# TODAY'S SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

When Big Business Mobbed the Preacher

BY WILLIAM T. ELLIS

**The International Sunday School Lesson for August 20 is "The Riot at Ephesus."—Acts 19:24-41.**

I stood amid the marble fragments of the old theater at Ephesus. All about me were ruins, and memories. In front of me extended the overgrown marble highway, littered with overturned statues and columns, which ran through the forum to the famous marble docks of Ephesus. Not for centuries, however, has the sea lapped those walls, though the outlines of the ancient harbor, which once connected the city with the Mediterranean, show clear and strong, like a huge green frying-pan. Over yonder is the stadium now covered with a growing crop. The ruins of once stately buildings are now but gaping caverns on which an "enterprising" rug manufacturer has painted hideous advertisements directed to the occasional tourist. Along the marble walks where once trod sages and senators and saints, I see furtive serpents glide.

The famous theater itself—the very one in which the Ephesian mob shouted itself hoarse two thousand years ago, thirsty for the blood of the Apostle Paul—still bears its original shape, and traces of its former marble grandeur. What thousands upon thousands could crowd into this vast amphitheater! Now it is deserted. In whatever direction I look, I see a single human being and not a vestige of living habitation. All is ruin, ruin, ruin.

As I carry in the theater, the scene of one of the most dramatic and suggestive events in the New Testament, my imagination peoples the city as it was in Paul's day. I hear again the throaty, frenzied mob, proving by noise—the supremacy and immortality of their many breasted goddess. A strange fancy seizes me, and amid those barren stones I lift up my voice and cry in mockery, "Great is Diana of the Ephesians!" The only answer is from a crow circling overhead, who seems to wink at me.

Diana is dead. In the neighboring village, whose natives sometimes gather relics from the ruins of Ephesus, I could not find any token of the worship of Diana, though there were old Ephesian coins bearing Christian emblems. Even the site of Diana's temple was long in dispute and it is now nothing to see. The best preserved survival of old Ephesus is the "Double Church" of St. John the Divine. The centuries have vindicated the hunted and mobbed Apostle Paul. Demetrius, who had caused such a loud demonstration of the verdict of "vox populi" in favor of Diana, has been put to shame.

In all the earth today there is not a living creature who names the name of Diana with reverence, while Paul's Gospel still sweeps on to new conquests. In my own case, my visit to the ruins of Ephesus constituted for me the defeat of error and the triumph of truth. That ancient day in old Ephesus had seemed to belong to Diana, but it takes time to tell where spiritual victories lie. "Where are all the gods that combatted Christianity in the first centuries?"

**Today in an Ancient Yesterday**

The story of that turbulent day in the Ephesus of long ago is both history and literature. So this Sunday School Lesson releases a fabulous scene. The Apostle Paul's two years of work in Ephesus had borne such fruit that the very image of Diana was threatened. The business was endangered for spiritual truth has a serious habit of working out into practical affairs. Led by Demetrius, the silversmiths stirred up a city-wide riot against the Christian propaganda, professing great zeal for the old order, though really caring only for their own pockets. "Conservatism" has always been a convenient cloak for selfishness.

The case is paralleled today. Present conditions are mirrored in the Ephesian tumult. There is no denying the sinister fact that vested interests still follow the favorite ruse of cloaking themselves beneath apparent zeal for patriotism or religion or social stability. The one foe that democracy has had to front at all stages of its progress is the established order whose profits were affected by progress. Even back of the world war we may trace the hideous hand of "big business." The arrogance of wealth and of class and of boomed self-interest is the most immediate peril that confronts a self-governing people.

Demotrius is busy today in Washington and Ottawa and Mexico City and in all the other capitals of the world. Usually his devotion to his Diana is only an insincere cloak. Sometimes he himself does not know the difference between his solicitude for his faith and his concern for his own bank account. Usually the rabble he rates to support his cause are sincere worshippers of Diana of the Ephesians.

**The Madness of the Mob**

The worst about the Demetriuses of Ephesus and elsewhere is that their only argument is the big stick. They try to sewer truth with force. They mob—or dynamite—the teacher or preacher whose views they deem a menace to their property holdings. When progressive legislation impends they hire a hobby and seek to bribe or intimidate the legislators. They attempt to meet truth with power which is both sinful and futile as well as wrong. Christ crucified but triumphant should have settled that point forever. Yet still small boys and big corporations are meeting insurmountable argument with a boycott. "I can lick you anyway."

That mob at Ephesus, which Demetrius and other shrewd traders directed, was an earnest one in the main, every one of its members believing, truly, the cause they had gathered about him to quicky settle. They shouted without knowing why. Any fool deed was outside within their possibility. They have become in history a foolish jest on the name of a beautiful city. In its madness a mob little realizes that it is inflicting an indelible stain upon its community. All the good people of Greece and Christendom cannot wipe out the hideous scars left by the lynchers.

