

Shaftesbury Hall

WEEKLY

BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY THE
TORONTO YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION.



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No. 16.



LET your light so
shine before men,
that they may see
your good works,
and glorify your
Father which is
in heaven.—Matt.
v. 16.

BULLETIN FUND.

Workers. \$1 00

OUR MEETINGS.

WE are pleased to note the increased attendance at the noon-day meeting and some of the other meetings of the Association. Last Monday evening there was a large attendance at the Young Men's Bible

Class, which is still under the charge of the late Secretary. It is, however, likely that (notwithstanding the wish of the members that he should retain charge) he will transfer the class at an early date to the General Secretary. At Mr. McCulloch's request he has consented, however, to retain the class for a few weeks.

The Thursday evening Training Class will be resumed at an early date, but as yet no definite announcement can be made as to the leader.

WELCOME TO STRANGERS.

WE are requested to say that there are still a few copies of the "Welcome" card left. Any Secretary wishing to secure one can do so without any cost to himself, by dropping a postal card to ALF. SANDHAM, Willard Tract Depository, Toronto, Ont.

DISAPPEARING.

WE are thankful to be able to write this word in regard to the debt upon our building. There now remains but one unpaid mortgage of \$4,000. To meet this, and to make proposed altera-

Seek ye the Lord while He may be found.
Isaiah lv. 6.

Apply thine ears to the words of knowledge.

Prov. xxiii. 12.

tions in the building, there is a sum of \$9,000 on our subscription list. It is confidently expected that this year will see the debt paid and the building thoroughly renovated. The suggestion to sell the present building and erect another, has been wisely abandoned.

THE BULLETIN.

 HIS is the closing number under the present *editorial* management. The General Secretary will take charge next week. The present editor offers no apology for anything he has written in the past. What has been said, was said from a sense of duty and for the welfare of Young Men, and the work on their behalf. He lays down his pen, realizing that there have been many failures to *uphold* the truth, at the same time he expresses his gratitude to God, who has *upheld* him by His truth. May the future of the BULLETIN be one of great usefulness to the work.

THE COMPETITION.

 OUR issue of February 28th, under the caption "A new branch of work" we referred to the unchristian like methods adopted by some associations in their work. In that special instance the objectionable feature was a challenge to the ladies to compete in preparing an entertainment &c. The young men of the Association referred to have given their entertainment, and it has been reported in the local press. The notices seen by us do not say whether the gathering was opened with prayer or not. We leave our readers to judge how fitting such an opening would be to such an entertainment. After speaking of a ridiculous discussion upon womans' work and ability, the report adds, "All the speeches were very humorous. The

chairman decided in favor of the affirmative, they having the "Jokes."

Then follows a report of the musical part of *the farce*. But now for the *finale*.

"The entertainment was concluded by a scene "The Southern Fair of 1884." A side show and tent was erected on the stage with all the accompaniments of glowing canvas pictures of fat women, boa constrictors etc. Outside two fakirs had taken up their stand and peddled their wares to an interested crowd of boys eating pea nuts most vociferously. As a quack medicine man, Mr. — was excellent, the audience being kept in a continual roar of laughter whilst he held forth. The scene concluded with the showman (Mr. —) the great gift fakir (Mr. —) and the medicine man in active rivalry, whilst a hurdy gurdy from the inmost recesses of the tent lifted up its voice on high. The entertainment was capital."

This report speaks for itself. How any person professing to be a follower of the Lord Jesus Christ, or any Association claiming the right to assume this name could endorse such arrant nonsense is more than we can understand. The only satisfaction we can take from it is that the Ladies will do better, for lower they certainly cannot go. We can easily understand the feelings of the Japanese gentleman who, when on a visit to England, saw an advertisement announcing an amateur performance in aid of the funds of a Church, wrote to his friends: "A strange people! they must have something for their money—they must pass their gifts through a strainer in the form of a fancy fair, a lottery, or a theatrical performance, at immense cost of time and labour to themselves, and they must make a crutch of the devil to support them in their labours for God." The Devil is not to be relied on even as a crutch, and it does not require very keen view to see serious flaws in such a crutch as that used on the occasion referred to by us.

Friends, either change your name or change your methods of work.

The harvest of the earth is ripe.

Rev. xiv. 15.

I will go in the strength of the Lord God.
Psalm lxxi. 15.

GOSPEL AND SONG SERVICE

EVERY SUNDAY EVENING,

AT 8 O'CLOCK.

ALL WELCOME.

THE CHEER OF PRAISE.

Praise the Lord all ye Gentiles; and laud Him,
all ye people."

MUCH of our work for Christ is too barren of all joy and enthusiasm, and we need the cheer of praise. The English ploughboy sings as he drives his team; the Scotch Highlander sings as he labours in glen or moor; the fisherman of Naples sings as he rows; and the vintager of Sicily has his evening hymn. When Napoleon came to a pass in the Alps where the rocks seemed impassible for the ammunition waggons, he bade the leader of the bands strike up an inspiring march, and over the rocks on a wave of enthusiasm went the heavy waggons. Earthly battlefields have resounded with praises from bleeding Christian soldiers, and pain has been forgotten as the lips of the dying have sung, "When I can read my title clear," and "How sweet the name of Jesus sounds." Martin Luther has well said, "The devil cannot bear singing," and we know that David's harp drove the evil spirit out of King Saul.

