The International Sunday-School Lesson For October 28th Is "Ezra's Return From Babylon."-Ezra 8:15-36.

By William T. Ellis-

To the spectator they were doubt-

ess as interesting as the caravans

which one may see to-day. I have

across this Mesopotamian desert;

some on camel back, some of the chil-

dren in panniers swung at each side

of the beasts of burden; some on don-

keys, the rich on horses, some on foot.

The speed of the journey is the cam-

el's pace-about three miles an hour.

Probably then, as now, the camels

were decorated with blue shells and

the cavalede set out from Babylon,

would watch it from the heights, just

as I watched an expedition set out

across the desert from old Asshur.

testing times they were to have by

· Literary, But Business-like.

It is the visionary who sways the

minds of kings, and it was Ezra, the

scribe, who secured the favor of Ar-

taxerxes for the return for some sev-

enteen hundred exiles to Jerusalem.

He won the good will of the govern-

ment and secured immunity from tax-

ation by the way, and the promise of

gifts the pilgrims bore with them

some aggregating more than two mil-

thoroughly consistent with high ideal-

responsibility accurately distributed

and then he made in exact reckoning

at the end. That sort of system

should characterize every religious

and philanthropic organization. Ev-

lion dollars in American currency.

help from local officials as well.

Did their imaginations foretell

of Babylonia?

Now that it has grown so notably sesque and the adventurous. Just as the fashion for literary men to enter a caravan of camels on the sky line is the sphere of practical politics and a thing of rare beauty and stateliness, that the main body of exiles had enthe sphere of practical politics and a thing of rare beauty and statemess, that the sphere of practical politics and a thing of rare beauty and statemess, that the sphere of practical politics and a thing of rare beauty and statemess, that the sphere of practical politics and a thing of rare beauty and statemess, that the sphere of practical politics and a thing of rare beauty and statemess, that the sphere of practical politics and a thing of rare beauty and statemess, that the was a general. He perfectly suggestive to but common and unpleasant when study the career of a more distinguished services in study the career of a more distinguished services and jubilation; the sound of rejoicing both the Crimean and Algerian wars, guished literary man than they all, journeyings are made attractive by over the laying of the foundations of who lived half a century before the distance. The exiles could tell you the temple seemed still to be lingerbeginning of the Christian era. This that the camels are infested with ver- ing in the air. The eestacy of that famous author bore the name of min, and that there is no beast of occasion was fairly delirious, but, lo! Bazaine, in command of the French Ezra, and he might have lived the con- burden which so racks its rider. These Ezra finds little trace of it all. There genial life of a bookish recluse amid same Jews who had left comfortable has been a huge slump somewhere. the prosperity of Babylon. Instead, he chose the distasteful hurly-burly of administrative work sacrificing himself for what he considered the great- discomfort of caravan life. They in our own times, when a young man France looked to mazaine to save it ents claimed that, when he was play-

this comantic period which has bulk- this time of the year. ed so largely in Jewish and Christian history, and which of late years the spade has been digging up from beneath the arid soil of Mesopotamia. Ezra came to a place of power by sheer native force. He had a visionary's dreams, and an executive's practical abilities. His administrative capacity transformer his dreams into political realities.

A Nation in the Furnace.

"All ships look stately except the one upon which you ride," says the proverb. . It is hard to perceive the importance and meaning of one's own age. Even in the tremendous days of the present, some persons are heedless of their import. So the Jews, who lived through the period of the exile into Babylon did not understand the big meaning of it all. That it was a national furnace for the purification of the Jews is better understood now than then. The individual experiences of misery, of temporal prosperity, and of safety under the protection of the law of Babylonia, were all that the average Jews got out of the exile There are Chinese in plenty who are troubled by the unsettled state of their land at the present time, but who cannot at all see that their nation is passing through its greatest crisis. The extraordinary unsettling of American thought in our day means to some persons that war is a disturber. They are blind to the larger interpretation of their times.

This crisis of the Jewish exiles ism, was shown by Ezra's conduct consisted of the three deportations to with respect to this treasure. He Babylonia, the period of sojourn had every shekel of it carefully weigh- that is her peril. there, and the three returns-the first, ed at the beginning of the journey, the already studied, the second under Ezra at a period eighty years later. and then the third under Nehemiah.

By Desert Ways.

