

"Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth."—Eccl. 12:1



Youth's Living Ideals

A Magazine of Christian Guidance



Vol. 2. No. 10—July, 1962

IN THIS ISSUE

SOCIETY CHANGES,
BUT . . .

AMBITION

"I DON'T LIKE
PROFANITY!"

PORTRAITS
FROM THE BIBLE

Dwight D. Eisenhower states that the modern dance craze, the twist, represents "some kind of change in our standards." He continues, "When we see movies and the stage, and books and periodicals using vulgarity, sensuality, indeed, downright filth, to sell their wares," we ask, "What has happened to our concept of beauty and decency and morality?"

Youth's *Living Ideals*

A Magazine of Christian Guidance

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Glen Berry, Editor

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In This Issue . . .

Society Changes, But . . ., Editor	273
"I Don't Like Profanity!" Mike Rinehart	276
Words Fitly Spoken	277
Kindness, From Ears for Little Gleaners	278
Notes from Mom, Mrs. W. J. Berry	280
Round Table Discussion	282
Character Lessons: Ambition, James Terry White	283
Portraits from the Bible . . .	
Mary's Beautiful Song of Praise, Mrs. W. J. Berry	286
News Items	288

SPECIAL NOTE: The issues of Youth's Living Ideals during the summer months of June, July, and August will have fewer pages. The Lord willing, full size will be resumed in September.

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Elon College, N. C.

Youth's

Living Ideals

Vol. 2. No. 10—July, 1962

DOES A THING BEING POPULAR MAKE IT RIGHT?

Society Changes But . . .

★ ————— BY THE EDITOR

ACCORDING to FBI reports this is the season when sex crimes skyrocket. Why? One big reason is that as the weather gets hot, Americans lose their common sense, and walk out of their homes into public wearing colored underwear. If you suggested to a person that the thing to do was just not to bother to get fully dressed before going to town, and walk down the street wearing only his or her underclothing, you would receive a look of horror and a reply: "*Are you crazy!*" But why not use a little common sense and consider really what difference does a little coloring in the apparel make. Actually, that is just about what America has done—dyed their underclothing and used it for outside apparel in the summer months! This is even worse than leaving it white. Color usually makes things even more appealing to the eye. And such scanty and

tight-fitting clothing is *designed* by the manufacturers to be attractive to the eye—the lust of the eye.

Many wear such clothing with the conscious or unconscious motive of attracting attention, but most people do so just because they are under the false impression that it will make them cooler. (In desert lands the people are cooler when fully covered.) Because it is now the “accepted” way to dress, they do so innocently, not aware of the picture they are painting of America. Cold statistics prove that it causes more crime, but there are no statistics on earth to register and record the evil thoughts of human nature that are prompted by indecent dress.

Does popularity create righteousness? There are approximately 180 million people in the United States. If only a few of these went to town and walked where they could be seen by the public while in scanty dress, society would be aroused and exclaim, “It’s a disgrace!” In fact, several years ago a woman would have been taken off the street if seen wearing shorts. But now it’s the popular thing to do. It is a common practice and people have no scruples about it. *But does popularity create righteousness* in God’s sight? If it is morally wrong for only *one*, then the sin is only multiplied when a hundred million practice it. The sin does not disappear. This shows the fickleness of our society and human nature.

One following a practice popular in the past (like wearing ankle-length dresses and pig tails) would be called an “odd-ball” today. Since fickle society has shifted to the other extreme, those who would condemn such an one now, even though it does look a bit odd, should be careful lest they unconsciously “follow a multitude to do evil.” Modern society now considers an *immoral* practice such as going in public overly exposed now “the thing to do”—wherein is no sin because it is the popular and accepted way. Their philosophy today is, in effect, popularity creates righteousness. Moral standards have shifted so far downhill that most anything today would be considered acceptable if enough people would practice it.

