

would tell the King her desire and make her request of him.

Q.—How did Haman feel all this time towards Mordecai? A.—More and more he hated him, and studied how he might bring about his ruin and death.

Q.—What did he do? A.—He caused a gallows to be erected on which to hang Mordecai, for he fully expected that the King would give him power to put this hated Jew to death right away.

Q.—What happened about now concerning the King and Mordecai? A.—The King discovered from the records what a great service Mordecai had rendered him by saving his life some time before, and determined to honor and reward him.

Q.—What did he do about it? A.—He sent for Haman and asked him what should be done to the man whom the King desired to honor?

Q.—How did Haman reply to this? A.—Haman, thinking that the King, of course, meant him, advised the King to have a popular demonstration held in honor of the man to whom he desired to show royal favor.

Q.—What did the King command? A.—That Haman should conduct just such a public demonstration as he had outlined, in honor of Mordecai.

Q.—Did Haman obey? A.—Yes, he dare not refuse, and with great inward humiliation of spirit, he was compelled to exalt Mordecai before the whole people.

Q.—At her feast, what did Queen Esther ask of the King? A.—That the Jews might not be put to death according to the decree of Haman, because that wicked man was their enemy and only wanted them all killed because he hated them so.

Q.—Did the King grant the Queen's desire? A.—Yes, and when he found out Haman's dreadful treachery, he commanded that he be hanged on the very gallows which he had prepared for Mordecai.

Q.—What did the Jews do? A.—They fought against any who tried to kill them, and were victorious. Thus their lives were spared. And to celebrate this great deliverance it was resolved that a great feast should be held by them every year on the 14th and 15th days of the twelfth month. So was their mourning turned into joy and gladness because of the intervention of their beautiful Queen.

No great attempt to moralize on this story or to impress its lessons on the Juniors should be made. Let the story be made clear, and it will teach its own lessons, make its own impressions, and no preaching will be necessary to impress the girls and boys with the spirit running through it all.

## The Oban Juniors

A RURAL JUNIOR LEAGUE, CONTINUOUSLY SUCCESSFUL.

For years past, the Oban Junior Epworth League has been doing splendid work. It is a perennial example of a successful league in a purely rural community. As an illustration of the energy and activity of these busy young folk, the following account of their work, written at our request by Miss Mary B. Jackson, is given. The photograph will be sufficient evidence of the vitality and joy of the Juniors in their association and studies together. Miss Jackson writes:

We have forty members, all under the age of sixteen. We have our own organist, president and other officers. One special feature of our work is the raising of missionary money to help support our missionary, Rev. C. J. P. Jolliffe, of Luchow,

China. Our aim is \$30. Last year we raised \$28. I will enumerate a few of the schemes that our League has successfully tried these last few years.

We have sold "What to Read" book-marks made out of satin ribbon. We secured the ribbon in bolts and cleared considerable money on them. They made very attractive remembrances to give to friends, and we know that they have not alone helped us raise money, but have also been sweet messengers of comfort to saddened hearts. We have also sold sets of books on missionary subjects, secured from our Book-Room. We sold calendars last year with a daily text, and they also were very popular. We are collecting the cast-away papers, rubbers and tea lead,

"A pledge I make, no wine to take;  
Nor brandy red, that turns the head,  
Nor whiskey hot, that makes the sot;  
Nor fiery rum, that ruins the home.  
Nor will I sin, by drinking gin;  
Hard cider, too, will never do;  
Nor lager beer, my heart to cheer;  
Nor sparkling ale, my face to pale.  
To quench my thirst I'll always bring,  
Cold water from the well or spring,  
So here I pledge perpetual hate,  
To all that can intoxicate."

"And also knowing the danger of the tobacco habit; I promise that I will not use it in any form."

A few weeks ago we had a very successful meeting. We asked the boys and



THE JUNIOR LEAGUE AT OBAN, ONTARIO.

and so make considerable. We usually have a concert each year. This year we are selling pictures of our Junior Epworth League, and groups that were taken at the corner-stone laying of our new Sunday School room. But we do not take up all our time in earning dollars and cents. Last year the Junior girls made and sent a very pretty quilt to the Deaconess Home.

We have our meeting every two weeks after Sunday School, as ours is a country appointment. This solves the difficulty of getting the members together, as nearly all live a mile or more from church.

One of the boys or girls leads the meeting, another reads the Scripture lesson, and three or four read short papers on some simple subject. Then we study the Catechism. The president reads the questions and answers slowly, loudly and distinctly, and all repeat them in unison after her. It may not seem a very good way, but we think it is better than no way at all, as no other plan would be possible at present. It is interesting to the Juniors to be doing something, and the smallest can feel that they have really learned something in League.

We have roll-call, at which each member is asked to respond with a verse of Scripture. They usually do so. As soon as they can sign their name, we ask them to join, and sometimes before, with the parents' consent.

We have a temperance pledge, and when they repeat it perfectly without one mistake they receive a picture of the Junior League with the pledge printed below, so that it will be a life-long reminder to each of them, as it will be suitable for framing or can be hung up. This is it:

girls to bring their Bibles, and we had a Bible reading.

Now is the time to teach boys and girls the importance of living right, so that in the years to come when they are facing the stern realities this early training may help them to be valiant fighters for the Kingdom of our Lord.

## Lantern Evenings

It would be easy to print scores of appreciative letters referring to our Lantern and Slide Outfits. We have no room for these, however. This is just to remind you that you may have for your League, Class, Club, School, or any other organization of the church, a full Travel Talk with everything needed either in electric or acetylene lantern, for \$2 and express charges. Or if you have a lantern and require the slides only, the charge is \$1 instead of \$2. Thousands of our young folk have enjoyed their own country in pictures who have never seen it actually. You can hardly hold a more enjoyable Social or Literary Evening than our Lantern Outfits provide for you. Get your date arranged and outfit booked well ahead to prevent any disappointment.—Address the General Secretary.

N.B.—Again we must remind our readers that we have no exclusively Missionary sets of slides. All such may be obtained from Dr. Stephenson's office, where a full stock of views illustrating the various phases of our General Missionary work at home and abroad is always on hand for sale or hire.