

# SUNDAY SCHOOL

Lesson VI. Feb. 9, 1919.

Jethro's Counsel, Exodus 18, 1-27.

Commentary.—I. Jethro received by Moses (vs. 1-22). 1-11. Jethro, Moses' father-in-law, the priest of Midian, was also called Hobab, Reuel and Raguel. In religion he was not an Israelite, yet he honored the true God (v. 15). He heard of the great displays of divine power in behalf of the Israelites, whose visible leader was Moses, and he came to Sinai to visit his son-in-law, bringing Moses' wife and two sons with him. As Jethro approached the camp of Israel, Moses went out to meet him and greeted him with true Oriental friendliness and ceremony. He told him of the marvelous doings of the Lord for him and his people, and also related the difficulties he had met in his great work. Jethro gave thanks to God for what He had done for Moses and his people, and declared the superiority of the God of Israel over all other gods.

12. Father-in-law.—This term is applied also to other relatives by marriage. Took a burnt offering.—Jethro offered sacrifice to the true God, and Aaron and the elders of Israel joined Moses in a feast in honor of his father-in-law.

II. Jethro's counsel (vs. 13-23). 13. Moses sat to judge the people.—As he was leader of Israel, it was natural and proper that difficulties arising between individuals should be brought to him for adjustment, and he assumes this burden unhesitatingly. The people stood... unto the evening.—The cases to be settled were so numerous that much time was required to complete the work, and some of the people had to wait long for their turn to come. 14. Why sittest thou thyself alone.—Jethro's keen mind grasped the situation at once and saw a better plan for dealing with the Israelites' difficulties than the one Moses was following. His question suggests the course that he would recommend. He could see a way to relieve Moses of much labor and care and to relieve the people also. 15. Because the people come unto me.—This appeared to Moses to be a sufficient reason for his expending his time in meeting their demands. 16. I do make them know the statutes of God.—Moses was doing a great work in teaching his people the laws of God and his will concerning them, and he felt his responsibility. 17. The thing that thou doest is not good.—Jethro makes bold to criticize Moses' course, not because Moses was not doing his work well, but because his self-imposed task was too arduous. 18. Thou wilt surely wear away.—This people—Moses would wear himself out in trying to meet all the demands of the people, and the people would become weary with waiting.

19. Hearken now.—God shall be with thee.—Jethro had no thought or desire of interfering with God's plan, but he wished to suggest a way in which God's design could be better carried out. For the people to God-ward.—Moses would stand between God and the people, receiving communications from him for them. Thou shalt teach them.—Moses would give his chief attention to instructing the people. He had been doing this in the past, but being relieved of the less important details in judging, he could give more attention to teaching the people "the work that they must do." 21. Provide out of all the people.—There were those among the Israelites to whom could safely and wisely be entrusted duties which had been performed by Moses himself. The language indicates that great care should be exercised in the selection of the men and four qualifications are specified. Able men.—They were to be capable men, worthy men. "The expression implies moral and physical efficiency, rather than intellect; intellectual ability, it is rendered 'worthy' (1 Kings 1: 52), 'virtuous' (Ruth 3: 11; Prov. 12: 4), and often 'valiant' (1 Sam. 14: 52)." Such as fear God.—Men who not only believe in God in an intellectual way, but are devoted to Him and His service, men of truth.—The men to be placed in the position of judges must have high regard for truth. They must tell the truth themselves and insist on truthfulness in others. Having covetousness.—Having unjust gain.—R. V. No one who would accept of a bribe should be entrusted with the duty of passing judgment in any case. He should be one that despiseth the gain of expressions, that shaketh his hands from holding of bribes" (Isa. 33: 15). Rulers.—Chiefs, princes, overseers, thousands—hundreds, etc.—This minute classification of the people is thoroughly in accordance with the Semitic character, and

was retained in after ages. The numbers appear to be conventional, corresponding nearly, but not exactly, to the military or civil divisions of the people.—Speaker's Com. 22. Let them judge the people.—The principle of co-operation in the Lord's work is strongly set forth. Here was an organization suggested to meet the many demands made by the people. Cases could receive attention promptly. Every great matter... unto thee.—As was proper cases of importance were to be referred to Moses. 23. And God command thee so.—Jethro was careful to suggest that his plan should receive consideration only as it might be consistent with God's will. He was to endure.—Thus relieved, Moses could bear the strain that would come upon him as Israel's leader.

