

Sunday School Lesson

January 31. Lesson V—Jesus Feeds the Multitude—John 6: 1-13, 48-51. Golden Text: Jesus said unto them, I am the bread of life; he that cometh to me shall not hunger; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst.—John 6: 35.

ANALYSIS.
I. SYMPATHY WITH HUMAN NEED, 6: 1-6.
II. GOD AND MAN WORKING TOGETHER, 6: 7-13.
III. THE SOUL'S "BILL OF FARE," 6: 22-71.

INTRODUCTION.—John introduces the story of the Feeding of the Five Thousand in order to illustrate the discourse on "Christ, the Bread of Life." With the accounts in the other Gospels before him, he selects and modifies to suit his purpose. His Gospel is concerned, not so much with facts, as with the interpretation of the facts. Like the other miracles in this Gospel, the one recorded here is largely symbolical. But whether one takes it as the account of a miracle which actually took place, or explains it naturalistically, the spiritual meaning is the same. The naturalistic explanation is that Jesus brought order out of confusion by arranging the people in groups, by suggesting to them, at his own example and that of his disciples to share such supplies as they might have in their lunch baskets (Jews always carried lunch baskets with them, in order to avoid the necessity of using "unclean" food on their journey). The generosity of Jesus and his disciples so stimulated the generosity of those who had more food than they needed that the needs of all were more than met. Whether we take it as fact or as symbol—and John evidently takes it as fact—the spiritual meaning is the same.

I. SYMPATHY WITH HUMAN NEED, 6: 1-6.

Jesus and his company had gone away for a few hours rest. The rest was denied him. The crowds came with their vulgar curiosity—it was nothing better, v. 2. There was no trace of impatience as he saw the prospects of his quiet afternoon disappear. It was with love and understanding that he turned to them. They would soon be hungry, he thought, and he began at once to prepare for their needs.

He accepted responsibility for the welfare of others.
So Christ, says John, anticipates human need. He thinks of everything. "Had I thought of it, I should have been glad to do it for him." The one who does not think of doing that kind deed until he saw another doing it. Christ-like people "think" in time.

II. GOD AND MAN WORKING TOGETHER, 6: 7-13.

There may have been a touch of humor behind the question to Philip, v. 5. Philip lived by faith rather than by faith. He believed what he could see. If he could work it out on paper, he would believe it possible. His calculations (v. 7) left out the chief factor—himself. The small boy with his "big" lunch (v. 9) is the only possibility that comes to Andrew's mind. "But what are these among so many?" Many a worthwhile achievement has been frustrated by the "but" of timidity. Christ can produce mighty results from the slenderest possible means.

So it happened here. Undreamed-of resources became immediately available. Twelve baskets of food were left over, v. 13. The baskets would be the "traveling wallets" already referred to. If we give our best in Christ's service, he that best what it may, we shall discover that we have gifts and powers and strength which grow as we use them.

III. THE SOUL'S "BILL OF FARE," 6: 22-71.

The day following (v. 22) the people—who found him in Capernaum (v. 24) and who understood "the meat which abideth unto eternal life" (v. 27) to mean some details of external conduct which would win merit for them, asked Jesus, "What must we do that we may work the works of God?" In reply he called upon them for faith in himself as God's ambassador, v. 29. They then asked for a "sign." There was a prevailing belief that the Messiah would feed God's people with bread from heaven, as Moses had done, Exod. 16: 4, 15. The bread which Jesus had given them yesterday was only earthly food. Jesus replied, "I am the bread of life," v. 33. He had been leading up to this declaration. He reasserted it in vs. 48, 51, 58.

In spite of their unbelief (v. 36)

Crown Prince of Sweden



Crown Prince Gustaf Adolf of Sweden broadcasting the Season's greetings to the people of the nation.

