

of encouragement written. Besides all this, some of the young people went on Christmas Day to a home where husband and wife were both ill, and prepared a good hot dinner for the children.

Just a Line or Two.

The League of Brant Avenue Church, Brantford, recently observed a week of self-denial.

The Christian Endeavor Society of Queen Street Methodist Church, Kingston, has become an Epworth League of Christian Endeavor.

A new League has been organized at Dawson City. Our Klondike missionary, Rev. James Turner, says, "The League promises to be a potent factor in our church work."

The Young People's Society of Agnes St. Church, Toronto, has become an Epworth League of Christian Endeavor. At the opening meeting thirty Active members were enrolled.

Rev. Thomas Athoe, of Lynden, says that the services held in connection with the Evangelistic Forward Movement on that circuit were the most interesting he has known in thirty years' ministry.

According to the recently published Missionary Report, the League of Parliament Street Church, Toronto, contributes to missions more liberally than any Methodist young people's society in Canada. During the past year it gave \$108 to the General Missionary Fund and \$100 to the Forward Movement, a total of \$208. There is no other League that approaches this.

Goderich District Convention.

The fourth annual convention of the Epworth Leagues and Sunday Schools of the Goderich District was held in the town of Goderich, in North Street Methodist Church, on Tuesday and Wednesday, January 17th and 18th. Tuesday's afternoon session was devoted to Sunday School work, the rest of the time to the League work. The congregations were not so large as at former conventions; but this is due, largely, to the almost impassable state of the roads and the prevalence of the disease la grippe in some parts of the District.

The first address was given by Rev. A. L. Russell, of Seaforth, on the subject, "The Relation of the parents to the Sunday School." Rev. Jasper Wilson, of Goderich, gave several qualifications that would be necessary for success in Sunday School teaching.

The open parliament on Sunday School work, led by Mr. G. M. Elliott, was taken up mainly by discussions on "The Catechism, and How to Teach it," and "How to keep the grown-up boys and young men in the Sunday School."

Rev. R. M. McGillivray, of Clinton, gave an enthusiastic and profitable address on the importance and influence of little things. He was followed by Rev. R. Emberson, of Toronto, who spoke on the Young People's Forward Movement for Missions. He sketched briefly the origin and work of the movement and the necessity of its maintenance.

The sunrise prayer-meeting on Wednesday was attended by a large number, and was a season of grace and sweet delight to all present.

The first address of the forenoon session was by Rev. J. Greene, of Holmesville, on "The Relation of the League to the Class and Prayer-meeting." This address was followed by an interesting discussion on "How the League members of the League to attend the Class-meeting." The District officers' reports which followed showed that the

Leagues of the District, twenty-five in number, are in a flourishing condition.

Mr. Emberson, of Toronto, led an open parliament on committee work, when an animated discussion took place and was entered into by many much interested in the work.

The District Executive Committee for the year is as follows: Hon. Pres., Rev. W. Rigby, Blyth; Pres., Mr. G. M. Elliott, Goderich; 1st Vice-Pres., Mr. S. T. Walters, Holmesville; 2nd Vice-Pres., Miss L. Acheson, Goderich; 3rd Vice-Pres., Mr. E. Anliss, Varna; 4th Vice-Pres., Mr. Wm. Tamm, Blyth; 5th Vice-Pres., Miss M. Salkeld, Goderich; Secretary, Mr. A. P. Sheppard; Treasurer, Miss M. Latimer, Seaforth; Representative of District on Conference Executive, Rev. E. L. Armstrong, Goderich.

As Others See Us.

The new Epworth League monthly has appeared and should make a decided hit among the Methodist Young People's Societies. —*Sturford Herald*.

The first number of the CANADIAN EPWORTH ERA is a highly creditable production. The cover is artistically designed and the paper contains thirty-two pages of reading matter presented in an attractive form. —*Toronto Mail and Empire*.

If the standard reached by the first number of the CANADIAN EPWORTH ERA is maintained, the paper should have no difficulty in at once winning a front place among the publications of its kind in Canada or indeed in the United States. —*Toronto Globe*.

The CANADIAN EPWORTH ERA, that is what they call the new monthly. The handsome paper pranced into our sanctum for the first time and made a graceful bow. We liked it at first sight, and more intimate acquaintance has intensified our admiration. —*Epworth Herald*.

