

## YOUNG PEOPLE'S PAGE

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

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## EDITORIAL

## DON'T GET SIDETRACKED!

To read the reports of the weekly services of many young people's church groups, causes one to wonder. Socials, suppers, theatricals, entertainments, etc., are the usual order. A "sing-song" opening the meeting may be composed of hymns and sacred songs, or there may be ballads and popular compositions. Scripture will likely be read. If prayer is a part of the programme, it will have to be done by the pastor in most cases, for the young people of many present day churches leave all praying to the pastor and old-fashioned church members. Testimony is a thing quite unheard of, unless the soulless repetition of a verse of Scripture (even this practice is quite abandoned now) could be considered as such. The important (?) matters to be considered by the meeting are, laying plans for a play to be given in the church hall, appointing a committee to arrange for a chicken supper, or choosing teams to debate the usefulness of the League of Nations. All who are acquainted with conditions relative to the activities of church groups of today, will agree that the picture presented is not over-drawn. That the description is true to fact, all will consent.

Whatever may be said for or against these activities of many Y. P. Societies, this much is obvious, more important things are being neglected. The youth group of today is the church group of tomorrow. The level of spiritual life in the Y. P. Society at present, will doubtless be the spiritual standard of the church of the future. There is cause for alarm and extreme caution on our part as we consider the situation in this light. If a worldly programme void of psalms, hymns and spiritual songs, prayer, personal witnessing, Bible study, and plans for aggressive soul-winning effort constitutes the young peoples' service now, what kind of church are we to have tomorrow? The answer is too obvious.

Young people, let's keep ourselves in the love of God, and carefully guard against a spiritual decay that will necessitate the substitution of an entertainment or social hour for a service of spiritual uplift and blessing, that will provide spiritual nourishment and prepare us for true Christian leadership in the future. Make the programme of your young people's meeting spiritual, and by the grace of God keep it so!

## PEGGING AWAY

One of the real attributes of true greatness is the ability to take the long view, to possess the courage, the devotion, and the abiding faith to pursue a great task steadily toward its consummation even when that consummation is not even remotely in sight. This was one of the attributes of Lincoln.

"Do you expect to end this war during your administration?" a friend once asked Mr. Lincoln.

"I do not know, sir," was the reply.

"But, Mr. Lincoln," insisted the friend, "what do you mean to do?"

"Peg away, sir," explained the President, "peg away—keep pegging away!"—Selected.

## MEMORY VERSES DEC. 1-15

1. Rom. 5:12.
2. Psalm 51:5.
3. I. John 3:4.
4. James 4:17.
5. James 1:13.
6. James 1:14-15
7. I John 3:8.
8. Isaiah 55:6-7.
9. Isaiah 1:18.
10. John 3:3.
11. Eph. 2:1.
12. I. John 3:9.
13. I. John 4:4.
14. I. John 1:7.
15. I. Thes. 5:23-24.

Note.—Let those who study these verses observe the way they form a chain of truth. There are verses which deal with man's fallen condition, clear statements which indicate God's call to repent and forsake the way of wrong, and several verses which reveal His perfect plan for a full deliverance.

## PUT IT IN YOUR BIBLE

Here is a handy table which it will be well to cut out or copy for reference in your Bible studies:

A day's journey was about twenty-three and one-fifth miles.

A sabbath day's journey was about an English mile.

A cubit was nearly 22 inches.

A hand's breadth is equal to three and five-eighths inches.

A finger's breadth is equal to one inch.

A shekel of silver was about 50c.

A shekel of gold was \$8.

A talent of silver was \$538.30.

A talent of gold was \$13,809.

A "piece" of silver, or a penny, was thirteen cents.

A farthing was equal to 3c.

A mite was less than ¼-cent.

A gerah was equal to one cent.

An ephah, or bath, contained seven gallons and five pints.

A hin was a gallon and two pints.

An omer was six pints.—Sel.

## BE STILL AND KNOW THAT I AM GOD

By Isaac Ernest Smith

While war-drums sound on land and sea,  
And "aerial navies" sweep the sky,  
Men pray for peace that may not be,  
And stars look down where millions die.  
Above the shouting hosts of sin,  
Where nations feel the tyrant's rod,  
A Voice calls through the angry din:  
"Be still, and know that I am God!"

Men's hearts are failing them in fear,  
As four dread horsemen ride apace;  
And who will save when they appear,  
Or lead us to some sheltered place?

We cringe while age-old empires fall  
And mingle in the crimson sod,  
But healing words come yet to all:  
"Be still, and know that I am God!"

"What shall I do, where shall I go?  
Has God at last forgotten me?"

I cry, as rising waters flow,  
'Til sorrow, pain, is all I see.  
While evil triumphs in our sight,  
And darkness falls where once we trod,  
A Voice comes piercing through the night:  
"Be still, and know that I am God!"

## MODERN MIRACLES

When Glenn Cunningham was a boy, a fire cost the life of his brother, and burned Glenn's legs so badly that it was feared he would never walk again.

Today this same Glenn is the greatest running machine in the world! When Paavo Nurmi, the Flying Finn, ran the mile in 4:10, experts said it would never be run that fast again; yet during a recent winter the young man with the flame-scarred legs has beaten that record indoors time after time, once in 4:04.4.

Was it a miracle that transformed this fire-crippled lad into the most marvelous runner of our day? Yes, but it was a slow miracle; a miracle which took years of painful effort. When Glenn left the hospital with thin new skin formed over his burned legs, he forced himself to run, run, run; he made up his mind that, with God's help, he would not be a cripple. Every day found him running, stretching his damaged leg muscles. Even today, before running a mile race, he has to warm up by running a long distance.

You and I have handicaps, too—and we can work the same miracle. Is our handicap shyness, some defect of voice, carriage, manner, or character? Intelligent practice will do wonders. We can be workers of modern miracles, if we will.—Selected.

## SUNDAY SCHOOL INVENTORIES

Why not take time out this week for a complete inventory of your schools' objectives?

Let us first set up a score card by which you can check your organization and see where it rates itself. What are our objectives?

A vital Christian experience on the part of every scholar and worker. This goes without saying.

The life of Jesus as well as His doctrines made effective through Christian living. The life must be lived as well as experienced.

Every scholar brought into a relationship with the transforming power of Christian truth as found in the Bible and extra-biblical sources.

Christian ideals of character being worked out in immature persons.

The discovery of the nature and purpose of the church.

The investment of personality in the work of God's kingdom, which is Christian stewardship as applied to being a good churchman.

The rules of Christian living becoming daily conduct guides.

Here are specific goals by which you can check the work of your organization. Ask yourself, Does each item of my program contribute toward attaining these character standards? What does not so contribute should be eliminated. Your work must build Christian life such as can be lived daily in contact with the world.