

**SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON**

**SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON XII.**  
Sept. 19, 1920  
Evils of Intemperance  
Temperance Lesson  
Proverbs 23:19-21, 29-35.

Commentary.—I. Good counsel (vs. 19-21). 19. Hear thou. Take good heed. My son. The inspired writer speaks as a father of teacher who is giving instruction to an inexperienced youth. The address here is tender and impressive. Be wise.—It means much to use the means within one's reach to become wise. The exhortation here given implies that one can direct his actions wisely if he will. Guide thine heart in the way.—God has endowed us each with conscience and reason. He has further endowed us with will, or the power of choice. The responsibility is placed upon us of recognizing what is the right way and of directing our step therein. 20. Be not among winebibbers.—We are counseled not only to refrain from strong drink, that is, not to be winebibbers ourselves, but also not to be companions to them. There is great danger in associating with those who are evil in their practices and habits. Riotous eaters of flesh.—Here is a warning against gluttony. It is a sin against the body, and a sin also against God, to gorge one's self with food. The appetite craves food from time to time and there is discomfort if its demands are not met, but the wrong lies in eating in excess of bodily needs for the sake of gratifying the appetite. 21. Shall come to poverty.—Strong drink indulged in calls for more drink and still more until money and all other property is gone.

II. Questions answered (vs. 29, 30). 29. Who hath we? Who hath sorrow.—"Who hath Oh? who hath Alas?"—R.V., margin. These words express sorrow and suffering of the most intense degree. Here is woe that includes loss of health, loss of strength, loss of property, loss of mental power, loss of affection, loss of friends, loss of reputation, loss of character, loss of life, loss of heaven. "Some one has called this lesson the drunkard's looking-glass. It is also the other end of the moderate drinker's career." "It is scientifically indisputable fact, that alcoholic beverages more than any other factor undermine the physical and intellectual powers of the race, endanger the general welfare, and create hereditary ailments and degeneracy. More than half of the inmates of our penal institutions were actuated by alcohol to the criminal deeds for which they were convicted; about one-fourth of the insane and feeble-minded owe their pitiable fate to alcohol."

Who hath contention.—The spirit of strong drink seems to the spirit of strife and contention. Given a company of men with appetites for strong drink and a liberal supply of liquor, and there are sure to be quarrels and fights. Conscience and reason are for the time dethroned, self-control is lacking, and dangerous disputes arise. Tabbling.—"Dangling"—R. V. It is a common thing for the drunken man to talk foolishly, as well as complainingly. Persons under the influence of alcohol say things they would have no thought of uttering when they sober. Caution and modesty are for the time being absent, and the tongue is given loose rein. Wounds without cause.—Because strong drink takes away reason, and stirs a quarrelsome spirit, the victim is not in a condition to use prudence in protecting himself. Uncounted, recorded saloon brawls are a sad commentary upon these words. The wife and children of the drunkard times without number suffer such wounds at the hands of those who should be their natural protectors.

30. they that tarry long at the wine.—The answer to the questions of the preceding verse. No other class of men answers to the description better as well as drunkards. One of the prominent features of the drinking habit is the tendency to follow up one drink with another. The Japanese have a proverb: "A man took a drink, then the drink took a drink, then the drink took the man." This is where the fallacy of the moderate drinker appears. To continue to drink moderately is the exception and not the rule, for the rule of strong drink is, more and more until the day of final destruction. mixed wine.—Not different kinds of wines mixed together, but wines with spices, aromatic herbs and other ingredients, introduced to heighten the flavor and increase their intoxicating power.

III. Exhortation and warning (vs. 31-35). 31. Look not thou.—The steps often follow the eyes, and the exhortation is appropriate. Temptation is more easily resisted when first presented than later. He who recognizes the temptation, and parleys with it, has already half yielded to its power. We are urged to keep away from the vile thing, and ever consider it as vile, when it is red.—The wines of Palestine were chiefly red and these were preferred to the white, and wines were even tinted to lighten the color, give it its color in the cup.—"Sparkleth in the cup."—R. V. Reference is made to the bead, or eye upon the wine, that sparkles to please the fancy of the lover of strong drink, when it moveth itself aright.—"When it goeth down smoothly."—R. V. 32. at the last.—The sight of the wine may be pleasing, the taste and odor may be attractive, the companionship offered may be inviting, but "at the last" it is something very different. It promises well at the beginning, but is base and deceiving, biteth like a serpent, and strength like an adder.—The meaning is that it stings painfully and fatally. It may also mean comprehensively: for there is no wound more immediately prevalent in its effects over all the functions than the bite of a poisonous snake, which at once affects the blood, the digestive organs and the mind. So it is with intoxicating beverages. Our delicate and complex physical nature, our intellect, and our soul are all destroyed by it. The specific species of snake here referred to as an adder is not known.—III. Note: "The teeth of the serpent are

