

and all the world about was suffused in its light; even the dirty city was changed and seemed—

"That city of Delight  
In Bairland, whose streets and towers  
Are made of gems and lights and flowers!"

Mabel thought how beautiful everything was, and that she must always feel as happy as she did at that moment, with her arms full of fragrant May blossoms; the city stretching out before her, and the sun gradually sinking beyond the vermillion-touched clouds.

Mabel was then awakened by a brilliant ray of sunshine that played across her face. She started up and looked around for her flowers—they were all gone, but so had the dull grey creature that was sitting on the fender beside her high heels before she went to sleep and dreamland.

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### Rough Paths for Little Feet.

One cold day in early winter, a poorly clad colored girl about ten years of age, came into one of our city missions. The meeting in progress was especially for mothers, but the children present were placed in charge of a Christian lady, who talked with them earnestly and lovingly. As this little girl listened, her heart was drawn to the lady, and she asked that she might sit nearer so as to hear better. Permission was granted, and soon the woolly head was nestling against the teacher's arm, and in an indescribably pathetic tone she said: "I wish you were my mother." It was found that the child had a home and a mother, but such a home and such a mother that ten minutes' acquaintance with one whose life was truly a type of the Master's own won the hungry heart of that little one.

The same lady told of another dear little girl, eleven years of age, who, on slight acquaintance, came to her home one morning and said: "My ma is going to give away us kids; will you take me?" "Yes, I'll take you when your mother says so," was the reply. The mother did not give them away, but what a blessing it would have been to the children had she done so. It is a sad home today, a drinking father and erring mother, and four children growing up amid unwholesome surroundings. Sin watching with smutty fingers to soil the purity of those precious lives. Tobacco, liquor and profanity taint the atmosphere in which they dwell. These children will have no blessed memory of home in after life.

Not long ago a cash boy was arrested for theft. One of his boy friends called on him at the police station, and he said to him: "It's better here than being at home, for I don't get scolded and knocked around all the time."

No wonder the children take crooked paths, when the way is made so rough for them by their parents. No wonder that jails, saloons and low places are constantly filled with recruits. No wonder that Christian people stand almost powerless as they grapple with the problem, how to save the children.

Yet how splendid it might be solved if every mother were a loving, sympathetic, tender mother, but first of all, a Christian mother. How many in their struggle to get along in the world and make both ends meet, grow cross and fretful, having no time for the quiet hour, the little confidences the stories and songs that make home life so pleasant.

Among the wealthier classes, there is plenty of time to indulge over fashion and novels and the demands of society, but no time for a little soul culture, no time to impress the young heart with the blessed thoughts of God's Word. "They that seek me early shall find me." "Remember now the Creator in the days of thy youth."

Ah! many a mother has found time in after years for days of sorrow, for nights of agony and months of remorse because of neglect. What would she not give if the years could be rolled back, with the children about her in their innocency!

What we need is a great reformation among mothers, sweeping from garret to palace, from hovel to mansion, making home the most blessed place on the globe, so delightful, so pleasant, so harmonious, that the saloons, the clubs, the theatres and dens of iniquity would fail to entice one white life from the peaceful atmosphere of home.—Cora Howes, in Michigan Christian Advocate.

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### Health of the Jews.

The marked immunity from diseases of the Jews is noted. It has continued even to the present day, as evinced by the extremely low mortality. This condition of affairs is attributed to the rigid enforcement of the laws of health prescribed by the Hebrew law, and also to the racial sobriety producing a sturdy constitution, capable of resisting disease to a considerable degree.

## The Young People

EDITORS, J. D. FREEMAN.  
G. R. WHITE.

Kindly address all communications for this department to Rev. G. R. White, Fairville, St. John.

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### Prayer Meeting Topic for October.

C. E. Topic.—How to make God's will our will, and the result, Phil. 2: 1-13.

B. Y. P. U. Topic.—What shall the harvest be? Romans 11: 4-11.

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Will the brethren who read papers at the Educational and Prayer Meetings of the Maritime B. Y. P. U. at St. John kindly lay aside their modesty and forward their papers to the editors for publication in this department? Leaders and Secretaries please read again the "salutatory" and act promptly.—EDITORS.

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### The C. C. Work.

The time for organizing our C. C. work is now upon us. The fact that the banner for the Sacred Literature course failed to return to the Maritime Provinces this year should prove a spur to prick the sides of our interest and stimulate us to a united and determined effort to recover the trophy. We can do it. But we must lose no time in getting our work in hand. Steps should be taken at once for the organization of the work in every Society in the provinces. If you have not already done so hold a conference upon this work at your next meeting and be ready to begin with the lessons promptly on Oct. 1st. A work well begun is half done.

Never before have conditions been so favorable for large classes in the Sacred Literature Course as they are this year. The general subject is "The Labors and Letters of the Apostles," and those who have examined the prospectus will have noticed that the ground to be traversed is, in the main, the very ground we have been covering this year in our Sunday School work. Of course in the S. L. lessons we shall view the subject from new standpoints and aim at something more exhaustive than could be attempted in the Sunday School; and the fact that the book of Acts is now fresh in the minds of so many in the advanced classes of our Sunday Schools ought to make it comparatively easy to draw many of them this season into the educational work of the Union.

