

Young People's Column

Hartland Mis. Station,

Natal, So. Africa

Dear Young People:

Who do you suppose made the Devil? And why does not God kill him or shut him up, since he tempts everybody to do wrong? These are questions that many little folks ask their parents. I shall not try to answer them fully for they are rather difficult.

The Bible teaches us plainly that the old Devil will some day be shut in to the bottomless pit, and kept there for a thousand years. Also it teaches that during those years everybody in the world will be well and happy and not tempted to do wrong.

We read further that when these thousand years are over God will let him loose for a time. Then, instead of being good, he seems worse than before, for we read that he will deceive the nations and raise a great army to fight against God. Of course he can not overcome God, so suffers defeat. This time God will cast him into a lake of fire, where he will live on forever with all those whose names are not found written in the Book of Life.

Do you know that the Bible tells us the names of two angels? They are "Gabriel" and "Michael," who are princes or rulers of the other less powerful angels. It is thought that the Devil was, at first, an archangel, about equal in power to one of these. Then that he rebelled against God and became what he is, the father or author of all evil. We would not expect him to be allowed to live on in Heaven, so he was cast out together with a multitude of the ordinary angels who had taken sides with him.

The Bible tells us a lot about the Devil or Satan; he has many names. There was a big fight when he was cast out of heaven. Michael, with the loyal angels, fought on God's side and were victorious.

I read a tract written by a minister, who tells of certain children of his church who were visited by an angel. But, as a rule, we do not see the good angels, whom God sends to take care of us. For they are "ministering spirits sent forth to minister unto them who shall be heirs of salvation." Then, too, Jesus spoke of little children as having angels to guard them, angels who return to heaven sometimes and "behold the face" of God.

One reason why God does not now imprison Satan is, I think, that we may be tested. First of all we need to know that Jesus is much stronger than the Tempter. Like the little boy who asked: "Papa, is the Devil bigger'n me?" "Yes, my son," replied the father. The next question was, "Is he bigger'n you?" "Yes," again was the reply. Then a pause, followed by the third query from our young soldier of the cross. "Is he bigger'n Jesus?" "No, no, my son, Jesus is much stronger than Satan." Then I'm not afraid of him," said our sturdy little friend.

This is the true philosophy. Because Jesus overcame, we also may be overcomers by trusting Him. To be a true Christian is the only safe way to live. Suppose death comes suddenly and snatches away a person in their sins? How dreadful to think of! Then, again, we remember that all who are not truly the sheep of the Good Shepherd, are open to the influence of the Evil One. The way he leads is always wrong.

Even in this life, he wants everybody to be unhappy. Notice what the Bible teaches on

this line. The man in the tombs, out of whom Jesus cast a legion of demons. The demons caused that man to cut himself, go without clothes and without sleep. Another case is the boy whom Jesus healed just after He came down from the Mount of Transfiguration. The demon who dwelt in that boy caused him to cast himself often in the water and in the fire to destroy him. In a word, all demons desire to torment people, and make them unhappy. If we were all mere animals, with no judgment, like the pigs that received the legion of evil spirits, then the Devil would easily destroy ourselves without delay. For all the swine ran down a steep hill into the sea and were drowned.

So if we are wise we will understand that it will not pay to serve Satan. For he sees that in the end we shall reap "death." His one method is to "deceive." That is, make a person believe a lie. He says, "Come on and do so and so, and you will be happy. He tells the little ones to wait until they grow up before they seek the Lord. The grown-ups, he tells to wait for a more convenient season.

But true and lasting joy can be found only in living for God, as taught in the New Testament. So be wise, dear children, decide now for Christ, without even one day's delay. He will accept you, for has He not said, "Him that cometh to me, I will in no wise cast out."

Your true friend,

H. C. SANDERS

AN ACCUSING CONSCIENCE.

