S.S. LESSON

October 18. Paul Writes to the Corinthians, 1 Corinthians 12: 1 to 13: 13. Golden Text — Now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three, but the greatest of these is charity.—1 Cor. 13: 13.

INTRODUCTION—We saw in last lesson the conditions under which the gospel was first preached at Corinth. We now pass on a year or two, and listen in to some great words which the apostle Paul is addressing to Christian Corinth. A church has arisen at Corinth. The gospel has transformed the lives of multitudes, but these Christians are still at the childstage in their understanding of many things. A sort of childish vanity has led them to form themselves into denominational groups centreing round the names of the different Christian teachers who have visited Corinth. Some are saying, 'I hold with Paul," others, "I hold with Apollos," others, "I hold with Cephas." St. Paul writes to rebuke this tendency to attach an undue importance to human teachers, and asks the Corinthians to remember that they are all one in Christ. Later, in the same epistle, Paul tries to answer certain difficulties which had arisen at Corinth in connection with "spiritual gifts." Some of the Corinthian Christians spoke with "tongues," and fancied themselves superior to those who did not. Some were inspired prophets, and looked slightingly upon those who were tongue-tied and silent. Some had a rare faith which enabled them to work miracles, and these had scant patience with others who were not so strikingly endowed. St. Paul saw that the effect of all this was to make some of the Corinthians conceited, and to discourage others, and he writes to put their ideas right. He shows first that the Spirit of God has gifts and functions for all, but that not all should expect to have the same functions or gifts. And then in the great inspired chapter, which forms our lesson for to-day, he shows that the supreme gift, the greatest thing in the world, is Christian love. If a man has not this gift, his other excellences matter little. If he has this, it is a never-failing source of life and blessedness. St. Paul says that it is good to covet earnestly the other gifts of the Spirit, but the supreme ambition of the Christian should be to prefer others in love. Love is "the way superlative," the crowning excellence of a Christian endowment.

I. WITHOUT LOVE OTHER GIFTS ARE VAIN, 1-3.

V. 1. St. Paul is thinking of the showy, sensational gifts to which the Corinthians attached inordinate values. For example, the gift of "tongues," or inspired rapturous utterance. It is a very wonderful gift, of course, yet, as St. Paul says, if the man who speaks this human or superhuman language is proud, and has not the loving spirit of service, his religion is all in the mouth, so to speak. He is only a noisy gong or a clanging instrument of brass.

Vs. 2, 3. In the same way, it serves no purpose to be a prophet or inspired preacher, if the heart is not full of loving good will to men. Nor does it serve any purpose to have spiritual insight, enabling a man to understand "mysteries," that is, the revealed truths of the gospel, if the same man remains proud and self-contained. What even is the use of miracle-working faith, if love is not there to guide and inspire the working? No, says St. Paul, a man may give his property to the poor, or even go as a martyr to the stake, but it all depends on his motive whether his act is of any service. If he acts for show, the value of his sacrifice is nil. Only love, only devotion to the good of others, makes these things of any importance. Thus, St. Paul calls the Corinthians away from attaching excessive importance to the more sensational or outward forms of spiritual life.

II. LOVE ALONE IS ADEQUATE TO THE DEMANDS OF LIFE, 4-7.

Vs. 4-6. St. Paul shows that where Christian love has a place in the hearts, men will not give way to impatience, or jealousy, or conceit, or rudeness, or anything of that kind. Here he is indirectly rebuking those Corinthians who, because they had exceptional gifts like the prophetic tongue or miracle-working faith, looked down on others who lacked them. He shows that, where love is, it does away with contempt, and creates patience, kindness, and ungrudging delight in others' good. It inspires a modest bearing, a courteous disposition, a wide charity, and a never-failing desire to help and to encourage.

V. 7. In fact, love is the one thing which enables men to meet the demands of life. It alone gives the capacity to hear things and say nothing about them; to believe the best of men, to accept rebuffs and insults and never grow weary in well-doing.

III. LOVE, THE GREATEST GIFT, OUTLASTS ALL OTHER GIFTS, 8-13.

V. 8. St. Paul asserts finally that love outlasts all the other gifts of the Spirit. Prophecy and tongues are only for a season. Paul believes that they will pass away with time. Knowledge, too, is quickly superseded. The ideas of to-day are flung on the scrap-heap to-morrow.

Vs. 9-11. The reason is that our knowledge is at best partial. We only understand a fragment of the mystery of things. Men have to outgrow their childish thoughts. The child-mind must give place to the man's mind. But love does not change. For love is God himself, and, therefore, love is the only perfect thing in our present experience.

