

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.

Prayer Meeting Topic for October.

C. E. Topic.—"Whatever He would like to have me do," Ex. 19:1-8. B. Y. P. U. Topic.—Where is our allegiance? Acts 5:25-32.

B. Y. P. U. Daily Bible Readings. (Baptist Union.)

Monday, October 13.—Acts 7:22-36. Moses' work for Israel. Compare Luke 24:19. Tuesday, October 14.—Acts 7:37-53. Stephen's application to his audience. (vss. 51-53). Compare Acts 2:36. Wednesday, October 15.—Acts 7:54; 8:3. The eloquent death of Stephen. Compare Luke 23:34. Thursday, October 16.—Acts 8:4-25. The gospel-power of Philip. Compare Acts 26:28. Friday, October 17.—Acts 8:26-40. Philip's one-man audience. Compare John 4:7, 42. Saturday, October 18.—Acts 9:1-31. Saul's sudden about-face. Compare also Acts 16:14, 15.

Loneliness.

How we do suffer from loneliness. The loneliness of a great city with thousands all around, and with no one to speak to or bid you to be of good cheer, is the saddest of all loneliness. Dear young people, this is the condition of our editors. We are left to wander from the top, to the bottom of your "column," this week all alone. What a lonely time we are having just now. We used to think that the minister's life was the most lonely life on earth, but we have changed our minds, and have handed over the palm to the editors. Some people think that they must never speak to editors unless they see an opportunity to "go for them," and if they happen to come back without them, or the editors made a good defence, they make up their minds never to write to them again. Is that fair? The "raw recruits," on your column hardly know what to make of this kind of treatment. In our loneliness we asked the editor of the MESSENGER AND VISITOR what he did when he had no matter on hand for his paper, he sighed and said: "We have to grind it out." But it is a lonely task to grind out the meal when there is no corn in the hopper. Are there no sheaves being gathered for the heavenly garner in your society or church? Come, cheer up your lonely editors, with some fresh bits of news.

A Helpful Book.

All the books suggested by the Baptist Union, for use as side light reading upon the S. L. C. are valuable, but there is one that we would especially recommend. If you can buy but one book, let that be "Conybear and Hawson's Life and Epistles of Paul." It is a classic upon this subject. It has a knack of helping you at the very points where you feel the need of help. It is charmingly written. The Baptist Union will provide it for \$1.25.

The Dark Continent.

Are you reading the papers on Africa by Rev. Frank L. Dobbins in the Conquest Missionary Course? Read the first one and you will be so fascinated that you will want to follow them right through. Mr. Dobbins is an expert in the value of missionary literature and has for many years conducted the missionary department of a great American paper. Few men have Africa in their eye so clearly as he.

A New Commandment.

"A new Commandment is abroad in the land: Thou shalt not hear the unkind story so long as thou hast heels to turn or hands to cover thine ears. At a recent convention of Second Adventists in Maine, a large number of men and women went forward to kneel on the penitent form, and there consecrated their ears to God. Ethics have prated long on the sin of scandal; there would be little of it if more ears were closed to its flandishments. —Youth's Companion.

Quite true! We have long been praying God to take our hands, our feet, our lips, our intellects, our hearts and sanctify them for his service. It is time we added a stanza, the first words of which would read "take my ears."

The Sunday Evening After Meeting.

Many of our pastors are in the habit, during the winter

Poor Joe was white, and his teeth were biting deep into his lips; his eyes had just a suggestion of tears. Miss Morrison dropped her book and her cards to the floor and went to him.

"You're sick, Joe?" He shook his head and asked quickly, "Who got the highest mark, Miss Morrison?"

"Lizzie Dunkie." "Then she should have the honors. I copied the whole outline from the 'History' during the examination. No one saw me, but it won't be right. I'm not an honor pupil; I'm not even honorable."

Joe's head went down on the desk. "Yes, some one did see him," said Ida; we all did. Then Miss Morrison understood why Joe had been sent to Coventry.

As school was dismissed Miss Morrison heard Ida say, "Joe, will you please hold my books until I get my jacket on?"

And she knew that Joe's peace of mind had come back when he answered with the old boyish ring in his voice, "I shall be pleased, Ida."

And as she heard Minnie saying, while going down the street, "Joe, I have a good book from the library; you get it next time," Miss Morrison knew that Joe had come back from Coventry.—New York Advocate.

With Level Eyes.

"I had never realized my mother as an individual," said a grown-up daughter, "until she came to visit our college at Commencement. To me she had always been just 'mother,' the dearest, best, most tender and considerate of mothers, but I never compared her with any one, or saw her as she was to others, or thought of her as a gentlewoman, able to hold her own anywhere, till I looked at her away from her own background. At last I saw her with level eyes, and I was proud of my mother."

To the mother it comes almost with a shock, that her daughter, the little girl whom she cradled in her arms, whose little frocks she sat up at night to finish, whose going to and fro she ordained, who was hers to rule and to guide, has become a personality, herself grown up. When the daughter abides in the household, slipping on unmarked stages from childhood into youth, from youth into maturity, the older woman often fails to notice that the younger has emerged from the period of pupil, age and restraint, and too long holds fast to the reins of authority which should not be held over one whose responsibilities are those of the adult human being. We often meet undeveloped daughters, even in this period of assertive womanhood, daughters who dwell in their father's houses with little freedom of action, with no private purse, and with the coercion of child-life, long after the sweetness and the dependence of childish days are over.