III. The counsel heeded (vs. 24-27). 24. Moses hearkened.—Moses recognized the soundness of Jethro's advice and was satisfied that it was in harmony with the divine will, hence he put the plan into immediate operation. 25. Chose able men.—It was a mark of Moses' capable leadership that he knew men and was able to select men suitable for the tasks to be performed. He made his selection from "all Israel" and doubtless secured the very best for this service. 26. At all seasons.—The matters that came up for settlement were promptly adjusted. Hard cases they brought unto Moses.—Moses had direct communication with God and the causes that were brought to him were judged righteously.

Questions.—Who was Jethro? By what other names was he known? Whom did he bring to Moses? How was he received? What was his attitude toward the true God? What did he see Moses doing? What question did he ask Moses? What counsel did Jethro give Moses? What kind of men did he counsel Moses to choose? What was the result?

## PRACTICAL SURVEY.

Topic.—Co-operation in the Work of the Kingdom.

I. Wise counsel accepted.

II. Responsibility shared.

III. Co-operation essential.

The training of the chosen nation for its high destiny was a gigantic task. A people divinely directed and delivered, and miraculously sustained should have displayed increased faith in God and fortitude in difficulty. The murmurings of Miriam mingle with the echoes of Miriam's song of triumph and mark their slow progress. The assault of Amalek introduced a new era in national discipline and doomed himself to extermination. In the lesson we have

I. Wise counsel accepted. The defeat of Amalek was followed closely by the visit of Jethro, the priest of Midian and father-in-law of Moses. The greatness of the latter is expressed in the readiness with which he accepted the counsel of his Gentile kinsman. Himself divinely commissioned and instructed, he did not scorn advice from humbler sources or neglect the warning against the squandering of resources which eighty years had left undiminished. He was supreme judge in Israel and upon him rested the whole weight of judicial administration. The task was too great both for himself and for the people and occasioned delay as well. "The people stood by Moses from the morning unto the evening." He was not to vacate the judicial office, but to distribute its responsibilities, reserving to himself its highest exercise and the higher duties pertaining to its moral and spiritual aspects rather than the legal.

II. Responsibility shared. The result of Jethro's counsel was a system of jurisprudence which insured equity and lessened the burden of administration both for Moses and the people. The wisest administrator in church or state is he who most readily recognizes and effectively employs the capabilities of subordinates. Not only did the new order lessen the burden, but inspired the nation with fresh life and vigor. The pulsation was felt everywhere. New interest was awakened and the people elevated. All the talent in the church should be enlisted by wise and discriminating leadership. This is inseparable from true and permanent progress. There are everywhere buried talents, which, if evoked, would become effective agencies for righteousness. Genius may assert itself and clear a space for its exercise, but it is equally true that much sound ability lies dormant because it is not called to responsible exercise. "When Saul saw any strong man, or any valiant man, he took him unto himself" (1 Sam. 14:52). Every person in the church should be actively engaged.

III. Co-operation essential. To co-operate means to work together, to associate in mutual effort for one end. It is not doing the same thing, but different things with one purpose. No man can succeed alone. The variety of endowment indicates the design. "The weakest has a gift that every other needs." Moses was to remain the living link between God and the people. "Be thou for the people to God-ward," and in this relation be wrought most effectively with as well as for the nation. Christians are workers together with God.—W.H.C.

## Old-Time Georgia Sign.

At one time cotton men in Macon thought that the presence of a man with a hand organ and monkey in the streets of that city had a direct bearing on the cotton market, causing a decline in price. At one time the organ man was prohibited by municipal law, but later was admitted on payment of a substantial license.—Tifton Gazette.

# THE TREASURE OF GOOD HEALTH

EASILY MAINTAINED THROUGH THE USE OF DR. WILLIAMS' PINK PILLS.

There is not a nook or corner in Canada, in the cities, the towns, the villages, on the farms and in the mines and lumber camps, where Dr. Williams' Pink Pills have not been used, and from one end of the country to the other they have brought back to bread-winners, their wives and families the splendid treasure of new health and strength.

You have only to ask your neighbors, and they can tell you of some rheumatic or nerve-shattered man, some suffering woman, ailing youth or anaemic girl who owes present health and strength to Dr. Williams' Pink Pills. For more than a quarter of a century these pills have been known not only in Canada, but through all the world, as a reliable tonic, blood-making medicine.