Christians are to live above the ways of the world. They are

to remain unspotted. They are to "shun the appearance of evil." They are to separate themselves from the world. They are to strive to abstain from all inward and outward forms of worldliness—world-like-ness. The Christian does not change his moral concepts and convictions like the society in which he lives. *Society changes—God does not.* God's moral law remains the same and the Christian is to stand on God's Word. That is his guide and foundation. The Christian is not fickle—he is courageous and steadfast.

A minister friend recently told me of an experience he had with a professing Christian. He was kindly rebuking her for worldliness (and there are not many ministers who are so faithful any more). He pointed out to her what the Bible said about certain things and was proving by God's own word that it was wrong and sinful. She replied, "I'm not going by what the Bible says; times have changed. I'm going by my own feelings." Well . . . if we don't base our conduct on God's Word, in generations to come we can be practicing anything, and think we are right. So many today, even though they won't say it aloud, practice the same philosophy as this professing Christian woman. They live according to their "feelings" rather than God's Word.

May you pray and be given strength to base your way of life on God's word even when it conflicts with the ways of a worldly society.



BROTHERLY PRAYER

Give me the strength to understand
The troubles my brother knows,
And courage to go to his defense
Against friend as well as foes.
Help me to feel the hurt he feels.
And power to sympathize,
And the where-with-all to help him
Whenever I hear his cries.
If thus I do by my fellow man . . .
Someone will sympathize,
And a hand will knock upon my door
In answer to my cries.

—George Jay Crawford

"I Don't Like Profanity"

I am not a prude, but the irreverent use of the name of the Deity in conversation antagonizes me, says Mike Rinehart, executive vice-president of the Southwest Advertising Agency, Waco, Texas, writing in *Inspection News*. He continues:

It has not always been so. I was once one of the most eloquent cussers on earth, but I stopped it over night. It was not a Saint Paul type of religious conversion that broke the habit, but the sudden realization of how repulsive profanity can be, even to one addicted to the habit.

During World War II, I commanded a battery of field artillery, and one night while we were in a blacked-out bivouac during maneuvers, I lay on my bed-roll and listened to a group of my men talking. One lad was telling an adventurous tale. His story could have been interesting and entertaining except for the fact that every sentence was embellished with from one to five cuss words. I finally lost interest in the story he was telling and by the luminous dial on my watch counted 32 profane words in two minutes' time. It suddenly struck me that a tremendous number of wasted words are used every day by those who unconsciously use profanity.

I lay awake for some time that night after the men had gone to sleep, trying to arrive at some method of curbing the use of profanity in my battery. And then I realized that I must start at the top with myself. The habit had been growing on me: I was constantly picking up new expressions, and they were being copied by my own men.

That night I started on the rugged road to complete abstinence from profanity. It was a hard road, indeed, and one that required determination and perseverance. I fought against it so hard that the effectiveness of my speech was impaired during instructive periods. It even broke the continuity of thought.

In a few short weeks I noticed the effect on my men. They became acutely aware that the skipper had quit cussing, and they were reluctant to use profanity in my presence. I noticed that my non-coms were refraining from profanity during instruct-

ion or drill periods. Their work became more efficient and their instruction more effective.

Here are a few simple rules that can help anyone break the profanity habit:

1. Watch your temper. If you feel profanity necessary, pause a second, then go on with your conversation. You will find that the desire has passed.

2. Learn substitutes, new words, expressions far removed from your old stand-bys. They will usually get a smile and your humor will improve.

3. Consider words as something valuable, priceless, and each profane word as a useless word, that can be replaced with more effective, more convincing expressions.

Profanity is neither convincing nor sincere. It is actually a sign of timidity or a lack of a vocabulary adequate to express one's self.—*Sunshine Magazine*

Words Fitly Spoken...

"A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in pictures of silver."—Proverbs 25:11

A good conscience is the testimony of a good life, and the reward of it. This is what fortifies the mind.—Socrates

Some people are like blotters. They soak it all in, but get it backwards.—Harvey H. Springer

When you are through improving yourself—you're through.

