District Conventions

We had hoped to present in this number a list of Fall District Conventions as arranged by the Executives of the various District Leagues. The list, however, is so incomplete at the time we must go to press that we do not attempt to present it. Every District President has been written to by the General Secretary, and it is hoped that no district will permit the annual convention to go by default. These district gatherings are really the most important meetings we have for the advancement of our League work. A district convention is really the annual business meeting of the district. As such the work of the whole field should pass in careful review. The circuits should be called in order, and a report of each local League should be required. Where there are no societies the cause should be investigated and if possible one organized without delay. Where there are weak societies steps should be taken if possible to strengthen them. If a League has ceased during the year the reason should be asked. In short, the Convention should arrange its programme so that the whole district may be investigated in the interests of more and better work. To gather together and listen to a few addresses is not an ideal way; but to take the administrative work seriously and make it effective is all important. This cannot be done without much preparation on the part of the Executive. It certainly is impossible if on one day it is attempted to hold the Financial District Meeting and a joint Sunday-school and Epworth League Convention. If the District League is to do its work thoroughly it must have more than a mere passing thought or an hour of indifferent attention. Our hope is that every District President has already gotten his Executive together, that the plans for the Convention are well under way, that the state of the work on each District will be enquired into in a thoroughly business-like manner, and that the Convention may be followed up through the succeeding months of autumn and winter in such a manner that there shall be an Epworth League wherever possible and that every existing society shall be made as efficient as local circumstances, conditions, and membership admit.

Ten Little Candles

Ten little candles, Jesus bade them shine; Selfishness snuffed one right out, then there were nine.

Nine little candles, one without a mate; Bad companions came along, then there were eight.

Eight little candles, doing work for heaven;
"I forgot," sat down on one, then there were seven.

Seven little candles, all with blazing wicks;
Some one laughed, cried "Goody-boy,"

then there were six.

Six little candles, every one alive; One got tired of trying, then there were five. Five little candles, once there were more; Sunday baseball fanned out one, then there were four.

Four little candles, bright as bright could be;
"I'm too small, no use," one sighed, then

there were three.

Three little candles—was one of them you?
One gave up Sunday School, then there

were two.

Two little candles (tale's almost done);
"I'm too small, no use," one sighed,

then there was one.

One little candle, left all alone;
Kept on burning by itself, and oh, how

bright it shone! Brave and steady burned its flame, till

the other nine,
Fired by its example, once again began
to shine.

-Pauline Frances Camp.



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