Pleasant Fields of Holy Writ.

THE INTERNATIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

A weekly column of abiding interest to both teachers and scholars.

Motto for this week: "A noble Book! All men's Book! It is our first oldest statement of the never-ending problem—man's destiny and God's ways with him here on earth; and all in such free-flowing outlines—grand in sincerity, in its simplicity and its epic melody."—Thomas Carlisle, 1795-1881.

Third Quarter. Lesson IX. Matthew 22: 15-22. August 30, 1914

A DAY OF QUESTIONS

(THE STORY)

Handel, when composing his oratorio, "The Messiah," was found bathed in tears. What touched him was the prophet's words, "He was despised." The despising of Jesus was as evident in the temple as at the cross. And physical pains are not so severe to a spiritual soul as wounds inflicted upon that higher nature. Lowell says: "Our modern martyrdoms are done in type." So Jesus was crucified again and again before ever he came to the cross. We come now to the last onset of His despising critics. . . . The Pharisees, Jesus' implacable foes, were deep in the plot, but, for the time, with consummate cunning, kept themselves in the background. They allowed some of their understudies to consort with the Hated Herodians in the wily scheme to trap the great reforming Rabbi. The language of the address was characteristically Herodian. It was a gracious, empty platitude, which these traitorous scyophants had learned in the court of the Idumean. . . . The honeyed phrase with which they baited their trap was the grossest insult of all the many that were ever heaped upon Jesus. Could they imagine He would be flattered by it . . . The horns of the dilemma, on one or the other of which they expected Jesus to be impaled, were these: If, for example, He should say it was obligatory to pay tribute to the hated Romans, He would inflame the Jewish populace to the highest degree. "What! pay tribute to a heathen tyrant to enable him to live in luxury in his golden palace on the Tiber?" If He should say, on the other hand, that such a tax ought not to be paid, He would lay Himself open to the charge of sedition against the most alert and virile government the world has ever seen. Before nightfall He would be in a Roman prison and His career, so threatening to Phariseeism, would be at an end forever. It was a well-laid scheme. Many a great reformer had been undone by one far less cunning. . . . But the very propounding of such a conundrum shows that the questioners had no idea with whom they were dealing. . . . Jesus knocked the cunning dialectical trap into smithereens. He smote those who had set it with the iron rod of His mouth when He called them "Hypocrites!" . . . He answered fools according to their folly when He said, "Render Caesar Caesar's things!" He left the question still open whether taxes were Caesar's right. The individual must decide. The very holding up of the penny and the making the questioners themselves read the inscription increased the force in which Jesus deliberately and under the circumstances justifiedly wrapped the whole matter. Like a skilled helmsman he steered between Scylla and Charybdis. He gave no offense to the populace. He had not affirmed that they must pay the odious tax. On the other hand He had given no occasion for His enemies to lodge complaint of treason with the Roman officials. He had not said that the Jews must not pay the tax. The Herodian question, asked so deftly, proved a boomerang, and came hurtling back to the camp of the conspirators. They were dumbfounded. They could not get away quickly enough. They were in abject fear lest Jesus should follow up His advantage and put them in still worse form with the mercurial populace.

