NEWS AND VIEWS FOR WOMEN READERS

A Hero Tale of the Hebrews.

sonal attendance upon the throne. All

of a courtier's privileges and perquisi-

tes were his. He was a "success." No

remark would have been made had he

become effeminized and debauched by

was a Jewish patriot to the core.

the ocean to find prosperity indiffer-

ent to public need and private woe

in the fact that he was safe and successful while his brethren suffered. So

wrung was the cup-bearer's heart by

Boldly staking his position and his

of rebuilding the city's walls. His sec-

What About Enemies?

With that amazing timeliness and

to thwart him. They sought to be-

But Nehemiah could not be diverted

miah rose up and cried, "Be not afraid

of them, Remember the Lord, who is great and terrible, and fight for your

kinsmen, your sons and your daugh-

ters your wives and your homes." No

pacifist was Nehemiah,. By stout

hearts, faithful hands and wise leader-

ship, the wall of Jerusalem was rebuilt.

Ah! for Nehemiahs in every commu-

nity today! The big brave man, with

brains and initiative, is the answer to

The Great Celebration. Then followed the celebration, After work, commemoration. The people were gathered together by the completed wall, for a great festival. Para-

doxically, they "capped the climax" of

building by putting the real founda-tion, the spiritual, under the wall of

the city, For Ezra brought out the

Book of the Law, and read from morning to noon(no half-hour sermon for

them!) the will of Jehovah for Jerusalem and the Jews. It was a ceremony of getting upon a Bible basis. Not stones and mortar, but moral principals and spiritual vision, make a city

I have been seeing more than a little of "booster" organizations in a

variety of communities of late, and I am impressed by the fact that they are

nearly every problem.

strong and safe.

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but it must be Keen's



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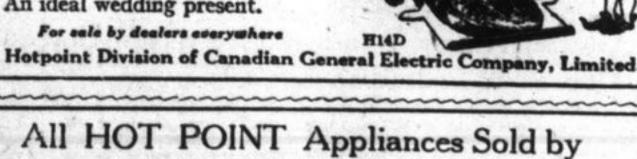
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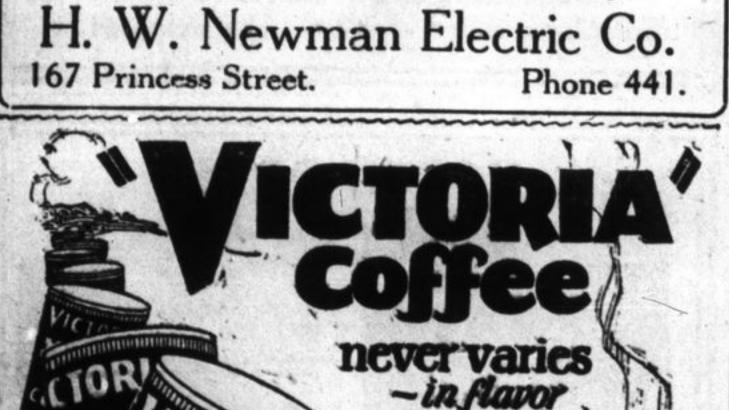
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CANDIES

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The International Sunday School Lesson for June 22nd is. "Reforms Under Ezra and Nehemiah."-Ezra. Chapters 7-10: Nehemiah, Chapters 5, 8, 13.

By WILLIAM T. ELLIS

Change, if not progress, is the day's alist does something about it when he dominant mood. Summarize the for- finds his country in a bad way. eign dispatches in the newspapers for a week or a month and the ferment and transformation they indicate will represent a general trend of the times. Reform and radicalism and even revolution mark the affairs of the big world of our generation. Discontent is universal. Whether the war itself, or the widely-proclaimed allied war aims. or the upheaval in Russia, is responthe enervating atmosphere of an oriensible, matters little. Mankind in the nass is undergoing at present a great

Some regard this fact as formidable They fear for the stability of the essentials of civilization. Others see in it merely a swift reaction from a period of sag and slump. People's eyes are opening to public rights and public welfare. We are merely experiencing one of the eras of reform that have marked human development since ing their luxury and pursuit of pleas- clear the will of God as set forth in of that continent. At home, the Herald. School Lesson deals with the reforms compatriots suffer. We need not cross at Jerusalem under Ezra and Nehemiah. That experience holds more than one wise counsel for our own restless Nehemiah, though, found no comfort

When Up-Grade Turns Down.

