

"Let no man despise thy youth,
but be thou an example . . ."
1 Timothy 4:12

YOUNG PEOPLE'S PAGE

Voice of the Reformed Baptist Y. P. A.

Editor: Rev. C. E. Stairs,
38 Pleasant St., Truro, N. S.

Editorials

Giving Thanks

Today is Thanksgiving, but when this article is read by you readers the day will have been long passed. My prayer is, however, that we shall not cease our giving of thanks with the passing of Thanksgiving. The giving of thanks should be spontaneous, natural, and frequent. As the psalmist meditated upon the Lord's dealings with him, a burst of thanksgiving interrupted his thoughts, "O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good." It was thus again and again with the psalmist. But there is something else about the giving of thanks which is more difficult for us to understand yet more necessary for us to appreciate: the giving of thanks should be all inclusive, "giving thanks always for all things unto God." (Eph. 5:20).

Congratulations to Sussex

When one considers that the Sussex Church is less than a year old but nevertheless has an organized young people's society with seventeen regular members, he can hardly avoid making a compliment. According to the letter appearing on this page, the society's program has quite a lot of variety and provides for the participation of all the members. (In these respects the programs of all societies should be similar). For initiative, planning, and enthusiasm, we say, "Hats off to the Sussex Young People's Association."

Organize or Fossilize

Sussex's example should be an incentive to some of our older churches who have seen the passing of a generation without organizing a young people's society.

Perhaps some feel that their churches do not have enough young people to warrant organization. A half dozen teenagers with the help of older church members and a pastor could surely make a success of a society. The older church members could attend services to give support and encouragement. As much as possible, however, the program should use the young people and should appeal to young people.

One thing is certain: we shall not improve our situation by doing nothing. More probably we shall find that our church is losing young people because it is not providing for them. I have seen evidence which substantiates my suggestion, and perhaps our topic is not outside the realm of possibility, "Organize or fossilize."

C. E. S.

FIRST

YOUNG PEOPLE'S RALLY

ON DISTRICT 2

Speaker: Rev. N. E. Trafton

Place: Sussex.

Dates: Nov. 7 and 8.

RALLY AT MILLVILLE, N. B.

Nov. 5 — 8

Speaker: Rev. C. Filer

OFFICERS, WHAT ARE YOUR PLANS?

For some time we have been thinking on the matter of leadership and organization in our local societies. Naturally, we were quite happy when we found that another writer had already expressed some of our thoughts, and consequently we are taking advantage of his work. The writer is C. Wesley Lovin, of the Wesleyan Methodists. Much of what he says seems applicable to us. For the sake of brevity we are going to summarize and occasionally quote. (Ed).

1. Leadership is not merely a place of honour but of responsibility. "Time should be given, energies expended, and thought expressed for the purpose of making ours a larger and more spiritual group of young people."

2. A meeting of the executive should be held for the express purpose of planning the new year's work. Face your problems realistically; try to solve them. Give thought to the regular service. "It is a dry, uninteresting meeting."

3. The meeting of the executive could become a regular monthly get-together. Sometimes the meeting could be preceded by a supper at the home of a committee member.

"I am finding that in many cases there is little or no real planning on this level. It seems to be left to one or two individuals, and if they fail the local society fails. Something must be done on the local level regarding this gross inefficiency."

At the monthly meeting financial obligations, special services, projects, ways and means of making the local society more effective may be considered.

"This manner not only keeps the society going but it gives real leadership training which is so badly needed on every level of our church life."

PREXIE'S PROBLEMS

Contributed by the Presidents of Local Societies

A problem which we encounter in our local Young People's Society is that of obtaining material which will give variety to our meetings. While we realize that it is first of all important to have services in which God's presence is felt, yet we like to vary our programs and make them more interesting.

Our young people are willing to co-operate and help as they can in different ways. In some services one person brings a lesson of his own choice, and, on occasion, material or a subject is provided. We feel that it is beneficial for our members to participate in various ways and thus develop the talents which God has given to them. Opportunities are given to witness for Christ and thus each one can strengthen himself spiritually.

In our area there are young people who are spending some of their best years away from Christ. As Christians in this society we need a greater burden and deeper concern for those who have not tasted of our great salvation or who have wandered away from God. We need to be careful lest we find ourselves unmoved by the conditions of the souls about us. May we be used of the Master in helping to win others for Him.

WHAT'S GOING ON IN THE SOCIETIES

SUSSEX

We organized for the coming year on Aug. 27th. The new officers are as follows:

President—Jack Henry.

Vice-President—Basil Votour.

Secretary—Annie Clark.

Treasurer—Sandra Higgins.

Pianist—Betty Thorne.

We have a fine group of young people, seventeen faithful members. Our President, Brother Jack, is a very capable and understanding leader.

Our meetings consist of a hymn-sing, the Scripture lesson, prayer, roll call answered with a verse from the Bible, offering, minutes, programme, testimonies, hymn and benediction.

The programmes consist of naming the books of the Bible, contests, questions, Scripture references, discussions, Bible quizzes, readings, writers of the Bible. We also have addresses to the young people by our pastor, Rev. R. H. Nicholson, who has brought us some heart-searching messages from a prayerful heart. He preaches with such a marked plainness and persuasiveness that many are led into the true light of holiness.

We thank God for sending him to us.

Annie M. Clark, Reporter

HARTLAND

The Hartland Young People's opened their meetings on September 18th.

Officers elected are as follows:

President—Audry McElhinny.

Vice-President—Jean Anderson.

Secretary—Joan Foster.

Treasurer—Uda Crabbe.

Pianist—Melba Anderson.

Assist. Pianist—Cheryl MacMullin.

Reporter—Juanita Crabbe.

Juanita Crabbe, Reporter

Seven Blessings From God's Presence

Above You—To guard. "Know therefore this day . . . that the Lord He is God in heaven above" (Deut. 4:39).

Underneath—To Support. "The eternal God is thy refuge, and underneath are the everlasting arms" (Deut. 33:27).

Behind—As a Rereward. "The God of Israel will be your reward" (Isa. 52:12).

Before—To Lead. "I will go before thee, and make the crooked places straight" (Isa. 45:2).

At Your Right Hand—To Protect. "Because he is at my right hand I shall not be moved" (Psalm 16:8).

Round About—To shield from Storms. "As the mountains are roundabout Jerusalem, so the Lord is round about His people from henceforth even for ever" (Psalm 125:2).

Within—As Companion and Comforter. "And I will put My Spirit within you" (Ezek. 36:27). "I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless, I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me" (Gal. 2:20).

—Mrs. Jonathan Goforth.

The King's Highway