

SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

LESSON VIII. C

May 29, 1915.—David King over Judah and Israel.—2 Samuel 2: 1-7; 5: 1-5

Commentary.—1. David made king of Judah (2: 1-4.) 1. After this—After the death of Saul and Jonathan in the battle of Gilboa, in which the Philistines defeated the Israelites. Shall I go up—David knew that he was to become king of Israel and he sought divine guidance as to how he should enter upon this work. We can not detect any personal ambition in David. He inquired of the Lord by Abiathar, the high priest. Unto Hebron—David and his followers were then living in Ziklag, which had been granted to him by the Philistines. He was to go into purely Israelitish territory. Hebron was a city in the patriarchal period (Gen. 13: 18; Joh. 10: 37) it was the centre of the tribe of Judah, and was a fitting place for him to occupy. The region was mountainous, and could be easily defended. David was familiar with this country, as it was but a few miles from Bethlehem, his native place. The northern part of the land of Israel was troubled by the Philistines and parts were loyal to the house of Saul. 2. Jozabab.—The Jezreel which was the country of Abinozom was in the land of Judah, as was the country of Carmel, the hope of Abiathar. God's plan in the beginning was that a man should have but one living wife, and this is still his plan. In patriarchal and later times polygamy was in a sense permitted. 3. His men that were with him—Those who had been loyal to him during the years of his exile. With his household—They had come to have a measurably settled abode at Ziklag. Cities of Hebron—These were smaller towns situated near Hebron and perhaps dependent upon it. David provided for his supporters and their families in the new location. 4. The men of Judah came—They were friendly toward him. The fact that he distributed presents to the people of Judah a short time before this (1 Sam. 30: 28-31) shows that he regarded them as his friends, and this act might have made them still more friendly toward him. They anointed David king over Judah—David had already been anointed privately by Samuel to mark God's choice of him as the future king, but it was natural that the ceremony should now be repeated publicly as the formal inauguration of his reign, and even a third time, when he was made king over all Israel.—Cam. Bib. The time was not yet ripe for all the tribes of Israel to come under his leadership. He was loyally accepted by Judah, who had not together and elected him their king. He had patience to wait God's time for the kingdom to become established. He had learning patience during the past ten years, and he was becoming fitted for an illustrious reign over the nation.

II. Message to Jabesh-Gilead (2: 7-9.) 5. Unto the men of Jabesh-Gilead—When the people of Jabesh-Gilead heard that the Philistines had mutilated the body of Saul they went and took it and the bodies of his sons to Jabesh and buried them. David heard of their respect for Saul and his sons and their kindly act in burying their remains, and he sent a message to them, commending their kindness. Blessed be ye of the Lord—David's pity finds expression on this occasion. His large-heartedness is shown in his thoughtfulness with regard to the remains of his enemy. 6. I also will requite you this kindness—The message he was then sending was a recognition of their regard for Saul and his sons. 7. To ye ye valiant men—David manifested a real interest in the men of Jabesh-Gilead. They were without a king and were liable to be attacked by the Philistines. House of Judah have anointed me king over them—David's message to this people was not only a commendation of their regard for Saul, but it was also, without doubt, an act of diplomacy, by which he thought he might induce them to accept of him as king. Jabesh became the seat of the northern kingdom, which was ruled by Ishbosheth, the only surviving son of Saul. Abner was the military head of the northern tribes and it was through his efforts that this kingdom continued for a few years.

III. David made king of all Israel (5: 1-5.) 1. Then came all the tribes of Israel to David—There had been hostility between the kingdom of Judah and that of the north, and finally the former obtained a victory over the latter. Ishbosheth had been assassinated and David had caused the assassins to be put to death. Probably it was not long after the death of Ishbosheth that representatives of all the tribes of Israel assembled at Hebron and elected him king. We are thy bone and thy flesh—All the tribes were of one blood. They had come from a common ancestor. They had the same God and had received the same divine promises. This was one reason why all should be under one king. 2. Thou leddest out and broughtest in Israel—A second reason for allegiance to David was that he had been a successful leader against Israel's enemies.—Thou shalt feed my people Israel—The king is represented under the figure of a shepherd. David had been a shepherd and knew that a shepherd should provide pasture, water and protection for his sheep. The king should have a tender care for his subjects. A captain—David was to be more than a provider for his people. He was to rule over them and to be their military leader. It seemed essential, in view of the numerous enemies that were ready to attack Israel that there should be a strong military power in the government, but we remember that God mightily defended his people when they obeyed and trusted him. 3. Elders of Israel.—The leading men of the various tribes. Made a league—The people had declared that David should be the king of all Israel, so he entered into a solemn contract with them, they promising to do certain things on their part and he pledging

