

blessing to about all the Leagues I know. Write your plans if you have any to the General Secretary.

*"How are we to bring the young men into the League?"*

This question is asked by a President in one of the Leagues of a city in Hamilton Conference. Another president, in the same city, wrote this the previous week, "We had a heart-searching Consecration meeting to-night, and I think some of our young men have been most divided for Christ. We are trying to do more personal work, and hope at our next meeting to see many take a stand for God and His work."

There is no secret in this process. If you are in earnest, and want young men, or anybody else for that matter, badly enough to go after them, you have taken the first necessary step. And if you want to retain young men, and want to badly enough to fit your League to minister to these young men and give them the means to minister to one another and still others of their fellows, you have taken the next step. Plenty of people who prate about reaching young men do nothing but talk; and some Leagues, even if a score of young men were persuaded to join them, couldn't hold them a month. You can't hold young men in a nursery. They need a workshop, and we have more nurseries than workshops in the Church yet,—more's the pity. Which is yours?

*"Why can we get a good crowd of young people out to a social evening but cannot get them back regularly to our other meetings?"*

Suppose you had "a social evening," according to the popular meaning, every week. How often would your young people come in "a good crowd"? Not very long! Suppose you had sociability in every meeting. Would it be necessary to even set apart a whole evening to nothing but "a social time"? I think not. It is not the atmosphere of gallantry and some element of novelty that give attractiveness to a "social evening"? Why should these elements be lacking in any meeting? Avoid extremes. Give each department a chance to provide a meeting once a month and there is no reason in the world why all meetings should not be equally attractive and helpful. Have an Epworth League!

*"Ours is a purely Junior Society, but our trouble is to get our boys to take an active part. How can we do?"*

I am glad that you have the boys. Believe in them. Study them. Adapt your plans to them. Do not ask them to do a man's task, nor expect them to be good-looking-girl-boys. Do not think that just the part they take in the meeting is of the most importance. Use them between meetings. Familiarize yourself with their school lessons, their home surroundings, their associations. Appeal to the heroic in their natures. Help them to be 20th Century Knights. Form them into a separate section of the League, if need be, and let them be under their own management in organized work as far as possible. Don't scold or threaten. Lead.

THE FOLLOWING HAVE BEEN  
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*"How can we get our young members to lead in prayer?"*

By seeing in the first instance that the older and more experienced members pray. Example is always better than precept. And more, the prayer of the older members should not be mechanical and stereotyped, but what it surely is, a simple expression of the real life to One

who knows and understands and yearns for the fulfillment of our largest selves. Let the executive be such a prayer circle, and let the executive meet often; let each departmental committee be such a prayer circle; let the mission study class be such another prayer circle. Draw the younger members into one or other of these circles and they will gradually come to engage in prayer as the most natural way to commune with a Father who knows all about us and desires us to be and to do our very best.

*"How can we make our meetings so interesting and helpful that all the members will want to attend regularly?"*

If you would have all the members present regularly, first of all, have no cliques; secondly, have a well-lighted, well-ventilated, nicely decorated room with an atmosphere of gladness and good-will all about; thirdly, have a splendidly prepared programme on the respective topics for discussion; fourthly, feel an individual and League responsibility for reaching out and winning for Christ and your society every young man and woman and youth in your community; fifthly, have regular meetings of the executive and other committees to plan this work; sixthly, relate every member of the League to its end and purpose in such a way as to give to each and all a bit of real work to do. In short, if you have each member interested in some one or two others along evangelistic, educational or missionary lines, their regular attendance at the League meetings is guaranteed.

*"Kindly state in brief the duties of a President. I have been recently elected and do not understand my work in a way I would like to."*

Some of your duties:—

1. To have general oversight of the work of the League.
2. To preside at the regular monthly meetings of the executive.
3. To be responsible for initiating the policy of the League from time to time.
4. To be the inspirer and supporter of vice-presidents and their committees.
5. To see that all committees are properly organized and working.
6. To assist the leader as he may require it to find material for programmes, etc., and be ever ready to give variety and strength and direction to any meeting.
7. To be in close touch with the pastor, the Sunday School superintendent and other church leaders, with a view to co-operating with them in their work.
8. To offer suggestions re the organization of Bible study classes, mission study classes, teacher training classes, evangelistic work and every other activity pertaining to League extension work.
9. To see that the names of all possible candidates for League membership, with data concerning them, are on record, and that efforts are made through the various committees to reach and win them.
10. To see that the League does its best as a training school for its members in the various lines of Christian activity.

These duties are worth while taking up, aren't they?

*"Our young people are very enthusiastic in preparing Sunday School entertainments and in getting up a Literary Society. How can we get them as interested and enthusiastic in League work?"*

Those who are interested in literary societies and entertainments only have not yet caught the real meaning of life. It remains for you and others to give them that meaning. Perhaps by throwing yourself heart and soul into these

very activities, however, you would find a point of contact between you and them. But you must do more. If I were a member of your society I think I should try to have the members of the executive and the pastor meet once or twice, or three times, or more if necessary, to pray over the situation and to "work out a definite plan, brood on its comprehensiveness, which somehow might require for its realization the assistance of these very literary people,—and then get after them. I cannot work this out in detail, for to do this one must know exactly your local conditions. But you catch the meaning. The Christ, His kingdom and His service—this constitutes the greatest force for interesting and winning men.

*"What do you think of charging a membership fee of say ten cents a month to cover League expenses?"*

What you have in mind, viz., to secure systematic and continuous financial support for general League work is good. But do not call it a "charge." It is better to call for a voluntary pledge, say so much a month for the next year. Collect the same through the envelope system. Better still, if you have the Forward Movement for Missions in your League, use the monthly duplex envelope for missions and general League purposes respectively. Have the treasurer on hand every night to receive payment and be sure that an exact account is kept with every member. This method has been adopted by a number of Leagues with splendid results.

*"Please tell us how to get the League interested in missions."*

Introduce the Forward Movement for Missions. Pray, study, give into your League. You say, "That is odd; give us some other way to do this." There is no other way. You may have to begin on a small scale by organizing a mission study class of six or eight, or even three or four. If these three or four are really desirous of studying missions, you have your problem solved. A little heaven you know leaves the whole lump. So be satisfied to begin with yourself and two or three others. Take as a text-book "Strangers within our Gates," "Our share in China," "The Decisive Hour of Christian Missions," "Heal the Sick," or some other interesting book. At the end of eight or ten weeks, when you have completed one of them, you and your fellow-students will begin to feel the throb and thrill of Christian missions and out from your lives will go the inspiration, compelling enthusiasm and personal touch that will arouse the interest of your fellow members in this great work. It cannot fail.

*"How shall we proceed to get the young of a country village and community to join as members?"*

The same principles of success hold good in rural districts as in town or city. And so, first of all make your League meeting the most interesting service of the week. Live music, good cheer, spiritual jollity, all programmes and a worth-while purpose are contributory to this end. Then the members who are interested must go out to bring others, one by one to this feast of good things. This can be done only by carefully planned look-out organization and personal work with the emphasis on the personal. In short, the laws of success here are elsewhere are simply these, vision, purpose, power, doing, now and all the time. Hard work along right lines always brings abundant success. But it must be work, and the work must be hard, with a heart and a purpose in and through it all.