

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL.

LESSON VI, SECOND QUARTER, INTERNATIONAL SERIES, MAY 12.

Text of the Lesson, Mark xiv, 53-64. Memory Verses, 60-62—Golden Text, Isa. xlii, 3—Commentary by the Rev. D. M. Stearns.

63. "And they led Jesus away to the high priest, and with him were assembled all the chief priests, the elders and the scribes." After the darkness and agony of the garden, being strengthened by an angel, He went forth to lay down His life of His own accord (John x, 18). The boastful disciples all forsook Him and fled (verses 31, 50). The young man of verses 51, 52 was probably Mark himself, as in other cases the unnamed one was doubtless the writer of the gospel (Luke xiv, 18; John i, 40). Jesus, being bound (John viii, 12), is led as a lamb to the slaughter (Isa. liii, 7), for those before whom He was brought had long before determined to kill Him (Math. xii, 14; John xi, 53).

64. "And Peter followed Him afar off, even into the palace of the high priest, and he sat with the servants and warmed himself at the fire." The result of Peter's following afar off and being in bad company is seen in verses 66 to 72 following the lesson. Self-confident boasting is very apt to lead to rash conduct, bad company and many worse things, as in the case of Peter. We must have no confidence in ourselves, but be strong in the Lord and let Him perfect His strength in our weakness (Phil. iii, 8; Eph. vi, 10; I Cor. xii, 9).

65. "And the chief priests and all the council sought for witness against Jesus to put Him to death, and found none." Their minds were fully made up, and God was going to let them have their way and accomplish what He foresaw would surely come to pass (Acts iv, 27, 28). They were now seeking some reason for their conduct, but could find none except in the wickedness of their witness. Testimony in His favor they could have readily obtained in abundance, but against Him, none. See John xviii, 20; Heb. vii, 26; Math. iii, 17; xvii, 5.

66. "For many bare false witness against Him, but their witness agreed not together." It had been written that it should be so. "False witnesses are risen up against me, and such as breathe out cruelty." "False witnesses did rise up, they laid to my charge things that I knew not" (Ps. cxxvi, 12; cxxv, 11). So every true follower of Jesus may expect to suffer wrongfully for conscience toward God, may expect to suffer for well doing, and if under such circumstances we can take it patiently God is well pleased (I Pet. ii, 10, 20). As His followers we must walk as He walked (I John ii, 6).

67. "And there arose certain and bare false witness against Him, saying, We heard Him say, I will destroy this temple that is made with hands, and within three days I will build another made without hands." Just what He did say, out of which they made this accusation, is found in John ii, 19, and if you compare His words with what they made Him say you may not feel so bad about some sayings of yours which have come back to you some what perverted. The fact is that we have no time to waste on feeling bad about slanders and false accusations. Such things will continue till the Lord comes, and when He permits them to come our way we must at once thank Him for the privilege of such fellowship (I Thess. v, 18; Phil. i, 29), and referring the whole matter to Him just leave it with Him to be adjusted (Isa. lii, 17).

68. "But neither so did their witness agree together." Consequently there was no case against Him, and He should have been set free, for their law said plainly that one witness could not condemn; there must be two or three (Deut. xix, 15; I Cor. v, 13). How can we expect right conduct in a world which through its "most religious" leaders thus treated the Lord Himself? His meek submission is our example and makes us think of the admonition, "Take wrong, be defrauded" (I Cor. vi, 7).

69. "And the high priest stood up in the midst and asked Jesus, saying, Answerest thou nothing? What is it which these witnesses against thee?" He knew there was no case against the prisoner, perhaps felt the ridiculous position in which they were placed, and allowed his feelings to overcome him. According to the law, the witnesses had testified nothing against Him, for no two agreed.

70. "But He held His peace and answered nothing. Again the high priest asked Him and said unto Him, Art thou the Christ, the Son of the Blessed?" There was nothing to answer, and in the calmness of conscious innocence He was quiet. When people seek our hurt, speaking mischievous things and imagining deceits all the day long, let us have grace to be as the deaf who hear not and as the dumb who open not the mouth, but just hope in the Lord (Ps. cxxxviii, 13-15).

