INTERNATIONAL

LESSON FOR JANUARY 24

GIDEON AND THE THREE HUN

DRED.

LESSON TEXT-Judges 7:1-8, 16-23, GOLDEN TEXT-Not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit, saith Jehovah of hosts.—Zech. 4-3, R. V.

This was the period of Israel's

transition from a nomadic to an ag-

ricultural life. The record we have

is an alternate succession of idolatry

and subjugation with a return to Je-

I. "Gideon and All the People," vy

1-8. Rallying about him his clansmen

Gideon chose a position at the spring

of Harod near Jezreel, his back to Mt.

Gilbos and the Midianites to the north

next to Mt. Moreh. He thus con-

trolled the fords of the Jordan and

could prevent the enemy from return-

ing to their homes in the desert coun-

try. Outwardly the great discrepancy

of numbers made the situation look

dublous for Israel, but in reality the

danger was that the army was too

large, since when the victory was

gained they might "vaunt themselves."

Individuals and churches usually

count their strength according to num-

bers. (See II Cor. 12:9.) If we desire

God's strength it must be as we our-

selves are weak (Isa. 40:29). God is

sometimes limited by having too many and not enough of the right sort.

for boasting (Eph. 2:8, 9; Rom. 3:27).

God can save as well by the few as

by the many (I Samuel 14:6), and fre

quently uses the weak and despised

1:27, 28), that "no flesh should glory in his presence" (I Cor. 1:29). These

were two tests whereby Gideon was

to select his warriors: (1) "Go to, proclaim . . . whoseever is fearful

not well to criticize too severely the

22,000 who returned; even in the Gar-

den not only Peter, but all the disci-

ples forsook the Master and fled. God

does not choose men because they are

heroes, but to make heroes of them

by the power of his might. (2) There

is yet another sifting. God gives Gid-

eon the clue (v. 4), viz., to decide by

their method of drinking. Those who drank "as a dog lappeth," were those

not to be taken off guard even while

drinking. An ox glues his eyes upon

the water and is oblivious to all else,

not so a dog. God cares more for quality than for quantity and there

were too many cowards, too many

who thought most of self-comfort, to

135,000. God "strengthened" Gideon

(v. 11). Gideon and Phurah, at God's

command, entered the valley and drew

near the Midianite host. Avoiding the

guard, if any, they drew near enough

to hear a man telling his dream to

"his fellow." The latter interprets

this as nothing else than the "sword

(See Matt. 25:4; Ps. 119:105; also II

then as the pitchers are broken to

blow the trumpet caused a lively panic

had faith and courage in himself, and

likewise." We are to look to the "cap

devotion of our life (John 15:14.

14:21). - As already suggested, there

were probably no defenses surround-ing the enemy and in the darkness

Gideon and his men easily approached

the camp. It is easy to imagine the

scene-the midnight hour, the army

suddenly awakened by a deafening

shout, the blasts of trumpets, the 300

torches flashing forth amid the crash

of earthenware, and all of this in dense darkness. The Midianites in

the confusion turned their weapons

against each other and fled toward

the Jordan and into the regions be-

lowed by the ten thousand, fleeing to-

ward Succoth and Penuel. - We of

this day have our wars and battles

against the wrongs, the principalities

and powers of evil, which are around

us and within us. Such battles re

quire the same courage, and skill, and

consecration of ourselves, as did the

wars of those ancients against the enemies that threatened the very ex-

istence of the people of God. (See

10ph 6:10-18: I Tim. 6:12) The

trumpets were a call to God and a

type of prayer; the pitchers (earthen

vessels) a type of our frail bodies in

which we have the treasure of the

gespel truth (2 Cor. 4:6, 7, Matt

5:16). Our business is to blow long

and loud the trumpet and hold forth

the light, which is the Word (Phil.

2:16), and being broken ourselves

(John 12:24, Gal, 2:20 R. V.). expect

As every man stood in his appointed

brought confusion to the enemy (v.

to see the enemies of God overthrown

Others fol-

yond toward the desert.

by our lives of obedience prove

allow them to enter this battle.

food and trumpets (v. 8).

