Health may be wealth, but the pawnbroker refuses to accept it as collateral.

Encouraging.

"There's a man outside who says he's your tailor and wants to see you about a bill."

"Tell him I've gone to attend the funeral of a rich relative from whom I expect to inherit a great deal of money."

"Have you lost a relative, sir?"

"No; but that fellow has been here so many times I feel I ought to say something that will make him feel better."—Birmingham Age-Herald.

Reasonable Inquiry.

"I should like a porterhouse steak with mushrooms," said the stranger, "some delicately browned toast with plenty of butter—"

"'Scuse me, suh," interrupted the waiter. "Is you tryin' to give an order or is you jes' reminiscin' 'bout old times?"

A diplomat is a man who is able to use the truth economically and judiciously.

Self-denial is also one of the attributes of patriotism.

The wise man listens to the silent man.

IMPROVED UNIFORM INTERNATIONAL

SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

(By REV. P. B. FITZWATER, D. D., Teacher of English Bible in the Moody Bible Institute of Chicago.)

LESSON FOR MAY 19

JESUS THE DIVINE SERVANT EXERCISING KINGLY AUTHORITY.

LESSON TEXT—Mark 11:1-33.

GOLDEN TEXT—All power is given unto Me in heaven and in earth.—Matthew 28:18.

DEVOTIONAL READINGS — Revelation 5:9-14; 7:9-12.

ADDITIONAL MATERIAL FOR TEACHERS—Matthew 21:12-27; Luke 19:45; 20:8; compare John 2:13-17; John 12:12-15.

PRIMARY TOPIC—Jesus riding into the city.

LESSON MATERIAL—Mark 11:1-10.

MEMORY VERSE—Hosanna; blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord.—Mark 11:9.

JUNIOR TOPIC—The King entering the capital city.

LESSON MATERIAL—Mark 11:1-10.

INTERMEDIATE TOPIC—Jesus and the temple.

LESSON TEXT—Mark 11:15-19; compare Luke 2:22-38; John 2:13-17.

For WHITSUNDAY LESSON: LESSON TEXT—John 16:7-14.

GOLDEN TEXT—He shall guide you into all the truth.—John 16:13.

I. Jesus Officially Presented to the Jewish Nation as King (vv. 1-11). This should not be designated the "triumphal entry," for it was only in outward appearances. The shouts were empty and meaningless. It was the promised King publicly offering himself to the nation.

1. The preparation (vv. 1-6).

(1) Two disciples sent for the ass (vv. 1-3).

He told them just where to go to find it, and how to answer the owner's inquiry. This shows how perfectly the Lord knows our ways. His matchless gaze beholds all that we think or do, by day or night. It also shows that God uses unlikely and insignificant things in the accomplishment of his purposes. The providing of this animal was the working out of the Divine plan according to Christ's foreknowledge.

(2) Obedience of the disciples (vv. 4-6).

Without asking why, they go at his bidding. The command may have seemed strange and unreasonable, but they rendered explicit obedience. The true disciple will render full and glad obedience, no matter how strange or unreasonable the command may seem.

2. The entry into the city of Jerusalem (vv. 7-10).

(1) The disciples put their garments upon the ass and set the Lord upon it (v. 7).

This act showed their recognition of him as their king (2 Kings 9:13).

(2) The multitude.

Some spread their garments in the way; others who had no garments to spare, cut down branches and strewed them in the way, which was just as acceptable unto him. To give what we have and do what we can, is all that the Lord demands of us. This entry was in fulfillment of a prophecy uttered some five hundred years before (Zech. 9:9).

(3) The Lord's action (v. 10).

Upon entering the Temple, he looked around upon all things; but as it was eventide he withdrew to Bethany with the twelve.