71. "And Jesus said, I AM, and ye shall see the Son of Man sitting on the right hand of power and coming in the clouds of heaven." This reply takes us back to the name He used when He sent Moses to deliver Israel (Ex. iii, 14). He often used it in the days of His humiliation, for in many cases where we read, "I am He," the "He" is in italics, so that He really said "I am," as in John iv, 26; viii, 24, 28; xiii, 19; xviii, 5, 8, etc. When He shall come in power and glory, as He said, it will be bringing His saints with Him according to Zech. xiv, 5; Judg. xiv, i; I Thess. iii, 13, and it will be for the redemption of Israel and for vengeance upon her enemies (Deut. xxxii, 43; Isa. xxxiv, 8; xxxv, 4; lxxii, 4).

72. "Then the high priest rent his clothes and said, What need we any further witness? This apparently holy wrath was all of the devil in the name of religion. To this day it may be seen. We should not be moved by it. It is often seen, even in religious people, in connection with this very truth of the second coming of Christ in power and glory. Let one insist that Jesus is coming with all His saints (Col. iii, 4) for the conversion of the nation of Israel, and to set up the kingdom promised to David with a throne at Jerusalem, according to Jer. iii, 17; Luke i, 32, 33, etc., and he will probably be accused of perverting the truth to the destruction of his soul.

73. "Ye have heard the blasphemy. What think ye? And they all condemned Him to be guilty of death." And began at once, like so many barbarians, to ill-treat their prisoner. They spit on Him, and mocked Him, and struck Him, and He meekly bore it all. O Jesus, Saviour! what have we ever borne for thee? May we deeply ponder it and have grace to bear for His sake with meekness whatever He may let us endure for Him. Because we are here in His stead we should always act as He would (I Cor. v, 20).

The English poet, Robert Bridges, is a doctor who retired from practice long ago. He is now 61 years of age. A second edition of his "Eros and Psyche" has just appeared in London.

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THE DAIRY.

A REAL COOLER.

A Home-Made Refrigerator That Will Give Satisfaction.

An ice box or refrigerator, home made, will not be satisfactory if thrown together loosely, or if of poor or shady materials. We must remember first, that because it is double and packed it cannot be very light. Besides provision being made for strength, rollers or castors must be put under it to move it when desired, unless it is built on a stationary fixture, which is often desirable where the home is a permanent one, as on a farm.

A correspondent describes a refrigerator owned and built by a friend in his little dairy room adjoining the farmhouse kitchen. It is a real cooler on a small scale. Adjoining the dairy room where the cream is raised and rose-like print butter is made, is the ice-house, so handy that cakes of ice are slid from their sawdust bed right to the cooler, creamer and churn. The accompanying picture will explain the cooler. It is perhaps six by eight feet on the floor, and six feet high. A five-foot door permits entrance. This door should be at least three feet broad to allow two men to walk in with a hog, half a beef or veal, for it is often convenient to keep these things an extra day or so when the weather is mild. The cooler has a cement floor that slopes to one corner gently, where a pipe carries away the water used at times to wash it down. The ice is put in at the little door seen at the top on the left. There need be no lifting, as a rack, a, may be arranged from the ice bin to slide direct. A slatted rack, seen at the upper left-hand corner of the open door holds the ice. It is placed at the top because on the principle that heat rises, being displaced by cold air that settles. Directly under the ice are slatted shelves to hold dishes, meats and other things for kitchen convenience. At the right and full height of the cooler is a place for hanging a dressed carcass or placing a rack for fruit in trays or cases. The aim should be to keep the air in a refrigerator as dry as possible, hence the water from the melting ice is not permitted to drip to the floor nor to soak any wood, but is conveyed from the shallow, galvanized iron pan upon which it rests, into the drain through a small lead pipe. The pan is merely a sheet of iron turned up half an inch at the edges. The pipe need not even be soldered to it, as the slow drip is easily conducted into it by pinching up one edge of the pan.