The wonderful success of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills is due to the fact that they go right to the root of the disease in the blood, and by making the vital fluid rich and red strengthen every organ and every nerve, thus driving out disease and pain, and making weak, despondent people bright, active and strong. Mr. W. T. Johnson, one of the best known and most highly esteemed men in Lunenburg county, N. S., says: "I am an Provincial Land Surveyor, and am exposed for the greater part of the year to very hard work travelling through the forests by day and camping out by night, and I find the only thing that will keep me up to the mark is Dr. Williams' Pink Pills. When I leave home for a trip in the woods I am as interested in having my supply of pills as provisions, and on such occasions, I take them regularly. The result is I am always fit. I never take cold, and can digest all kinds of food such as we have to put up with hastily cooked in the woods." Having proved the value of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills, as a tonic and health builder, I am never without them, and I lose no opportunity in recommending them to weak people whom I meet."

Dr. Williams' Pink Pills should be kept in every home, and their occasional use will keep the blood pure and ward off illness. You can get these pills through any medicine dealer or, by mail at 50 cents a box or six boxes for \$2.50 from The Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Brockville, Ont.



## THE CATTLE SITUATION.

The Toronto Live Stock Exchange, compound of members exclusively interested in the buying and selling of live stock, wish to set before the producers of live stock the following facts:

1.—The close of the war, instead of diminishing, will greatly increase the demand for food, and particularly for meat. It is already evident that the chief reason for the capitulation of the Central Powers was that they had not food to go along with.

2.—The products of the Canadian farms are cereals and food animals. At the present time, the demand for both is unlimited. The first demand to be satisfied will, unquestionably, be that for cereals. All the world can immediately set itself to the raising of cereals. One crop will greatly ameliorate the famine; two crops will probably restore wheat reserves to normal.

In regard to live stock, this is not the case. The building up of cattle herds, particularly involves a programme of years. Even if the foundation stock and the fodder were immediately available in Europe, the cattle herds could not be restored in less than five or six years, but all European countries—combatants and neutrals alike—are stripped both of live stock and of fodder. An unlimited demand will exist for years, both for breeding stock and for meats.

3.—The situation is therefore as follows: Prices of grains will probably decline on a scale which will restore them to normal in 2 or 3 years. Prices of live stock will decline on a much slower scale. Normal prices will probably not be restored for 10 years.

During these 10 years, the advantage to the farmer of marketing his grain through the medium of live stock will be greater than at any previous time in a generation.

4.—Farmers of Canada will not be able to take advantage of this situation unless they have the Live Stock to sell. They can place themselves in this position only by keeping their breeding stock this fall. Therefore, farmers, keep your cows and your sows. Every breeding female held over this fall will bring rich dividends in the years to come. If Canada produced 10 times her present supplies of cattle and hogs, there would be a profitable market for them all.

5.—In regard to feeders for the present winter. It seems now as certain as anything can be that there will be a profit in the feeding deal this season. We unhesitatingly recommend farmers to tie up as many cattle as they can feed.

## ACTION OF PLANT FOODS.

In considering the part played by the plant foods, nitrogen, potash

and phosphoric acid in the growth of the plant, it must be kept in mind that all the elements working together are essential to maximum crop production and that even when these are present the results obtained by their use are often very materially affected by cultural and climatic conditions.

It is generally conceded, however, that:

Nitrogen exerts its greatest influence on the amount of foliage, the flowering process, maturing, color, growth, quality and disease resisting power of the plant.

Potash is apparently essential to the formation and transference of starch and other carbohydrates, has an important part in the development of leaves and woody parts of stems, stiffens the stem, stalk and straw, assists in the development of the fleshy parts of fruits and makes the plants more resistant to the attacks of fungous diseases.

Lack of potash results in weak plants, while excessive amounts delay the maturing of the crop.

Phosphoric acid in available form favors rapid development of the young plant, hastens maturity, increases the proportion of grain to straw, assists in developing the grain and is necessary to the development of protoplasm without which there could be no plant growth.—Purdue Experiment Station.

## SOIL ELEMENT DEFICIENCY.

This is the age of scientific farming. The farmer who proceeds scientifically keeps his soil built up to its maximum productivity. To do this he must know the cause for deterioration what the soil contains and what it lacks, and what crop they are by nature best suited for. Below are given some general principles that will do well to remember.

Clay Soils are generally deficient in nitrogen and phosphorus, but contain potassium. The tendency is for clay soils to bake and get hard, and the addition of a little lime is calculated to correct this.

Black Soils are strong in nitrogen, but sometimes short of phosphorus and potassium. Such soils usually need drainage.