**The Canny Town Clerk**

Truth is not decided in town meetings nor by majority vote. One man has often been right and all the others wrong. In Ephesus that day there was one man who kept his head. It was the town clerk, a canny, sophisticated man, who clearly saw through the plans of Demetrius and his fellow conspirators. By his little speech, the burden of which was "Be quiet and do nothing rashly," he made the mob see their folly. He cited the prominence of the courts, and the groundlessness of the uproar.

Happy the safety of the city, the neighborhood which has one strong man whom the mob madness cannot affect and who clearly sees the real duty of the hour. Such a man is one who will not be "rattled" or panicked, frightened or goaded. Such is of more worth than a police force or standing army. One man's power alone is helpful from that Ephesus scene as a crowd's futility. It is possible for each of us to be in local disturbances as the townclerk of Ephesus. Often this is the function of a wife and mother. Always it belongs to the teacher. One day in every crowd should fill the office. For those who speak for truth and freedom and mother are servants of God in the eternal research of truth with error.

# HISTORY AS TOLD IN SALEM'S MEMORABILIA

**Translated from original German by MISS ADELAIDE FRIES and appearing in The Journal every Sunday**

**1769. WACHOVIA DIARY EXTRACTS**

Jan. 2nd two of the Bethabara boys ran away. Men were at once sent out along the several roads and Br. Herbst found them at the farm of a neighbor, where they said they had arranged to work. He took them back to Bethabara, where the occurrence caused much distress, especially, as it was discovered that two more boys had planned to do likewise. The runaways were brought before a committee of five leading brethren, their wrong-doing was set before them in plain terms, and they were deprived of the privilege of attending service, and ordered to spend all free time in the room at the bakery under the supervision of two brethren, though they were to work as usual. The other two were strictly warned to behave themselves, and on the 4th a conference was held with all the boys, where they were told that an apprentice was not his own master, but that they must yield obedient service until they were of age. Careful investigation led to the belief that only the four were implicated, and it was decided to hold the Boys Festival as usual, on Jan. 8th, for those who were in a proper frame of mind. Two days previously, however, it was necessary to bring two of the four boys before Justice Loesch for trial, they having been very insolent ever since the beginning of the trouble, and one of them having finally fired a gun into a cask of oil. They were found guilty, a Whipping ordered, and administered by Br. Ernst in the presence of Br. Loesch. This settled things, and before the Festival all four boys offered apologies, and were readmitted to their privileges. One of the boys, however, while he gave no more trouble, continued unhappy and homesick for his parents in Yorktown, so with the first good opportunity that offered he was permitted to return thither. The occurrence also led to a realization of the importance of legally binding apprentices to their masters, as the rather informal way in which the boys had hitherto been placed under the master's care was considered partly responsible for the boys' failure to recognize the obedience due them. Jan. 12th, at a meeting of the Diaconie Conference, Matthes Oesterlein was placed with Georg Schmid as his apprentice, by Justice Loesch, and the first written indenture was signed. Jan. 6th plans for the new Gemeine Haus in Bethabara were accepted, the building to measure 40x40 ft. A few days later the felling of wood for it began. On the 23rd a Love feast was held, to which the neighbors who often worshipped at Bethabara were invited, and a call was made for volunteers to help with the new house. Grabs, Spaethauer, Heinrich Schor, and Transon were named as the building committee.

Jan. 8th, Capt. Lattie, of Salisbury brought a load of cowhides to the tan-yard. He reported that a new Vice-Governor, Jacob Mezger, had arrived in our Province, that Tryon had been recalled to England, and also that Tryon had given permission to the new Assembly to issue 20,000 pounds paper currency.

Jan. 15th Utley made his first trip for this year to Valentine Frey's in the Muddy Creek Settlement, and to the schoolhouse unter der Eins, and he preached in both places every four weeks thereafter during the year.

As a rule letters seem to have been by courtesy of passing travellers, but on the 13th a letter was sent by two Germans, addressed to Mr. John Hogan of Lancaster and they were given an order on him for 28s. 6d. to be paid on the delivery of the letters to him.

On the 17th Loesch, as Justice of the Peace married Benjamin Leinbach to Christine Volk at the home of Leinbach's father.

On the 23rd ploughing was begun in certain corn-fields, which this year were to be planted in flax.

Feb. 1st a meeting was held of the Salem issuer, with the help of brethren from Bethabara, on the 21st the first marriage in Salem took place in the potter's house, Br. Loesch performing the ceremony for a neighbor, Sch'umm, who lived beyond Salem.

On the 14th the Bethania wagons went to Cross Creek, taking 100 lbs. of flax for Bethlehem, and some tobacco. They returned March 3rd, Michael Funk's one horse having died six miles from town.

Mikoch made various trips from time to time to collect debts due the Store, and in March went to court in Salisbury to see about various matters, and to get pay for the Zwieback furnished Hillsboro last year.

March 15th trees were planted on the main street beside the Square in Salem. April 3rd a log house was raised on the plantation south of Bethania, 300 acres being put on in December for the farm. April 4th two wagons went to the Yadkin for boards for Salem. These boards had been cut at Mr. Allen's saw-pit, floated down the river to Jones Ferry's landing, but could not be moved until the river was ripe in the fall across which the men had to stay, and so the last of them is only now being brought in.

