

## Junior Department

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 invites correspondence from all Junior League workers to  
 add interest to this Department of the ERA.

### Hosea's Hose

(To be read rapidly.)

Hosea Ho-say chose a hose he needed for  
 his lawn—

Chose the hose he knows the best is ;  
 uses it at dawn.

From the hose that Hosea chose there  
 flows a steady stream ;

'Mid the roses Hosea his use is useful too,  
 I wean.

Now this hose that Hosea chose is not  
 his hose, they say ;

Though he chose the hose, he knows for  
 it he did not pay ;

Owes he for the hose he chose, and, there-  
 fore, I suppose,

Where'er goes he, Hosea Ho-say knows  
 he owes for hose.

—St. Nicholas.

### Weekly Topics

April 15.—"A new song." Matt. 28. 6.  
 This is the song of Christ's triumph  
 over death and the grave. "He is risen!  
 as He said." It records the fulfilment of  
 His own prophecy concerning Himself.  
 Make it clear that Christianity is the reli-  
 gion of a Conqueror and is for those  
 who would be "more than conquerors."  
 If He had not risen the worlds would be  
 dismal and dark for us all. But be-  
 cause He rose, we have light and life here  
 and a home beyond the grave. (Have  
 some one read I Cor. 15. 20; 51-58.) Draw  
 so much on the past history of Christ  
 as on His present power and the future  
 glory of His saints. Our songs should  
 be full of thankful praise and have the  
 ring of victory in them. "Then  
 apply the thought, if our Lord did "as  
 He said" regarding His own resurrec-  
 tion, will He not do as He has said re-  
 garding ours? We need not fear. John  
 14. 1-3 is as true for our future as the  
 words of the angel were for our Lord's  
 past.

To fear is to doubt Him.  
 Sing the songs of trust, of hope, of joy,  
 of victory, for Jesus lives, and we, too,  
 shall live with Him forever—He has gone  
 home to His Father, and death to His  
 children is just going home. Expel, if  
 possible, the thought that death is a  
 dreadful thing. It would be so if we had  
 not Risen Lord; but now, when we die  
 we go to our Father's House and there  
 need be no fear in the going. (Illustra-  
 tion: A child away from home for a  
 little while does not dread the return  
 home. He welcomes it. Everybody re-  
 joices at the home-coming of absent ones.  
 No scene is more joyful than that which  
 appears when a happy family reunion  
 takes place. God's children are away  
 from home here. Dying is going home as  
 Jesus went, and He rose from the dead  
 and ascended into Heaven that we might  
 know that by and through death we may  
 join Him where He is, in His Father's  
 House.)

April 22.—"What we may know." 2  
 Tim. 1. 12. This he was satisfied to suffer  
 and wait till the Lord took him home.  
 His knowledge of His Lord was not only  
 a great satisfaction to him—it was a  
 great source of strength and inspiration  
 in serving Christ. (One does not like  
 to work for an unknown master. But  
 love for the Master makes work easy.)  
 Follow up this thought of knowing  
 Christ by a study of John's First Epistle  
 to show how many things we may know

if we know Christ, e.g., How may we  
 know that we know Him? 1 John 2.  
 3-5. What does our knowledge of Christ  
 teach us? (1) To avoid antichrist. 1  
 John 2. 18; (2) All things necessary  
 to us, 1 John 2. 20; (3) The truth, 1  
 John 2. 21; (4) That we shall be like  
 Him, 1 John 3. 2; (5) Our sins taken  
 away, 1 John 3. 5, etc. Mark also the  
 things we may know as in Chap. 3. 14,  
 15, 19, 24; Chap. 4. 2, 6, 13, 16; Chap.  
 5. 2, 13, 15, 18, 19, 20. (A distribution  
 of these references a week ahead will  
 ensure a lot of participants in your  
 study and strengthen the faith and as-  
 surance of all. Do not permit any of  
 your Juniors to look upon Christianity  
 as in any way uncertain or speculative.  
 Emphasize the knowable things—the ex-  
 perimental facts and truths, and above  
 all, the joy of personal knowledge of  
 and fellowship with Christ.)

April 29.—"Jesus to-day." Matt. 28.  
 20. Heb. 13. 8. "Lo, I am with you  
 always—the same yesterday, to-day, and  
 forever." Christ Jesus is not dead! He  
 died; but the whole month's topics have  
 been centred in Him as living and to-  
 day we have the wonderful truth that  
 He is interested in His people still and  
 always will be. If He is the same forever  
 as when He was on earth, we need not  
 be afraid of Him. Children were espe-  
 cially dear to Him then. They are now  
 the less valuable in His sight now. He  
 welcomed them then, He is the same  
 still. He blessed them then, He does  
 the same yet. We must not think of Him  
 as far, far away from us. He is near  
 at hand, and if we cannot see Him, we  
 may talk with Him. Prayer is the way  
 to do this. He hears us. Not a "stone"  
 but "bread" will He give us if we are  
 hungry. And Jesus used a boy when  
 he was on earth. Think what a large  
 place the boy in John 6. 9 had in feed-  
 ing the multitude. Christ will still use  
 a boy's simple supply to feed us. Do  
 we think of Jesus as near us, present  
 with us to help us in our troubles, de-  
 liver us from our sins, use us for His  
 glory, and prepare us for His Kingdom?  
 Our texts to-day include us, and if we  
 make Jesus a real, living, present Saviour  
 and Friend, we will do as He wishes us  
 to do, and His promised presence will  
 ever lead us.

