Sunday School Lesson

Lesson IV July 23

DANIEL CAST TO THE LIONS.

The Golden Text—Who through faith subdued kingdoms, wrought righteousness, obtained promises stopped the mouths of lions.—Heb. XI : 33.

The Lesson Text—Daniel VI: 16-23. For entire lesson see Dan. VI : 1-28.

Time—B. C. 538.
Place—Babylon.

Daniel, under Darius, was made first ruler in the kingdom and it was chiefly jealousy of his promotion which caused the other satraps and princes to form their plot for the destruction of one whom they looked upon as a foreign interloper. By hoodwinding the king into passing a law the consequences of which Darius did not forsee, they managed to entrap Daniel. Daniel regardless of the king's edict that no petition should be addressed to any man or god on pain of being thrown to the lions, continued to pray daily to God as usual. When the king would have repealed the law to save Daniel, the princes reminded Darius of the immutability of the law of the Medes and Persians. "Then the king commanded." Following out the cruel terms of his own decree. (See vs. 7, 12.) "And they brought Daniel, and cast him into the den of lions." These ancient monarchs were accustomed to keep lions in confinement. The Egyptians kept them for the purposes of hunting as is represented in their sculptures; the Romans for the shows of the arena and for public combats; the Persians for regal pomp and sometimes as a means of vengeance or cruel punishment. "Thy God whom thou servest continually he will deliver thee". Rather, 'May he deliver thee.' The king hopes even against hope that Daniel whom he loves may by some means or other be spared "And a stone was brought and laid upon the mouth of the den" There were probably walls rising from the sides of the pit which formed the den; in one wall there would be naturally an aperture through which the food could be passed to the lions. Through this door was Daniel cast and when he had been so cast in, a stone was rolled up to the aperture and sealed. "And the king sealed it with his own signet." Seals were in common use throughout the ancient world. They were made of precious stones, metal or porcelain and clay was used to receive the impression, it being afterwards hardened by burning. When a door or a stone was to be sealed, a clay seal was put at each end of the cord stretched across it. Some stones so sealed still retain the cord marks. Thus was sealed the stone that closed the entrance to Jesus Christ's tomb. (Matt. XXVII : 66). "And with the signet of his lords." Each signet was different and was the virtual signature of the owner. "Then the king went to his palace and passed the night fasting." That long night wit his palace turned into a house of mourning was for Darius a time o deep reflection, not on the more personal issue involved in the life or death of Daniel, but on the high and eternal issue of the truth or falsehood of Daniel's God. "Neither were instruments of music brought before him." The exact meaning of this text is not clear. Some translate it "dancing girls." Possibly the term is meant to infer that Darius spent the night in fasting. "Then the king arose very early in the morning." As soon as he could see into the pit his dread of what he might see holding him back, his anxiety spurring his on. "He cried with a lamentable voice." His voice trembled in the excess of his emotion, as well it might. "Daniel servant of the living God." Darius a heathen paid this tribute to Daniel's God. Only a living God could inspire a living faith like Daniel's. "Is thy God.....able to deliver thee from the lions?" Darius would not say "my God." Darius would not say "my God" till Jehovah had proved His power. "O king, live forever." This was the customary address to the king. "My God hath sent His angel and hath shut the lion's mouths." More than one man attacked by a lion has had such an experience as that of Mungo Park, who, when confronted, weaponless, by a ragging lion quelled it by a steady gaze before which the king of beasts slunk away in fear. "And they have not hurt me." Spurgeon suggests that Daniel may even have slept that night with his head pillowed on the soft body of a lion. Forasmuch as before him innocency was found in me." Daniel is not claiming perfection but is calling God to witness his innocence of any sin that deserved such a punishment. "And also before thee O king have I done no hurt." Probably with distinct allusion to the uncorruptedness of his official life. "And no manner of hurt was found upon him, because he had trusted in his God." It is not enough for a man to be taken out of his den. When he has been raised from his calamity the question remains, "Has it hurt him?" Daniel's trust kept him unscathed in body and soul; The doom which Daniel's accusers intended for Daniel overtook themselves and (in accordance with the cruel law of the Persians) their wives and children as well. Daniel was reinstated to office and the God of Daniel proclaimed by Darius to be the only true God, to be worshipped as such throughout his kingdom.

