

Canadian Churchman.

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Lessons for Sundays and Holy Days

February 14.—Sexagesima.
Morning—Gen. 3; Mat. 25, 10-31.
Evening—Gen. 6, or 8; Acts 28, 10-17.

February 21.—Quinquagesima.
Morning—Gen. 9, 10-20; Mat. 27, 57.
Evening—Gen. 12, or 13; Rom. 5.

February 28.—First Sunday in Lent.
Morning—Gen. 19, 12 to 30; Mark 4, 10-35.
Evening—Gen. 22, 10-20, or 23; Rom. 10.

March 7.—Second Sunday in Lent.
Morning—Gen. 27, 10-41; Mark 7, 24-8, 10.
Evening—Gen. 28 or 32; Rom. 16.

Appropriate Hymns for Septuagesima and Sexagesima Sundays, compiled by Dr. Albert Ham, F.R.C.O., organist and director of the choir of St. James' Cathedral, Toronto. The numbers are taken from Hymns Ancient and Modern, many of which may be found in other hymnals.

SEPTUAGESIMA SUNDAY.

Holy Communion: 182, 187, 555, 556.
Processional: 4, 83, 489, 547.
Offertory: 168, 262, 533, 538.
Children's Hymns: 330, 333, 340, 343.
General: 172, 210, 520, 534.

SEXAGESIMA SUNDAY.

Holy Communion: 310, 315, 528, 557.
Processional: 3, 33, 36, 391.
Offertory: 37, 520, 531, 550.
Children's Hymns: 337, 341, 509, 574.
General: 2, 18, 162, 548.

SEXAGESIMA—THE SECOND SUNDAY BEFORE LENT.

Last Sunday, being Septuagesima, our thoughts were centred upon God's work of creation, with particular reference to the creation of man and his place in the world. To-day, we must dwell upon sin, which mars the work of God and unfits man for the fulfillment of his life duties. Think of man as God made him. He was in a supernatural state, free from sin and death, holy, just, and pleasing to God. He was in a state of original righteousness. But from this high estate man fell—and in the fall man lost his original righteousness, and human nature became infected with an inclination to do evil. "In Adam all die" simply means that the posterity of Adam

has received a defiled nature, "stained with sin, liable to shame, having the seeds of mortality, and subject to condemnation." The first lesson for this Sunday morning sets before us the old tradition concerning the fall of man. The tempter comes in fascinating guise to lead mankind astray. Temptation and sin are always disguised. Did they come in their real form and visage we would be shocked. And in that shock lies our security and immunity. St. Peter writes that the devil goes about as a roaring lion; St. Paul thinks of him as coming in the guise of an angel of light. But how true is this Old Testament conception of the tempter! In Revelation (12:9) Satan is called "the old serpent." The likeness is most apt, because it emphasizes the subtlety, insidiousness, fascination, unexpectedness, omnipresence, power, and deadly poison of sin and temptation. Look at the method employed by the deceiver in order to lead astray the mother of all living. The whole of that first temptation is an appeal to curiosity. Man had a high degree of knowledge. But there were some things of which as yet he had no experience. His one vulnerable point was in the indulging of curiosity. Satan knew that point, struck at it, and "curious" mankind fell. And so successful was the tempter in this method that he has kept to it ever since. God says: "Thus far shalt thou go, and no farther." Satan tempts: "Why not?" "What is beyond?" Self-control is surrendered, curiosity is indulged, the cup of sin is tasted, and man falls into Satan's power. Follow Satan's method in detail. First, he suggests a doubt concerning the truth of revelation, "Hath God said?" How often evil-minded persons tempt the young to doubt the authenticity of commands or the authority of Holy Church to enforce them! Then Satan boldly denies the truth of Revelation. Of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil God said: "In the day that thou eatest thereof, thou shalt surely die." The serpent said: "Ye shall not surely die." Recall Jesus' words: "He is a liar and the father thereof." How many are tempted to sin by men and women who endeavour to remove the fear of the consequences of sin. And lastly there is another step. A great reward is promised to Eve, to us all. "Ye shall be as God." "Happiness, joy, unbounded pleasures result from sin," say our tempters. How different the witness of experience! In all this method of temptation we learn the policy of the tempters, viz., to conceal the real nature and the inevitable consequences of sin. In the face of such subtle temptation we need a city of refuge, an ark of salvation. Such refuge and salvation are to be found in Christ and His Holy Church. And the duty of the Church is to warn us of the true nature and results of sin, to reclaim the wandering ones, to discipline the erring, to preach the way of life and truth in Christ Jesus, and so to strengthen with the Bread of Heaven those who stand that finally they may beat down Satan under their feet. Beware the tempter! Flee to Christ and Holy Church!

