

The Hamilton Conference Summer School

Historic and Prospective

BY THE PRESIDENT.

The history of this school can be written briefly. It grew out of a resolution passed at the Biennial Convention of Hamilton Conference Epworth Leagues, held in Berlin, 1910, by which the officers elected were instructed to organize and proceed.

The first school met in Elora, July, 1911, with a splendid staff of teachers and speakers and about sixty regular delegates. The general tone of the school was good, spiritual life was greatly quickened, a few young men are to-day in the ministry, and scores have taken a deeper interest in Bible study, mission study, Sunday School and Epworth League work ever since as results.

The second school met in Elora, July, 1912, with a smaller registration, about fifty in all. The president, Rev. G. A. King, B.A., was absent through illness, and some of the speakers relied on were unable to assist, but an intensive work, by no means insignificant, was accomplished. The good people of Elora nobly entertained both schools, but the lack of a college building and of facilities for boating and recreation generally were felt by all.

The prospects for a successful school at Berlin, July 7-13, this year, are good. Berlin Methodists have invited the school, with characteristic enterprise, to their young, ambitious convention city. Our Conference Biennial Epworth League Convention, held in Guelph, November, 1912 after thorough discussion ordered their committee elected to proceed with another school. Whether the school will be a success depends upon the Epworth Leaguers of the central part of the Conference. The pastors of these leagues are chiefly responsible for working up good delegations. The committee will provide an excellent staff of teachers and speakers, and Berlin leaguers will do the remainder.

Berlin, the Home of the 1913 Summer School

BY G. A. MARTIN.

When the Summer School Committee of the Hamilton Conference Epworth Leagues chose Berlin as the location of the 1913 Summer School, they chose one of the most thrifty centres on Canadian soil. It is called the "City of Homes," because practically every citizen owns his own house. Berlin is an ideal centre for a convention gathering, as it has so many points of interest. It is Ontario's youngest city, and the only one which waited until a population of 15,000 was attained before seeking incorporation. Berlin is famous as a manufacturing centre. Over 200 commercial travellers leave Berlin every Monday morning, to sell throughout the country goods that are manufactured in Berlin. Its streets are beautifully lighted by Hydro-Electric power, street cars traverse its principal streets and give frequent connection with the nearby towns of Waterloo, Bridgeport, Preston and Galt.

Picnic parties are attracted, often from a great distance, to the beautiful Victoria Park, which has been pronounced one of the finest inland parks in the Dominion.

As a church-going people the citizens of Berlin do not lag behind. There are over twenty churches in the city, and many denominations almost unknown to the average Leaguer are to be found represented in Berlin. Berlin has one Methodist Church—"Trinity"—and in this beautiful modern brick structure, which has a membership of about 750,

the sessions of the Convention are to be held. The Berlin Epworth League has a membership of about a hundred, who are enthusiastic about making this year's summer school a marked success.

The Study of Missions at the Summer School

MURIEL J. HOCKEY, B.A.

"Not until I had studied conditions in heathen countries did I realize the marvellous blessings of Christianity."

"Every business man needs to study how to invest the Lord's money as carefully as he does his other investments. Not until he has studied missions is he justified either in giving or in not giving to that cause."

"My mind was beset with religious doubts; 'prayer,' 'the power of the Holy Spirit,' even 'Christ,' had come to be but empty terms. I studied missions, and saw these forces in their might and marvellous beauty. My faith is now as 'a house built upon a rock.'"

"In studying missions I found a won-

derful opportunity of doing a great work for the Kingdom. And though a dweller in a quiet village, by prayer I am a missionary in many lands."

"Mission study is a liberal education. It broadens one's horizon and interests. The village man becomes a citizen of the world."

"One of the marvels of my experience was the change that came over the lives of a class of girls I conducted in mission study. Their giddy carelessness gave way to quiet dignity. Life was no less happy, but it had a new seriousness."

"Mission study has broadened my sympathies. It has done more. It has thrown a new light for me on the Bible, on religion. I am no longer content with my own salvation, but have learned that, however he may make his living, a Christian's chief business is winning others for Christ, and aiding those already in into a fuller realization of the joy, the peace and the power of the Christian life."

"Thus speak those who have been in mission study classes. Can any church afford to be without them?"

The summer schools furnish an excellent opportunity to all for testing the value of these classes and for training leaders in this work for the home

churches. An hour each morning is set aside for mission study. At this period the school breaks up into groups, and experienced leaders, many of whom are returned missionaries, conduct classes on the various fields.

The aim of these classes is three-fold: (1) To teach the text; (2) to inspire a greater interest in missions; (3) to train teachers. Probably no department of our summer schools is more successful than this one, or more potent in its influence.

The Summer School as a Holiday Outing

BY REV. C. SINCLAIR APPLEGATH.

The custom of taking a vacation of a week or two from one's work in mid-summer has become so prevalent among Canadian people that the approaching balmy summer days have already begun to make their appeal to thousands of our young Canadians now busily at work.

Already "summer holidays" is a topic of conversation, and places are being discussed, and in the cities, in offices where



KING STREET, BERLIN.

large numbers are employed, the apportionment of vacation days has already begun.

What a relief it is to get away from the routine daily tasks and live somewhere in a world of other interests for a few days. To the country go the city folks, and to the city go those who can be spared from the farm, while the lake sides and the Muskoka country attract hundreds from both farm and city.

To the average young person there are two problems that present themselves in the discussion of a holiday outing. One is that of congenial companionships, and the other is that of expense. A great part of the enjoyment of a vacation outing is in the people one meets.

To one who can only spend a week away from the responsibilities of home or work, it is very often a question of getting someone companionable to accompany you, or taking the alternative of spending the greater part of the week at the summer resort in sizing up your surroundings and wondering with whom it may be safe or wise to cultivate acquaintance.

At the summer school, how different! The personnel of the schools is made up of the best young people in our churches. There are no lonely hours; everybody

large numbers are employed, the apportionment of vacation days has already begun.

What a relief it is to get away from the routine daily tasks and live somewhere in a world of other interests for a few days. To the country go the city folks, and to the city go those who can be spared from the farm, while the lake sides and the Muskoka country attract hundreds from both farm and city.

To the average young person there are two problems that present themselves in the discussion of a holiday outing. One is that of congenial companionships, and the other is that of expense. A great part of the enjoyment of a vacation outing is in the people one meets.

To one who can only spend a week away from the responsibilities of home or work, it is very often a question of getting someone companionable to accompany you, or taking the alternative of spending the greater part of the week at the summer resort in sizing up your surroundings and wondering with whom it may be safe or wise to cultivate acquaintance.

At the summer school, how different! The personnel of the schools is made up of the best young people in our churches. There are no lonely hours; everybody