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Lesson I .- Second Quarter, For April 6, 1913.

THE INTERNATIONAL SERIES.

Text of the Lesson, Gen. xxvii, 22-34. Memory Verses, 33, 34-Golden Text, les. xxx, 18-Commentary Prepared by Rev. D. M. Stearns.

Seven other sons, including Ishmael, are recorded as having been born to Abraham by his secondary wives, but to Isaac he gave all his possessions (xxv. 1, 2. 5) and sent the others away unto the east country. Abraham lived 175 years, and when he died Isaac and Ishmael laid his body beside that of Sarah in the cave of Machpelah (xxv. 7-10). While he lived he looked for the city which hath foundations whose builder and maker is God (Lieb, xl, 10, 16), and he is still walting for it and for the complete fulfillment of the promises made to him as heir of the world (Rom. iv, 13). Time is long to us, but not to Him to whom a thousand years are but as yesterday when it is past (Ps. xc, 4) and as a watch in the

It is restful to see Isaac dwelling by the well Lahai-rol, the well of Him that liveth and seeth me (xxv, 11; xvi, 14, margiu). He was forty years old when he married Rebekah, and he was sixty when the twins Jacob and Esau were born. It forebodes trouble to read that Isaac loved Esau, but Rebekah loved Jacob (xxv, 20, 26-28), and the reason given for Isaac's love for Esau does sound very earthly.

Futures were not any more real to Esau than they are to multitudes today. A mess of pottage was more to him as a hungry man than his birthright (xxv, 29-34), and for this he is poken of as a profane person, or, according to Weymouth, "ungodly" (Heb. zii. 16). Think of the profanity abounding everywhere because the god of this world is blinding so many eyes to the realities of the future kingdom and glory.

In chapter xxvi we read of Isaac's failure on the same line on which his father had failed twice, in calling his wife his sister to save his own life (Gen. xii and xx). In xxvi, 4, we have the star promise confirmed to Isaac, and in verses 12-16 we see how greatly the Lord blessed him and how very rich the blessing of the Lord makes

A beautiful incident is related in verses 17 to 33 as to how yielding instead of strife makes manifest the life of Christ in us. The Philistines had filled up some of Abraham's wells. Isaac reopened one, and then they claimed it as theirs, and he let them have it. He reopened another, and they claimed that one, too, and he let them have it. When he reopened a third for some reason they did not strive for that. Later they came to him to make a covenant with him and gave as their reason for desiring it, 'We saw certainly that the Lord was ith thee" (verse ed with them and insisted on keeping he wells, which would have been quite right in the eyes of the world, they would have seen Isaac and not the Lord, but he had learned the lesson of rather taking wrong and suffering himself to be defrauded (I Cor. vi. 7). It is most interesting to note that the same day his servants in digging a well found water (xxvi. 32).

It is indeed sad to have to turn from such a beautiful incident to the lesson for today, which is a record of awful deceit and lying and, worst of all, a mother putting her son up to it and calling down the consequences upon her own head (xxvii, 13). Her aim was to bring the father's blessing upon the son whom she loved, but if she had only believed God and left the matter in His hands He would not have failed to keep His word, for He had told her before the boys were born that the elder should serve the younger (chapter xxv. 23). There is everywhere today a tendency to help the Lord to do what He has no thought of doing, and that is to win the world to Himself in this age, with the devil still doing his devil-

There is also such a lack of confidence in God and His plan for His kingdom that many religious people try to work out their own plan, thinking thus to help God. The devil hates the love of God, the patience of God, the purpose of God, and is as busy with many of the people of God as he was with Rebekah that day, but they are blinded and conceited (II Cor. iv, 3, 4; Rom. xi, 25). This record of Rebekah makes us think of another mother who was her son's counselor to do wickedly (Il Chron. xxii, 3), but one would hate associate Rebekah with such as Athaliah, though it is true of all that the heart is deceitful and desperately wicked and the carnal mind is enmity gainst God (Jer. xvii, 9; Rom. viii, 7). If some of us have not developed the same degree of iniquity as others it is only the grace of God that has kept us. Note the lie upon lie of this story: "I am Esau, thy firstborn," "The Lord thy God brought it to me," "I am thy very son Esau" (verses 19, 20, 24).

