

regular prayer or conference meetings: and 20 report Young People's meetings.

The Sabbath School, Home and Foreign Missions, Ministerial Relief, and Educational work, will be reported by their respective Secretaries.

Your Secretary is more convinced, as he continues to examine the reports, that the figures are in many cases very inaccurate, and that some means should be instituted, by which a correct statement could be made as to the exact number of our churches, and their membership.

Death has come to our ministerial ranks this year, and claimed one. Rev. J. G. McKenzie is no more of earth. He has gone to be with his Lord, which is far better. The influence of his life will remain. The many led to Christ through his instrumentality, as also the many who were comforted and edified by the faithful message delivered by him, will remember a good minister of the New Testament. Suitable reference will be made to his life and death by the Conference Committee appointed for that purpose.

INTROSPECTION.

There is an egotism which is at once vain and sinful. But there is also an egotism which is legitimate and necessary to a proper acceptance of the responsibilities of life. This is true of churches and denominations. They may indulge in thoughts of themselves, which would lead to sin and vanity; or they may indulge in thoughts of themselves regarding their obligations to God and men. The former is censurable, the latter praiseworthy. Hence, with a view to a better understanding of our work, and the means for its accomplishment, I lead you now to introspection.

Are we aggressive in our methods? Are these adapted to the age in which we live? The age changes, and so may all methods which do not embody essential and permanent truths, change also. This age is pre-eminently a practical one, and the church of to-day is required as never before, to emphasize the practical bearing of religion. The test of the age is not so much what a man or a church or a denomination believes, as what they do. Are our methods the best possible to enable us to meet their requirements? Then what of our spirituality? There must be an ever increasing spirituality in church or individual in order to the realization of the possibilities of usefulness which lie within their sphere of action. In the reports from the churches which have been forwarded to me this year, there is no direct reference made to their spiritual life or the methods in use. But judging from the figures which set forth the regular meetings of the church, number of conversions, and amount of money contributed, one can readily see there is opportunity for advancement along these lines.

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