THE TEACHERS' LANTERN

The climacteric character of this controversy is apparent from the large space given to it in the Gospels. One-sixth of all Matthew is taken up by the account of this single day of questioning, while twenty-five chapters in the four Gospels are devoted to the last week of Jesus' life. . . . Jealous fear made strange bed-fellows. The Pharisee, that paragon of orthodoxy, and the Sadducee, who was heterodoxy's very self, like Pilate and Herod, were made friends in a day and both consorted with the confessedly unpatriotic Herodians. This triple alliance could hardly fail to accomplish its end. It was only a question of means to use and time to bring the end about. . . . A towering, united, invincible ecclesiasticism sets itself for the overthrow of a teacher whose spirit and doctrine is justly recognized as entirely inimical. It had to do it, if it would perpetuate itself. It was the instinctive dictate of self-preservation. . . . The "tribute" in dispute, literally called "census," was a poll tax levied on the people exclusively for the purse of the Roman emperor. It was like "Peter's pence," which is for the Pope personally. In this instance it was a sign of submission and its payment equivalent to an expression of loyalty to the sovereign. No part of it was ever used for local purposes or improvements. That is what made it superlatively odious. It was a red flag to passion. It was a bone of constant and fierce contention. . . . No nicer question of casuistry could by any means have been propounded. But to steal the livery of a truth-seeker, to compass the moral ruin of another, was the foulest crime in the long black catalogue of the misdeeds of that pharisaical ecclesiasticism which seems to have run parallel with the human race. . . . It is a measure of the moral power of Jesus, in the day in which He lived, that fierce and hostile factions must needs drop their differences for the time, and use their united strength to compass His ruin. Pharisees, "straitest" sect of all, conservators of orthodoxy; Sadducees the free thinkers of the day; and Herodians, panderers to royal vice and trucklers to imperial power, all had, per force, to pool issues. . . . For ten centuries the Christians of the East have stood, in their relation to the Turkish empire, in exactly the position occupied by the Jews in their relation to Rome. They have paid a poll tax as aliens. Under the liberal "New Turk" constitution disabilities and indignities have been removed and their recognition as fellow-citizens s now on the way to being complete.

ANALYSIS AND KEY

A Dialectical Trap.
Baited with Flattery.
The Crux: "Tribute."
"Paid or Not."
Horns of Dilemma.
"Pay!" Passion of Populace.
"Refuse!" Accusation of Sedition.
Fools according to Folly.
"Render Caesar Caesar's Things."
Tax Not Affirmed Nor Denied.
Trap to Smithereens.
Question a Boomerang.

The Young People's Devotional Service

August 30, 1914. Isaiah 65: 17-25.

WHY AND HOW TO ABOLISH WAR

"For behold, I create a new heavens and a new earth; and the former shall not be remembered nor come into mind. But be ye glad and rejoice forever in that which I create." . . . In St. Paul's day the soldier was the unit of power. As such, but without justifying the profession, the aposle uses the soldier as the emblem of efficiency. He urges his converts to be good soldiers. In our day the soldier is not the unit of power. He is, on the contrary, a passing incident in the current civilization. There are already sure tokens of the approach of the prophet's day when the art of war will not so much as be learned any more, when there will be no more garments rolled in blood, and when the implements of death will be converted into those of peace and life.

EMPIRE UNITED BY PERIL.

Great Ennobling Compensation For the Horrors of War.

London, Aug. 25.—The press here comments upon what it describts as tured capital a huge war levy of £8, posing upon the citizens of the capGerman blackmail in Brussels by im-000,000.

In an article headed "Canada and the War," the Daily Mail says:

"If war has its horrors, it also has its great ennobling compensations. By no means the least of these is its virtue as a unifying agent between the nations of Britain, Russia, France and Belgium.

"The strife of parties, the jealousies of classes, the antagonisms of creeds have been hushed by the wantonness of German jingoism. The war has accomplished in one month an international and imperial consolidation that might have taken years to achieve.

"This impulse to sink minor issues goes beyond the United Kingdom. It is as wide as the empire itself. Of its influence there are many proofs, but none more powerful than that furnished by the Canadian parliament."

After the recapitulating the generous gifts and offers that have come from the dominions, the Mail adds:

"From these abundant signs of the upholding of the British cause, following these unanimous legislative acts, the press here has no need to ask where Canada stands. One of the happiest consequences of the cooperation between Britain and France is that the French-Canadians are as whole-heartedly on our side as are the British Americans."

Conditions In The West.

Calgary News-Telegram.

