

that truth in the Gospels of his Son should seek to enlighten those who have it not. . . . Turn to the lesson text. The fall of the idol god Dagon before the ark of God is typical of the triumph of the true knowledge of Christianity over the false systems of heathenism. The ark represented God's presence and power. It was the symbol of victory. So the Word of God in its purity is "the power of God unto salvation." It has to be set up in every place where heathen gods have resided for centuries until they have all fallen before it. The kingdoms of this world have become the kingdoms of our Lord and of his Christ. And he shall reign for ever and for ever. . . .

Every missionary effort, whether in prayer or study or gift helps this final and complete triumph of truth and righteousness over darkness and error. . . . (Quest.—What is your Junior League really doing for missions? Have you any organized effort in co-operation with the adult society or the W. M. S. to enlist your members in active work and gift?) If not, get started now. It is not enough to hold a monthly or occasional missionary meeting. Such meetings, if not followed up by some practical effort to give the Juniors some actual part in the work of world-wide evangelization, will not effect much. Information is good, but information that does not lead to action in this great cause is very little good. Keep the motto, "Pray, Study, Give," ever before your minds and eyes. Say in the same spirit as Paul said it of the regions beyond. (See Romans 1, 14-16.) The meeting this week may be made helpful by appointing several of the more advanced Juniors to prepare a brief description beforehand of the places, etc., mentioned in the history, e.g., Who and what were the Philistines? What was the ark? Tell something about Ebenezer. What power was it whereby the idol fell before the ark? How did the Philistines come into possession of the ark? Tell in your own words what is said of heathen gods in Ps. 115, 2-8. How does our topic illustrate Ps. 115, 5? What is the second commandment? etc.

Dec. 24.—"The wise men's gifts and ours."—Matt. 2, 11; Prov. 23, 26.

The story of Christmas may be told in a variety of ways; but whatever the method employed the central lesson of John 3, 16 should be made prominent. Christmas cheer! How Christ brought it to earth, and how we may spread it everywhere: these are subjects of study for all. The writer intends to follow some such outline as follows: 1. Write or print the word Christmas on the board. Why so called? Because then Christ came to earth as an infant, born in Bethlehem, etc. 2. Whence did Christ come and why? The answer will be readily given. He came from heaven. Why? That we might be made holy, and to bring happiness to all in his salvation. 3. How is the fact of his coming to be made known? As the shepherds did. They told it of to all they met. So as the angels sang of the good tidings of a great joy that it is to be told to all people, we not only know for ourselves, but we must tell others also. 4. For whom did he come? For all people in all the world. The whole earth everywhere is to be filled with knowledge of him by the spread of the good tidings from one to another. 5. What will this universal spread of the Gospel do? Make the whole earth ready for the Redeemer to reign over all mankind. This is the truest Christmas cheer. Receiving the news, spreading it everywhere we can, and so fitting the whole world for the eternal triumph of the heavenly King.

Summarize the lessons on the board thus:

CHRISTMAS. Christ came.
Heaven. Holy. Happy.
Employment. Everywhere.
Earth. Everywhere.
Ready. Redeemer. Reign.

Let the members grasp the truths outlined thus, and you will have shown them the right way of spreading Christmas cheer. All our gifts should resemble his in spirit. He "gave himself out of love. We should give out of his containing love that the true spirit of Christmas may be observed by us all. . . . The wise men showed that they thought nothing too good for the infant Prince. We should esteem nothing too good for him to-day. They proved that they esteemed him so highly that a long and toilsome journey was undertaken and endured to find him. We should consider no task too hard to undertake for his sake. . . . They personally adorned their gifts to him with adoration and worship. We should first of all offer ourselves, and then the gifts we bring will be the more acceptable, for Christ wants us first, not ours. . . . As we manifest the Christ spirit throughout all the Christmas festivities we shall help fulfil the angels' chorus of praise and good-will.

December 31.—"What have you learned in this year's meetings?"—Deut. 8, 2.

This should be a review meeting. The Juniors should be encouraged to pass the year's topics as far as possible through their memories and each one write on a slip of paper before the meeting at least one lesson learned. Lessons of faith, obedience, service, love, worship, choosing, filial reverence, giving, divine guidance, contentment, self-control, growth, devotedness to animals, patriotism, courage, missions, promises, human failures and successes, thanksgiving, and others, have all been taught during the year. Endeavor to gather them up that the year may close in blessing. The year has been devoted to history and biography, and lessons abound.

