

## Young People's Column

### A YOUNG PEOPLE'S PRAYER LEAGUE

Annesley College,

910 Bank St., Ottawa, Can.

Dear Young People:

I have followed with intense interest, the progress of our young people's work this year, and my soul rejoices as I realize the new land we have possessed since our organization meeting at Beulah last year. Every district reports the organizing of new societies, and our youthful army is marching forward. Praise the Lord! The progress denotes sincere interest and earnest efforts on the part of the district presidents, their supporting officers, and the individuals of every society who have the work on their heart. However, our work has just begun and our heart's burden is—How can we accomplish something for the Lord? How can we help each other, our pastor, the missionaries, and the cause of Christ in general? The idea that the title of this letter carries is my answer. Prayer is the greatest need of the Christian Church today as it always has been. Every individual and every body of individuals who are outstanding in the history of the church were people who knew the secret of prevailing prayer. Cannot our Young People's Society claim the "exceeding great and precious promises" of the Word through prayer? Well, glory to God! I say, we can. I'll await your answer by mail. We have a prayer league functioning already and the question to every one of you is, "Will you join us?" Will you unite with us in this glorious work of intercession. Everybody can't hold office in the annual convention on the district organizations, but everybody can join and hold office in this prayer league. Send me your name that I may record you as a charter member of the Young People's Prayer League of the Reformed Baptist Denomination. "The world for Christ" is my challenge to you. Will you act promptly and forward your letter to the address at the beginning of my letter. I'm depending on you, young people. God's depending on you. Let us avail ourselves of our opportunities and join hands from Northern Maine to Southern New Brunswick and Nova Scotia in this intercessory plea for the souls of men.

Yours for full salvation saved and kept,  
by the power of God.

BENNETT C. COCHRANE

Royalton, N. B.

Dear Young People:

A Reformed Baptist Young People's Society was organized with ten members at the home of Mrs. H. M. Kimball on Nov. 2nd, 1932.

The following officers were elected:

President—Cora Weade.

Vice-President—Frederick Kirkbride.

Treasurer—Arthur Kirkbride.

Secretary—Katherine Graham.

Organist—Mrs. H. M. Kimball.

Since our young people's organization we have had a revival in this community in which many were won to Christ. As a result of this we have added nine members to the society, making a membership list of nineteen.

The interest in the meetings is very good, for which we praise God. We also have Bible study questions which are interesting and helpful, and encourages us to study God's word more.

Let us as Christians and organizations look

to God each day that He might save, bless and lead us in the paths of righteousness.

Let us always be ready and willing to help win others to Christ.

In His service,

KATHERINE GRAHAM (Secy.)

### JEWISH WELFARE IN PALESTINE

Fifty years ago three colonies of Jews settled in Palestine, taking up agricultural pursuits on the plains of Sharon and on the hills of Galilee. This was the first formal migration to the Jewish homeland in many years. We have yet to see the full significance of the Balfour declaration during the World War, promising the good offices of England in making Palestine once more a national home for the Jewish race, but enough has already transpired to show that the occupation begun fifty years ago is a movement of major importance in Jewish national life.

Quoting from an article that appeared this week, written by Pierre Van Paassen from Afuleh, Valley of Armageddon, he says:

"A host of miracles had happened even in the short interval of time since my last visit to the Holy Land. Wheat fields waved me a welcome where only marsh and barren sand existed on the previous trip. Jerusalem had spread out in brand-new Jewish suburbs. Tiberias has become a Spa. Perfume is borne on the breeze from the new orange groves of Sharon. Here and there, too, the hanging gardens of Solomon's day have been restored. Fresh earth has been dragged up the mountain slopes by Jewish labor battalions. Trees have been planted on the hills. New vineyards have been laid out over the gray, sunbeaten rocks of Samaria.

"In 20 minutes the automobile speeds from Jerusalem to Hebron, in half an hour to the Dead Sea. There are no better roads in the world than you find in modern Palestine. Jewish pioneers laid them out in the critical winter of 1926-1927.