Toronto Diocese.

Churchmen throughout Canada are looking forward with unusual interest to the special session of this important diocese. It is not at all surprising that this should be the case. The personal element involved in the election of a new Bishop and the great possibilities offered for the advance of the work of the Church, if a prudent choice is made, are attractive features, not only to onlookers, but to those who will participate in the election. The "Churchman" believes that the Canadian Church has within its ranks men who are capable of wise and progressive leadership—men who only need the oppor-

tunity to prove that they can discharge with credit to themselves and advantage to their Church the duties of the highest offices within her gift. The Church in the United States has not been slow to realize the worth, and avail herself of the capabilities of the Canadian clergy. We should not forget that "Charity begins at home," and should keep our best men by giving them positions commensurate with their abilities.

The Passing of Winter.

With the ending of February the last of the winter months will have gone. Though astronomically the equinox in March marks the ultimate limit of winter in the northern hemisphere. Whatever of cold there may be yet in store for us, we have reason to be grateful for the mildness of the early months of the season. The farmer doubtless would have preferred more snow to cover his wheat fields and make his transport easy. But the loss to the farmer has been a gain to the poor and unemployed. Though the going may not have been good in some parts of the country, yet the country parson and outlying missionary have had comparatively mild weather for their journeying.

The Choice of Senators.

The Senate is the part of our Constitution which is popularly deemed to be most in need of amendment. People who look beyond the party newspapers are more desirous of having a better Lower House. In the endeavour to improve the Senate that experienced and still able Senator, R. W. Scott, suggests several useful changes, one of them, to limit the term to eight years, will be popular, but the other, to elect part of it by popular vote, is doubtful. It is forgotten that it was being tried in the old Province of Canada before Confederation, but was not a success, and the experiment was avoided by the Fathers of Confederation. There is the alternative of election by the Local Legislatures. At the time Senator Scott brought forward his proposals Mr. Elihu Root had been chosen as a Senator for New York State by the Legislature. In his very able address Mr. Root took up this question, saying: "I am opposed to the direct election of United States Senators by the people as I am opposed to the system of the initiative and referendum in legislation. I am opposed to the initiative and the referendum because they are based upon the theory that the people cannot elect legislators whom they can trust. Whenever you take away power you weaken responsibility. If the people have elected a Legislature whom they cannot trust, let them turn about and elect a Legislature whom they can trust. There is no evidence that the people acting directly would perform the duty of electing a Senator better than the Legislature which they have chosen."

The Best-laid Schemes.

The unexpected failure is as certain, even more certain sometimes, than success. We have an illustration in the report of the parish of St. Bartholomew in New York, of which Dr. Leighton Parks is rector. More than a year ago there was a panic in New York, and Dr. Parks suggested to the vestry that owing to it there was much distress, and that \$1,000, if lent out in small sums to self-respecting people, would save much usurious interest and do much good. Many savings banks and trust companies had stopped payment. The vestry responded to this appeal, supplying the rector with \$1,365, and an advertisement was inserted in a newspaper, stating that this money would be loaned to worthy persons, without interest. When the advertisement appeared it was asserted that this was the first time such a notice was ever seen