that he would do certain things. Before the Lord—The covenant was made as a solemn religious ceremony, in the presence of the supreme King of Israel, whose vice-regent David was.—Cam. Bib. They anointed David king—This was the third time he was anointed for the kingship of Israel. 4. Thirty years old—This was the age at which priests entered upon their duties. Joseph was made ruler of Egypt at thirty. Jesus entered upon his public ministry at this age. This was the age of maturity. 1. In Hebron—His capital during the seven and a half years that he was king over Judah alone. In Jerusalem he reigned thirty-three years—Jerusalem was a stronghold, a part of which was held by the Jebusites until David had become king of all Israel. The hill Zion is the southwestern portion of Jerusalem. The deep valley of Hinnom lies on the west and south and the Tyropoon valley on the north and east. David gained possession of Jerusalem and made it his capital during the last thirty-three years of his long reign.

Questions.—What events are recorded in David's life from the time he became Saul's heir in Hebron? What question did David ask the Lord? Why did he send a message to Jabesh? Who came to David after he had been reigning seven years at Hebron, and for what purpose? How many times and on what occasions was David anointed? How long did David reign in Jerusalem?

PRACTICAL SURVEY.

Topic.—Fidelity Rewarded.
I. According to divine ordination.
II. By mutual covenant with Israel.
III. According to divine ordination.
David, the man after God's own heart, looked out on his opening prospects with a careful eye. It was his genuine piety that prompted him to wait upon God when trouble ceased and success began. Past discipline had manifestly wrought in David such confidence in the order of Providence and such breadth of vision with respect to divine methods, as to render him indifferent to unhallowed suggestions. He was a much stronger man as a consequence of the protracted trials of past years, than he would have been had there been no waiting for the realization of hopes embodied in the promise of God. The sobriety, caution and self-restraint, acquired in adversity, served him well under all the distracting and diverting influences of an elevation to the throne of Judah. There was greater demand for skill, watchfulness and caution than ever. The beginning of prosperity was a time of peculiar danger when more subtle temptations would arise. His final triumph depended upon how he improved his partial success. A man of less faith than David would have despaired of witnessing the day when the whole nation would, by a solemn act of coronation, fall in with the purpose of God. His cheerful acceptance of partial success was in keeping with his former patient endurance of deferred hope. It was to him a pledge of still farther advance, until God's original promise should be fulfilled, and in its entirety be fulfilled. It is to the honor of David that he retained amid all the new and perilous conditions his old tenderness of feeling and noble generosity. His first recorded act after his accession to the throne of Judah was of a kindly nature, that of sending a message of peace and good-will to the men of Jabesh-Gilead. He would have them know how sincerely he cherished the remembrance of their kindness to Saul. Those who took part in David's inauguration at Hebron acted in fulfillment of the divine purpose concerning the divine prediction concerning the pre-eminence of Judah. David became king of the people of Judah by their own choice. In acting independently of the other tribes, Judah neither aimed at dominion over them nor separation from them.

II. By mutual covenant with Israel. By the death of Saul and Jonathan the obstacles to David's accession to the throne were removed in part only. Abner, captain of Saul's host, whose personal motives induced him to act in direct opposition to God, defeated the earnest efforts of David to ward off strife, so that it was his bitter lot to see the kingdom torn by civil war. The time came after seven and one half years, when all Israel met to do what God intended should be done. Through the loyalty of David the union was effected. It was Israel's duty to seek David's leadership, as well as his to undertake it. His anointing by Samuel secured his right to the kingdom. His anointing by Israel gave him authority over the kingdom. David did not take that honor unto himself without being called of God and desired by the people. His acceptance of it was unselfish, patriotic and devout. It marked one of the greatest days of Israel's history. The approval of Jehovah rested on the union of the tribes. The wisdom of David's self-restraint in the days of persecution and his trust in God rather than in weapons of war, were fully justified on the day of his coronation. He had the joy of being assured that God had brought him to the throne and that he was ready for the place made ready for him and that he had the confidence and affection of his nation. He was ordained for two purposes, as a shepherd and a captain, qualified by kind relationships and tested ability. It was a new thing for the tribes to see a man of spirit, conscious of a high destiny to work out, and urged on as by a divine inspiration to perform deeds unthought of for many generations. David's league was an engagement on his part to rule according to the divine will. It involved the obligation of the people to obey him according to the same will. regard for the purity of the national life and the honor of him who originally gave the land to Israel for an inheritance determined David to seize Jerusalem. His aim was to form a national life on solid foundations and to develop all that constituted true greatness. T. R. A.

It is quite possible to give a man back talk without talking behind his back.

FRUIT GARDEN

PEACH CURLE LEAF.

