

CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR.

WORLD'S O. E. PRAYER CHAIN, SUBJECT FOR NOVEMBER:—*For our Country.*—Pray for the nation of which you are a citizen, whichever that nation may be, that it may be a God-fearing, law-abiding, Christian land. Pray for every wise effort of the young people to advance true Christian citizenship.

Troubles.

DAILY READING.

First Day—Job's lesson—Job v. 17-19.

Second Day—Manassah's lesson—2 Chron. xxxiii. 11-13.

Third Day—David's lesson—Psalm cxix. 67, 71.

Fourth Day—Paul's lesson—Rom. viii. 18.

Fifth Day—Moses' choice—Heb. xi. 24-26.

Sixth Day—Jeremiah's faith—Lam. iii. 31-33.

PRAYER MEETING TOPIC—"HOW CAN WE GET GOOD OUT OF OUR TROUBLES?" Psalm xxvii. 1-14.

Glimpses of Endeavordom.

Thirty-nine denominations are reported in Illinois' 2,824 Christian Endeavor societies.

Australia's delegate to the San Francisco Christian Endeavor Convention has already been appointed. He is Rev. Silas Mead, President of the United Society of Christian Endeavor of Australia.

An annual subscription to the denominational paper has been given to every member in the congregation of a Bangor, Penn., church by the Christian Endeavor societies of the church.

Eight prisoners in the Louisville, Ky., jail were baptized on a recent Sunday. The men, one of them a murderer, had been led to Christ through the services held by a Christian Endeavor society of the city.

Christian Endeavorers generally have been aroused over the subject of a special week of prayer for Armenia, and the second week of November was widely observed.

Christian Endeavorers in many places are campaigning for the Sunday closing of local post offices. One of the latest cities to take up this work was Williamsport, Penn.

Nearly all the persons present at a meeting of a Richmond, Ind., Friends Christian Endeavor society promised to give systematically to missions, and twenty-two persons became tithers.

A unique but melancholy service was done by some Christian Endeavor young men of Yarker, Ont., in digging the grave for the burial of a young man whose parents could not afford the expense.

The Christian Endeavor society in Aroostook County, Me., that reports the greatest amount given for missions will be allowed to name the delegate to the San Francisco Convention that the Union will send.

On the night of election day the Christian Endeavorers of Janesville, Wis., held a celebration to hear the election returns. The purpose of the meeting was to keep men and boys from visiting doubtful places for this same purpose.

Twelve girls comprise a Junior Christian Endeavor society in an Industrial School for girls in Toronto. Last year these children gave thirty dollars for missions, all raised by their own efforts.

Washington Endeavorers are circulating a mammoth petition asking for the abolition of the two saloons in the basement of the Capitol. This is the beginning of a systematic fight against these disgraceful iniquities.

Sometime ago a Mexican convict was converted through the efforts of the Zacatecas Christian Endeavor Society. Later, together with his wife, he travelled a long distance to attend the National Christian Endeavor Convention, and upon his return home organized a Christian congregation.

The Janitorship of the church in Whiting, Ind., has been assumed by the Christian Endeavor society, to lessen church expenses, with the same motive the young men of this same church chopped ten cords of oak wood for fuel.

A Boston Free Baptist Christian Endeavor society recently sent out several members by twos to visit the various city missions. Their report on returning made an interesting meeting, and inspired the society to undertake practical home mission work.

Two English merchantmen recently stopping in San Diego Harbor were visited systematically by the local Endeavorers, with the result that before the ships left port an officer on each, and nineteen men on one, and twelve on the other, had confessed Christ. A prayer circle was formed on each ship.

FOR THE SABBATH SCHOOL.

International S. S. Lesson.

LESSON IX.—THE FAME OF SOLOMON.—NOV. 20.

1 Kings x. 1-10.

GOLDEN TEXT.—"Behold a greater than Solomon is here."—Matt. xii. 42.

ANALYSIS.—The Queen's journey (v. 1, 2.)
Queen's wonder (v. 3-7.)
Queen's gifts (v. 8-10.)

