Sunday School Lesson

June 16. Lesson XI—Judah Taken Captive—2 Kings 25: 1-12. Golden Text—Righteousness exalteth a nation, but sin is a reproach to any people.—Proverbs 14: 34.

ANALYSIS.

I. THE SIEGE OF JERUSALEM, vs. 1-7.
II. DESTRUCTION OF THE CITY, vs. 5-12.
III. THE VICTORS AND THE SPOIL, vs. 13-21

INTRODUCTION—The tragic story of the siege and capture of Jerusalem, and the carrying away of the captives and the spoil is told also in 2 Chron. 36: 11-21, and more fully in Jer. 39: 1-10 and 52: 1-27. A brief account of the numbers carried away in three successive deportations of capture appears in Jer. 52: 28-30. The events of our Lesson Story took place in the years B.C. 588 to 586. In B.C. 597, the city had previously been taken by the Chaldeans, and many of the best of the people exiled along with the young King Jehoiachin. (See 2 Kings 24: 1-17; 2 Chron. 36: 5-10; Jer. 24: 1.) This time, in B.C. 586, the city and the temple were destroyed, and only some of the poorest of the people left with Gedaliah, a Jewish prince of good character, as governor, 2 Kings 25: 22. Gedaliah was shortly afterward murdered by a renegade prince of Judah whom he had befriended and trusted, and the poor remnant of the people fled to Egypt taking Jeremiah, the prophet, with them. The kingdom of Judah came to an end with the fall of Jerusalem in B.C. 586, and was not re-established until the time of the Maccabees in the second and first centuries, B.C. Its entire history from the accession of David about B.C. 1010, covers about four hundred and twenty-five years. The kingdom of Israel, which separated from Judah after the death of Solomon about B.C. 934, came to its end when the Assyrians took Samaria, its capital city, in B.C. 722. The prophet Isaiah had witnessed the fall of Samaria. Jeremiah was an old man when Jerusalem was taken. There must have been many who, in the hard conditions of captivity and exile, remembered, and were helped by their teaching.

I. THE SIEGE OF JERUSALEM, vs. 1-7.

Zedekiah, the last of the kings of Judah, a son of the great king Josiah, began to reign in B.C. 597. He was put upon the throne by the king of Babylon to whom he swore a solemn oath of submission and allegiance. This oath he broke when he rebelled against Babylon in the ninth year of his reign, that is, in B.C. 588. Against this rash and foolish act Jeremiah, the prophet, had repeatedly warned him, assuring him that in continued submission to the king of Babylon lay the only way of safety for himself and his people, Jer. 21: 1-10; 27: 1-18, etc. From his place of exile in Babylonia, whither he had been taken captive in B.C. 597, Ezekiel also denounced Zedekiah for the violation of his covenant bond and oath, Ezek. 17: 11-21. The unfortunate king seems to have been a man of good impulses, and, on the whole, disposed to be guided by Jeremiah's good counsel, but he was too weak to resist the pressure brought to bear upon him by the evil counsellors with whom he was surrounded.

It was in this same ninth year of his reign, B.C. 588, that Nebuchadnezzar, King of Babylon, came, he and all his host, against Jerusalem, v. 1. The siege lasted a year and a half. The defenders of the city made a stout resistance. At length famine prevailed and they began to seek safety in flight, vs. 3, 4. The king himself was among those who fled by night, but he was overtaken in the plains of Jericho, and was brought for trial to Riblah, on the river Orontes, about sixty-five miles north of Damascus, where the king of Babylon at that time had his headquarters. There he was treated with the barbarous and merciless cruelty of which even the highly civilized Chaldeans were capable. The last scene upon which his eyes looked was the murder of his sons, then blinded he was carried away to die in a Babylonian prison. Such was the tragic end of a weak, unprincipled, and unstable life, vs. 5-7. Compare the story as told in Jer. 39: 1-7.

