

distributed and kept in circulation the entire month among those who have never shown any interest in missionary work?

A library is a positive necessity to any wide-awake, active League. If the society cannot start with a well-filled bookcase, two or three books may be secured at first and one perhaps added each month, but the fewer books, there are the more care it will require to keep them well circulated.

A missionary meeting should be held once a month. Some part of missionary work, such as Indian work in British Columbia, or French Canadian Missions might be taken up for three months. For the first two meetings, the programme might consist of a couple of brief papers on the subject for the quarter, a spirited reading and a bit of music, as much as possible being secured from non-workers. When an indifferent member is asked to prepare a paper, he will likely reply that he knows nothing about the work. Then place in his hands the necessary books and papers to furnish information, and, if the subject has been interesting, when his paper is written he will but have commenced to read, and his reading will mean another person desirous of helping in missionary work. The third meeting should be especially announced by the pastor. But announcing will not be sufficient, as some people never think of the announcements after leaving the church, and others never hear them. A personal invitation or merely a remark about the programme being prepared for a certain meeting of the League is often much more effective; also call for some one on the way to the meeting. In preparing programmes seek to get the indifferent members to take part. The meetings should first of all be thoroughly spiritual or they will fail entirely to accomplish the result intended. Have a few visits in the year from some active district worker or campaigner to arouse enthusiasm when the work is beginning to drag.

The Forward Movement for Missions is the work brought most prominently before the League to-day, and a work which carries with it a great deal of responsibility. When a committee feels that there is a missionary dependent on their efforts for part of his salary there is at first a feeling of discouragement, but a look at the bright side brings a sense of relief. There are so many persons besides Leaguers who may be asked to give two cents a week, and when the object is fully explained, as it should be to avoid misunderstanding, very few persons refuse this help. To an active member of the committee may be given the work of canvassing for members on the two-cent per week plan and the collecting of all moneys, another member to act as secretary and treasurer. First secure, if possible, every person whose name is on the roll book, both active and associate, then the church members and young people who do not belong to the society. Many of the juniors will help also. The money should be gathered in each month, and certainly every quarter. A written report brought in each month is an incentive to greater activity. No committee wishes to report nothing accomplished.

The work of the Missionary Committee

is certainly a great one, one which has many discouragements, but which, when faithfully wrought out, will show large results, and will have its due reward.

Lansdowne, Ont.

The Epworth League in Japan.

Dr. Clark, the founder of the Christian Endeavor Society, during his visit to Japan, gave several addresses in the churches at Kanazawa. The following extract from a letter received from Rev. D. R. McKenzie shows the practical benefit the visit has been to our church in Kanazawa:

"As a result of this visit, steps were at once taken to form a society in our church. The pastor, an influential layman and myself were appointed a committee to make preliminary arrangements. This included a translation into Japanese of the Constitution of the League. Our pastor, who has a good knowledge of English, made a draft of the Constitution, etc., in Japanese, and this was considered and finally after some emendations, accepted, and shortly after presented to the church members. As soon as could be conveniently arranged the League was organized and committees appointed. We have now all told about fifteen members, and expect to see the number increasing all the time. As the proportion of young people in our churches is not large, we take in any of the members who are willing to subscribe to the pledge. The last Friday evening in the month is set apart for the League, but all the members are expected to be present and take part in the church prayer meeting on the other Friday evenings. From the time we set about to organize the League we saw an improvement in our prayer meeting. People who never used to pray in the meetings now began to take part, and whereas there was often a drag in the meeting, waiting for some one to pray or speak, the hour is now usually up before we are ready to close, and the time has to be extended. The good results of the introduction of the League into our Kanazawa Church are so marked that I am hoping our next Conference, which meets in May, may take steps to organize Leagues in all parts of our work.

Albert College.

Perhaps no other educational institution in Canada has done more toward developing the missionary spirit than Albert College, Belleville, Ont. At a recent Missionary Convention, representing the college and the Belleville and Picton districts, four prominent features were:

1. Rev. F. J. Livingston, B.A., M.D., whom Albert College sent in 1895 as Medical Missionary to Africa, reported his success in opening a prosperous mission in the midst of a most needy district, thickly populated with heathen Zulus.

2. At the request of the General Board of Missions the two districts mentioned and Albert College have united to support Dr. H. C. Wrinch, who goes to the Upper Skeena as a medical missionary.

3. Miss Gardiner reviewed the missionary history of the college, which is very remarkable.

News Items.

AMHERST, N.S., Epworth League reports an advance of 50 per cent. over last year.

OUR schools in Tokyo, Azabu, Toyo, Eiwa Gakko, had an average attendance last year of 470 students.

REV. A. N. McNEIL is campaigning the Orangeville district. He finds the young people very ready to do all they can for Missions.

THE Barrie district reports considerable increase in the interest and finances for the support of their Missionary, Rev. G. Kaburagi, Japan.

THE letters from our missionaries are much appreciated by many of our readers. They may be had free upon application to F. C. Stephenson, M.D., 568 Parliament Street, Toronto, Ont.

MR. FLETCHER SUTCLIFFE has been doing successful campaign work on the Strathroy district. He reports good meetings and great interest is being taken by the young people in missionary work.

THE Leagues on the Hamilton district will be visited by the district officers assisted by W. S. Daniels, Mr. Johnston and Mr. Webb. Rev. Dr. Hart, Superintendent of our Missions in China, represents the Hamilton district in the foreign field.

REV. JAMES L. BATTY, President of Nova Scotia Conference Epworth League, is pushing the Forward Movement for Missions. During the summer Rev. J. E. Hughson will speak to the Leaguers "that they go forward" in prayer, study and giving to extend the kingdom of God.

BRADFORD District Epworth League reports progress in its missionary department. The letters from their missionary, Rev. D. Norman, keep them in close touch with his work in Japan. The district expects to pay the full amount of Mr. Norman's salary this year. The District Executive is preparing for a tour of the district by Rev. A. N. McNeil, who will visit every League in the interests of our Missionary work.

IN Kanazawa, Japan, a school founded eleven years ago by Rev. J. W. Saunby, has as one of its branches Bible study. Regular lectures, religious and moral, are given. The school sessions are held in the afternoon only, as many students come from other schools for the benefit of the instruction they receive in English. The average attendance last year was fifty-five. The school is a means of evangelistic work, and as such is used in reaching the students and their parents.

MR. J. A. CLARK REILLY, the Missionary Vice-President of St. James' Church Epworth League, informs us that interest in missionary work is growing, money is coming in regularly and the Missionary Committee is working with a will. They fear the summer holidays, but have planned to collect the subscriptions for July and August with that for June. If they can do this we think that the members will be more likely to remember to pray—nothing stops prayer like an unpaid vow.