

be in the hands of every superintendent for reference, quotation, or even descriptive reading in the meeting by the Juniors themselves or their leader. A postal addressed to the Book Steward, Dr. Briggs, Wesley Buildings, will ensure the delivery of a sample topic card to any post office. Get a supply for all your members, and set the Juniors to work studying Old Testament biography in earnest this winter. It will interest them now and profit them for years to come.

Carrying the League

At a convention not long ago the editor overheard a remark that has recurred to him several times since. In reporting for the League which he represented a delegate remarked, "We are carrying the League along." And he proceeded to add, "It is a weak League," when another delegate interjected the remark, "That's why you have to carry it." The point seemed well taken. We have officials, ministers, presidents, and others in responsible positions, who are "carrying" the League because it is too "weak" to walk alone. Now we know very well that there are immature Leagues that need help, and we rejoice with every pastor who feels it his privilege and makes it his opportunity to encourage and assist in every possible way these weak societies; but we feel like protesting against any minister having to forever add to his own necessary duties the added burden of "carrying the League along." The League should be the minister's ally in every good work which he has under his care; it should not be a constant claimant on his time and attention and personal help. The minister is the pastor of the League, not its chief executive officer. As its pastor it is the minister's duty and should be his joy to counsel, guide, inspire, lead the young folk on in their plans of work, but if he has to be "carrying the League along" weekly it will soon be weakly as well. We believe the minister should be the inspirer of his Leaguers, that in large measure he may be their instructor also; but if he has to assume the work of executive leadership in its varied details there is surely something wrong. A League or any other similar society that needs to be continually carried along will never learn to tote its own burdens, do its own work on its own feet and with its own hands, but will exist in the baby stage for a while and then softly expire from some cause of infant mortality. Leaguers: Are you helping your pastor carry or are you depending on him to carry you? Are you a baby or a strong virile youth? If the former, grow out of the infantile stage as quickly as possible. Be not always children, but become men and women strong to labor, willing to work, and united for active Christian toil.

The General Conference

When this issue reaches our readers the General Conference will be in session. It is the Quadrennial Parliament of our Methodism, and its decisions vitally affect every phase of our Church life and work. Just what the dealings of the Conference will be with our Sunday School and Young People's Work, of course we cannot anticipate; but we are assured that it will make abundant provision for the prosecution of the several interests committed by it to the General Board for oversight and direction throughout the Quadrennium. The General Secretary's report as submitted to the Conference has already appeared in full in our pages. While not as satisfactory in all its parts as might be desired, the least optimistic soul in the Church must see that, if we have not good reason for jubilation, there is no cause for serious complaint, and absolutely none for alarm. The Sunday school and Epworth League may not both be making unprecedented increases, yet each is measurably successful as far as members, finances, and influence are concerned. This is particularly so of the former, and it must be borne in mind that the incorporation of Epworth League plans and methods of work have

materially contributed to the larger Sunday school that is growing up among us. A number of memorials are to be presented to the General Conference more or less affecting the General Board, the Conference and district organizations, and the constitution of the local schools and leagues. The legislation on these will doubtless aid in the still greater development of both and in increasing their efficiency. The General Board needs the liberal financial support of the whole Church, not merely a contribution from the Sunday schools and local Epworth Leagues. No Board of the General Conference has a more important work committed to it than that of Sunday schools and Young People's Societies, and realizing this, the principal Court of the Church will no doubt see to it that it is enabled to prosecute its work without financial difficulty or a too rigid economy. We shall report the action of the Conference as it affects our work in the next issue of this paper.

The Fall Campaign

To get a good start in early autumn for a prosperous season's work in the Epworth League it is very desirable that the District Executives plan the Conventions thoroughly and follow them up with some kind of district visitation. If the officers cannot visit the individual leagues, a plan of inter-league visitation may be arranged with profit. The key-officer however is the local President. If he does not get his own Executive together for business he can hardly expect anyone else to do it for him. The Pastor should rarely be held responsible for taking the initiative in this matter. The sleepy President may be awakened by the Minister, but the Minister is not to be held accountable for doing the President's work. See that your Fall Campaign is carefully planned. Then work it thoroughly and every phase of your work will show the accruing benefits.

The Silver Jubilee Again

This is just to remind you that the end of October is not far away. True, we are only beginning the month, but the dates set for the Epworth Silver Jubilee will quickly come, and if you are not ready to make a good showing for your League you need not be surprised if your society is deemed a failure. Have you ordered your programmes yet? If not, you are a fortnight behind the times. Act promptly, therefore, or you will be too late to get ready for the 25th and 26th, with any measure or to any degree of thoroughness. Do you think your League worth booming? Then boom it! The General Secretary has received some splendid testimonials as to the quality of the programme, but only you and your members can work it out in your League. Do not make the mistake of thinking that any kind of a programme will answer. The hymns you have been singing for years may be good, but there are others just as good and twice as timely. Learn them. The choruses on the programme will make a valuable contribution to your League music. And do not think that as long as some kind of addresses are given or "pieces" read it will answer your need. The programme sets forth as succinctly as possible in the time and space allotted the standards of the League. Exalt them. Give them due publicity. Popularize the League; and if you would do that, remember you must have something really worth while. Every League should order at least fifty of the programmes, and one hundred would be better. If your order card and remittance have not been sent, why not see to it at once? The General Secretary will be glad to supply you with everything you need except the audience, and that he hopes you will secure in goodly numbers for yourselves. Do not forget that Oct. 25th and 26th are special Epworth League days. Observe them, and then follow up the campaign by a live, aggressive winter's programme. So will your League grow and become increasingly strong and useful.