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An Island of Temples.

Throughout the six hundred miles between Cairo and Assouan, the river Nile varies little in width or speed. At Assouan, however, it widens suddenly almost into a lake, the current slackens its pace, and, instead of mud banks, granite rocks fringe the shore. The first cataract (a series of rapids, not a fall) lies about three miles higher up, the scenery throughout this distance being very charming.

Above the rapids, about five miles from

beautiful almost beyond comparison. Time and Nature have dealt tenderly with them, clothing them with flowers and beautiful plants, hiding the rents in their sides, and the havoc which fierce hands long since wrought on their walls.

It was feared that the building of the dam at Assouan might result in the pent-up waters rising so high as to entirely cover the island. Of course, if the prosperity of Egypt could only be assured by the destruction of Philae, the island would have to go. But Sir Benjamin

tion committee will each day make announcements of a variety of special excursions, outings and sports.

The Young People's Societies and Sunday-School organizations should plan to send their strongest workers to the Conferences. Representation should not, however, be limited to those who are already at the head of missionary departments. It should include persons who may, and probably, with proper teaching, will become leaders in missionary work among young people. Young People's Societies which have come in contact with these Conferences in preceding years are this year emphasizing the importance of having their best workers attend, and, in many instances, are arranging to pay a portion of all of the delegates' expenses rather than be deprived of the value of the Conferences in their work during the coming year.

It is impossible to announce at this time a complete list of speakers, but among those who expect to be present and assist on the programme at Silver Bay are the following leaders:—

The Hon. Samuel B. Capen, President of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions, Boston.

Mr. Robert E. Speer, Secretary of the Board of Foreign Missions of the Presbyterian Church in America.

Mr. S. H. Hadley, Superintendent of the Jerry McAuley Mission.

Mr. John Willis Baer, Assistant Secretary of the Board of Home Missions of the Presbyterian Church in America.

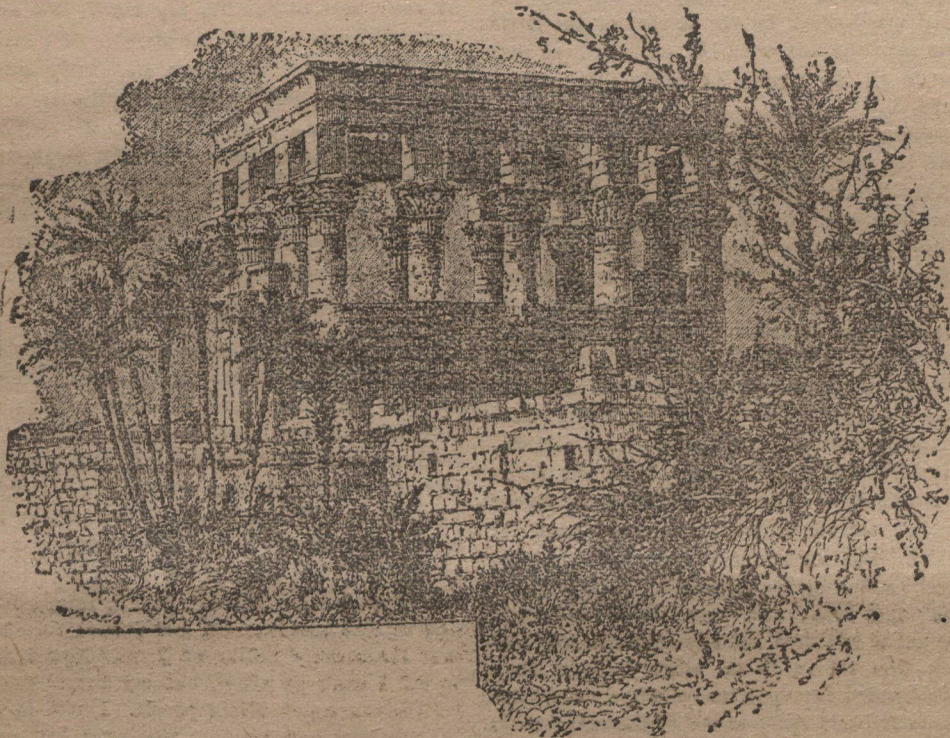
The Rev. E. H. Dutton, Assistant Secretary of the American Baptist Missionary Union.

