

to raise money for some laudable objects. They hold socials and give entertainments and lay out the proceeds in some church luxury or charitable movement. Both of these organizations are good, but both of them have a tendency to become onesided. The prayer meeting when not united with some active work outside is apt to degenerate into mere formality, and the social society is apt to lack spirituality and to neglect that which is the great work of the church, namely, the gathering in of those who are not walking in the light. If the young people must be banded together separately from the old, then we need an organization that will include all these elements. Such a one is to be found in what is known as "The Young People's Society of Christian Endeavor." This Society was organized about eight years ago by Rev. F. E. Clark, then of Portland, Me., for the purpose of getting the young people of his own congregation banded together in good work. Mr. Clark's plan worked so admirably that the fame of his society spread and others were formed. To-day there are no less than 7000 societies with a membership of 400,000. The main feature of the society is its weekly prayer meeting, and the constitution declares that all members are expected to be present at every meeting unless detained by some absolute necessity. The members are divided into two classes namely, active members who are decided Christians and associate members. All active members are expected to take some part, however slight, in each meeting. Once each month a purely devotional meeting is held, at which each active member is invited to speak concerning his progress in the Christian life. This is often done by referring to some passage of scripture that has been found specially helpful. The monthly consecration meeting is the centre of the whole organization. There they unite to pray for God's blessing upon each one and upon the society. There they tell one another of their own Christian life. And so the heart is warmed and the life of holiness is advanced. The society stands in the closest relation to the church. The constitution provides that all church officers shall be ex-officio honorary members, and that any difficult question may be referred to them for advice.

The work of the society is carried on by various committees. The most important is known as the "Lookout Committee." Its duty is to bring the young people of the congregation into the society as active or associate members, and to affectionately look after and reclaim any that seem indifferent to their duties. The