—Ruth Smeltzer (*Sunshine Magazine*)

Silence isn't always golden. On some occasions it may be just plain yellow.—Harvey H. Springer

The longer a Christian carries a grudge, the heavier it becomes.

Fret not thyself because of evil men, neither be thou envious at the wicked; for there shall be no reward to the evil man; the candle of the wicked shall be put out. My son, fear thou the Lord and the king: and meddle not with them that are given to change.—Prov. 25:19-21

Kindness

"I would not place upon my list of friends, (though graced with polished manners and fine sense, yet wanting sympathy) the man who needlessly sets foot upon a worm."

A kind action, a kind word, is like oil upon squeaking wheels. My dear young friends, I would affectionately warn you to be kind to your father and mother; many boys and girls wound their parents by disobedient acts, naughty words, bad tempers, and in many ways. Be kind to your brothers and sisters; it is a pleasant sight to see a united family. Be kind to dumb animals. Oh what a sad sight to see a boy or girl ill-treat one of God's creatures.

"How should I like it, if I were a fly,
To have my wings torn by boys passing by?
How should I like it, if I were a cat,
To have my tail pulled, and all such as that?
How should I like it, if I were a dog,
A donkey, a horse, a beetle, or frog,
If boys should seek fun in giving me pain?
I never should like it; I say then again,
Let this be my question, a wise one, I see,
How should I like it, if done unto me?"

And I would drop a special word of caution. Boys and girls, be kind to the aged, the infirm and the crippled. Never, never ridicule poor afflicted folks. Who gave you health and strength? Who gave you eyes, and ears, and hands, and tongue, and feet? Who gave you the wonderfully made body in which you dwell?

I will relate to you the sad confession of a boy which I gleaned from an old book (a true incident):

A boy was *playing with his school fellows one day when a stagecoach drove up, and a number of passengers alighted. Among the passengers was an elderly man with a stick, who got out with much difficulty, and when on the ground he walked in a most curious way. His feet turned one way and his knees another. The boy unthinkingly shouted out, "Look at old

Rattlebones!" and the other boys took up the cry. The poor man turned his head with a look of pain, and then went on his way.

Just then the father of the boy came around the corner, and shook hands heartily with him, and assisted him to his own house, which was but a little distance. The boy looked on with a guilty conscience, and he could no more enjoy the play. At tea-time he went home, and, by and by, he went tremblingly into the sitting room to be introduced to the poor afflicted stranger. It so happened the man did not recognize the lad as the one who had cried after him, and said to the father, "Such a fine lad was surely worth saving."

The words cut the boy to the heart. His father had often told him of a kind friend who plunged into the river to save him from drowning, while an infant, and who, as a consequence, had been made a cripple by rheumatism; and this was the very man whom the boy had made a laughing stock of by calling "Old Rattlebones." Such a lesson was stamped upon the boy's mind, from that day, that he ever after sought to be kind to the afflicted.

—From *Ears for Little Gleaners*

—Contributed by Helen Smith

LOOK FOR IT IN THE NEXT ISSUE—

- Hollywood's Sly Tactics
-

A GOOD ILLUSTRATION

Luther said he studied his Bible the same way he gathered apples. First, he shook the whole tree, that the ripest might fall; then he climbed the tree and shook each limb; and when he had shaken each limb, he shook each branch; and after each branch, every twig; and then he looked under every leaf. Search the Bible as a whole, shaking the whole tree. Read it rapidly as you would any other book; then shake every limb—study Book after Book. Then shake every branch, giving attention to the chapters, when they do not break the sense. Then shake each twig by a careful study of the paragraphs and sentences. And you will be rewarded if you will look under every leaf, by searching the meaning of the words.—Sel. by Horace Walker

July, 1962

279

Notes from Mom



ESPECIALLY FOR THE NEWLY-WEDS

Dear Young Friends,

This is the time of the year when there are many newly-married young people. So we devote the space allotted for "Notes" to them. They are very much in our thoughts just now. I have the pleasure of "helping" my dear minister as he is called upon to solemnize their marriage vows. How do I "help"? Well, as I see their happy radiant faces, my heart reaches out to them. I know from experience the happiness they now enjoy. But I know also from experience the many problems, trials and hardships that await even a happy life; and as I hear each happy couple say their solemn vows, I breathe a fervent prayer to the heavenly Father in their behalf.