Jesus was confident that God's purpose in sending him into the world would be accomplished. "All those (and only those) will come to me who are the Father's gift to me," v. 21. That is, it is only a divinely inspired impulse which can turn to Christ those "who come to him." The one who has the responsive will (the individual will plays its essential part in "election") and acts upon the divine impulse, and comes to him will be sure of a welcome, v. 37.

In v. 51 the thought passes from what Christ is to what he gives. In his incarnation and in his sacrifice on the cross he is bringing life to all men. The reference to his death is clear in vs. 53-56 where "blood" implies a violent death. This whole incident is best understood as we remember that at this time Jesus knew himself to be a marked man. Herod Antipas, who had put John the Baptist to death, was probably preparing the same fate for him. We have here, probably, the reflections of John, written after the event. Such advanced teaching as we have here would be beyond the understanding of uneducated Galileans. It is a discourse based probably upon scattered utterances of Jesus preserved by his disciples and understood long after.

The central teaching is that Christ provides real nourishment (symbolized by the common barley bread) for the human soul as contrasted with the unreal food for which men so often strive. As bread never falls upon the appetite, so the one who lives the simple, wholesome, serviceable life of Christ never becomes satisfied, bored. Life is too interesting, and too useful.

The Weed-Killer "Special"

Weeds are the railwayman's enemy as well as the gardener's. If left alone they would choke the permanent way as effectively as, in the circumstances, they would do to our flower-beds and gravel paths.

But, of course, they aren't left alone, though weeding by hand is apt to prove both laborious and costly.

Now, however, a new way of doing this job has been discovered. The Southern Railway in England has made a special weed-killing train by coupling two old tenders together and fitting them with spray pipes and tanks.

A special form of liquid weed-killer is used, and the spray pipes have an effective range of about ten feet.—London "Answers".

Children's Books In Soviet Russia

By Ernestine Evans, Associate Editor for J. E. Lippincott Co., and frequent visitor to Russia, in Asia (Nov. 31).

Whoever saw the international exhibition of fine books in Paris last summer must have remarked how the visitors swarmed about the Russian exhibit. Here was a whole regiment of paper-bound picture tales and printers with one aim only, to educate a vast public—young people reading for the first time and old people also learning to read for the first time—in a completely new system of life. Into the books had gone drawings, in black and white and in color, by many distinguished artists; the type was sometimes beautiful and was always used with a freedom and a dash, a knowledge of, without servile respect for, all that bookmen and advertisers now know about the display of letters on a page. No wonder the visitors swarmed.

And no wonder the news stands in Russia look like book fairs. Books are everywhere in Russia. Children's books, in bright red and blue inks and in subtler mauves and purples that show the effect of Chinese painting on the artists of the Soviet Union, are important. They smile beside the samovar in railway stations; they garnish the windows of new bookshops in villages where half the population has learned to read at all only within the past ten years.

What you do not see in Russia are any expensive books. Not one. The Soviet Union is designing libraries for masses, and masses are poor. The Russians think of books as carriers, educators, things of use and illumination, but hardly as property. They are content to make paper books that are read and read and thrown away.

Whereas in America two dollars is an average price and \$500 the average edition, more and more the Russians try out all their children's books in editions of 22,000; and miracles of color printing can be worked for ten cents when the big edition distributes the load of initial cost. Even ten cents is considered too high to make books available to everybody, and the news stands of the Ukraine in particular carry hundreds of little five-cent books, expositions of fact and news stories simply and graphically told of life in the new Russia of today.

The Soviet Union is a world in itself, a league of many tribes and nations that are being linked by Soviet structure—and books are often translated into 20 or more languages (pictures, happily, need not be translated; they are understood in Babel). It is politically significant for the rest of the world that the Russian government is now welding a national sense throughout the land by such simple means as tales of the life of children in all the far corners of the Union. Books are also being used to develop a sense of responsibility for and common cause with the millions of China, India and Africa. There are many series of books on what we in the West would call the brotherhood of man, lively and loving accounts of black and yellow of earth, with short captions and an and brown people, all the "exploited" occasional jibe at the white overlords, but on the whole lovely pictures of little children and their mothers, of the day's work of grain-sowing and harvesting, bread-making, ships and carriages and houses. So the average Russian child grows up knowing a great deal about his own country and about Africa and Asia as well.