But he was found out even as it is written, "Be sure your sin will find you out" (Num. xxxii, 23), though those words were used in a wholly different sense when uttered or written. We do well to remember that "God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good or whether it be evil" (Eccl. xii, 14). This may have been the first but certainly not the last story of kid glove

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. 26 10.55 " 25 11.55 C. V. PALMER, Gen. Pas. Agent. Charlotte, N. C. E. O. JENNINGS, Com. Agent. Gastonia, N. C.

" 20 5 00 " 22 6.30

" 19 5.35 "
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" 23 9.45 "



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and fair; Republicaus had 16 years—their full

verwhelmed now with grief, and While the Democrats will good laws

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surrounded with trusts and monoply on every side Dutwitted we are by the Democrats,

they cry; Now the Democrats say for us there is no more pie. COLONEL.

The Herald of Spring

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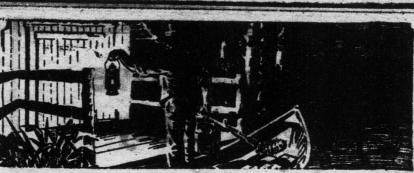
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St. Paul, Va.
Dungannon, Va.
Ft. Blackmore, Va. 8.51 21.9 Lv. 2.45 9.07 29.6 Lv. 3.01 * 9.21 36.0 Lv. Hill, Va. 3.27 Speer's Ferry, Va. 9.41 45.14 Lv. 9.56 51.6 LV. Cameron. Va.-Tena. Ar. 1213 Ar. 1295 Ar. 1434 Ar. 1624 Ar. 1662 Ar. 1662 Ar. 1703 Ar. 1703 Ar. 20.58 Ar. 2401 Ar. 2462 Ar. 2462 Ar. 3514 Lv. 2623 4.00 10.09 58.2 Lv. Kingsport, Tenn. 4.18 *10.20 62.8 Lv. Pactolus, Tenn. Fordtown, Tenn. 4.40 10.32 67.8 Lv. 4.55 *10.43 72.6 Lv. Gray, Tenn. 5.55 11.15 85.1 Lv. 6.50 11.43 96.7 Lv. Johnson City, Tenn. Unicoi, Tenn. Erwin, Tenn. Erwin, Tenn. 7.10 11.55 101.1 Ar. 7.22 12.02 101.1 Lv. 7.34 *12.12 104.3 Lv. Cheston, Tenn. • 7.41 •12.14 105.1 Lv. Unaka Springs, Tenn. 8.32 12.47 117.9 Lv. Huntsdale, N. C. 7.12 6.57 8.56 1.05 124.9 Lv. 9.20 1.21 131.3 Lv. Green Mountain, N. C. Toecane, N. C. Boonford, N. C. 1.51 140.1 Lv. 2.05 144.6 Lv. Penland, N. C. 2.17 147.9 Lv.

10.20 10.40 2.27 151.9 Ar. P. M. P. M. Alta Pass, N. C. No. 1 M'xd A. M. P. M. 6.15 2.27151.9 Lv. 6.22 2.35155.3 Lv. Altapass, N. C.
Mt. Mitchell, N. C.
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Carolina & North-Western Railway Schedule Effective Nov. 24th, 1912

Northbound.	Ex. Sun. No. 8	Daily Pass. No. 10		Mixed No. 60 Ex. Sun.	Mixed Ex. Sun. No. 50
Chester Lv Yorkville Gastonia Gastonia Lincolnton Newton Hickory Lenoir Mortimer Edgemont Ar.	7 08 7 40 8 40	7 55 a m 8 42 9 80 "10 1 26 11 05 11 45 1 00 p m 2 20 2 30	200 pm 410 430	105 300p m	7 05 a m 8 40
Southbound.	Ex Sun. No. 7	No. 9	No. 63 Ex. Sun.	No. 61 Ex. Sun.	
Edgemont Lv. Mortimer Lenoir Hickory Newton Lincolnton Gastonia Gastonia Yorkville Chester Ar.		11 55 a m 12 93 1 15 2 30 3 05 3 43 4 40 5 39 6 25	7 30 a m 7 40 10 15		2 45 pm 4 20

CHESTER-Southern Ry., S. A. L. and L. & C.

YORKVILLE-Sonthern Railway. GASTONIA-Southern Ry, Piedmont & Northern Ry. LINCOLNTON-S. A. L.

NEWTON and HICKORY-Southern Railway. E. F. REID, G. P. Agt., Chester SWO.