A new publication in the field of religious journalism is the CANADIAN EPWORTH ERA which is issued from the Methodist Book-Room. The first number is entirely free from imperfections so generally found in an initial number of such a venture. Typographically and artistically it is as creditable to the Publishing House as it is to the Editor, the General Secretary. —*Toronto News*.

ANOTHER light has appeared in the literary and ecclesiastical sky, and promises to shine with more than ordinary attraction to the eye of Junior Methodism. If the first number is a fair sample of the future issues of the paper it promises to reach a high point of usefulness and popular favor in Canadian Methodism. We wish our newly arrived contemporary every success. —*Missionary Outlook*.

NORTHERN lights glow along the northern horizon about this time. Fortunately, then, the CANADIAN EPWORTH ERA has appeared. The contents of the first number are varied, interesting and of a high order. It has caught the secret at the very start of saying things in a bright way. Surely it is a very modest request that its publishers make for five thousand subscribers right away. Five times that number would seem to be in keeping with its worth and promises. —*Zion's Herald, Boston*.

The newest and one of the best of our exchanges is the CANADIAN EPWORTH ERA, published monthly, in the interests of the Young People's Societies of the Methodist Church. The numerous departments are full of good things. The editor and his many contributors have made a creditable beginning and the paper should find an abiding place in thousands of homes. The *Christian Guardian* finds an opportunity for criticism on the ERA's first page. How tastes do differ. To our eye the title-page

could be improved in appearance only by a more artistic grouping of the maple leaves around the heading. The rustic leaves are charming. They are formed of sections of limbs, and it would be as difficult to find a stump among them, as it might be to find a clump in the *Guardian* critic. —*Citizen and County*.

THE CANADIAN EPWORTH ERA is a beauty, a real beauty. Paper, type, arrangement, press work—all are not merely good but very good. From its handsome first page to its final advertisement it is essentially artistic and up to date. Then as to its contents. It contains quite a variety of well-chosen items, original and selected, of special interest to Leaguers. Its paragraph writing is breezy and pointed, and its Helps for Leagues and Sunday School work are full and well arranged. We were heartily glad when the move was made for a League organ, and now that it has come, and come in good shape, we hope Leaguers east and west will sustain the venture and make it an increasing success. —*The Halifax Wreath*.

The New Constitution.

The new constitution of the Epworth League, containing all the changes made by the recent General Conference, is now ready. We are sorry for the delay in getting this little book out, but nothing could be done before the publication of the *Journal of General Conference* proceedings, which necessarily required some time, as strict accuracy is required. The new constitution is a little larger than the old one, but will be sold at the same price, ten cents per dozen. Every League should be supplied with a sufficient number of copies to give to each member. It frequently happens that members fail to do their duty because they do not know what is expected of them. It pays to give the fullest information. The old constitution is now out of date. Send orders for the new one to either of our Book-Rooms, in Toronto, Montreal, or Halifax.

Letter Box.

DEAR MR. EDITOR,—One look at your bright paper, THE CANADIAN EPWORTH ERA, convinced me of its inestimable value; but having what appeared to me, under present circumstances, an extravagant number of papers coming to my home, I did not decide to subscribe for it until I read to page nine. There I met with these striking and suggestive words: "This will undoubtedly be one of the purposes of the ERA to make those who read it spiritually and intellectually better acquainted with God." The Methodist Church has still its thousands of loyal men and women, whose words and actions indicate that they are in direct communion with the Source of all spiritual power; but we are fully convinced that a closer walk with God, on the part of our young people generally, is absolutely essential. This, we are aware, may be said of professing Christians everywhere and in every denomination; but at present we are feeling extremely anxious about the young, upon whom the future of our Church depends. We who rank as leaders should ever be careful lest we speak or act so as to leave an impression upon the minds of any that religion consists in cold formalism. Vital godliness must continue to be the distinguishing characteristic of Methodism. This is what made the dear old Church a living and developing power in the days of our forefathers. And upon this rock, vital godliness, we must build for the future. Accordingly we pray that your paper may become a grand success in building up the members of our Epworth Leagues spiritually.

JOS. BLESEBELL.

Sambo, Jan. 7th, 1899.