II. DESTRUCTION OF THE CITY, vs. 5-12.

Nebuchadnezzar began to reign in Babylon in B.C. 605 or 604. The nineteenth year of his reign will, therefore, have been B.C. 586, the eleventh year of Zedekiah who became king of Judah in B.C. 597 (see vs. 2, 7). Nebuzaradan, commander of the king's bodyguard, was entrusted with the completion of the work of destruction and spoliation, and the deportation of the captives. Five years later he was again in Palestine and carried away thence another large body of captives, Jer. 52: 30. The temple, the palace, the city walls, the houses of the people, all were burned or broken down. The number of captives is given in Jer. 52: 29 as eight hundred and thirty-two, but the statement in our Lesson (v. 11; compare Jer. 39: 9; 52: 15), appears to indicate a much larger number. The poor of the land who were left, were place under the rule of a Jewish prince, Gedaliah, v. 22.

III. THE VICTORS AND THE SPOIL, vs. 13-21

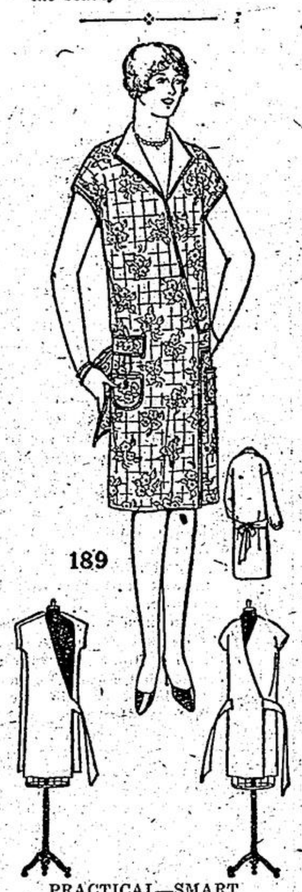
The pillars, the bases and the brasen sea (or basin) are described in 1 Kings, ch. 7, in the account of the building of the temple. The brass thus taken must have been in those days of immense value. For vs. 14-17 compare Jer. 52: 18-23. For the words "without weight" (v. 16), see 1 Kings 7: 47.

The language of Psalms 74 and 77 in several pasages seems to give expression to what must have been the terrible agony and distress of that dreadful time:

O God, the heathen are come into
thine inheritance;
Thy holy temple, have they defiled;
They have laid Jerusalem on heaps.

It is the same pitiful cry of unrelieved pain that is heard in the Lamentation of Jeremiah:

How hath the Lord covered the daughter of Zion with a cloud, in his anger,
And cast down from heaven to earth the beauty of Israel!



PRACTICAL—SMART.

Very slim and simple, too, is a charming house frock of linen in dainty garden flower print. The reversible fronts which is an interesting feature, are piped in plain linen in vivid tone, which is also used to bind narrow belt that fastens at either side of front and ties in bow at back, and to edge patch pockets. It's easily made! See diagrams! Tussah silk in soft rose piped in deeper shade, printed cotton broadcloth, orchid gingham with purple binding, dotted pique in French blue with white, washable striped radium silk, tiny yellow and white checked gingham and striped men's cotton shirting fabric are exceptionally attractive for serviceable wear. Style No. 189, designed in sizes 16, 18, 20 years, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44, 46 and 48 inches bust measure, takes 2¾ yards of 40-inch material with 11½ yards of binding for the 36-inch size. Pattern price 20c in stamps or coin (coin preferred).

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. Patterns sent by an early mail.

Farm Notes

Protecting Calves Against Blackleg

In certain sections of the country, particularly where the drainage is poor, cattle owners suffer losses through the disease of blackleg, which which attacks calves after they are six months of age and up to the time that they are two years old. It seldom attacks cattle of other ages and rarely affects other classes of live stock. Dr. A. E. Cameron, chief veterinary inspector of the Department of Agriculture at Ottawa, describes the disease, which is marked by loss of appetite, dullness and high temperature. Swelling of the body above the legs at any point is a common symptom and is accompanied by a crackling sound when pressed with the hand. The crackling, Dr. Cameron explains, is due to the formation of gas in pockets in the tissues beneath the skin. Fortunately, the disease is preventable by vaccination with blackleg aggressius filtrate or vaccines products obtainable through local agencies, druggists and veterinarians. In Bulletin No. 117 of the Department of Agriculture, instructions are contained for submitting specimens to the laboratory of the Department for examination. A few drops of blood of an animal that is suspected of having the disease, in an equal amount of glycerine, may be placed in a phial. If a phial is not convenient, a few drops of the blood, if dropped on a sheet of clean notepaper and allowed to dry, will answer as a specimen. In either case the package must be carefully packed with the sender's name and address and the history of the case and carefully wrapped according to instructions contained in the bulletin, which is obtainable from the Publications Branch of the Department, Dr. Cameron recommends, as a preventive measure, the inoculation of young calves before they go to pasture, and in bodly infected districts, inoculation again in the fall is recommended.

