Our Young People

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This department is in the interest of the Free Baptist Young People's Societies.

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OUR TOPIC TALK.

May 17.-The lad with the loaves and fishes. John 6:9-13.

Christ was not satisfied with a mere feeling of sympathy for the hungry multitude; he put his sympathy into action and fed them. Nor did he wait to procure more and better provisions; he used the material at hand.

As Jesus distributed to the multitude by means of the disciples, so to-day he would minister to the needy world through the medium of Christians. Most of us feel that we have only a few loaves and fishes with which to meet the demands. Philip said these are not enough, and he was right. The food itself was utterly inadequate for the occasion, but Christ was sufficient. The disciples did not know that Christ's presence could give increased power to that which men call helplessness, but this miracle should have taught them that truth. Have we learned it? Have we learned that all earthly means can be made sufficient only in Christ? Our sense of inadequacy may become the beginning of a divine strength; for just as the disciples, by bringing him their weakness, had it converted into power, so do we, by consecrating to him such ability as we have, receive a touch which transforms our weakness into strength. The giver profits as much as the recipient. The fragments gathered up left with the disciples more than they had at first. It is a joyous profiting. He who ministers Christ, the bread of life, to needy souls, has a happiness S. J. C. which knows no bounds.

THE RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCER.

successfully, in another society. "One man's food may prove another man's poison." What may help another society may wreck outs.

Be careful. Our young people's papers have many excellent suggestions as to what can be done, as to what should be done. This is true. It is also true that they sometimes describe and suggest things which your society, for various reasons, cannot safely attempt. Weigh carefully, pray over, consider, talk over new plans before you even advocate them in your work.

Keep down (it is hard work sometimes to do this) that enthusiastic, lively, impetuous, self-willed member who, having seen or heard of something new, at once wishes to have it tried. The plan may have been seen in a magazine, a weekly; it may have been tried by another society; it may have had its birth in the profound and mysterious recesses of his own brain. He wishes at once to push it through. Do not be too conservative. Do not be too radical. Do not be too enthusiastic, too impetuous, too easily led.

Clean out. Select. Reject. Time is wasted (also money, energy, talent perhaps, young lives) in the trying of impracticable schemes, new plans, suggested ideas, "peculiar things," simply because some one has thought them out who wants their own way. Time is gained when we adopt plans likely to help our own society: likely to help, to strengthen, to succeed. Always suspicion plans which are not born out of prayerful thought. God waits to tell us what to do. We need to wait to hear his voice.

towards making our meetings more spiritual.

2. Preparation of the lesson before going. This is one of the most important parts of our Endeavor work. Do not leave the lesson till you go to the meeting and there talk ex tempore for ten minutes and, in reality, say nothing. It is little wonder that our meetings are sometimes dull when its members do not live up to the spirit rather than the letter of the pledge.

3. Let your remarks be short and to the point. Of course this implies careful preparation. If you have nothing to say, keep your seat and don't take up the time that might be better filled by others. All the active members are expected to take part, and this is impossible where there are a few members who speak too long.

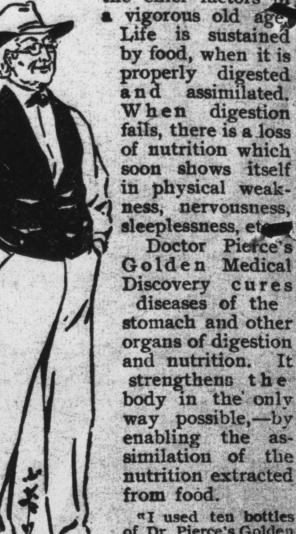
Just a word or two as to the duty of active members. De in earnest. No man ever yet attained any degree of worldly success who worked in a halthearted way. And how much more ought we, when so much depends on our work; when we may be the means of saving a soul from death and hiding a multitude of sins, how much more ought we to be in earnest, even when our own souls and those of others depend on it? Christ wants no sluggards in his vineyard. Be consistent. It has been said that more harm is being done to Christ's kingdom by inconsistent Christians than by the liquor traffic. What an awful charge to lay at the doors of professing Christians! Fellow-Christians, are you by your inconsistency marring Christ's kingdom? If so, cast off your hyprocritical cloak and put on one stamped "out and out for Christ," or do not profess to be a Christian. Let us be sure that we realize that part of our pledge which says, "that so far as I know how I will endeavor to lead a Christian life." And now just a few words about the associate members. It devolves on the active members to get them and take care of them. As associate members they are trained to become active members. Get them to take part either by a short prayer, a few remarks, or even by reading a verse of suitable Scripture. It will give them a greater interest in the work and make them more thoughtful, until at least they will realize Christ's need for them and become active members in his service. If we want to have good Endeavor meetings we must go to them expecting a blessing, with our hearts prepared for it, and a desire to help others by a few carefully prepared words on the lesson.

