

JUNIOR TOPICS

JULY 18.—THE HOLY CLUB. Titus 2.

Last month we left John Wesley in Epworth working with his father in the Epworth rectory. He remained there for two years, after which he returned to Oxford. We now hear for the first time of a little group of students who, with John Wesley as their leader, were trying to lead a good life in spite of the gay carelessness of those around them.

This earnest band of young men met every night to study the Bible and make plans for their work the next day. They visited the sick, helped the poor, taught the children in the schools, and paid visits to the inmates of the workhouse and the prison. Another thing which marked these young men as different from others was their regular attendance at religious services. All of them were early risers. John Wesley rose at four every morning, and kept it up to the end of his life. Do you wonder he got through such a large amount of work?

The club, which began with just a few members, increased until there were over twenty belonging to it. Because they were trying to do right and were different from the rest of the students at Oxford, they were laughed at and ridiculed a great deal by the other students who invented all sorts of nicknames for them; their little meeting was called the "Holy Club"; their reverence for the Bible led to their being spoken of as "Bible mugs" and "Bible bigots." But the name which was to last the longest was *Methodists*. Not only then but in after years, Wesley's followers were called Methodists because of the regular and methodical lives which they led. The name was given in mockery, but, in the long run, it won respect, and to-day there are millions of people who are proud to own it.

Although the club grew in numbers it did not remain large very long. Some of the members were not brave enough to stand the ridicule and one by one dropped out of it. Do you think Wesley was one who left it? No, he was made of better "stuff" than that. He could stand being laughed at when he knew he was doing right. Charles Wesley, the hymn writer, and George Whitefield, who became the greatest preacher England has ever known, were two other faithful members. I am sure it was a disappointment to John Wesley to have the club become so small, but he was not discouraged. He persevered in his work and often sacrificed himself many comforts in order that it might succeed. He lived frugally, so that he should be able to help those who needed assistance. He would often take long journeys on foot to save the expense of a horse and coach.

We are all proud of the Methodist Church and we should also be proud to think that the founder of it was such a man as we see him to have been. Let us not forget that it was through his untiring zeal and persistent effort that such an institution was founded and that similar devotion to real hard work by the pioneers in our own country has given us the great privileges we now enjoy.

—H. M. B.

JULY 25.—DR. BOLTON, FIRST CANADIAN METHODIST MEDICAL MISSIONARY. Luke 4:16-21.

Question. Who was Dr. A. E. Bolton?
Answer. A Christian doctor who became a missionary to the Indians in British Columbia.

Q. What led Dr. Bolton to think about being a medical missionary?

A. While at college in Kingston he heard of the people in the mission fields who had no doctors or hospitals and who were dying without knowing anything about Jesus Christ, the Great Physician.

Q. What else made Dr. Bolton think of being a medical missionary?

A. He had two friends who had also made up their minds to go and "preach the Kingdom of God and heal the sick" (Luke 9:2). One of these friends was Dr. O. L. Kilborn, who is one of our medical missionaries in West China.

Q. How did Dr. Bolton find out that a medical missionary was very much needed in Northern British Columbia?

A. When the Rev. Thomas Crosby, the great missionary who lived at Port Simpson, was in Kingston he met Dr. Kilborn. Dr. Crosby told him of the awful suffering of the Indians from disease, and asked him to go to them as a medical missionary.

Q. What did Dr. Kilborn say?

A. That he could not go to British Columbia himself, but he told Dr. Crosby about Dr. Bolton. Dr. Crosby at once wrote to Dr. Bolton telling him what he told Dr. Kilborn, and *I'll go* was the message Dr. Bolton sent back in reply to the letter.

Q. What was the next thing Dr. Bolton did?

A. He asked the Mission Board to send him to Port Simpson. At first the Mission Board hesitated, but after a while it appointed him as the first medical missionary of our Church; but there was no

the first year were provided. Faith in God who had supplied the need the first year carried Dr. Bolton through many hard places in the years which followed.

Q. What made Dr. Bolton glad he went to Port Simpson?

A. The Indians had no one to help them when they were sick. The Indian children died because their fathers and mothers did not know how to take care of them. The missionaries needed him as well as the Indians. But most of all Dr. Bolton was glad because he was able, not only to make sick people well, but to tell them about God's love and about our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

Q. What did he report at the end of the first year?

A. He wanted a hospital. He was the only doctor within five hundred miles. During that year he had five thousand four hundred patients. He opened medical work at Port Essington and up on the Naas river. The Indians came long distances to see him; some from two hundred miles in the interior, some from Alaska, and others from Queen Charlotte Islands.

Q. Did Dr. Bolton succeed in getting the hospital?

A. Yes, in 1892 the hospital was built at Port Simpson and did not cost the Missionary Society anything. Our Woman's Missionary Society sent a nurse, and the hospital work began. The Indians and the white people gave toward the cost of the hospital, and the Government gave \$500.

Q. Did the hospital prove a help in the work?

A. Yes, Dr. Bolton opened two other hospitals, one at Port Essington and one at Rivers Inlet, both places where the Indians gathered for the salmon fishing and to work in the canneries. These hospitals were built by Dr. Bolton with the help of the Indians.

Q. What did one of the Indians say about Dr. Bolton?



DRAWING MILK TO A SASKATCHEWAN FACTORY.
Amateur photo. Negative by M. A. Campbell, Milton, Ont.

money to send him to Port Simpson nor to pay his salary.

Q. How did Dr. Bolton manage to begin work?

A. Dr. Bolton paid his own and Mrs. Bolton's travelling expenses to Port Simpson, which he reached Nov. 17, 1889. The Indian missionaries, although their salaries were small, each gave a share, the Indians helped, too; and so by many helping a little, Dr. Bolton's expenses for

A. "The doctor is a wonderful man; he can heal just like the Master."

Q. What are some of the reasons Dr. Bolton was so successful?

A. His highest aim was to preach the Gospel and heal the sick. He had faith in God and depended upon Him for help. He worked hard. He was thoroughly prepared for his work. He shared with the Indians the blessings God gave him. Dr.