Topics for 1906

During 1905 we followed a course of Old Testament study. The lessons were based on the history of God's people individually or collectively. Many vital truths were learned. Some few thought the topics too difficult. This year the weekly studies will be more diversified. The Scripture readings will be found in different parts of the Bible, and the different parts of the Bible, and centred in one main thought for the month. We trust all our Leagues will follow the topics regularly. Send to the Book Room for a supply of topic cards for the year sufficient to supply all your members, and make it a regular part of your meetings to study together as outlined. The topics as followed by our Canadian Leagues are the same as taken by the whole of the Methodist Episcopal Church in the United States. There ought to be some inspiration in the unity thus shown by the thousands of young people all over the continent.

CENTRAL THOUGHT FOR JANUARY IS GOD'S CARE.

Jan. 7.—"Our Beautiful Home." Chapter to be read is Genesis 1.

The story of creation will ever be full of attractiveness and power. Let the main events as given be memorized. It has been truly said that from this first chapter of Genesis "a child may learn more in an hour than all the philosophers in the world learned without it in one thousand years." Explain that "gen-

esis" means generation or origin; and here we have an account of the origin of all things, as far as it concerns us to know. Genesis relates to us the origin of the universe, and of man, and gives an account of the introduction of evil, and of the remedy which God in his infinite love has provided against it. . . . But do not try to cover too much ground. The topic is of the home, and of our new life, viz., this earthly house of our tabernacle. How wisely the great Creator ordered it all so that when man was made, everything was ready for him. . . . What a beautiful and perfect world it was! Why is it not so now? Draw out the truth that sin defiles everything it touches. The wonderful provisions of a great, almighty, and loving Creator for the comfort, happiness, and welfare of his creatures have been made aside by sin, and it though he gave us all things richly to enjoy, sin has spoiled our powers of enjoyment to a great extent and so interfered with the design of the Creator. The beauty of the earth is marred by sin. This may be illustrated in many ways, but the remedy for sin will restore the beauty and power of enjoyment to us if we accept it. . . . Lesson:—We should so live that the bounty of God in his providences may be appreciated and enjoyed by us. We must do all that we can to restore the earth in righteousness. . . . We are here not merely to enjoy living; but to help others enjoy it as well. . . . So—1. Be thankful for all material provisions. 2. Use them wisely. 3. Keep looking on the best side of nature. Study the beautiful and good if you would be like them. 3. Cultivate the earth as far as you may in the fruits of righteousness and make it truly the "fair garden of the Lord." 4. The beauty of our universe, attractive though it is, is small when contrasted to the beauty of the "new earth wherein dwelleth righteousness." For this we should pray and work, and the "glory of the Lord shall cover the earth as the waters cover the sea."

Short Grammar

The whole science of grammar cannot be comprised in twenty lines of verse, but the ten couplets which are here given started many young learners upon the difficult road which leads to the mastery of languages:

Three little letters you often see
Are articles, a, an and the.
As school or garden, hook or swing,
A noun's the name of anything.
Adjectives tell the kind of noun,
As great, small, pretty, white or brown,
Instead of nouns the pronouns are,
My hand, my arm, my hand, my hand.
Verbs tell of something to be done—
To read, count, laugh, sing, jump, or run.
How things are done the adverbs tell,
As slowly, quickly, ill or well.
Conjunctions join the words together,
As men and women, wind or weather.
The preposition stands before
A noun, as in or through the door.
The interjection shows surprise,
As O! how pretty, Ah! how wise.
The whole are called nine parts of speech,
Which reading, writing, speaking teach.

Are They Similar? or, Which is the most—six dozen or half a dozen dozen? Be quick!

The Bottle and the Cork. A bottle and a cork cost \$1.10; the bottle cost \$1.00 more than the cork. What did the cork cost?

The Boy and the Ducks. A boy, driving home some ducks, was asked how many ducks he had. He replied: "When in line there are two ducks ahead of a duck, two ducks behind a duck, and one duck in the middle." How many ducks had he?