Chron, 13:14: Rev. 12:11).

these men

let him return" (v. 3). It is

things to confound the mighty (1

When God delivers he leaves no roo

hovah and to liberty.

NEW PRESIDENT SWITZERLAND'S



Dr. Giuseppe Motta, who has beet vice-president of the Swiss Confedera tion and head of the financial department, has been elected president, be ing the first Italian to head the little republic. He was born at Airolo, in the cauton of Ticino (the Italian-speak ing canton of the republic) in the year 1871 and studied law at the universities of Fribourg, Munich and Heidelberg. In 1895 he started his practice as a lawyer in his native village and in the same year he was elected deputy of the state council.

In 1899 he became a representative of his canton in the national council. As chief of the Catholic-Conservative party of his canton he immediately began to play a prominent role in politics, and when, in December, 1911, after the death of one of the members of the federal council. he became a candidate for that office, he also received the undivided support of the radical party of the canton of The young magistrate assumed from the beginning the responsible

burden of the federal finances.

. The office of president of the Swiss confederation provides by no means lucrative income, compared with the high salaried government positions in this country. Up to two years ago the yearly income of the chief magistrate of the republic amounted to \$3,000 only, and it was then raised to \$4,000, which sum is now considered a very good salary. In this respect it must, however, be remembered that the president continues to live quietly and without any official pomp in his private residence. The high position he occupies as head of the Swiss-confederation calls for no expensive social obligations. Democratic Switzerland is a stanch believer in simple and true democracy.

HUSSEIN, SULTAN OF EGYPT

The new sultan of Egypt, Prince Hussein Kamel, is a brother of the Khedive Tewfik and an uncle of the deposed Khedive Abbas II. He is a son of that magnificent Ismail, so beloved of the De Lesseps and the money brokers, who bankrupted his country to build the canal for the English to inberit, with the idea of making Cairo another Paris. He was a young man when his father was deposed and forced to leave the country. He went with him into exile and brought him back to Cairo for burial in 1895

Like his father and his brother, Prince Hussein was educated in Paris, where he came under the fascinating sway of the Empress Eugenie. Ismail seated himself upon the khedival throne by arranging the "accidental" death of the other heir, but Hussein has learned the more "civilized" method of intrigue. He is an accomplished Parislan gentleman, whose pronounced English sympathies can be tolerated

as harmless, since the British have placed themselves in a position to make any French influence in Egypt innocuous. It can be taken for granted that he will be an obedient tool in the hands of the high commissioner for Egypt, Lieut. Col. Sir Arthur Henry McMahon, who goes to Egypt after having served as foreign secretary of India for three years.

Prince Hussein has undoubtedly been a faithful ally of the British secretary, Mr. Milne Cheetham, whom Lord Kitchener had to leave in charge at Cairo when Mr. Asquith unexpectedly besought him to become secretary of war.

ALL BULLETS MISS HIM



Old Count von Haeseler, the retired German field marshal, is playing a unique role in this war. Some twenty years ago military men, both German and foreign, were accustomed to look to him as leader of Germany's God and at once returned to arouse armies in the event of a war, as he the camp of Israel. had acquired a great reputation as a strategist. But the war did not come Gideon, vv. 16-23. In all probability great opportunity. He had fought through three as soldiers and carried food for their wars—against Denmark in 1864, use in pursuing the enemy. However, against Austria in 1866, and against for this midnight attack they needed France in 1870, but he was then too only three weapons, lamps, pitchers young to attain high rank, and when and trumpets. Each of these have a the present war broke out he was too spiritual suggestion for the Christian. old to command an army.