A striking illustration of the power of a guilty conscience to torment the transgressor is given by Rev. Paul S. Rees, in a late number of the Pilgrim Holiness Advocate, as follows:

"Four years ago the three D'Autremont brothers, Hugh, Ray and Roy, held up a train in Oregon and killed four members of the crew. They escaped. One joined the army, later to be identified in the Philippines. The other two were found as ordinary employees in an Ohio town. The round-up cost the government and the railroad a half million dollars. On June 23rd, at Medford, Oregon, came the graphic confession of Hugh D'Autremont, said to be one of the most remarkable of its kind in criminal records. It tells of the inception of the looting plot in the mind of one of the brothers, who, while in a reform school, read freely from Darwin, Huxley and Shopenhauer, until he became bored with life and embittered against society. It recalls, further, the horrible details of that lonely night in the Siskiyou Mountains, the forcible hold-up of the train and the multiple murder tragedy that followed. But the most impressive part of the story is that relating to the memory-tortures and remorse-penalties that began at once to inflict themselves pitilessly and perpetually upon the escaped bandits. All the while the shooting was taking place the bell on the engine was left ringing. That bell has been Hugh's hell ever since. He says so. Through all his wide wanderings to escape detection and punishment that bell has kept ringing, ringing, ringing. No mental concentration, he declares, could shut out the cry of that mortally wounded brakeman—and the ringing of that bell, that pealing, clanging, smiting murder bell. What a torturing thing the aftermath of sin turns out to be.—Free Methodist.

Temperance Column

Rev. H. C. Mullen, Contributing Editor.

Those precious liquor stores backed by the Government and operated by the Rev. R. G. Fulton, the chairman of the liquor commission, will be ready to "control" the liquor traffic about Sept. the 1st, according to announcements in the papers. At least three have been centrally located in Saint John City, and will be ready to do business. They are marked in large letters, "Liquor Control Board." The very name puts a twist in my imagination, and the name seems to be anything but appropriate. All through, there has been a vain attempt to dress up an outlaw and enemy to humanity, in some new dress, so as to roodwink the people and try to cover up the disreputable business, even with the long tailed cloak of a preacher. But some folks won't be fooled into thinking that rum-selling can be made respectable. These rum-selling joints will be just as damnable when called a saloon, and run by some pussy, how-joweled, red-nosed, bleary-eyed old rum-seller. Men and women can get just as drunk, and raise the devil just as bad on government rum as on bootleg rum, or the wares of the degraded rum-seller. There will be the same train of murders, revellings, broken hearts, hungry children and human wrecks, but with this difference now—alas, that the responsibility for all this is upon the shoulders of our law-makers, and in a sense upon all the electors, for we are all forced into the liquor business.

For the first time in my life I have been ashamed of my country, and have felt like leaving it. My heart would be sick indeed if I did not know that Temperance is not dead by any means whatever, and that the issue is not finally settled. The present Government will soon have its day like all the past, and there will yet be opportunity for prohibitionists to speak, and speak they surely will. The present crisis will arouse slumbering sentiment, and a year or two of liquor sale will show the contrast between prohibition and the sale of liquor so that more people than ever will become advocates of prohibition. Let us talk temperance and work for temperance, and pray that God may overrule and bring about a great triumph for prohibition.

H. C. MULLEN

Dear Mr. Trafton: Port Huron, Mich.

I am sending you my renewal for another year. I enjoy it much and would not want to be without it. Wish I might have been at Beulah this year. I fear at my age, and being so far away, that I will never be there again. I do ask your prayers for myself and family, that the Lord will keep me true, and that I shall see some of my family saved before I pass away. I am always glad to read the testimonies and about the work that is being done by our missionaries. I praise the Lord that I am still trusting him, but want to know him more and more.

Yours in the faith,

JANE MAXON.

Inglewood, Calif.

Dear Brother Trafton:

Please find enclosed renewal for the Highway that brings cheer to my soul. The only news that I get from New Brunswick is through the Highway. Jesus is very precious to me, his blessed Holy Spirit abides with me all the time. Praise His name.

MRS. J. H. SEELEY.