THE SUNDAY SCHOOL.

Lesson in the International Series for July 15, 1900—The Gentile Woman's Faith.

[Prepared by H. C. Lenington.]
THE LESSON TEXT.
(Mark 7:24-30.)

24. And from thence He arose, and went into the borders of Tyre and Sidon, and entered into an house, and would have no man know it; but He could not be hid.
25. For a certain woman, whose young daugther had an unclean spirit, heard of Him, and came and fell at His feet.
26. The woman was a Greek, a Syrophenician by nation; and she besought Him that He would cast forth the devil out of her daughter.
27. But Jesus said unto her, Let the children first be filled; for it is not meet to take the children's bread, and to cast it unto the dogs.
28. And she answered and said unto Him, Yes, Lord; yet the dogs under the table eat of the children's crumbs.
29. And He said unto her, For this saying go thy way; the devil is gone out of thy daughter.
30. And when she was come to her house, she found the devil gone out, and her daughter laid upon the bed.

GOLDEN TEXT.—Lord, help me.—Matt. 15:25.

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

"Triumphant Faith" would be an appropriate topic for this lesson, and for the second time as recorded in the Gospels it is the faith of a Gentile that is held up to the admiration of the world. We remember that upon another occasion Jesus, speaking of the Roman centurion said: "I have not found so great faith, no, not in Israel." This time it is the faith of a Syrophoenician woman that is held up as an example by which we might profit. However, before entering upon this study we may make a brief note of what happened between the last lesson and the present. This includes:

Visit to Jesus of Pharisees from Jerusalem.
Discourse on Eating with Unwashen Hands.
Increasing Opposition to Jesus.

The feast of the passover occurred April 16, A. D. 29, but Jesus did not go to Jerusalem to attend it, probably because of the already apparent opposition of the Jews. The Jews of Judea had evidently looked forward to His coming, and were disappointed. Even the Pharisees wanted to see Him, for as soon as the passover feast was over they started north for an interview. Jesus did not avoid them; He and the disciples went on in their accustomed way. No sooner had the distinguished men from Jerusalem arrived than they found an occasion for controversy. The disciples did not follow the traditions of the Jewish elders and rabbis in the custom of washing their hands before eating. Jesus' reply, as usual, went straight to the heart of the matter. He said (Matt. 15:16): "Ye have made the commandment of God of none effect by your tradition," and cites in illustration traditions which have had the effect of causing open violation of one of the ten commandments. Then to the multitude that gathered about Him He declared that it is "not that which goeth into the mouth that defileth a man, but that which cometh out," explaining that "those things which proceeded out of the mouth come forth from the heart; and they defile the man. For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies; these are the things which defile a man; but to eat with unwashen hands defileth not a man." This rebuke to and exposure of the Pharisees before the people helped increase the growing hostility to Jesus. So He departed for a short rest among the hills of eastern Phoenicia. There He entered into a house, "and would have no man know it." But word soon got abroad that the great miracle worker and preacher of Galilee was in the neighborhood, and the incident of the visit of the Syrophoenician woman occurs.

Faith Triumphing Over Obstacles.—The beautiful story of a Gentile woman's faith turns on the point that the Jews in general and the Pharisees with especial scorn used to speak of all Gentiles as dogs. The fact that Jesus used the term seems not to have surprised the woman, and probably for the reason that the exclusiveness of the strict Jews was universally understood, and at this place, only 50 or 60 miles from Capernaum, the Phoenicians were accustomed to meeting with the haughty contempt of their neighbors to the east and south. Her daughter had an unclean spirit, a demon, according to Matthew. She needed help, and, from what she had heard of Jesus, she knew He could give it to her, and she was willing to sink her own pride to gain it. The answer of Jesus in no wise discouraged her. If the Jews were the "children" and the Gentiles only "dogs," yet she remembered that even "the dogs under the table eat of the children's crumbs." "For this saying," showing her humility, trust and faith, Jesus granted her prayer. "O woman, great is thy faith: be it unto thee even as thou wilt."—Matt. 15:28.

Living in This Life.

Hereafter can have little practical power on the life and character of a person who neglects or disregards the present. As Dr. Stalker says: "Religion should be, . . . not an insurance for the next world, but a programme for the present world." How we use, or misuse, the life that is, is an indication of our fitness, or our unfitness, for the life that is to come.—S. S. Times.

In the Right Road.