How joyful life now is to them! This is the happiest time of life. As they drive away with pretty streamers flying, with many joyful good wishes echoing in their happy hearts, I somehow have a feeling of sadness. I suppose this is because we know that they have reached the zenith in happiness, but they cannot always remain on this pinnacle of bliss. We may warn them lovingly that trials will arise. They only look at us and tolerantly say, "Oh yes, we know that!" They cannot really know it, however until the problems arise. Their courage is high now, and the future—even its trials—are seen through a happy glow. It is only right that this is so. This is the time of first love, as the heavenly Father planned it. But in these days of overglamorizing, we are in danger of expecting life to remain as thrilling as it is just now. As the fever and excitement of this happiness begins to subside, we may think that love has diminished. As life settles down to the every-day problems which all must face, we may forget that the love is only being tested and strengthened. We cannot live always on this pinnacle of joy. It would cease to be joy, if we could.

There is so much in the present-day society that glamorizes love. In the movies, on television, and in fiction of all kinds love is made to appear as one long romantic dream. We should remember that this is just that—fiction. We have been propagandized by this fictitious society. Life in reality is not always glamorous and exciting. There is the reality of every-day living, which often is far from exciting. If we enter into this most important phase of our life with the thought that life is all glamor, we must soon know disappointment, disillusionment, and often heartbreak. We have built on a flimsy foundation, and it will soon come crumbling about our misguided hearts.

If we enter this blissful state with the proper attitude, we will not be disappointed. We will realize this is the business of *living*—not a glamorous date. There is little glamor as the husband is weary to the extent of exhaustion, struggling to build for the future of his family; there is little excitement in the daily routine of soiled clothes, untidy house, endless round of doing dishes; there is no excitement in hearing the baby cry endlessly in the night, and we become so irritated that we “snap” at each other. But if we have really expected these things, trying though they are, we will grow closer together in our mutual problems. If we expect them, and accept them as part of the sacred bargain we have made, our lives may be full and rich. Love isn’t dying—it is growing by being tested and cultivated.

As anything which is cultivated grows, so love under the daily exercise of solving mutual problems, bearing mutual sorrows—and joys,—can but grow and deepen with the years. There is no time more thrilling than the uniting of two hearts. But there is a deeper, fuller, safer love awaiting each happy couple who are really willing to take the *worse* with the *better*. We often say the words we take each other for better or worse, not really expecting the worse. But it will come. May each of you meet it courageously and together!

See you next month, the Lord willing.

Lovingly,

MOM

Round Table Discussion

• YOUTH PROBLEMS ANSWERED BY OUR READERS •

This department is mainly for the views of you the readers. Please send in any questions you would like to see discussed in this department. Please submit your answers to any question by the 10th of the month following date of issue.

ANOTHER ANSWER TO: "Should I have a television in my home?"

From Bruce Johnson, age 10, Selma, N. C.: "I think it is wrong to watch too much television because your mind fills up with the things of the world and there isn't room for Christian thoughts. We have a television but I am not allowed to watch it very much because there are so many things unfit to see. But I think it is alright to have a television if you watch educational programs. I watch programs such as "Lassie," "Fury," and programs about pets. Once in a while I watch horror programs and have bad dreams, but Mother and Daddy encourage me to not watch such programs."

For more on this subject see the last two issues.

REMEMBER!—in September we are scheduled to resume "full speed ahead" in this department. How many questions and answers can you send us within the next month?