A graph of history is an undulating the ill news that his face revealed his The world goes forward by a anguish to the eyes of the king. series of ups and downs. As we saw in last week's Lesson, there had been influence upon the venture, Nehemiah a revival in desolate Jerusalem, and secured royal permission and support among the dispersed patriots; and un- for a trip to Jerusalem, to succor the der the leadership of Zerubbabel, the Jews. Instant in decision, bold in actemple had been rebuilt. It seemed as tion, able in resourcefulness, tenacious if the nation had been set right for a in purpose, inspiring in leadership, new beginning, under the tolerant rule this patriot threw himself into the task

But the news which was carried a ret night ride about Jerusalem, to find few decades later, back beyond the out the facts for himself, was typical River-"the River" in the Bible mean- of his actions. ing the wonderful Euphrates, which rises far up in the Caucasus, and empties into the Persian Gulf and so into the Indian Ocean-where the Hebrew exiles dwelt, was disturbing. The Jews pertinency to our own day which in Judah had lapsed. Their morals seems to mark these International Leshad become corrupted, and their soc- sons, we find Nehemiah setting our ial condition was deplorable. They modern squabbling times an example dwelt in poverty amidst the ruins of of how to behave in the presence of Jerusalem. The walls of the city were opposition. Of course, his activity broken down, and they were cowed made enemies; every positive and conby hostile neighbors. Graft had cor- structive course does so. Sanballat, rupted the nobles; and even some Tobiah and Geshem, leaders of hospriestly families had intermarried with tile groups, tried in every possible way the surrounding heathen.

The tale was one to break a patriot's guile him into controversial conferenheart. It stirred Ezra and Nehemiah ces down on the plains of Ono; but to tears-and to action. One test of a Nehemiah's answer was that he was citizen's soul quality in these days is doing a great work and was too busy the way he reacts to news of to come down. They intrigued to make untoward national conditions. There him appear disloyal to the Persian are many, like the prosperous monarch. They bribed his friends to exiles of Babylonia, who merely ex- give him craven advice. Ceaselessly, pressed regret in conventional plati- they sought to discourage and to scare tudes; and then went about their busi- him. ness as usual. That both the world and the nation are in a grave case nowa- from work for controversy. He went days gets no more than a deprecatory right on building. He slept in his closhake of the head from many a man thes, with his weapon at his side, He who would be insulted if he were call- put every man to a task on the wall ed otherwise than a patriot. It does opposite to his own house. He armed not need the example of these Bible the workers and set a watch. When heroes to remind us that public ills the foe intimidated the workers. Nehecall for personal action. The true loy-

BLACK DINNER FROCK



The black dinner frock of eason is usually pepped up by little color or the use of bright-col- builders. ored beads or jewels. Here we have One who moves about much among a large bird of brilliants doing the men marvels at the growing conviction trick. The skirt is plain in the back among editors, business men and puband front and full at the sides. The licists to the effect that our times need neck is rather lower than we have the undergirding of the Bible. We are been wearing, but it has the sanction witnessing an alarming breaking down of Paris.

ality and selfishness are arrogating to themselves authority even among persons who should know better. Therefore men with a sense of responsibility, who would be labelled non-religious. are turning back to the Bible.

Recently the Pope specified five reasons for the current restlessness and discontent of the world:-"1. The unprecedented challenge to

all authority. "2. The unprecedented hatred between man and man-internationally and in industry.

"3. The abnormal aversion to work that is to be observed on every hand. "4. The excessive thirst for pleasure as the chief aim in life.

"5. A gross materialism that denies Off in the Persian court, in high favor with the great king, was a young the realty of the spiritual in human Hebrew cup-bearer, Nehemiah in per-

These charges are true; and every one of the conditions represented i to be met by the clear application of the teachings of the Bible. Ours is an era wherein speculation and vague rationalism are being set up as stantal palace. Yet this young Nehemiah dards in opposition to Scripture. The was of sturdier stuff; and although he Pope points out the consequences. stood close to the Persian throne, he Now let us follow the Ezra fashion and tell folk what the Bible really says So when messengers from Jerusa- to our times. Like him, we should lem related the plight of the holy city make the meaning plain; bring the

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A Good Time Coming.

to revive the spirits and confidences of our people. The year 1924 gives promise of repeating the gift of a Powerful factors throughout the fine crop. If that promise is fulworld are at present tending to im- filled, not the farmers of the west prove conditions for the agricultural alone, but the manufacturers of the worker in Canada. The Dawes plan east, as well, will have cause for reand its people, the news broke him all Book down to the understanding of the for the settlement of European dif- joicing, as the prospering producers up. He was a man who cared for his common people. Then we shall have ficulties gives promise of hastening of the prairies will supply a huge brethren and for his native land. Con- a world at peace and a world in safety that return to productive effort in market for the business men of the trast Nehemiah with-say, to be safe- and a world full of happy people. The Europe which will so greatly extend east. In Canada just now there is no the German profiteers who are flaunt- man or woman who is helping to make the purchasing power of the nations place for the pessimist.—Calgary



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