

Lecture Courses

We are pleased to know that so much interest is being taken in the Lecture Course idea, as referred to in recent numbers of this paper. Quite a number of Leagues are arranging for a course of good entertainments during the coming winter.

The list of lectures and subjects in the August number was not intended, by any means, to be exhaustive, but rather suggestive. As a matter of fact, it was simply a list of lectures which have been delivered in our churches during the past four years, as reported in *The Guardian* and *The Era*. We have pleasure in adding a few additional topics:

Rev. Joseph Philip, B.D., of Petrolia, is prepared to lecture on, 1. The Bible. 2. Genesis and Geology. 3. John Milton. 4. Jerusalem and its Environs. 5. Picnicking in Palestine. 6. Egypt as I saw it.

Rev. W. M. Bielby, of Aberfoyle, has a lecture on "The Life of Wesley," illustrated by 62 fine views, which he would be willing to deliver to Leagues.

Mr. R. W. Dillick, St. Mary's, speaks on 1. Prophets of the Bible. 2. The New Canadianism. 3. Charles Dickens. 4. Longfellow or Whittier, a contrast. 5. Grumblers and Grumbling.

Rev. T. Albert Moore, Hamilton, lectures on 1. The Christian and Miss-mating. 2. Gumption, Grit, and Glory.

Toronto Conference Convention.

Arrangements are being made for the Toronto Conference Epworth League Convention, which will be held at Barrie, Nov. 12-14.

On Tuesday, Nov. 12th, the Executive Committee will meet at 3.30 p.m., and at 8 o'clock, Rev. S. Cleaver, D.D., will lecture on "Victor Hugo's Masterpiece—Jean Valjean." A small admission fee will be charged to pay Convention expenses.

The forenoon of Wednesday will be devoted to the Literary Department, and the afternoon to Junior work. In the evening a missionary meeting will be held, when two good speakers will deliver addresses.

On Thursday morning the Christian Endeavor Department will be considered, and the Missionary Department in the afternoon. The Convention will close on Thursday afternoon in time for delegates to take evening trains home. The two features of the programme out of the ordinary are that addresses of welcome and replies will be entirely eliminated, and much more time than usual will be occupied by discussions and Round Table conferences.

Barrie is located at about the centre of the Toronto Conference, and is an excellent place for a convention. Let there be a great rally.

Walkerton District Convention.

The sixth annual convention was held in Port Elgin, September 3rd, 1901. A large number of enthusiastic workers, from all points in the District, were gathered together, and the proceedings throughout were interesting and profitable.

A particularly pleasing feature was the fact that practice and not theory seemed to be the keynote of all the papers and addresses. Tried methods and plans of work were introduced and discussed, many helpful suggestions being offered, especially in the Christian Endeavor and Social Departments. The following are a list of the papers presented:

"Your difficulties—How to overcome them—Your successes—Tell us of them."
"How to treat the League Topics attractively."

"The Look-Out Committee."

"Some Literary Evenings."
"Value and Influence of Good Reading."

"Flowers and Music in the League."
"Some Social Evenings."
"Social to Entertain, Social to Uplift."
"The Epworth League's Ideal."

The report of missionary interest and contributions in the District was highly encouraging. In nearly all the societies, systematic giving has been adopted, and \$110 has been raised for missionary purposes this year.

The programme throughout was interspersed with choice musical selections, which added greatly to the enjoyment.

The interest of the town in our gathering was evidenced by a crowded church for the evening session. Addresses were given by Rev. C. E. Stafford, Paisley; Mr. John George, Port Elgin; and Rev. Dr. Ross, Walkerton, Hon. Pres. The musical part of the programme was furnished by the district societies.

Our District work is on a sound financial basis. Mr. J. W. Ward, Midway, is President-elect, and Miss E. Clark, Hanover, Secretary.

Uxbridge District Convention.

The annual convention of the Epworth Leagues of the Uxbridge District was held at Unionville, Tuesday, September 17th. The sessions were interesting throughout, and a deep spiritual interest was manifested.

Much of the success of the convention was due to the tireless energy of the members of the Unionville League, who did all in their power to further the interests of the convention, and entertain the delegates.

The morning session opened with the Hon. Pres., Rev. Geo. M. Brown, Stouffville, in the chair. In answer to the roll-call, responses came from 18 Leagues, 14 Senior and 4 Junior Leagues. The responses consisted in each League giving the number of active members, associate members, removals, and new members, also amounts of money raised, and to what object devoted.

