

ance, and it was remarked that never before had there been seen such an assembly, as the enrollment at Victoria this year is larger than ever in the past. It is certainly gratifying to know that the young men and women in our foremost educational institution are so interested in the question of the evangelization of the world. There is always a healthy religious atmosphere at Victoria, and the missionary spirit is quite marked. It is a good place to send Methodist students. Methodist parents who pass by Victoria and send their sons and daughters to other colleges, are making a mistake.

### Dine or Eat?

When a man dines at a first-class hotel he properly pays for much more than he eats. Less than fifty cents of his dollar goes for food; the rest goes for the service. We have no objection to this. The primary purpose of eating, it is true, is and always will be, the satisfaction of appetite. Reduced to its lowest terms a meal is an animal exercise. But as any race or community advances, eating takes on forms and accessories that make for refinement. Hence the use of knives and forks and spoons. Hence the introduction of dishes and table linen. Hence, too, the purpose of mural art in the dining room. One of the surest tests of culture is found at the table. A savage feeds, a boor eats, a gentleman dines.

The pity of it is that so many who can appreciate a better way are almost compelled to reduce the noonday meal to its lowest terms. Multitudes in a great city literally eat their lunch. Witness the thousands of workmen who open their lunch boxes in the mire and grime of a machine shop or amid the debris surrounding a half finished building. Witness the hundreds of clerks and business men who bolt their food with indecent haste at the quick lunch counter.

Does anybody stop to consider what the ultimate effect of this is? Some firms, we are glad to say, have provided cheery rooms in which their employees may eat their meal, and where they may buy tea and coffee at a nominal price. But why should not more employers give their men the same privilege?

THE Visiting and Relief Committee of the Epworth League ought to "get busy" about this time of the year. There is a home mission field around almost every church that will abundantly repay cultivation. There are poor and distressed, sick and sorrowing people in every community, who could be greatly cheered and helped by the visits of young people of the Epworth League.

IN our news columns there is an item concerning an Epworth League whose members were present every night at evangelistic services conducted by their pastor, and occupied the front seats. If they did no more than this it was doubtless a source of encouragement to the pastor. The faithful ones who are always on hand are worth far more than the brilliant members who are only "occasionals."

OUR Saviour declared that those upon whom the tower of Siloam fell were not sinners above all others in that country. Who the biggest sinners actually were, we have no means of discovering, but it has been suggested that they were probably the men who owned the tower and allowed it to remain in an unsafe condition. Possibly the greatest rascals were the ones who built the tower and who put into it poor material and poor workmanship. Quite a number of recent disasters have undoubtedly been caused by faulty construction.

Don't expect to help men if you are afraid of soiling your clothes. No reformer ever escaped the mud. The men we want to reach are worth it all. The most important thing about a Christian worker is not his voice, his wisdom, or his wealth, but *himself*. That self must touch men before he can do his best work for them. Your personality is the Lord's most efficient agent.

IN commenting upon the Church statistics of the country, *Leslie's Weekly* says: "As it stands, a total of over two hundred thousand churches and over thirty million church members represent a power for righteousness that would marvel in redeeming our cities from misrule and freeing the land from many public evils, if it were unitedly and wisely directed. Thirty million church members would be a mighty and irresistible host for the overcoming of the liquor traffic, the corruption of the ballot, the gambling evil, or any other foe of society, if they would but march and stick together."

IN giving official status to the Young Men's Associations the General Conference did not intend that an active propaganda should be started for the organization of such societies, as it was believed that this would injure the Epworth Leagues. The idea was simply to provide for the separate organization of the young men in exceptional cases where it was deemed advisable. In the great majority of places young men and young women will continue to meet and work together in the Epworth Leagues. Do not jump to the conclusion, too quickly, that young men cannot be interested in the Epworth League. In many churches it is being done successfully. The opportunities for Christian service that the League affords ought to appeal to both sexes alike.

AT one of our District Conventions, the suggestion was made that it would be a good thing to familiarize the young people of our churches with the good and great men and women who have done so much for the cause of God in the past, by hanging their portraits in our Sunday School and League rooms. The idea has much to commend it. The pictures of such men as David Brainard, John Hunt, McKay of Formosa, David Livingstone, George McDougall, and many others, would certainly help in the creation of a missionary spirit, while to have the features of Neal Dow, John B. Gough or Frances E. Willard constantly before us could scarcely fail to stimulate to temperance effort. Of course a picture of John Wesley ought to have a place in every League Room. An indirect benefit would be that some very dingy meeting places would be brightened and made more homelike in appearance.

THE business of the Methodist Book Room has grown so much lately that an addition to the building has become a necessity. The employees of the institution have been greatly interested, during the past few weeks in watching the growth of this new structure which is of unique design, built largely of concrete, with floors that are very unusual and remarkable, consisting of tiles and steel rods cemented together so as to form one compact surface of immense strength. There is absolutely no support of any kind in the centre of these floors and yet it is said that they will sustain a weight of 250 pounds to the square foot. The secret lies in the fact that the cement binds the materials together so closely that there is no opportunity for yielding anywhere. The strong church and the useful church is the one whose members are bound together by the love of Christ, in one united whole. Then many external aids can be dispensed with, for the secret of stability is internal.