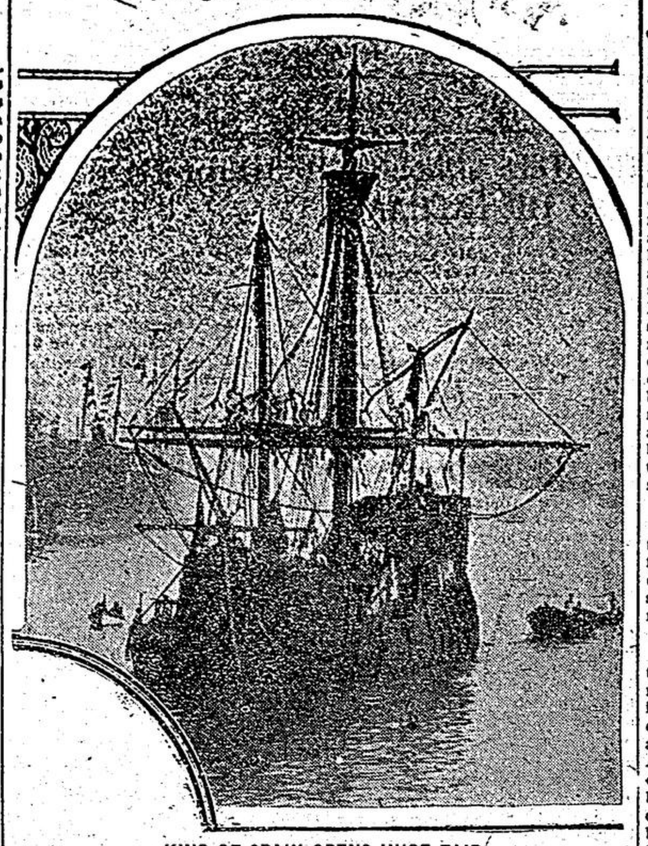
A Substitute for Skim Milk In Hog-Raising

While it is recognized that dairying and hog raising go well together, one need not be discouraged in undertaking to raise pigs in the absence of a by-produce of dairying. Fishmeal, a commercial product of considerable importance, is proving a useful substitute to skim milk as a supplement to the grain ration during the fattening period. At a trial carried out at the Agassis, British Columbia, Experimental Farm, during sixty-four days, the two feeds were compared. Two pens were fed a ration consisting of one part bran, one part corn meal, two parts shorts and seven per cent. fishmeal. Two other pens were fed a similar basic grain ration except that no fishmeal was included. The hogs were given instead of the fishmeal six pounds of skim milk per day per pig. The milk was charged at 25 cents per hundred pounds and the fishmeal at $80 per ton. While the skim milk, fed groups produced slightly cheaper gains, the rate of gain was practically the same for the two lots. In his report for last year, published by the Department of Agriculture at Ottawa, the Superintendent of the farm conclude that the results secured from this experiment and previous ones show that skim milk at 25 cents per hundred pounds gives cheaper pork than fishmeal at $70 to $80 a ton. The difference in the cost in this test amounted to about two cents a pound of gain made by the hogs.

Varieties of Strawberry for Canning

The strawberry holds an important place in the dessert fruits enjoyed by the people of Manitoba. The home garden crops on many farms provide fresh strawberries during the ripening season as well as large quantities for canning purposes. Tests for suitability for canning of different varieties grown at the Morden Experimental Station were made by the university graduates in home economics. Mr. W. R. Leslie, the Superintendent of the station, in his report for last year, gives the results of the tests on the basis of colour of the fruit when canned. The varieties turning out very rich, red fruit are given as marvel, premier, prince, easy picker and a few others, including champion. For good colour, dunlap, Dr. Burrill and progressive stand high. Of the medium pink to light red colour, Glen Mary, Minnehaha, Nokomis and Mastadon are classed. Of the lighter, poor coloured varieties Stenvens late, rockwood giant, cooper and a few others are named. The report of the station for last year, published by the Department of Agriculture for last year published by the Department of Agriculture at Ottawa, gives the other qualifications of these varieties, including softness, productiveness and shape. The report is based on a four-year period with fruit grown at the station and canned under definite controlled conditions. Mr. Leslie observes that fuly red berries are desired in order to obtain the best bright colour in the canned product.

