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SECOND SECTION

SEEING THE NEAR IN THE LIGHT OF THE LARGE.

The International Sunday School Lesson For December 30th is A Quarterly Review; "God's Redeeming Love."— Psalms 123, 124.

By William T. Ellis.

Within the past week I have traveled from the shores of the Yellow Sea, past the Great Wall of China, and the fertile fields of Manchuria into the mountains and the great green valleys of Siberia, an imperial realm. Within that time I have had to face and discuss the Chinese Question, the Japanese Question and the Russian Question, with the relation of America to them all. Whatever else may be said of such a strenuous week it certainly helps one to see things in the large. The incidental and the details become lost in the general. One must deal with large units; that seems particularly easy to do as I look out of the windows of this Siberian express, across vast spaces of grazing land, with lakes and rivers, and the blue hills beyond, and the Mongol nomads standing to gaze as the train glides by.

Somehow similar in effect to the journey I am at the moment making is this quarterly review of the Sunday School lesson. It sweeps a wide horizon, and deals with a succession of great events and movements. An honest study of this lesson, with what it involves, would give one the essential groundwork of a liberal education, which is the ability to perceive things in their large relationships, with a true historical perspective. Well do I remember an address by the late Bishop Forster, of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in which he set forth the march and compass of the Russian nation, and its possibilities. More definitely than any other one single experience in a young reporter's life, that great speech did for me what I hope this International Sunday School Lesson will do for other young people—set them to cultivating an international consciousness. For the only way to be really up to date and efficient person is to keep in mind what has been and what may yet be in the whole large scheme of things. A village mind is inadequate simply because it does not take all the factors into consideration.

Getting God's Viewpoint.

Two little keys that help unlock the mysteries of providence are a quotation concerning God, "My ways are not your ways," and "With Him a thousand years are as a day." That is to say, God always sees things in the large. He does not look through any man's spectacles. All His ways with men comprehend large units of time. His plans do not all work out in a year or a century or a millennium—but they are eventually worked out. Human views are inadequate, because they take account of only a small portion of the great pattern of God's weaving. We think in small terms about God's large plans. The near vision, it is true, means more to us than the wide, outcome. Private soldiers are often interested only in battles, whereas commanders in chief are concerned with the entire campaign. To the Jews driven into exile, all things had collapsed. Their skies had fallen. In their place of shore, vision, it is possible to see the great and beneficent purposes of Jehovah in that stern experience. Yet the exile was needed by the Jews and by the world. Into these dark days about which the Sunday schools have been studying came the prophets, who tried to help people see things in the large, and to point out the relation between cause and effect. This prophet gift of patriotism.

"Which sees beyond the year, Thine alabaster cities gleam, Undimmed by human tears." Alone sustains a people in a dark time. If there were no prospect of a long to-morrow, to justify to-day, we should be to all men most miserable. A heaven is indispensable to any happy conception of earth. Every mother who has given her son a sacrifice to the great war would indeed sorrow as one who has no hope did she not believe that God is working out in our time some great purpose, which is worthy of the best. This sense of forming part of an infinite and eternal plan is one of the loftiest conceptions possible to mortal. It links him with the beautiful hereafter wherein all things are made perfect.

Holding Steady To-day.

The experience of these old Jews do not particularly interest us except as they have a bearing upon our own time. That the hand of Jehovah was in the history of Israel concerns us less than that His hand is guiding the events of our world of the here and now, and this is the very truth for to-day. Near views may be disconcerting, and the tangle of things may seem inextricable, but the larger view—the look from God's side of the dark cloud—reveals the outworking of designs so vast that there must be a commotion in heaven. Our day seems to be the fruition time of history. The goals for which the prophets and patriots and seers agonized are now in sight. This is the day of universal emancipation. Old shackles are being broken and old enclaves ended. Entire nations are coming into the light of freedom and self-government. Exiles are returning home. Social injustices of immemorial antiquity are being righted. Despite the great war, hatred between men and men, class and class, is diminishing. With a new sense of racial solidarity and interdependence, we are setting about the task of reclaiming all the waste places of earth, so that the hungry everywhere may be fed. Bur-