Though he was approaching his Cor. 4:6, 7, and Ezek. 33:3, 6; I. Cor. seventy-ninth year, he went to the 14:8.) Gideon's stratagem of dividing kaiser, it is said, and begged permis- his men into three companies and sion to accompany the troops into France, pleading humorously that he had lost a rib there in 1870 which he among the Midianites. That Gideon wanted to find. Haeseler got the kaiser's consent in the word of Jehovah, is suggested

and for weeks he was following the German armies, astonishing the soldiers in his words, "Look on me and do

with his utter contempt of danger. It has repeatedly occurred that the count has ridden in the firing line of tain of our salvation" (Heb. 13:2) and the infantry while making an attack. The men were advancing only by rushes and leaning low to the ground; but Haeseler would ride calmly forward with his attendant, the target of French rifles; and at times he was even fired upon by machine guns and cannon without being hit. In this way a superstitious tradition has found foothold among the soldiers as to the old marshal being supernaturally bulletproof.

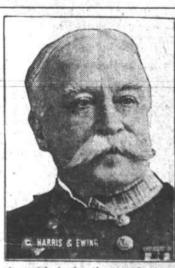
YOUTHFUL ADMIRAL DEWEY

George Dewey's seventy-seventh birth day Secretary Daniels and all his aides and bureau and division chiefs called on the veteran sea-fighter to congratulate him, and Mr. Daniels remarked

"I hope you feel as young as you

"I am young yet," responded Admiral Dewey, quickly. "I do not intend to be outdone by my friend and neighbor, ex-Senator Henry Gassaway Davis of West Virginia, who is ninetytwo. Davis comes home from work at five o'clock in the afternoon and I ask him why he works so late. He explains that he had a great deal more to do, but he quit early to give the boys in the office a rest.

"Now and then I meet Davis and he says, 'Admiral, we must see more of each other as the days go on. say 'Yes,' and then Davis calls at

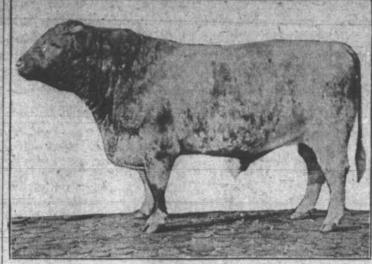


nine o'clock in the evening, and when the servant tells him that I have retired for the night, he goes away swearing because I went to bed so early. But, Mr. Secretary, I get up every morning at five o'clock. I doubt if

many of these gentlemen here can say as much. I am a hard worker, but I get plenty of sleep,"

Secretary Daniels recalled the fact that Admiral Dewey was appointed place (v. 21), God did the fighting and a midshipman at Annapolis by Secretary Dobbin, a North Carolinian. "Yes," answered Admiral Dewey, "and I am proud of ft. I have been 22) a Democrat ever since."

OPPORTUNITY IN SOUTH TO RAISE CATTLE



Superior Beef Type.

The nation needs more meat to feed | its increasing millions. The United States in 1906 exported 584,239 head of cattle. In 1910 our exportation had decreased to 139,432. During the last six months of 1913 there were imported into this country 20,000,000 pounds of dressed meat, and during the first eight months of the present year 100,000,000 pounds were import-The opportunity presented to the South today to raise the beef for the nation that is now being raised in other countries is as great and as productive of prosperity as that which the great western states have enjoyed many years in producing pork, lard, hay, oats, etc., for the South.

What action are you going to take eryone concerned.

in the matter? Are you going to ec tinue to allow cattle ticks to stand between you and the opportunities that will be presented by its eradication?

The eradication of this emissary of darkness means much to every person of whatever vocation. It means freedom from the baneful influences of this useless, loathsome, destructive parasite, and from the quarantine restriction and humiliation that must continue as long as its cause, the cat-It means better tle tick, remains. cattle, more profitable cattle and more cattle. It means a more prosperous agriculture, which in turn means better roads, better churches, better schoolhouses and better times for ey-

Killdeer's Stomach Taken in Novem ber in Texas Contained Over 300 Mosquito Larvae.