With the resumption of the municipal works, there should be a perceptable improvement in conditions—conditions which were precipitated, to no small extent, by a panicky civic policy when there was no excuse for a panic. It might be pointed out, too, that the crop has begun to move eastward and money will flow westward as a result; that the live stock industry, which has increased to an unprecedented extent, will bring more money into the west this year than both crop and stock combined in 1911, that the local bank clearings show a healthy increase; that confidence is being restored even in war-stricken Britain; that never in the history of the United States has there been a more promising esituation; and that, with the cessation of industrial and agricultural production in Britain and on the continent, there will be a bigger demand and better prices for everything that can be produced in Canada than at any previous period since the American civil war.

The outbuildings of Albert Armstrong, near McIntosh Mills, were destroyed by fire during the electrical storm of Friday.

LIVE STOCK MARKETS

The Prices Paid At the Various Centres.

Toronto, Union Stock Yards, Aug. 24.—Receipts were only moderate all round. 103 cars, 1,937 cattle, 1,269 hogs, 605 sheep and lambs, 235 calves.

Cattle—Few choice cattle were offered and these sold at firm prices, one extra choice load selling at $9.10 and quite a few loads at $8.60 but common and medium cattle were unchanged. Choice butcher's steers, $8.60 to $9.00 and one load at $9.10; good butcher's steers, $8.00 to $8.50; medium butcher's steers, $7.50 to $7.75; common butcher's steers, $7.25 to $7.50, choice butcher's heifers, $8.25 to $8.40; common butcher's heifers, $7.75 to $8.00; choice cows, $6.75 to $7.00; good cows, $6.25 to $6.50; canners, $3.00 to $4.25.

Feeders and stockers—There was a fair demand for stockers and feeders at steady to firm prices. Choice steers, $7.00 to $7.40; medium steers, $6.75 to $7.00; stockers, $5.50 to $6.50.

Milkers and springers— Choice cows were in demand at $75 to $100 each, bulk sold at $65 to $85 each.

Calves—Market firm on light receipts. Choice veals, $10 to $10.50, common to good, $5.00 to $9.00.

Sheep and lambs—Market easy for lambs but sheep sold at steady values. Sheep, $5.75 to $6.25; culls and rams, $2.50 to $5.00. Lambs, $7.50 to $8.00.

Hogs—Market was about steady, was a consignment of 600 to the Swift Canadian company from the northwest. Selected fed and watered, $10 and $9.50 f. o. b. cars, and $10.25 weighed off cars.

Chicago Live Stock.

Chicago, Aug. 24.—Cattle — Receipts 19,000; market weak; beeves, $6.60 to $10.50; steers, $6.25 to $9.30; stockers and feeders, $5.35 to $8; cows and heifers, $3.70 to $9.10; calves, $7.50 to $10.75.

Hogs—Receipts 32,000; market slow; light, $8.90 to $9.35; mixed, $8.65 to $9.35; heavy, $9.00 to $9.30; rough, $8.50 to $8.70; hogs, $7 to $8.60; bulk of sales, $8.90 to $9.20.

Sheep — Receipts 36,000; market slow; sheep, $5 to $6; yearlings, $5.90 to $6.90; lambs, native, $6.40 to $8.20.

Buffalo Live Stock.

East Buffalo, N. Y., Aug. 24.—Cattle receipts 5,000; slow, good, steady; others steady. Prime steers, $9.25 to $9.75; shipping, $8.50 to $9; butchers', $7.50 to $8.50; heifers, $6.50 to $8.25; cows, $4 to $7.25; bulls, $5 to $7.50; stockers and feeders, $6.25 to $7.50; stock heifers, $5.25 to $6.

Veals—Receipts 1,425; active, $5 to $12.

Hogs — Receipts 14,000, slow, heavy, $9.40 to $9.50; mixed, $9.50 to $9.55; yorkers, $9.25 to $9.60; pigs, $8.75 to $9; roughs, $8.15 to $8.25; stags, $6.50 to $7.50.

Sheep and lambs—Receipts 6,000; active, steady; lambs, $5 to $9; yearlings, $4.50 to $7; wethers, $6 to $6.25; ewes, $2.50 to $5.75; sheep, mixed, $5.75 to $6.

ALLIES POSITION STRONG

Germans Sweep On It Like a Tidal Wave.

