

Young People's Work.

FOR CHRIST AND THE CHURCH.

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

AMIGARI, Ont., Feb. 9, 1895.—Too much praise cannot be given our dear Bro. W. C. McDougall, who has so unselfishly sacrificed his own interests in laboring among us since last summer. It may not be generally known that since coming here he has started mission points at the Bowen Road school-house, some two miles west of the church, where service is held each Lord's day morning, and also at Amigari school-house, a mile south of the church. Taking Bible class in Sunday school at 9 a. m., preaching at Bowen school-house at 11 a. m., preaching and breaking bread at International Bridge at 3 p. m., Y. P. S. C. E. at 4:30 p. m., and preaching at Amigari at 8 p. m. gives Bro. McDougall a very busy Lord's day—and he is among us all the week, too, and God is blessing him for it.

Elder John T. James, our first Reeve of the new village, gives us free a meeting place, lighted and heated for church and prayer-meeting services. With these two noble men with us, the church is doing well.

Our Junior Christian Endeavor has advanced rapidly in membership and interest. The children assist in the other meetings too, and are undertaking to purchase additional hymn books for the society, and have pledged \$5 towards O Sano San's expenses, I believe.

The senior society is doing well. The prayer-meeting committee have a notice of our meetings placed in the post office. The flower committee are to plant bulbs and sow seeds now for summer flowers. The social committee follow up each business meeting with an hour's programme—games and social intercourse. The temperance committee are holding a series of very successful gospel temperance meetings, the last of which was ably addressed by Bro. L. C. McPherson, of Buffalo. The Good Literature are placing tracts within reach of our railroad men. The missionary committee's hands are full. Next month we must meet our pledge, \$15, for Miss Riuch's Japanese girl O Sano San, and our treasury is practically empty. But we are trusting God and know we shall be helped in some way—and we forget not to help ourselves. We have sent our noble sister, Miss Lucy Harris, to Hiram College, where she is studying as a missionary for Africa. We have expended all our little funds in her aid, and gladly we assist her in preparing for such grand work. We ask for her an interest in the prayers of all Christian people that she may be helped and lifted up and be the means of bringing many souls into the Master's kingdom, and for us, too, that we may have wherewith to provide for her wants. Your sincerely in C. E.,

A. H. COWHERD, President.

C. E. Notes.

GEORGE FOWLER.

March 10.—Everything for God.—Luke xiv. 25-33.

To be a Christian means much. As disciples of Jesus we are to follow in His footsteps. If we do this, what work must we accomplish, and what life must we live?

There is too much sentiment oftentimes hovering around the idea of the Christ life. There is prose as well as poetry in the Christian's vocation. If you would be my disciples, says Christ, you must take up your cross daily and follow me. A nominal assent to every

fact and truth in the word of God is not sufficient; we may be trying to deceive ourselves as to what constitutes the essentials of eternal life. At the last day Christ may say to us, "One thing thou lackest; those who enter here are not they that said Lord, Lord, but they that have done the will of my Father."

What must we give to God? We expect to receive much from God. It is impossible for mortal man to comprehend to any appreciable degree the value of eternal life. This great gift of God to man is given on conditions; we must give to God.

1. We must give Him ourselves. Not a part of the man is sufficient, but the whole being must be presented to Christ a living sacrifice. Under the law eternal life was given to those who obeyed the command, "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."—Luke x. 27; Romans xii. 1; and do we expect to receive the same gift, with so many more privileges, with less sacrifice?

2. We must serve God with the whole heart. This service must take precedence of all other service. Matt. x. 37-39.

3. We must give to God the very best that we have. We cannot deceive Him. If we say we can give so much and that is all we are able to give, and at the same time we are withholding for self what ought to have been given to God, we are guilty of the same sin as Ananias and Sapphira. Acts v. 1-11.

4. Christ says: "So likewise whosoever he be of you that forsaketh not all that he hath, he cannot be my disciple."—Luke xiv. 33. But is there not another side to this? Is there any reward for this sacrifice? If we served Satan we would receive the wages of sin—death. Christ says to His disciples: "Verily I say unto you, there is no man who has left house, or wife, or brethren, or parents, or children for the kingdom of God's sake, who shall not receive manifold more in this time, and in the age to come eternal life."—Luke xviii. 28-30.

He who receives but does not give, is like the Dead sea. All the fresh floods of Jordan cannot sweeten its dead salt depths. So all the streams of God's bounty cannot sweeten a heart that has no outlet; is ever receiving, yet never full and overflowing.—STRONG.