May 13, 1903.

"I sleep well enough at night, And the blamedest appetite

Ever mortal man possessed."

Riley's farmer is the very picture of a man advanced in years, yet in the enjoyment of perfect health. A good appetite, good digestion and sound sleep, are the chief factors in.



"I used ten bottles of Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery and several vials of his 'Pleasant Pellets'

a year ago this spring, and have had no trouble with indigestion since." writes Mr. W. T. Thompson, of Townsend, Broadwater Co., Montana. "Words fail to tell how thankful I am for the relief, as I had suifered so much and it seemed that the doctors could do me no good. I got down in weight to 125 pounds, and was not able to work at all. Now I weigh nearly 160 and can do a day's work on the farm. I have recommended your medicine to several, and shall always have a good word to say for Dr. Pierce and his medicines."

The Common Sense Medical Adviser

NOTES.

The following notes, culled from the Y P. page in the Morning Star, may be read by us with as much profit as by our sister workers across the "Line." While busy with external cleaning, let us not forget the internal cobwebs.

Springtime has come. House-cleaning time. A good time to have a general cleaning up and cleaning out in your society.

Hunt up all your unused, impracticable, useless plans and methods of the past. Sweep them all awey. Be merciless. Be impartial. Some may be precious to you, but, if useless, your society has no use for one of them.

Never accept new plans and methods which will not bear the closest light of the Holy Spirit. Avoid all doubtful, questionable, uncertain plans. Avoid all compromises with right. Do not consult Mr. Policy too much. He is a dangerous advisor. Do not be led away into possible or even probable financial, social, entertainment success without looking at the probable, possible, spiritual results. Divine approval is more important than seeming success. Let your amusement your fun, your laughter be rational, pure, recreative, developing, soul-strengthening, faith-increasing, and love-deepening, man-ennobling, Godglorifying.

Some Ways of Improving Our Societies.

* * *

How often we hear such questions asked as: How can we make our Endeavor more interesting? or, How can we get the members and others to take a deeper interest in our Endeavor work? Let me give two or three practical suggestions in answer to the above questions. These I have learned from experience by visiting Endeavor societies throughout the province. I do not purpose to say anything new, but merely to bring the minds of the readers of the Banner a few things many of them know.

In the first place, the active members should be present every night and take part. Now I do not mean by that to be present and read a verse or make a few remarks merely for form's sake or because the pledge requires it. I mean much more than that. It in reality implies:

1. Prayer before going to the meeting. and united to him, the person may be Make room for new plans, new mein full sight still of the world's threaten-A few words of earnest, thoughtful praythods, new thoughts, new suggestions. ing and angry waves; but he is per-Do not find place for everything which er to prepare the heart for a blessing, fectly safe and cannot be overwhelmed. may be proposed. Do not admit everyto remove all worldly cares from our thing which has been tried, however minds, may do a vast amount of good -A. Bonar.

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IN, BUT NOT OF, THE WORLD.

There is a plant called samphire, which grows only on cliffs near the sea. But, though it grows near the salt waves, yet it is never found on any part of a cliff which is not above the reach of the tide. On one occasion a party or shipwrecked sailors flung ashore were struggling up the face of precipitous rocks, afraid of the advancing tide overtaking them, when one of their number lighted upon a plant of samphire, growing luxuriantly. Instantly he raised a shout of joy, assuring his companions by this token that they were now in safety. the sea might come near this spot, and perhaps cast up its spray, but would never be found reaching it. Such is the position of a soul in Christ; justified

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