Br. Martin Armstrong on his way to Campeltown, Loesch sent a letter to Gov. Tryon, asking that Bonn be appointed a Justice of the Peace in his place. Hearing nothing from the Conference, Loesch wished a brother elected constable, so that order might be carried in matters of business, as to the tavern, and in August Mr. Alexander stopped on Br. W.A. Lock's in Salisbury Court with instructions to notify Br. Bernhard Spach. He later brought word that Br. Bonn's name was on the list of Justices, though he had not been notified, and in November Bonn went to Salisbury to do duty.

April 5th threshing was finished and last year's crop was found to have yielded 865 bushels wheat, 50 bu. rye, 156 bu. barley, 300 bu. oats, 100 lbs. tobacco, 75 lbs. flax, and 1 lb. hemp seed, 1 lb. hop seed.

April 19th was the great trading day. Five four of the Bethania brethren set out for Charleston, taking his son and a hired wagon. A few hours later Br. Jacob Loesch and his wife and four children left for Bethlehem, amid tears on the part of those who went, and those who remained behind. Two of the brethren drove the wagon to Bethania, the others accompanied them the first day's journey. And Jacob Loesch and his family went as far as Dan River, the reorganization necessitated by his departure Pockel became chief agent for the village, and Jacob Blum overseer of the farms, with the help of several other brethren constituting a conference. Thirty sheep were brought from Capt. Phelps, to again

# NOTES FROM FILMLAND

(By E. W. Arnold.)

Tuesday is beginning to produce the Fridays of Broadwayites, as a result of the "Grandstand." Beside Washington and Marguerite Clayton went to the overtime night rules, and so their support will be shared by actors Sidney Ainsworth and John Cherry.

Charlie Chaplin appears absolutely alone in his next. Mutual records extend from 8 to 30. The entire story is centered about the attempts of a man to get to his bed after a celebration, a change of the steady rise in the stock of the comedian's company, which is now in line of about half a million of that $670,000 salary. This will be shown at the Alvin before very long.

Lionel Barrymore, who made such a good Dodge in "Peggy," has been cast in the Bennett Barrymore production, "Jim the Penman," in which he will shadow her other self.

Sidney Drew, after completing his comedy for William W. Fox at the Morosco, will start a book.

In May the sixteenth was founded, and the Bethabara boys killed about the date which had been doing much damage to the grain.

May 12th and 13th the Brothers Boone, in Salem, was raided with [illegible] from Bethabara, Bethania and the town. In the same month the Aequatorial Conference took up the question of the building of the Gemeine Haus for Salem, and in October a Wachovia surveyor took a compass to fell and prepare the timbers for it. In November it was decided that the cellar and first story should be built of stone.

Dressing of more than a million dollars has interest with that produced over [illegible] to be given each on the advertising matter for the film and is now at the head of his own producing company. Already work has been begun upon an adaptation of Montague Nazimova's popular vaudeville sketch, "War Bride." This is to be followed by "Thais" with Mary Garden in the star.

Frank Keenan will appear on the screen next in another of his characterizations of a Southern gentleman of the old school. The story, called "Honor Thy Name," tells of a youth who goes to New York at his father's connection to get over his wild ways. There he marries a chorus girl and brings her home with him. The father, being loyal to his friends, shows a coldness to Alan on the hot take her upon a visit, which leads to a duel between the father and the woman, killing both himself and the woman.

Marguerite Courtot, former Gem moon star, is now a member of the Famous Players organization, having been selected as Owen Moore's new leading lady. The pair will be first seen in "Rolling Stones," taken from the play originally produced by Selwyn and Company.

Anita Stewart is to appear shortly in the second picture made under her director executing her brother-in-law Ralph Ince. It will be "The Inching of Diana." Miss Stewart is now extremely ill of typhoid fever, brought on, it is said, by her over work in this production, which is a newspaper play.

The Brennon productions will not be released on any program but will be handled by Lewis Selznick under contract for the series.

The cast supporting Leo Ditrichstein in the Lasky production of "The Victor" on a screen version of Paramount production, is a Dance section thing, which is lectured includes Elliott Dexter, Theodore Roberts and Laura Wood Chadwick.

Lasky story of Will Scott finished the Lasky production of "Each Week A Year," which will be another delightful drama in the Paramount program. Also Pauline Wood will play in it, as the case and Charles Ogle.

The Kerry series continues in which Mr. Charles Ray is the main character. For their popular serial is entitled "Unconquered." Mr. Theodore Roberts will also be seen in this picture.

Pauline Frederick says that for pure unalloyed fun the trip to Chicago last week to the social of the summer, begins spell has positively no equal. Miss Frederick attended the Motion Picture Convention while in the Windy City.

Pearl Elizabeth Hayes, actress, will be a guest in "The Honorable Friend." She will be supported by her husband Tosei Aoki in this production. These two Japanese artist have made quite a name for themselves since coming to this country.

A delegation from the Ladies Club have signified their intention of attending the first performance of Richard Ordynski's production of "The Lure" at the Lyceum on the Paramount program, which