"Along the shore of that Lake of Salt, always considered a dismal, cursed region, with its memories of Sodom and Gomorrah, stand rows of bungalows and cement buildings containing strange kinds of machinery. The work of extracting potash has begun. Chemical engineers compute the deposits of the various minerals in that inland sea at \$42,000,000,000. It's Palestine's gold mine. It's Palestine's commercial raison d'etre, which will make the new harbor which the British are building in Haifa and whence the exports are to flow, a serious rival of Alexandria.

"As the traveler speeds northward, settlements and villages follow each other as children in a joyous spring procession. When I saw all the new things, all I could do was throw up my hands in amazement and be silent. Where the traveler sighed over desolation only ten years ago there is life. The Queen of Flowers had returned to Palestine and had spread a luxurious carpet over Galilee. Water, formerly a stagnating curse in Jesreel, I saw piped crystal-clear across the valley all the way to Nazareth. Each day the enemy, the desert, has been pushed back further.

"Spades and picks and steam-shovels are gnashing and grinding in clay and rock everywhere. Motorplows and tractors chugged wherever I went. Railway trains fly through the Sinaian desert. They cover the 40-year long road trodden by Moses in 12 hours.

Dynamite blasts rocked the eternal hills. At Jisr and Yamuk I heard the music of peace; the thump of machinery and the rhythmic plunking of hydraulic pumps, and the shout of workers. Jordan is harnessed like Niagara.

"Wherever the Jews have projected themselves on the Palestine scene, there is to be found a bustle and an animation, a keenness and an ardor that almost takes your breath away. A splendid, modern, all-Jewish city has risen on the shores of the Mediterranean. It is a jewel of a place. But that brand new city of Tel Aviv is not the only spot where the teeming life makes the Westerner marvel and the Arab stand aghast. Palestine seethes with activity from Dan to Beersheeba. It is one of the few countries which knows little of the depression. Palestine is prosperous today. Next to Russia it is the scene of the most interesting experiments in collective farming. The rumble of modernism invading the East pursues you from one end to the other."—The Wesleyan Methodist.

### THE WAY TO GOD

The story of the prodigal son, as recorded in the fifteenth chapter of the Gospel by Saint Luke is a favorite with all who have tasted of the bitterness of sin, and who desire a real salvation. Perhaps there are some superficial folks who seek assurance in a formal profession of religion by presuming everything on the basis of an indulgent Father, but the parable itself does not teach that kind of dealing with sin. Here are four steps to God that are worthy of being pondered by every sincere soul that desires to be right with God:

Awakening—"And when he came to himself."

Decision—"He said I will arise and go to my Father."

Prayer—"And will say unto Him."

Repentance—"I have sinned."

How plain and reasonable are all these activities! The return of a rational and sensible mind appears in the statement that he came to himself. Satan's hypnotism was broken, and memories of better days at home took possession of him, with a glimmer of hope that he might find good days once more if he could get back to his father. Decision and action were important and necessary, but they did not complete the matter, neither does the noble decision to be a Christian make us one. We must decide to do the thing, then do it. It is a terrible delusion under which shallow religious workers proceed when they tell men that they are all right if they make a decision to serve Christ, or "confess Christ," as it is often termed. This is good in its place provided its place is where the prodigal put it, a new attitude toward his father, namely, a determination to seek forgiveness on the terms of true repentance. Prayer and a most humble repentance quickly followed. Gone was the old wilfulness that scorned the reasonable laws of home, and demanded his goods. A world of meaning lies in the words: "I have sinned and am no more worthy . . . make me as one of Thy hired servants." Of such a state the Psalmist declares: "The broken and contrite heart He will not despise." His faith appears in every transaction, it opened his mind to the pleasant memories of the past, breathed hope into him, encouraged him on the homeward way, and sustained him as he spoke his earnest prayer for forgiveness.—The Wesleyan Methodist.