Things Have Changed Since 1492



KING OF SPAIN OPENS HUGE FAIR

Replica of Santa Maria one of Columbus ships, at Seville Exposition which was recently opened by the King of Spain.

The St. Lawrence Route

Victoria Colonist (Cons.): The Canadian Pacific Railway Company recently sent a questionnaire to 300 travel experts in the neighborhood of Buffalo, Detroit, Cleveland, Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Louis. In the answers received it was shown that only 35 of these knew that Montreal was 200 miles closer to Europe than New York. There were 208 who were unaware that Montreal is the second largest port in North America. Only 41 knew that Montreal has a thousand miles of navigable tidal water. Fifty-five only knew that 75 per cent. of the population of the United States is only seven days from Europe via the St. Lawrence. Forty-one showed acquaintance with the fact that a ship leaving Montreal is in sheltered waters for two days' steaming. The lack of knowledge of transportation conditions affecting such a port as Montreal is amazing when it is apparent among those whose business it should be to know.

"The army should take only married men."

"Why?"

"Because they're trained to take orders, of course."

Pity our wants couldn't be as easily supplied as our needs.

Black Reporters On African Paper

Natives Not Backward Sir Edward Garraway States

IS FROM BASUTOLAND

Finds Canada Quote a Change From Own Land

Sir Edward Garraway, K.C.M.G., and Lady Garraway were among passengers who disembarked to spend a holiday in the Dominion.

"I am merely here to try to take a holiday," remarked Sir Edward to a reporter when he arrived. "I have resigned from active service and am visiting this side of the globe for the first time in my life. The trip across has been wonderful, and I am anxious to see as much of your country as I can in a few weeks.

"I intend oging as far as Vancouver and back. It is quite a change from Africa, as you can imagine, although Africa is a wonderful country."

Sir Edward, who was resident commissioner in Basutoland and in Bechuanaland, stated that he still has a hankering for the country where he was a pioneer.

"I fought in Africa first, and am proud to say that I fought alongside some very fine Canucks, whom I thought were the finest fellows in the world. Since that time I have seen Africa grow. It is not so long since I saw one of our young men in Basutoland return from Edinburgh as first class surgeons. Many people have the idea that because they are black they are not a progressive race.

"I would like to disillusion them. The Basutos are progressive. They have three newspapers, all printed in the native language, and they are doing well. I will not say that theirreporters are as up to date or shall I say Americanized as you people here, but the papers, if one can read the language, are really worth reading. Africa is a coming country, and I think that everyone that has lived there, like myself, has a hankering for it once they have left it."

"Pathenia," her father called from the head of the stairs, "what time is it?" "A quarter of ten, father," she sweetly answered. "All right," came heavily over the midnight air, "but start the clock again when the young man goes out for breakfast."

HOLIDAYS AND HEALTH

Health protection for the holiday-maker has come to be regarded as an important necessity. The extensive automobile traffic of recent years has caused tourist camps and highway refreshment booths to spring up in great numbers. Unless these tourist services are properly cared for they may be the means of spreading disease. Improper sanitary measures including polluted drinking water, fly nuisance, infected utensils, contaminated food and refreshments must all be avoided. In order that the tourist and others using these facilities on the highways may be safeguarded the Provincial Department of Health inspects all tourist camps and highway refreshment booths each year. Where conditions are found satisfactory and equivalent to the standards adopted by the Department conspicuous banners of approval are given. These are displayed in prominent positions by the camp or booth and indicate to the tourist where the safest and best services can be secured.

Water

Nothing requires more consideration than the water we drink when away from home. If contaminated, it may cause typhoid or other illness. A few simple precautions are all that are necessary.