said to be hooked inward; they are easy to slide in, but are hard to get out when fastened on their victims." 33. thine eyes shall behold strange women.—"Thine eyes shall behold strange things."—R. V. The drunkard's vision is confused, distorted. One of the effects of wine is to inflame the passions, and arouse the baser nature. The carousals that attend the freshly flowing wine are void of all decency and yet approach to civilization. The Revised Version intimates one of the fearful effects of continued indulgence in alcoholic beverages, delirium tremens. thine heart shall utter perverse things.—With the intellect clouded, and the moral sense blurred by indulgence in drink, the drunkard says the most unreasonable things.

34. Leth down in the midst of the sea.—It means death for one to lie down in the waters of the sea with the thought of throwing off all care and simply resting. One may float in the water, but he cannot safely lie down there as he would throw himself on a couch for rest. Drunken men pay little regard to where they go or where they sink down in their stupor. Upon the top of a mast.—The drunkard is utterly regardless of life. He is as one falling asleep clasping the mast-head, whence in a few minutes he must either fall down upon the deck and be dashed in pieces, or fall into the sea and be drowned.—Clarke. 35. Stricken.—not sick.—The victim of alcohol is unconscious of the ruin his career is bringing upon him. His conscience is dulled and his heart hardened. Beaten.—felt it not.—He is bruised but will not acknowledge the injury. When shall I awake.—Others read it, "When I awake.—After one debauch is over the victim plunges into another. I will seek it yet again.—The chains of habit have become thoroughly fixed, and only through the grace of God can deliverance be found.

QUESTIONS.—How long ago were the words of this lesson written? How does the sin of intemperance of that time compare with the same sin today? How does strong drink destroy happiness? What is there about wine that is attractive? Why are we forbidden to look at it? To what is it compared in the lesson? What effects are mentioned in this lesson? What is the sure way to avoid becoming a drunkard?

**PRACTICAL SURVEY**

Topic.—Alcohol—raise causes and true charges.

I. True charges.

1. False claims. Sin is always deceitful. Evil instinctively seeks to conceal or disguise. It never presents itself in its true character. Pleasure or profit is always the ground of private or public appeal. Every indulgence or system of wrong seeks support by false claims. Neither is ever necessary or profitable to individuals or nations. Science possesses any inherent rights and can impose obligations except for its overthrow. Its purpose is always destructive and its results ruinous. It is an intruder in a universe originally planned for holiness. The use of alcohol can be traced to a very early period of history. The first record appears in scripture immediately succeeding the flood. In sacred and profane history its course can be traced. It is the most ancient, the most universal and the most gigantic evil of all time. The manufacture and sale of intoxicating beverages has no place among legitimate industries. Science has discovered that alcohol never exists in any normal or healthy substance. It is always the product of decomposition, and is the cause of rotteness. The claims of medicinal value have long been disproved by science. The claim of revenue is equally false. Legitimate industries more remunerative, employment, the paltry revenue it provides is immeasurably beneath the cost of the poverty and crime engendered.

II. True charges. It is charged against the manufacture and use of alcohol for beverage purposes that it is the enemy of the individual, of the home and of the state. Its use weakens physical energy, destroys brain power and blunts the moral faculties. Under its influence men forsake their high plane, are unfitted for social and become more imbruted than the brute itself. Its inspirations are always criminal. The saloon is the natural rendezvous of thieves, gamblers, or blacklegs. It is the habitat of criminals of every hue. From saloons went forth Wilkes Booth, Galtzeau, Czolgosz and many another fired for their murderous tasks. The home is dependent upon the individual and is the vital center of both personal and national life. No nation can rise above the standard of its average home. By its injury to the individual, alcohol becomes the inevitable foe of the home, which takes precedence among all divinely-established institutions among men. It antedates both church and nation, and is the foundation of both. Its impairment affects wide interests. Its integrity is vital and its injury irreparable. Alcohol transforms the natural protectors of childhood into unnatural monsters robs infancy of its inalienable rights. To be well born is the right of every new member of the race. This is impossible where alcohol holds sway. It is charged also that the liquor traffic is the enemy of good government. It is the most lawless organization in existence, and ruthlessly violates every human and divine ordinance which interferes with its nefarious purposes. It is a striking confession and commentary that, in times of catastrophe, panic, riot, and more recently or war, it is suppressed in the interests of good order.