I have known women whose faces bore tell tale lines of care and discontent, whose brown hair began to show threads of silver, and who chafed under their lack of personal freedom, yet felt entirely helpless to change the aspect of affairs. Their mothers had never discovered that the children were grown up. They still exacted the peculiar deference and obedience due from a child under tutors and governors to those who bore rule over him or her. A daughter might be forty, but she could not go on a visit, or buy a new gown, or join a class, or a club, or do anything small or great without asking and obtaining her mother's consent.

At a glance, one sees how limiting and dwarfing such a condition must be. Of necessity and for love's sake daughters must always be deferential to mothers, but there comes a day when they must stand on their own feet, and answer for their own actions. Married, they at once take this independent place in the world, so that a bride of eighteen may have more actual freedom than a spinster of thirty. But, when a woman is grown up, whether single or married, she is entitled to the privileges of her age. And if parents are wise and can possibly afford it, they will secure to the daughter at home, not self supporting and living under their roof, enough money regularly given as an allowance to keep her from feeling like a mendicant or a pauper. If they cannot do this, and the daughter desires it, as in case of need she should desire it, they should interpose no objection to her going out from home to engage in whatever employment she is best fitted for, or can most readily receive training for.

When our daughters front us "with level eyes," something beyond motherhood and childhood enters into the relation. A higher friendship, a fuller sympathy, a dearer bond may come with the years, and being possible, should certainly come to pass in great sweetness and strength.—Mrs. Margaret E. Sangster, in the Christian Intelligencer.

months at least, of following up the Sunday evening preaching with a prayer and testimony meeting. Of all our services this is probably the most fruitful in direct and visible results. It is a time for covering the seed which has been scattered upon the hearts of the people, before the evil one can snatch it away. It gives occasion for deepening impressions made by the preaching of the word, and bringing half-formed resolutions to completion. It is a chance to draw in the net which the workers have been casting during the day. The pastor who omits this service misses a golden opportunity.

In this service the pastor should be able to count on the united and hearty support of the young people. He should be able to go into this service assured that the singing will not drag, because the young people are there; that he will not wait in vain to hear the voice of prayer, for his young people will pray; that every moment given for testimony will be improved, because his young people are ready to bear witness. It is not too much to say, that if the young people would throw their life into this meeting we might look for revivals in many of our churches. During the winter many societies will give the greater part of the mid-week meeting to Christian Culture. Let them find in the Sunday evening after meeting a field of service.

Prayer Meeting Topic.

Oct. 11-17. Where is our Allegiance? Acts 5:25-32.

1. The ringing words of the apostles "we must obey God rather than men," leaves no room for doubt as to where their allegiance was. They looked upon themselves as vassals of the Christ. Jesus was their liege-lord.

2. Their allegiance was well grounded. (a) In respect for Christ's divinely constituted authority. "Him did God exalt with His right hand to be a prince." (b) In gratitude for Christ's saving grace. They knew Him as "a Saviour for to give repentance to Israel, and remission of sins."

3. Their allegiance brought them into intimate and happy relations with the Holy Ghost. God gives the Holy Ghost "to them that obey Him."

4. Where is our Allegiance? It is a momentous question. Loyalty to Christ is the goal of discipleship. "For to this end Christ died, and lived again, that he might be Lord." Romans 14:9. Loyalty to Christ, is also the touch-stone to which we should bring every practical question of life. Let us pray that the thought of love—loyalty to Christ may go tingling through the hearts of our young Baptist hosts this week.

S. L. C. Syllabus.

Less than 10 copies, 1 month, 3c. each; 10 or more copies, 1 month, 2c. each; less than 10 copies, 7 months, 15c. each; 10 or more copies, 7 months, 10c. each. The prices are net, postpaid, to one address. Cash must accompany the order. Address, B. Y. P. U. A., 324 Dearborn Street, Chicago.

Give the Lord Your Very Best Self.

BY W. W. DAWLEY.

It is a mistake to suppose that the Lord will be pleased with anything short of our very best, whether it is in our gifts or in the offering of ourselves. It is maintained that the second coming of the Lord is near at hand and some people are foolishly making the expectation of soon seeing him an excuse for not doing what they would do, if they did not believe that he was about to appear.

"Are you going to send your daughter to the high school this fall?" said an earnest pastor in one of our cities to a member of his church who had been persuaded that the Lord's coming was close at hand. "No, I think not," was the reply, "for the Lord is surely coming this year or next, and it would not pay." What a conception of what Christ would like to find us doing when he comes, and of what he wishes in us! As though he would be satisfied to find us ignorant, when we might have been cultured; and would be well pleased without our best mental, physical or spiritual selves! May the Lord find you, young men and women, when he comes, making the utmost possible of yourselves and of your opportunities. You can honor God by cultivating, not coddling; developing, not dwarfing, your germinal powers and faculties. Methinks that he will not say, "well done, good and faithful servant" if he finds you a nonentity, a nuisance or a numbskull. In these days of such manifold opportunities for culture and usefulness three things must seem an impertinence to the Lord, viz.: a be-nothing, a do-nothing, and a know-nothing. Let us not insult the giver of our abilities by neglecting to make the best possible instruments of them. A well-developed Christian ought to be more useful to the Lord at his appearing than an undeveloped one. We are to be Christ's crowned conquerors in his new kingdom, and surely at his coming we do not want to be germs to be developed, but gems to be set in his "crown of glory." The nearer you think his advent to be the more zealous ought you to be in the making of the most of yourselves, and in helping others to make something of themselves.—Baptist Union.