

ST. MATTHEW'S MESSAGE.

St. Matthew's Message

Is sent out Monthly by the
Young People's Society of Christian Endeavor,
IN CONNECTION WITH
ST. MATTHEW'S CHURCH, - LONDON, ONTARIO.

The expense of Publication will be met by the insertion of a limited number of advertisements. All subscriptions collected in the Paper's circulation, will go into the funds of the Society.

Subscription, 25c. per Year. Payable In Advance.

AN INTERESTING DISCUSSION.

One of the most interesting features of our Society's Meetings is the "Question Drawer" which has created many lively though good natured discussions.

In answer to a question asked recently as to the signification of the word "honor" as used in the fifth commandment, in the passage "Fear God: honor the King!" and in the marriage ceremony, the President took the novel stand that the word was not used as a synonym of "respect" but as equivalent to "be an honor to." Taking this view the commands do not refer to our attitude towards our parents, those in authority over us, or the one to whom we are joined in wedlock; but enjoin on us a proper attitude towards all others in consideration of the position we hold towards these. Thus freely we might render the scripture passages: "Live righteously that you may be an honor to your parents!" and "Be a good citizen that you may be an honor to the King" and in the portion of the marriage ceremony. "Wilt thou be virtuous and thus be an honor to—etc." The position is at least quite in accordance with the spirit of Christianity and seems to widen the purport of the passages. It seems more reasonable too that we might look for length of days in return for exercising our whole active duty towards all mankind rather than for simply feeling a respect toward any particular persons.

Mr. Gardener and others opposed the President's position in a spirited manner and it was suggested that the subject be again referred to when all will have had more time to consider the question.

The Society will welcome all interested in the study of the Scriptures at any of its meetings trusting that all points will be considered prayerfully and all discussions carried on reverently and earnestly. We hope much profit will be the result.

The meetings of our Society of Christian Endeavor are creating a growing interest and we have a larger attendance than many Societies in the larger churches.

Mr. Gardener has given us a very earnest paper on "Our Pledge," and Miss Smith took up the subject of "Forgiving," at another meeting and read a very carefully prepared paper. At our next Monday evening meeting Mr. Depotè will lead the discussion with a paper on the topic "Hallowed be Thy Name."

There were baptised during the past month by the Pastor: Bessie Summers, Irene Louise Isaac, and Gertrude Louisa Quick.

OUR PARISH PEOPLE.

Mrs Standfield, we are pleased to hear, is well again.

Mr. John W. Shoebottom's child is much better.

Miss Childs has returned from a pleasant visit to her sister-in-law, Mrs. Wm. Childs, of Hamilton.

We are glad to be able to announce Mrs. Lashbrook's recovery from her recent illness.

The son of Mr. John Shoebottom, on the Townline, still continues very low, and two of his daughters have the measles.

Miss Jane Shoebottom of Ballymote has been ill with rheumatism, but, we are pleased to hear, is recovering.

William Richard Daniel Martin, died April 7th. Deceased was buried on April 8th, the Rev. W. M. Seaborn, conducting the service.

On April 2nd there were two marriages at the Rectory. The contracting parties were: John McIntosh to Elizabeth Crawford, and James S. Spence to Caroline Short.

Our Easter services seemed to be a decided success in every particular. The practical and interesting discourses by the pastor were deeply appreciated by the congregations, which were large both morning and evening.

Mr. Coutier displayed his usual interest in the success of everything connected with St. Matthew's welfare in the decoration of the Church at Easter by donating several designs in cut flowers.

Messrs. James Gammage & Sons, Florists, Oxford street, deserve the hearty thanks of St. Matthew's for their generosity in offering a large number of potted plants for the decoration of the Church at Easter.

On Monday Evening, May 13th, the programme of our Society's meeting will be varied by a debate. Subject: "Resolved that children and young people have more pleasure in life than those of mature years." No doubt there a big crowd will turn out to hear the debate.

Gertie, the eleven-year-old daughter of Mr. Robert Quick, is lying in a very critical condition from inflammation of the bones of the legs, the result of skipping. Gertie's playmates will hope and watch anxiously for her recovery, and the many friends of the family will be glad to rejoice with them on their daughter being restored to health.

The Rev. W. J. Taylor, of Mitchell, delivered a very entertaining and instructive lecture on Tuesday evening, 30th ult. in the East End Town Hall, on the subject of "Habit." A large and appreciative audience greeted Mr. Taylor and were amused and edified by the discourse. The lecture was supplemented by interesting chemical experiments by Misses. Giobons and McCammon, under the supervision of Professor Seaborn.

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