V. 12. As far as knowledge is concerned, we are like people looking not at the reality of things, but at a reflection in a mirror. Only in the after-life shall we see things as they really are. Meantime, our hearts may be possessed, gripped, apprehended by the love of God.

V. 13. Consequently, St. Paul classes love with faith and hope as the three abiding realities, and he pronounces love the greatest. Love is the greatest thing in the world.

"Start a great big immigration movement into Canada, of people not only willing to work but for whom profitable work can be found, and all the pressing problems that now beset our country will be well on the way to solution."

—*What Everybody Says.*

Fine—let us do so! But to be sure we're on the straight and sure road to our goal, let us begin by doing some clear thinking—some hard thinking—on these two important questions:

1. What class of immigrants do we want? 2. How are we going to attract them?

Valuable Lessons to be Learned from Past Failures.

Heretofore we have always taken it for granted—without much careful thought, perhaps—that it was farmer immigrants we most wanted,—people who would settle on our vacant land in the West, and produce more from the soil.

And complaints being loud and numerous that farming in Canada was not as profitable as it should be, we have tried to convert an unattractive situation into an attractive one by lowering the tariff on manufactured goods, in the hope of thereby lowering farm production costs, and so increasing the farmer's net.

Has that plan gotten us anywhere?

In 1924, despite tariff reductions made ostensibly to benefit agriculture, there were actually fewer farm immigrants than in 1923! And when, against the total immigration for 1923 and 1924, we offset the total emigration from our towns and cities, we find that the country has suffered a net loss!

So, obviously there is something wrong—somewhere—in the plan we have been following,—either in the assumption that it is farmers we most want, or in our method of attracting them. Perhaps it's a combination of the two.

Population Increases Should be Properly Balanced.

In shaping our policy as above, we have certainly overlooked one very important point. Farmers as a rule don't sell to farmers, but to town and city folk. So when we try to increase farm population by methods that operate to decrease town and city population, we are actually making things worse for the very people we are trying to benefit. We are curtailing a domestic market that our farmers can control, and we are increasing their dependence upon an export market over which they have no control!

An Alternative Plan that Promises Better Success.

Let us now go back to the beginning again, and start from the alternative assumption that it's primarily town and city population we want to attract.

Are 63 Countries Wrong and Only Canada Right?

While Canada has been lowering her tariff, these 63 countries have been raising theirs:—

Algeria	Japan
Argentina	Latvia
Australia	Luxembourg
Austria	Madagascar
Belgium	Malta
Bolivia	Mesopotamia
Brazil	Mexico
British East Africa Dependencies	Netherland East Indies
British Guiana	Newfoundland
British Honduras	New Zealand
British West Indies	Nigeria
Bulgaria	Norway
Chile	Paraguay
China	Persia
Colombia	Peru
Czecho-Slovakia	Poland
Ecuador	Portugal
Egypt	Roumania
Esthonia	Russia
Finland	Samoa
France	San Salvador
Repub. of Georgia	Sarawak
Germany	Serb-Croat-Slovene State
Gold Coast Colony	Seychelles
Greece	Sierra Leone
Guatemala	South Africa
Holland	Spain
Honduras	Sweden
India	Switzerland
Irish Free State	Tunis
Italy	United States
	Uruguay

And now even the United Kingdom has begun to protect her home markets.

63 Countries have been making it more difficult for Canada to sell in their markets, while Canada has been making it easier for the whole world to sell in hers!

Have they all blundered? Has Canada alone shown wisdom?

Obviously the way to attract that class is by switching from a policy of lower duties to one of higher duties. The one thing above all others that the immigrant wants is the assurance of a steady job at good wages. Give him that, and he will come in his thousands,—yes, in his tens of thousands! And in a policy of higher tariffs he will have his guarantee that steady work at good wages will be awaiting him.

"Yes," you say, "but what about our farm population? We want it to increase too!" Of course we do! But with town and city population increasing, can farm population do other than increase in proportion? With more customers for farm produce, and with a higher purchasing power per customer due to higher wages, isn't it inevitable that a domestic supply will be forthcoming to meet a domestic demand, particularly if we protect farm products in the same way that we propose to protect manufactured products?

A Precedent That Shows What Can Be Done!

We have tried the plan of lower tariffs, as a means of attracting farmer immigration, and we see that it has signally failed, and we know the reasons why it has failed.

Why not now try the alternative plan of higher tariffs, as a means of attracting urban immigration, when it seems perfectly clear that it must bring farmer immigration in its train?

Even if the latter were mere theory, that would be no valid reason for rejecting it in favor of a policy we have tried, and found to be barren of results.