BIBLE CLASS

FOR S. S. TEACHERS,

Conducted by Mr. S. H. Blake,

EVERY SATURDAY,

AT 4.30 P.M.

Subject—INTERNATIONAL LESSON.

THE GIFT OF GOD.



GWRITER in the *Fountain* said: When I was coming out of a preaching service I saw an old man looking very unhappy. So I said, "My friend, you are not happy." "No," he replied, "I am not." I added, "You are not saved." "No," said he; "I have been praying for it for twenty years." "What!" I said; "praying for it for twenty years! Let me tell you a story, for you remind me of the circumstance: I saw a gentleman the other day who was paralyzed on one side, and was wheeled about in a Bath chair. As he was out one day he saw a poor man sitting by the roadside, afflicted in the same manner, and calling out, 'O, for God's sake, give me a ha'penny!' The rich man told his servant to wheel him over to the poor man. He did so, and the gentleman held out half-a-crown to the beggar. But the man still kept crying, 'O, for God's sake, give me a ha'penny!' He was blind. The gentleman said, 'Here, my poor fellow, is half-a-crown for you.' But the poor man was deaf, and still he kept calling out for a half-penny. The servant wheeled the gentleman nearer: and at last he made the poor man hear, and then he thankfully took the half-crown. Now, my friend, this is just what you are about. God is offering you salvation, as a free gift, through the blood of Jesus Christ; but instead of taking it, and thanking Him for it, and rejoicing in it, you keep on asking for it." "What?" said he, interrupting me, "can I have salvation without asking for it?" "Of course you can," I replied. "The gift of God is eternal life, through Jesus Christ our Lord; and the thing to do with a gift is to take it, not to pray that you may have it. 'He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life.'" "O, sir: I see it all now!" he exclaimed, and turned away comforted.

Study to shew thyself approved unto God.

2 Tim. ii. 15.

YOUNG MEN'S BIBLE CLASS

Every MONDAY Evening,

AT 8 O'CLOCK,

THE MARKS OF CREATION.

A FRENCHMAN who had won a high rank among men of science, yet who denied the God who is the author of all science, was crossing the Great Sahara in company with an Arab guide. He noticed, with a sneer, that at certain times his guide, whatever obstacles might arise, put them all aside, and kneeling on the burning sands, called on his God. Day after day passed, and still the Arab never failed; till at last, one evening, the philosopher, when he rose from his knees, asked him, with a contemptuous smile: "How do you know there is a God?" The guide fixed his beaming eye on the scoffer for a moment in wonder, and then said solemnly: "How do I know there is a God? How do I know that a man, and not a camel, passed my hut last night in the darkness? Was it not by the print of his feet in the sand? Even so"—and he pointed to the sun, whose last rays were flashing over the lonely desert—"that footprint is not that of a man."

"The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth His handiwork. Day unto day uttereth speech, and night unto night sheweth knowledge." (Psalm xix. 1, 2).

EVANGELISTIC BIBLE CLASS

Every SUNDAY, at 3 p.m.

Conducted by MR. H. B. GORDON,

Chairman of Devotional Committee.

ALL INVITED.

BULLETIN FOR THE WEEK.

MONDAY, APRIL 20.

12 noon.—Praise and Thanksgiving. General Secretary.

3 p.m.—YOUNG MEN'S BIBLE CLASS.

9 p.m.—Young Men's Prayer and Testimony Meeting.

TUESDAY, APRIL 21.

12 to 12.45 noon.—Christ our Consolation. 2 Thess. ii, 16, 17; 2 Cor. i. 3-7. Rev. J. Salmon.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 22.

12 to 12.45 noon.—The Abiding Wrath of God. John iii. 36; Rev. vi. 14-17. R. Hall.

THURSDAY, APRIL 23.

12 to 12.45 noon.—Am I too Anxious about my Worldly Affairs? Matt. vi. 25-34. W. Marks.

FRIDAY, APRIL 24.

12 to 12.45 noon.—Lions in the Path. 1 K. iii. 11-14; iv. 1, 10, 13. Rev. A. F. McGregor. 7.30 p.m.—BOY'S MEETING.

SATURDAY, APRIL 25.

12 to 12.45 noon.—If we are in Earnest, Nothing will Discourage us. Matt. xv. 21-28. Assistant Secretary.

7.15 p.m.—Invitation Committee Meets for Prayer.

8 p.m.—YOUNG MEN'S MEETING. John Ad ms.

SUNDAY, APRIL 26.

3.00 p.m.—Evangelistic Bible Class. H. B. Gordon.

" Deaf Mute Class. F. S. Brigden.

" Chinese Class. W. M. Morse.

" Italian Class.

8.30 p.m.—Gospel and Song Service. D. C. Forbes. Followed by an Enquiry Meeting at 9.5.

Requests for prayer may be addressed to the Sec'y.

Railway Men's Meeting.

THURSDAY, APRIL 23.

7.30 p.m., for one hour.—At York. Cottage Meeting at John Lee's; address by J. J. Gartshore.

FRIDAY, APRIL 24.

12.35 to 12.55 p.m.—Bible Reading at G.T.R. Roundhouse, City. H. B. Gordon.

SUNDAY, APRIL 26.

GOSPEL MEETINGS.

3 p.m.—Union Station. J. Gibb and J. Bousfield.

3.15 p.m.—At York. J. P. Mill and W. C. Jex.