

YOUNG PEOPLE'S PAGE

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

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THE MARCH OF YOUTH

The endless stream of youth entering the stage of human affairs to play their part in the drama of life, furnish new hope for every worthy enterprise. Each passing generation must yield the reins of destiny to the incoming army of youth. It is encouraging to have a strong, vigorous, aggressive, hopeful generation of youth to succeed the preceding. Parents rejoice when their children outdistance them. The assemblies and camp meetings of 1942 are giving encouraging reports of increased attendance and interest on the part of young people, notwithstanding the tremendous obstacles confronting them.

For a number of years your Editor has served on the faculty of youth assemblies, one of the most recent being that held at Monte Toyon, Calif., June 27th to July 4th. There were two hundred and twenty-five high school and college students enrolled. It met in a majestic grove of redwood trees, the largest and oldest living things on earth. The response to the more serious spiritual challenge of life was just as marked as to the recreational activities.

The battlefronts of the world are levying a fearful toll upon youth. They are called upon to die on battlefields in numbers that stagger our thinking. Serious thinking youth are interested, not only in how to live, but also in how to die. The Gideons report that four hundred young men on a transport ship in a combat zone requested one of their workers, travelling on the ship, to address them. They said to him: "We do not want to be entertained. We want to learn how to die."

For some months your Editor has followed the custom of meeting with all the service men and women in his Sunday morning congregation for five minutes at the close of the service. The young people are invited to remain with the service men. On a recent Sunday morning, at the close of the five-minute period, a splendid young man from the coast artillery, whose home is in Kentucky, introduced himself, saying: "I have often heard of your church, and have looked forward with eager anticipation to this visit. I may never be in your church again, and I must have a personal conference with you, if possible."

In the conference that followed this young artilleryman said: "I want to learn how to die." He left the conference with the assurance, "I am now ready to be offered, if need be." The thinking youth of this age are not only looking for a sure foundation on which to build in life, but one that will remain unshaken in death. They **are in quest of a faith that will stand every test, whether in life or in death.**

Approximately one-half of the youth of America are receiving no religious training. They are growing up as pagans in their conception of life. It takes no prophet to foresee that such youth will ultimately paganize America, unless they are won for the Christian faith. Such a potential harvest should awaken the Christian people of America to launch a crusade for winning the youth for Christ.

It is not necessary to compromise by lowering the standards of the Christian faith in order to win young people. It is at this point that quite a number of youth leaders in our modern churches have erred. Youth will not be won in large numbers by the lowering of standards. A faith of high standards, presenting a challenge of sacrifice and self-denial, will command the respect of the younger generation.

Youth offers the most fertile field for evangelism and Christian education. A survey of any average congregation will reveal that the majority of Christians in the congregation accepted Christ as their Savior before reaching the age of twenty years. Youth responds to the call involving the deeper phases of the Christian life, including the way of holiness. Many of the smaller denominations which have placed a major emphasis upon sanctification have, in no way suffered by comparison with the larger denominations, where little or no emphasis is made, in their attraction of youth. Interdenominational holiness camp meetings are attracting large numbers of young people. At a camp meeting where the writer was one of the preachers, in the summer of 1940, three hundred young people were in attendance. Their shining faces and victorious testimonies to the sanctifying grace of Christ indicated that the gospel of a full salvation makes a strong appeal to the vitality of youth.—Editor, *Pentecostal Herald*.

"THE UNEXPECTED"

I know not what may come today, some needy soul may cross my way;
Lord, give a word of cheer I pray, to meet the unexpected.
Perchance He may afresh reveal some wound that He alone can heal;
He understands, and He can deal with all the unexpected.
Perhaps some loss may come to me, some care, or some perplexity;
Then He my strength and stay shall be to face the unexpected.
How oft within the trivial round so many trying things are found;
But He can make all grace abound for all the unexpected.
No matter what the call may be, or changes that may come to me;
His hand of love in all I see from sources unexpected.
Why should I ever have one fear, though oft the way be dark and drear?
For Christ my risen Lord draws near with blessings unexpected. —By F. BUCKLEY.

SELF-DENIAL FUND

1942-43 Contributions

J. Stewart Smith.....	\$ 10.00
Mrs. Lydia Davis.....	5.25
Shirley Farnham	5.20
Marguerite Wilson	5.20
Charles Goodspeed	5.20
Mrs. Walter Long	5.00
Mrs. L. T. Sabine.....	2.50

NOTE: Some corrections should be noted relative to S. D. Fund report appearing in last issue. Expenditures should have read:

To pay last year's deficit.....	\$ 30.25
Paid this year to Foreign Missions.....	350.00
Paid this year to Home Missions.....	100.00

Total Expenditures \$480.25

FATHER'S VOCATION

Are the sons of bankers more conservative than the sons of farmers? Is the daughter of a dentist more religious than the daughter of a teacher? Does the father's vocation have an effect on the religious life of son and daughter?

In an effort to find out, Dr. Erland Nelson, of Newberry College (South Carolina) directed a survey of 3,214 students in four state universities and fourteen denominational colleges. He found: (1) That the homes of dentists, journalists, lawyers, farmers, laborers and commercial men provided children with the more conservative attitudes, while the more liberal students came from the homes of teachers and social workers; (2) the most religious group came from church parsonages, followed up closely by those from farmers' and laborers' homes. And, which is most important, (3) that father's vocation seems to have more influence upon student attitudes than does the number of years they have attended college.

We rejoice in the findings on parsonage children; we've heard too long the fiction that they are "fed up with religion."—The Christian Herald.

IN PAGAN NATIONS

A decree of August 23, 1940, established partial prohibition throughout that part of France unoccupied by the Germans. It was accompanied by the announcement that alcoholism among the French soldiers played a large part in the rout and defeat of the French army. This is a partial explanation of the collapse over which we have marveled. Germany and Italy have both taken decisive steps to reduce drinking on the ground that it is demoralizing their people. They are making national campaigns on patriotic grounds. While these pagan nations are fighting for prohibition, America continues to guzzle strong drink as the world burns.—United Presbyterian.

WHERE IS HAPPINESS

Not in unbelief.—Voltaire was an infidel of the most pronounced type. He wrote: "I wish I had never been born."

Not in pleasure.—Lord Byron had a life of pleasure, if anyone did. He wrote: "The work, the canker, and the grief are mine alone."

Not in money.—Jay Gould, American millionaire, had plenty of that. When dying, he said, "I suppose I am the most miserable man on earth."

Not in position and fame.—Lord Beaconsfield enjoyed more than his share of both. He wrote: "Youth is a mistake; manhood a struggle; old age a regret."

Not in military glory.—Alexander conquered the known world of his day. Having done so he wept in his tent, "because," he said, "there are no more worlds to conquer."

Wherein, then, is happiness found? The answer is simple. "In Christ alone." He said, "I will see you again, and your heart shall rejoice, and your joy no man taketh away from you."—Religious Digest.