SPECIAL NOTE: During the summer months (June, July and August) because less reading is done, Youth's Living Ideals will have fewer pages. Full size will be resumed in September, the Lord willing. Because of fewer pages, we will not try to carry on a discussion in this department during these months. **However, please send us your questions and answers and we will resume in September with "Is it best for a high school student to 'go steady'?" Will you join the discussion? If you have a question, send it in now.**

This is a "Round Table,"—an open forum. Let us hear from you.

Will you send a brief answer to one or more of these?:

1. "Is it best for a high school student to 'go steady'?" Give us brief answers to either or both sides of this question.
2. "Should parents allow little children to play with toy guns?"

Send us your **QUESTIONS** and **ANSWERS**.

Character Lessons

Ambition

Abraham Lincoln was born into the poorest of surroundings. His parents lived in such a condition of poverty that they could not even teach him to read. But he was not contented with his lot; he had a desire to be somebody and to do something in the world, so he determined to learn to read, and taught himself with a spelling book, and the Bible was his only reading book. He had a desire to learn, that nothing could subdue. What is this called? *Ambition*.

- *Ambition is the desire to improve one's present conditions.*

Contentment that is satisfied with mediocrity and insignificant results ceases to be a virtue and becomes a fault. "Good enough" never makes real progress, and often degenerates into shiftlessness. One should aim at *perfection*. One needs a little discontent to spur him on. The habit of mind that seeks to excell is called ambition. It is right to be contented with what we have, but not with what we are.

It is a worthy ambition to work hard for a comfortable home. Even ambition to be rich is worthy, but it must be remembered that riches may be purchased at too dear a price. [And just to be rich for the sake of being rich is not a good motive. We should want to use our material wealth wisely and to benefit mankind. Wealth can very easily create selfishness.—Ed.]

Everybody should have the ambition to *do well whatever he does*, at play as well as at work; but above all it should be his ambition to do the best things. Everyone should cultivate an ambition to excell—a passion for perfection.

A boy used to crush flowers to get their color, and painted the white side of his father's cottage with all sorts of pictures. He became the great artist, Titian.

An old painter watched a little fellow who amused himself making drawings of his pot and brushes, easel and stool, and

said, "That boy will excell me some day." And he did, for it was Michael Angelo.

A German boy was reading a delightfully thrilling novel. Right in the midst of it he stopped and said to himself, "Now this will never do; I have work to do in real life." And he flung the book into the river. That boy was Fichte, the great German philosopher.

No man can afford to do less than his best. "Aspiration is inspiration." Ambition to excell, however, defeats its own purpose if it leads to the employment of unworthy means. Ambition is neither a virtue nor a vice, although it may easily become one. It derives whatever moral quality it possesses from its object, and from the means employed in its attainment.

The world admires the ambition to "get on" in the world, and to help others "get on" in it. The highest ambition is to achieve something for the benefit of one's fellow-man.

Ambition excites enthusiasm, which is the compelling power that overcomes all obstacles. Enthusiasm enables one to do the work that his heart desires. It brooks no interference with the accomplishment of its object. What matter that young Benjamin West had neither pigment nor brush! He made color from indigo, and brushes from the cat's hair. Sumner says, "have ambition to be remembered, not as a great lawyer, doctror, merchant, or scholar, but as a great man—every inch a king." *The people with high ideals are the advance guard of humanity.* They cut the smooth road over which marches future generations.

In our Republic the highest place is open to him who has the wit and ability to achieve it, which is an inspiration to the nobles ambition, and should be the goal of every youth.

Ambition is a "divine discontent." There is such a thing as being contented with what is low and contemptible, and it is the duty of every one to make every effort to improve his material condition in order that he may be a more useful member of society. Ignorance is always a drawback to the entire community. He should most particularly strain every nerve to improve his mental capacity, for only in this direction can he bring to himself the highest satisfactions [and accomplishments]

of life. Read the Parable of the Talents in the Bible. Faculties unused waste away or deteriorate, and talents and faculties employed are increased. The Bible aphorism, "To him that hath, shall be given, and to him that hath not shall be taken away even that which he hath," is unalterably true, and should be taken to heart and continually be borne in mind.