A tree swallow's stomach was found to contain 40 entire chinch bugs and fragments of many others, besides of insects. A bank swallow to Texas devoured 68 cotton boll weevils. Thirty-five cliff swallows had taken an average of 18 boll weevils each. Two stomachs of pine siskins from Haywards, Cal., contained 900 black olive scales and 300 plant lice. A killdeer's stomach taken in November in Texas contained over 300 mosquito larvae. A flicker's stomach held 28 white grubs. A night hawk's stomach collected in Kentucky contained 34 beetles, the adult form of white grubs. Another night hawk from New York had eaten 24 clover leaf weevils and 375 ants. Still another night hawk had eaten 340 grasshoppers, 52 bugs, three beetles, two wasps and a spider. A boat-tailed grackle from Texas had eaten at one



A Killdeer

meal about one hundred cotton boll worms besides a few other insects. A ring-necked pheasant's crop from Washington contained 8,000 seeds of chick-weed and dandelion heads; more than 72,000 seeds have been taken in Louisiana in February. The quall, between his cheery calls of "Bob White," is busy consuming 135 varieties of in sects. He will eat on an average 75,-000 insects and 6,000,000,000 weed seeds a year. He is the natural enemy of the boll weevil and the potato bug and the best friend of man, who is trying to destroy him in nearly every state. If we do not protect the quail will not be long until his cheerful whistle will be heard no more and in its place we will have the unwelcome buzz of destructive insects as they settle on the farmer's crop to devou

TIMELY HINTS OF SHEEPFOLD

Successful Sheep Breeder Must Be Able to Judge Breeding Ewe-Rather Rangy Ones Best.

The best breeding ewes are those hat are rather rangy, with good feeding capacity. This sort of an animal will prove a better feeder and a better

mother, than the short pudgy type. In buying ewes for breeding purposes, do not pick the best looking ones in point of flesh. A man must know how to choose breeding ewes, just as he should know how to judge a breeding sow, or any other animal on the farm, but to too many farmers, all sheep look alike.

Whenever a ewe is discovered to have an unsound mouth, she should be fed at once for the market,

If there is any profit in grade ewes it comes from the use of a pure-bred ram. While good breeding has much to do with a tendency to early breeding and

thrift, the ewes will, as a rule, take service of the ram at almost any pe riod of the year. Early maturity of the lamb is where

the big profit comes in in raising them for market. It's another case of the early bird catching the worm. The value of a ewe can be more nearly determined when she weans ber

lamb. If the youngster is strong, of good size, and well fleshed, be sure that the mother is worth keeping.

Feeding Idle Horses. horses the same as if working. The common team horses on the farm hould be turned out in a dry lot or barnyard to exercise every day, and when idle lessen the grain feed. Plenty of good hay, straw, water and exercise will usually keep the horse in a thrifty condition.

HOW BIRDS ASSIST FARMER | PLOW TO ERADICATE INSECTS Millions of Dollars Annually Lost to Farmers on Account of Pests in

the Vegetable Gardens.

Every farmer is annoyed with insects, especially in the vegetable gar-den, and millions of dollars are lost annually on account of them.

There are several ways to fight these pests when they come, which they continue to do; but it would be much better to prevent their coming if possible than to have to kill them when they arrive.

Insects are unlike other animals in that they take on several forms. For instance, the hard-shelled potato bugs lay the eggs for the soft bugs or larvae which when hatched enter on their eating career, and when this is finished enter the earth, and come out the next year a fully matured bug. Other insects are similar. The butterflies and moths lay their eggs which hatch into worms or caterpillars, and when this stage is developed spin their cocoons, which they burst open the next spring or summer and emerge as the mature butterfly or moth.

Now in the winter when these in sects are undergoing these stages they are helpless and when blowed out are unable to go deeper into the earth to protect themselves from the weather, and thus perish, writes F. H. Pease of Richmond, Va., in Progressive Farmer. Also during this time of the year bird food is scarce, and they are eagerly devoured by birds.

I do not advise leaving land bare and plowing it in the fall or winter when a cover crop can be planted; but land uncovered would be helped by such plowing and the insects killed Insects multiply enormously. of them pass through all of their

different stages in a few days, and as many as a dozen generations are reared in a single summer; so it can be readily seen that everyone killed in the fall or winter means many the next year. If the vegetable garden has no covering, plow it as many times as possible. This will help kill the insects and make the soil finer and hold the moisture better.

