

Woodstock District.—The fifth annual rally of the Epworth League of the Woodstock District was held at Princeton, Tuesday, Oct. 10th, and was crowned with complete success. Music during the sessions was well selected and ably led by Rev. W. B. Caswell, B.A., of Woodstock. The keynote of the gathering was struck by Rev. J. G. Scott, Honorary President, in the convention sermon on "Burden-Bearing." The conference service following, led by Rev. E. E. Marshall, Woodstock, served to intensify and give utterance to the thought aroused. Encouraging reports were received from the Vice-Presidents of the Christian Endeavor, Missionary, and Literary Departments, and from the Secretary and Treasurer. Each of the five departments had its share of attention on the programme. Fine papers and ad-

(Continued on page 32.)

Nova Scotia Conference Epworth League Convention.

The fifth Annual Convention of the Epworth Leagues of the Nova Scotia Conference was held in St. Stephen's Methodist Church, Kentville, from Tuesday, Oct. 3rd, to Thursday, Oct. 5th. Kentville was almost an ideal place for such a gathering, beautifully situated as it is in the heart of the Cornwallis Valley, where at present thousands of barrels of apples are being gathered for the European markets. The church in which the convention was held was prettily decorated with red and white bunting, and appropriate mottoes of welcome and of inspiration. The pulpit and platform were tastefully ornamented with house plants and flowers.

The convention opened Tuesday night with a most helpful and inspiring sermon by the Rev. E. E. England, President of the Conference. His text was, "The kingdom of heaven is like a leaven which a woman took and hid in three measures of meal until the whole was leavened." This sermon was followed by addresses of welcome from Mr. Angus McLeod on behalf of the citizens, from Rev. B. N. Noble on behalf of the churches, and from Miss McInnis on behalf of the local League. These warm and heartfelt welcomes were ably responded to by Miss McCrowe, of Halifax.

The morning (Wednesday) session opened with an address by Rev. W. Lane, on "What are we here for?" This was followed by conferences on "Relation of League to other Departments of Church Work," led by Rev. Wm. Phillips; "The Literary Department," led by Miss A. Mosher; and "Denominational Loyalty," led by Rev. Jos. Seller. These conferences, which did away with long speeches and wearisome papers, giving only the opinions of individuals, gave to every delegate the opportunity of expressing his or her opinion, or giving their experiences in connection with the subject before the convention. The effect of these conferences, which were carried on through the whole session, was to make the convention the most helpful, the most practical, and the most inspiring gathering we have ever held. The idea of this conducting the convention originated with the president, Rev. J. L. Batty, and was given a previous and successful trial at the Cumberland district convention. As a result the delegates, having freely exchanged views with one another, have gone home with the various subjects better understood and more ready for application than would otherwise have been the case.

The afternoon session opened with a service of prayer and Bible study, followed by conferences on "Missionary Department," led by Dr. Stephenson of Toronto; "Junior Work," led by Mrs. H. Lawrence, of Southampton; "Social Work," led by Miss De Wolfe, of Halifax. Dr. Stephenson was quite at home on a missionary topic and his

presence caused the convention to turn its thoughts earnestly to the great cause of missionary enterprise. Largely through the influence of Dr. Stephenson the convention adopted the Forward Movement for foreign missions, which for three years has been before our conventions without success.

Two interesting and instructive papers dealing with the Social Work, the one by Miss Carty, of Amherst, the other by Miss Austin, M.A., of Halifax, gave rise to considerable discussion on the merits and manners of socials.

The evening session was perhaps the most impressive session of the convention. It opened with a heart-searching address on "The Spiritual Mission of Methodism," by the Rev. R. O. Armstrong, M.A. After singing, Dr. Stephenson gave a very impressive address on the "Young People's Forward Movement." By aid of his charts and drawings the Doctor laid before us very vividly the needs of the heathen world, and made us feel keenly why we should interest ourselves in the welfare of the heathen peoples. Rev. Wm. Dobson addressed the convention on "The Value of Man." He said that a man's value does not depend on his color or his condition, nor on his value in the scale of labor, but on the price paid for him by Jesus Christ when he gave his life for man by his crucifixion on Calvary.