And just along this line a few suggestions may be in order. Why not make a systematic effort to bring the Sunday School into the S. L. class en masse. Let each teacher be button-holed and urged to press the matter upon his class. Let the superintendent represent to the school the immense advantage to be gained by following the work of the Union and thus fixing this portion of the Bible upon the mind. For those who do not take the Baptist Union great help may be derived from the Sunday School lesson helps for the year. Let the quarterly be carefully preserved. If any have Hurlbert's or Peloubet's notes they will find them splendid hand books on this work. Then there are the '97 files of the MESSENGER AND VISITOR. Bro. Black has done us fine service by following this work during the year with illuminating editorials. With all these aids at hand no one need lack sufficient literature for an intelligent pursuit of the course. If more is needed what hinders the appointment of a small committee whose duty it shall be to place on the blackboard week by week a synopsis of Dr. Wallace's notes on the text lesson? We still favor the plan of having these notes in leaflet form. But if we cannot have that let us make the best use of the abundance of good material already in our possession.

Having said this much we would urge that ample place be given this work in the regular meetings of the Society. One worker is now speaking for himself, and it is his firm conviction that a Sacred Literature class assembling at another time and place than the regular Union prayer meeting night is not the ideal thing. This work ought to be done in the prayer meeting room of the church, on the regular Union meeting night. There are many strong reasons for this. Space will not permit us to name them now. But we can ventilate the subject later if necessary. Just this word now, don't crowd the C. C. work out of doors! Don't tack it on to a prayer meeting! Don't let it degenerate into a drawing-room of a few choice and kindred spirits. Keep it where it cannot smell of clique. "Put the cookies on the lower shelf!"

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Secretary Estabrooks informs us that the Executive of the B. Y. P. U. of A., "having decided to publish a leaf-

let that shall give a working syllabus of our Sacred Literature Course." For a lazy or tired student this does not say much, but will be most helpful to those who are willing to "dig." What are our Unions going to demand of the "Column" by way of helps for this course. There are no provisions, as yet, for lessons such as Dr. Steele prepared last year. Are we to have them? If so, "down with your dust."

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### Award of C. C. C. Banners.

Three Senior Prize Banners will be awarded annually, one in each course, to the State or Province whose examination papers, as tested by the announced standard of award, entitle it to first place. It is understood, however, that not more than one banner will be awarded to any one State or Province.

The Prize Banner awarded to any State or Province will be placed in the custody of the local society, within the State or Province, whose papers, as tested by the announced standard, entitle it to the first place.

The Banner in each course will be awarded to the State or Provincial Union having—

First: The largest number of successful papers submitted from any State or Province.

Second: The largest number of successful papers submitted from any State or Province in proportion to its Baptist church membership.

Third: These two conditions shall be deemed of equal value and the banner will be awarded the Union having the highest average of both combined.

The local society in the State or Province which is entitled to the banner shall be determined by—

First: The largest number of successful papers submitted by any society in the State or Province.

Second: The largest number of successful papers from any society in proportion to the membership of the church.

Third: These two conditions shall be deemed of equal value and the banner awarded to the society having the highest average of both, save that, at the discretion of the committee, allowance may be made in the case of societies having a high average in two or more Courses.—Baptist Union.

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### N. S. Central Associational Unioners.

DEAR CO-WORKERS,—At the last meeting of our Associational Union the following recommendation of the Executive Committee was adopted, i. e., "That County rallies be held in September for the purpose of stimulating interest in the C. C. Courses." It was resolved, "That a banner be procured for competition in the Sacred Literature Course among the societies of the Central Associational Union, the banner to be awarded to the society having the largest number of successful examination papers in proportion to its membership." I would like to visit the several counties and assist my fellow-workers in these meetings, but this is an impossibility. I trust, however, that the recommendation will be carried out by all. The present year should be one of advancement along all lines. Everything is in our favor. Our retiring officers have been faithful in their work and success has attended their efforts. It is for us to take up the work where they laid it down and carry it on still further. In order to do this we require the assistance of all our members. Let us feel that we have your support. Suggestions will be gladly received and carefully considered. We are here to serve you. Let us hear from you often and do not forget to pray for us.

I wish also to call attention to the request of our new editors. We must use them White, knowing as we do that they are not Freemen. They call upon our local societies to forward them newsy items. There ought to be a great many things to write about during the year. Let the small society be heard from as well as the large. And then there is our Baptist Union—do not forget to send some postal-card communications to this paper. Dr. Chivers is anxious to give us more space. Let the Central Associational Unions be the first to respond to these appeals.

This communication is already too long so I will have to appeal to you again in the near future.

Yours in the work,

GEO. A. LAWSON, President.

Halifax, N. S., September 10.

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The one who will be found in trial capable of great acts of love is ever the one who is always doing considerate small ones.—F. W. Robertson.