

"Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth."

—ECCLES. 12:1

YOUNG PEOPLE'S PAGE

Voice of the Reformed Baptist Y. P. A.

Editor: Lic. Ralph Ingersoll
Woodstock, N. B.

EDITORIAL

After a summer of God's manifold blessings upon our Young People's work, we are once again gathered in to our respective home churches and societies, the holiday season being over.

As we look back over the summer months we truly have much for which we should praise the Lord. He has faithfully presented to us nature in all her splendour, permitted us, or at any rate most of us, to enjoy this handiwork of His, blessed many of us as we were privileged to attend Beulah Camp and the Youth Camp, by bringing us into fellowship with many friends of "like precious faith" and at the same time refreshing our waiting souls with showers of blessing from Heaven. And now He has spared us to settle down to our Fall work once again.

But before we passively settle ourselves into our usual Fall routine may we each one stop for a while—yes, even for just a few minutes—and name some of the personal blessings from His bountiful hand, blessings of which the writer of these lines knows nothing as far as your life is concerned, nor could he begin to mention here all the possible blessings that might be yours, his own proving even too great an enumeration for the space permitted. As the hymn writer has so well said, "... it will surprise you what the Lord hath done."

I mentioned the thought of passively settling ourselves into our usual Fall routine but I see now that if we do as I have suggested—concentrate for a few moments on God's goodness to us—then I must change my statement to actively attack, not the usual routine but for many perhaps, a modified routine. Why? Because now that we have counted a few of our blessings we shall surely desire activity for God and His cause. As we consider the thought of God's faithfulness and the fact that we as His professed children have not been labouring at our best for Him, how our hearts long, as in times past when we have started to count our blessings, to repay Him in some small measure. Well then, this year may we not let it stop at a heart longing but may we begin to put that longing into action and really be active for Him.

The question now arises in our minds: But what can I do for God? This is a question which is impossible for one individual to answer for another but perhaps a few of the following questions will aid us in developing an answer. Are we, as God's Young People, as faithful in our personal devotions as God would have us to be? Are we always in the Church when God would have us there, in all the Sunday services including the early prayer service, in attendance through the week to both prayer meeting and Y. P. meeting? As faithful as God would have us to the souls of those with whom we have contact? Do we put our best into all the work we do for Him? Yes, I believe that if we are honest with ourselves when we ponder such thoughts, God will point out to us one or more places where we can change from our passive state to one of activity and hence alter our usual routine.

Having taken stock of our short comings in preparation for our Fall work in His vineyard, let us make the necessary adjustments to our old passive routine and enter, with all

our youthful vigor into making this the best year our Church society has known and the year in which we as young people are considered by our Church as its greatest asset.

"THE PRAYIN'EST PRAYER"

By Rev. William M. Lyon

There are many people who never seem to learn how to pray. They may "say" very beautiful prayers, but they do not really pray them. Not long since I came across a little poem containing some thought along this line. It may be worth passing on. I do not know its author. Here it is:—

The proper way for a man to pray,
Said Deacon Lemuel Keyes,
And the only proper attitude
Is down upon his knees.

No, I should say, the way to pray,
Said Rev. Dr. Wise,
Is standing straight with outstretched arms,
And rapt and upturned eyes.

Oh, no, no, no, said Elder Slow,
Such posture is too proud;
A man should pray with eyes fast closed
And head contritely bowed.

It seems to me his hands should be
Austerely clasped in front,
With both thumbs pointing toward the ground,
Said Rev. Dr. Blunt.

Last year I fell in Hodgins' well,
Head first, said Cyrus Brown,
With both my hands a sticking up,
My head a-pinting down;

And I made a prayer right then and there—
Best prayer I ever said—
The prayin'est prayer I ever prayed,
A-standin' on my head!

I shall not argue in favor of that particular posture in prayer. This man who prayed "heels over head" in the well,—that might answer for our brothers who believe in doing penance—but I do believe that spiritually his example is scriptural. Listen: His whole heart and soul came pouring forth into the ear of God. He lost sight of everything else. We must get to the end of ourselves, before we can get to the beginning of God. We must "shut the door" of all externals and be a "shut-in" with God. This is the only prayer that is effectual. It is the voice of human need piercing the very heavens and causing showers of blessing to descend. This is praying in the Holy Spirit. It never fails because it is God's way,—the "more excellent way"—and His word can not return void. Dear fellow believer, let us test our prayers by this standard. It can never fail. "Forever, O Lord, thy word is settled in heaven."

RALLY NOTICE

District No. 3 will hold their annual District Y. P. Rally at the North Head Church, Sept. 20-22 incl. with Mrs. Laura Walker, of Waltham, Mass., as the special speaker. We trust that many shall put forth a special effort to

attend this feast of the good things of God. Let us pray that God's spirit may be graciously outpoured and that many precious souls will be harvested.

THE TESTING TIME

About eight years after a certain blacksmith had given his heart to God, he was approached by an intelligent unbeliever with these questions: "Why is it that you have so much trouble? I have been watching you. Since you joined the church and began to 'walk square' and seem to love everybody, you have twice as many trials and accidents as you had before. I thought that when a man gave himself to God his troubles were over. Isn't that what the parson tells us? That is what I understand from all his talks."

With a thoughtful but glowing face, the blacksmith replied, "Do you see this piece of steel It is for the springs of a wagon, but it needs to be 'tempered.' In order to do this I heat it red-hot then cool it with water. If I find that it will take a 'temper,' I heat it again; then hammer and bend it and shape it so that it will be suitable for the wagon. Often I find the steel too brittle, and it cannot be used. If this is so, I throw it on the scrap heap. Those scraps are worth less than one cent a pound; but this wagon spring is valuable."

He paused a moment, and his listener nodded. Then the blacksmith continued: "God saves us for something more than to have a good time. At least, that is the way I see it. We have the good time, all right, for the smile of God means Heaven. But He wants us for service, just as I want this piece of steel. And He puts the 'temper' of Christ in us by the testings and trials which come our way. He also supplies the strength to meet these testings."

"Since I have learned this, I have been saying to Him: 'Test me in any way that you choose, Lord, only don't throw me on the scrap heap.'—*World Conquest.*"

INDIFFERENT MESSENGERS

A friend's little girl was sent to the store to purchase some postal cards and a yeast cake. Her mother had impressed upon the little girl the two errands, and she was sure she would not forget. Some time passed, and at last she came tripping home, picking flowers by the wayside, evidently delighted with her trip. She greeted her mother: "O, mamma! I have had such a wonderful time." "Did you do the errands?" her mother asked. A cloud came over her face and she replied: "I forgot the postal cards and I have lost the yeast cakes." Are not many nominal messengers of Christ as forgetful of their real mission as this little girl? They occupy themselves with their own pleasures, dilly-dally along the way and forget their real purpose and lose sight of their opportunities. We are here to tell men of the love of God and of the salvation and life of Christ.—Selected.

GREAT THOUGHTS

Only He who has lost us could find us; only He who was wronged could forgive; only the Holy One could satisfy God's own holiness. Only God Himself with us and no creature of His, could meet the soul's last need and restore a creation undone.—P. T. Forsyth.