

Come unto Me, all ye that are heavy laden.  
Matt. xi. 28.

# BIBLE CLASS

FOR S. S. TEACHERS,

Conducted by Mr. S. H. Blake,

EVERY SATURDAY,

AT 4.30 P.M.

Subject—INTERNATIONAL LESSON.

## QUERY.

We copy the following from a recent issue of "Word and Work," (London, England):—

Y. M. C. A. in CANADA.—The past year has been one of steady, quiet growth. Seven new associations have been added to the list, many of the older ones have been strengthened, a (1) "better work for young men has been done, and taking it all in all, the work is in *better shape* than it has ever been before. \* \* \* For some years the work of the Canadian Secretary was (2) *simply holding Evangelistic meetings*. Work for young men (3) *was given no prominence*, and the use of social, literary, and physical agencies was discouraged. (4) *For the first time the Canadian work is real Association work.*

In this extract the italics and figures are our own, and serve to mark points upon which comment is desirable. (1) If the work is "better," and in "better shape," it can afford to stand upon its own merits, and words derogatory to the faithful work of former officials is unnecessary. (2) It is not true that the work of the former Secretary was "simply holding Evangelistic services," but if it were so, we know that there are to-day in Canada, and elsewhere, hundreds of souls rejoicing in Christ Jesus as a result of the labors of that Secretary, and this is (to our mind) of infinitely greater importance than help-

ing to collect money to pay debts contracted by unwise Managers of existing (or rather dying) Associations, or of simply trying to launch new Associations at points where the tide of spiritual life and energy is barely high enough to keep them afloat. (3) If the writer had said that the work of *amusing young men* had been given no prominence, then it would have been correct and would have recorded a fact which all right minded Association workers in Canada have felt grateful for. (4) That under the *improved* (?) methods for conducting Y. M. C. A. work, the social is rapidly taking the place of the Religious, is evident from the reports which appear from time to time in the daily papers. We have merely to recall the notice in our Bulletin of Feb. 28, as to "challenges to provide best social," and then add to that the following notice recently cut from a western Ontario paper:—

"—— Hall failed to hold the crowd that assembled to hear the concert given by the Knights of Labor last night, and many were turned away. The programme was a varied one, as may be seen. It commenced with a waltz, "Mysotis," by the Y. M. C. A. Orchestra. Next came violin selections etc. Song, comic, etc., waltz, "Immortellen," Y. M. C. A. Orchestra."

Comment is unnecessary. We acknowledge with deep regret that there has been a change, but whether a change from "Evangelistic labors" to "playing waltzes" and "challenging Ladies to provide socials" is for the better, we leave others to decide.

[We desire to say that our attention was first called to this article in "Word and Work" by a Christian worker in our city who expressed his surprise and sorrow that it should have been put in print. Of course the Editor of "Word and Work" is in no way to blame. The onus rests with the correspondent, who furnished what he must have known to be an unfair statement.]

Thy Name is as ointment poured forth.

Cant. i. 3.