MAY.

Thought for the Month—"Service."

Our Lord wants us not only for our  
 own sakes, but for what we can do for  
 Him in spreading His Kingdom among  
 others. He wants to use us. Only so  
 can we truly be Christians. He has no  
 place for lazy people. He calls us to  
 work. In this work we are to see this  
 month that all our members are to en-  
 gage. "All for Jesus"—mind, lips, hands,  
 money—everything is to be used for Him  
 and His glory among others about us.

May 6. A mind to work. Acts 1. 8.  
 Neh. 4. 6. There are two days of doing  
 things. One is because we want to do  
 it. The other is because we fear if we  
 don't we will be punished. We know  
 that the first is the right way. It shows  
 willingness. A parent does not like to  
 have to drive or threaten his children.  
 Nor does Christ want to make us do His  
 will. He wants us to do it because we  
 would rather do it than anything else.  
 If we love a person, it is not hard to do  
 things for them. So the love of Jesus  
 constraineth me." Paul said: It was  
 this that made the early Christians wit-  
 nesses for their Lord. It was patriotic  
 love that made the people work hard  
 and long and unselfishly to build up the  
 walls of their beloved Jerusalem. The  
 question is, how do we do things? What  
 is our spirit, our motive? Not what we  
 do (quantity), but how we do it (qual-

ity), is what counts most with Jesus.  
 It is good to do right, it is better to do  
 right because we love Christ. This makes  
 our work not only easy and gladsome to  
 ourselves, but it scatters sunshine all  
 around us, and helps others join in with  
 us. Be willing. Do your work for His  
 sake. Such work pays us good wages  
 right along and shows us that we need  
 not wait till we go to heaven to be happy.

### Bible Stories

We heartily commend to our Junior  
 workers the "Bible Study Manual Number  
 One," by Emma A. Robinson, Junior  
 Epworth League Secretary of the Meth-  
 odist Episcopal Church. The course  
 covers three years. The studies in the  
 Old Testament are eighteen in number,  
 and are grouped around the most noted  
 characters of the Jewish nation. There  
 are fifteen New Testament Studies. The  
 stories as given are intended for the use  
 of the leaders or teachers, and the  
 Juniors are directed and encouraged to  
 illustrate them. The three years are  
 progressive. In the first the little ones  
 are told the stories. In the second year  
 the Scripture text is read. In the third  
 year the stories are to be written by the  
 Juniors. A systematic course followed  
 carefully by a devoted and painstaking  
 teacher must realize the author's purpose  
 in developing the understanding and ap-  
 preciation of the young of the Word of  
 God. The book may be ordered through  
 the Book Room.

### Some Reliable Evidences of a Successful Junior League

The standards by which our Leagues  
 are commonly judged are not always  
 correct and true. We ought to aim at  
 numbers; but a long roll of members  
 does not necessarily indicate success.  
 We ought to endeavor to interest; but  
 that the Juniors are interested is not un-  
 mistakable evidence of prosperity. We  
 should seek to popularize our Junior  
 meetings; but popularity does not always  
 stand for power. Financial returns will  
 have some place in Junior work; but  
 must not become the chief concern.  
 And yet many a League is credited with  
 great prosperity or judged a failure by  
 these standards—Numbers, Interest, Popu-  
 larity, Financial results. Let us not be  
 misunderstood. These things are  
 desirable, they should be sought for;  
 but they should be the results of healthy  
 growth according to true League stand-  
 ards and methods. They should not be the  
 first, last, and constant aim of the League  
 workers. By what then shall we judge  
 our success or failure? Bear in mind  
 that your society must be a League. That  
 means that it shall be throughout  
 conducted according to the constitution.  
 Only thus can it do the work for which  
 it exists. Do not make a constitution  
 for yourself. Adopt, as far as possible  
 and wise, the carefully prepared constitu-  
 tion (pledge and all) of our Church.  
 Work, as fully as practicable with your  
 staff, the various parts of the League plan  
 and purposes, and do not think, with any  
 of it, but aim at realizing, as far as pos-  
 sible, the ideal in the minds of the  
 General Board in preparing the outlines  
 of your work submitted. Whatever you do,  
 be thorough. Many a Junior League has  
 failed by superficial work. If only a  
 little is undertaken in the three years  
 that your members take pains to master  
 every step. Bear in mind that the  
 Junior League exists to inform, train,  
 develop not simply to amuse the young.  
 Edification, not entertainment, must  
 always be the aim of the League pro-  
 gramme. It is character, not cash that  
 we are after. Deeds, not dollars, are our