

## YOUNG PEOPLE'S PAGE

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

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### HEADED FOR THE BREAKERS

Mrs. H. C. Morrison

It is not pessimism to acknowledge facts. True, it is best to look on the bright side, as did Pollyanna, but disastrous consequences may be averted if we admit conditions and try to remedy them.

There is no one who is at all acquainted with existing conditions in society, politics, church, schools and family life but knows that we have departed from the good old times when the home was the best and happiest place to the child. I recall when a child I would go home with a schoolmate for the night and cry myself to sleep, wishing for morning to come and the day pass that I might go home.

Then society is far gone from what it was years ago. Formerly girls never thought of making their debut before they were full grown and had wisdom sufficient to guide their deportment in the proper channels. Now a girl scarcely knows girlhood, but is ushered into the rush and gaiety of society before she has the dignity and judgment of womanhood to guide her; hence the wrecks along the way of pleasure and frivolity.

I am not sufficiently posted in politics to express myself intelligently, but we can observe that conditions are very vasculating and it seems beyond the power of government officials to rectify the ills that beset us on every hand. Men will do most anything to get into office, and then they will forget their promises to do their best to bring about wholesome conditions throughout the country.

I need but mention the school problem to get the verdict that the school life of today is distressingly and increasingly dangerous to morals. Dancing is taught in our high schools, and the youngsters in the grade schools are learning to 'trip the light fantastic toe' with all the agility and grace of an adult expert. Young people who sing in our choirs in church go home to engage in the parlor dance. On the cars you hear about the latest dance, far into the wee hours of the morning, and then these girls pulling to their work the next day more dead than alive.

But what about the church? We are aware that the spiritual status of the church is far below what it used to be when the prayer meetings were well attended, testimony meetings were held weekly, revivals were had each year and the people were saved and the Christians stimulated to more devoted service for the Master. But today, it is the exception when a pastor has a full house to hear him preach: the prayer meeting is not frequented, save by a few of those who are true and tried; the Sunday school when dismissed go home, to the parks, or elsewhere to frolic and while away the Sabbath Day.

Four-fifths of the young womanhood of the country has little or no vital connection with the church, and behind this detachment lies a deep misunderstanding of the faiths by which Christian men and women live, or the ideals of life which they hold. Thus reports the International Sunday School Council of Religious Education, which recently met in Kansas City. Again, the report discloses that there are more than 27,000,000 American children, nominally Protestant, not enrolled in any Sunday school or cradle roll department and who receive no formal or systematic religious instruction, and we are told that there are 8,000,000 American children, less than

ten years old, growing up in non-church homes. Estimating the total number of youth under twenty-five years of age at 42,000,000, is a most startling percentage.

Nineteen out of every 20 Jewish children under 25 years of age receive no formal religious instruction; 3 out of every 4 Catholic children under 25 years of age receive no formal religious instruction; 2 out of every 3 Protestant under 25 years of age receive no formal religious instruction. Or, taking the country as a whole, 7 out of every 10 children and youth of the United States under 25 years of age are not being touched in any way by the educational program of any church. This calls up a vital question, How long may a nation endure, 7 out of 10 of whose children and youth receive no systematic instruction in the religious and moral sanctions upon which its democratic institutions rest?

Friends, if there is not a radical change; if the preachers and truly religious people do not become alarmed and pray for a revival of religion that will sweep the nation, our beloved America is headed for the breakers. The light that is in Christian America will become darkness unless she bestirs herself to repentance and strong crying unto God for help in our time of social, political, and moral need. The parent who has children to rear in this day has a responsibility that is greater than can be estimated; and the sad fact is—the tide is against them.—Pentecostal Herald.

### OUT OF DIVINE ORDER

E. E. Shelhamer

The majority of people are out of Divine order, more or less. They, or their parents, have marred God's original plan. Like a first class train that has gotten behind time, they were sidetracked, and are now rated as second class. Occasionally, one of these recovers lost time by putting on a "double-header," (gets the second blessing), and comes into the Grand Central with flying colors. Others work hard, but go "limping" the rest of the way. And how did it all come about?

1. By being unteachable in youth.
2. By going to the wrong church and Sunday School.
3. By failing to apologize and confess a fault.
4. By getting in a hurry and marrying into the wrong family.
5. By pulling off from those who would reprove or advise you.
6. By letting money and an increase of wages be the deciding factor.
7. By being too stiff, and taking too much care of a beautiful reputation.
8. By being too proud and self-willed to mingle freely with the humble people of God.

Friend, retrace your steps, take the humble attitude, and see if God will not yet rule and over-rule, and in the end you will bring your quota of glory to His name.—In Church Herald and Holiness Banner.

How many fail to discover that the great object of the Atonement is not to enable us to enter heaven but to enable us to form character which will make us unfit for hell and fit only for heaven.

### QUOTATION FROM GODBEY

"How awful is this awful perversion of substituting consecration (man's work) for sanctification (God's work)! Rest assured that it is Satan's theology. Well does the arch-fiend know that if he can get you to take man's work instead of God's, Hell is your doom. How Hell shouts when the great theologians, standing at the head of their churches, put off the people with these withering and blighting heresies.

"At this point we find not only much strong intellectual preaching (without the Holy Ghost), but frequently stirring revivals. They even deceive the elect, if they are not especially resting on His arms, and lead people to the conclusion that the revival is a glorious and genuine one because the people get happy and shout.

"We stand this day amid the awful wreckage of tall spirits who walked over this holy mountain in the primitive days of the holiness movement, blowing the bugle of full salvation with no uncertain sound. Alas! the enemy lassoed them, and they are now leaders of his great army. Yet they preach with great power, not that of the Holy Ghost, however, but of their own intellect and learning.

"While many are actually intellectual giants, they are spiritual dwarfs. This is the trouble with the popular clergy today. The people are magnetized by their intellectual power and educational brilliancy, yet they are spiritual pigmies, having no power with God to pray down blessings on the people."—Excerpts from "Higher Criticism."

### A HAPPY PRISONER

A little bird I am  
Shut from the fields of air;  
And in my cage I sit and sing  
To Him who placed me here;  
Well pleased a prisoner to be,  
Because, my God, it pleases Thee.

Nought have I else to do;  
I sing the whole day long;  
And He whom well I love to please  
Doth listen to my song;  
He caught and bound my wondering wing  
But still He bends to hear me sing.

Thou hast an ear to hear,  
A heart to love and bless;  
And though my notes were e'er so rude,  
Thou wouldst not hear the less;  
Because, Thou knowest, as they fall,  
That love, sweet love, inspires them all.

My cage confines me round,  
Abroad I cannot fly;  
But though my wing is closely bound,  
My heart's at liberty.  
My prison walls cannot control  
The flight, the freedom of the soul.

Oh, it is good to soar  
These bolts and bars above,  
To Him whose purpose I adore,  
Whose providence I love;  
And, in Thy mighty will to find,  
The joy, the freedom of the mind.

—Madam Guyon