

THE ANGLICAN YOUNG PEOPLE'S ASSOCIATION.

Sir,—As many branches of the Anglican Young People's Association close their season during the current month, kindly permit me, through the columns of the Churchman, to ask all local secretaries to send me a report of their respective branches for the year 1904-1905. This information is desired for the Report of the Diocesan Committee to the Synod. I am, sir, yours very truly,

C. R. GUNNE.
Sec.-Treas. Synod Com. on A.Y.P.A.

THE GENERAL SYNOD.

Sir,—A great interest in the work of the coming session of the General Synod is being aroused by Spectator. May he continue "to hammer" away until every member of the Church is alive to the importance of this subject and ready to do his duty. Mr. Frank E. Hodgins' admirable letter in your last issue recommends: (1) A new name. "The Canadian Church," or "The Church of Canada" is our true title. Surely we have sailed long enough under false colours. (2) A revised Prayer Book. The Prayer Book in use in the United States would serve as an excellent model for the Committee. (3) A Canadian Hymn Book. (4) A Select Vestry, etc. Permit me to add to his excellent list. We need a Canon on Discipline so that we may be saved from the degrading spectacle of a rector defying his diocesan or of a missionary—priest, deacon or catechist—being a law unto himself. If the Forward Movement inaugurated at the last session is to receive fresh impetus at this, a thorough preparation must be made.

D. RUSSELL SMITH.

COMMENCEMENT OF CIVILIZATION.

Sir,—There is one authoritative statement, common to all the old-world religions, that man was created a perfect being by Divine power. The other proposition which professes to account for man's position in the world is a theory, not a statement, and in the nature of things is insusceptible of scientific proof. This theory professes to trace the lineage of the higher forms of vegetable and animal life; back through less complex forms,—during an indefinite period—until all life's origin is found in the primordial cell, bursting into life, in the ancient mud of a primeval world. According to this idea each succeeding stage of life, was not only the parent, but the designer, and creator of a higher life, a more complex existence, than had ever been seen or known of in the world before. Truly the anthropoid ape and his wife who determined that their race should, in the long distant future, rise to be men and women, must have had more mind and genius than ever fell to the lot of any man since the Creation. They must have had a perfect knowledge of the anatomy of the unknown being which they designed to become, must have known—which we do not—how to make anatomical changes in their own bodies. Must have had force of will to impress on thousands of generations

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the exact objects to be aimed at, and how to accomplish them. If ever such a pair of apes existed, then altars should be built to their memory, for they had more brains, genius, power and will than any two-millions of men ever had since. Enough of the theory, let us follow the statement. All vegetable and

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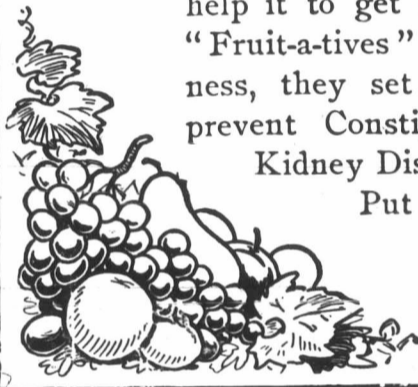
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