The cause of the disease is not the weather, as has been believed by some, but is due to a fungous parasite which lives in the affected parts of the tree. It is supposed that the spores of this fungus are harbored especially on the winter buds and scales. When the buds swell in the spring, the tender leaves within are exposed, and if the rain comes at the right time the spores germinate and penetrate the young leaves, where the fungus finds favorable conditions for its development. The spores are produced later in the season on the diseased leaves and probably find their way to the dormant buds, where they remain till the following spring.

The three important factors to consider in the control of the disease are time of application, thoroughness of application and material applied. The application should be made before the buds begin to open, because at this time, under favorable weather conditions, the infection takes place. After this has occurred subsequent applications to prevent the disease this year are useless. Select the first bright warm day for the application. Many persons sprayed too late last year.

The spray material used should come in contact with every bud, for the fungous spores are sticking to the buds and these must be hit by the spray mixture in order to have perfect control. A fine spray under high pressure is most satisfactory. Some failures of last year were due to too much hurry in the application. The disease is readily controlled by each of several fungicides. Lime-sulphur solution (testing 32 degrees Baume) diluted with water in the proportion of 1 part solution to 4 parts of water, should be used when both San Jose scale and leaf curl are to be controlled. When scale is not present, the lime-sulphur solution at a dilution of 1 part lime sulphur to 15 parts of water, or Bordeaux mixture in the proportion of 5 pounds copper sulphate, 5 pounds of lime and 50 gallons of water.

Thorough spraying will absolutely control leaf curl, and every peach grower should take steps to prevent its destructiveness this year.

SELECTION OF SEED POTATOES. Of all the factors in potato growing, selection of seed is by far the most important. Had we bred our Shorthorn cattle as many of us have been in the habit of selecting and breeding our seed potatoes, we would now have no breed of short horns. If we used only the best calls and scrubs to breed from, our breeds of stock would very soon run out. It has been careful selection and the application of scientific principles of breeding, that has brought our pure bred live stock up to the present high standard. One reason why potatoes on many farms in this country have degenerated is that culls, screenings and small potatoes have been planted.

If no method of selection has hitherto been followed, the seed for this year's crop will have to be taken from the bin. Potatoes which are of medium size, smooth, free from disease and true to the type of the variety being sown, should be selected. During the late summer or early autumn, when the vines are beginning to die down, the best and most vigorous hills should be marked by putting down a small stake or twig. The hills showing most vigor of vegetation will usually give the best yield of tubers. When the crop is harvested, any poor hills among those marked should be discarded, and the rest saved for next year's planting. One farmer doing illustration work for the Commission of Conservation planted potatoes side by side with harvested four rows from the selected seed yielded two bushels per row, while the four rows on either side of the ordinary seed yielded seven and one-half bushels per row. This was a gain in yield of 33 per cent.

This method of selection does not take much time and, as repeated experiments have shown it to be the means of substantial increases in yield, it should be more generally practiced.—P.C.N.

OUTLOOK GOOD FOR THE CROPS

First Report of Present Season Very Favorable.

Full Wheat Exceptional—Hay and Clover Abn.

Ottawa, Ont., Despatch—The census and statistics branch, Department of Trade and Commerce, to-day issued the first crop report of the present season. The report states: "Owing to the mild winter and the favorable conditions which prevailed during the critical months of March and April, the fall wheat crop is reported as being exceptionally good on April 30. In Ontario, where 1,843,000 acres were sown, as estimated last fall, not more than 6.5 per cent. is reported as winter-killed, and in Alberta, with 2,000,000 acres estimated as sown, the proportion winter killed is only 6.2 per cent. These proportions are lower than in any year since 1905-07 for Ontario, and lower than in any previous year on record for Alberta. Last year the percentage winter-killed was 19 in Ontario and 15.6 in Alberta. In Ontario the area winter-killed amounts this year to 71,969 acres, and in Alberta to 14,300 acres.

These figures, deducted from the areas sown, leave 972,000 acres in Ontario and 215,700 acres in Alberta as the areas under fall wheat to be harvested. With 10,900 acres in Manitoba, 4,100 acres in Saskatchewan and 6,000 acres in British Columbia, the total area under fall wheat to be harvested this year amounts to 1,208,700 acres, as compared with 973,300 acres, the area harvested in 1914.

As in the case of wheat, the amount of winter-killed proved to be unusually small in hay and clover meadows, not more than 10 per cent. being the estimate for all Canada, as compared with 14 per cent. last year and 22 per cent. in 1913. The average condition was 91 per cent. of the standard or full crop, as compared with 86.7 per cent. last year (May 6), 89.6 per cent. in 1912 and 74.6 per cent. in 1911.