The thought of travel in the desert ery churchman in a position of trust appeals to every lover of the pictur- should demand regular and general

auditing of his accounts. The model business administration of every community might most properly be that of the best religious organization. The other side of Ezra's character came out when the questions of asking for guard arose. He had represented Jehovah as the ruler of nations, able to lift up and to cast down. His fine sense of fitness of things, and his zeals for the honor of Jehovah, would not permit him to ask for an escort from the king. He took all

A Reform Gone Wrong. It seems but a little time before could paint with many a graphic ges- who might have become a great poet, from the oncoming Teutons. His ing the fascinating game of politics, Ezra is one of the giant figures of ture the torrid heat of the desert at a great reformer, name was upon every lip. The fate he was of imagination all compact, deteriorates into a mere millionaire, of a nation was in the palm of his and could give to airy nothing a local lerusalem had insured its prosperity

> at the cost of its message. than to lose one's "gleam"? Thouswatched the Persian pilgrims travel ands of high-souled young men and stand agape. Retiring with his vast women are thus gradually becoming army into idetz, he made only a cal research. blind and deaf to the ideals which feeble resistance, which allowed the had once been as life and death to Germans to surround the city and them. They have, perhaps, master- bottle him up in a siege; and thereed fortune, but they have lost their after his defense of Metz showed asoul's loftiest possession. Even so weakness that struck terror to the these returned Jews had found good business to make alliances with him 180,000 men, including 6,000 the heathen. What a descent from officers, 143 generals, three field marmusical bells. A devout Jew seeing the first sincerity of their purposes, shals, and hundreds of pieces of when they had refused help from their heavy artillery, and the city was decontaminated brethren in building, fended by a modern fortress that As it is so often the case with the seemed impregnable. Yet on October "practical man," his shortsightedness | 27, 1870, before making half a fight, leads him to steps which really defeat | Bazaine surrendered the entire city his purposes. Had these Jews scan- and this entire force to the Prusthe way, and the regretful thoughts ned a larger horizon, they would have sians. they would send back to the fat land recalled that they were voluntarily

as a nation. door of the church, and usually she is harmonize with his past record. That best business methods are

Cleaning Up the Town.

She was in such bad case that it took all the courage of this man of European history books to meet the emergency. Ezra had a grip upon the law. That was his characteristic. He was not the sort of evangelist whose stock in trade is sentimental stories and shop-worn pious phraseology. Emotional the grand council held in the Tuilerappeals would not do for Jerusalem, so Ezra laid down the Mw, the stern

the lapsed city was violating. Sugar or Salt? Some folks can't see why piety does not atone for lawlessness. Coates- civil marriage of Bonaparte and ville attempted to justify herself in the eyes of the world by pointing to 1810, was witnessed by the college her special religiousness. . The world of cardinals, save only two who were said, "Prove it by convicting the too infirm to be brought to Paris. criminals in your midst." But Coatesville had not religion enough for that. fest at the religious marriage. Not In this extraordinarily perverted and a cardinal was present, although they dangerous separation between reli- said that their absence was an empty giousness and loyalty to law lies a form due only to the circumstances deep peril of our modern times. The that Pius VII. had not approved the Jews observed their temple ritual, but divorce. they kept heathen wives. Ezra understood that his mission was not to be sugar, to make himself agreeable to people, but to be salt, to purify and preserve society. So he drove the terrors of the law into their consciousness until something like an epidemic Last year it was 4,547. This year it he was 84 years old he and his of fear and remorse seized them. His hast year note was borrowed by Sam Jones, is 4,879. who was forever urging people to

quit your meanness. The sentimentalist would say that Ezras' demand that these Jews should relinquish their wives involved a hardship. So it did. Likewise it is al-ways a hardship when the thief is deprived of his income. It is a worse hardship, however, to his family when he is sent to jail. Whoever said that the wages of sin should be anything else than hard? To break the law always brings trouble; and often trouble to the innocent as well as the guilty. The cleaned up church creates havoc in some quarters; yet at clean church is worth all that it costs. Nobody doubts now that Ezra's stern. measures were the means of preserv. ing the life of the Jews, and in saving the returned exiles from a moral deterioration that would perhaps amount to the extinction of the Jewish people.

Death of Former Islander. Stella, Oct. 24.—The people of inherst Island felt very sad when the news came of the death of Mrs. Elwood Ballard, formerly Mrs Flemng of this place. Her death took place at the hospitals in Weyburn, Sask., on Sept. 29th. The funeral was from her home at Limerick, Sask, on Oct. 2nd. Mrs. Ballard was forn on Amherst Island nearly forty-Elgin, Manitoba, on Feb. 3rd, 1914. Besides her husband and two sittle children, there are left to mourn her loss four sisters and one brother: Mrs. W. Craig, who had been with her sister for some time; Mrs. J. Pringle, Mrs. A. Asseltine, Kingston; Mrs. R. P. Sanders and Mr. H. Fleming, of this place.