DIET FOR BABY 12 TO 18 MOS.

First Meal, 6 a. m.—Milk, 8-10 ounces; thick barley water or oatmeal jelly, 2 ounces. 9 a. m., juice of 1-2 and later 1 whole orange.

Second Meal 10 a. m.—(a) milk with stale bread; or (b) well cooked (4 hours) cereal: oatmeal, cracked wheat, wheatena with milk.

Third Meal 2 p. m.—(a) chicken beef or mutton broth with boiled rice or stale bread broken in, or (b) scraped beef with bread crumbs; or (c) drink of warm milk if desired and stale bread.

Fourth Meal, 6 p. m.—(a) milk with stale bread or (b) well cooked cereal (4 hours); corn meal, farina, oatmeal, cracked wheat, cream of wheat, wheatena.

Fifth Meal, 10 p. m.—Milk 8-10 ounces and thick barley water or oatmeal jelly, 2 ounces.

No bottles after the first year; drink milk from cup or glass.

Use pasteurized or scalded milk —Child Welfare Division, Department of Health, N. B.

New Discoveries For Using Cement

Mr. H. C. Boyden, of the Portland Cement Association, last year wrote a very comprehensive paper on recent developments in concrete which have brought out many facts heretofore unknown to many interested in this material, and which may be of interest to many readers.

Fine Sands Need More Water.

As a result of investigations made by the Structural research Laboratory, established at Lewis Institute, Chicago, in 1914, many important discoveries were made, one of which was that fine sand behaves exactly the same as coarse sand except in one particular. In order to produce a plastic, workable mixture with fine sand it is necessary to use more water than with a coarse sand. It is the excess of water that reduces the strength of the concrete. In other words, if concrete could be mixed with the same quantity of water regardless of the grading of the sand, and a plastic mix obtained in both cases, the same strength would be secured in the concrete.

In speaking of the ingredients of concrete, namely, cement, fine aggregate, coarse aggregate and water, a great deal of attention was paid to the nature and quality of the first three named, but sight was lost of the fact, until recently, that it is just as important to test the water used in mixing as it is to determine that the other ingredients are all that they should be.

Water Just as Important as Other Ingredients.

Water is in reality of equal importance with the cement in obtaining good concrete, and yet it is often the most carelessly used and most loosely specified of all the ingredients, generally neglected in specifications and frequently not even reported in the published data of concrete tests.

It is safe to say that waters which are strongly alkaline should not be used, and owing to the possibility that marsh waters may contain sufficient humus matter to affect seriously the strength of concrete they should be looked upon with suspicion until tested in concrete and found satisfactory. A safe specification is to require that the mixing after shall be potable.

Concerning the Temperature.

Regarding the temperature of the mixing water, tests have been made using water ranging in temperature from 32 degrees to 212 degrees F. It was found that the temperature of the mixing water had very little to do with the strength of he concrete. The use of hot water is, however, a valuable aid in removing frost from the aggregate in cold weather, owing to its high specific heat, and may be used without danger of harming the concrete. Hot water tends to hasten the hardening of concrete.

Proportioning.

New, and in some ways, radical changes in the past and present practices of proportioning have been brought out at the laboratory. These investigations have demonstrated the following facts: First, that the present method of designing concrete mixtures by using arbitrary volumes is wrong; second, that there is one single proportion which will give the best results with a mixture of given fine and coarse aggregates; third, that adding to or reducing the amount of cement is of value only as it affects the relative quantity of water required to make a workable plastic mixture, and fourth, above all, that the water-ratio is the most important element of a concrete mix. The water-ratio as used by the laboratory, is the ratio of the volume of the water to the volume of cement in the batch.

The use of mere concrete in a batch does not produce any beneficial effect except from the fact that a plastic workable mix can be produced with a lower water ratio. The reason that rich mixture gives a higher strength than a leaner one is not that more cement is used, but because the concrete can be mixed with a water-ratio which is relatively lower for the rich mixture than for the lean one. If advantage is not taken of this possibility of reducing the water-ratio the additional cement in the richer mixture is wasted.

