Business Directory SUNDAY SCHOOL

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Lesson for July 18 Golden Text.-Thy people shall be my people, and thy God my God. -Ruth 1:16

The Lesson as a Whole

There is a charm about the inspired Hebrew idyl, the Book of Ruth, that cannot fail to appeal to anyone of literary taste, whether its divine inspiration is recognized or not. But when we receive it as a part of the God-breathed Word, we see added beauties, which the natural mind cannot discern. It portrays something of the inward conditions prevailing among what we might call the ordinary people of Israel, during the troubled years of the Judges. Typically, it sets forth, in a very remarkable manner, the story of redemption. Through Boaz, the goel, or kinsman-redeemer (Lev.25:25), Ruth, the Moabitish stranger, is brought into the family of God and given a place among the Covenant People. The great-grandmother of King David, she has a place in the ancestral line of our Lord Jesus Christ (Matt. 1:5, 6). By natural birth the Moabites were barred from the congregation of the Lord unto the tenth generation because of their hostility to the Children of Israel, when they were journeying toward the Promised Land (Deut. 23:3). But, by grace, Ruth found an hon-ored place in the Chosen Nation. Her loyalty to her mother-in-law, Naomi, and her decided stand as a young woman of exceptional devotedness and decision of character.

Naomi's record is not very creditable at first. She actually typi fies the backslider, leaving the place of privilege, with her hus-Ph. Stouff. 290 band and sons to the land of Moab. But after severe chastening, her faith is rekindled, and, in the closing two chapters, she shines forth as a woman of faith.

The Historical Setting

We have no definite date for the events of this Book. We are only told that they all took place in the days when the Judges ruled. Elimelech with his wife Naomi and two sons, Mahlon and Chilion, left Bethlehem and went to the land of Moab to escape the rigors of a famine. In Moab, the sons married women of that country, Orpah and Ruth. Elimelech and the sons all Licensed and authorized for the died there, whereupon Naomi decided to return to Bethlehem. Ruth insisted on going with her, but Verse by Verse

remain with Naomi at all costs. Her home she had left so long before. faith already was placed in the God | Chap. 2:20 .- "Naomi said Blesof whom her husband and his sed be he of the Lord The man back to idolatry.

Insurance in reliable Companies at York County, Uxbridge and Picker- me, and more also, if ought but in the harvest fields, and God had death part thee and me." It is led her to that which belonged to tled decision. She had counted the man, who, if he would, might percost and was prepared to accept all form the part of the kinsman-rethe consequences of separation from deemer for her (Deut. 25:5, 6). her own family and its pagan re- Chap. 4:14.—"The women said... of loyalty of heart and devotion of stand aright all that is involved in

she was stedfastly minded.....she filled the divine requirements as left speaking unto her." At first to the right of redemption, which Naomi had sought to dissuade both involved paying off the mortgage Ruth and Orpah from going to on the estate and taking the child-Bethlehem with her. She could not less widow as his own wife, her tell what kind of reception they first son by the new union to inwould receive as strangers from herit in the name of the former the idolatrous nation of Moab. husband. Thus Ruth, through act-Moreover, their very presence ing on Naomi's advice, had become

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FALLS THREE STOREYS AND JUST BRUISED



A few bruises were all that Gary Wayne High, three, had to show after a 30-foot tumble from the third-storey window of his Kingston, Ont., home. He was looking out when screen gave way.



would be the evidence of the family Ruth 1:16.-"Thy people shall failure, for God had forbidden inbe my people, and thy God my ter-marriage with the heathen na-Ruth's decision is definite. tions. But Ruth's determination She had settled the matter in her and loyalty convinced her that she own heart. She was determined to should take her with her to the

mother must often have told her. is.....our next kinsman." Ruth had For her there could be no going availed herself of the privilege Verse 17.—"The Lord do so to (Lev.23:22) by going forth to glean blessed to contemplate Ruth's set her former husband's near kins-

ligion. She was not merely going Blessed be the Lord, which hath to experiment along new lines, but not left thee this day without a she had made up her mind to be kinsman." One should note carefully true to death, both to Naomi and the place of goel, or kinsman-reto God. It is a delightful example deemer, in Israel in order to underthis beautiful story of grace to the Verse 18 .- "When she saw that stranger from Moab. Boaz had fulrecognized as the wife of Boaz, the mighty man of wealth, who typifies Him who has redeemed us from our lost estate and united us to Himself.

Verse 15 .- "Thy daughter in law, which loveth thee,....is better to thee than seven sons." Naomi was No visits to Stouffville office during July and August. Repair work mailed to Picton is promptly taken 11-tf and cheer her heart, and to raise up the name of the dead upon his inheritance. She had borne a son, who was to inherit the estates of Mahlon and Chilion, that Elimelech's name might be remembered in Israel.

Verses 16 and 17 .- "Naomi took the child.....and became nurse unto it." One can readily understand the joy that filled the heart of Grandmother Naomi as she cared for Ruth's first-born and sought to bring him up in accordance with the will of God; but little did she realize the, full honor conferred upon her in that she was nursing one who was in the direct line of descent of Israel's Messiah: Son of God and Son of man! The child was called Obed, and he became the grandfather of King David, through whose line Christ came into the world.

The Heart of the Lesson . Ruth's decision illustrates the stand that every exercised soul Toronto should take in regard to the present AD0605 offer of the Gospel. God has now revealed Himself in the person of His Son. It is a great moment in 3 one's spiritual history when the choice is made to receive Christ and for His name's sake to turn from the world that has rejected Him. Ruth gives us a blessed example of what Barnabas meant, in a later day, when he besought the young Gentile converts at Antioch to cleave to the Lord "with purpose of heart" (Acts 11:23).

Naomi, when restored to fellowship with the Lord, was able to guide Ruth aright, and her faith; was rewarded in a wonderful way.

County Population Given as 65,437 in New Directory

The 1948 Municipal Directory issued by the Department of Municipal Affairs, Toronto, gives the following valuable information . Listed are all the municipalities in the province, compiled by counties and districts. The names and addresses of the mayor or reeve and clerk are given, together with the assessed population, acreage and assessment figures on which 1948 taxes will be levied.

Of interest to residents of Ontario County is the fact that the total population of the county, including Oshawa, is given as 65,437. The total assessment is given as \$65,-217, 749 while the total tax exemptions are \$6,640,848. -

The population figures for the various municipalities in the County are as follows: Uxbridge 1,515; Whitby, 4,611; Beaverton 906; Cannington, SOS; Port Perry, 1,407; East Whitby Township, 7000; Brock Township, 2,101; Mara Township 2,250; Pickering Township, 7,220; Rama Township, 686; Reach Township, 2,416; Scott Township, 1,521; Seugog Township. 277; Thorah Township, \$15; Uxbridge Township 1,93S; Whitby Township, 2,152; City of Oshawa, 27,924.

The total acreage in the county is 527,735 of which 507,741 assessed. Of the total assessment of \$65,217,749 for general tax purpoes, If the bees survive the northern \$60,813,398 is for public school pur- winter they will certainly sweeten

GAINS VICTORY

Premier John B. McNair's Liberal party gained a sweeping victory in the New Bruns-wick election. The Liberals were victorious in 47 out of the 52 seats in the province's new legislature. McNair's whole cabinet, with the exception of Education Minister C. H. Blakeny, was re-elected. Hugh MacKay, P.C. leader, won his seat with a reduced majority.

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Mr. Walter Lilley is spending the summer at New Liskeard with his son Harold, who has taken three hundred colonies of bees up there. life for people up there.

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