The importance of the Forward Movement question was well brought before the convention, and emphasized by many speakers.

The devotional exercises of the afternoon session were led by the Hon. Pres., Rev. G. M. Brown. Miss O'Brien, of Stouffville, then read a most practical paper on "Preparation and Presentation of a Topic." A paper on "Personal Responsibility of Active Members to League Pledge" was taken by R. J. Dobson, of "Uxbridge. How to secure New Members" was discussed by Rev. A. P. Brace, and "How to Retain Old Members," by Rev. I. G. Bowles. After each of these papers a general discussion followed.

One of the most interesting features of the afternoon exercises was the "Conference on Departments," when excellent papers were given on the four departments of League work. Christian Endeavor Department was taken by Rev. J. W. Morgan; Missionary Department was taken by Miss E. Forster; Literary by Miss A. Steele; Social by Miss Neville.

Rev. Thos. Leonard addressed the convention in the evening on "The Church's Great Want." The Rev. Dr. Spencer, a returned missionary from Bella Coola, gave an address which aroused much interest.

The members on the executive for the ensuing year are: Hon. Pres., Rev. G. M. Brown, Stouffville; Pres., Rev. J. S. Humphries, Valentine; 1st Vice-Pres., Miss Forster, Locust Hill; 2nd Vice-Pres., Miss M. E. Brown, Stouffville; 3rd Vice-Pres., Miss Pringle, Sutton West; 4th Vice-Pres., Miss Elliott, Goodwood; 5th Vice-Pres., Miss Neville, Unionville; Sec. Treas., Miss Fox, Markham; Cor.-Sec., Miss O'Brien, Stouffville; representative to conference executive, Rev. G. M. Brown.

The Echo Convention.

The Tenth Annual Convention of the Epworth League and Sunday-school Association of British Columbia was held on August 14-16 in the Homer Street Church, Vancouver. The effort to secure the attendance of the delegates returning from the International Convention was only partially successful, owing to the late date at which the provincial was held. But the presence of General Secretary A. C. Crews gave special interest to the occasion, and the services which he rendered were highly appreciated and cannot properly be estimated.

The opening session found a fair attendance from different parts of the province. Papers on League work occupied the Wednesday afternoon, and a live discussion followed the address by Rev. Dr. Whittington on the Discipline of the Methodist Church.

The addresses of Revs. E. S. Rowe and W. W. Baer, which were delivered in the evening, are spoken of as masterly efforts. We regret our inability to be present and to hear them.

Thursday heard papers on Decision Day, Cradle Roll, Reviews, and other Sunday-school topics. Rev. A. C. Crews gave a very interesting talk on general League topics.

The evening session of Thursday was given over to an address by the genial General Secretary. The church was full and the heat oppressive, but for over an hour the speaker held the wrapt attention of his audience while he discoursed on Elements of League Success.

Friday morning session was occupied with reports of committees, election of officers, etc. Resolutions on temperance and other questions were adopted. It was decided to hold the next convention at Nanaimo, and thereafter to hold our conventions alternately, alternating with the Christian Endeavor Conventions.

The following are the officers for the ensuing term:

President—Frank S. Green, Vancouver.

First Vice-President—G. Ward, Vancouver.

Second Vice-President—Miss Lottie Pearce, Nanaimo.

Third Vice-President—H. J. Knott, Victoria.

Fourth Vice-President—Mrs. C. S. Keith, New Westminster.

Secretary—Rev. R. N. Powell, Nanaimo.

Treasurer—Miss E. Shakespeare, Nanaimo.

Western Methodist Recorder.

Personal Items.

Rev. Dr. Spencer, 81 Cedar Street, Toronto, has been particularly active, having addressed a large number of Leagues during the week, and has also taken a number of Missionary Anniversary services.

Rev. H. E. Dutton, of Troy, N.Y., who has charge of the Missionary Exhibit Department of the International Student Volunteer Convention, will be held in Toronto next February 27-28, spent several days in Toronto, making arrangements for the exhibit.

Rev. R. H. Whiteside has just completed a very successful missionary campaign tour throughout the Ottawa District. During the past year a deep interest has been manifested in missions throughout the Ottawa District. There are difficulties with which to contend, but the District Epworth League officers have faced them, and we believe that at the Annual District Epworth League Convention, to be held on October 10th, this District will realize that it has opportunities and abilities beyond anything it had counted upon in years past. We fully expect they will request a missionary to support.