Water Content.

With regard to water content, within the range of plastic mixtures, the strength falls off very quickly with the addition of a small amount of water, so much so that in a one bag batch the addition of one pinnt of water more than is necessary to give a workable mix produces the same loss in strength as if two or three pounds of cement had been left out. Do not think from this that a very lean mix with a small quantity of water will give as strong a concrete as a rich mix with the same quantity of water. This is not true, because it will require a higher water-ratio to produce a workable mix with the lean mixture, thereby causing a loss in strength.

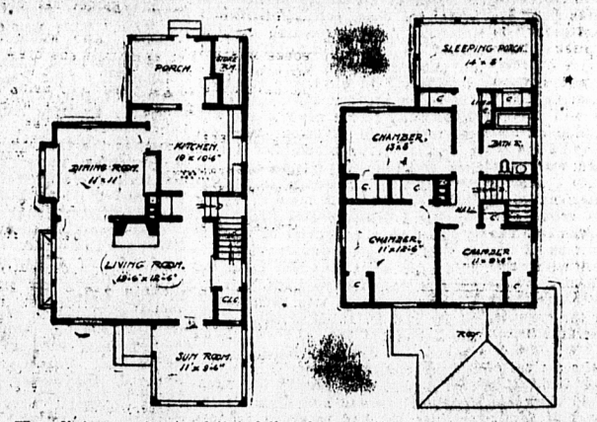
For The Home Builder

A Complete Cottage Home

DESIGNED BY CHAS. S. SEDGWICK.

STUCCO houses are now in vogue and home builders are finding them not only most satisfactory in appearance, but in durability and service they are most practical. For one thing, a stucco house is more or less fireproof and then whether they are kept white or colored some delicate shade, such as green, yellow, or brown, they adapt themselves to almost any surroundings in which they might happen to be built. A stucco house is always in good taste and such houses are featuring some of the most exclusive suburban sections.

Six rooms and a bath, together with two porches, one of them for sleeping, one for a service and a sun room comprise this very compact and attractive little house. In these servantless days it is well enough to arrange the rooms in the most convenient and practical manner, and in this house such has been admirably done. If the builder so desired, he could for summer weather, make the sun room into a most charming outdoor sitting room by removing the glass and substituting screens. A sense of charm and space is gained in the living room by the wide arched doorway through which one glimpses the stairway and a cosy alcove. An open fireplace is directly opposite the entrance and adds additional charm to the room.



The dining room is delightfully featured by a square bay window in which the flower loving housewife would joy as a place for her winter plants. In the rear of the kitchen are a service porch and a storage room which add to the general convenience of the floor plan. Upstairs one finds three bed rooms, bath and sleeping porch, all of which are well arranged and with ample closet room. This house, which the designer estimates as costing between $4,000 and $4,500, exclusive of plumbing and heating, is of frame construction with stucco exterior and has a shingle roof, stained. It has a concrete foundation with a full basement and its size, exclusive of the sun room, is 24 feet wide by 36 feet deep. The first story is 8 feet 6 inches high with oak floor and finish, while the second story is 8 feet high with birch floor and finish.

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No Pause In Growth Of Canadian Building

1922 Half Yearly Total Sets New Record in Actual Volume of Work Performed—Solving the Housing Problem

One of the most interesting features—and there are many of them—in Canadian building statistics for the first half of 1922 is the steady expansion which has occurred month by month, in the value of work performed. Starting with the small total of $8,252,600 in contracts awarded during January the figures compiled by McLean Building Reports Limited show a swiftly rising tide, which culminates in the $35,620,400 record for June, the latest month under review. The progress of the industry may be set forth as follows:

January	$8,252,600
February	10,718,300
March	13,465,009
April	29,428,400
May	34,327,300
June	35,620,400

Analysing the above table on the basis of locality, it appears that Ontario leads conspiciously, accounting as it does for more than 56 percent of the $132,452,000 half-yearly Dominion total as follows:

Ontario	$74,586,900
Quebec	31,294,200
British Columbia	9,738,600
Manitoba	4,969,000
Alberta	3,685,200
Nova Scotia	2,357000
Sachatchewan	2,656,400
New Brunswick	2,387,200
P. E. Island	177,500

