

Queen's University Journal

Published by the Alma Mater Society of Queen's University in Twelve Fortnightly Numbers during the Academic Year.

N. M. LECKIE, - - - Editor.
J. J. HARPELL, - - - Business Manager.
L. W. Jones, W. E. Playfair, P. W. Wilgar,
G. F. Weatherhead, W. C. Brown, A. Redmond,
G. B. McLennan, T. H. Billings, Miss H. Smirle,
Miss L. Vaux, Miss M. Redden.

Subscriptions \$1.00 per year; single copies 15c.

Communications should be addressed to the Editor or to the Business Manager, Box 141, Kingston Post Office.

Editorials.

IN another part of the present number of the JOURNAL there is to be found a brief sketch of the recent convention of students at Toronto. Some fifteen or sixteen of our own students were present at this great gathering, and a considerable measure of the light and enthusiasm which centred in the Massey Music Hall has no doubt filtered out among those who were not themselves present. There have been public reports and private harangues setting forth the spirit and the methods of the great Missionary movement under which the recent convention was held; and both those who aim at travelling to foreign lands as missionaries themselves, and many others, must be refreshed and stimulated by these accounts. For once at least it has been to our disadvantage that we are not in Toronto, else more would have profited directly from this meeting.

The abstract legitimacy of missionary enterprise is something which no person of culture for a moment calls in question. To do so would not only be to repudiate our own history but to contravene essential and fundamental facts of the Christian religion. A faith which recognizes the intrinsic

and eternal value of every human life as such, and which at the same time claims to be an absolute and final interpretation of the relation of God to man, must have as one of the axioms of its existence the determination to make itself known to all mankind. Our own culture and civilization are largely due to the thorough grasp of these facts which prevailed during earlier centuries of the era, and we shall do dishonor to our great traditions if we fail to understand with the same clearness the inevitableness of the principles we profess. The Christian religion must be a volunteer movement through and through, convinced of the necessity of its faith for all races and colors of men, and ready at call to make itself known to those who are in need of its support.

To pass from abstract obligations to the actual performance of such is to enter a region of detail and compromise which is only too familiar to those who are the leaders in such a gathering as the late convention. What countries are most in need, where the money is to come from, what attitude the various denominations should take to each other, what effect political relationships must have upon missions, and many other difficult questions come up to modify and to postpone the achievement of the obligations which in principle are so easily recognized. Such features of general missionary enterprise as the Toronto Convention show that all these difficulties are being grappled with by strong, brave men. Details are being studied and past experience is being brought to the service of fresh endeavors. The motto which hopes for the evangelization of the world within the present genera-