SPADING UP FEEDING PLACES

Where Chickens Are Continually Fed Within Small Space Ground Becomes Foul With Droppings.

On most farms feed for the flock is scattered about on the ground and the chickens are continually fed within a small space. The surface of the ground soon becomes foul with the droppings of the flock. True, the sunshine acts as a germicide and if the space is at all sloping, the washing of the rain helps some, but generally the spot is level and often muddy. The ground quickly becomes contaminated with the continual tramping of the flock and if there be one sick fowl the whole flock may soon become infected. This is especially true with small chicks and young turkeys.

The spading up of the feeding place once or twice per week will bring good results. It will tend to purity ground. It will induce exercise on the part of the flock, which is always desirable, and especially is this true when the flock is confined in yards and green feed, so necessary, is difficult to obtain.

If grain is scattered, as one spades up the ground, much will be buried so deep that the hens will not scratch it out and it will be thrown up at the next spading with green, succulent blades that are greatly relished by the flock and will also help along mighty well in the way of providing eggs.

Balancing the Ration.

The higher the prices of feeds used the greater the necessity for balance ing the ration. When a ration co taining too little of one nutrient is fed more feed must be given in order to supply the needs of the animal. If feeds are cheap and the animal is a balanced ration may sometimes be the cheapest, but with high-priced feeds, young, growing stock and those doing work a balanced ration is the most economical as well as the best for the

saint, writes Frederick Sisupich in the calmly down to the water's edge, blow Los Angeles Times.

the fish is buried at Mosul, in far-off walst deep and then lie down on the Mesopotamia. Mosul itself, from which inflated skin and begin to paddle leisour word "muslin" came, stands on the foaming Tigris opposite old Nineveh. And here is a sketch of what dife is like today in the town where Jonah the old man's course across the Tigris; rests

It is a dirty, crowded town, is Mosul, with 50,000 people jammed inside its medieval walls. Its narrow, warped streets are no more than crooked alleys that wander aimlessly through the town-dusty in summer and seas of mud in winter. So narrow are these passages that two loaded donkeys, if they chance to meet, cannot pass till one donkey has been backed into a doorway.

Mosul's houses are Moorish styletwo stories, few windows, an open court inside and flat roofs with parapets-so that the family may sleep on the roof in summer. The main door to each house is a huge affair, studded like the gate to a fortress-suggesting the old days of Mongol invasions.

To accommodate its important cara an trade, Mosul has built up many caravanserals, or "resthouses." With Naomi, my Bagdad boy, I spent my first night at Mosul in one of these singular khans, as the natives call them. The khan is a sort of compound or stockade of mud walls, without a roof. row of little cells, to which travelers amusement for the men of Mosul. They

In the middle of the inclosure is a Arabs, and crude and amateurish a

nah and the whale—I never on inflated goat skins; but I had no dreamed that one day I was idea that the practice still survived. to stand at Jonah's tomb and So I was astonished on arriving at the see Arabs worship him as a river bank to see an old man walk up a goat skin which had hung over The famous old prophet who rode in his shoulder, wade out into the river urely across. While I still watched him, two women came down, carrying skins, already blown up, and followed somehow they seemed to keep the bobbing skins easily balanced under their bodies, and thus supported swam slowly, without tiring.

Mosul Washerwomen. And all up and down the river banks were hundreds of round-limbed Kurdish women washing clothes. There must have been half a thousand, all shouting, plunging and wringing a multitude of garments. With skirts tucked high above their knees and no sign of vashmak or vell, they were a noisy, easy-going set, dispelling the illusion that in the East all women are se cluded or eternally draped from head

Long strings of pack donkeys, with great bolts and barred-at night driven by noisy, swearing Kurdish muleteers, came down to the river to drink, and fusillades of jocular abuse passed between these ruffians and the washerwomen. Higher up the river bank, and all along the waterfront, ran a long row of coffee shops, dance halls and other resorts. Till late at night these places are running full Blast, the din of tomtoms, native fiddles and the harsh voices of the paint-Around the inside of the walls runs a ed women who dance and sing, making like excitement, these Kurds and



IN A MOSUL COFFEE HOUSE

great platform, on which are piled the | their methods seem to us, they have bales of freight taken from the pack animals, and around the edge of this are pleased. platform run: a mud manger, from which the beasts are fed.