WAS BAZAINE A TRAITCR? Surrender of Metz Was Never Fully Explained.

Francois Achille Bazaine was born in the cannon's mouth, he entered the army. Being the scion of a wealthy family, he could have readily begun to carve out his career with proper precautions, and then trusted begin with the musket of a private an officer's sword, but he elected to soldier and earn promotion by efficient service in the ranks. With such a spirit it was easy for him to win promotion, and almost before be knew it he was a general. He perand when the unhappy Maximillian was establishing himself in Mexico. country for the ill-starred Austrian in and sit down beside him, when he

While the eyes of his countrymen Is there any worse calamity in life were upon him, Bazaine ande a student of the engrossing questions it heart of France. Bazaine had with

He was at once branded as a adopting the method which an ancient traitor who had sold his country to was susceptible to anything of this Assyrian conqueror had used to de- the hated enemy. As evidence to the kind. If she could have told the stroy the national integrity of the contrary, he declared that his army Jews, They were taking heathen had been starving and unfit to fight wives and thus losing their identity and that he had made a report to the French Government to that effect; The tendency to conform to one's but there was no record of such a

mon a temptation as mortal meets. The most charitable view that any Ask the old resident in the East what Frenchman took of the catastrophe he has seen befall newcomers. World- was that Bazaine was grossly incomliness always sits seductively at the petent. But this theory could not than Dr. Tupper.

invited inside. "Be ye not conform- Brought before a court-martial on ed, but be ye transformed," is the the charge of treason, Bazaine was word for all chosen people. Some convicted and sentenced to be shot, one says that the church is in the but his old colleague, Marshal Macworld, which is her privilege; but Mahon, when elected president of when the world gets into the church, France, took pity on him, commuting his sentence to twenty years' im-

Bazaine now treated France to an-An evangelist has come to town, other mystery and another sensation. hy is this? Did we not have an He was found missing from his cell, evangelist last year? Is another re- and the news was sent abroad that he vival necessary? Alas, and alas, so had escaped through the assistance it is. There are few churches or com- of his faithful Mexican wife, but the munities that do not need frequent re-viving. Jerusalem, which within the without the connivance of some one memory of living men had witnessed powerful in the Government. He fled a great religious celebration, was now to Spain and after there escaping assorely in need of another spiritual ex- sassination died suddenly in 1888. His purpose in surrendering Metz will ever remain one of the secrets of

Napoleon's Divorce.

Napoleon's divorce, a civil act of ies on December 15, 1809, and the next day the senate confirmed it. To and irrevocable law of Jehovah which remove all religious scruples, the court of the bishop of Paris met and pronounced the marriage with Josephine null, this action being taken on January 14, 1810. The Maria Louisa of Austria, April 1,

> Cobourg Gained 422, the assessor's figures, the population a great shock which led Sir Charles of the town of Cobourg shows an in- to forget anything, for he had a marcrease of about 400 for this year. vellously retentive memory. When



There's a Reason

Sir Charles Was a Dreamer

LADY in Toronto who knew Sir Charles Tupper vell tells how deeply interested he was in dreams and apparitions, in all the absorbing questions of psychical research. Once in crossing the Atlantic with him she and a friend received a norvous shock one evening, when Sir Charles came into the cabin where they were seated and told them that he had seen a strange face at the porthole. Unlike John Greenleaf Whittier, who longed to see some dear ghost walk habitation and a name, very few susmove that caused all France to which were being investigated in a scientific way by societies of psychi-

After completing his medical studies in Scotland Dr. Tupper and a friend made an excursion into England before returning to Canada. In passing a gipsy encampment they decided to have their fortunes told. As the gipsy girl looked into the hand of the young Canadian doctor she told him that he had come from a long way across the waters. She then proceeded to read his past life as if from a book; but she could not tell him much about the future. The impression which this fortune-telling gipsy made upon him is one of the first hints which we get

in the life of Sir Charles that he future as easily as she read the past what an improbable story of marvellous achievements in the consolidation and development of a great country he would have heard that day, for as Sir Wilfrid Laurier testified long afterwards there was no one who gave more of his heart and soul to the work of Confederation

One of the remarkable dreams which Sir Charles could never forget came to him when crossing to Britain a good many years after the incident at the gipsy encampment. He deramed that a Halifax lady came to him and told him that his wife was dangerously ill. "The dream was so real," he says, "that I wrote it down with the date. When I reached Liverpool I wrote to my wife telling her the dream and the date, and saying I was ashamed of being so disturbed by a dream, as she had never had any serious illness, but that I should feel uneasy till I heard from her. She wrote te-me the same day from Halifax, and our letters crossed in midocean, telling me that on the night in question she had taken dangerously ill and that the lady who appeared to me in my dream had stayed with her all night."