The walls, doors and top of any cooler must of course be double. They are made best of nicely matched lumber. Besides the two thicknesses forming a single dead-air space, it is desirable to line up halfway of the joists and midway between the cover and lining with builders' paper, thus forming two dead-air spaces reaching from top to bottom. Joists 2 by 4 are used, so a 4-inch space is left. This, divided by the paper, permits two 2-inch spaces. A cross section of the wall is shown herewith, as one looks down through it from the top, before the top is put on. After the joists are set up, and before the cover or lining is nailed in place, a lath is nailed up and down midway of the joist, holding paper firmly as shown. The other edge of the paper is carried and fastened in the same manner to the other joist. The old plan of filling the space with sawdust is not advised because of the tendency to muskiness, which injures the flavor of meats, butter and other articles held in cold storage. A smaller refrigerator may be made on the same principle.

The English Butter Market.
Australian butter is closely crowding that from Denmark in making up the enormous English imports. During the first two months of this year the purchases were equal to 300,000 tubs against 380,000 tubs in Denmark. During the first two months of 1894 Australasia furnished England with a little more than 200,000 tubs and two years ago only 130,000. Out of a total of 1,000,000 tubs imported into Great Britain the United States furnished a quantity barely equal to 3,000 tubs of 60 lbs. each. The United Kingdom also bought in other countries during the first two months of this year about 350,000 tubs butterine, chiefly from Holland, and this in turn was made from oil purchased in the United States. Brazil imports annually butter worth \$80,000,000 and of this trade the United States formerly had a large proportion. But the hog-butcher, corn-merchants have shipped so much of their counterfeits there, selling it as real butter, that the Brazilian merchants have become incensed and will no longer deal with us, sending largely their orders to Denmark, where the government guarantees the purity of the goods.—American Agriculturist.

Pasture-Making is an Art.
There is an art in making a good pasture that every farmer should turn his attention to. The pasture should be as well taken care of as any part of the farm. Pasture lands ought to be made as rich as possible. They should be seeded down with a large variety of grasses, those of different habits of growth, time of ripening of seed and of good, rich food value. To the farmer just about to seed down his land to pasture one thing essential above all others is the thorough preparation of the soil. The land should be well plowed and re-plowed, harrowed and re-harrowed, so as to pulverize it thoroughly.

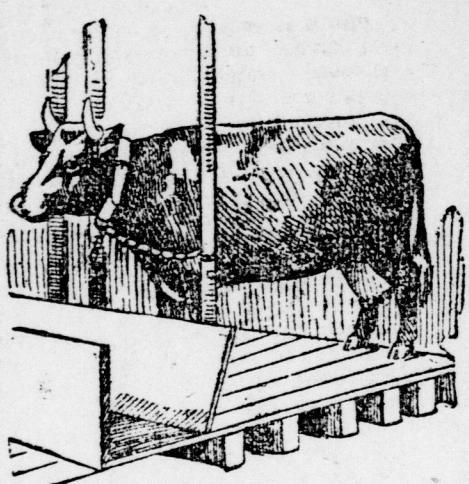
Poor Cheese.
One of the most serious drawbacks to the cheese industry is the vast amount of cheese made which has been robbed of a part of its cream. The consumer buys a small piece, but its poor quality is against it. It is not eaten, goes to waste, and the housewife of economical tendencies does not buy it again for months. If only good cheese, from whole milk, were made, the consumption would steadily increase. But the market has been so badly demoralized by the makers of poor cheese, that it will take years to recover its tone, even when poor cheeses are no longer sold.—American Agriculturist.

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COMFORTABLE CATTLE CHAIN.

Humane and Cheap Tie for Fastening Cattle.

The method shown below of fastening cattle is quite common in the barns of dairymen where wooden or iron stanchions are not in use. It is doubtful if a more satisfactory, cheaper or humane method of cattle fastening can be provided. For the neck an easily fitting leather strap with a light iron ring permanently attached is worn continuously. A light chain 3 feet long has a ring at one end which slides loosely on a round stanchion of smooth hardwood about 3 inches in diameter.



CONVENIENT CATTLE CHAIN.

Midway between the rings a snap is fastened to the chain, which is hooked with a snaffle into the leather necktie around the animal's neck. This method of fastening is far more comfortable for the animal than vice-like stanchions, does not wear the chain from the neck like a neck-chain and is fastened or liberated quickly.—Farm and Home.