The present Soviet idea is to initiate the child, almost from the kindergarten, into a sense of social organization and to make all literature in commercial geography at a very early age. Actually, to a Russian child the chances are that a tiger hunt in India exciting to read about, will be no more exciting than the story which tells him every step in the history of the manufacture of cotton cloth.

There is a constant stream of such stories—books that answer questions, books about clocks and time, the story of printing presses, how glass is made, the history of pottery and the story of what makes dynamo go. A whole nation, old and young, is asking how to do things for itself and why this and that are so.

One of my own favorites among Russian children's books deals with the making of newspapers. It is a lively

book printed in red and black, full of pictures of how a reporter gets news, sends it by wire or wireless to the editor who edits and the printers who set and the machines which print. That book has come out in several editions. So much has been written by 100 per cent Communists about the danger of letting the old tales and the old ideology survive that one expects to find the folk stories withering away. But if one year there is a marked frown on the wild Kazbek trails, Railway and the Dnieprostroy Dam, you may be sure that the next year will see the publication of some modern hero tale, of the aviator who rescued Noble, for example, and a new edition of some old Persian folk tale with its salty moral and its swinging cadences. One policy contradicts another and over and over again fact stories of the mountain tribes in the Caucasus become enriched with the time-honored legends told around camp fires on the wild Kazbek trails. Now and again some old story of the man Communist moral that it will come out once more. For example, there is the story of the peasant who went to pull a turnip, but the turnip was so stubborn that it refused to come out of the ground until the peasant had summoned, in turn, his wife, son, daughter, dog, cat, and finally the household mouse to his aid.

Thus, not only the inexpensiveness of Russian books, their color and variety of design, but their special emphases are unique. Elves have given place to cranes, and fairies to electric light bulbs; and in the picture books the astonishment is all for man and his power to remake his environment rather than suffer and bear it. Is it any wonder that travelers to Russia prefer to mail home children's books instead of letters, confident that these are indeed samples of the U. S. S. R.?

Explorer Visualizes Antarctic As Fashionable Resort

Brisbane, Queensland.—The antarctic ablate with light from many hotels, a fashionable resort and the playground of Australia, was the picture drawn by Capt. Frank Hurley, photographer of the Douglas Mawson antarctic expedition.

Capt. Hurley described this futuristic vision in answer to an interviewer who asked of what value would be the large area of land that had been formally taken possession of by the expedition.

With the improved methods of transport, he believed, the antarctic would be within 20 years at the very doors of Australia—the object of week-end tours. The methods of fast upper air travel foreshadowed by the Junkers stratosphere would presumably bring this territory within six or seven hours' flight of Hobart. No longer would people regard the antarctic as a mysterious desolation to be traversed only by supermen under conditions of extreme vigil and hardship; but rather as an alluring playground. The weather there was easier to forecast than in the more tropical regions, and summer in the Ross Sea was similar to the winter at Mt. Kosciusko, one of the best known tourists' resorts in Australia.

Beneath the winter snow and ice, suggested Captain Hurley, there probably existed untapped mineral resources the exploitation of which would enrich the manufacturing world. Captain Hurley who was the official photographer to the Australian Imperial Forces, considered Antarctica one of the most beautiful parts of the world.

Some one is crying, but there is laughter: Some one whistles something old, And some one staggers drunken after So much death and cold. —Edwin Morgan in "The Commonweal".

Mercury Discovery Added to Diamonds

Murfreesboro, Ark.—Pike County, southwest Arkansas, claimed to be the home of the only diamond mine in North America, has a new claim to distinction. Cinnabara (sulphide of mercury), a valuable ore, which is reduced to mercury or quicksilver at a comparatively small expense, has been discovered here.

