

missions than they did the year previous. All the Leagues on the District were urged to push vigorously systematic missionary effort.

A valuable paper, by Miss M. Detcher, on "The Model Society," and a thoughtful and forceful address by Rev. L. S. Wright, on "The Church as a Moral Force," filled up the programme of the evening session, which was presided over by Mr. C. Parks, of Peterboro', the President-elect for the ensuing year. The proceedings of both the afternoon and evening sessions were greatly enlivened by splendid solos by Miss Henderson, of Lakefield; Miss Bellegem, of Peterboro', and Mr. Parks. The singing of these young people was very much enjoyed. All who attended the convention pronounced it a most profitable gathering. The District League selected as its motto for the ensuing year, Phil. 4, 13, "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me."

### Hamilton District.

The fifth annual convention of the Hamilton District Leagues was held in Hamilton Street Church, Hamilton, on Thursday and Friday, October 17th and 18th. Rev. G. E. Hartwell, of the 18th, gave an interesting address on missions. Rev. J. H. Collins, Ancaster, conducted a training-school of methods on the Missionary Department; Mr. W. H. Moss, Dundas, on the Literary Department, and Rev. F. M. Nathers, of Abington, on the Christian Endeavor Department. Miss Nora Steffy, on the Junior Department. The evening addresses were on "Personal Evangelism," by Ammon Davis, Esq., and a report of the San Francisco Convention by Rev. T. Albert Moore, and a missionary address by Rev. Dr. Hart. The following officers were elected: Hon. President, Rev. W. F. Wilson, Hamilton, Ont.; President, Rev. J. E. Hackey, Hamilton, Ont.; 1st Vice-Pres., Mr. Ammon Davis, Hamilton; 2nd Vice-Pres., Rev. F. M. Nathers, Abington, Ont.; 3rd Vice-Pres., Miss Mary L. Hamilton, 277 Huggison Street, Hamilton; 4th Vice-Pres., Miss Clara Morrow, Bartonville, Ont.; 5th Vice-Pres., Miss Bertha Shenton, Gibson Avenue, Hamilton; Secretary, Rev. Chas. L. Bowly, 213 Wentworth Avenue, Hamilton; Treasurer, Miss Sarah Mills, 414 King Street East, Hamilton; Conference Representative, Rev. T. Albert Moore, Hamilton.

### Ottawa District.

The seventh annual convention of the Ottawa District Epworth League was held in Bell Street Church, Ottawa, Thursday, October 10th. There were two sessions, afternoon and evening. At the afternoon session, Rev. S. Goldworth Bland and Rev. G. I. Campbell introduced a discussion on, "Systematic Bible Study, or Miscellaneous Topics for our Leagues—Which?" The majority seemed to favor systematic study. A feature of special interest was an address by Mr. W. McKenzie King, Deputy Minister of Labor, on "The Economic World of To-day; its Agitations and Prospects; and the Relation of the Church Thereto." Mr. King reviewed the economic conditions, and in dealing with the latter part of the address emphasized the cultivation of love to the human heart as the greatest means of breaking down barriers.

T. W. Quayle, missionary vice-president, reported that as a result of four weeks' campaigning for the Forward Movement, \$600 had been pledged, exclusive of Dominion church, Ottawa, which already supports a native teacher. Last year the young people gave \$138.61, showing a prospective increase of \$462 for this year. The membership reached by the

campaigner, Rev. R. H. Whiteside, was 720. The average contribution per member last year was twenty cents. This year it is expected to reach eighty cents, and the missionary vice-president says it must go to \$1.04, or two cents a week per member. The convention pledged support to the whole plan of the Forward Movement, and it is hoped next year to be in a position to make a tangible proposition to the Mission Board. Ottawa District does not wish to pledge support in full, but in its givings. At the night session Rev. Ernest Thomas, of the 1st, gave an address on "Ideals of Work, the Test of Methods," and Rev. Eber Crummy, Kingston, an address on "Some Aspects of the Mission Field." Rev. W. Timberlake presided in the afternoon, and Rev. Dr. Rose at night.