March 17.—Winning others—from what, to what, and how?—Acts viii. 26-39.

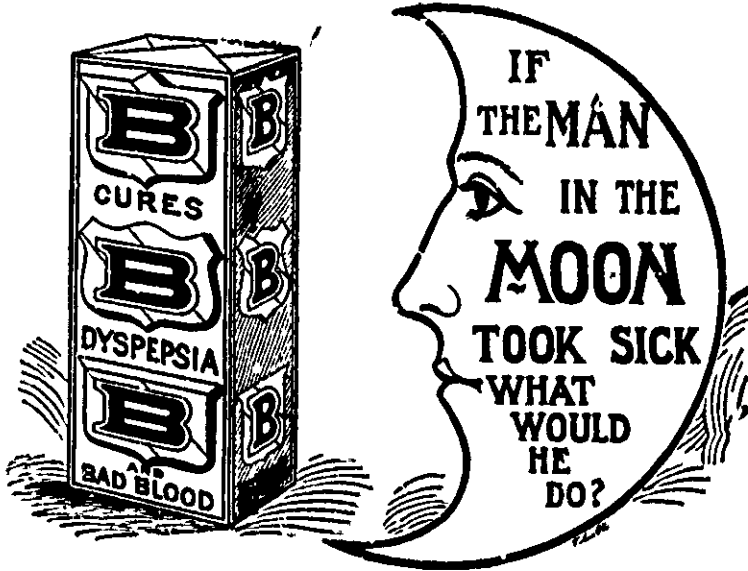
The greatest of all great works is winning souls to Christ. There is nothing in this world comparable to it.

Ruling mighty nations; leading powerful armies to battle and glorious victory; deliberating on questions of national and international import; exploring the heavens in search of new worlds and suns; the study of the "stone book" of geology, nor the investigation of questions of philosophic importance is the most important and the most enduring work. When the work of kings, statesmen, warriors, scientists and philosophers is forgotten, the soul won to Christ by the loving sympathies, words and deeds of some obscure child of God, will be rejoicing in the glories of heaven and basking in the sunshine of God's love. As long as there are souls unborn to God never repine for some great work to do.

From what are we to win men?

1. We are to win men from sin. This is a deadly malady. What is sin?

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you may ask. "It is," says the inspired writer, "the transgression of the law."

2. We are to turn others from darkness to light; we must win them from the power of the flesh, the world and the devil.

3. Thousands are in bondage in Egypt. They must be led out. You are to be a Moses to conduct them from the bondage of sin to the liberty of the gospel.

4. From spiritual poverty we win them. Man in sin is heir only to death. There is no bank account for him in heaven. His name is not written there.

To what are we to win others? We must have something better to offer than that which they have.

1. We bring men who have been in servitude to Satan to a life of freedom in Christ Jesus.

2. We offer light for darkness; life for death; honor for dishonor, and joy for misery.

3. They are won to a life of righteousness.

4. From spiritual poverty to be an heir of the great inheritance. 2 Peter 1. 3-5.

5. From self, to serve others. Luke xix. 8.

How are we to win souls? This is the question of importance.

1. We must be for Christ. We must know the way. We must be in earnest. We must use our common sense. We must search the Scriptures. How can the blind lead the blind? Study God's word and note carefully how Christ and the apostles led men to a knowledge of their sins and to find peace and rest and service in God. See Jesus at the well of Sychar, as recorded in John iv. 1-25. Study carefully the way in which He led the poor wicked woman to see in Him the Messiah. Says Errett, in writing upon this portion of God's word:

"Let us learn here the important lesson of skillful approach to those whose souls we would win. We must study human nature and have proper regard to circumstances if we would gain access to human hearts. Rudeness, boorishness, awkwardness, needless assault on hostile prejudices, have often locked and barred the doors of the heart against the truth, when gentleness and prudence and condescension would have opened them wide with a generous welcome to the entering guest. Souls must be won not driven into submission."

And again he says: "Christ's sense of thirst was lost in the eagerness of the effort to win a benighted soul to truth and salvation. In this, after all, lies the secret of success in winning souls. It must be a

supreme passion—an all absorbing desire—before which hunger and thirst shall give way; which defies all obstacles, presses its suit skilfully and persistently against all discouragements, and exults in its success as one that findeth great spoil. When to accomplish the work of God is more than one's necessary food, his zeal will be all-conquering and the pleasure of the Lord will prosper in his hands."

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