Dissecting the Dominion half-yearly figures once more, this time from the viewpoint of the type of work undertaken, the forecasts made earlier in the year by MacLean Building Reports Limited, that 1922 would be a year of exceedingly active home building are fully borne out. Indeed, the housing problem for long a sore in the country's side, is at last energetically attacked as the following reveals:

	6 Mos. Total	Percentage
Residential	$53,435,300	40.3
Business	39,660,900	29.9
Industrial	10,050,700	7.6
Public Works and Utilities	29,305,100	22.2

Just how relatively important residential construction has grown to be is evident from the subjoined table, showing divisions of Canadian building during the past four and a half years, expressed in percentages:

1918, Residential 14.7, Business, 26.2; Industrial 39.0, Public Works and Utilities, 20.1

1919, 24.7, 31.4, 30.0, 13.9.

1920—21.4, 33.7, 25.3, 19.6.

1921—31.9, 35.3, 6.9, 25.9.

1922, (6 months)—40.3, 29.9, 7.6, 22.2.

It is instructive to compare the trend of building over a period of years The following figures are selected, therefore, by MacLean Building Reports Limited, to show the half yearly total, measured in monetary value, for the past six years. By this standard 1920 stands out as a year of signal achievement, rivalled closely by the present year. But 1920 was a year of abnormally high prices. To gain a truer persuasive, accordingly of the actual value of construction, irrespective of prices, the price index number of all building materials, as in the month of May for each year, has been set down alongside in terms of 1913 prices. That is, 1913 prices are taken as the base of 100 and prices in May of the six years compared, are quoted in comparison with that base. From these two columns a third is derived showing what the volume of building has been, year by year, estimated in terms of 1913 prices. This estimate is, of course, not wholly accurate, inasmuch as the factor of labor costs enters into prices, just as much as material costs. Nevertheless, the comparison is enlightening to a certain degree particularly as it indicates that the presen year has been one of really larger achievement than even 1920.

1922—Half Yearly Dom. Total, $132,452,000; May Price Index compared 1913, 179.3; Actual half yearly volume (approximate), $74,000,000.

1921—$111,763,500, 219.1 $51,000,000.

1920—144,737,100 283.9 50,000,000

1919—78,118,300; 192.9, 40,000000

1918—44,840,800; 182.9; 25,000,000

1917—41,895,000; 156.7, 26,000,000.

The Art Of Moving House

Moving house is a domestic problem which calls for quite a high degree of organizing ability and the wise housewife begins her preparations well ahead of time. Generally it is better to endure a little discomfort before the move in order to shorten the period of disorder underfelts taken up and beaten some days previous to the arrival of the vans.

Saving Trouble and Expense

If a carpet needs cleaning a fortnight or more should be allowed for it at this time of the year. Have the carpets returned to the new abode, and if possible put down in the rooms before the furniture comes in. This saves a lot of trouble and also expense, for it is easier and takes far less time to lay a carpet in an empty room.

Arrangements about stove should be made in good time, since all sorts of unforseen delays occur. It is nice when feasible to get the stoves put in before the carpets are down.

Advance Preparations.

Before the removal have all cupboards and drawers turned out, as it is a pity to lumber a new home with them, but keep any old piece of material that can be used as dusters during the removal and save the good dusters.

It is an excellent plan to have all the larger pieces of furniture which are not too heavy, moved out a little, so that they can be well dusted at the back and on the top. There is often quite a thick layer of dust, which it is a great pity to take into the new house. The heavier pieces must be left until removal day and a woman should be in readiness to attend to them when the men have lifted them away from the walls.

Furniture, however, should not be washed until after it has been put in place in the new home, for it is sure to get dirty finger marks on it in the moving. Be careful to lock all drawers and bureau tops, so that they do not fall open when being carried up and down stairs, but first cover the contents of the drawers with paper.

Mattresses, pillows and cushions should be rolled up in dust sheets and tied with strong string so that they do not get crushed. All valuables should be sent to the bank, as the removal firms do not take the responsibility for them and no articles of jewelry should be left in drawers.

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