

## YOUNG PEOPLE'S PAGE

"Let no man despise thy youth"—I. Timothy 4:12

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### EDITORIAL

#### SPRING!—CONVENTION TIME!

Balmy breezes, babbling brooks, budding flowers, and singing birds, are not all the reasons we can discover that make spring the most welcome of seasons. Certainly we rejoice when the chill of winter is gone, the streams are released from their icy prisons, mother nature prepares to adorn herself, and bird choirs blend in beautiful and incomparable anthems of praise to our great Creator, but among many other added benefits that should swell our songs of gratitude is that Springtime is Convention time! The season for Young People's Holiness Conventions! Let us thank God for Holiness, for Holiness Conventions, and for young people who love Holiness and who love to attend Holiness Conventions!

We conclude that every district has or is making plans for big rallies this year both spring and fall. That the officers of each district association are active in preparing for the best conferences we have yet enjoyed.

There are some plans that are absolutely essential to a good convention. There are definite objectives that we can set that will insure the profitableness of such gatherings.

May we suggest a few essentials to successful district meetings:

First: There must be delegates.

Second: The delegates that come must come "in the Spirit."

Third: A definite theme and a convention speaker.

It is a foregone conclusion that it is utterly impossible to have a good district convention without delegates from the various societies. The church in which the conference is held will naturally derive benefit, and the few attending from other places will also receive help, but if our conventions are to be district-wide in their influence, there must of necessity be representatives from all sections of that district. Is there any reason why every society cannot have at least one delegate to the coming rallies? Moreover while it may seem to some to be unnecessary to mention such a thing considering the nature of the meeting that delegates are attending, experience and history combine to prove that the "spirit" of the attending representatives contributes much to the success or failure of the rally. Some go to the rallies just for "a good time." Others attend to see new country and meet new people. Another may attend for the sole purpose of meeting an old boy friend or girl friend, or perhaps to seek a new one. This ought not to be so. The delegates chosen to represent a society at a district convention should be such as will contribute to the spiritual uplift of the meetings. Our purpose in attending such rallies should not be to meet some friend but to meet the Lord, not to see new country, but to see new beauties in spiritual life.

Finally may we suggest that the foreknowledge of the theme of the convention, and some special speaker who would be prepared to preach from this theme, would make the conventions more interesting and surely more permanently beneficial. What a field of thought would be opened up to the attendants by the choosing of some theme like "Young People and the Denominational Problems," or "Young People and the

World's Spiritual Need," etc. What inspiring messages could be given by a well-prepared, spiritual speaker who would know the theme on which the young people had been thinking, and what definite and permanent help could be received by those attending. Would not our district conventions be more beneficial in a district-wide sense if some such suggestions were adopted and fulfilled? Think on these things.

### BOOKS TO READ

#### Grace Livingston Hill

Books on devotional, doctrinal, and ethical subjects should be carefully and consistently read by all Christians. It is appalling to observe how too many people are impoverished by failing to avail themselves of the opportunities of enrichment that good reading material offers. In addition to books on the above-mentioned subjects, we (specially young people) may read, with much profit, some of the fine fictional writings of Christian authors. I say the writings of Christian authors, for it is a sad fact that much, and probably most of the so-called fiction of to-day, is not only void of anything helpful, but is positively damaging to the moral and mental capacities of the reader. However, there are some authors that present stories that are genuinely beneficial to the reader. Not the least of these writers, is Grace Livingston Hill. The daughter of a Christian minister, she seems especially adapted and peculiarly called to perform a ministry of good among the youth through the medium of the printed page. Her stories, among which are "The Witness," "A New Name," and "The Tryst," are not only of a high moral character, but are definitely spiritual. Placed in a setting that is familiar to every young person of to-day, each story conclusively fulfils the purpose of the author of revealing the shallowness of the world and the worldly, and presenting Christ as the remedy for youth's ills and the answer to youth's searchings. Obtain one of the above publications and to your profit, become acquainted with this fine writer.

Fort Fairfield, Me.,

Dear "Crusaders" and Workers:

It has been suggested to each group that we send a little report of our work between now and Beulah, so here is ours.

Our work is not so old as some. It was started on March 15, 1936. Since then we have had regular meetings on Sunday afternoons until our special meetings began in January. Once in a while the church would be in use and we would miss a Sunday. Our average attendance has been around 20. Our children are quite widely scattered and do well to get to morning service and Sunday School in winter. However, we shall begin again following this quarterly.

For study work, we began at the first of the Bible and have taken each character and from them made applications for our own lives. Now and again we review and that day is especially interesting. This connected link of lessons seems to be proving profitable to us.

We use "Sunshine Choruses" which we bought with some of our own collections. We also have a little Mission Fund started.

Workers, I believe we have an important task in this group. Since it is not one of the usual services like Sunday School, it is almost sure to draw the children from choice. Once in a while we have an unruly youngster or the lesson of the day is not grasped like some. But, if there is no problem to take to the Lord, of what avail? After all, it is a good outlook when an interested group will return on Sunday afternoon after attending church and Sunday School in the morning. Little do we realize how much or how great seed we may be sowing. God will give the increase and time reveal it. Let us keep on! We remember that Christ said, "Suffer the little children to come unto Me, and forbid them not, for of such is the Kingdom of Heaven."

Yours in His work with these little ones,

MRS. LEONARD W. HUTCHINS.

### DISCIPLESHIP

Edward W. Dow

In St. John 6:53 we find these words: "Then Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, except ye eat the flesh of the Son of Man, and drink his blood, ye have no life in you." The result of this saying of Jesus is recorded in verse 66: "From that time many of his disciples went back, and walked no more with him." Many people had been followers, very ardent followers, of the Master since they had eaten of the loaves and were filled, until this test came. But it was too much for them; they enjoyed the loaves and fishes but could not think of going so far as to eat Jesus' flesh and drink his blood—to partake of his ministry. Many people there are to-day, who shrink back when they begin to realize what it will mean to follow Jesus all the way. In laying down the rules for his disciples Jesus was very plain and outspoken, in another place he told them that they must put his kingdom before relatives, house, lands or even their own lives. I have not yet found the place where Jesus told his followers to sign a card, or shake his hand and then go on and do as they please; but, one might think it must be there, judging from present-day methods.

I feel that we do the God we serve and the cause for which we work an injury if we stress altogether the sacrificial side of service. Assuredly we must leave all, if we would be followers of Jesus. Any other kind of service is not acceptable to him. But the rewards of discipleship far outweigh the investment. Matt. 29:19: "And every one that hath forsaken houses, or brethren, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or children, or lands for my name's sake, shall receive an hundredfold, and shall inherit everlasting life." Life eternal! what greater reward could we ask for? But notice that not only that is promised, but provision for our present needs is guaranteed. To some of us who are still young the reward of eternal life and freedom from eternal punishment may not seem so relevant just at present, although life is at best uncertain. It is of immense importance to me that the great God the Creator of the universe, is taking the helm in my life; and trusting in him I do not worry about what will come in the future. My prayer is that I may not be like the clay which Jeremiah saw marred in the hands of the potter.