

annihilated the peach orchards. It is said to see whole fields of dead peach trees, without a green leaf to be noted anywhere. Tobacco is grown in large quantities in the county of Essex, and is said to pay well. Its bad effect is seen everywhere, as a very large proportion of the young men and boys may be observed using it. The smoking habit prevails more generally than in any other part of Canada.

At Essex we had a good meeting, with Mr. W. R. Manning in the chair. Mr. Manning is Principal of the Public School here, and is foremost in all good work. He is a leading spirit in the League, and largely through his influence a fine Reading Circle has been organized. On all night journey and Toronto is again reached, where a large amount of accumulated work awaits attention.

Sunday, Oct. 1st, was Young People's day at Brant Avenue Church, Brantford. Rev. G. W. Kerby, B.A., is pastor here, and his enthusiasm for young people's work is well known. He seems to have special talent for gathering young men around him and interesting them in the church, and in this he spares no time or effort. The services of the day commenced with an early morning prayer meeting at 7 o'clock, with the lecture room nearly full. The testimonies and prayers seemed to revolve around the Twentieth Century Thanksgiving Fund, and it was an intensely spiritual service, and there was an almost complete absence of commonplace and hackneyed expressions in the remarks that were made. I was particularly pleased to note that nearly all the official members of the church were present, and took part in this meeting. Mr. Kerby does not believe in allowing the League to become a separate institution, and he wisely guards against the young people drifting apart from the older members.

In the afternoon there was a large mass meeting of the Sunday School, but the crowning service of the day came at night, when the church was crowded to its utmost capacity. The usual efficient choir took a holiday and their places were occupied by seventy-five young men who led the singing, which was worth going a long way to hear. Nothing could be more inspiring than to see that company of sturdy young manhood as they lustily sang "Onward Christian Soldiers." Evidently the question of "How to reach the young men?" is one that is not troubling Brant Avenue Church very much just now.

At Tamworth the District Convention struck "hard luck" in the way of weather, and many were prevented from being present. There was, however, a good attendance and a good programme. The interest taken in Epworth League work by the ministers of this district is unusual. Every pastor was present with one exception, and most of them came long distances, one brother having a journey of sixty miles, and several others driving, twenty, twenty-three, and twenty-five miles. There was no district business meeting of any kind; the convention alone was the attraction. It is a most gratifying thing to see our ministers thus associating themselves with the young people.

At Belleville the Twentieth Century Fund was in the air. As a preparation for the special day set apart for the inauguration of the movement a week of prayer and praise meetings had been arranged, culminating in the district rally in Bridge Street Church, on Friday evening. All the churches of the city seemed stirred in regard to this enterprise and are taking hold of it vigorously. The Sunday Schools and Leagues will do their share. Bridge Street school is aiming to have the name of every scholar and every officer and teacher on the Historic Roll.

The second Sunday in October was spent at Palermo with Rev. Dr. Strongman. The young people here are intensely interested in league work. The preaching service is in

the morning, and every Sunday evening the League holds a devotional meeting which is usually attended by about 150 people. There is no difficulty whatever in getting the members to take charge of the service, and there is always a bright and helpful meeting. In some places where the membership is small and the attendance large it is not an easy matter to obtain leaders and speakers. There ought, however, to be, on the part of our league members, such a consecration to their Lord and Master that the fear of man would be entirely removed.

A. C. C.

Dominion C. E. Convention.

The first Dominion Christian Endeavor Convention was held in the City of Montreal, commencing Thursday evening, October 5th, and continuing until the following Monday night. The attendance of delegates outside of Montreal was about three hundred, but at all the evening meetings the spacious auditorium of St. James Church was crowded. The Convention was fortunate in securing the presence of Rev. F. E. Clark, D.D., President of the United Society of Christian Endeavor, and Mr. John Willis Baer, Secretary. Both of these gentlemen delivered several addresses, and added much to the interest of the occasion.

Addresses of welcome were delivered by Mr. James Wilson, Chairman of the 1899 Committee, and Rev. Wm. Sparling. Suitable replies were made by Rev. S. P. Rose, D.D., Mr. W. L. Shurtleff, Rev. E. S. Rowe, and Mr. C. J. Atkinson.

Rev. F. A. Cassidy, M.A., addressed the Convention on the subject of "Sabbath Preservation," and the following resolution was adopted:

"The Montreal 1899 Christian Endeavor Convention, recognizing that the Sabbath rest, as a necessity of nature, is the inalienable right of every man, and recognizing, further, the effective and self-sacrificing work so far done by the Lord's Day Alliance, hereby recommend its work to the approval of the Resolution Committee of this Convention, and as individuals we hereby pledge ourselves to take more interest in its work and to devote our energies to the obtaining in the provinces and for the Dominion, of laws for the better observance of the Sabbath."