Norman or Cotentin Cattle.

Among the recent notable arrivals at the port of New York was that of twelve head of Norman cattle, owned by Mr. J. B. Guillet. The Normans, although it is one of the oldest existing races of domesticated cattle, is very little known on this side of the Atlantic, but few of them having ever been imported previous to this recent arrival. The leading characteristics of Norman cattle are great size, with rather coarse bone, long and heavy head, fine horns—usually bent forward and downward—long, deep body, broad hips, short legs, thick and rather hard skin, well covered with a coat of various shades of red, white, roan and reddish brown in spots, and brindled streaks. The cows have well-developed milk veins, and large, well-formed udders. It is claimed for them by Norman farmers that they are the best dairy cows in the world, and they unquestionably hold the leading position among French breeds of cattle. Twenty-five to thirty quarts of milk a day is not an unusual yield for a Norman cow in full flush and is sometimes considerably exceeded, while 6,000 pounds within a year is not above the average. It is mainly from their milk that the famous Camembert and Brie cheeses are made. The butter, known in Paris under the trade name of beurre d'Isigny, commands the highest prices at the semi-weekly auction sales of the Halles Centrales, the great market place of the French capital. As beef animals, Normans are noted for early maturity and great weight rather than large net weight of dressed carcasses. Cows which have served their purpose in the dairy are fattened until they attain weights of 1,300 to 1,500 lbs. Steers at ages of two and a half to three years weigh from 1,600 to 2,000 lbs., and there are authentic records of Norman oxen which at six years of age weighed 4,185 to 4,355 lbs. This "general-purpose" quality is of great importance to the small proprietors of France, as it enables them to turn to profitable account their "dovagier" cows and surplus males. The beef is of good quality, but there is a larger proportion of bone and offal than in the British breeds of beef cattle. They are heavy eaters, and require an abundance of nutritious food. The strongest claim to public favor made in behalf of this breed is on the ground of its hardiness and freedom from all tuberculous taint. In Normandy great numbers of these cattle are kept in thriving condition without shelter, winter and summer, throughout the year.

The habitant of Norman cattle comprises the departments of Eure, Calvados, Manche and Orne. Its origin is lost in the mist of ages. An evidence of its great antiquity is the fact that in the Bayeux tapestry, wrought in the eleventh century under the direction of Matilda, the queen of William the Conqueror, the cattle represented are fairly good portraits of Norman cattle as they are seen to-day. Great care has been taken to preserve the purity of the race, and to this end a herdbook was established in 1883, and is still maintained. It is entitled the "Herdbook d'Isigny et du Bessin," and is edited and published under the charge of a commission elected for three years by the Societe d'Agriculture. This consists of eighteen members of the society, assisted by three veterinarians, and every animal must undergo a rigid inspection before it can be admitted to registry.

The importation of a breeding herd of Norman cattle is an event which may prove to be of some importance to American live-stock interests. This land of cheap and abundant food material would seem to be the very place for these gross feeders, with their immense capacity for turning grain and forage into milk and beef. If they sustain the claims made for them, and prove to be adapted to conditions of soil and climate, they can scarcely fail to be a valuable acquisition.

The Poultry Craze.
No delusion has emptied the pockets of a greater number of victims in this country than the poultry craze. More money has been wasted, actually thrown away, probably, on elaborate and unpractical poultry houses than on any of the other buildings connected with a village or farm establishment. And there are scores of by the wholesale, but we do believe that helpful information should be fully given to those already keeping poultry that they may keep it at a profit rather than at a loss, or if successful that they may secure still greater success.

Buffalo milk dealers are up in arms against some of the provisions of a new city ordinance. It is provided that every milk dealer shall carry enough ice during June, July and August to prevent the milk from heating. While some of the members of the milk dealers' protective association favor the section, others object vigorously on the score that it would be a hardship to the dealers.

Currents are propagated from cuttings by cutting last year's wood to six or eight-inch twigs and planting in moist, rich loam; transplant after one or two years. Current cuttings do better taken in August than in spring.



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