Oddy, it was a farmer who found the new ore in Pike County, just as John Huddleston, a dirt farmer, found the first diamonds in this section.

"Senator, you promised me a job."
"But there are no jobs."
"I need a job, senator."
"Well, I'll ask for a commission to investigate why there are no jobs and you can get a job on that."

What New York Is Wearing

BY ANNEBELLE WORTHINGTON

Illustrated Dressmaking Lesson Furnished With Every Pattern



Small daughter will be thrilled with this cute jacket dress.

It's the cutest thing to make, and the skirt is just darling in wide box-plait effect. It buttons on to a straight little bodice. The separate jacket has a smart buttoned sleeve. A novelty woolen in navy blue with vivid red plain woolen made the original for school wear.

Wool jersey in brown with vivid yellow is another effective scheme. Tweed like cottons, wool crepe, worsted challis and crepe de chine are also suitable.

Style No. 5479 may be had in sizes 4, 6, 8 and 10 years.

Size 6 requires 1 1/2 yards 54-inch material and 3/4 yard 35-inch contrasting material.

HOW TO ORDER PATTERNS

Write your name and address plainly, giving number and size of such patterns as you want. Enclose 20c in stamps or coin (coin preferred); wrap it carefully for each number, and address your order to Wilson Pattern Service, 73 West Adelaide St., Toronto.

Relief

Now the dim relief has come: Out of the dark we crawl, Haggard and still, and some Are motionless along the wall.

We do not speak a word until We form on a firmer road and dawn Reveals a length of quiet hill And a house farther on.

Beauty

For the beauty of each hour Of the day and of the night, Hill and vale, and tree and flower, Sun and moon, and stars of light: Father, unto Thee we raise This, our sacrifice of praise.

—F. S. Pierpoint.

Hints to Motorists

Evidence of Leaks Traced

Many a motorist who professes complete surprise when he discovers that leakage is responsible for the loss of lubricant from the transmission or differential, has just been ignoring the evidence. The evidence may be scattered all over the floor of the family garage without the car owner having paid any attention to it.

Short Memory Imperils Motor

"Apply a few drops of light oil to the front end of the starting motor every 5,000 miles." That sentence is in many of the instruction books of many cars. But the 5,000-mile intervals being so far apart, the job is more often forgotten than remembered.

Ammeter Becomes a Guide

In adjusting the idling speed of the engine of a free-wheeling car the ammeter may be used as a guide. The carburetor should be so set that the ammeter will register two amperes charge when the engine is running slowly.

Importance of Reflector

The importance of a clean and unmarred headlight reflector will be clear to the average motorist when he realizes that the reflector's job is to increase the natural illumination of the bulb several hundred times.

Knack in Release of Tires

A great many car owners, tire men find, still do not know all the tricks of getting a flat off the wheel. One generally missed really is quite important if it happens to be a heavy tire. That is the trick of pulling the tire free at the bottom—while the valve is at the top—and then rolling the wheel around to allow the valve stem to drop free naturally.

Horn Silence is Explained

The first place to check when the horn refuses to blow is the connections at the horn itself. If they are tight the next point of inspection should be the connections at the ammeter.

Remedy for Roughness

Any noticeable difference in the comfortable riding of the car should remind the motorist that the shock absorbers may be low on oil. Refilling every 5,000 miles is advocated as a minimum of attention, even for the best of them. The warmer the weather the more likely the oil is to evaporate. Just like that of the engine.

When Throttle is at Fault

Maybe the throttle is at fault, not the carburetor idling adjustment, when the engine shows an inclination to stall. The throttle adjustment is easy to increase, easier than to reset the carburetor.

Return to Fruit Culture Urged on Peru's Farmers

Lima, Peru.—A campaign to encourage Peruvian farmers to grow fruits once more and end this country's large annual importation of oranges, apples, bananas and pears from the United States, Ecuador and Chile has been started by the government.