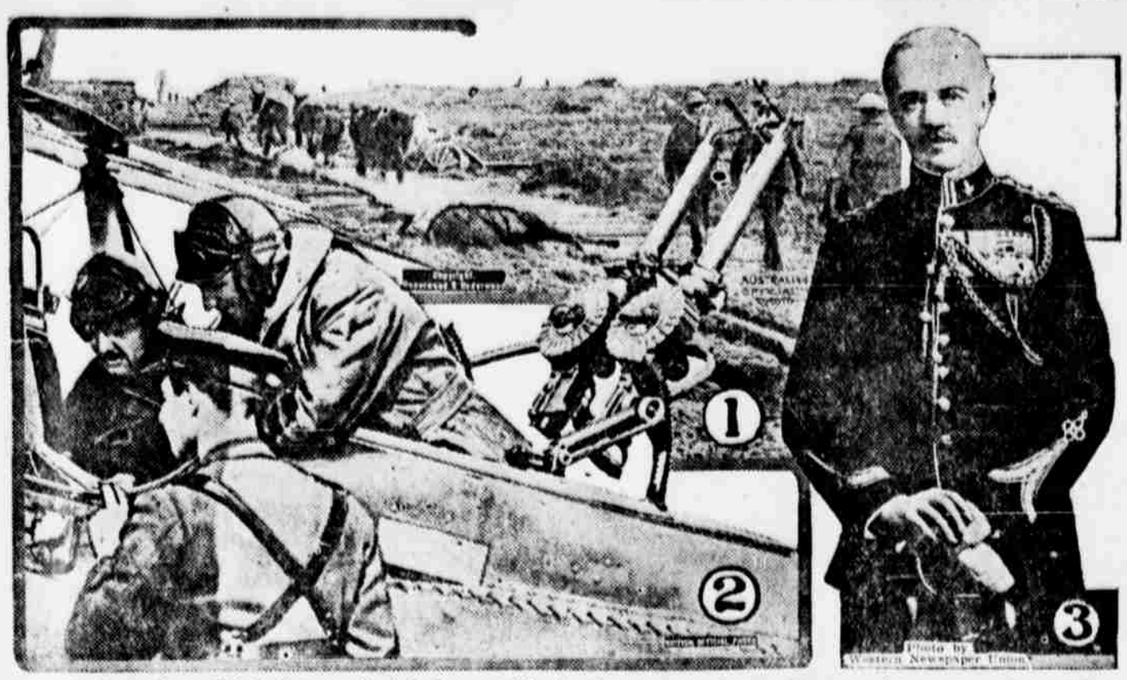
II. Jesus Exercising His Royal Authority (vv. 12-19). 1. The barren fig tree cursed (vv. 12-14). The fig tree is typical of the Jewish nation. The fruit normally appears on the fig tree ahead of the leaves. The presence of leaves is the assurance of fruit. This was an acted parable of the Lord's judgment on Israel for pretension of being the chosen people without the fruits thereof. It indicated the spiritual state of the Jews.

2. The Temple cleansed (vv. 15-19).

For the various sacrifices in the Temple, many oxen, sheep and doves were needed. Many persons came from the distant parts of the land; therefore it was impracticable for them to bring their sacrifices with them, so they brought money and bought the animals needed. This privilege the law had granted to them (Deut. 14:24-26), for the exchange was necessary. When evil men used it as an opportunity for gain, it became an offense before God. It defiled his house. He made himself a scourge of cords, and drove out the money changers, overthrowing their tables and pouring out their money. By this act he declared himself to be the Lord of the Temple and one with God. That which God intended to be a house of prayer for all nations was being made a "den of thieves."

III. Jesus' Authority Challenged (vv. 27-33). They challenged him to show by what authority he accepted the honors of the Messiah, and who gave him the authority to cast out the money changers. This placed Jesus in a dilemma. He responded by a question which placed them in a counter-dilemma.

Since John was his forerunner the divinity of his commission rested upon that of John. They were powerless to discredit John, because the people accepted John as such. If they had accepted John's message, they would have been prepared to accept his. They cowardly confessed that they did not know. The agnostic is always a coward. These rulers had no affection for Jesus, so they rejected him and sought to destroy him. It is the same today. The reason men reject Jesus is not because of intellectual difficulties, but because of the lack of affection for him.



1—Australian official photograph that shows strikingly the wastage of war; troops and horses moving to the front along a duckboard road that is lined with dead horses and broken wagons. 2—Twin Lewis guns mounted on a British airplane and used with deadly effect. 3—Major General Maurice whose accusations of misrepresentation and lack of sincerity against the Lloyd-George government brought on a cabinet crisis in England.

NEWS REVIEW OF THE PAST WEEK

Premier Lloyd George Again Is Winner in Crisis Brought on by General Maurice.