Unconcern and indifference spring from indolence, or perhaps from selfishness, and are certainly fatal to ambition. It is our duty to improve our condition by all legitimate means, and though we should acquiesce in our present circumstances, and make the best of them, it is a laudable ambition to "get on in the world."

The aim of one's ambition is not to make gain in material things or personal advancement. Highest ambition is to achieve something for the world at large, that shall leave the world some little better for one's having lived in it.

Ambition is only wrong when it is careless of the consequences to others.

Practice: Upon the next piece of work or duty you are called upon to perform, *determine to do it perfectly*; do it *better* than anyone else could do it.

APPLIED EXAMPLES OF AMBITION:

Benjamin West was asked how he attained such excellence. He replied: "By observing one simple rule—to make each picture the best."

Robert Carter, as a boy, worked at the loom but rigged up a book holder so that he could read while he was at work. He studied Greek and Latin at night, and at the age of fifteen years opened a school in the neighborhood. From this simple beginning he grew to be a great published.

Edward Moran, the artist, also worked at a loom in his youth, but his desire to draw overcame poverty, hardship, and discouragement, until his genius was recognized, and his friends helped him to study art.

William D. Howells began life in a newspaper office and distributed papers; but his ambition led him on through newspaper correspondent and editor to a purely literary career.—J. White

Portraits from the Bible . . .

MARY'S BEAUTIFUL SONG OF PRAISE

Mrs. W. J. Berry

It was at this affectionate and joyous meeting that Mary is proved to be a truly beautiful character. Her words of praise are sublime. Never were more beautiful words uttered than those she spoke so joyously on that occasion. While she was not a person of great position or worldly wealth, she certainly was not without learning and culture. For her inspired words are a literary gem, unique in history. In those words she shows a modest humility as befits a true lady and humble Christian: "He hath regarded the low estate of His handmaiden." She sings praise unto God, declaring His strength, wisdom and goodness. Her very *soul* magnified the Lord. "My soul doth magnify the Lord, and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior. For He hath regarded the low estate of His handmaiden; for behold from henceforth all generations shall call me blessed. For He that is mighty hath done to me great things; and holy is His name. And His mercy is on them that hear Him from generation to generation. He hath showed strength with His arm; He hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts. He hath put down the mighty from their seats, and exalted them of low degree. He hath filled the hungry with good things; and the rich He hath sent empty away. He hath holpen His servant Israel, in remembrance of His mercy; as He spake to our fathers, to Abraham, and to His seed forever." (Luke 1:46-55)

I have quoted all of her beautiful song of praise here, for it portrays the beauty of her godly character better than any words that I might use.

Our hearts rejoice with her even now as we read again her beautiful words, and as it were, we dwell there those three happy months with those two blessed women. What loving fellowship they must have felt! Often today we talk happily together, if we meet with a loved one when each of us look forward to

motherhood. We plan together so many happy things; we prepare together beautiful baby things, and try to decide on a name, expressing our desire for a boy, or a girl, as the case may be. But this is nothing compared to what Mary felt during those happy days.

At that time most women counted it a greater blessing to have a "man child." And *she knew* hers was to be a man child, and a most holy one at that. And His name was decided. There could be no discussion about that. "Thou shalt call His name Jesus."

If we think of her position, naturally, we might wonder at her joy,—if we did not believe in the effectual work of God in the matter. When He speaks as He spoke by the angel to Mary, all natural difficulties are forgotten and we can look faithfully to Him. Mary had such faith. We could imagine that her joy would have been overcast by the fear of gossip; for we know surely that the ungodly unbelievers would not believe such a message from heaven. We can almost see their sneers, and hear their vile insinuations should anyone tell them what the angel had told Mary. But this blessed one said no word to cause us to think she even considered this, so overjoyed was she to have been chosen to bear about in her body the Lord Jesus. Her faith was implicit.