Sandy Soils are generally deficient in potassium. Roughly speaking they are short on all the soil elements. Here is another case where lime will prove a sweetener and will help to retain moisture.

## PLANTS THAT POISON STOCK.

It is impossible to say with exactitude how much damage results from cattle and live stock generally eating poisonous plants. It is, however, certain that the waste thus caused amounts to serious proportions annually. Cattle, sheep and swine are taken ill, and frequently die from trouble attributable to the consumption of poisonous plants when other things are supposed to have been the cause. If it were the custom in all cases of this kind to call in a veterinary surgeon to investigate it would be discovered in many instances that the consumption of poisonous plants was at the foundation. Some of these plants are common to every province of the Dominion; others are only to be found in sections of the country. The Agricultural Gazette of Canada in the September and October numbers deals with this matter in a very lucid way, and supplies accounts of the most troublesome of these weeds in seven out of the nine provinces.

In Ontario it would seem that there are only two poisonous weeds that cause farmers serious trouble. These are spotted cowbane or water hemlock (cicuta maculata) and the common horsetail. Both these plants are found in low places, or in sandy land which has a poorly drained subsoil, the cowbane being especially poisonous to cattle and the horsetail to horses. There are other poisonous plants found in the province, such as sneezeweed, sheep sorrel, or lamb kill, stinking willie, and purple or corn cockle. The last-named is hurtful particularly to young chickens.

## A Problem for the Editor

It has been asked whether stepping on a man's corns gives provocation for swearing. Answer: Keep the toes clear of corns by using Putnam's Corn Extractor. It's the best, 25c at all dealers.

## Time for Bud to Go.

A couple of friends came to call, bringing with them a neighbor's pet collie who made great friends with Elizabeth, our little daughter. All went well till eight o'clock, when Elizabeth, greatly worried, exclaimed: "I think you had better take Bud home now; his parents will be getting worried over his being out so late."

## The House of Illumination.

A visitor to an old English cathedral was told that up in the vaulted roof there was a wonderful bit of carving, but that he had come at the wrong time of day to see it properly. Only at a certain hour of the morning did the light fall on it and reveal its beauty. Those early workers in stone were content that for the greater part of the time their work should remain hidden and unappreciated, and that it should only appear to the visitor at some rare moment of illumination.

## Best Material for Splints.

Galvanized wire netting is claimed to be much superior to wood as a material for surgical splints. It is strong, light in weight, non-absorbent and easily sterilized, and, unlike wood and plaster, gives free ventilation. The new splints are woven from wire so tempered that it can easily be pressed into shape to be bound closely upon the injured limb.

# MARKET REPORTS

## TORONTO MARKETS.

### FARMERS' MARKET.

Dairy Produce—		
Butter, choice dairy	0.50	0.55
Do, creamery	0.47	0.50
Margarine, lb.	0.35	0.40
Eggs, new laid, doz.	0.75	0.80
Cheese, lb.	0.35	0.40
Dressed Poultry—		
Turkeys, lb.	0.57	0.55
Pow, lb.	0.57	0.55
Spring chickens	0.48	0.45
Duckings, lb.	0.45	0.40
Geese, lb.	0.78	0.75
Fruits—		
Apples, bkt.	0.25	0.30
Do, bbl.	3.00	3.50
Vegetables—		
Beets, peck	1.25	0.90
Do, bag	1.50	1.10
Carrots, peck	0.25	0.20
Do, bag	0.75	0.55
Cabbage, each	0.10	0.15
Cauliflower, each	0.15	0.20
Celery, head	0.15	0.20
Lettuce, bunch	0.15	0.20
Onions, 75-lb. sacks	2.00	1.75
Do, 100-lb. sacks	2.00	1.75
Do, bkt.	0.25	0.20
Do, pickling, bkt.	0.10	0.05
Leeks, bunch	0.10	0.05
Parsley, bunch	0.10	0.05
Pumpkins, bag	0.25	0.20
Do, peck	1.50	1.00
Potatoes, bag	1.50	1.00
Rhubarb, bunch	0.05	0.05
Sage, bunch	0.05	0.05
Savory, bunch	0.05	0.05
Turnips, bag	0.10	0.05
Do, peck	0.25	0.20

### MEATS WHOLESALE.

Beef, forequarters	18.00	18.00
Do, hindquarters	20.00	20.00
Carcasses, choice	20.00	20.00
Do, medium	17.50	17.50
Do, common	15.00	15.00
Veal, common	13.00	13.00
Do, medium	20.00	20.00
Do, prime	24.00	24.00
Heavy hogs, cwt.	14.00	14.00
Shop hogs, cwt.	20.00	21.00
Abattoir hogs	22.00	24.00
Mutton, cwt.	18.00	18.00
Lamb, lb.	0.28	0.27