Rev. John Wilkie, of Indore, India, spoke on "The World's Greatest Need," and Rev. Wm. Patterson, of Toronto, took as his subject "Home Needs." In speaking on this subject he said:

"One thing our society and church does not need is a new constitution, but it needs the carrying out of the old principles. Get a society which will live up to its pledge and principles, and it will never die, no matter how small its numbers; but get a society which will let down the bars to get in a lot of useless numbers and it will soon lose all life. Do universities let down the bars and lower the standards of education to let in the multitude? No more should Christian Endeavor societies let down the bars. Our society stands for Bible study, Christian development and work. It is distinctly religious, and when it fails in this it fails in its work."

Mr. John Willis Baer gave an address on "Individual Needs." He said he liked the idea of these conventions where all denominations touched shoulders, and from which each could take away the best points of the other. Christian Endeavor has all the nations in its ranks, with many banners, but all were under the blood-stained banner of Christ. As a chain is only as strong as its weakest link, so Christian Endeavor is only as strong as the standards are high. The need of the individual is a deeper sense of consecration.

On Saturday evening denominational rallies were held. The Methodists assembled in the Dominion Square Church. Rev. P.

L. Richardson, B.D., occupied the chair. Rev. Chas. E. Bland, B.D., gave an excellent address on "Has our denominational attitude towards the Christian Endeavor Movement proved satisfactory?" Mr. Bland thoroughly believed in the fellowship and co-operation of the Christian churches and stated that we should aim to lessen and obliterate the points of conflict between denominations, and by so doing carry the spirit of Christian fellowship into all our work.

Rev. D. Winter, president of the Montreal local Union spoke on "The effect of the Christian Endeavor Movement upon denominational loyalty and institutions, with particular reference to the class meeting." He thought that attendance upon the class meeting was on the decline, but did not blame the Christian Endeavor Society for that. He believed the effect of the movement on the missionary effort of the church has been beneficial. The young people of to-day are taking a more active and intelligent interest in the spread of the Gospel throughout the world than ever before.

A lively discussion on this address was followed by a resolution to the effect that the purely Epworth Leagues of the Methodist Church throughout the Dominion be recommended to add the letters C.E. to the name of the organization, and that such Methodist organizations which are simple Christian Endeavor societies, prefix the letters E.L., thus making all the young people's societies of the Methodist Church in the Dominion of Canada Epworth Leagues of Christian Endeavor. Dr. Stephenson, of Toronto, was the next speaker. During his remarks he formulated an acrostic of the letter "Y.P.S.C.E.," namely, "Your Privilege Spreading Christianity Everywhere," and used these words as the foundation of an able and inspiring missionary address.

The Rev. Francis E. Clark, president of the World's Y.P.S.C.E., was next called upon. He was greeted with the Chauntany salute. Dr. Clark said it did him good to get into a warm, enthusiastic meeting. He said that interdenominational fraternity was the corner-stone of the C.E. organization. Each denomination has something which the other needs, and when they all come together in convention all are equally blessed and strengthened. Interdenominational Christian fellowship is, to a great extent, a present realization, and it is the glorious outlook of the future. Dr. Clark's remarks were warmly applauded.

The closing meeting of the Convention was held on Monday evening. Rev. Dr. Clark gave a stirring address on "The forward march of Christian Endeavor." The outlook for the future of Christian Endeavor work he considered bright. "Look up, look out, and look forward," was a good motto.

Rev. E. S. Rowe spoke on "Christian Socialism." It was the opinion of those who heard him that Mr. Rowe was never heard to better advantage.

An interesting feature of this session was the presence of twenty-five Chinese Endeavorers. First they sang a few verses of "Jesus loves me this I know," in the Chinese tongue. Then Ju Ho was asked to address the audience, and in English he said he was glad that some effort was being made by missionaries and Endeavorers on behalf of the Chinese. He hoped they would continue to pray for them and work for them, and for all they did for the Chinese they would be rewarded some time.

Chin Seng was next called upon for a solo, which he sang very well in his own language to the accompaniment of a Chinese mandolin played by Thom Wing Dong—until a string broke.

Dr. Thompson in introducing them, said that to him Christian Endeavor meant Chinese evangelization. While so much was being done for foreign missions, he thought it would be inconsistent not to do all possible for the foreigners in our midst.