TIME AND PLACE.—B. C. 902. Jerusalem.

VERSE BY VERSE.—1. "Queen of Sheba."—Sheba was probably that part of Southern Arabia now known as Yemen. "Came."—To Jerusalem, a distance of about twelve hundred miles, which, as then travelled, would take a period of nearly three months. "Prove him."—To test his wisdom. "Hard questions."—These were of the nature of riddles, the making and solving of which were popular with the Arabs.

V. 2. "A very great train."—Consisting not only of the camels that bore her treasures, but with numerous attendants, and an armed guard. "Spices."—Arabia was noted for all sorts of spices, in which its commerce largely consisted. "Communed with him."—Conversed with him.

V. 4. "All Solomon's wisdom."—As shown by his answers to her questions, and by his government of his kingdom. "The house that he had built." This probably refers to the royal palace.

V. 5. "The meat of his table."—We were told something about this in the Third Lesson. (1 Kings iv.) "Ministers."—The officers of his court. "Cupbearers."—Who had charge of the wine used at the royal table. "His ascent."—Some suppose this refers to the stairway by which the king passed from his palace to the House of the Lord. Others suppose that it refers to the inspiring ceremonies with which Solomon went up to the temple to worship. "No more spirit."—She was filled with wonder and astonishment.

V. 6. "A true report."—Not exaggerated, as most reports are.

V. 7. "I believed not."—While not exaggerated, these reports were so strange that she could not credit them.

V. 8. "Happy are thy men."—The reason is immediately given, because they were permitted to hear such wisdom.

V. 9. "Blessed be the Lord."—It does not follow necessarily from this that the queen believed in the God of Israel. She simply acknowledges that such wisdom and prosperity must be due to Divine power.

V. 10. "She gave."—These gifts were tokens of friendship, "An hundred and twenty talents of gold."—Not less than three millions of dollars.

PRACTICAL AND ILLUSTRATIVE.

V. 1. "Heard the fame of Solomon concerning the name of the Lord."—The fame of Solomon for wisdom, wealth and commercial enterprise, and for the greatness and splendor of his kingdom, had gone forth into all lands; but his highest fame was associated with "the name of the Lord." The queen of Sheba so understood it, and although, perhaps, before ignorant of the true God, now acknowledged His hand in it all. (V. 9.) Let us seek fame only in the Lord, and lay all honors at His feet, and give Him all the glory.

"Hard questions." Many of them were doubtless religious questions, as the king's name was religious, and she came "to hear his wisdom." "When we first attend seriously to religion, we shall meet with many 'hard questions,' which we cannot resolve, and which will often perplex and distress our minds, especially if at a distance from proper instructions. But 'then shall we know if we follow on to know the Lord.'"

V. 2. "She came to Jerusalem with a very great train." Our Lord contrasted her zeal in coming to hear the wisdom of Solomon with the indifference of men in seeking Himself. "The queen of the south shall rise up in judgment with this generation, and shall condemn it; for she came from the uttermost parts of the earth to hear the wisdom of Solomon; and, behold, a greater than Solomon is here."

V. 4, 5. When the queen of Sheba had seen all . . . there was no more spirit in her. The magnificence was overpowering. He had all of the world that heart could desire.

V. 7. "The half was not told me." The awakened sinner, oppressed with perplexing difficulties, discovering objections, and distressing fears, hears the report of the Saviour's acts and wisdom, of His unsearchable riches and unfathomable love; but can scarcely believe the report . . .

V. 10. "She gave the king an hundred and twenty talents of gold, etc." Her gifts were royal; yet the wealthy king did not need them, and could not be enriched by them. The Greater than Solomon needs not our gifts, yet it is due Him that we give Him our hearts, our all.

V. 13. "Solomon gave unto the queen of Sheba, etc." She was not the loser, either by her long journey or her costly presents. A prince like Solomon could not permit her to make sacrifices. We see here a picture of the recompenses of our God. "According to his riches in glory." (Phil. iv. 19.) "Ask and it shall be given you." (Matt. vi. 7.) His gifts, too are "according to the hand of a king," and what a king!