



Christine's Way

To never be late, and never cross,
And never to give her things a toss
Instead of putting them away,
That is Christine's way.

To help her mother the best she can,
To share her playthings with Nell and Nan,
When they came to her house to play,
That is Christine's way.

To never grumble when things go wrong,
But to drive off trouble with a song,
And just be happy every day,
That is Christine's way.

Dear little girl that I love so well,
Whose faults I know but I will not tell,
How I should like to hear you say,
"I'll try Christine's way!"

—Mary Rolofson.

Weekly Topic Studies

SEPT. 25.—OUR ORPHANAGE WORK IN JAPAN.

There are few more interesting stories in the history of our missionary work in the Sunrise Kingdom than that of the founding of the orphanage work in two of the centres where our work is located. Such an institution as a home for destitute children was unknown in Japan, until it was established under Christian auspices, and even the people could not understand the spirit which prompted the Christians to house and care for the homeless and destitute children, without any hope of reward. It was an object lesson in practical Christianity which will be far-reaching in its results, for the children trained in these Christian homes will go out to play their part, let us hope, in the evangelization of their own land.

The occasion of the institution of orphanage work was the great war between Russia and Japan. Thousands of the bread-winners entered the army and went to the front, leaving their families practically destitute. Kanazawa, one of our mission stations upon the west coast of Japan, was one point of departure for the soldiers, and later military hospitals were established there. Dr. McKenzie, our missionary, in this way was brought into close touch with many of the men, and learned of the conditions under which many little children were living. Wishing to do something for these little ones, an appeal was made to friends in Canada, and the orphanage was established on July 1st, 1905.

At first only war orphans were admitted, but later the orphanage was extended to others. The work has grown until it has been necessary to secure new premises, and now there are one hundred children in the care of our Methodist Orphanage at Kanazawa, and a smaller number at Shizuoka, where work has also been carried on under direction of the late Rev. Robert Emberson.

An orphanage under the direction of the W. M. S. is also located at Kanazawa.

The Juniors will enjoy hearing the story of the orphans' outing at the seaside, near Kanazawa, as told by Dr. McKenzie in *The Missionary Bulletin* for March. This outing was the means of a great deal of pleasure to the little ones,

as well as source of renewed health and strength.

The opportunity will arise here for offering the Juniors the privilege of helping on this work. Forty dollars a year will provide for the food, clothing and education of one of these little ones. Would your Juniors like to have a share in this work? Many Junior societies, Sunday Schools and classes, as well as individuals are undertaking the support of one or more of these children, and surely no service could be more Christ-like. In this way they are helping to extend the Kingdom in the Empire of Japan.—C. C. S.

OCT. 2.—WHY DID CHRIST'S COMPANIONS LEAVE HIM? Mark 14: 50.

Leading questions for study:

1. Jesus said to his disciples, "my soul is exceeding sorrowful, even unto death: tarry ye here and watch with me." Did these companions really know of Christ's sorrow? Who alone did?

2. He had shown his love and sympathy for them. Might they not have comforted Him? What does Mark 14: 50, say they did?

3. Explain "The Spirit indeed is willing but the flesh is weak." Was this a gentle chiding or excuse for slumbering?

4. Are we united with Christ, so that we "abide" in him?

5. Are we fruitful branches? If not how can we be? See John 14: 1-17.

6. Read Matt. 26: 36-46.

7. Do our companions ever leave us? Why?

8. Are we seeking to-day the companionship of Jesus?—C. G. W.

OCT. 9.—ON THE WAY TO CALVARY. Mark 15: 15-25.

Jesus had been condemned to die, by the Roman Governor, Pilate, because the Jewish priests and people demanded it. He is on his way to Calvary, the Hill of the skull shaped like a skull outside the gates of Jerusalem. It is one of the saddest moments in his life. It was the custom of the Romans that a criminal sentenced to be crucified should carry his own cross to the place where he was to suffer death. Jesus was forced to submit to this also. The previous days had been such, and the loss of sleep, had weakened the body so that under the severe and heavy load, as he walked, he fainted and fell. A stranger was seen coming up the road, one of the dark-skinned men from Cyrene in Africa. The rough soldiers made this man lift and carry the wooden cross. It was not long before he looked away from the cross to Jesus, who held him captive in mind and heart. Walking beside Jesus, Simon of Cyrene saw His majesty and meekness, His sweetness and love, and became a disciple on the road to Calvary. More than that, he led others afterwards to the Master. What lessons do we learn from Simon? Contrast the conduct of the soldiers and people! What did the disciples do? Give examples of the patience, thoughtfulness and love of Jesus.—C. G. W.

OCT. 16.—THE FRIENDS AT THE CROSS. John 19: 25-27.

When Jesus, the soldiers and Simon reached Calvary much happened that we must pass over—"the words He spoke,

the dying robber whom He won, the darkness that covered Him, the miracles which proved that He was no ordinary sufferer who was fighting His own fight more, the confession of the Roman centurion who saw Him as God, crowned Jesus with glory. We want you to see a little group at the foot of His cross. What a dark day it was for them! John was there. He was the only one of the Apostles not afraid to be very near to Jesus then. John was faithful, true-hearted and loyal. With John there were four women, their hearts filled with sorrow. Who were they?

We think that when John heard the sentence of death passed at the bar of Pilate he hurried away and told the faithful women and the mother of Jesus about it. He then gave them his assistance and company, and they must have felt it was good to be under the care of so good and kind a friend at this time. Jesus looking down from the cross said to John, "Behold thy mother," committing to him the care of one He dearly loved. To Mary Jesus said, "woman behold thy son." There was much in these words. No longer was He an earthly son but a divine Saviour. With John she went to live, and they loved each other well because they each loved Jesus better. As superintendent you take this little bit out of the wonderful story laid down His life for His sheep.—C. G. W.

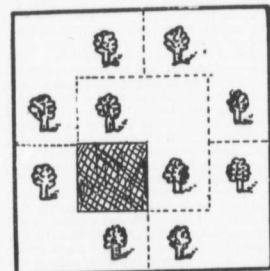
OCT. 23.—CHRIST'S COMPANIONS WITHOUT HIM. Luke 23: 50-56.

Joseph of Arimathea, the rich, noble but timid member of the Sanhedrin, showed his new courage and sympathy for Jesus by going to Pilate and begging His body. His act encouraged the equally timid Nicodemus who came with myrrh and aloes to embalm the body and wrap it in the fine linen which Joseph had bought. Near Calvary, in the garden of Joseph was a new rock-hewn tomb, where they reverently laid the body, and rolled a great stone against the door. While the body lay there, the ceremony and pomp of the Passover went on. But the chief rulers fearing, that as Lazarus had been raised from the dead, so might the Saviour come forth, they ordered the door to be sealed and a Roman guard placed to watch.

Pilate and companions have been taken from us, but they are ours still. Though Jesus went away, He still is as true, tender, wise and loving. The same yesterday, to-day and forever.

What sayings of friends not now with us help us most?

What promises in the Bible assure us of the everlasting friendship of Jesus? There are many! Find some of them.—C. G. W.



THE YANKEE'S FARM.
(See Aug. number.)

First correct solution received from H. I. Jackman, Toronto, August 6th.

"Teachers who get all their truth off a shelf, soon get on the shelf."