

[For OUR MISSION UNION.]

Sabbath School Association of Canada.

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Chairman of Provincial Ex. Committee.



THE Twelfth Provincial Convention which held its sessions in Knox Church, Stratford, on the 20th, 21st and 22nd October, was in many respects the most satisfactory which has met for many years. The number of delegates in attendance was large, the morning and afternoon sessions nearly filling the body of the church, while at the evening meetings the spacious edifice, seating 1,200 persons was too small to contain the multitudes who sought to enter. The presence of that veteran S. S. worker, Wm. Reynolds, Esq., of Peoria, Ill., was a pleasing feature, while the amount of solid work which was contributed by him was something surprising. Those who were privileged to be associated with him during his former visits to this Province, will not need to be told of his wonderful adaptability to the various phases of Sunday School work. The singing was in charge of the Whyte Brothers, of Paris, and may be safely set down as one of the most attractive features of the Convention, more particularly at the evening meetings, where a great many young people attended.

The subjects discussed were live, practical ones, and the papers read and addresses delivered, were, generally speaking, of a high order, while the discussions resulting therefrom were, at times, quite animated. The Rev. E. A. Stafford, of Toronto, discussed "the claims of the Bible on the attention of the S. S. teacher." "The encouragements of S. S. teachers," was the subject of a paper by the Rev. W. R. Parker, of St. Thomas. The Rev. D. G. Sutherland, of London, delivered two stirring addresses upon "The nation of the future, in the S. S. of to-day," and "Christian character in the teacher and for the work." "Christ, the S. S. teacher's model in spirit and method," formed the subject of a very thoughtful address by the Rev. John Thompson, Sarnia. A carefully prepared paper was read by the Rev. H. D. Hunter, of London, on "The Superintendent, his duties and difficulties." The Rev. J. F. German, Brampton, gave cogent "Reasons why all should engage in S. S. work," while the Rev. H. M. Parsons, of Toronto told the Convention "How to engage the whole church in the work of Bible study." Mr. Reynold's addresses were upon the work of the International Committee, and "The S. S. Teacher's Text Book." He also conducted, with great tact, Conferences upon "The S. S. teacher's preparation for his class," and "Home Life," the latter embracing:—
(1) The place given to the home in the Scriptures, precepts, promises and illustrative examples. (2) Church responsibility and home life. (3) How the Sabbath School may help the home. (4) Why the

home should help the school. For a good hour, on the last afternoon, Mr. Reynolds was on the platform answering with rare wisdom the numerous questions, upon every conceivable phase of S. S. work, which had found their way into the "question drawer" during the three days.

The resignation of the Rev. John McEwen, the energetic and efficient General Secretary, who has resumed pastoral work, was the occasion for very general expressions of regret, and a highly complimentary resolution was unanimously passed, and ordered to be engrossed and presented to him. The matter of the selection and appointment of a successor to Mr. McEwen was entrusted to the Executive Committee.

The financial condition of the Association was the subject of careful consideration, first, by the Executive Committee, and then by the Convention. For the first time a definite plan of apportionment was adopted. In view of the deficiency in the treasury, the amount necessary to cover the expenses of the ensuing year was placed at \$2,500. Of this amount the Toronto delegates became responsible for one-fifth, while the other cities and the counties in the Province were assessed for sums varying from twenty to one hundred dollars. The delegates from the several cities and counties represented at the Convention, were given time and opportunity for consultation, the result being that in nearly every case the assessment was cheerfully accepted, and in this way some \$1,400 distinctly pledged, with fully three fourths of the cities and counties yet to be called upon to contribute their quota. The Convention felt that a rational step had been successfully taken to place the finances upon an equitable basis, and it is understood that the Executive Committee will follow the matter up until the entire amount necessary is guaranteed, and the Association made in this respect, as in every other, *Provincial*.

This sketch would be incomplete without a grateful allusion to the valuable S. S. Institute exercises conducted by the Rev. J. McEwen, General Secretary, and the Rev. W. C. Henderson, of St. Mary's.

The President, Mr. J. J. Crabbe, St. Mary's, overflowed with good nature, and filled the chair with ability and discretion. The good people of Stratford entertained their guests right royally; and take it all in all, the Twentieth Provincial S. S. Convention will not soon be forgotten, or its inspirations lost by those who were fortunate enough to be present.

What Love will Do.

A CONVICT in Portsmouth, England, was recently visited by his wife. The visit lasted half an hour. In order to make it, the woman had walked from Birmingham, the journey taking twenty-one days, and had wheeled before her the whole way, a perambulator, which contained her child, a cripple eleven years of age.