

YOUNG PEOPLE'S PAGE

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

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ROOM FOR IMPROVEMENT—THE LARGEST ROOM IN THE WORLD.

Who is there among us who does not occasionally receive suggestions as to ways in which he or she might improve? Such suggestions come to us sometimes backed by authority, sometimes not; sometimes from a friendly source, and sometimes from those who do not like us or from someone who is strictly impartial. These "suggestions" may come in the form of advice, criticism or reproof, and may be warranted or unwarranted, wise or otherwise; but the point is, they do come. And would any of us say we never need them? Yet it is a fact that some young Christians, possibly some who are older, have backslidden, not because criticism or reproof has come their way, but because of their reaction to it.

Christians who have become established in their experience have usually settled for themselves many questions of Christian life and conduct and it is not expected that they should be moved by every breeze of criticism; but both the Bible and the experience of Christians bear record that even the most firmly established and deeply spiritual Christian is still liable to mistakes in judgment and conduct, and such a Christian will receive correction with regard to these with a gracious humility of Spirit. An example of this is recorded in Galatians 2:11-14, when Peter was taken to task by the Apostle Paul, and when later Peter refers to Paul as "our beloved brother" (2 Peter 3:15).

But the enemy of souls is always looking for an opening, and so it sometimes happens, when the young Christian is admonished or reproofed along some line, Satan finds opportunity for attack. He (the Enemy) says, "If people think you're not doing right, when you're trying so hard, it's just no use for you to try any more." Old Man Discouragement right on the job! And he keeps at it. "Imagine you, a Christian, failing like that. Nobody will ever have faith in you again. No use for you to try." It may have been there was a real or fancied harshness or lack of love in the manner in which the admonition or reproof was given, and in this case the Devil will show his colors even more plainly. He will say, "That's the kind of spirit So-and-So has. If that's a Christian, you don't want to be one. And if we listen to him, before we know it, we have lost confidence in our fellow-Christians, in ourselves, and in God.

May I offer a "suggestion for improvement" on this way of allowing reproof to drive us into discouragement, bitterness and backsliding? No, it is not that we should act on every bit of advice we get and wear ourselves out trying to please everybody in the wide world. It is this—when we are offered counsel or reproof, if there is any doubt at all in our minds as to whether we have been right or not, let us give it prayerful consideration. If, after this we fail to see that we were wrong, can we not still keep bitterness from our hearts? If, on the other hand, after we have thought and prayed about it we have to own up and say, "Yes, we were wrong," then can we not resolve that we will not fail in that

particular way again, by the help of God? And can't we still have a little love for the Priscilla or Aquila who has "expounded to us the way more perfectly?" If we do this, surely we will "adorn the doctrine of God our Saviour" in this thing, and it will be known of us that we have been with Jesus and learned of Him Who is meek and lowly in heart.

LOIS C. GOODSPEED,
(Fredericton Y. P. Society)

SCRAPBOOK POEMS

We have learned that many of our readers possess a keen appreciation of good poetry. This knowledge has led your editor to believe that a very interesting and profitable plan could be introduced to our readers.

Our idea is to have some good poem in each issue of our Y. P. page, with the suggestion that those interested clip out each one printed and make of the collection a Poem Scrapbook. By this means the various poems enjoyed by the reader would be preserved for future use and enjoyment. We shall endeavour to choose poems that are worthy of being retained, and would appreciate the help of our readers in forwarding to us any such poems as they may now have or may discover in the future. The first of this series will be in the next issue, so get your scrapbook in the meantime and if you can help us, send your selection to the editor.

Dear Highway Readers:

Greetings from our Young People's Society here at Fredericton.

Our annual business meeting was held at the close of our regular Young People's Meeting on Friday, Jan. 21st.

The Officers for 1938 were elected as follows:

President—Edward Dow; 1st Vice President, Reta MacGeorge; 2nd Vice President, Marguerite Trafton; Secretary-Treasurer, Lawson Saunders; Assistant Secretary Treasurer, Stuart Peterson; Organist, Evelyn Lawson; Secretary of Self Oenial Fund, Christina Crawford; Reporter to the Highway, Ruth Peterson; Librarian, Effie MacGeorge; Sick Committee, Lois Goodspeed, Reta MacGeorge, Ada Hancox; Advisory Committee, Emma Trafton.

Stuart Peterson—President and Pastor.

The meeting was closed with prayer.

Financial Statement for 1937:

Total amount collected.....	\$27.83
Amount paid out	24.50
Amount on hand.....	3.33

In 1936 the total amount collected was only \$11.52.

Our Young People's meetings are well attended and we always have a good time in the Lord and we don't have to resort to games to keep up the attendance. The membership is about 35 and we have an attendance of about 25 or 30.

A short time ago the Young People had charge of a Sunday evening service when our pastor, Rev. P. J. Trafton, was absent. The meeting was led by Edward Dow and Hubert MacGeorge.

We are looking forward to better times in

GLEANINGS

"And the Lord said unto Abram, after that Lot was separated from him: Lift up now thine eyes, and look from the place where thou art northward, and southward, and eastward, and westward; for all the land which thou seest, to thee will I give it . . ."—Gen. 13: 14-15.

No instinct can be put in you by the Holy Ghost, but he purposes to fulfill. Let your faith then rise and soar away and claim all the land you can discover.—S. A. Keen.

Bring Christ's Word—Christ's promise, and Christ's sacrifice—His Blood, with thee, and not one of Heaven's blessings can be denied thee.—Adam Clarke.

Do not get discouraged; it may be the last key in the bunch that opens the door.—Stan-sifer.

"Have faith in God, the sun will shine,
Though dark the clouds may be today;
His heart has planned your path and mine,
Have faith on God, have faith alway."

the Lord in the days to come, and if we all keep true to our convictions I believe we will see our desire accomplished.

There are a number of our Young People who attend our services who have wandered away from the fold, so we ask you to remember us in your prayers that they may be reclaimed. Hopinw that this letter will find all our Highway readers happy in the service of the Master.

RUTH PETERSON

A SCOTCH LAD'S FAITH

I like the positive faith of that sailor boy that Captain Judgins, of the steamship Scotia, picked up in a hurricane. "Go aloft!" said Captain Judkins, to his mate, "and look out for wrecks." Before the mate had gone far up the ratlines he shouted, "A wreck, a wreck!"

"Where away?" said Captain Judkins.

"Off the port bow," was the answer.

Life boats were lowered and forty men volunteered to put out across the angry sea to the wreck. They came back with a dozen shipwrecked men, and among them a boy of twelve years.

"Who are you?" said Captain Judkins.

The answer was, "I am a Scotch boy. My father and mother are dead and I am on my way to America."

"What have you here?" said Captain Judkins, as he opened the boy's jacket and took hold of a rope around the boy's body.

"It is a rope," said the boy.

"But what is that tied by this rope under your arm?"

"That, sir, is my mother's Bible. She told me never to lose that."

"Could you not have saved something else?"

"Not and save that."

"Did you expect to go down?"

"Yes, sir, but I meant to take my mothers' Bible down with me."

"Bravo!" said Judkins, "I will take care of you."