim of an endless exhibition of treaties, applied allopathically, and then, by force of counter-irritation, has been treated right up to death."

It is a story commonly told that Oregon was lost to Canada because a British admiral found the fishing pier in Oregon and wrote home that the country was good for nothing, and even the salmon would not bite. The Manitoba boundary, now being adjusted, was fixed in the original border settlement of 1783. By a queer mistake a little pocket of land on the north shore of the Lake of the Woods was left to the States. Hence arose the saying, which in another month will no longer be true, that Uncle Sam owned a farm in Canada.

How Mistake Was Made.

The mistake which gave the little pocket to the States presented to Canada a huge area that included a large part of the Mississippi Valley. But the States kept the pocket and the Mississippi Valley as well. American diplomats quickly discovered the error at one end of the line and the British negotiators let it go with a wave of the hand.—It didn't matter, it was just a wilderness.

The whole trouble came from the attempt to fix the boundary along the forty-ninth parallel of latitude from the north-west angle of the Lake of the Woods to the Mississippi River, and hence down the river. Nothing possibly could have been more simple had it not been discovered that, whether at one end or the other, the forty-ninth parallel be induced to the pocket the north-west arm of the Lake of the Woods or the Mississippi River.

Afghan Ruler Invites Italian Expert Mission

Move Recalls Disaster of Expedition 2 Years Ago When Engineer was Executed for Love Affair

Generous Terms Offered

Rome.—The visit of King Afghani to Italy may result in an active emigration to his kingdom, not of laborers or students, but of electrical engineers, architects, doctors and professors. This will be the second such an expedition has been planned. The first expedition was three years ago, when at the suggestion of the same king a group of fifty Italian engineers, architects, doctors and nurses was sent to Kabul, the capital of Afghanistan.

It ended rather disastrously, the offer seemed very generous. King Amanullah undertook to defray the expenses of the journey, members of the commercial party was to civilize and develop the country. Many young men and women were attracted by the opportunity to make their names.

The mission came to an end through an adventure of one of the members, an engineer, with a ghan woman. He was arrested, attacking the family, and was sent to prison. He was later released, but a diplomatic note could arrange for his extradition to Italy.

A forty-eight-hour ultimatum sent by Italy to Afghanistan, was paid as an indemnity to an government. The Italian consul in Kabul against foreigners, a mission was forced to leave, with the exception of four men who were under the direct protection of the king.

The new offer made by the king during his visit is generous, traveling expenses, no limit, salaries of \$500 a month, and insurance.

In spite of past experience, the king is being besieged by offers attracted by the salaries, recruiting officers, a member of the first mission, is quite frank about hard work which they will be upon to do.

At present in Kabul, besides Germans and ten Frenchmen, fessions and trades, Italians bound to make good if they do the laws and customs of the country and the whims of its rulers. The king is very much interested in a native cloth factory which turns out only one kind of an inferior quality, which is seldom used. In order to encourage home industry, King Aman insists on all his friends put the factory. His method in recruiting is original. When he receives any one in audience, he sits on a chair a pair of scissors which he holds carefully in his while he talks.

The knowing ones sit off the newcomers one after another. King leans forward and cuts a lapel of the visitor's coat. Of course, necessitates purchase new suit, and often the only is a suit of native material.

Afghanistan needs architects, engineers, and doctors as, though Afghan gentlemen can read and write, owing to the lack of higher education, the noblemen and wealthy men beyond the rule of three, writing and arithmetic.

British Uniforms Costly

Some idea of what it costs a member of a crack British regiment to be gathered from the pocket of the Army Clothing Department. Starting with the cap, the cap worn by the band of the Engineers and the Footguards \$25 each, while the white mess kits of the Household Cavalry \$45. It is estimated that 1,500 of metal ribbon is annually used by the crack regiments and the obtained from the Clothing at 83 cents a yard, which is cents above the usual market at \$15 a yard.

The State clothing of the hold Cavalry and Sergeants of the Footguards include which cost \$25 and \$20 respectively. The red cloaks of wet weather by the Household Cavalry are letted at \$55 each, as so the State cloaks of Sergeants in the Footguards. The wardrobe of a Sergeant of the State occasions foot up to \$50.

The white leather pantaloons so conspicuously set off the plates of the Household Cavalry listed at \$72 a pair, while the of the Sergeant Drummers Footguards are down at \$45.

French Hunt Truth of

Paris.—Who started the going to be settled, at last, to satisfaction of France, anyway, dozen of France's most eminent, historians and strategic been appointed by the gov to dig up all necessary documents to give the world the truth about how it all happened.

MUTT AND JEFF—Bud Fisher.



Jeff's Royalties Won't Buy a Breakfast for a Canary.