

## Notes from the Field

### Guelph District Winter School

The Epworth Leagues assembled in the Dublin St. Church, Guelph, and spent two profitable days, Dec. 7 and 8, in practical sessions. Bible and mission study classes were conducted by Rev. Dr. Barber, and the historical development of the forward movement was explained by him. Rev. W. M. Prudham told graphically of his work in Japan. The practical issues in the Temperance and Moral Reform movement were clearly presented by License Inspector Oakes, of Guelph. Three helpful round table conferences were conducted, on Social Work, by Rev. H. W. Crews; on the Christian Endeavor Department, by Miss Sherwood; and on the general work of the League, by Rev. G. W. Barker. The officers elst appeared.

Hon. President—Rev. W. J. Smith, B.A., Guelph.

President—Mr. A. T. Brown, Acton.

1st Vice—Rev. A. J. Elson, Guelph.

2nd Vice—Miss Mary Swan, Fergus.

3rd Vice—Miss F. Calvert, Corwin.

4th Vice—Miss Lucy Campbell, Elora.

5th Vice—Mrs. C. R. Estle, Guelph.

Representative to Conference Executive—Rev. H. W. Crews, M.A., Guelph.

Sec.-Treas.—Miss A. G. Jolliffe, Rockwood.

### Notes

The Whitechurch League recently found an evening spent in an impersonation contest very enjoyable. They filled and forwarded a useful missionary box of gifts to the Deaconess Home in time for Christmas. The pastor is conducting a special Bible study evening monthly with the league.

The Corbettown Circuit, Toronto Conference, has four appointments, and on it are three senior leagues, two of which have well attended junior departments, in charge of the pastor, Rev. W. J. Tribble. A fourth Epworth League is expected very soon. When we hear some ministers complain of the difficulties in the way of young people's work, we wonder how it is that some men on country circuits such as Corbettown succeed so grandly. Some ministers can get along splendidly anywhere—others find it hard and tiresome anywhere. It is the trouble mainly in the circuit, the young people, or the man?

"Show me ten square miles in any part of the world outside Christianity where the life of man and the purity of women are safe, and I will give Christianity up."—*Matthew Arnold.*

In the Monthly Bulletin of the Hochelaga Church, Rev. Dr. Tucker puts in the following concise way for his people some wholesome counsel that all our workers, old as well as young, would do well to heed:

PRAY } for this work!  
PLAN }  
LASH }  
UN }  
OSS }  
POWER }  
ERSADE } your friends

AND PRACTICE FAITH AND PERSONAL SELF-DENIAL!

The Sherbrooke St. E. L. of C. E., Montreal, had a most enjoyable Christmas meeting. An excellent paper on "The Real Christmas" was given by Miss A. Tabb. "Old Christmas" was described by Miss K. Shearman. Longfellow's poem, "The Three Wise Men," was well rendered by Miss O. Barnard. The regular topic, "Why was the King born," was discussed by the President and others, and H. M. Flower read "How to keep Christmas." Henry Van Dyke. Appropriate music interspersed helped to make a most profitable meeting.

Quarterly union meetings between seniors and juniors have proved helpful in many ways. They recognize the juniors as leaguers in training for the larger responsibilities of adult life and so keep both branches in actual sympathy and co-operation. At the last union meeting in Moncton, N.B., the subject was, "How the Canadian Epworth Era helps one." The October number was analyzed and its wealth of material exhibited. In consequence of this, eleven new subscriptions were handed in for the paper. A similar result might be realized in many other leagues. Try it in yours. Talk up the Era!

A belated report of the Windsor District E. L. and S. E. Convention has been received. The Rev. J. Wilson, M.A., chairman of district, preached. The stereotyped lecture on West China, and the address of Miss Ringland, Durban, S. Africa, were leading features of the programme. "The outcome of the year's work reflects creditably on the retiring officers." The new executive is composed as follows:—Hon. Pres., Rev. J. Wilson; Pres., Rev. A. E. M. Thomson, South Woodlee; 1st Vice-Pres., Miss Jennie Ure, Windsor; 2nd Vice-Pres., Rev. J. E. Hunter, Leamington; 3rd Vice-Pres., Miss Rachel McNaughton, Ruscomb; 4th Vice-Pres., Miss Blanche Minnis, Kingsville; 5th Vice-Pres., Mrs. A. W. Barker, Comber; Sec., Miss Emma Cohoe, South Woodlee; Treas., Miss Gladys Cadman, Windsor; Rep. on Conf. Exec., Rev. B. Snell, Cotnam.

