

upon the lives of children demanding their time and attention, viz.: Modern education with its appeal to the mental, social and esthetic nature of the child; literature of all descriptions, varying from the comics to the choicest children's books; the radios with their humorous stories and quick music; the movie with its appeal to the eye and ear. In comparison to the excitement proffered by the world the church service and even the S. S. are tame. Not only do boys and girls outside of the church fail to attend, but even in children of the members of our churches the proper interest is lacking. The Church itself lacks appeal to the younger generation. Thus the pastor in his regular church services cannot accomplish much in effectively reaching the children.

Furthermore people have ceased to attend Church. Church attendance seems out of fashion these days. Sunday amusements are successful rivals to church attendance. In days gone by the announcement of a tent-meeting would draw crowds, but today people are not even hostile—they are indifferent and unconcerned.

Again it is unnecessary to call attention to the fact that the family altar is absolutely disregarded in the majority of homes. Except in a few instances, the hour of prayer and reading of God's Word is unknown. Today even in the churches of our land God's Word is not honored as it should be.

Results of such existing conditions are being manifested in the broken moral standards of true righteousness, which not only the adults are disregarding, but even the youth of our land are hardened to sin and its terrible consequences. Then in the mental consciousness of our present generation, adult and youth alike, there is no religious background. The truths which played such an important part in the lives of the past generation are not only utterly disregarded but unknown by men and women today.

The pastor cannot successfully cope with such negative forces. It is due to these conditions that pastors are beginning to realize that their work consists of more than speaking from the pulpit. They see the great need of teaching and building up a religious background to work upon.

To meet the needs of this situation and obtain the greatest possible results ministers are turning their eyes to the S. S. as an important factor in this work. Everyday the latent possibilities of this field are being realized. Slowly but surely the eyes of all Xians, workers and pastors are turning to the S. S. and expecting it to implant in the heart of the present generation the fundamental truths of God's Word.

Through the S. S. children glean Bible information that in this present day they do not obtain in their own homes. Newly converted adults receive special Bible training and teaching, which they cannot get from the pulpit. The influence of the S. S. extends to people in childhood that it could never reach as adults. Through children of unsaved parents valuable contacts are made and the gospel is placed in ungodly homes.

It has been estimated in recent years that the Church is losing seventy-five percent of her youth between the ages of twelve to eighteen and that out of every four children in the Church and S. S. at the age of twelve only one remains at the age of eighteen. These lives that are being lost may be saved if an effort is made for the advancement of S. S. work.

History is filled with examples of the lives of men who have been converted in their youth and used as mighty men of God. Matthew Henry and Dr. Adam Clarke were saved at the ages of eleven and seventeen respectively. Dr. Isaac Watts at the age of nine.

Therefore let us as pastors and Xian workers endeavour to save the youth of our land from sin's terrible clutches by putting our best into the S. S. The great task of the Church today is to evangelize the coming generation. This means not only the acceptance of Christ, but the development of Xian character and service.

If Christ should return tomorrow and find us laboring in this field of service, we may be certain of His approval for He hath said: "Blessed is that servant whom His Lord, when He cometh, shall find so doing."—(Material drawn from Preacher's Magazine).

MARGARET E. TEDFORD

OBITUARY

"Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord."—Revelation 14-13.

Mr. Abna Sharpe

The community of Millville was saddened to hear of the passing of Brother Sharpe on September 22. Brother Sharpe had been in failing health for more than a year and weakened quite rapidly following his wife's death in May. He was tenderly cared for by Bro. and Sister Lloyd Haines.

Our Brother testified to a faith in God that was born in his heart in early manhood and nourished by a constant walk with his Saviour until his promotion in his eighty-fifth year. He with his wife were charter members of the Reformed Baptist Church, manifesting at all times an interest in things spiritual. Their home was always open to the Man of God and those interested in Gospel work. A home that is being missed more and more as the months slip away. Bro. Sharpe held the office of deacon from the first. He also acted as Superintendent of the Sunday School for some years.