...tory which this review period covers? We have seen them rise as a kingdom split in twain and then pursue an undeviating course, until finally they were dispersed by the Captivity, which was the fall of Jehovah. Were they cured of their idolatry? Yet the archaeologists are digging up incantation bowls which show that for centuries after the Captivity the Jews were pastmasters in the art of witchcraft. To-day the temporal condition of the Jew is better than it has ever been since the fall of Jerusalem. Wealth, prestige, position, and political consideration all belong to the Jew. The most careful observers within the race, perhaps the most Jewish people is an ominous sign of a deplorable condition that makes wealth, learning and standing of no avail. The youth of Judaism is being lost to the faith of its fathers. The need for old prophets, such as have spoken words that have echoed in all the Sunday schools of earth during the past twelve months, is still present with the Chosen People. The Jews were in school to God. We have seen in these studies the full course of the curriculum. The one great admonition of the teacher was to fix the heart. With incredible patience and infinite resourcefulness, God sought to teach His people the lesson of loyalty to Him. They preferred to follow fashion. Can this new Western world learn the same lesson?

STILL MAKING GRINDSTONES.

One Family Has Operated New Brunswick Quarry for a Century At Woodbine, N. B., five miles from Sackville, in the Moncton consular district, is a grindstone quarry whose product, until the present transportation restrictions, was shipped in large quantities to ports on the eastern seaboard of the United States, says a consular report from Moncton, N. B. The present of the company operating this quarry states that grindstones were first quarried in Canada near Minudie, N. S., probably by the French, for local use before the British occupation, or about 1746. In the early part of the nineteenth century the quarry was operated by a present holder of the lease, in company with an associate, acquired control of these grindstone ledges and began making regular shipments of grindstones to the United States in small vessels.

Quarries were opened at other points, notably in Pictou County, N. S.; at Shediac and Fox Creek, along the Miramichi river, and at Stonehaven, Gloucester County, in New Brunswick. At the last named operations were started in 1856. Although the Stonehaven quarries lie beyond the consular district, a consular report, a described quarry cannot well be omitted. Stonehaven is situated on the south bank of the Bay of Chaleur, eighteen miles east of Bathurst. The bank of the cliff at this spot is fifty feet or more in height, on the beach below is the quarry operated by the same company as that similarly employed near Sackville. It is said that half the grindstones used in Canada originate at Stonehaven. The product consists of all sizes from eight inches in diameter for kitchen use, to eighty-four inches in diameter by fourteen inches thick. The latter is the largest "stock" stone, each one weighing about three and a half tons. Stones from twelve to thirty inches in diameter for large hardware trade are made in large quantities. Stones from thirty to forty-eight inches for machine-shop use are made in only slightly less quantity.

The Stonehaven quarries were reclaimed from siltwater by the building of a dam. The most recently constructed of these dams is over one and a quarter miles long. Like the others, it is built chiefly of timber cribwork filled with stone, and heavily rip-rapped on the side exposed to the sea. After the dam is built the water is pumped out and quarrying begins. The stone lies in horizontal sheets of varying thickness, the total

depth of the formation being about twenty-five feet. Modern methods are employed at the Stonehaven plant. A steam channeller and steam and air drills are used as required, and by their use, with powder and wedges, the rock is quarried to the required size. It is then hoisted to the "dump," where the stoneworkers take it and shape it round. From there, if it is not too thick for a single grindstone, it goes direct to the lathe to be finished. If the block is two or three feet thick it is sent to the saws and cut to the required thickness. This applies to the larger stones. The smaller stones are split out of the irregular-shaped that come out along with the larger stones. The stones are cut round and shaped as a rough grindstone. For handling stones three derricks are used at the quarry, three at the mill, and three at the wharf and station, while a traveling derrick operating under its own power and equipped with an "orange peel" bucket has been used for stripping purposes. One steam hammer is used in the quarry, three in the mill, and one in the wharf and station, while a traveling derrick operating under its own power and equipped with an "orange peel" bucket has been used for stripping purposes. One steam hammer is used in the quarry, three in the mill, and one in the wharf and station, while a traveling derrick operating under its own power and equipped with an "orange peel" bucket has been used for stripping purposes.

Albert's Wool. Alberta's total wool clip of 2,656,663 pounds is valued at \$1,181,628.29 by James A. Hill, of the Dominion live stock branch, who has just completed a census of the wool shipped from the province (the sea-son average price to grower is 60 per pound).

