

The Teachers Monthly

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REV. J. A. LOGAN, Convener of the Sabbath School Committee of the Synod of British Columbia, writes: It may be of some interest to S. S. workers to know that the Home Department is receiving considerable attention within the bounds of our Synod. Last September the Synodical Sabbath School Convention instructed its executive to take up the work and push it as vigorously as possible. Many were of opinion that in British Columbia and the Northwest, with so many large and sparsely settled districts, there was a special need for home study. Many families were far away from Sabbath School and church privileges. To them the plan would be most welcome. It was felt, too, that it would aid the Home missionaries and students in their labors; and their assistance in faithfully prosecuting the work has chiefly been relied on. Near the beginning of the year parcels of THE HOME STUDY QUARTERLY, with a Home Department outfit and introductory circular, were mailed to fifty points within the synod. These will be followed shortly with the Quarterlies for next quarter. The initial expenses have been met by voluntary contributions from a number of our schools interested in the scheme. It is too soon to speak of results. It is an experiment—one well worth the trying—and if honestly prosecuted cannot fail of abundant good.

For the information of any who may be thinking of taking up the Home Department it may be added that THE HOME STUDY QUARTERLY is prepared with a special view to such work, and that by addressing the Editor and Manager at 592 Markham street, Toronto, sample copies of THE HOME STUDY QUARTERLY and of the outfit required, such as visitor's book, pledge cards, etc., may be obtained.

MAYHAP

It is hard to realize that the Man of Nazareth, who was bound with cords as a prisoner in the Garden of Gethsemane and stood at the judgment bar of Caiaphas and Pilate, buffeted, spat upon,

crowned with thorns, is to be our judge and the judge of all men at the last day. But it is what He declared of Himself within a few short hours of His arrest, and knowing, too, all that was to befall Him.

How about Caiaphas and Pilate when they shall stand before the "great white throne" on which He is to sit? The answer is not altogether easy. Of one thing we may be sure. The Man of Nazareth will never take vengeance as men take vengeance. He will not say, "It is my turn now." As high as heaven is above the earth so far is He uplifted above such a spirit. He shall have the power to repay those bloody and unjust judges in their own coin. But His exercise of the power will be none otherwise than after the strictest rule of justice. Went priest and governor unrepentant to the grave? There can be then only one fate for them before the judgment seat of Christ!

But *did* they remain unrepentant? Who can tell? Did His own prayer for them bring no answer: "Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do"? History tells us of Pilate's after course, his misfortunes and crimes. Tradition has framed dark stories as to his end. But may not light have come at the last? Would the grace that assured the penitent thief of a place in Paradise be withheld from Pilate penitent? And His Jewish judges! Do we not read in the Acts that "a great company of the priests were obedient to the faith"? Room there is, certainly, in God's mercy for the chiefest sinners, and one can scarcely help thinking of some of those that condemned Him as among the priests who came afterwards to be His disciples. We do not make their crime the less hideous in so speaking, nor do we seek to lessen the certainty with which God follows wrong-doing with punishment; but some who have denied and dishonored their Lord may take courage to turn again to Him in penitence, if they remember that to that same Jesus, as He sits upon the great white throne of judgment, the glory of heaven will be brighter if it is a forgiven Caiaphas or Pilate who shall come before Him to be judged.