He leaves to mourn their loss a son-in-law, William Johnston of Saint John and two grandchildren and some nieces and nephews.

The funeral was held from his home to the church, September 24th, with the pastor in charge. The remarks were based on Scripture in Acts 11:24. The music was rendered by the choir which sang two selections at the home and three at the church. The great number present bespoke the esteem with which our Brother was held in the community.

Interment was made in the Millville cemetery. May the influence of this Godly man abide in our midst.

S. G. H.

REGENERATION OF THE MOVIES

Are the movies converted? Has the movie a soul? Who can speak absolution for this social curse? A few years ago when the movie first appeared it could easily have been made one of the greatest means of education and legitimate entertainments in the known world. But "the love of money is the root of all evil," says the good Book, and because an appeal to the baser passions and propensities of society promised larger returns, financially, it was straightway turned over to the devil and Fatty Arbuckle.

Thereafter respectability did not care to be identified with it. From then on it has been the greatest active factor in America in the production of crime and criminals.

It went to such recognized lengths that the moral element of the country arrayed themselves against it and legislation and censorship was instituted and threatened curtailment of the industry has finally resulted in a halt in obscenity, and immoral suggestiveness, and the whole riot of

impurity, and now we are introduced to a new code for the business, and we are told to "listen your last to pointed profanity in the films," bid farewell to the bed, the bath tub, the hula skirt, unless these items prove absolutely essential to the austere requirements of art." "And save a sob for the distraught director, who when the scenario lags, can no longer bid the heroine disrobe." These comments give you an idea of what society has been fed upon.

If the reforms suggested are bona fide and advantage is not taken of doubtful reservations, it will be indeed a purging of this long time reprehensible business.

Methodist introduced the idea of a probation for those who would come among them. Not a bad idea. Some call it "six months' suspicion;" an implied improvement in some cases.

Let us take this attempt at restoration of the money making power of the movie on at least a year's suspicion.

A list of the features to be eliminated but hitherto in vogue in the enterprise will justify suspicion, for no one has heard of the movie head's being converted. This is probably a bait for the moral element of society. They propose to deal with the same subjects and classes of entertainments, but intimate that they can be handled another way.

The better classes of society would be glad to see real and educational subjects treated for the betterment of the world, and how good it would be if moral virtue was placed at a premium in the movies instead of immorality and dishonor.

Be encouraged, reformer, moral sentiment has a tremendous force yet, notwithstanding the movie czar's disclaimer to the contrary. There is a hyper-sensitiveness about the pocket nerve of commercialism that can be affected.—Free Methodist.

EARTHQUAKES IN RECENT YEARS

The recent destructive California tremors served to make us recall that during the present century the following earthquake disasters have occurred throughout the world:

- 1902—St. Pierre, Martinique. 30,000 killed.
- 1906—Mt. Vesuvius, Italy. Quake and volcano, 200 killed. San Francisco. 452 killed; \$350,000,000 property loss. Valparaiso, Chile. 1,500 killed; \$1000,000,000 property loss.
- 1907—Kingston, Jamaica. 1,000 killed.
- 1908—Sicily and Calabria. 76,483 killed.
- 1912—Turkey. 3,000 killed.
- 1915—Italy. 29,875 killed.
- 1917—Gautemala. 2,500 killed.
- 1920—Mexico. 3,000 killed. China. 200,000 lives lost.
- 1923—Persia. 4,600 killed. Japan. 99,331 killed.
- 1927—Japan. 3,274 killed.
- 1928—Dutch East Indies. 1,200 lives lost.
- 1929—Persia. 2,000 killed. New York to Newfoundland. Slight shock; tidal wave drowns 40.
- 1930—Italy. 1,475 killed.
- 1931—Managua, Nicaragua. 1,000 killed.

—Pathfinder.

A convert in Uganda, it is said, was asked if he would undertake a certain task. He replied, "It is not for me to choose my work. Tell me what to do; I am ready to obey." How gladdened would the heart of a minister be if his converts and workers in the church were thus ready for the work at hand; yea, the heart of God would be made to rejoice.—Holiness Banner.