

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL. (Continued from page 7)

you cannot reach him personally write him a letter.

One class of our neighbors we are likely to forget is the foreign missionaries. Put yourself in their place and see how lonely you would be. Then sit down and write one of them such a letter as you would like to receive under the same circumstances. Ask him what you can do to help him in his work. One of the simple things that many missionaries are asking the people in this country to do is to send them bright picture cards. It does not matter about what writing is on them. The bright pictures attract the heathen and help the missionary. It will be safe to send a package to any one of our missionaries.

The greatest need in the world and the one that is felt by more people than any other is the need of salvation. Look for these and go to them and be a neighbor to them by telling them the story of Jesus and his love. Souls are wounded and dying along your pathway. Shall they die? Or will you give them needed help?

THE PRAYER MEETING

ORPHANAGE WORK.

Week Beginning August 4, 1918.

James 1:27.

"Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father; is this, to visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction."

Our Saviour, in speaking of those who profess to be his disciples, says: "By their fruits ye shall know them." There may be some things that a professing Christian may do under the name of religion from some selfish motive, hoping to gain some personal advantage thereby. But he who goes to the help of the widow in her affliction or provides a home for the orphan is likely to do this only from the best motives.

In considering the work for orphans it is almost impossible to disassociate from it the thought of work for widows. The orphan who is left without any means of support is not much more helpless than the poor widow who is left penniless with from one to a half a dozen small children to take care of.

To do its full duty the Church ought to make full provision for caring for the widows. This should be done for their own sakes, and where there are children they ought to be provided for and left in the care of the mothers. It would be far better to take care of mother and children together, than to separate them.

There is no way in which a man can do a more Godlike work than in providing for the care and training of orphan children. There is nothing more helpless than a child without parents or some one else who is willing to take the parents' place.

There are many reasons why orphans should be taken care of. In the first place it is carrying out God's instructions in regard to helping the poor. A poor man or woman may oftentimes be best helped by having work given them to do, so that they can provide for their own wants. But the young orphan cannot do this. God has committed them to the care of His people, and made the care of them one of the tests of true religion.

Another reason for taking care of the orphans is that if they are not

taken proper care of, if they manage to live, they are likely to grow up in evil surroundings and become a menace to society.

On the other hand, when they are properly taken care of and trained, they will become a source of blessing to society and the Church. Many a useful member of society, many a valuable worker in God's kingdom, many a minister, in his infancy, was deprived of the blessing of loving parents, and yet were saved and made true and faithful servants of God by others who, as far as possible, took the place of father and mother.

The Christian religion is the only one that teaches the duty of caring for orphans. The Church has done and is doing a great deal in providing homes for them. But all the homes that have been built do not begin to meet the needs. There is scarcely one of them that does not have to refuse admission to many, who need to be taken in, from lack of room.

The work that has been done in the past is but as child's play compared with what ought to be done in the future. There never were as many fatherless children in the world as there are to-day, and before this fearful war is over there are going to be a great many more. In this country, in Europe, in Asia there are literally millions of them. Their pitiful cry and the emaciated forms of many of them ought to make an appeal which will sink down deep into the heart of every one of God's people.

More orphans' homes must be built. Those already built must be enlarged. They must all be supported.

Best of all will be for Christian people to take the orphans into their own homes, and be fathers and mothers to them.

YOUNG PEOPLE'S SOCIETIES

IN NATURE'S SCHOOL.

M., Aug. 5. The plowman. Luke 9:57-62.
T., Aug. 6. The vineyard. Isa. 5:1-7.
W., Aug. 7. The stars. Ps. 19:1-14.
T., Aug. 8. Farmers' troubles. Matt. 13:24-30.
F., Aug. 9. The serpent's cunning. Matt. 10:16-20.
M., S., Aug. 10. The dead fly. Eccl. 10:1-3.
Sun., Aug. 11. Topic—Lessons in Nature's School.
Prov. 6:6-8; John 12:24, 25.
What lessons did Jesus draw from nature?
What natural laws prevail also in the spiritual world?
Draw one lesson from animal life.

The Plowman (Luke 9:57-62): Every plowman wants to make a straight furrow. He realizes that he can do this only by looking constantly ahead and keeping his attention fixed on his work. So it will be with us. If we let our thoughts wander away from the business we have in hand, if we spend our time looking back to see our faults or our successes, we will not succeed in our efforts. This is true of both temporal and spiritual business.

The Vineyard (Isa. 5:1-7): The vineyard is prepared and planted that it may bring forth good fruit. If it does not do this it is useless, and the vine might as well be destroyed. The world is God's vineyard. He has done for it everything that could be expected. His people are the vines that He has planted. He expects them to bear good fruit. If they do not they are of no value to Him, and are only worthy to be destroyed.

The Stars (Ps. 19:1-14): When one looks up into the star-bedecked heavens and sees something of their glory, it would seem impossible not to think of the glorious God that made them. If He takes care of the stars and keeps them in their courses, He can certainly take care of us. As they show His glory, so ought we by reflecting the light that falls upon us.