But we know that it is far beyond the theory stage. The United States offers a practical demonstration of its success! By the plan of higher tariffs, to benefit all classes of population, the United States has managed to attract the biggest and longest sustained immigration movement the world has ever known!

What better example does Canada want?

VOTE CONSERVATIVE

FOR A HIGH TARIFF AND FOR LOWER TAXATION

(Liberal-Conservative Victory Committee, 330 Bay St., Toronto)

SUGGESTIONS FOR SOL

Start out by filling in the sure. These will give you a and they in turn to still other space, words starting at the nu horizontally or vertically or bo

HORIZONTAL

1—One who commands
6—Begin discussion about
11—Cattle
12—Destroy
14—Not to be effaced
16—Small portion of food
19—Portion of tree trunk
20—Upstarts

Co-operating in Marketing Poultry.

In the marketing of poultry co-operatively there is a great opportunity for the farmers of Canada to increase their income from poultry raising. As a result of success already achieved the subject has been taken up and discussed in a large way throughout the country, and the Federal and Provincial Governments are giving every encouragement to this feature of the poultry industry. In a bulletin on the co-operative marketing of poultry products, issued by the Live Stock Branch of the Dominion Dept. of Agriculture, complete details as to how to organize, finance and conduct co-operative associations are given, as well as a great deal of information on the marketing of poultry and eggs in general.

According to the bulletin, which may be obtained free from the Publications Branch, Dept. of Agriculture, Ottawa, great success has been achieved in the co-operative marketing of poultry by those who have assembled ordinarily well fed poultry, taken off the run, to be shipped in specially constructed cars to distant selected markets when the home markets are glutted. In some centres government cullers are sent into the country to

Ontario's Apple Crop.

Ontario may not have what was at first reported a record apple crop in quantity but she has, according to general consensus of opinion, what is better, a superior quality crop. In the Maritimes and in England the yield is reported below the average. Having the advantage in this respect the next thing to be considered is marketing. In this both the Federal and Provincial Governments have promised to assist. In 1920, which was Ontario's record year in quantity for apples, the crop exceeded three and a quarter million barrels. Each year since the total yield has been considerably less than the crop of 1920. However, the quality being superior, housewives may be expected to give the apple extra attention. In this connection, they will find much of interest in a little publication entitled "Canadian Grown Apples" issued by the Dominion Fruit Branch, which can be had free on application to the Publications Branch, Ottawa, and in which nigh to 120 uses are given to which the fruit can be put.

Marketing Eggs Co-Operatively.

Eggs demand the most efficient and rapid handling methods that can be devised and for a number of years strenuous efforts have been made in the direction of improved methods with salutary results. The Federal and Provincial Governments are encouraging co-operative marketing as a solution of the problem. National standards have been devised by which eggs may be graded and standardized and the Co-operative Egg Circles have proved of great assistance in this work and in improving packing methods.

A bulletin issued by the Dominion Live Stock Branch gives detailed information as to how to organize one of these egg circles and how to finance it and carry on its business.

Farmers joining these circles soon see the advantage of keeping good laying strains of hens on account of the better prices obtained for the higher grade of eggs and of the increased production. By cutting down expenses and by catering to the requirements of better markets the egg circles assist the farmer in getting a considerably higher price for his products than he would by doing his own marketing. The egg circles may also link themselves up into large co-operative marketing associations which act as an "egg pool" and stabalize prices by operating storage facilities. The bulletin, which is distributed by the Publications Branch, Dept. of Agriculture, Ottawa, gives detailed information on the marketing of eggs and poultry.

Play Safe.

With the closing in of the days, when many of the chores around the farm will have to be done by artificial light, a great danger of fire arises.

One of the greatest causes of fire around barns, stables and other out buildings is in the use of lanterns, not that the lanterns themselves are dangerous if kept clean. In working about the barn, however, they are so often knocked over. Usually the lantern is set on the floor while the live stock are being fed or other work done, and it either falls over on account of having been carelessly placed or it may be that it will be knocked over, with the result that there is an immediate flare up and a fire spreads among the dry material so quickly that it is beyond control at once.

Fires from lanterns upsetting are the result of pure carelessness, or at least thoughtlessness. The lantern should always be hung up, and hooks or sufficiently long nails provided to hang it wherever its light is needed. There will then be no danger of it upsetting and burning your barns and probably the roof over your head.

To-morrow morning go to the barn and other outbuildings, figure out the places from where you want the light to come, and at once put up hooks or drive in nails for the lantern. You may have planned something else for that time or feel that you are too busy to do this at once, but it may be the greatest money maker you ever undertook. Better be sure than sorry.

A baby's dressing table can be made by hanging a bag of strong material from the frame of an old camp chair. Attach pockets for powder, etc.