It is as yet too soon to report on the Maritime Provinces, but excellent progress in the seeding of spring grains is reported from all the other six provinces. About double the amount of seeding was accomplished this year on April 30 that was completed on May 5 in 1911. Of spring wheat 55 per cent. of the total was finished in Quebec, as against 5 per cent. last year; in Ontario, 73 per cent., against 24 per cent.; in the three western provinces 93 per cent. was completed in Manitoba, 34 per cent. in Saskatchewan and 31 per cent. in Alberta, these proportions being higher than in any year since 1910. In British Columbia the percentage is 82. For all six provinces the proportion of seeding reported as effected on April 30 was 64 per cent. for wheat, 45 per cent. for oats, 33 per cent. for barley and 63 per cent. for all crops.

“CANADIAN RATS” Blamed by Germans for Failure in Drive to Calais.

London Cable.—Donald MacMaster, K. C., informs us that a friend of his who has just returned from Germany says the feeling of hatred against the Germans is now stronger against the Canadians than the rest of the British forces. They say: "If it had not been for the Canadian rats we should have been through to Calais."

GUARD ALIENS Scotland Yard Issues Call for All Special Constables.

London Cable.—Scotland Yard to-day issued an emergency call for all special constables to report themselves immediately for duty. This would appear to be the only precautionary measure taken by the authorities this morning for the protection of Germans in England. For the moment the anti-German rioting and attacks in the poor quarters of London and Liverpool, as well as in Manchester, Birkhead, Glasgow, South End and elsewhere would appear to have effect.

Although the atmosphere is still highly charged with excitement, a survey of the districts of London which yesterday were hotbeds of anti-German outbreaks showed almost a complete lull in the rioting this morning. Germans everywhere remained in seclusion, and their shops were shuttered, with police on guard.

An exception to the generally peaceful conditions was a Kentish town, where two German shops were looted early in the day. The police soon ended the disturbance.

MERIT COUNTS Any C.P.R. Employee May Become President.

In an organization so large as that of the C. P. R., where under normal conditions over 100,000 employees are on the payroll, one great problem is that of keeping the employees, so to speak, dynamic, part of a living organization and not of a mere machine. Zeal and ambition must be kept burning. Just as every soldier of Napoleon carried a field marshal's baton in his knapsack, so every office boy in the company must feel he is a possible president, not merely earn his dollar a day full pension day. One system introduced on the Western lines with this in mind has proved exceedingly efficient. Each superintendent or foreman or head of a department makes two reports a year on his staff. Bright men are thus earmarked for special promotion. If any man is criticized the report is shown to him and initiated by him before he goes to Winnipeg. He gets a square deal, and if he has any life in him he mends his ways so that no such criticism can be made twice. Then again there are independent scouts, looking for the bright men, the tidy station agent, the courteous trainman, the man cool in an emergency, the inventive mechanic, the stenographer who can run the office when the chief is absent. These scouts are searching for merit only, not for faults.

Over the whole system of the Canadian Pacific ideas and suggestions made by employees are not only welcomed, but lead to promotion. They go to the Record Office, where a statement of the employee's career is attached to the suggestion before it is considered by a committee. If the idea is adopted the record of the employee's career is then before the eyes of the powers that be, and recognition is sure to follow. The needle in the haystack is easy enough to find with a magnet, and there are a dozen magnets looking out for merit among the 100,000 employees of the C. P. R.

Unforunately it is easier to pay compliments with flattery than to pay your bills that way.

DRS. SOPER & WHITE SPECIALISTS

LIVE HOGS

MARKET REPORTS

TORONTO MARKETS

OTHER MARKETS

CHICAGO LIVE STOCK

GUARD ALIENS

SCOTLAND YARD

DRS. SOPER & WHITE

DRS. SOPER & WHITE

60 y
Gran
an in
sugar
"Ye
Loaf
Red
then
Sugar
Now
gets
in
"Ca
He di
self. H
felt a
litter
useles
ardly s
reduci
ful a s
ardent
him his
forward
with his
rose to
not more
choking
The con
beat the
his paral
less. Th
him, tur
wated fill
fast cry
depths, the
him, with
his mind,
of his con
weight he
But he m
of human
himself.
by the sa
gladly do
last effort
the with
face of the
saw once
suddenly f
the burden
down. "H
Italian, "H
him." At
mass, whic
crouns sh
fell heavil
a sharp n
seemed to
he lost
returned to
on a beam
a little
waters in
fluttering
head. The
vessel's ke
were thro
who were
turn to co
He tried
him down
ing a wick
to him to
mouthful
restored h
ness of ex
sensation
his mind t
him to fall
face and b
blood. At
air, fresh
the vessel,
perceived
skin. The
yet realiz
the men w
"My fri
in my fat
in the fir
clothing, I
"Hold, c
man," sai
with a str
me then b
my wardr
The spea
hutchway,
ment with
of shoes, I
coat. He
and. "A
"Arostin
to breathe
struck by
were, he s
water." P
mind the
had seen
waters the
sclousness
was the w
his weight
was makin