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#### CHOIR ENTERTAINED

Elizabethville, Pa., March 3. Berlin, March 3, via London.

Arthur Gwinner, director of the Deutsche Bank told the Associated Press correspondent to-day that the year's return to the government from the war loan it is expected that subscriptions of this character will into the war loan it is expected that subscriptions of this character will into the war loan it is expected that subscriptions of this character will into the war loan it is expected that subscriptions of this character will into the war loan it is expected that subscriptions of this character will into the war loan it is expected that subscriptions of the war loan it is expected that subscriptions of this character will into the war loan it is expected that subscriptions of the war loan it is expected that subscriptions of the war loan it is expected that subscriptions of the war loan it is expected that subscriptions of the war loan it is expected that subscriptions of the war loan it is expected that subscriptions of the war loan it is expected that subscriptions of the war loan it is expected that subscriptions of the war loan it is expected that subscriptions of the war loan it is expected that subscriptions of the war loan it is expected that subscriptions of the war loan it is expected that subscriptions of the war loan it is expected that subscriptions of the war loan it is expected that subscriptions of the war loan it is expected that the war loan it is expected that subscriptions of the war loan it is expected that subscriptions of the war loan it is expected that the war loan it is expected that subscriptions of the war loan it is expected that the war loan it is expected that



# LAYMAN WAS

"Death of Stephen" Subject of International Sunday School Lesson

The International Sunday School Lesson for March 5 is "The Death of Stephen.—Acts 7:1 to 8:3.

(By William T. Ellis.)

All sorts of honors have come to aymen in the long history of the Christian Church. Their greatest distinction, however, is that the first crown of Christian martyrdom was laid on the brow of a layman. Dea-con Stephen led that long procession martyrs which has through the centuries from Jerusa-lem to Armenia and which has held priests and laymen, women and children.

children.

Although he was only a layman, Stephen was singularly popular in the early Church. Immediately after the experience of the last lesson, Dr. Luke's story proceeds to tell of the ministry of Stephen. One pregnant phrase pictures him, "Stephen full of grace and power." There is your model layman; strength plus charm; power with poise — small wonder the community could not withstand him. We may outargue a man's wisdom, but we cannot reason down the grace of his life. The sweetness and flavor of holiness are not a special perquisite of the ministry but are meant to nower in the lives of the laity, even as in Stephen of old. We can imagine how the hearts of the apostles exuited as they contemplated, the growth in grace of the new Deacon.

When Might Gets After Right Although he was only a

This is the day of the preaching layman. Ten thousand of him are at work all over the land speaking in conventions and conferences and churches and schools. What a wonderful work these devoted laymen are doing! They do not aspire to fill the preacher's place, but they supplement his ministry. Their exemplar in this was Stephen who, though he never had attended the school of the rabbis, was able to make answer concerning the faith that was in him.

Most of Stephen's sermon is a rehearsal of the Old Testament history. He told the story of the dealings of God with man. Perhaps if there were less abstract, philosophy and more concrete telling of the great Story that we find between the covers of our Bible, there would be more convincing sermons. Nothing is more impressive on the mission field than the fact that the mission-aries do not argue or contend; they chiefly tell the Story and that Story is winning the world.

Like a good preacher, Stephen found common ground with his hearers, even though he had to go clear back to Mesopotamia. He god to the application in good time, and it certainly was not remote; for hard upon the heels of a straight quotation from Scripture he made the application:

"Ye stiffnecked and uncircuity in the strain and ears ye

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et a tube today, read e folder about the most neral disease in the orld. Start the Senreco eatment tonight. 25c your druggists. For mple send 4c, stamps rein to The Sentanel

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Black silk taffeta; beautifully tailored skirts,

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A Glimpse of Glory

I once heard Moody say, in a sermon on this text, that Stephen saw Jesus standing on the right hand of God, because the Lord of glory could not remain seated on His throne while a beloved disciple was going forward to martyrdom in His name. Our imagination is stirred by the consideration of what Stephen beheld through the opened windows of heaven. Various eschatological questions arise, but we brush them aside to recall chiefly that it was Jesus Himself whom Stephen saw. The ineffable glory of the eternal kingdom seemed not worth speaking about when he could hold in full view his risen Lord, for whose sake he was rejoicing to die.

"The bride eyes not her garment,
But her dear bridegroom's face;
I will not gaze at glory,
But on my King of grace;
Not at the crown he gifteth,
But on his pierced hand:
The Lamb is all the glory
Of Emmanue!'s land." Of Emmanuel's land.

crs, even though he had to go clear back to Mesopotamia. He got to the application in good time, and it certainly was not remote; for hard upon the heels of a straight quotation from Scripture he made the application:

"Ye stiffnecked and uncircumcised in heart and ears, ye do always resist the Holy Spiritit: as your fathers did, so do ye. Which of the prophets did not your fathers persecute? and they killed them that showed before of the coming of the Righteous One; of whom ye have now become betrayers and murderers; yet who received the law as it was ordained by angels, and kept it not."

When Aristocrats Became a Mob Most of us have seen at sometime or other a cultivated man lose his poise and return to the primitive. The sight is not a pretty one. That is what happened with the Sanhedrin. Those learned and reverened doctors of the law, clothed in robes of state and dignity, began to gnash

Victory by Defeat.

Victory by Defeat.

rue unto death.

Victory by Defeat.

Great as was Stephen's sermon, his martyrdom was greater. The picture is one that the world would not lose from its memory; for Christ's man died in Christ's way. At the very last, even as when he had walked in ministry among the poor and lowly, Stephen reminded people of his Master. His last words were like those of his Lord,—'Lord Jesus, receive my spirit,' and "Lord, lay not this sin to their charge"— an echo of Calvary's "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do."

This parallel in the two death scenes must have set all Jerusalem by the ears. "Behold, how these Christians die" was on many a-lip, and even the stern implacability of the Sanhedrin must have been shaken as they saw a faith that martyrdom could not blot out; the Lighthone the brighter for the wind that blew upon it.

The Man Who Held the Coats
There are strange links in history. Stephen's was not the only apparent defeat that led to a real victory. Most zealous among the mob of the purderers was a young man named Sauf, an aristocratic Pharisee of the stricter sect. It is not recorded of him that he lost control of himself as some of the elders did, and shouted and frothed and funed, but he kept watch over the coats of those who stoned Stephen. He thoroughly approved of the deed. While his philosophic mind must have been sorely puzzled, yet his religious training taught him that this pestiferous Christian sect must be wiped out by force.

Saul, Saul! how little you knew that the torch that Stephen dropped from his bruised and broken hand was to be picked up by you and carried as a blazing beacon across the then known world and throughout the ages! As dramatic as the death of this young man was to be Saul's



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