

The Juniors at Nashville.

IN Nashville, as in other convention cities, the Junior Rally proved to be the brightest and most enthusiastic meeting of the convention. The Union Gospel Tabernacle was filled to its utmost capacity with delegates and friends of the girls and boys. The Juniors occupied the platform seats and the gallery seats on either side just above the platform. This arrangement proved very effective in the rendering of some of the songs antiphonally under the direction of Mr. Percy W. Foster.

The singing of the pledge by the Juniors to the Troyte chant was excellently rendered. Then came the welcome song. How the girls and boys did sing! Treasurer Shaw spoke earnestly on "Our trust: the boys and girls," dwelling on the responsibility of Christians for the spiritual culture of the young.

The principal feature of the morning was the chain of greetings to the convention from Juniors in all parts of the world. A boy and girl dressed in the costume of the country that they represented stepped upon the platform as the roll was called, the girl holding a series of links representing the number of Junior societies, and the boy holding the national flag. The messages were read by Dr. Clark. As the representatives retired, the girls linked their chains together, forming a continuous chain encircling the platform, and the boys stepped to the centre and placed their national emblems upon a large Christian Endeavor monogram.

Great Britain was the first country called. The representatives did their part well, and after they stepped down the chorus sang with vigor, "The boys and girls of England." Canada and the United States stood side by side upon the platform when the flashlight was taken. It was significant that when the name of Spain was announced, the audience burst into loud applause.

It was left to Secretary Baer to gather up the spiritual influences of the hour in an address on "The boys and girls for Christ." Tenderly and earnestly he delivered his message, pleading that the lives of the young, in the dew of their youth, be given to Jesus.

Junior Workers' Conference.

JUDGING from the crowd in First Cumberland Presbyterian church, the Junior workers were in full force at Nashville. The proceedings were carried through with that spirit and swing which have become characteristic of workers among the young. Mrs. James L. Hill presided over the meeting with marked ability.

Canada's live Junior worker, Mr. C. J. Atkinson, of Toronto, opened this live conference with a live subject, treated in a characteristically live manner. His theme was "Our Boys: how interested and influenced," and he dealt with it in a most concrete way by bringing upon the platform with him a specimen boy. He analyzed

his "subject" by going through his pockets, claiming that a boy's pockets were the real index of the boy. A baseball, a whistle, a string, a *Youth's Companion*, a collection of stamps, and a Sunday-school lesson leaf were hauled out of his pocket one after another. The analyst came to the conclusion that in the make-up of the average boy there is 50 per cent. of him devoted to sport, 20 per cent. to reading, 10 per cent. to hobbies, 5 per cent. to religion, and 15 per cent. to asking questions. If you would interest and hold the boys, he maintained, you must consider their natural inclinations, and as far as possible make provision for them.

Miss Elsie L. Travis, of Boston, offered some good suggestions along missionary lines. She suggested the study of a special country by the society. Another good plan was the missionary concert, the making of hospital fans and other conveniences for the sick, writing letters to invalids, etc.

Our assistant excursion manager, Master Chas. Eggett, rendered a violin medley of national airs in splendid style. "The Star-spangled Banner," "Rule Britannia," and the other stirring melodies, were received with a storm of applause.

A bright address by Mr. W. T. Ellis, of Philadelphia, on "Intermediate Societies" elicited a number of interesting questions which were ably answered. He regards the Intermediate society as a necessity in larger churches. It would keep the boys and girls between 13 and 18 in the Sunday-school, and prepare them for the duties of the young people's society and the church.

A delightful series of glimpses of Junior societies in foreign lands was given by Mrs. Clark, which brought the work for the young in other countries very vividly before the audience.

A lively time was spent by Mr. Wainwright, of Chicago, in answering questions. One of the things most strongly urged was the association of a man and a woman in the work of superintending the Junior society. This was regarded as essential to reach and hold the boys.

Then followed a pleasing address on "The Juniors as Light-Bearers," by Miss Withers, of Florida, and a sprightly open parliament led by Dr. James L. Hill.

Secretary Baer then spoke on "Ideas to be kept to the front." He said that ideas, like crying babies, ought to be carried out. He called attention first to the missionary work; second, that the prayer meetings ought to be places for definite work. He liked the Junior work because under and through it was the idea of doing something for the Master. The great need, he said, was the need of the Spirit, without which all methods amounted to nothing.

In answer to the question as to when children should be approached, Rev. Ira Landrith in his stirring address told how the Texas pony was broken, and said the time to save children was before they were lost. A child's soul was as good as any man's soul. He would rather risk the religious life of a twelve-year-old child than of any grown-up man saved by a miracle.