

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL AND MORAL REFORM.

Your committee on Social and Moral Reform in submitting their report feel difficult as well as a very important task. That to them has been assigned a very marked improvement in the social and moral conditions of the world today, but we wish it were possible to report a moral conditions of the world today, but we fear that such is not the case.

The moving picture, the greatest modern religious menace, is here to stay; it is controlled in most cases by anti-religious combines. It is a menace of incomparable power because of the demoralizing effect it has upon society.

What might have been the greatest achievement for education and wholesome entertainment has fallen into a commercialism that panders to the lowest and vilest elements of human nature for the greed of gold. It puts the moral values of life on a log plane. The dreamy glories of the screen wield a subtle influence on the immature boys and girls of the land; thousands are being caught in the meshes of immoralities portrayed in such vivid suggestions as may be seen daily all over the land.

A very sad feature of this is that the statement has been made that the movies could not exist were it not for the patronage of the church, and that the average church member gives ten times as much to the movies as to the church. Again the emotional natures are stimulated to such an extent that quiet, thoughtful worship in the house of God is impossible, which is one of the reasons for the young people's problem, and church attendance. We deplore the fact that in our institution of learning today the dance, with its corrupting influence has become so prevalent. We feel that the parents should rise up and protest against that which has been so demoralizing and has been the means of destroying the virtue of so many of the young.

Card playing still continues as a popular amusement in many homes, starting the young on the way to become professional gamblers.

We would like to emphasize the importance of having good, clean literature in the home. See to it that your libraries are provided with good books and that nothing gets into them that will poison the lives of your boys and girls.

We would like in passing to draw your attention to the habit which has become so general, namely the use of slang words and phrases. It is strange how careful some people are of their dress and yet how careless they are of their speech which is the dress of the mind.

Correct speech is the index of ability. Attention to speech is the means of growth. Language molds the thought, either exalting or degrading. Slang eats out the very vitals of sacredness in spiritual life and makes the soul feel rather akin to the world than to heaven.

As Christians our speech should be as becometh the doctrine of holiness—chaste and clean, remembering that of Jesus one great example it was said, "He spake as never man spake."

We feel something should be said about the home life. From all quarters

there comes a wail in a minor chord because of the modern home being topsyturvy.

So long as the home is kept sound, sane, and safe, sweet and happy, all is well with the nation, a nation can no more maintain normal life with its home life sick than can a man be well with heart trouble. The very air is now filled with "sport life," the age has grown frivolous. Let some one set the style and we go the way prescribed for us. Thus it is we have cigarette fiends by the millions, that rouge has routed the bloom of youth, that bobbed hair has burst into general favor; that "joy riders" get by without a serious challenge and that "jazzy" music is "all the rage."

The situation as it exists today calls for prayer without ceasing; denunciation without comprising and action without apologizing.

Some one has asked if the dress question is as serious as some folks think it is. It is so serious that secular magazines are discussing it. We strongly protest against the increasingly immodest, unhealthy fashion in women's dress, which occasions course and suggestive criticism on the human body. We discourage the modern fashion of hair dressing which destroys the natural beauty of hair and face.

Immodest dress is the expression of an unsanctified heart and its tolerance without protest causes a blending of the finer sensibilities in others, who weakly make excuses for it, furthermore in any home of worship where modern dress is unreproved the spiritual tone of that congregation is not the highest.

Let us keep to the Bible standard that women adorn themselves in modest apparel, with shamefacedness and sobriety; not with braided hair or gold or pearls, or costly array, but which becometh women, professing godliness with good works. Timothy 2-9-10.

Respectfully submitted
MRS. P. J. TRAFTON,
MRS. W. B. WIGGINS,
MRS. ROBERT BARR.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON SABBATH OBSERVANCE.

Your committee on Sabbath Observance beg leave to report.

John, the beloved disciple to whom were revealed wondrous things while on the Isle of Patmos, said: "I was in the Spirit on the Lord's Day. . . ." What mighty blessing has come to the world through this one man whose heart was delighting itself in God upon the day set apart for rest and worship—the Christian Sabbath.

God has said once for all: "Remember the Sabbath Day to keep it holy." Today, as in the days of old, there is rich blessing to be gained by the keeping of God's law, and there is also wrath from the Lord upon those who disregard dishonor and lightly esteem his holy day. As God has said: "And now, Israel, what doth the Lord thy God require of thee, but to fear the Lord thy God, to walk in all his ways and to love him, and to serve the Lord thy God with all thy heart and with all thy soul. To keep the commandments

of the Lord, and his statutes, which I command thee this day for thy good?"

We regret that among our own people we often fail to see the family pew occupied each Sabbath by both parents and children, as it used to be in the years of our forefathers. We believe that both the children and young people need to attend the church services and to receive the benefit of the preached word as well as the parents if we would have the rising generation to become holy, God-fearing men and women. John G. Paton, missionary to the New Hebrides, is a striking example of a child brought up to love the services of God's home, and also to enjoy the quiet and rest of a devout family circle keeping God's day holy in the home.

We regret all tendency to profane God's holy day by those who would use it to get to themselves worldly profit, whether it be on the part of the unsaved or the professed Christian. We believe that God's day should be kept holy not only in the letter of the law, but in the Spirit.

We sincerely regret the prevalence of Sunday picnics, excursions, Sunday baseball, etc. We cannot disobey or disregard God's law and his express command with impunity. All these things positively indicate moral decay in both our individual and national life.

We wish to commend the splendid work of the Lord's Day Alliance in its effort to preserve throughout our country an orderly observance of God's holy day.

Finally, we would commend to you the inspired words of David, the sweet singer of Israel: "Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord; and the people whom he hath chosen for his own inheritance;" also the words of Solomon, the wisest man who ever lived: "Righteousness exalteth a nation; but sin is a reproach to any people."

Signed L. J. ALLEY,
M. ELLA SLIPP,
G. A. ROGERS.

MISSIONARY FUND.

Head of Millstream.

Rev. S. A. Baker:

Dear Sir: Please find enclosed \$11.67 (eleven dollars and sixty-seven cents) the amount of our last two missionary meetings, May 15th and June 19th. The following is the programme of our June Missionary meeting:

Opening Hymn—On the firing line.
Prayer and Scripture reading.
Hymn—I'll go where you want me to go.
Recitation—Go Ye.
Reading—Send food to John.
Solo—Tell it today.
Reading—Work among the Chinese.
Hymn—Make me a blessing.
Recitation—Little Lights.
Reading—The painter and the gypsy girl.
Solo—Who will follow Jesus.
Recitation—The missionary call.
Reading—The Holy Spirit and Missions.
Hymn—Jesus saves.
Offering.
Hymn—Where He leads me I will follow.
ANNA H. HAYES,
Head of Millstream, N. B. Secretary.