W. H. C.

**FROST IN ALTA.**

**But Most of Grain Beyond Danger Stage.**

Edmonton, Sept. —There was quite a little frost in the Edmonton district last night, and it is estimated that some of the late crops may have suffered damage, but not to any serious extent. Most of the grain in this district has passed the danger stage. This has been an excellent fall, and not in many years has damaging frost stayed off so long. The bulk of



**THE VINDICTIVE REFLOATED AT OSTEND.**

After long effort the British authorities have succeeded in raising the Vindictive, one of the war vessels used in the blocking of the harbor of Ostend, and have thus opened the harbor to the free entry of commerce. The picture in the circle shows the Vindictive after being raised, with two of the huge cylinders of compressed air which were used in the operation and the other shows the deck of the ship being washed of the accumulation of muck gathered from the sea during long immersion.



**JOHN TERRANCE MACSWINEY**  
A brother of the Lord Mayor of Cork, MacSwiney was drafted under the Military Service Act at Iroquois Falls in 1918. For refusal to wear the uniform, he was court-martialed and sentenced to two years' imprisonment, but was released in March, 1919, returning to Ireland.

the cutting in the Edmonton district is completed, something over 60 per cent. Cutting is finished in the south and in the central portion of the province 70 to 80 per cent. In the south and east of the province threshing is going on. There is a little threshing in this district, but it is not general as yet.

**ENVER TO LEAD REDS ON INDIA**

Berlin, Sept. —At the request of Premier Lenin and War Minister Trotsky, of the Soviet Government, Enver Pasha, the Turkish Nationalist leader, has been named commander-in-chief of the Bolshevik forces mobilized against India, according to advices received here from Moscow. It includes the Bolshevik troops in the Caucasus, Persia, Afghanistan and Turkestan, the despatches declare. Enver spent two days at the Red army headquarters at Smolensk with Trotsky, and thereafter was received with much ceremony by Lenin at Moscow. In diplomatic circles the move by Moscow is regarded largely as a manoeuvre to force England to a quicker peace with Russia.

**Winter Wheat**  
Results of Experiments

Winter wheat is one of the chief money crops of Ontario. Its market value for the Province amounted to about thirty-five million dollars in 1919. Fourteen varieties of winter wheat have been grown under experiment at the Ontario Agricultural College for twenty-five years with average results for this period as follows: Yield of grain per acre 43.9 bushels, yield of straw per acre 2.8 tons, and weight per measured bushel 60.5 pounds. The results for 1920 were 3 per cent. less in yield of grain per acre, 29 per cent. less in yield of straw per acre, and 2 per cent. greater in weight per measured bushel than the average results for the whole period. In fifteen years of the twenty-five year period, the yields of grain per acre surpassed those of 1920. In only nine years of the twenty-five year period were the weights per measured bushel greater than those of 1920. Experiments at the college have shown that the best results have been obtained from sowing large, plump, sound, well-matured seed of strong vitality. Seedlings which have taken place from the 25th of August to the 9th of September have given better results than those of either earlier or later dates. Five varieties of winter wheat have been distributed for co-operative experiments throughout Ontario in each of the past four years. The following table gives the average results in bushels of grain per acre for 1920, and for the average of the four years:

Varieties.	1920.	Average 4 years.
O. A. C. No. 104	26.9	26.3
Improved Dawson's	26.4	26.1
Golden Chaff	22.7	24.2
Improved Imperial	22.3	21.1
Amber	22.3	21.1
Kharkov	17.3	20.0
Yaroslaw		

The O.A.C. No. 104 was decidedly the most popular variety of those under test, eighty-two per cent. of the experimenters giving it first choice. This new hybrid wheat will be distributed this autumn in connection with the co-operative experiments to every person who asks for the experiment with varieties of winter wheat.

