

"Let no man despise thy youth,
but be thou an example . . ."
I 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

Our Cousins Celebrate

Whereas the Canadian Thanksgiving has come and gone, our United States cousins are looking forward to their annual day of thanksgiving. We trust that it will be a day of spiritual refreshment and enrichment to them as they think of the goodness of our Eternal Father.

We on this side of the Invisible Line are grateful for cousins who have great religious traditions which still mark their society. May the spirit of the Pilgrim Fathers grace the celebration of thanksgiving again this year; and may thanks rather than turkeys predominate our thoughts.

—C. E. S.

Fifteen More Days Until . . .

No, don't become worried; I am not talking about Christmas—but about The Highway subscription campaign. It will be over in fifteen days. What have you, your young people's society, and your church done about it?

If you haven't done anything about the campaign, you should become worried—your paper ran in "the red" last year and your Highway editor was not paid on time, and probably his pay is still in arrears.

What do you say if we stir up some interest in our church? Ask your pastor and young people's president what you can do to help. Start the ball rolling.

Note: The Editor, Rev. E. W. Tokley, can supply officers or society officers with a list of paid-up subscribers. Everyone in your church whose name is not on the list would be a possible prospect. Buttonhole the prospects and you've done the job . . . There, I have let you in on the secret method Truro used to become one of the top-notch churches in last year's campaign. Hope you use it—even if you do beat Truro.

C. E. S.

JOHN THE BAPTIST

Part III

Practising the Presence of God

By Judson Sanders

Filled with the Spirit, and alone on the desert with God, John the Baptist was being schooled for his short but mighty mission. Practising the presence of God, he had lost all taste for living in the town and mingling with the throng. He lived a life apart, completely absorbed in his walk with God. There were times when God's presence stirred the fibers of his soul with such intensity that his emotions were like a lake of lava, molten and glowing, erupted in the crater of a volcano. Again the sense of God's presence would sweep across his heart strings as a storm across the wide plains. Yet again God's nearness to his spirit would steal silently over him like the dawning of the day, till he could say: As steals the dawn against the edge of night, Slow pressing 'gainst its sable shades of gloom; Till stars grow pale and dew begins to gleam, And purple rose and amber change to red; So steals God's presence o'er my heart, Till peace and ecstasy unite in praise.

GETHSEMANE

A Mighty Missionary Motive

Freida Martini Buchen

Alone in the starless night, beneath dark rows of olive trees, the Saviour kneels, beginning to taste for us the chalice of God's wrath. There He victoriously fights out the weighty question, "Whose will shall dominate My life?"

The question settled, He offers His wrists to the tormentors' ropes, His cheeks to Judas' traitorous kiss. For the soldiers had come to seize and bind Him, the spotless One.

What motivated our Lord? Why should the thought of this garden experience be a mighty missionary motive?

Because in Gethsemane Christ's battle between God's will and self-will was fought to a glorious finish. God's plan to evangelize the world through Jesus' atoning death could never have been carried out, had not Christ willingly chosen God's will. He turned His obstacles into a challenge, no matter how impossible the coming crucifixion ordeal seemed. With courage to venture the impossible, He faced the whole miserable business. With divine undergirding, He knew He would pass triumphantly through the frightful experience. As a saintly college president used to say, "This was not a weakening denial, but a strengthening affirmation of self."

Has it not always been true, since Creation, that the more ideal a deed appeared, the greater the difficulties stepping its way? Impossible, for Luther to liberate the Gospel, facing the wrath of pope and empire; impossible, for Wilberforce to abolish English slavery! Yet with God all these feats proved possible and were gloriously accomplished.

Before going out into Christian service, be it home or foreign missionary work, each one must fight his own battle of Gethsemane. Will he yield to his own will, or accept the Lord's? He only who, empowered by God, can say, "Not my will, but Thine, be done!" can be a true missionary, a genuine shepherd of souls. It is not enough to be enraptured with the clarion call of Christ, we must decide the crucial question, "What shall dominate my life? Do I want to be self-led or God-led?"

DISTRICT TWO RALLY

The Young People of District No. 2 held a one-day rally in Moncton on Thanksgiving Day. Rev. R. H. Nicholson was guest speaker and brought inspirational, soul-stirring messages to the group. In the morning service his subject was "Holiness for Young People." In the afternoon, "Holiness, a Necessity for Young People," and in the evening, "Holiness Should be Sought by Young People."

Mr. Nicholson also illustrated two hymns, "My sins are gone" and "Beyond the Sunset." This was the first one-day rally held in this district and was considered a success by all.

Already plans are being made for a similar rally on Good Friday in Sussex.

Emma Wright, Reporter

Remember—we are saved to serve.

The Idea Of One-Day Rallies

A year ago on the Canadian Thanksgiving the first one-day youth rally to be held on district number six was held at Truro. Halifax, Londonderry, Westchester, and Amherst all participated. The rally was a great success. More recently a one-day rally held at Moncton was a success, too.

On some districts a youth rally is seldom held, possibly because of the problems connected with planning and attending the usual-length rally.

Some of the problems of the week-end rally are:

Home churches suffer from absenteeism on Sunday, or the rally, on the other hand, suffers from lack of support.

Week-end rallies crowd our already crowded church program of evangelistic services, conventions, quarterlies, and special-day services.

There is a difficulty in engaging speakers for week-end rallies, because the most-used rally speakers, the pastors from other districts, have home obligations on Sundays.

There is difficulty also in gaining and maintaining a high attendance throughout a week-end rally. There is a lot of coming and going, or late coming.

The entertainment of visitors for week-end rallies is a sizable problem for the host church.

Some of the advantages of the one-day rally are:

Rallies may be held on holidays (Thanksgiving, Armistice, New Year's, Good Friday, and such) when more people are free to attend.

Attendance in services will be higher, because all visitors will be present at the same time. And, if numbers contribute in any way to the inspiration of a service, the services will be more inspirational.

Many other advantages are implied in the disadvantages of the week-end rally relative to speakers, entertainment, home churches, and such.

We are not trying to win an argument in favour of the one-day rally instead of the week-end rally. The whole matter is quite immaterial to the writer personally. We add, too, that on some districts, a one-day rally might not be feasible due to time and distance involved in travelling. There may be other factors also. A round trip of a couple hundred miles on a holiday, however, is not unreasonable in this age of modern Plymouths.

We are simply bringing to your attention the idea of the one-day rally. Let's give it a try, and let's have more rallies. They put the pep in the pepper.—Editor.

CHARLIE GRANT PRAISES YOUTH CAMP and CHRIST

It was a great privilege to attend youth camp this year.

We were blessed time and time again as the Holy Spirit moved in the hearts of the young people under the ministry of Rev. George Failing. I feel that God is using him in a great way. There were only a few people who went home without finding God as their personal Saviour.

We received greater light on the Book of (To Next Column)

The King's Highway