

Canadian Girls in Training

CAMP HYMN

God who touches Earth with beauty
Make me lovely too,
With thy spirit re-create me
Make my heart anew.

Like thy springs and running waters
Make me crystal pure,
Like Thy rocks of towering grandeur
Make me strong and sure.

Like the dancing waves in sunlight
Make me glad and free,
Like the straightness of the pine trees
Let me upright be.

Like the arching of thy heavens,
Lift my thoughts above,
Turn my dreams to noble actions
Ministries of love.

God who touches Earth with beauty,
Make me lovely too,
Keep me ever by Thy Spirit
Clean and strong and true.

Mary S. Edgar.

CAMPING DAYS

By Mrs. R. R. McKay

These are the days when young and old alike are looking forward to a holiday of some kind, in the open. C.G.I.T. girls I'm sure are looking forward to camp, some probably for the very first time. And oh, what a wonderful time there is anticipating all the re-unions and the new friendships and the dear delightful ten days we all have together.

What a privilege this is, to live so close to nature after the long winter, for we live outdoors as much as possible during this camp period. How wonderful to us all are lake and wood and sunset, "God's out-of-doors".

And we all come to a new realization of Him as we sing during our Vesper service:

"This is my Father's world,
And to my listening ears
All nature sings, and round me rings
The music of the spheres;
This is my Father's world,
I rest me in the thought

Of rocks and trees, of skies and seas,
His hand the wonders wrought."

Our Vesper services, whether by the side of the lake, with the wonderful sunset picture before us, or sitting round the grate fire in the big living room, are times of real spiritual help to us all.

Classes in Bible Study, and Mission talks by one of our returned missionaries, who lives amongst us for the ten days, are part of the regular routine for each day. The girls take full advantage of these classes for the help to themselves personally, and also for the sake of their groups during the ensuing winter.

Bird hikes, flower hunts, hand-work, swimming and tennis all have their place in our afternoon programs. Tournaments in tennis are arranged, also contests on the hikes. All these efforts help to teach us self-reliance, originality and last but not least, team play. Camp life in all its activities must, to be a success, be a very real exemplification of team play.

But after all, when we have done our best work, and used our best influence, it is only ten days we have had. Such a very short time to make an impression that will be enduring on each one of these lives in our care. What wonderful enthusiasms, what vast possibilities for good or evil lie wrapped up in each one of them. We who are charged with their care during these full days would reach their hearts and by the spoken word or by example lead them to a real consecration of themselves to Christ's service, teaching them the true meaning of those beautiful words of the hymn:—

Just as I am, Thine own to be,
Friend of the young, who lovest me,
To consecrate myself to Thee,
O Jesus Christ, I come.

This I believe is the aim of all our camp programs and of all the C.G.I.T. work in our churches, to show our girls that the only life worthwhile, the only life which wins is that which has Christ as its centre, and which is devoted to the high purpose of helping bring in the kingdom of God.