These historic caravanserais form of the most pictur from Marco Polo down to date, has crossed Mesopotamia without record-

.. Naomi and His Sisters. Next morning early Naomi and I left the pesthouse that had sheltered us. omi hunted up his Telkafi relatives, whom he had not seen for many years, and of course the master then became the servant's guest, for a few hours at least. We ate preserved sweets. pistachio nuts, manna, nougat, and many such delicacies for which Mosul is noted; we drank sweetened rose water and smoked countless cigarettes, and I gave away to these curious, prying, but polite people all the secrets of my family for three generations

back. From the main bazaar I wandered on through the town, followed by the usual crowd of chrious Arabs and Kurds, and then continued on my walk toward the river. And here I beheld an odd spectacle

I had read that in early Assyrian days warriors used to cross the Tigris,

never seen anything better and Over Odd Bridge to Jonah's Tomb.

A unique bridge spans the Tigris at. Mosul for which a parallel cannot features be found anywhere in the world. It of middle eastern life. No traveler, is built partly of masonry, partly of wood, and for some distance is of the pontoon type. First comes a 100-foot ing his impression of the unspeakably stretch of masonry pier, then a bridge of boats 400 feet long and crossing the main channel; then comes another stone pler of 150 feet, leading to an 800-foot stretch of brick arches, foland started out afoot to do Mosul. Na- lowed at last by another stone pier nearly 200 feet long. It seems as if the builders changed their minds sev eral times before finishing the odd

> It is across this bridge that one goes to explore Nineveh, where Botta and Layard made their sensational discoveries 50 years ago. The whole dry, brown plain about Mosul is a vast forest of ancient mounds, thick with signs of long-forgotten- inhabitants.

Ninevah is not even a memory with the wild, ignorant tribes who roam the desert of old Assyria. At one edge of its ruins stands the little village of 'Nebi Yunus," and the reputed tomb The identity of Jonan of Jonah seems alone preserved-and he was one of the least in his day.

At night I walked back to Mosul.

Reversed Name Now I mous. There was a time when it was not the German but the Scottish stranger in our midst who found it desirable to Anglicize his surname. One of these strangers was Lord Bute's but-He was thinking of setting up a tavern in London, but was warned that owing to the unpopularity of the Scotch, his own name would infallibly spell ruin to it. "Very well," he said, "I will call it Al-mack's." And so what was to become "Very one of the most famous of social in-If in actual warfare all that is stitutions recieved its name.-London Chronicle

Deep Study of Animal Life.

For the purpose of purchasing animals for the Brooklyn zoological garden the Institute of Arts and Sciences mals, reptiles and insects, and these remains to be established.

are to be devoted to augmenting the collections of animals at the Brooklyn zoo. Three years have been de voted to the making of these pic-tures, and because of his knowledge of the animals and their habits Doctor Ditmars has been enabled to get some wonderful results. Many long-accepted theories of animal life are exploded by these pictures and many new facty established.

New Torpedo Shell.

claimed for it is realized an invention just submitted to the French admiralty will have an important effect on modern naval warfare. It takes the form of a projectile similar in many respects both to a torpedo and a shell. When fired from either a torpedo tube of that city has embarked in the of a 12-inch gun it skims the surface moving picture business. Dr. Ray- of the water like a flat pebble and has mond L. Ditmars, who has for many a range of nearly ten miles. Contain years been connected with the Bronx ing a charge sufficient to destroy a garden, has made a remarkably in-teresting set of films depicting the ticularly simple method. The military dnaught, it can be fired by a pardaily life and conduct of various ani- value of the invention, however, yet