GIVEN VOTE OF CONFIDENCE

German Attack South of Ypres Smashed, While Allies Improve Their Positions at Many Points—Investigation of American Aircraft Production Collapse Started.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD.

Premier Lloyd George and his cabinet successfully weathered another storm last week when the houses of commons, by a vote of 293 to 106, rejected Herbert Asquith's motion providing for the appointment of a special committee to investigate charges made against the premier by Maj. Gen. Frederick B. Maurice. Having declared that he would considered the action of the commons as a test of confidence, Mr. Lloyd George would have resigned and turned the conduct of the war over to Mr. Asquith had the latter been sustained. As it is he has won another great personal victory largely by means of the statement he made in the house—an ex parte statement, to be sure, but one that impressed his hearers with his evident honesty and frankness.

The charges made by General Maurice, formerly director of military operations, were that the premier and other officials had deceived the people by false statements concerning the army. The accusations were fully refuted by Lloyd George, who showed that his statements were made on information obtained from General Maurice's department. He protested vigorously against such distracting and paralyzing controversies and implored that there should be an end to "sniping." He called Maurice's action a flagrant breach of discipline, especially pernicious in its effect on a new army and not understandable to the allies of Great Britain.

There is no reason to question the patriotism of General Maurice's motives in precipitating the crisis, but it is evident that he was made the tool of the political opponents of the premier who hoped to ride into office on the resulting storm. Presumably the offending officer will be court martialed.

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Last week passed with only one important infantry action on the west front, but neither army has been idle. The heavy artillery of the allies has been continually hammering the German positions and especially devoting itself to smashing the enemy's lines of communications and munition depots and to hampering the bringing up of re-enforcements and supplies. In this the aviators have given invaluable aid and the work has been so well done that the renewal of the offensive was perforce delayed. Heavy and frequent rains also handicapped the Germans and they found great difficulty in moving their ponderous tanks and largest guns across the devastated country, the roads being consistently broken up by shell fire and their repair made almost impossible.

Meantime the allies took every opportunity to improve their positions and in many local operations advanced their lines and strengthened their hold on the commanding heights both in Picardy and in Flanders. In these fights the Australians and Canadians had a prominent part, the former between the Ancre and the Somme and the latter south of Arras, both contingents making considerable and very valuable gains. All along the line the British, French and Americans repulsed all the enemy raids until Wednesday night, when, after heavy artillery preparation, the Germans attacked in the sector of Ypres, between La Clytte and Voormezeele. It was their apparent intention to outflank the important heights of Scherpenberg and Mont Rouge from the northeast and they succeeded in forcing the British and French there out of some of their first-line trenches. But later in the night the British counter-attacked and regained all that had been lost. Two Hun divisions carried out this attack and they suffered heavy casualties. On Thursday morning the enemy made a new attack on the Flanders front north of Kemmel and slightly bent the British line. At the same time troops from Nova Scotia and New Brunswick made a great raid on the German outpost line at Neuville-Vitasse, southeast of Arras, taking prisoners and guns and inflicting many casualties.

Most of the American troops that have been moved into the battle region appear to be placed along the line between Montdidier and Noyon, and they are giving a good account of themselves there, as are also those holding the Toul sector. There have been no heavy operations in either sector recently, but the artillery in both is always active and the American gunners have proved their excellence. They are now using their heavy artillery northwest of Toul after several weeks of preparation. The American casualty lists, still relatively small, are increasing daily.

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There is no indication that the German high command will abandon its plan of smashing the British army and forcing a breach between it and the French. Ludendorff is increasing his resources in every way possible and Austria and Bulgaria have been called on to supply troops for garrison duty in order that the Germans may be sent to the front. Intimations such as have appeared in some German papers that the attempt to reach Paris will be abandoned mean nothing. No doubt there will be repeated great offensives throughout the summer, and the allies are preparing to resist them to the utmost, their intention being to maintain their lines unbroken until America's men are there in sufficient numbers to enable General Foch to do more than resist. It is admitted that without our army the allies could not gain a military decision over the Germans under existing conditions. How long the German people will stand for the slaughter of their men is another question. From captured mail and the more outspoken of their newspapers it is evident they are becoming sickened by the awful bloodshed, but they probably will continue submissive so long as they think there is a chance of a final victory.