It is better even to stumble along in the right road than to step firm in the wrong one.—Ram's Horn.

Love and Life.

The life of love is better than the love of life.—Ram's Horn.

How Peace Comes.

A steadfast faith begets a constant peace.—John Mason.

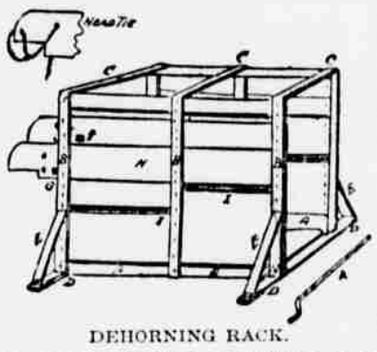
A short prayer will get to Heaven quicker than a long one.

THE DAIRY

DEHORNING CATTLE.

A Rack Especially Constructed for the Purpose of Securely Holding Mature Cattle.

In the work of dehorning mature cattle, it is essential that they be securely held. The best plan I know of is by means of a rack, as illustrated, and which I have used with hundreds of head of stock. For its construction, take two scantlings, a a, 2x6 inches by 6 feet. Bore three 1½-inch holes through each piece, one in middle and one at each end. Put in three rounds, each 3 feet long, which makes the main frame. Bolt on six upright pieces, b, 2x4 inches and 5 feet high, one at middle, the other two at ends, on each side. Mortise or bolt on three crosspieces, c, at the top of uprights, each 3 feet long, to keep sides from spreading. Then nail on two oak planks, h, 2 feet 10 inches above the main frame floor, 1x12 inches by 7½ feet; allow 18 inches to extend in front to tie the animal's head to. Then board up the sides nearly solid, except for two slats, the lower one, to put a board, j, 1 foot wide, through, to prevent falling down while dehorning; the slot, i, being used to put a windlass, k, through, to draw the animal to the front of the stock.



DEHORNING RACK.

Nail two strips on each side to top of uprights, each 1x4 inch and 6 feet long. Then spike on two 2x4-inch pieces 5 feet long, d, across each end of the frame at the ends and on the bottom. Let them extend out 1 foot on each side. Brace them firmly as shown at e. The head of the animal is fastened with a rope through the holes shown at protruding end of board, h. A peg is inserted under the animal's neck at g. The windlass is attached to the rope about the animal's head and the head is drawn dawn close and tight against the board, h.—J. M. Tanner, in Farm and Home.

HOW TO PREVENT FLIES.

First Essential Is the Removal of Filth and Trash, Their Natural Breeding Ground.

One of the greatest nuisances about a farm is the pest of flies in the summer and fall. It would be hard to estimate the loss occasioned by them every year about the barns, dairy and feed-lots. No cow can do herself justice where she is forced to keep up a continued battle with a swarm of flies from daylight until dark. Worrying at the flies is more wearing on a team than hard labor. The cause of pastured and fattening stock losing flesh in the summer is the flies. As with most evils, the best cure is prevention. To prevent the pest one must remove their breeding-ground, which is the filth and trash about the premises. It is the case on most farms that the manure-heaps are allowed to accumulate during the summer and the yards to go uncleaned. These furnish the best of breeding-places for the flies. Swill barrels and buckets, too, are never washed out, but are allowed to sour and become incrusted with dirt, another source of flies. In feeding the hogs and calves milk and slop are spilled about the troughs and barrels day after day. The ground thus treated soon becomes a hotbed for the eggs, which will hatch and feed there. Open closets and uncovered drains are another source, as is any place where there is decayed matter or filth for the maggots to thrive upon after hatching. Flies are far more of a local pest than most people imagine. A farm-house whose grounds are kept clean and whose back yard is free from refuse, slops, etc., will be little troubled with flies. Stock kept in a clean stable or lot will be less troubled than the animals of the untidy, shiftless farmer. Cleanliness and flies do not thrive together.—J. L. Irwin, in Farm and Fireside.

Cow with Queer Appetite.

Occasionally we hear of cattle that develop an abnormal appetite for wood, eating rotten pieces of boards, etc. A contributor to National Stockman states that at one Crawford county institute a gentleman complained that one of his cows had eaten a pig-pen, a string of fence and other lumber on the premises, and he had been compelled to fence her away from the barn to save it. He has fed her many and various feeding stuffs, besides bonemeal, sawdust and other side-dishes. With lumber at present prices, the cow has expensive tastes. He wishes to know what produced the appetite, and what will cure it. He thinks he has provided foods that furnish all the mineral elements needed, and the inclination to chew sticks and boards seems now to be only a vicious habit.