The morning (Thursday) session opened with an earnest consecration service led by Rev. R. O. Armstrong. An instructive and helpful Bible study on "Success" was led by Dr. Stephenson. This was followed by two interesting conferences—one on "The Twentieth Century Fund," led by Rev. G. J. Bond, B.A., the other on "Work for and with Boys," led by Mr. J. A. Irvine, of Halifax. These conferences led to a better understanding of our great "Financial Movement," and impressed the fact that "our boys" need to be more tenderly cared for by Christian workers than is generally the case.

The afternoon session opened with prayer and Bible study, conducted by Rev. Wm. Dobson. This was followed by a conference on the "Duty of the Hour re the Temperance Question," led by Rev. W. Lane. Rev. E. W. Forbes then conducted a conference on the Epworth League as an aggressive and evangelistic church agency.

Something practical in the temperance line was done by the passing of two resolutions—one concerning the sale of spirituous liquors in a public building of Kentville, was ordered to be sent to the proper authorities with the request that evil be abolished from their premises; the other recommending all our Epworth Leaguers to only put up at such hotels and houses of entertainment as are known to have strictly temperance principles.

The election of officers at this session resulted as follows: President, Rev. J. L. Batty (re-elected), Amherst; 1st Vice-President, Miss A. Mosher, Windsor; 2nd Vice-President, Miss De Wolfe, Halifax (re-elected); 3rd Vice-President, Miss McCrowe, Halifax (re-elected); 4th Vice-President, Miss Carty, Amherst; Superintendent of Junior Work, Mrs. H. Lawrence, Southampton; Secretary, Rev. E. W. Forbes, Berwick; Treasurer, Miss Salter, Hantsport; Conference Representative to Sunday School and Epworth League Board, Rev. F. E. Barrett.

At the closing session Rev. G. J. Bond gave an interesting address, telling of his visit to the great International Convention at Indianapolis. Rev. Wm. Dobson, who is

always worth listening to, gave a most appropriate closing address, after which the sacrament of the Lord's Supper was administered by Revs. J. L. Batty and Joseph Sellers. And so closed the most helpful, the most practical, and in every way the best convention ever held by the Nova Scotia Conference Epworth League.

To prevent our clashing with the biennial International Convention, and that we may be able to fall conveniently into line according to the regulations which require the conference conventions to meet once in two years, it was resolved to meet again next year.

F. E. BARRETT.

On the Road.

September and October are *par excellence* the convention months of the year, and are valuable for Epworth League meetings of all kinds. For this reason the Secretary plans to be "on the road" as much as possible during this season.

Up to date the meetings attended this year have had large audiences, and the interest has been very genuine. The Milton District Convention at Watford was one of the very best, although the weather conditions were not very favorable.

To reach Wheatly for the Windsor District Convention involved an all night journey, with a delay of three hours at London, and another of two hours at Chatham. The trip from Chatham to Wheatly by a "mixed" train occupied five hours, so that both breakfast and dinner had to be dispensed with for that day. The inspiration of the convention, however, soon erased all thought of the hardships of the way. The addresses and papers were excellent, and the congregations were larger than the capacity of the church. At the evening service many could not gain admission.

Sunday was spent at Ruthven and Kingsville. At the latter place there is a commodious and beautiful church, which was completely filled on Sunday evening, although the night was dark and rainy. On the following Monday evening the annual "Harvest Home" supper was held in which



BRANT AVE. CHURCH, BRANTFORD.

the Epworth League was associated with the Ladies' Aid Society. It was a great success. The pastor of this church, Rev. R. D. Hamilton, makes himself one with the young people, and takes an active part in the League and Sunday School. It is needless to say that he is popular with both old and young, and is invited to remain for a fourth year.

This section of the country, along the shore of Lake Erie, is well adapted to fruit raising, and large quantities of peaches, grapes, etc., are annually produced. The severe frost of last winter, however, nearly