The highest price for any kind of wool grade was 67.30c per pound, bid on a lot of fine medium combing at a Toronto sale. This year's clip represents more money than two average clips would in ordinary times. Mr. Hill states that the industry is on a sound footing all over the province. Many of the range sheep are pasturing on forest reserves in the mountains, though some of them, including part of a band owned by Ray Knight, have been brought back to the prairie owing to the damage done to feed by forest fires.

Apples in Nova Scotia. There are said to be about 2,000,000 apple trees in Nova Scotia, yielding 500,000 to 1,500,000 barrels, with a recent average of 800,000 barrels. Expert say the province should produce 10,000,000 barrels yearly.

Stamp-obliterating Machine. A new stamp-obliterating machine in use at the French Post Office gives the instructions "Stick the stamp on the right-hand top of the envelope." Much valuable time is lost when this rule is not observed.

Green Feed For Chickens. Chickens confined to small yards should always be supplied with green feed, such as lettuce, sprouted oats, alfalfa or clover, but the best place to raise chickens successfully is on a good range, where no extra green feed is required. Where the chickens are kept in small bare yards, the charcoal, grit and oyster shell should be kept before the chickens all of the time, and cracked or ground bone may be fed. The bone is not necessary for chickens that have a good range.

A spoiled child is to be pitied because of its silly parents. The price of liberty often depends on the humor of the judge.

ANECDOTES FROM FRANCE.

German Soldiers Express Desire for Peace.

A Heutenant and patrol of nine men of a Quebec battalion gave an object lesson on the western front recently, showing the value of careful scouting. The party went out into a haze lying in the low land between the enemy lines and our own, and at a point about 200 yards from a German trench discovered six Germans on outpost duty under the shade of some trees. The Quebecers stalked the party. They captured three and killed others. After bringing in the prisoners, the lieutenant, feeling certain that the enemy would investigate, took out the patrol again and concealed his men near the outpost. A second party of Germans appeared shortly afterwards, and in the fight that followed three of them were captured, one after sustaining severe wounds. Not one of our men was hit in this admirable bit of outpost warfare. German soldiers at Lens fired by the use of an aerial dart: "Dear Tommy: The German Tommy sends you hearty greetings from Lens. When will there be peace? Please reply." That the rank and file of the enemy troops have a great longing for peace is confirmed by every prisoner captured. One of their chief grievances is the failure of their company commanders frequently depute to under officers, their duties while in the trenches and remain well back from the front. This is so different from the relations between our own officers and men that it is freshly impressed on the minds of the Germans on every occasion when there is hand-to-hand fighting.

