

The Junior Leagues on the Owen Sound District, while few in numbers, are enthusiastically working.

In the Scope St. Junior League a Mouth Organ Orchestra is being organized. The younger boys have a place near the organ and form the choir, leading the singing in the meetings.

The Superintendent is constantly on the watch for good clippings from papers and periodicals, which are placed in different envelopes labelled, Missions, Temperance, etc., ready for the purpose of assisting the young members in the preparation of the various topics assigned to them.

At Corbetton League the children are almost all from the country, and meet on Saturday afternoon, at the various homes. Thus the parents become acquainted and interested in the Junior work, and often help in the meetings. The Chain of Seals is used in this League, upon the completion of which the child is presented with it by the pastor at the public church service, bringing the work in this way prominently to the attention of the parents.

The Superintendent of Markdale League is the pastor of the church, Rev. J. S. I. Wilson. One Sunday in January he held an "exhibition" at the morning service proving the advantage of a Junior League. The active and associate pledges were recited. The books of the Bible, Ten Commandments, Beatitudes, Psalm 121 and the Apostles' Creed, which form part of the chain of seals, were repeated in concert, and after a "Sword Drill," he gave a short talk.

At one meeting he told the boys and girls the story of Job without mentioning his name, the children having guessed the name, which they did successfully.

It has been remarked that the boys and girls who have used the "Sword Drill" can most readily locate passages of Scripture, and the children of this District never tire of it. It is treated here in this way—one child prepares 12 passages of Scripture, and at the meeting gives one. The first to find it rises and reads the passage. The name is placed upon the blackboard. Then the second is given out and so on until the twelve have been read. The boy or girl finding the most passages prepares the drill for the next meeting. They enter heartily into this method.

In another League the Superintendent, after talking on "Prayer," asked the members to bring to the next meeting their written prayers, which they were then asked to read, doing so presently. They were instructed to write and memorize a prayer. After doing so several times they gained such confidence that they learned to take part in the prayers when called upon, without this special preparation. With such training, without doubt, as they enter the ranks of the Seniors or other meetings of the church, there will not be a call in vain for prayers in the days to come.

One of the things the Junior League accomplished in Collingwood in one year was, the "Study of the Life of Christ" by Bird, the interest being maintained throughout. At the end of that period, Mr. J. R. L. Starr, K.C., of Toronto, was invited to give an address on the subject, which he illustrated by means of excellent slides and the stereopticon, impressing further on the minds of the children truths never to be forgotten. At the "Happy family social" upon entering the room at 6.30 each Junior is given a ticket, on which is written, per-

haps, the name of "Tom Longboat." A hunt takes place to find the members of that family and all the "Longboats" sit down to supper together. Seventy sat down grouped in nine families.

At the present time they are studying three different books, "The Pilgrim's Progress," "Dr. Grenville's Parish," and "Wild Animals I have Known." Besides this the "Missionary Trip Around the World" is to be taken. The children do the talking themselves, being developed in many ways, rather than have the Superinten-



"FORBID THEM NOT"

dent "do it all." There are but three Junior Leagues on the Collingwood District, of which this is one.

At Stayner there are 32 Juniors, who meet every Monday one hour before the Senior Society. The work is divided into three departments, Christian Endeavor, Missionary, and Look-Out, each committee being active. The pastor takes a keen interest in the society, being present whenever possible. The two societies are in closest touch with each, union meetings at times being arranged. The other League is at Creemore.

In Dublin St. Guelph Junior League, the members are giving systematically to missions, the money being earned by the Juniors themselves. The "Sword Drill" has been used with great success, two sides being chosen as in the old-fashioned Spelling Match, and each Junior supplied with a Bible "the sword of the Spirit." The Superintendent calls for a certain passage of Scripture. All hunt for it, whoever finds it reads it aloud, and credit is given that side for one. For ten minutes this interesting method of teaching the Juniors the plan of the books of the Bible, and becoming acquainted with beautiful passages therein, is kept up. A meeting for "boys alone" is held once a quarter, when they transact business, report and receive new members, take part in debate, etc. An excellent pledge may be used. "I promise to abstain from the use of all alcoholic liquors as a beverage, from the use of tobacco in any form, from immoral stories and from bad language, and will do all in my power to get other boys to take this stand." Thus boys are won for the Senior Society and to fight the evils of our day.

The Fifth Vice-President of the Milton District, reports but two Junior Leagues, one at Burlington recently organized with fifty names enrolled; the other at

Oakville, also in good condition. At Christmas the latter sent to Hamilton Deaconess Home, the sum of four dollars, besides a dozen nicely dressed dolls and some scrap books. Four baskets were sent to local shut-ins. Flowers are provided during the winter for the pulpit. A course of study has been undertaken in which the children will learn the books of the Bible, three picked psalms, the Apostles' Creed, and the Ten Commandments. An examination will be held and Diplomas presented later. There are a number of places where a Junior League might exist, but the W. S. S. is realizing the important work among the young, have organized Mission Bands, which are doing excellent things, but at best only a part of that for which the Junior League exists.

Our Western country is a splendid one for testing the truth of the statement "Where there's a will there's a way." In November, 1908, Mr. E. Hibbard, B.A., organized the "New Hope" League on the Randoville Circuit, Alberta, nothing of its kind ever having been attempted on that circuit before. It was a decided innovation. The Executive is made up of members of three churches, Methodist, Presbyterian and Evangelical, who had come from England, the United States, and Ontario. A special effort is being made to awaken and develop a missionary spirit among the Leaguers, by making missions a matter of personal responsibility. In all the departments the success achieved is due to the persistent and consistent effort, and each member is made to feel that he or she is an integral part of the society.

The Central Dray and Express Company, of Winnipeg, gave the Juniors of McDougal Church a splendid sleigh ride during the month of March, and the forty little people who were comfortably seated behind the four-in-hand team richly enjoyed the two hours outing, afterwards being entertained at the home of the President of the firm, Mr. Thomas Andrews.

From Antler, Sask., a devoted Superintendent writes:—

"One Sunday as the Roll Call progressed, I could not repress a smile as every Junior except one testified. 'I want to be a worker for the Lord,' the exception being 'The Lord is my Shepherd.' I had not told them what I expected to do (got down the testimonies of the Juniors for the Era). This may not be of much account, but it means much to me in charge of little flock in this corner of the Vineyard. The harvest is plentiful and we cannot afford to have one boy or girl stand idle in the field."

Among the unique socials given by the Juniors at Red Deer, Alta., was called "A Paper Social." A staff covered with tissue paper, decorated with ribbon the same color, showed where each section of the Juniors was to sit, the color of the primary section being red, the Junior section blue, and the older girls violet, and the boys yellow. Twelve of these boys were waiters and wore caps of tissue paper. The paper tablecloths were correspondingly used. An address of ten minutes was given by the editor of one of the town newspapers, on the history, manufacture and uses of paper. Over two hundred boys and girls were served to sandwiches and cake, and tissue paper boats were sent to absentees. The programme also consisted of recitations, violin, organ and vocal solos by the Juniors, who entered heartily into every part of the entertainment.

Another feature of the work being carried on under the able superintend-