### SUGAR MARKET.

Wholesale quotations to the retail trade on Canadian refined sugar, Toronto delivery.—

Acadia granulated	100 lbs.	\$10.27
St. Lawrence granulated	100 lbs.	10.27
Lantic granulated	100 lbs.	10.27
Canada Redpath, gran.	100 lbs.	10.27
Acadia yellow, No. 1 yellow, differential, 40c; No. 2 yellow, 50c; No. 3 yellow, 60c.		
St. Lawrence yellow, No. 1 yellow, differential from granulated, 30c; No. 2 yellow, 40c; No. 3 yellow, 50c.		
Atlantic yellow, No. 1 yellow, differential, 40c; No. 2 yellow, 50c; No. 3 yellow, 60c.		
Canada yellow, No. 1 yellow, differential, 40c; No. 2 yellow, 50c; No. 3 yellow, 60c.		

### Toronto Cattle Markets.

Receipts: 1,022 cattle, 181 calves, 2,058 hogs and 161 sheep.

Export cattle, choice	14.08	15.00
Export cattle, medium	13.00	14.00
Export cattle, low	9.00	9.50
Butcher cattle, choice	10.00	10.55
Butcher cattle, medium	8.00	8.75
Butcher cattle, common	6.50	7.00
Butcher cows, choice	9.00	9.50
Butcher cattle, medium	7.00	7.50
Butcher cows, canners	5.00	5.50
Butcher bulls	8.00	9.00
Feeding steers	9.00	10.00
Stockers, choice	8.00	9.00
Milkers, choice	80.00	130.00
Springers, choice	90.00	135.00
Sheep, ewes	8.00	9.50
Bucks and culs	5.00	8.00
Lambs	14.00	14.75
Hogs, fed and watered	16.00	
Hogs, f. o. b.	15.25	
Calves	15.00	16.00

## OTHER MARKETS

### WINNIPEG GRAIN EXCHANGE.

Fluctuations on the Winnipeg Grain Exchange yesterday were as follows: Open. High. Low. Close.

Oats—				
May	0.65%	0.66%	0.64%	0.65%
Flax—				
May	3.00	3.02%	2.97%	2.95%
Barley—				
May	0.82	0.82	0.80%	0.80%
July	0.82%			

### MINNEAPOLIS GRAINS.

Minneapolis, Minn.—Flour unchanged. Barley, 70 to 80c. Rye, No. 2, \$1.50 to \$1.51. Bran, \$45.00. Flax, \$3.20 to \$3.22.

### DULUTH LIMESEED.

Duluth—Limeseed on track, \$2.30; arrive not quoted; January, \$2.21 bid; February, \$2.20 bid; May, \$2.12.

## BUFFALO LIVE STOCK.

(Canadian Press Wire).

East Buffalo, Jan. 29.—Cattle, receipts 300; slow.

Calves, receipts light; steady; \$ to \$17.

Hogs, receipts 800; pigs steady; best 20 cents higher; heavy \$17.80 to \$18; mixed, \$17.75 to \$18; yorkers \$17.90 to \$18; light yorkers, \$16 to \$16.50; pigs, \$15.50 to \$16; throw-outs \$12 to \$15.50; stags \$10 to \$13.

Sheep and lambs, receipts 3,000; lambs 15 cents higher; others strong; lambs, \$11 to \$17.15; yearlings \$10 to \$14.50; wethers \$11 to \$12; ewes \$4 to \$11; mixed sheep, \$10.75 to \$11.50.

## The Lever Principle.

In laying carpets and rugs, heavy furniture may be raised, with astonishing ease, by the use of a bed stir or something similar; a broom handle will answer for lightweight articles. Place one end of the stir under the furniture; put some solid object under that end. Then press down on the other end.

## HOW'S THIS?

We offer One Hundred Dollars Reward for any case of Catarrh that cannot be cured by Hall's Catarrh Medicine. Hall's Catarrh Medicine has been taken by catarrh sufferers for the past thirty-five years, and has become known as the most reliable remedy for Catarrh. Hall's Catarrh Medicine acts through the blood on the mucous surfaces, expelling the poison from the blood and healing the diseased portions.

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Avarice is a weed that denotes a barren soil.—Hughes.

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