

Young People's Work.

FOR CHRIST AND THE CHURCH.

COMMITTEE OF YOUNG PEOPLE'S WORK: W. W. Coulter, Chairman; J. J. Smallman, Secy.; R. H. Cameron.

Encouraging Signs.

At the Richmond Convention there was a meeting of Endeavorers. This meeting was presided over by J. Z. Tyler, National Superintendent, and one of the trustees of the United Society. That meeting requested the Foreign Society to name some special object to which the offerings of the Endeavor Societies for the year could go. It was felt that some special object would appeal to the young people with more force than if they were asked to contribute to the general treasury. The committee on the work in Japan named as a suitable object to which the Endeavorers could give during the current year, a building in Tokyo. This building is to be three stories high. The first floor will be occupied as a chapel and a Bible house, the second floor will be occupied as a school, the third will be occupied as a printing office. A circular was sent to the Endeavor Societies explaining the need of this building, and asking them to subscribe for shares of stock. One share of stock costs \$10. Thus far 114 shares have been subscribed for. Some Societies have subscribed for four shares, some for two, but most of them for one. In the list of subscribers there are two from Canada, namely: the Society in Selkirk, and the Society on Cecil St., Toronto. A beautiful certificate of stock is issued to every Society for every share. This certificate can be framed and hung up in the room in which the Endeavorers meet, or in the church building. Last year the Endeavorers gave to the Foreign Society \$2,286.86. They have already pledged half this amount towards this building. This Society expects to keep this project before them until it is completed. It is believed that the whole amount will be subscribed for before the next convention in Boston. It is known to all, no doubt, that each year the United Society asks the different Societies throughout the world to make a special thank-offering on the anniversary of the Society for missionary purposes. The time for this offering is in February. The Foreign Society will name this building in Japan as the special purpose to which offerings ought to be made.

At the Cleveland Convention it was decided to ask the Societies for a million dollars this year for missions. Those who see the *Golden Rule* know that this cause is the one most emphasized in its pages. The matter of systematic giving is kept before the readers constantly. The claims of the work of missions are pressed home to the heart and to the conscience. The original pledge said nothing about missions. It sought to bind the one who took it to perform his duty to his own local church. Since the pledge was written, the Endeavor work has taken on new features. It promises now to be one of the greatest of all agencies in the work of evangelizing the world. The young people are coming to see that it is not enough to save themselves and build up their own local congregation, but they must help win the world for Christ.

No doubt there are many Societies in Canada that are considering the matter of taking one or more shares of stock. The sooner they decide to do this and report, the better. Their promise may lead others to decide to assist. The Societies may report to A. McLean, Cor. Sec., Cincinnati, Ohio, box 750.

Begone, Dyspepsia! here is K. D. C.

C. E. Prayer-Meeting Notes.

GEO. FOWLER.

JAN. 27.—*Accepting Christ*.—Rev. xxii. 17. (A meeting especially for associate members.)

There is a Saviour. There is no way to heaven but through Him. He is the way. We all desire to be citizens of the New Jerusalem. If there are attractions in this world that allure us and keep us from entering upon the narrow way, the broad way offers nothing to us, holds out no inducement after death that would lead us to journey upon it.

Why should we accept Christ? Is the gain greater than the loss? Why should we reject Him? Dare we answer this? We cannot reject Christ because of ingratitude, unfaithfulness, insincerity, dishonesty or unkindness on His part. We never think of offering anything against Christ as an excuse for not accepting Him. We have every assurance that Jesus is loving, compassionate, faithful, powerful and true. Of all friends He is the best. Why are we not citizens of His kingdom? Not because we have not been invited. Never was a more earnest invitation extended to mortal man than that which Jesus extends to you. This invitation is taken up and repeated by the living and the dead. Heaven and earth unite in making that invitation emphatic. From a thousand sources comes the refrain, "Come to Jesus, come to Jesus, come to Jesus just now," and emblazoned in letters of fire on God's plan of salvation are the words, "whosoever will may come."

