

have the fame of all the kings that ever sat on the earth. It is more glorious, it has more power in it. I would rather be the author of that hymn than to hold the wealth of the richest man in New York."

Mr. Wesley is believed to have written it when a young man. It is said that one summer day, as he was standing by an open window, a dove pursued by a hawk dashed through it and sought refuge in his bosom. The incident reminded him that Jesus Christ is the soul's one true place of refuge in time of need. He knew that just as he would keep the little, helpless bird safe from the hawk, so Christ keeps us safe from harm if we go to Him when we are in need of help and protection. If Wesley had not known that from his own experience, he could not have written this beautiful hymn that has helped so many people to go to God when in trouble. We show by our words and our actions what we really are, so let us try always to think good thoughts and then we will say and do beautiful things.

Many stories have been told of the influence this hymn has had. The following may be interesting to the juniors:

In the American Civil War a sentry in Grant's army sang this hymn as he paced backwards and forwards; a soldier of the opposite army had lifted his gun to shoot him, when the words—

"Cover my defenceless head,  
With the shadow of Thy wing,"

rang out on the night. He dropped his weapon and allowed the sentry to pass unharmed. Eighteen years later, an excursion steamer was sailing down the Potomac River, when an evangelist sang this hymn. A gentleman pushed through the crowd and asked if the singer had fought in the Civil War. He was the man who had forborne to shoot down the singer.

Charles Wesley lived to be eighty-one years old and he wrote hymns right up till the time of his death. Altogether he wrote about six thousand five hundred hymns. Sometimes he was riding along the country road on his horse he would be so impressed by some of the beautiful things of nature in this lovely world God has given us, and of God's goodness to His people, that he would write a hymn right then as he rode along. Though his life is over, the memory of it will never be forgotten, and his influence for good will go on for ever. Do you think people will ever cease to sing "Jesus, Lover of My Soul"? Of course they will not.

Let us try to live so that our lives will be an influence for good to all who come in contact with us.—H. M. B.

### Your Niche

There's a niche for you in the world, my boy,

A corner for you to fill;  
And it waits to-day along life's way,  
For the boy with a frank "I will!"  
So, lad, be true; the world wants you,  
In the corner that you may fill.

There's a niche for you in the world, my girl,

A corner for you to fill;  
For the girl who's kind and pure in mind,  
A place that is waiting still.  
So, lass, be true; the world wants you,  
In the corner that you may fill.

There's a niche for both in the world, my dears,

A corner for you to fill;  
And work to do that no one but you  
In God's great plan can fill.  
So, both, be true; the world wants you,  
And your place is waiting still.

—Band of Hope.

### Weekly Topics

#### Secondary or Junior List

The List of Weekly Topics by Departments for 1915-16, was printed in our last issue. The following list for Junior Epworth Leagues and all similar meetings for boys and girls is given according to the calendar dates, the date in each case being that of Sunday.

- 1915.
- May 2.—The Wonderful Babe. Matt. 2: 1-12.
- " 9.—"Jesus, Lover of My Soul." Luke 8: 22-25.
- " 16.—Life in Epworth Rectory. Deut. 6: 4-9.
- " 23.—How the Gospel was Brought to Britain. Psalm 100.
- " 30.—Empire Day. Psalms 67, 101.
- June 6.—The Boy at Nazareth. Luke 2: 40-51.
- " 13.—"Rock of Ages." Psalm 46.
- " 20.—The Wesley School-days. Eccles. 12.
- " 27.—George Young, Pioneer Canadian North-West Missionary. Psalm 24.
- July 4.—The Baptism. Mark 1: 1-9.
- " 11.—"Holy, Holy, Holy." Psalm 150.
- " 18.—The Holy Club. Titus 2.
- " 25.—Dr. Bolton, first Canadian Methodist Medical Missionary. Luke 4: 16-21.
- Aug. 1.—Overcoming the Tempter. Matt. 4: 1-12.
- " 8.—"Lead, Kindly Light." John 9: 13-25.
- " 15.—Over the Ocean to Georgia. Isaiah 55.
- " 22.—Asiatic Girls and Boys in British Columbia. Mark 10: 13-16.
- " 29.—Lessons from the Flowers (Summer). Matt. 6: 24-34.
- Sept. 5.—The Divine Teacher. Matt. 5: 1-12.
- " 12.—"Sun of My Soul." John 8: 12-30.
- " 19.—"Eureka!" Ps. 34: 1-6.
- " 26.—Bishop Honda, the first Japanese Methodist Bishop. Psalm 112.
- Oct. 3.—The Mighty Worker. Luke 4: 31-42.
- " 10.—"Nearer, my God, to Thee." Gen. 28: 10-21.
- " 17.—Methodist Hymns. Psalm 96.
- " 24.—Dr. Avison, Founder of the First Medical College in Korea. Luke 10: 1-9.
- " 31.—Harvest Joys (Autumn). Ps. 65.
- Nov. 7.—The Heavenly Glory. Matt. 17: 1-8.
- " 14.—"Abide with Me." Luke 24: 13-35.
- " 21.—The Tireless Traveller. 2 Cor. 11: 16-33.
- " 28.—Robert Morrison, Pioneer Missionary to China. Psalm 117.
- Dec. 5.—Palm Sunday. Mark 11: 1-10.
- " 12.—"Joy to the World." Luke 2: 8-20.
- " 19.—Facing Mobs. Acts 4: 13-21; 1 Cor. 2: 1-5.
- " 26.—Alexander Duff and his work in India. Prov. 3: 13-26.