Swimming

One of the summer's main attractions is swimming. Swimmers cannot easily avoid taking some water into the mouth, nose and ears; consequently the water should be as safe as that required for drinking purposes. All indoor and artificial pools must be chlorinated in order to protect the bathers. In open streams or lakes, on the other hand, it is seldom feasible to treat the water by chlorine as in closed pools. Under these conditions the bather must exerices discretion about the quality of the water in which he swims. Running streams or lakes may be receiving sewage or other contamination so close to the bathing area as to make it unsafe for use. Safety demands that you look around before you dive. Where possible, use artificial pools. They are treated for your safety.

Milk

Be careful about all food away from home, particularly milk. Milk is responsible for the spread of much sickness. Pasteurization protects the consumer against this danger. Safe milk is pasteurized. Where this cannot be secured it may be rendered safe by heating to 142 F. for 30 minutes. If raw milk must be used, get it from a dairy free from infectious diseases, and from cows that are free from tuberculosis.

Sanitary Conveniences

Out-door closets are the usual sanitary conveniences at camps and summer cottages. A pail closet—with lots of dry earth or ashes thrown on the contents after each visit—cleaned every week and made fly-proof—is more sanitary than a pit closet. A small quantity of kerosene added to the pail helps to keep it free from flies and odors. Flush closets are, of course, most desirable, but chemical toilets, employing a caustic solution, are well adapted for use at summer cottages. They can be had at a reasonable cost, and are installed either indoors or out. When given reasonable attention, they are fly-proof, free from odors, and quite satisfactory.

Stolen Treasures Found In Valise

Australan Crown Jewels Said To be Worth Millions of Dollars

Casablanca, Morrocco.—The Austrian Crown Jewels, stolen in 1921, were discovered in a valise checked in the town of Safi.

The valise contained the famous imperial necklace, worth millions of dollars, and many other valuable articles belonging to the Crown collection.

It was believed that Mailda, Italian, who was arrested when he tried to sell some of the jewels, was merely a tool for an international band of thieves and confidence men.

HARD JOB

When Noah sailed the waters blue
He had troubles, same as you,
For forty days he drove the Ark
Before he found a place to park.

Garden Service

All the Latest Wrinkles for the Amateur Gardener to Help Make the Home More Beautiful

Flowers for Shady Corners

In even the larger gardens there are always some shady corners in which the ordinary flowers will not do well. In the average backyard the problem of brightening up these spots is ever more difficult because tall fences and closely-planted trees add to the shade. However, there are many flowers which will do well in these dark corners, and some actually prefer them. According to Miss Isabela Preston, a specialist in horticulture, with the experimental farms, the following list is recommended for growing in partial shade: alyssum, Candytuft, clarkia, godetia, Ionopsidium, acaule, larkspur, lupine, marvel of Peru, nemophila, Nicotiana, oenothera drummondi, pansy, phlox, verbena. The tuberous rooted begonia is also recommended, and is usually at its best when almost completely shaded by foliage. It is not the simplest thing in the world to grow, but will make such a display of brilliantly-coloured wax-like flowers that the extra trouble necessary is well worth while.

Sheep Manure

For building up garden soil nothing really takes the place of well-rotted manure, but in the towns and cities it is almost impossible to secure this. Too often one is only able to get very strawy manure, which will take years to break down and become of much value. The man with the small garden can get round this difficulty by purchasing pulverized sheep manure, which every dealer in seeds carries. This material will add that vitally-necessary humus to the soil and is particularly advisable in the case of gardens which have received regular applications of chemical fertilizers for some years. Pulverized sheep manure has another advantage in that it is heated while being processed, which kills any weed seeds. Where one gets a load of the ordinary manure, he must be prepared for a fresh crop of weeds. Sheep manure used for enriching the soil and adding humus with nitrate of soda to hasten growth in both the vegetable and flower garden makes a good combination.

