

of the Methodist Episcopal Church, at the time of their conversion was 16.5. It is profoundly significant for the leaguer that the same authority in one of his "Tables of Immortality, covering the experience of conversion or decisive religious awakening of 1,784 men, shows that the average age was 16.4.

These facts are of superlative importance to the Epworth League. They show that the leaguer has raw material to deal with that is plastic to the touch and receptive to divine influences. They show that in this great movement of the young for the young, God has honored the leaguer by calling him into the field of supreme opportunity. They show the grounds of our high expectations of the achievements of the leaguer of the twentieth century.

Kansas City, Mo.

### EDUCATIVE FEATURES AT THE PAN-AMERICAN.

BY REV. D. W. SNIDER.

ONE great educative feature of such an Exposition as that recently held at Buffalo, is the concrete exhibition of progress in all the departments of industry; early methods of agriculture side by side with present methods; early modes of travel side by side with present modes of travel; early instruments of war and the present instruments of war; the pioneer sewing machine and the sewing machine of to-day—through the whole range of invention and improvement—from fire-flints to X-rays; from stages and four-in-hands to the fast express; from sailing tubs to ocean greyhounds; from signal fires to wireless telegraphy; from scythe and flail to self-binder and threshing machine; not to speak of automobiles and airships and dynamos and incubators. One dares not boast in the presence of it all. The debate is an ever recurring one as to the man who is of the greater value to the race, whether the prime inventor or founder of a thing, though now its rude and clumsier construction is ludicrous, or the man who has

And has some prophet spoken true of all we shall achieve,

The wonders were so wildly new that no man would believe.

Meanwhile, my brothers, work, and wield the forces of to-day,  
And plough the present like a field, and garner all you may."

Another educative feature of such an Exposition as the Pan American, is the accentuation of man's emotional nature by the sights and sounds, by the scenes and exhibits which compel him to laughter and melt him to tears. The grave and gay are side by side like smiles and tears upon a baby's face. The man in his office daily held by the hard-driving concerns of business until he fits to it like a cog to its wheel, may sometimes think that the emotions of his nature have been done to death, and he can no longer laugh or cry, or the worn and weary housewife upon whom the burdens and sorrows of life have pressed so long that she has lost responsiveness to any pain that's new, may suppose that her old face can never light up again, but so keen are the strokes of art and so subtle the charms of life when its varieties of mirth and mourning, of severity and tenderness, of pathos and bathos, stand side by side in their revelry and in their seriousness, that one is made anew; he's become a child again, filled with wonder, with laughter chasing tears, or pity driving out mirth.

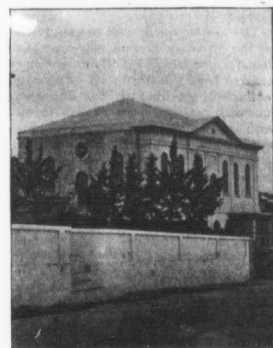
The Art Building perhaps brought this out in its most refined qualities, while the walks on the Midway and the aisles of the Ethnological Building gave it its wider, perhaps grosser, contrasts. Let me hint at what I mean more plainly by a further reference to the Art Building. Do you know why one came from such a building more weary than from any other; mentally, nervously, sensationally 'used up'? I do not wish to convey the thought of being bored as the result of it. It was a man like that who wanted the painting "a yard and a half long by one yard wide to cover the cracks in the fresco."

God pity the unimaginative creature who talks of being bored by an Art Gallery. But you of keen perception and cultivated imagination came away from the Art Building more limp and jaded than from any other; the howling derisives of the Midway; the blare of trumpets, the cries of the peanut vendor, the devilish screech of the miniature railway—any sound was relief.

Why? Because for the space of two or three or four hours as you may have ventured to stand it at one stretch, you silently became a part in your sympathies and feelings with the sum total of the comedy and labor and tragedy of life. You were at a picnic and at a funeral; at a welcome and at a farewell; at a birth and at a death; at the house of mourning and at the house of feasting. You were in a sylvan retreat or beside placid waters, and you were tossed in the storm and dashed against the breakers. You romped with children and you starved with poverty, and you were alone with toothless and wrinkled age. You witnessed the wedding and you saw the sickening, appalling and suffocating scenes

of battle and blood. But the educative influence of such hours is great indeed, though the immediate effect of it upon the powers of the body and the faculties of the soul is described by the paradox of a glorious weariness.

Another educative feature of such an exposition is that which directs us to the possibilities of concerted civic action.



CUSTOM HOUSE, BERMUDA.

The Columbian Exposition at Chicago will ever be referred to as the White City, while the dimensions of the Pan-American were in every way smaller than those of Chicago, the feature to which I refer was much more fascinating at Buffalo; the grouping of buildings and arrangement of courts and general climatic effect, from any point of observation, was beautiful indeed. What a medley and mass, so far as any engineering or architectural skill is concerned are most of our villages and towns and cities! The Pan-American has given striking and effective evidence of what can be produced on any given piece of land by the application of knowledge and skill and the judicious outlay of money under the direction of concerted ideas and definite plans.

Simcoe, Ont.

### METHODIST YOUNG PEOPLE'S SOCIETIES.

BY REV. DR. WILLIAM J. INGRAHAM HAVEN.

Read at the Methodist Ecumenical Conference, London.

"THE world advances by generations." These are the thoughtful words of William Xavier Ninde. What could better introduce my theme? I ask you to look out upon a mighty host, mobilized, in a measure disciplined, with regiments here and there already veteran, a host that had no being a generation ago: twenty thousand from the Colored Methodist Church, twenty-five thousand under the banner of St. George, eighty thousand from the far-stretching Dominion whose shores are washed by the oceans; three hundred thousand bearing palm branches from the Methodist of the Southern Church, two thousand from the eldest of the American daughters of the Wesleyan movement—two and a half million, a company equal to—yes, vaster



STONE QUARRY, BERMUDA.

softened its lines and increased its power and extended its uses. We stand on the shoulders of yesterday, and to-morrow will plant its surer feet upon the progress of to-day.

"As we surpass our fathers' skill, our sons will shame our own,  
A thousand things are hidden still and not a hundred known.