

have five Mission Bands which in reality do Junior League work." A Society which does Junior League work ought not to decline the name or refuse to be constituted, perhaps; but what matters it if the work be done? Our purpose is to show that the existence of a Junior League is no good reason why the W. M. S. should feel slighted, and the existence of a Band is no valid excuse for the non-existence of a Junior League. That the purpose of the League includes that of the Band, all can quickly see.

But the question at once arises, "Who will get the money?" Please, bear in mind, that money should never be the first consideration. It matters little who gets the money immediately, as long as the life of the child is won for God and the work of the Kingdom. "Seek first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness" is appropriate here. If it is money first, last, and always, we shall not be obeying the Command. If God gets the child, then heart, life, prayer, influence, money, labor,—all must naturally follow. Whatever your Society may be called, give your members a higher ideal than that of a money raising agency. If you do not, you will fail.

That the League and Band may work together in happy co-operation is proven by the fact that in some places they are actually doing so. There appeared in our June issue a splendid group photograph of a Junior League and Mission Band taken together. The members for the most part, belong to both. That is, the Junior Leaguer who pays 10c a year fee becomes a member of the Band. This is required by the Constitution. The Band thus formed is regularly organized as a part of the local W. M. S. and meets monthly as a Band. The League meets the other three weeks. In short, the Band "Buds of Hope," is really the Missionary Department of the Junior League, and the League gives the other necessary religious training that the Band does not afford, for a well-rounded Christian development. This Band last year, we see, gave an Easter Offering of \$3.47, and sent \$9.25 to the Branch Treasurer. There is absolutely no friction between the League and Band, the W. M. S. get the money, the children get the education, and the church is the gainer all round. Of course, some ardent Leagues will object because of the financial aspect of the case. We know another place where work is jointly carried on in this way, and the money is equally divided between the W. M. S. and the Forward Movement. Let us not divide on this money question. Character is preferable to cash, a child's soul is beyond all commercial value, and his future influence as a man is that for which we now lay our plans. If you have a Band and want to do larger work, organize as a Junior League. If you have a Junior League and want to develop the Missionary Department, organize a Band within your league. If no other plan is agreeable, divide the money. But don't "look cross-eyed" at one another whatever you do. The Missionary Trip, so well arranged by Mrs. Stephenson is being taken by both Bands and Leagues promiscuously, and will help us all get nearer to one another in the spirit of mutual help, not of criticism. Let us rejoice in this, and "provoke one another to love and good works." The time may come when there will be but one Society. It may be neither Junior League or Mission Band. Perhaps it will be the Sunday-school. Who knows? That the Sunday-school has not yet come into its own we verily believe. That it is destined to do a much larger work we feel confident. But meanwhile, do your work, do it well, do it together, do it for His glory, and keep the Kingdom first. S. T. B.