Why not accept Christ? Not because we are serving our best interests. Would you grasp at the shadow and lose the substance? Would you take ashes for beauty, death for life, misery for happiness or darkness for light? The only contented man is the Christian. Why then do we resist the pleadings of the loving Jesus? There is but one person that would blind our eyes to our eternal interests and would persuade us to reject Christ. This person is none other than Satan. Listen not to him, but heed the warnings and entreaties of Him who offers you what no other being can offer—eternal life.

There is just one time to accept Christ; that is the present time. Jesus is not difficult to find. His word tells how to accept Him. Faith in Him as the Son of God is essential. Every act must be an act of faith, Heb. xi. 6. Repentance follows. We cannot live for Christ and serve Satan. We must turn completely about and march Zionward. Obedience to all His commands. "Buried with Him in baptism, wherein also we are risen with Him" to walk in newness of life. Determine at this meeting to make the good confession.

FEB. 3.—*Advance Endeavor*.—Ex. xiv. 15-31; xv. 1-2. (Christian Endeavor Day.)

Fourteen years ago the first society of C. E. was organized in the Williston Church, Portland, by Dr. Clark. How marvelously it has grown! It has encircled the globe, and C. E. has held the largest conventions that have ever been called.

The great work of this movement is the training of young men and women for active, earnest work in all departments of church work. One noticeable result is the increased interest taken in Home and Foreign Missions. We cannot do better, Christian Endeavorers of Ontario, than to devote this meeting to the consideration of our Home Mission and educational work.

1. The necessity of Home Missions. We cannot neglect this work, for failure here means failure all along the

line. The needs of the foreign field are money and workers. To whom must they look but to the strong self-supporting churches at home. If we are desirous that the heathen lands should be converted, the best and most direct way is to strengthen the fortifications at home. Japan has been victorious over China. One reason of her triumph is the liberality and patriotism of the Japs to their home government, thus enabling the government to send men and supplies in abundance.

2. The needs at the present time in our province are (1) a number of strong, self-supporting churches, especially in the cities; (2) more preachers, especially young men, to go into the country and towns and villages to possess the fields. Our own experience and that of the other religious bodies teach us that if we would establish and build up congregations in towns, villages and country districts, we must look to our own young men. To look elsewhere has been and will be failure. Opportunities are many. The demand is for preachers. One dozen young men are needed now to go in and do such work as is being done by Bro. W. C. McDougall, at International Bridge, and Bro. Bulgin, at Harwich. I mention these not because there may not be more, but because they have come more directly under my notice. One of these brethren received but very little the first year, but as the work developed, more is given.

Now Christian Endeavorers, awake. A great responsibility rests upon us. We must advance. As God said to Moses, so He says to us, "Go forward." Our mission points must be sustained and the educational interests at Toronto augmented. Let our watchword for 1895 be, Home Missions and the education of our young men in our own province, by our own tried and trusted men.

FEB. 10.—*Becoming as little children*.—Luke xviii. 15-17; Matt. xi. 25-6.

One of the most beautiful and touching verses in the Bible is, "Suffer little children to come unto me and forbid them not, for of such is the kingdom of God." Christ loved the lambs of the flock. If we would do His work we must look carefully after the children. "There is scarcely a better test of a Christian's character than his bearing toward children and the child-like. Our Lord sets a little child in the midst of his disciples everywhere—in the family, in the Sunday-school, in the congregation, in the community; that child is our Lord's representative and the object of His watchful care. Just in proportion as there would be a readiness to receive our Lord as he is, if he were visibly present in person, is that child welcomed in heartiness and cared for tenderly. How does that father treat his children and his neighbors' children? How does that pastor minister to the children of his flock? How does that church provide for the children of its congregation? How are those Christian citizens looking after the children of their community? These are questions which we may suppose our Lord to be asking as He searches the fidelity of His professed followers."—TRUMBULL.

You cannot love Christ and not love children, and do all you can to early lead them to Jesus.

In what spirit do we enter the kingdom?