### St. Thomas District.

Rain, snow, and mud did not dampen the enthusiasm of the Epworth Leagues as they assembled at the annual convention at Brownsville, October 17th. Over 100 delegates, representing 28 of our societies, were present. Tables loaded with good things were set in the school-room, where the delegates were entertained for dinner and tea in a way all greatly appreciated. The sociability was a delightful feature of the convention. The sessions were full of interest, the discussions were exceedingly bright and lively, and brought out many good thoughts. The importance of Junior work was strongly urged in a number of short papers. The league's political relation to the drink traffic was ably presented, and a firm stand for the right advocated. A letter, concerning Forward Movement for Missions, from Dr. F. C. Stephenson, was presented. A resolution was passed according heartily with the suggestions made. The benefits of the E. L. R. C. and Epworth Era were well presented. One of the most enjoyable addresses of the day was given by Mr. J. McDowell, of the Christian Society. An interesting feature was the reports given by the delegates, showing progress and condition of their societies. The majority were very encouraging. Many showed increase in membership, and more interest in missionary work. The deeper spiritual life of many was especially noted. One new society was organized during the year at Maple Grove, making forty-two in our district. The largest society reported was Central church, St. Thomas—158 members. It was also the one showing greatest increase—50. The largest Junior Society was Grace church, St. Thomas—87. The largest subscription to The Epworth Era was Copenhagen—25. Greatest number joining the Church Union—23. In the evening Rev. C. T. Scott, of London, gave a very eloquent and graphic account of his trip to California and the International Convention. An invitation was accepted to meet next year at Springfield. The officers are as follows: Hon. President, Rev. W. Godwin, St. Thomas; President, Mr. J. McArthur, St. Thomas; 1st Vice-Pres., Rev. J. Morrison, Springfield; 2nd Vice-Pres., Miss N. Chute, Calton; 3rd Vice-Pres., Mr. F. Sypher, Delmar; 4th Vice-Pres., Mr. F. Miller, Lawrence; 5th Vice-Pres., Miss E. Peters, St. Thomas; Conference Representative, Rev. W. G. H. McAllister, Aymer; Secretary-Treasurer, Miss Morrison, Union; Representative, Rev. F. W. Langford, Union; Miss W. Musgrove, St. Thomas; Miss A. Burgess, Vienna; Miss A. Walte, Trinity; Mr. B. Stinchcombe, Middlemarch.

One of the questions asked on the report forms was to tell some of the best things done during the year. If the following items are of any use, you can select from them: Aymer—Bought hymn books for strangers at church—in-

creased sociability. Central church, St. Thomas—Adopted systematic giving for all League purposes—take no collections at socials. Avon—Raised \$50 for a Bible woman in Japan. Grace church, St. Thomas—Supply pulpit work, relieve distress, look after young people of the community. Copenhagen—Inducement souls for Christ; increasing the Forward Movement for Missions. Lawrence—Contributed \$35 to church purposes. Frome—Gave \$5 to Children's Aid Society, and nearly \$15 for parsonage furnishings. North Bay—The League by all being willing to help.

E. M., Secretary.

### Wingham District.

The Epworth Leagues of the Wingham District held their annual convention at Lucknow, on October 10th. Nearly ninety delegates registered, and there was a splendid attendance at every session. The secretary's report showed a membership of 1,544 on the district, an increase of 30 over last year. Junior work is receiving much attention there being now eight live Junior Leagues within our bounds. The topics discussed were: "Why are we Here?" "The Joy of Service," "The Leaguer as an Evangelist," "Practical Junior Work," "A Chalk Talk with the Juniors," "What Social Work can the Individual Leaguer do," "Missionary Literature in the League," and "The Place The Epworth Era and the Reading Course should have with our Leaguers." A round-table conference on difficulties in Epworth League work was conducted for an hour. Dr. Spencer, of British Columbia, gave two stirring addresses on Mission work in British Columbia, and Rev. R. J. Garbutt an interesting address on the San Francisco Convention and his trip. The following officers were elected: President, D. C. Taylor, Lucknow; 1st Vice-Pres., Wm. Hunter, Belgrave; 2nd Vice-Pres., Rev. T. E. Sawyer, Teeswater; 3rd Vice-Pres., Miss S. Kew, Whitechurch; 4th Vice-Pres., Miss M. E. Stewart, Purple Grove; 5th Vice-Pres., Mrs. (Rev.) Vance, Berville; Secretary-Treasurer, A. Butchart, Teeswater; Conference Representative, W. H. Kerr, Brussels. The next convention will be held at Wingham.

A. BUTCHART, Secretary.

### "I Just Had To."

When a man achieves pre-eminent success in an honorable vocation, says The Saturday Evening Post, the world is anxious to know what has been the source of his highest inspiration. There is one force which operates more generally than we are wont to think, a power not often reckoned among the influences that make for success. It may be called the inspiration of necessity. Many men constantly before him the vision of an invalid wife, or dependent parents, or a nest of little children to feed, or older ones to educate, and the thought of their possible suffering has been a mental stimulus whose effect is not easily calculated.

The rich man's son knows that if he fails in college some other door will open to him—he can have private tutors and foreign travel. But the young fellow from the farm who is paying his own way through school by keeping furnaces, or waiting at a boarding-house, knows that if he fails there is nothing before him but to return to the farm.

An American soldier in the Philippines had cut his way out of a squad of bolomen who had taken him prisoner. The captain of his company said, "Man, how on earth did you get out of that trap? I thought you were as good as dead." The Hoosier replied, "I don't know, sir, except that I just had to!"