By Capt. Fortescue.

Paris, Aug. 24.— Before being made a prisoner of war for three days at Ghent for not having French military papers, I had pressed down the French advance lines where the allied armies and Germans will meet in the greatest battle since the world began.

Like a great tidal wave the Germans are sweeping up from the east, but the French and their allies are in a strong position, in a country admirably suited for defence, and stand ready to stem the German tide. The battleground selected by the allies for the gigantic test of armed superiority covers a broad, rolling country. The crops have been harvested, there is little forest land, and the country forms a splendid battleground. The allied armies have selected this ground on which to receive the enemy and advantage of position rests with them.

What has impressed me more than anything else is the efficiency of the French artillery. It is the finest artillery in the world. I saw two batteries in action at the battle of Dinant, and the way these guns were handled was a joy to see. Every manoeuvre was carried out with clock-like precision, and when these batteries began shelling the German position, projectile after projectile burst fair in the face of the enemy's firing lines.

With such artillery practice the boasted German sweep across Belgium will be quickly halted.

ON THE RAMPAGE.

An Angry Man Used Gun With Deadly Effect.

Syracuse, N.Y., Aug. 25.—Orin Clark, Fayetteville, maddened because his wife had sworn to a warrant for his arrest, shot to death one of his neighbors, shot to death one of cond and shot a third and then ended his own life last night at his home near the centre of the village. Clark barricaded himself in his home and from an upper window fired four shots from a double-barreled shotgun into a group of men, women and children who had gathered in front of the house. Grace Huson, aged eight, was struck by the first shot and fell dead in the street.

Christ Poulos, a Greek, was shot in the head. He was dying when the Crouse-Irving motor ambulance arrived in the village to bring him to Syracuse. Myron Peavey received a charge of the shot in the right leg. His condition is not serious.

When his ammunition had been exhausted the half crazed man fled from the open window down stairs and through a rear door into the back yard. A moment later those who had run frantically from his murderous attack heard the report of a fifth shot.

At eleven o'clock members of the sheriff's posse that was called to the scene found the man's body in a clump of bushes near the back door. Beside him was the empty shotgun.

IN SPORTING CIRCLES

HAMILTON TIGERS WILL HOLD A PRACTICE ON SATERDAY.

Philadelphia Fans Think Ty Cobb Has Lost Some of His Speed—Ottawa Pacer Establishing a Record—St. Thomas to Drop Out of Canadian League.

The Hamilton Tiger football champions will hold their opening practice next Saturday. The first turnout will also be in the nature of a picnic, and a full turnout is being counted on.

Anna Bradford, the black filly by Todd Mac, featured the closing day of the grand circuit meeting at Pittsburgh by lowering the world's record for three-year-olds on a mile track from 2.05 to 2.03¼.

Ross Binkley has enlisted at Toronto, and leaves with the second Q.O.R. contingent for Valcartier. Ross was manager of the Argonaut Rugby Club last year and was slated for the position again this fall.

Harry Smith, who was a member of the Ottawas last winter, has enlisted with the 23rd field battery and will go to the front. Smith is the only member of the Ottawas who will go.

Philadelphia fans think that Ty Cobb has lost some of his speed. They don't insinuate that the Dixie daredevil has gone back, but charge his slight slump to his long lay-off.

Pitcher "Dazzy" Vance, aged twenty, who was offered for sale by the Superior club of the Nebraska State League, together with the franchise and entire club, early this season for $250, with no takers, has been sold by John Holland, of the St. Joseph Western League club, to the Pittsburgh Nationals for $5,000. Disgusted at the offer made by Superior, Vance bought his release for $50, joined the Hastings team and was almost immediately sold to the St. Joseph club for $1,000.

Spencer Wishart, who was killed in the Elgin road race, Ottawa, was twenty-four years old, and had been racing for six years. He started by piloting cars owned by himself and was a prominent figure in the automobile racing world. For the first few years of his racing career he drove as an amateur. His work was characterized by a fine combination of daring and coolness, and it was not long until he rose to the captaincy of the racing team of a well-known manufacturer.