Farmers' Troubles (Matt. 13:24-

30): One of the farmers' greatest troubles is the weeds that grow among his crops. In every human heart weeds of sin are growing, for God's great enemy, Satan, is continually sowing in them the seeds of evil. We need to be constantly at work fighting and destroying them. The more weeds there are in a field, the less good crops will be produced.

The Serpent's Cunning (Matt. 10:16-20): Satan, the old serpent, has always been wiser than we are. From the days of Eden he has shown his cunningness, in his dealing with men. He comes oftentimes as he did in Eden. We need to be continually on our guard, lest in his wisdom and skill he leads us away from the right paths.

The Dead Fly (Eccl. 10:1-3): Little things, little sins have great effect upon our lives. Many a life and character has been ruined by some small sin.

Lessons in Nature's School (Prov. 6:6-8; John 12:24, 25): The ant can teach most people a lesson of industry and of providence. It spends the whole summer working industriously to provide for winter's necessity.

Jesus died that we may live. By the death of one many are made alive. The grain dies, but by its death it gives life to many more grains. Christ has given life to multitudes, because he died.

Lessons in Nature's School (Prov. 6:6-8; John 12:24, 25): The ant will teach us many lessons if we will only study its characteristics and habits. That to which attention is specially called here is its industry and foresight. Industrious it works all the summer to store away food for the winter. We ought to lay up stores for the future, but especially should we lay up treasures in heaven.

He that giveth up his life to Christ and for his sake will not lose it. It will be multiplied many fold in the life of others.

What Lessons Did Jesus Draw From Nature? Almost all of Christ's parables are drawn from nature, and each one of them teaches some great lesson.

What Natural Laws Prevail Also in the Spiritual World? There are many similarities between the natural and the spiritual world, but the laws of one cannot be said to exist in the other. Natural laws have to do with what is tangible, while spiritual laws have to do with the intangible. For instance, when we speak of growth in the natural world we usually have reference to increase in size. Certain changes in the spiritual world are called growth, but we cannot measure any increase, as we can in the natural world. There are many interesting analogies between these two spheres, but there is danger unless we are careful to recognize similarities as analogies only.

Draw One Lesson From Animal Life: It would be interesting, if a number of members of the society would each take some one animal, and show what lesson can be learned from it.

WHY WE HAVE NO CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR SOCIETY. NO. 4.

By Wyatt A. Taylor, All-South Field Secretary.

(Note: This is the fourth of a series of articles by the Southern Field Secretary of the Christian Endeavor Society answering common reasons why churches do not have Endeavor societies for their young people.—Editor.)

"We can't interest the young people," is a reason sometimes given for not having a "live" Young People's Society, and, sad to relate, this is occasionally the truth. Some people

lack the tact, lack the love, lack the desire, lack the energy to take hold of the young life of a church and direct its abundant power into channels of usefulness. But the young people of my church can be interested in Christian service.

The mistake is often made of having Juniors and "senior" young people in the same organization, and the two ages won't harmonize in service. Two societies should be formed, no matter how small the two resulting divisions might be. Both ages will do better work separated.

A society to be successful must have an esprit de corps, every young person feeling that he is a part of the society and responsible for its success, and one way to accomplish this is to give each member a job. If he's a grown-up young man, give him a man's size job.

Advertising will help interest members in their society. Advertising does get outsiders interested, but more than that, it interests the members in the organization. A society in North Georgia has a "Poster Committee," and this committee's aim is to prepare at least one new poster each week. Fine posters can be made by cutting pictures from magazines, and pasting these to sheets of Bristol board, with some lettering, done with wax crayons or brush.

The social nature of young people must be appealed to, with well planned, "snappy" socials. Young people are bound to be sociable; why not in a Christian way?

The meetings must be well planned and attractive. One new idea or one novelty should feature every meeting. A leaderless meeting, a "memory meeting," a candle meeting, a "conventionette"—there are many new kinds of meeting to have, and young people are always interested in the place or the organization where "there's something doing."

An officer of the United States Army recently said: "The Christian Endeavor Society is the greatest training school of the Church but what is to become of that Church that doesn't train its young people of to-day for leadership in the Church of to-morrow?"

The man or the woman who will gather together a band of "red-blooded" young people and treat them as such, and then be enthusiastic and loving in leading and encouraging them, will have no trouble in starting them off as an effective Christian Endeavor Society, and to that person will come the "Well done, good and faithful servant."

There are thousands of churches in the South to-day that are, through Christian Endeavor, building for the future, a house that cannot be moved.

Columbia, S. C.

C. E.'s CAN HELP SOLDIERS.

Christian Endeavorers are always looking for opportunities to help somebody. Just now they are specially anxious to help "our boys in khaki," when they learn of their needs. Recently we have had the opportunity of talking with a number of religious workers in the camps. Every one of them said the soldiers need religious papers. The best thing is to see that a copy of a Church paper is sent to each soldier individually. Next to that is to see that at least one copy is placed in each reading room in the camps. To supply the reading rooms as they should be supplied will require at five hundred copies of each paper. The Presbyterian is making a special offer, so that as many of these reading rooms may be supplied, as a number of them are already supplied. For every dollar sent us for this purpose we will send the paper to