Before the World War, large orchards in the fertile valleys of the Andes kept the country supplied with practically all its needed fruit, at prices affording reasonable profits to the growers. However, when the price of cotton sky-rocketed during the war thousands of fruit trees were torn up to make room for the more profitable crop.

Now that cotton has declined in value from more than 20 cents a pound to around 6 cents, Peruvian farmers again are giving their attention to the planting of orchards. The climate is suitable for the raising of all tropical and many northern varieties of fruit. Plans under consideration include the establishment of several fruit conserving plants which government officials believe will afford a steady year-around market for the growers.

Beauty

For the beauty of each hour Of the day and of the night, Hill and vale, and tree and flower, Sun and moon, and stars of light: Father, unto Thee we raise This, our sacrifice of praise.

—F. S. Pierpoint.

Cows May Give "Vitalized Milk"

If Experiment of American Professor Proves Successful

Madison, Wis. — "Bottled sunlight" may become a reality.

Dr. Harry Steenbock, the University of Wisconsin professor who gave the world a process for irradiating foods to install vitamin content, has taken his experiments into the cow barns and the result is a plan to vitalize milk in its formative stages.

If the experiment works out—and there is every indication it will, authorities said—babies can gurgie happily over their usual bottle of milk, containing the "hidden hunger" element now derived from direct sunlight or from the cod liver oil bottle.

Steenbock several years ago discovered that by treating certain foods with light rays he could enhance vitamin content into foods.

The vitalizing of milk is a development from Steenbock's original discovery. He worked on the theory that if you can change the vitamin action within a food by light, why not feed cows light-treated food and so that they would give milk abundant with transferred vitamins.

A World in Transition

(By Marquess of Lothian, British Under-Secretary for India, in a Broadcast from London on Good Times.)

The world is in the greatest period of transition it has ever known. There are more changes going on in more fields of human belief and interest than ever happened at the same time in any earlier epoch. If our idea of the return of a good time is to get back to the conditions of yesterday we shall certainly be disappointed. There is never again going to be an era of prosperity just like that, for the whole underlying conditions of world business have changed.

We have the advancement of science, based on electricity, radio, the airplane and countless new ideas. All these are breaking down the limitations of time and space and producing ever faster and better communications, ever better machines, ever expanding facilities for news and information, ever new ideas.

On the other hand, of the resisting forces are the social, political and economic habits of the human mind. Amid the tumult and shouting, obstruction and even war from time to time, history shows that the opposition is long and formidable. Is there any doubt which, in the long or in the short run, is the more powerful force of the two? Science and fact will prevail every time over prejudice, ignorance, habits and tradition.

Mankind moves very slowly to the recognition of what is necessary in its own interest. None the less, it seems to me perfectly obvious that the fundamental cause of all our troubles is that we have in a sense moved into a new era in human experience and that both as nations and as individuals we have not realized this truth so as to make it the basis of our thinking and our action and it can only make trouble for all of us so long as we try to maintain it, and that a new world, a united and organized world, is already overdue.

Canadian Wheat

Edinburgh Scotsman (Cons.): With regard to wheat, at the present time about 44 per cent. of our requirements is taken from the Dominions and India, and about 42 per cent. from foreign sources. About 30 per cent. comes from Canada alone. It should be possible for us to increase that percentage, provided that Canada is prepared to give us corresponding advantages for our exports in her markets, and that should not be difficult, especially as since the increase in the American tariff Canadian sentiment has strongly favored buying, wherever possible, from Great Britain instead of from the United States. It is not suggested that we should obtain all our imports of wheat from the Dominions; it is both necessary and desirable in order to maintain our trade with other countries, notably in South America, that a proportion should be taken from these countries. But under an Empire quota system such as is contemplated the proportion coming from the Dominions would tend to increase, while that from foreign sources would correspondingly diminish.

Good Fortune

He that would live happily must neither trust to good fortune nor submit to bad; he must stand upon his guard against all assaults, he must stick to himself without any dependence upon other people.—Seneca.

MUTT AND JEFF—By BUD FISHER



The Great American Slang.