1. Not in a spirit of pride or arrogance. Christ receives not the haughty or the unsubmitive. The disciples were discussing as to who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven, when they were rebuked by their Lord who called a little child and set him in their midst and said, "Verily I say unto you, except ye turn and become as little

children ye shall in no wise enter into the kingdom of heaven."

2. In becoming as little children we humble ourselves. Humility becometh those who would enter into the kingdom.

3. We must be willing to be taught. To sit at Christ's feet and learn of Him is a privilege too great to be estimated. "He that is childlike in this empire is greatest (1) in real worth; (2) in social power; (3) in the estimation of God."—DR. THOMAS.

Children often have a truer and a nobler conception of the plan of salvation than the wise. Our Saviour said, "I thank Thee, O Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because Thou hast hid these things from the wise and prudent and hast revealed them unto babes." The children comprehend its simplicity while the wise stumble over it. Christ placed a new estimate on the child, but it has been reserved for this century to restore childhood to its true place in the thought and attention of the race. The Sunday School, Junior Endeavor and juvenile literature are expressions of a newly awakened interest in children.

FEB. 17.—*Lessons from the Parable of the Good Samaritan*.—Luke x. 25-37.

We must not press this parable too far. In studying the parable of our Lord, find out what particular thing the Saviour is explaining. In the one under consideration many wonderful lessons have been deduced by the learned (?) theologian to the utter amazement and bewilderment of the hearers.

What was the object our Saviour had in view in speaking this parable? It arose out of His conversation with a certain lawyer who "stood up and tempted Him, saying, Master, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?" The lawyer was well versed in the law and there is no doubt that he had heard before Christ a summary of the whole law, for he answers the question the Lord puts to him, "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul; and with all thy strength, and with all thy mind; and thy neighbor as thyself." "This do," says Christ, "and thou shalt live." But the lawyer, desiring to justify himself, said unto Jesus, and who is my neighbor? Jesus answered this question not directly, but by the parable of the Good Samaritan. We have not yet learned this lesson. We would shirk all responsibility concerning our neighbor. It is the old story over and over again, "Am I my brother's keeper." Many, like this lawyer, have very contracted opinions as to the number of and responsibility towards their neighbors. There are two fundamental laws: (1) love to God; (2) love to man. Not love for our own community or nation, but for all mankind. Paul the apostle expresses the relation of man to man in Rom. i. 14—"I am debtor both to Greeks and barbarians, both to the wise and to the foolish."

We are not to do just a little, but all we are able, for the eternal interests of man. We must love our neighbor as ourselves, even as Christ loved us. This leads us to make some sacrifice, not for self-interest, but for the honor and glory of God, who "so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son."

"Love to our neighbor assumes diverse forms: (1) in a family it is tenderness and care; (2) in a neighborhood, courtesy; (3) in friendship, sympathy; (4) in business, integrity; (5) in distress, mercy; (6) to our country, patriotism; (7) to the world, benevo-

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lence; (8) to the church, brotherly kindness."—VAN OOSTERZEE.

"A love that exhibits a heavenly compassion is a surer guarantee of heaven than an orthodox creed."—JOHNSON'S COM.

"It is not place but love which makes neighborhood."—UNDSWORTH. "Go and do thou likewise."—JESUS CHRIST.

Endeavor Social.

The V. P. S. C. E. of the Disciples' church held a very enjoyable social on Monday evening, Dec. 31st, at the residence of Mrs. Connor, on the Slough road. At eight o'clock the gathering commenced, and in a short time the C. E.'s and their invited guests, numbering about eighty people, were congregated together and enjoying themselves in various ways to the fullest extent.

At eleven o'clock an abundance of good things was handed around and partaken of with a reckless disregard of King Dyspepsia.

At about ten minutes to twelve o'clock the pastor, Rev. J. Munro, B. A., called the people together, and the old year was ushered out and the new year in by singing C. E. hymns, in which all heartily joined. A short prayer and a hearty vote of thanks to the hostess for her kindness in opening her house for the entertainment of those present, was followed by social all-round hand-shaking and New Year's greetings. At an early hour the party broke up well pleased with the happy commencement of the year 1895.—*The Manitoba Review*.

Skin Diseases.

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