**MAY LOSE WEALTH.**

Salem, Mass., Sept. —An attempt will be made by appeal to a jury to break the will of Edward F. Searles, the date for a hearing on the issue will be set later by agreement of the aged recluses of Methuen, who left an estate estimated at \$50,000,000 with Arthur T. Walker, New York, formerly a school teacher in Ontario, as residuary legatee. Counsel for Albert Victor Searles, Boston, a nephew, made this announcement when the will came up for probate to-day, saying that a formal motion for a jury trial would be filed within ten days. Searles nephew is an artist. The multi-millionaire left him only \$250,000 and stipulated that he should lose felt everything if he contested the will.



**PRINCESS MARY.**  
Who is being invited by the Canadian National Exhibition to visit the Exhibition in 1921, which will be "Women's Year."

**PRODUCING MILK AT LOSS**

**Says Report of Farm Minister's Committee.**

**Eight Gallons Cost \$3.26, Average Price \$5.02.**

Toronto, Sept. —Hon. Manning Doherty's committee has made an interim report on the cost of producing milk in the counties of York, Oxford and Dundas. The cost, based on a survey of certain farms in York County, for an eight-gallon can of milk is placed at \$3.26. To this figure it is necessary to add 30 cents for city delivery, bringing the price up to \$3.56 per can, as against \$3.26, the wholesale price, which, it is proposed, will govern the retail distribution of milk in Toronto for the winter months.

A statement accompanying the report from the Minister of Agriculture points out that, while \$3.26 per can is the winter price prevailing for eight months, and \$2.65 the price for the four summer months, the average price received for the year is \$3.02 per eight-gallon can of milk, yet, according to the figures compiled by the committee, the actual cost of milk the year round per eight-gallon can is \$3.26. "It is evident, therefore," says the Minister, "that the producer is moderate in his request for a winter price."

"So far as the consumer is concerned," says Mr. Doherty, "I have always felt that if the consumer really understood the cost of production of such articles as milk he would be quite satisfied to pay a fair price, and I feel that the best interests of all will be served by giving the widest publicity to the facts and facts, and a fair price on the necessities of life, and making any economies which may be necessary on the luxuries."

**ITALY NEAR REVOLUTION**

**Socialization of All Industries Threatened.**

**Employers Are Resisting Passively.**

Paris, Sept. —That the meeting on Sept. 10 of the executive councils of the Italian Federations of Labor will discuss socialization of all the productions in case the employers remain hostile, is believed from Italian despatches received here. Italy in on the brink of a Communist revolution.

The Italian General Confederation of Labor, formerly moderate, is now directing the Communist menace. The confederation will not call a general strike, but, unless the employers submit, will force an industrial revolution on Soviet lines. The confederation already has proclaimed its solidarity with the metallurgists.

Employers are resisting passively and declare they are not responsible for debts or selling contracts made by workers controlling their works. Occupied factories are unable to produce a normal output, lacking material and technical directors.

**LAYS 104 EGGS IN 104 DAYS**

Ottawa, Ont., Sept. —A record yet to be beaten in continuous egg-laying has, according to F. C. Elfrd, Dominion poultry husbandman, been made by a barred rock pullet at the Experimental Farm at Kentville, N.S. This pullet has laid 104 eggs in 104 days. As a rule a hen lays two or three and then misses a day, and some are known to have laid five or six dozen without a break, but never before, in the knowledge of the Dominion Poultry Department has a hen laid 104 eggs without a miss.

**WILL BURN IT**

**Rather Than Sell Tobacco Low, Say N. C. Farmers.**

Newburn, N.C., Sept. —With five million pounds of tobacco ready for American and foreign buyers on the opening day of the world's largest loose leaf tobacco markets, several towns in eastern North Carolina closed their tobacco warehouses in protest against the low prices offered by large tobacco corporations. Prices opened 25 to 40 per cent. lower than last season, the best grades selling from forty to sixty cents per pound while the poorer grades brought only eight to fifteen cents.

Farmers and business men in various sections of this State are holding mass meetings to-night to determine what action further than temporarily closing the market shall be taken. It is pointed out that with a 25 per cent. decrease in tobacco production this year and a big increase in consumption, the market should be as high if not higher than last year. At Wilson, N.C., the largest single loose leaf tobacco market in the world, prices averaged 20 cents per pound, against 40 cents last year. The farmers declare they will burn their tobacco before they will sell at these prices.



**YOUTH COMMANDS RUSS REGIMENT.**  
The above photo illustrates the extreme mitles to which the Russian armies in Poland are reduced. The picture was taken just after the capture of the Polish city of Grajewo, and shows a twenty-year-old Russian youth, who is in command of a regiment, addressing those of his forces who remained. The nondescript uniforms are noteworthy.