Flowers for Winter Bouquets

The first killing frost which turns a garden of beauty into a drab, tangled mass of twisted, blackened stems always brings a sharp pang of regret to the owner. No longer will he be able to gather a generous armful of bloom for indoor decoration. This regret, however, will be tempered if provision is made now for the growing of certain flowers, the blooms of which can be dried and will last indefinitely. Chief among these is the helichyrsum or straw flower. This is a hardy annual about two feet high, producing large, different-coloured blooms, though mainly yellow, until late in the season. Another one is the Rhodanthe, which may be had in a white or a bright rose. The statice comes in mauve, white and primrose and combinations of the three. A fourth is the acroclinium, which may be had in a white or a bright rose. All these annuals, in addition to their winter bouquet qualities, will make a splendid show in the garden during the summer and early fall as wel. For preserving the flowers with long stems, should be picked just before opening and hung in some dark, warm place to dry. The Chinese lantern plant, which is a sort of an ornamental variety of winter cherry, is also grown for permanent indoor decoration, as the pods turn bright red and puff up life Chinese lanterns when dry. The perennial and annual larkspur can also be dried, and will make a fair bouquet, although it is inclined to be a little more ragged than those regularly recommended for this purpose.

Do Not Forget

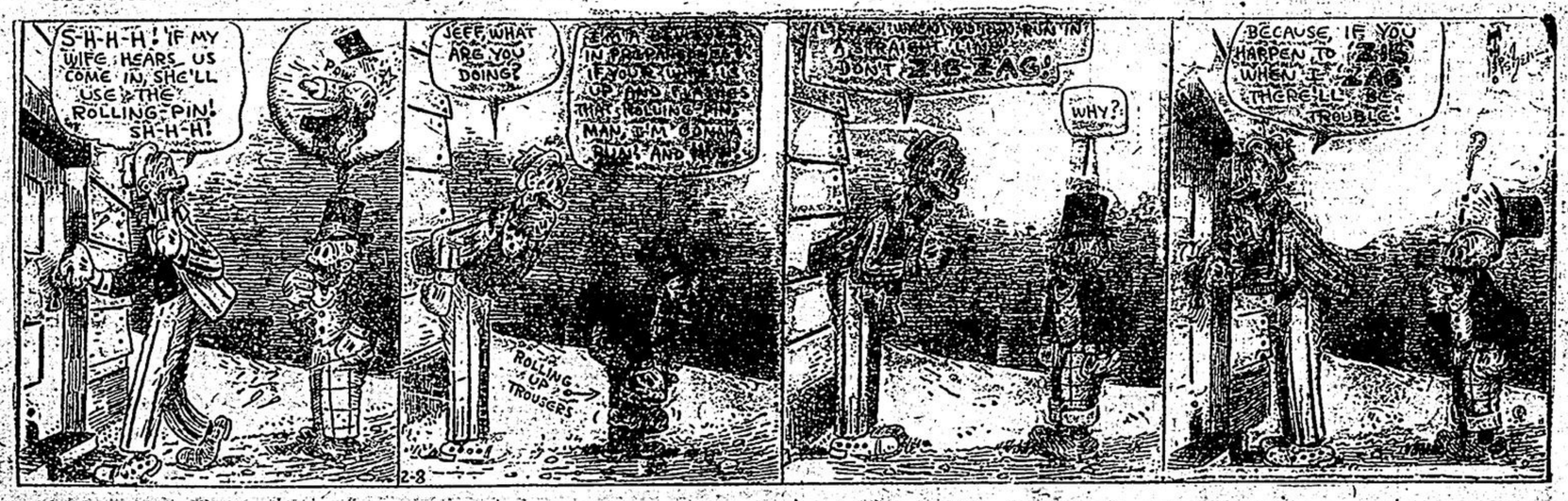
Do not forget that there's somebody
Who thinks of you day by day,
Who sits by the window and watches,
Ann who roes not otrget to pray;
You may be immersed in your business,
And have lots of big things to do,
But do not forget in the meanwhile
That dear heart that thinks of you.

Do not forget that there's somebody
Who needs a kind word now and then;
Who aches for a smile and a handclasp
And a word of true love again;
You may have a lot to see to,
And irons in the fire galore,
But love is a business too big, sir,
To leave to the days of yorp.

A. B. C.

Growth

Growth is one of the evidences of life, and growth in character is an evidence that your ambitions are still alive. There is no standing still in nature; when we cease to make progress we begin to retrogress. And the man who expresses satisfaction with his "level best" and does not try to raise that level will soon find his best sinking to a lower level, as the level of a fresh water lake will lower if springs or streams of fresh water cease to come into it.—F. S. Barrow.

If you have knowledge let others light their candles at it.

MUTT AND JEFF— —By Bud Fisher. They Get Ready to Dodge The Rolling-Pin.