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The movement of Americans to France continues with increasing swiftness and it is the avowed intention of the war department to have not less than 1,000,000 men there by the end of May. The administration and the congressional leaders, excepting such men as Kitchin, now view the situation comprehensively and agree that no limit should be put on the size of our army, as it is likely as many as 8,000,000 men will have to be placed under arms within three years. A total of about four millions will be available immediately, and Provost Marshal Crowder and others believe it will be necessary to increase the draft age limit to forty years within a year. Indeed, many details have been worked out with this increase in view. Classes 2, 3 and 4 of the draft are being carefully combed out to eliminate slackers and many names will thus be added to class 1.

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Austrian reports tell of the presence of American troops on the Italian front, though this had not been announced by Washington. The expected offensive on that front has not yet materialized, but it is believed it will not be much longer delayed, because of the critical state of affairs in Emperor Carl's realm. Hunger and discontent are increasing so greatly that troops have been concentrated in the most disaffected parts of the empire. Also there have been serious disturbances in the Austro-Hungarian fleet, the crews of which are largely Slavs and men of Italian origin.

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Roumania has submitted to what seemed the inevitable and signed a peace treaty with the central powers. Of course she loses much and gains nothing. The instrument provides that most of the Dobrudja be ceded to Bulgaria and other Roumanian territory to Austria and Hungary; the central powers are to control the navigation of the Danube, and the Roumanian army, except ten divisions, is to be demobilized, its equipment going to the central powers until the conclusion of a general peace.

The queen of Roumania and her children refuse to recognize the peace treaty and lose no opportunity to affront the Germans in their country.

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The German vice chancellor announced the establishment of a special department to regulate Germany's eastern policy, and defended her policy of intervention in Finland, declaring it had insured the independence and freedom of that country and was undertaken at the request of the legitimate Finnish government. It is reported that Grand Duke Adolf Friedrich of Mecklenburg-Strelitz has been selected as king of Finland. Little news of moment came from Russia or the Ukraine last week. It is quite evident now that Germany will get little food from the latter country this year.

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In Palestine the British forces apparently met with a reverse which compelled them to evacuate Es-Salt and retire to the west bank of the Jordan. Constantinople claimed the Turks administered a stinging defeat to General Allenby's troops.

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Nicaragua lined herself up with most of the rest of the nations on Tuesday by formally declaring war on Germany and its allies. Its congress empowered the president to employ all the resources of the nation in prosecuting the war.

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Gutzon Borglum's charges that graft, incompetency and pro-German influences were responsible for the collapse of America's aircraft program could not be ignored, so President Wilson ordered a thorough investigation made by the department of justice. The senate committee on military affairs also announced it would resume its inquiry into the fiasco. Both the administration and the committee assured the public there would be no "whitewashing" and that if anyone was guilty he would be duly punished. Secretary Baker protested against a public hearing of the matter by the senators on the ground that it would only aid and comfort the enemy, and he told the military committee of the house that results under the management of John D. Ryan would soon be gratifying and that criticism of the condition of airplane production was pro-German. There is reason to believe his confidence in Mr. Ryan and the reorganized bureau is not misplaced, but the public would like to know what became of the $640,000,000 already spent and why there is so little to show for it.

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Another revelation that has stirred congress and that Secretary Baker may be called on to explain is that quantity production of the heavy Browning gun and of heavy artillery is very far behind the hopes of the people that were inspired by the promises of the war department. In the case of the howitzers it would seem that valuable time has been wasted in the effort to devise gun carriages of a new and distinctively American model instead of going ahead with the models found satisfactory by the British and French. There is also a great shortage in pistols, though General Dickson, chief of the arms manufacturing division, says the outlook for improvement in this is encouraging. Mr. Baker says an inquiry into the entire question of ordnance production is being made by Lieut. Col. Bascom Little.

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The railroad wage commission last week recommended increases for all employees whose wages were less than $250 a month in December, 1915. The increases range from 4.6 to 43 per cent, the lower the wages, the greater the relative increase. The total annual increase in the pay roll of the railroads would be about $300,000,000. Director General McAdoo can use his discretion in conforming to the recommendations of the commission, and is expected to render his decision very soon. Large as the increases are, they do not come up to the demands of the railway workers' unions and considerable dissatisfaction is expressed. However, Mr. McAdoo's decision doubtless will be accepted with good grace.