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- Jan. 2.—The Last Supper. Matt. 26: 17-29.
- " 9.—"Guide me, O Thou Great Jehovah." Psalm 107: 1-9.
- " 16.—Wesley's Helpers. 2 Cor. 8: 16-24.
- " 23.—James Chalmers, the Great Heart of the Pacific Islands. Isa. 42: 5-10.
- " 30.—Treasures of the Snow (Winter). Psalm 147.
- Feb. 6.—At the Cross. John 19: 17-27.
- " 13.—"Onward, Christian Soldiers." Eph. 6: 10-18.
- " 20.—The Wise Shepherd. Titus 3: 1-11.

Feb. 27.—Robert Moffat, Pioneer Missionary to Africa. Acts 8: 26-38.

- Mar. 5.—"He is Risen!" Matt. 28: 1-10.
- " 12.—"All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name." Rev. 19: 11-16.
- " 19.—Growing Old. Psalm 90.
- " 26.—Raymond Lull, first Missionary to the Mohammedans. Matt. 5: 10-16.

- April 2.—The Forty Days. Acts 1: 1-14.
- " 9.—"From Greenland's Icy Mountains." Isa. 60: 1-9.
- " 16.—Then and Now. Psalm 103.
- " 23.—Captain Allan Gardiner and South America. Psalm 46: 1-7.
- " 30.—Seed Sowing (Spring). Matt. 13: 1-8, 18-23.

It will be noted that the above list contains four main themes, running monthly through the year. The first Topic for each month is one of a series treating the Life of our Lord; the second study is one of the great hymns of the Church; the third week deals with the career of John Wesley; the fourth gives a view of world-wide missions; and the extra, or fifth nights are devoted to appropriate season programmes. This Junior or Secondary list of Topics is commended to any of our Young People's Societies which consider the regular Adult Topics too advanced. In no case, however, should any of the General Themes be broken up. Each of the four should be adopted and followed in full for best results in study.

### Young Men's and Older Boys' Conference

Oakwood, Feb. 10th, 1915

At a conference held in Peterboro in December, for young men and older boys, it was decided to hold district conferences whenever possible. One of the first echoes was heard in Oakwood on Feb. 10th, when some two hundred men and boys gathered from all parts of the district and spent one of the most profitable days of their lives.

The young men were prominently to the front throughout the sessions. Mr. Fred Lane, Oakwood, and Mr. H. Daniels, Wilfrid, made able chairmen. Young men read the scriptures and led in prayer, and if it is thought that young men are not interested in the extension of the Kingdom it would be wise to think again.

The opening address was given by Rev. A. L. Brown, Woodville. In his subject, "The Higher Life," he showed that the only way to cultivate true Christian manhood was to starve out the tendencies to evil. Anger, malice and strife must be destroyed, as it is hoped Germany will be destroyed—by shutting off the means of supply. He showed that honor was the true basis of the social life. Rev. Wm. Lambert addressed the conference in the evening. An old man ripe in years and experience stated that this was the young man's age, and it was the duty of young men to build up strong Christian characters. This would be done by cultivating the physical, moral and spiritual sides of the nature. Thus only would success be attained.

Mr. Taylor Statten, Toronto, spoke at great length both afternoon and evening. He is a man among men. He suits his subject to his hearers and understands the temptations and difficulties of men. He outlined for the Canadian standard of efficiency for boys, and showed that we must advance in a fourfold manner—in wisdom, in stature, in favor with God, and in favor with man. All felt the influence and magnetism of Taylor Statten.

The ladies of the congregation served tea in the basement. Many had driven long distances and devoured the good