Mr. S. Earl Taylor, Field Secretary for the Young People's Work of the Missionary Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Winona Lake is 120 miles east of Chicago on the Pittsburg, Fort Wayne and Chicago Railway, and the same distance north of Indianapolis on the Big Four. An electric line connects the grounds with the City of Warsaw, two miles distant. The directors of the Winona Assembly have spent more than half a million dollars in making the four hundred acres of forest and hill, valley and beach an ideal place for gatherings of Christian workers.

The Silver Bay Conference will be held on Lake George, which is known as the Queen of American Lakes, situated in the Adirondack Mountains, 70 miles north of Albany, easily accessible, and popular as one of the most picturesque waterways of the world. Silver Bay Hotel, in which the Conference will take place, is on the west side of the lake, 22 miles from the southern and eight miles from the northern end. It is impossible to exhaust the recreation pleasures that are offered at Silver Bay.

Reduced rates have been secured for the Conferences on nearly all railways. The hotels have likewise been placed practically at the absolute disposal of the Conference Committee, thus enabling exceptionally low hotel rates to be made. These rates, however, are offered only to regularly accredited delegates and arrangements must be made with the Committee in advance, in order to secure credentials and accommodations. Additional information can be secured by addressing the Young People's Missionary Movement, 156 Fifth Avenue, New York City.



PHARAOH'S BED, PHILAE.

Assouan, lies the lovely island of Philae, smiling with fertility and decked with the ruins of graceful temples. There, on the borders of Nubia, in the heat of a southern sun, the old idolatry of Egypt lingered latest, and had its priests and priestesses, its altars and its sacrifices, long after Christianity had become the state religion of Egypt and of the Roman Empire.

Viewed from a distance these temples are fair and lovely still. They stand in a spot

Baker and Sir John Aird have both stated that Philae will come to no harm.

The island will be slightly flooded in places when the water is at its highest and the soaking of the hitherto dry, light soil will probably cause some settling down. But by means of under-pinning and steel girders all harm to the historic ruins has, it is thought, been sufficiently guarded against, and 'Pharaoh's Bed,' with its companions, will still remain to delight the eyes of travellers.—'Cottager and Artisan.'

Young People's Summer Missionary Conferences.

The summer conferences of the Young People's Missionary Movement have, within two short years, come to be recognized as leading factors in the training of young people for missionary work in the home churches. So great has been the influence of these conferences during the past year that the Secretary of one of the largest missionary boards of America recently reported that 'Almost without exception, wherever a strong work has been discovered this year in any young people's society, the causes have been traced immediately to the Silver Bay Conference of last year or the year before.'

Three of the conferences will be held during the coming summer:—One at Winona Lake, Indiana, June 17-26, one at Lookout Mountain, Tennessee, July 1-10, and one at Silver Bay, on Lake George, New York, July 22-31.

Each day's programme will begin with a quiet hour of Bible Study and prayer, under

the direction of teachers of well-known power. The second hour will be devoted to Conferences for the discussion of practical methods of missionary work in Churches, Sunday-schools and Young People's Societies. During the third hour, the members will be divided into classes for the study of home and foreign missions. These classes will consider the new Forward Mission-Study Text-Books for 1904-5, and will be under the direction of such experts as Dr. T. H. P. Sailer, Educational Secretary of the Board of Foreign Missions of the Presbyterian Church in America; Mr. Don O. Shelton, Associate Secretary of the Congregational Home Missionary Society, and Dr. A. L. Phillips, General Superintendent of Sabbath-School Work of the Presbyterian Committee of Publication. The purpose of these classes will be to prepare the delegates for leadership of similar classes in local societies during the ensuing year. The afternoon of the conferences will be devoted wholly to recreation, for which there are exceptionally favorable environments and facilities. The recrea-