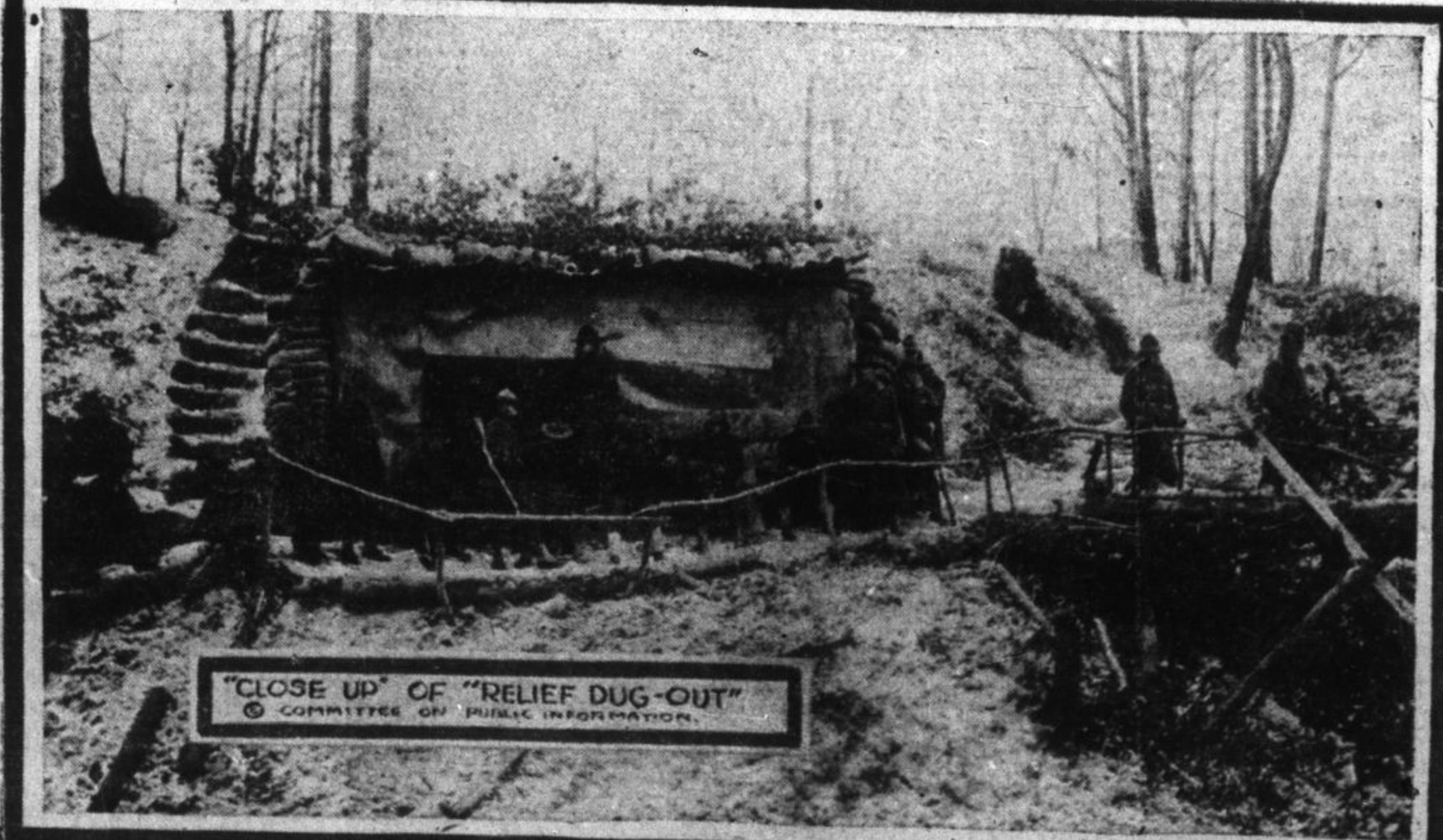
Petroleum in Canada. According to Victor Ross in his book "Petroleum in Canada," commercial petroleum was brought into existence in Canada in 1858 by J. H. Williams, of Hamilton, who was attracted by what was known as the "gun beds" of Oil Springs. Because he was familiar with the discovery of petroleum in America and the world, Mr. Williams set about extracting what he believed to be the same sort of naphtha as that produced by the wells in Baku. His first effort took the form of a retort and the gum was boiled. This primitive attempt at distillation produced a comparatively light, iridescent liquid. In the hope that he might obtain greater quantities by digging beneath the surface of the gum beds, he excavated a well, and found that the greater the depth, the greater the first oil well in America was dug a year before Drake's well in Pennsylvania, 1859, although it did not pierce the limestone.

The experiment attracted many persons to the field, and ten or twelve shallow wells were opened at Black Creek, in the vicinity of Oil Springs. It was not until February, 1862, however, that what may be termed the first real oil well was drilled. This was the achievement of James Shaw, a poor photographer, who had lived in the vicinity for many years, and had been a close observer of the methods of the prospectors. With the old-fashioned spring pole worked by foot-power Shaw punched the cap of the upper vein of oil-rock at a depth of 155 feet at Oil Springs. The result was a well that gushed thousands of gallons an hour and flowed for a comparatively long period.

Shaw received no permanent benefit from his discovery and is said to have died in poverty. He was offered \$25,000 in gold for his property when the well began to flow, but declined all proposals and lived to see the day when it dwindled down to a "pumper" of a few barrels a day.

Wrote Copy of Bible. Hugh Russell, of Notre Dame de Grace, a suburb of Montreal, has a copy of the Bible written entirely in his own hand. It has taken him twenty-three years to do it. Mr. Russell is a commercial traveller.

"CLOSE-UP" OF A "RELIEF DUGOUT SOMEWHERE IN FRANCE"



Here are some of our boys, "somewhere in France." When this photograph was taken they were stationed at a relief dugout some distance from the firing line, tuning up, as it were, for the real business.

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VICTORY LOAN Payments due on January the 2nd may be made at any time to and including January the 11th. Scrip Certificates will be delivered in exchange for payments then due. Payments due January the 2nd must be made at the Bank branch mentioned in the application.