At another time much later in life Sir Charles went to Paris, leaving Lady Tupper in England. He dreamed one night that she was very ill. So sure was he that there was someto England the next day and found The PHONOGRAPH WITH A SOUL TO A TO WELL THE THE PHONOGRAPH WITH A SOUL

Another of Sir Charles' dreams

the unveiling of Nicholas Flood Davin's monument at Ottawa, July snares the soul of music." 1st, 1903. "I dreamed the night before that when I unveiled Mr. Davin's statue he was a black man who put out his hand to shake hands with me, and that I fell down in a fit." When Sir Charles unveiled the statue Princess and Sydenham he was so surprised to find that it was bronze instead of white marble that he forgot a quotation from Bulwer Lytton which he intended to make. His dream of the night before must have flashed through his mind and led him to fear that the bronze statue might make an effort to shake Cobourg, Oct. 25 .- According to hands with him. It must have been granddaughter began the study of Italian together at Rome, and in an almost incredibly short period of time he spoke the language well enough to respond in that tongue to the Pope when his Loliness blessed him. The Pope blessed Sir Charles, and, as is the case of old Father Taylor, the sailor preacher of Boston, no doubt Sir Charles blessed the

> Sir Charles inherited his susceptibility to such things from his distinguished father, Rev. Charles Tupper, who lived so near to the border land of the better life that he could see many things that were hidden from grosser natures.

Many think that dreams are entirely fanciful, and meaningless, inspired more by the dinner eaten. or the nervous excitement of the waking hours, then by anything paychical or spiritual. Instead of saying that we are such stuff as dreams are made of, they think that it is wiser to say that dreams are such stuff as we are made of. Many dreams are no doubt of this kind. and are not worthy of any serious thought; but since the grey dawn of history wise people in every land, like Joseph amongst the Hebrews, and Pilate's wife amongst the Romans, and John Wesley amongst the English, and Robert Louis Stevenson amongst the Scotch, and Sir Charles Tupper amongst the Cana-dians, have believed that some dreams are not all a dream, that some have a message in them for us which comes to is in some way which we may not fully understand, but which we cannot altogether dis-

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Nos. 1, 6, 7, 13, 14, 16, 18, 19 run daily.
Other trains daily except Sundag.
Direct route to Toronto, Peterboro,
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EXPERIENCE, THE TEACHER

ed to protect its readers from the demoralizing influence of indecent

theatrical performances. From time to time we have published the

"White List" of plays, compiled by the leaders in "The Catholic The-

atre Movement." We have felt called upon time and again to con-

demn the immoral films of the "movies" and the indecent exhibitions

of the burlesque houses. But, as we have never hesitated in con-

demning the bad, it has always given us pleasure to commend the

ence," the morality play. This drama is one of the best that has

visited this city in years. It shows the adventures of "Youth," who

leaves his boyhood home to go out into the great world and win suc-

ess in the turbulent ways of life. He begins his journey with a pure

heart, an innocent mind, a soul inspired with high and noble pur-

poses. Soon he meets temptations, the temptations that beset every

oung man when he leaves the protecting shelter of his parental roof

o take his place in the busy marts of trade and commerce. He

succumbs to the allurements of wice until he finds himself on the very

brink of crime and the lowest diegradation, when he is recalled to a

sense of better things by hearing the words of a hymn, which brings

back to his mind tender recollections of his dear mother and his boy-

hood home. He turns from his follies, retraces his steps, and cour-

ageously begins life anew, with love, hope and ambition guiding his

"For this reason we feel gratified to be able to praise "Experi-

"As occasion has required, the Catholic Telegraph has endeavor-

and serves to bring out in a most striking manner the lesson that the eductions of the primrose path are dead sea fruit, fair without, rot-

Editorial in The Catholic Telegraph (Cincinnati).

Thursday, September 21st, 1916.

NOTE TO KINGSTON THEATRE-GOERS On Thursday, November First, the Most Wonderful Play in America, "Experience," written by George V. Hobart, will begin an engagement of three nights and matinee Saturday at the Grand Opera House. It comes here after nine months in New York, five months in Boston, seven months in Chicago, and five months in Philadelphia. Seats for the engagement will be on sale at the Grand Opera House on Monday, October 29th. Prices, evenings and Saturday matinee, 50c to \$1.50.

Send 17 cents in stamps to Manager, "Experience" Company. His Majesty's Theatre, Montreal (this week only), for 150-page illustrated book of the play, acting version.