Little Alfred, T. H. Booynise's Ottawa pacer, is establishing a campaign record down in the United States. Last Saturday, at Parkersburg, West Virginia, Little Alfred won a $1,000 stake, making his eighteenth victory out of twenty starts. He stepped the two heats in 2.08¼ and 2.09¾, over a half mile track. His winnings to date are close to 89,000 and he is still staked up to October.

As far as the Ottawa Hockey Club is concerned, there will be no trouble over the Patricks' draft. Skene Ryan is very likely the player who will go west, and from recent remarks is quite willing to go. Ronan has a chance to get into business in Vancouver with a relative in that city, and is quite willing to figure in the draft; while the Ottawas would sooner let some of the other players go, they cannot find any of them willing to take the trip. It is unlikely that there will be any cut in salaries this year in Ottawa. The club did well last season, even though carrying a big squad.

The sale or transfer of the St. Thomas Canadian league franchise is more than probable. Secretary Chantler announces that the club will lose upwards of $2,000 on the season. Little interest has been taken in the fortunes of the St. Thomas club this season, and unless there is a decided improvement in the attendance during the remainder of the season the city will not be represented in the Canadian league next season. The club is in fourth place.

ONTARIO FALL FAIRS

Dates of Fairs Held in Eastern Ontario.

Almonte	Sept. 22-24
Arden	Oct. 6
Arnprior	Sept. 2-4
Bancroft	Oct. 1-2
Belleville	Sept. 7-9.
Bowmanville	Sept. 15-16.
Brockville	Aug. 30. Sept2
Centreville, (Addington County)	Sept. 12
Cobourg	Sept. 22-23
Cornwall	Sept 3-5
Delta	Sept. 27-28
Demorestville	Oct. 10
Frankville	Sept. 24-25
Harrowsmith	Sept. 10-11
Inverary	Sept. 9
Kamptville	Sept. 24-25
Kingston	Sept. 30 Oct 1.
Lanark	Sept. 10-11
Lansdowne	Sept 17-18.
Lombardy	Sept. 12-18.
London (Western Fair)	Sept. 11-19
Lyndhurst	Sept. 15-16
Maberly	Sept. 29-30
Madoc	Oct. 6-7
Marmora	Sept 21-22
Merrickville	Sept. 17-18
Morrisburg	Aug. 4-5
Napanee	Sept. 15-16
Newboro	Sept. 22-23
Newington	Sept. 15-16
Odessa	Oct. 2
Oshawa	Sept. 14-16
Ottawa (Central Canada)	Sept. 11-19
Parham	Sept. 22-23
Perth	Sept. 2-4
Peterboro	Sept. 17-19
Picton	Sept. 22-24
Prescott	Aug. 25-27
Renfrew	Sept. 29. Oct 1
Shannonville	Sept 19
Stella	Sept. 29
Stirling	Sept. 24-25
Tamworth	Sept. 10
Tiverton	Oct 6
Toronto (Can.Nat.)	Aug 28-Sept. 14
Tweed	Sept. 30 Oct1
Wolfe Island	Sept. 22-23

Ontario is negotiating with the British government as to the nature of the proposed provincial war gift.

PONTOON BRIDGE CONSTRUCTED BY ROYAL BRITISH ENGINEERS.
This is a bridge such as the British army will use to cross a good many streams in Belgium. Cavalry is shown going over the one that appears in the picture.

Canadian National Exhibtion

August 29th to Sept. 14th.

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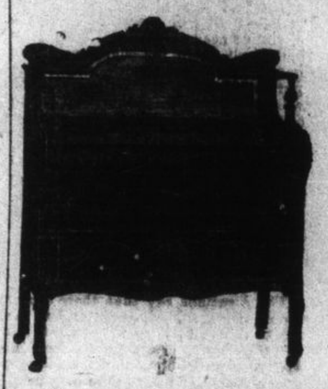

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