Bull calves, whether intended for the market or to breed from, should be kept in a thriving condition.

So fierce is the battle of competition, so strong the spirit of trade, that it is commonly believed that when a business house is burned out or meets with other disasters rival firms are ready to mount the ruins and gloat over the extra grist brought to their own mills. But, as a matter of fact, says the Chicago Tribune, there is among merchants a good deal of that same kind of fraternal feeling that, in the days when people lived in houses and had back fences of their own, caused a sympathetic neighbor to fix up the gaps made by hastily departing servants with a welcome pie handed over the fence. And so when a business house has been the victim of a fire neighborly opponents come forth with friendly offers of assistance which are usually accepted in the same spirit in which they are given. Business is business, of course, but there are times when business is more than business.

A Kansas exchange prints this story: "It is told of a certain plutocrat in Beloit that in order to save himself from inconvenience when he had his house remodeled he included an automatic bathtub. The tub was so arranged that he could lie in bed and by pulling a button the tub would glide from the next room to the side of the bed, and then all he would have to do was to roll over in the tub and take his morning bath. The other day he was showing a party of gentlemen over the house, and when he came to the room he said: 'Let me show you my automatic bathtub.' There was a scream, and the tub came sailing into the room with his wife in it. She now takes her bath in a wash pan."

This is a great country. Last year the crop of wheat was 547,303,846 bushels; corn, 2,078,143,933 bushels; oats, 796,177,713 bushels; barley, 73,381,563 bushels; rye, 23,961,741 bushels; buckwheat, 11,094,473 bushels; potatoes, 228,783,232 busels; hay, 56,653,756 tons. The average farm prices reported were: Wheat, 58.4 cents; corn, 30.3 cents; oats, 24.9 cents. These figures do not break the record, but they are in the front rank. Meanwhile, the manufacturing capacity is enormous. No country has such a railway system, such furnace outputs, such huge shops and mills, while in trade the vast combinations and trusts are equally colossal.

A curious lawsuit is in progress at Kansas City, Kan., brought by S. K. Howe against the Armour Packing company to recover 14 acres of river front occupied by packing houses. The old man, says an exchange of that city, tells a veritable Robinson Crusoe story. Many years ago he took up his abode on a little island in the Missouri river, living in a hut with a dog and a few fowls for his only companions. He was lord of the domain, and no one questioned the fact. Finally the stream changed its course, and what was an island became valuable river front, and the Armour company forced him off.

A certain congressman has received the following suggestion: "Would it not be well for the United States government to prohibit the exportation of mules until our supply has caught up with the demand? The country is now being depleted of its mules, and should any serious trouble occur with any of the European nations our means of transortation would be seriously hampered."

In 1840 Harriet Martineau visited the United States and reported seven occupations only open to women—teaching, needlework, keeping boarders, working in the factories, typesetting, bookkeeping and household service. Now there are about 400 occupations in which women are employed.

A good deal more is heard nowadays about Missouri mines than about Missouri hogs, but it is stated upon good authority that the hogs bring in five times as much each year as all the mining products combined.

Making Her Happy.

Sunday School Teacher—Have you made anyone happy this week?

Little Girl—Yes'm. Mrs. Highupp has a baby, and it's a awful squally, red-faced little brat; but, w'en I met Mrs. Highupp yesterday, I told her she had the sweetest, prettiest baby I ever saw.—N. Y. Herald.

Why He Didn't Marry Her.

"Oh, no; I'm not a misogynist," said the confirmed bachelor, "but there has been one reason that has always prevented my marrying even the most charming of women."

"What is that?"

"She wouldn't have me."—Town Topics.

A Sad Case.

She—I suppose, senator, you find the glare of publicity very annoying sometimes?

He—Yes, I frequently become so weary of it that I am almost tempted to run for the vice presidency.—Chicago Times-Herald.

The Simon-Pure Article.

Percy—Have you ever loved before?

Edith—No, Percy! I have often admired men—for their strength, courage, beauty, intelligence, or something like that; but with you, Percy, it is all love—nothing else!—Puck.

May Have Got Something.

"A burglar got into our house last night."

"Did he take anything?"

"The children are all sick, and we hope he got the measles."—Chicago Record.