

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

YOUNG PEOPLE'S PAGE

Voice of the Reformed Baptist Y. P. A.

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EDITORIAL

THE TIME OF PLIABILITY

We have all heard the saying, "It is hard to teach an old dog new tricks." The time to teach a dog is when he is a pup, and the time to teach a man is when he is a boy and a youth.

While it is quite true that experience is a good teacher and that it takes time to learn by experience, it is also true that the younger we learn the better—and the easier. Our personalities and characters are like clay, more easily moulded before they become set.

Youth is a time of pliability when character and personality are more easily influenced and shaped. Of course we are in great danger of being shaped by the wrong influences and of putting the twist in the twig which will mark the tree of later life. On the other hand we may be more readily directed by good preaching and teaching and by worthy examples. Bad habits may be more easily broken and good habits may be more easily formed. (Now is the time to break the habit of being late for church and the time to establish the habit of regular private devotions.) Now is the time to develop the kind of personality which will be healthy and wholesome, pleasant and kind.

Not long ago a well-known church leader was informed by friends of some characteristics in his personality which greatly reduced both his popularity and his usefulness. His reply was, "I'm too old to change now." What a tragedy.

Young people, we are building now. We cannot afford to be careless. These are important days in your life and mine.

Why not have a check-up? Make a list of your weaknesses, faults, and bad habits. Start working to improve them. Note your improvement, and ten years from now you will be glad you made the effort. —C. E. S.

Little Things

Little words are the sweetest to hear. Little charities fly the farthest, and stay the longest on the wing. Little lakes are the stillest. Little hearts are the fullest. Little farms are best tilled. Little books are most read, and little songs are dearest loved. And when nature would make anything especially rare and beautiful, she makes it little — little pearls, little diamonds, little dews. Life is made up of littles. Day is made up of little beams, and night is glorious with little stars.—Selected.

A Love Letter

Yesterday morning I received a letter from one to whom I had given my heart and devoted my life. I freely confess to you that I have read that letter five times, not because I did not understand it at the first reading, nor because I expected to commend myself to the author by frequent reading of the epistle. It was not with me a question of duty, but simply one of pleasure. I read it because I am devoted to the one who wrote it. To read the Bible with the same motive is to read it devotionally, and to the one who reads in that Spirit it is indeed a Love Letter.

RIVERSIDE YOUTH CAMP

Storer Emmett, Jr.

"Ashes to ashes, dust to dust" were the words spoken as the youth campers gathered in a group around a large hole dug by the corner of the pasture to commit to memory Riverside Youth Camp of 1954. The scene was enacted just before retiring on the final Saturday night of youth camp while Sunday alone remained to finish the camp activities. As I looked over the group of youth campers, each appeared happy and intent upon the ceremony; no one seemed anxious to return home.

And so we would report this year's youth camp at Riverside one of the finest and most successful. The days were busy ones, full of study, fun, and fellowship. Most rewarding of all was the close presence of God felt in all of the activities and services. The enrollment of 68 was the largest yet for Riverside Youth Camp. Of these, nearly forty were twelve years old or over. Although everything went smoothly with the diversity in ages, it was felt that a strong indication was implied for providing two camps in this area for another year.

Not only did the camp boast a wonderful group of young people, but also a fine staff of workers. At the helm were Rev. and Mrs. McGeorge. Brother McGeorge, aside from his supervisory responsibilities substituted in the kitchen throughout most of the camp until relieved from the cooking by Mrs. Hortense Hubble. Mrs. McGeorge had care of the younger campers, and with the help of Mr. Bill Burbury taught a class of girls under twelve. Miss Uta Chase and Miss Wilma Monroe were girls' workers. Miss Chase also was camp nurse, while Miss Monroe helped with the recreation and taught two classes. Mr. Roy Farley and Mr. Storer Emmett, assisted by Peter Emmett, were counselors for the boys. Mr. Farley taught classes for the boys under twelve, while Mr. Emmett directed the music and other camp activities. Rev. Bagley was the hotel manager.

We were privileged in having Rev. H. R. Ingersoll as our youth evangelist and Bible teacher. From his heart-stirring messages geared to the level of youth, his helpful Bible classes, and his ability to enjoy fun with the campers, Brother Ingersoll showed he had a deep understanding of young people and their needs.

The power of God was particularly manifested in our services as many of the young people made their way to an altar of prayer, there to receive Christ as their Saviour or Sanctifier. Wednesday evening marked a climax in the evangelistic response when twenty youth campers came forward for prayer. The sincerity and eagerness with which these young people sought help for their spiritual needs brought great blessing to the hearts of the workers. On Thursday, the entire camp program was devoted to missions. During the class periods, Miss Chase presented the call of missions and answered many questions regarding the field and mission work. Prayer meetings broke out spontaneously during the day, and at the close of the evening service four young people knelt at the altar indicating that they had received a call to full-time Christian

service, and many more came forward to signify their willing obedience if God should call them. What a glorious time we had! After the service, Miss Chase showed her slides in the dining hall.

We had a full schedule each day at camp. Between the 6:30 morning prayer meeting and lights-out bell at 10:30 many activities took place. We had private devotions, preparation of rooms for Hector the Inspector, morning devotional services, classes, assembly and music after dinner, a controversial rest period, more classes and handwork, recreation, choir practice or prayer service, the evening service, and a social hour. Of course, we had wonderful meals! During recreation, the Gideonites and the Samsonites, the two teams into which the camp was divided, tried to make points for their side. The social hour included such events as the wedding of Miss Church and Mr. World, and Stump the Experts, who happened to be Rev. McGeorge, Rev. Ingersoll, and Mr. Emmett.

Some of the highlights of the last Saturday of camp included a picnic at Nickerson Lake, an Open-Air Meeting in Mars Hill before the evening service, and a wonderful Campfire Service after the evening service. The campers had been preparing for this last week-day service all day by carrying fagots on which they had inscribed their favorite verses. As they gave their testimonies, they threw them into the fire, thereby signifying a closer walk with God.

Riverside Youth Camp, like other Christian youth camps, is over; and all that remains are the wonderful memories, the experiences that many young people had with the Lord, and a challenge for all of us. When we read in our papers of the horrible crimes that are being committed by teen-agers, will we not accept the challenge, and work, give, and pray harder than we ever have before, so that camps like Riverside may continue, and that many young people, that might not otherwise have the chance, may give their hearts to the Lord in Salvation, Consecration, and Service? Truly, this field is already white unto the harvest.

YOUTH RALLY

Districts 1 & 5

PRESQUE ISLE, ME.

October 8 — 10

MR. KARL GORMAN

Vice-Pres. R. B. Y. P. A.

Speaker

PLAN NOW TO ATTEND

Let me, as an old man, who ought by this time to have profited by experience, say that when I was younger I found I often misrepresented the intentions of people, and that they did not mean what at the time I supposed they meant; and further, that as a general rule, it was better to be a little dull of apprehension where phrases seemed to imply pique, and quick in perception when, on the other hand, they seemed to imply kindly feeling.

Michael Faraday.

The King's Highway