

- Hymn 167.
- Report from Deputation—Reporters 1, 2, 3, and 4.
- Hymn 404.
- Report from Deputation—Reporters 5, 6, 7.
- Hymn 431.
- Report from Deputation—Reporters 8, 9, 10.
- Mizzap Benediction.

References—*Epworth Era* for January, *Our Pleasant Hours*.
 Next month we will send a deputation to visit the Indian Industrial Institute at Muncney.

FEB. 2.—THE FIRST DISCIPLES. John 1. 35-42.

We have seen how John the Baptist prepared the way for Christ. He saw in Him "the Lamb of God,"—the world's Saviour from sin (v. 29). The people were thus turned from John to Jesus. The topic shows us how they began to gather to our Lord and ask Him questions. Two of them (v. 39) spent some hours with Him in happy conversation. One of these was Andrew. He got his brother Simon Peter, and "he brought him to Jesus." In this incident we are shown the very best possible way to win others to our Lord. Go after them. Tell them what you know about Christ. Invite them to come and see Him for themselves. The great lesson is that of personal work for Christ among our own friends and loved ones. Our young children should grow up to work for their Lord in this way. We are not to keep for ourselves what we know about Him. That would be selfish, and the Gospel does not make selfish people. Christianity loves to spread its blessings all around. This can be best done by Christians. If we live just to get we shall soon lose it all, but if we get to give, not to hoard, we shall have abundance. We are most best by blessing others. And the only way to bless them abundantly and permanently is by persuading them to know and love Jesus for themselves. Everyone may thus know Him. Only by personal contact with Him can we prove His goodness and worth. Not what we read about Him; not what others tell us of Him; but what we learn for ourselves is of greatest value. We ought to be able to say, "We have found Him." Then we can tell others that they may find Him too. This is the real true spirit and principle of missionary work. And such missionaries as Andrew are greatly needed. It is the sweetest, best, and most profitable work to tell others the story of our Savior's love and power, that they may come to Him and know the story true. So, Come to Him, Trust in Him, Talk with Him, Witness for Him, Bring others to Him, are lessons from the day's study for us all to learn and practice. Begin at home.

Some New Year's Resolutions for Boys and Girls

1. I will keep myself clean in body and thought.
2. I will try to help, not hinder, at home.
3. I will speak only kind things of others.
4. I will be diligent in my studies.
5. I will not cut my hair before I am hurt.
6. I will cultivate the habit of smiling.
7. I will try to keep my forehead clear of wrinkles that come from frowning.
8. I will read no book that lessens my appreciation of the Bible.
9. Nothing unclean shall pass my lips or befoul my mouth.
10. When I play, I will play fair; but I will not play when I should work.

11. I will stick to anything I have to do until I have done it as well as I can. I will try to live each day so that a year from now I shall not be ashamed. It is wonderful what strength there is in combination. One tiny little snowflake may melt before an infant's breath; but millions of them as they fall block up the roads, create traffic, and seem to laugh at us as we try to wade through the drifts. The great forces are often the sum total of small ones united. So with our lives. Little kindnesses, little words of cheer, little thoughts of wisdom, little deeds of love—how all combine to make a great and useful life. And a lot of boys and girls of such minds and hearts united make a mighty power for God.

Why They Succeed

"Every department of the League is working." This sentence, with the last emphasized, is part of a personal letter from an energetic and successful Superintendent "away down East." It tells why the League there is such an undoubted success, and suggests the reason why so many other Leagues fail, or at least weak. Indifference in the practical "working" of the League invites defeat. Faithfulness in "working" every department ensures success. Work is both a condition and a prophecy of achievement. The idlers are always the losers in the long run. "He that will not work neither shall he eat." This is as true to-day as in the apostle's time. Not "how many departments or committees have you?" but "how well are you working them?" is the most important question. The League that does not work will soon lose its vigor, and before long will be for all practical purposes a dead, useless thing.

"During the week we had held five meetings with the guides preparing for the trip, so everything went smoothly." This is another suggestive sentence from a personal letter from the same quarter. The Around the World Missionary Trip cannot run itself; but when carefully conducted is a splendid feature of our Junior studies. Like everything else of value in the weekly meetings, it requires intelligent and careful preparation. The Superintendent who wrote the above sentence is a very busy person living in a very "strenuous" city; but with a multitude of other duties, managed to direct these preparatory meetings of the guides, so that when her 150 Juniors gathered in their meeting, "everything went smoothly." Many may object, "I haven't time for this thorough preparation." To all such we recommend a careful reading of our article in this department, "About your time." It will do the leaders good as well as the Juniors.

"I try to encourage the Juniors themselves to do all they can in our meetings." This statement by a Superintendent gives a good hint as to how to succeed. It contains a true principle. To encourage self-activity is to develop growth. The Juniors are none the better for having everything done for them. A good leader will not try to do all, but will encourage his followers to do their part intelligently and unitedly. It is a constant surprise to the wide-awake Superintendent to find how much the Juniors themselves can do. And they like to do it. Why should it be otherwise? The doing promotes their development. The Junior League should always stand for training in the habit of personal usefulness and united endeavor. It may often be easier for the Superintendent to do things herself; but it is not best. To show the young how to work, to watch them grow by working, and to see the fruit of their united work is an abiding joy.

"We always have the details of our program arranged beforehand." This is another wise provision. Too many hurried programs are presented to the meetings. Some, indeed, have no orderly arrangement at all. Such cannot be other than unprofitable. Know what you are going to have, the order in which it is to come, the Juniors who are to take part, and then with the impromptu additions that come in every live meeting, you will never fall of interest and profit.

"I am particular to select hymns that are appropriate to our topic." Again we have a wise, practical hint. Junior meetings should always have the brightest and most helpful music. Do not pick your hymns at random as the meeting progresses. Occasionally a fitting song may suggest itself thus, but you will do better to make a careful "beforehand" study of the occasion, and have the musical part of the service pre-arranged in an orderly and systematic manner.

"We try hard to get the parents with us, especially the mothers. Without their sympathy and help it is almost impossible to do good work with the children." This, too, is a very wise suggestion. The Junior League cannot take the place of parental training and discipline. Indeed, no institution can supplant the home as the primary school of character. The League may (and ought to) supplement the work of the home, and that is the best it can do. If it proves a stimulus to the parents to give more careful attention to the rearing of their children, it will do well. And if the interest and co-operation of the parents can be gained for the League so much the better. The Junior pledge is actually a deed done, providing as it does for the signatures of both parent and child.

"Our League seeks always to present to the Juniors the highest standard of life." We believe we have this in our pledge. The very heart of success is in this sentence. "The highest standard of life" is that given by our Lord. Even little children can respond to it. Start a boy out in life with the idea predominating his thought that he rightly belongs to God only, and he will reach up to that idea in all his conscious development. Show him how by love to Christ, trust in Him, and obedience to His rule, this idea may be actually realized and demonstrated in his life, and you have given him the best possible start in life. The Junior League should ever stand for the intelligent and conscious union of the child with Christ, and the fashioning of the whole life after His clearly expressed precepts and holy example.

For Junior Workers

EVERY JUNIOR SUPERINTENDENT
 Should have a copy of

The Junior League Handbook

BY REV. S. T. BARTLETT
Associate General Secretary of Sunday Schools and Epworth Leagues.

It is full of practical suggestions of the greatest value to Junior workers. Simply indispensable to those who would do the best work.

Price, 35 cents per copy, postpaid

Address orders to one of the Methodist Book Rooms

TORONTO: WILLIAM BRIGGS
 Montreal: C. W. Coates Halifax: S. F. Huestis