Rev. J. Heliyar, S. S. Sec. of the Portage la Prairie District, sends a glowing account of splendid meetings in early winter held in the interest of S. S. and E. L. work and contributed to largely by the splendid services of the Western Associate Secretary, Bro. J. A. Doyle, who preached on the Oakland, West Prospect and High Bluffs Circuits. During the week following four conferences had been arranged, but a genuine Manitoba blizzard caused the Monday meeting to be cancelled. On Tuesday evening a rally was held at Burnside, when Mr. Doyle delivered a very helpful and practical address on "Rural Sunday School Work." At McGregor the following afternoon and evening, it was proven by papers read and discussions, that Sunday School and Epworth League work were not dead issues.

"How to promote the spiritual life of the Sunday School," the subject of a paper, given by Mr. Ratcliffe, and an inspiring address by Rev. A. E. Smith, Portage la Prairie, on "How to most effectively use our young people in Christian work," gave many valuable suggestions.

Mr. B. J. Crealock, of Bagot, ably took charge of a "Question Box" on S. S.

work, after which Mr. Doyle addressed the gathering.

On Thursday afternoon and evening the church at Carberry was well filled. Rev. F. W. Lock read a concise paper on "How to interest adults in the Sunday School," a very helpful discussion following.

"How to increase missionary zeal in the Sunday School" was the theme of a bright paper given by Mrs. F. W. Lock, after which Mr. Doyle conducted a Round Table Conference on "Rural Epworth Leagues."

The closing addresses of the Conference were delivered by Rev. A. E. Smith, speaking on "The Book of God in the hand of a man," and the Western Secretary, on "The call of the child."

A resolution was also unanimously carried expressing the appreciation of the valuable services rendered and the impetus given to the work on the District by Rev. Mr. Doyle's visit, the workers pledging themselves to give him their hearty support. He deserves it.

"The greatest thing a human soul ever does in this world is to SEE something, and tell what it SAW in a plain way."—*Ruskin.*

From the Winnipeg Free Press, we glean the following:

On Tuesday evening, January 12th, the Methodist Sunday School Association met in Zion Church, enjoying the hospitality of the ladies of that church, the orchestra of Young Church dispersing sweet music.

After a social half hour, the chair was taken by Mr. Will Gibben, President, who read a short history of the Association, written by Mr. W. D. Pettigrew, tracing its formation, and growth, from October, 1889, mentioning, among the names of the original promoters, Rev. A. C. Crews, Rev. W. L. Armstrong, Jas. Treas, S. R. Parsons, and W. D. Pettigrew. At the first New Year's rally, five schools, those of Grace, Zion, Wesley, McDougall, and Fort Rouge churches, were represented. There had 116 teachers and officers, and 913 scholars, making a total of 1,029. At the recent New Year's Day gathering, the reports showed a total of 477 teachers and officers, and 4,434 scholars; total, 5,538. Instead of only five, there were now twenty schools.

Rev. Dr. Wm. Spaulding, of Grace Church, spoke on, "The Sunday School demanded by the present time." Miss Helen Park read a paper, "The Teacher's Commission." Solos were rendered by Miss Burnett and Mr. Orchard. Rev. J. A. Doyle, Western Epworth League and Sunday School Secretary, was introduced. He referred to his work during the past year and a half, and created a very fine impression. A resolution was unanimously carried, commending the formation of Junior Young Men's Clubs of boys, from 12 to 18 years of age, being first members of the Sunday School.

Superintendent of Fort Rouge Sunday School, stated that his school was aiming at raising for missions an average of One Dollar per member. He spoke of the fact of \$660 having been contributed to missions by the 5,500 Sunday School members, saying that he believed the time had come when this Association should support a missionary in the foreign field. A resolution was consequently carried, requesting the Executive to make the necessary representations to the General Board of Missions, and to appropriate the amounts necessary for such purpose.

The interchange of visitations by the