The next we see of Mary she had become the wife of Joseph, and was accompanying him to Bethlehem. While they were there, the time for that truly "blessed event" came. We see her there in what we might think today, a pitiful condition. She must find refuge at this delicate time in a lowly stable. But here we see again the loveliness of her character. She knew the importance of that hour, but we do not find any word of complaint that such an important one should be so lowly born. Hear the beautiful simplicity of the language: "She wrapped Him in swaddling clothes, and laid Him in a manger."

Some poor mothers today, not having a bed for their baby, may put soft material in a basket and use it for a bed; or make a comfortable bed in a chest drawer. But Mary must tuck this blessed Infant in, in a bed of straw. We think we can see her arranging it to be as comfortable as possible, and looking

upon Him, not only with the eyes of a loving Mother, but also with adoration upon her Lord and Savior, as she heard with great joy the beautiful song of the heavenly host. All of the blessed happenings and sayings she pondered in her happy heart.

There is not much in the sacred record about Mary, nor the little Jesus after she and Joseph have fled for His life, only that He "increased in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man. While He was God manifest in the form of a little boy, still He was flesh, and He must be nourished as even our own sons today. So His growth "in stature" was due to His mother's proper care of Him. He was not neglected, and His growth stunted as some careless mothers do today. No, Mary was a true mother in every way, and kept faithfully her sacred charge.

(To be continued)

NEWS ITEMS . . .

HOMING INSTINCT—An Antarctic bird was recently taken from its seaside nesting site and flown nearly 1,000 miles inland and then let loose. Its remarkable instinct enabled it to make its way back to its mate and young chick in ten days, even though it had to fly over cold, barren and essentially featureless terrain.

EISENHOWER SPEAKS—On May 1 former president Dwight D. Eisenhower told the largest crowd that ever gathered in his former hometown, Abilene, Kansas, that the modern dance craze, the twist, represents "some kind of change in our standards." He continued: "When we see movies and the stage, and books and periodicals using vulgarity, sensuality, indeed, downright filth, to sell their wares," we ask, "What has happened to our concept of beauty and decency and morality?"

THE REASON for so much juvenile delinquency today is not that children and young people are so much worse because of the times, but rather because they have been neglected. Proverbs 29:15 reads, "The rod and reproof give wisdom: but a child left to himself bringeth his mother to shame."—D. L. O'Banion

HAVE YOU READ . . .

Ambition on page 283?

Suggested Reading

Your time for reading is limited—select your reading with much care. The Bible comes first, and is never even to be compared with any other book or paper. The news stands and book stores are flooded with trash, and should be avoided. You can depend on the books listed here as being worth your valuable time and money.

Mary Bunyan

BY SALLIE ROCHESTER FORD

An excellent book of interest to young people and adults as well.

MARY BUNYAN is a story about the blind daughter of John Bunyan, writer of the PILGRIM'S PROGRESS. Here is a tale that well fits into the same class with Bunyan's own writings, full of interest, full of suspense, full of sound spiritual and Biblical counsel.

Through all 488 pages you will follow Bunyan in his great ministry for the Lord, his boldness in the face of persecutions, his historic trials in the Bedford Jail. Bunyan's companions and fellow-workers, as well as his enemies are brought in review with historical accuracy.

Blind Mary Bunyan is the central character. Her trials and toils, selling shoe laces door to door, her strength of character and her confidence in the God of her father, her earnest entreaties with the keeper of the jail in behalf of her father, will all inspire you.

This marvelous story was written one hundred years ago, but has lost neither its interest nor its ministry. We are particularly pleased to be able to reprint this work, for we feel that it will prove an encouraging and guiding light for the steps of the saints in the increasing darkness that is before us.

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