

his advice on points of order without distinction between those who ask it. It is to this impartiality, which has never been wanting to any Speaker within living memory, that the speakership owes a great part of the authority it enjoys and the respect it inspires. And for that very reason many prudent statesmen condemned in 1887 the rule which lodged in the Speaker's hands this discretionary power to put or refuse to put a motion for the closure of debate. They argued that such a function imposed too severe a strain upon the Chair, whose action was likely to be condemned by partisans on one side or the other. Things might be said by angry members, comments might be made in the public press which would sap the deference hitherto paid to this exalted office. It was not, however, I must again repeat, intentional partisanship on the part of the Chair that was feared, but occasional errors of judgment which might breed criticism and censure. The traditions of the Speakership have acted so strongly on those who have held the office, and have so permeated the political life of England, that practical politicians believed that the Speaker would use his new powers in a fair and impartial spirit.—*Prof. Bryce, in North American Review.*

KNOWN FAR AND WIDE.

There are people who sneeringly refer to proprietary remedies as "patent medicines," and cry them down as worthless decoctions manufactured for the purpose of defrauding those unacquainted with the formula form which they are compounded. As a rule, this class of people are those who have been blessed with sound constitutions and have never required the aid of a physician. The emergency has never arisen, in their case, to test their opinions of the articles they decry by an actual trial. No doubt there are many articles advertised throughout the land as "cure alls" which are utterly worthless; but it is a fact that there are others which are above suspicion as genuine remedies for the diseases which it is claimed they will cure. Physicians of high standing certify as to their efficacy, and frequently use them in their practice, thus contradicting by their approval the unsupported statements of those whose prejudice blinds them to the good performed by advertised proprietary medicines. Two of the best medicines manufactured in this country, and those which probably have been used to a greater extent than any others, are those bearing the name of Radway & Co., 419 St. James Street, Montreal, Canada. Radway's Ready Relief has probably relieved more cases of acute suffering than any other remedy known to the civilized world. It is to be found everywhere, and its praises are sung by countless thousands. The people know what it is and won't be without it. It is just what it is claimed to be, a ready relief for all internal or external pains. This firm are also the manufacturers of Radway's Regulating Pills, which are invaluable for purifying the blood and keeping the digestive organs in a healthy condition. They have been on the market for years, and the demand for them constantly increases, which is a sure indication of their merit. We would advise our readers, when in need of a remedy that will act quickly and do its work thoroughly, to try Messrs. Radway's medicines. All druggists keep them, and will recommend them; in fact no apothecary's store is complete without them. As there are numerous imitations of these valuable articles, when purchasing be sure that the bottle bears the word "Radway."

IT IS A MISTAKE

To try to cure catarrh by using local applications. Catarrh is not a local but a constitutional disease. It is not a disease of the man's nose, but of the man. Therefore, to effect a cure, requires a constitutional remedy like Hood's Sarsaparilla, which, acting through the blood, reaches every part of the system, expelling the taint which causes the disease, and imparting health.

A DANGEROUS GAME.

Sauntering through the club-rooms of Monte Carlo, which are nothing more nor less than a large gambling establishment, an observer could not fail to notice that wherever roulette was being played women are to be seen in larger numbers than at the tables where the chances were more even. There are probably several ways of explaining this fact, which nevertheless remains, that women are more speculative and will take greater chances than men. Take for example the way they expose themselves to cold, which is the commencement of nearly all troubles, as far as health is concerned. No need to run the slightest risk though, if a "Health" under-vest be worn. These goods have just been introduced into the market: they are soft, luxurious and warm, but only the genuine are stamped plainly with the word "Health." Every doctor in the country has seen and recommended them, and they are for sale by all first-class dry goods houses.

CO-OPERATIVE HOUSEKEEPING.

One of the fairest dreams conjured up by Edward Bellamy in his popular book, "Looking Backward," and one which, in these days when servants are the mistresses, has a special attractiveness to every home maker, is co-operative house-keeping. To the complete building of this castle, in any more substantial material than air, is a long look ahead, but at least one or two solid blocks are even now ready for the foundation. It is claimed, and the claim is not disputed to our knowledge, that, in the manufacture of the well-known washing compound, Pearline, chemical science, the most advanced mechanical appliances, and bold and sagacious business methods, are all co-operating in an eminently successful manner with the housekeeper in her difficult task of "keeping things clean." The best results, at the least outlay of time, temper, and money—each one of the millions of packages of Pyle's Pearline sold every year is a practical demonstration of how to solve this difficult problem, in one direction at least.—*Boston Congregationalist, October 3.*

THE MISSIONARY WORLD.

HINTS FOR PROGRAMMES FOR MISSIONARY SOCIETIES.

Too often, in planning for missionary meetings, comic recitations, secular songs, and dramatic readings, perfectly harmless in themselves, are allowed a place on the pretext of attracting those not interested. Be assured it will not work, and nothing but ridicule and defeat will be the result. Such a mixture will only disgust the very ones you desire to reach. Let nothing foreign to the subject of missions creep into the programme.

Always begin with prayer; but let it be a short, earnest prayer for a special and direct blessing on this special meeting. Too often prayer is offered just because it is the proper thing to begin with prayer.

Always use the Bible; but use it as the word of God—the "sword of the Spirit." Expect to accomplish something by using the passage selected. Sometimes a single text, with a few pointed remarks, will influence more than a whole chapter. For example: "Stir up the gift of God that is in thee"—the gift that is in thee. Not your neighbour's gift, not some great gift, not the gift you wish you had, but the gift that you have. Everybody has some gift. What is yours? Or, "Where hast thou gleaned to-day?" Only five little words, but what a searching question! The Bible is full of such strong texts.

In preparing the strictly missionary part of the programme there is such a store to select from that one is bewildered by the embarrassment of riches. But too often only the very driest items, told in the most prosy manner possible, are selected. Of course, they are received in a most unenthusiastic manner, and even the staunchest friends of missions are obliged to vote the meeting stupid.

The following plans for presenting missionary news have all been tested by a society calling itself the Missionary Conversation. It has been in existence over six years, and already has one young lady, a member, at work in India; and another member, a young physician, who has prepared himself specially for medical mission work, under appointment for Siam. It holds monthly evening meetings, and is attended by both sexes. Its programmes have embraced Budgets of Missionary News, Watch Towers, Tourist Letters, Sketches of Missionary Heroes, Sharp-shooting Exercises, etc.

1. *Budgets.*—The Budget may be published once a month, and its topic should be the subject for the month as selected by the various mission boards. It can be written on foolscap paper and the covers made of heavy white card-board, tied with ribbon, and decorated in either pen-and-ink work, or water-colours, by any member of the society who is willing to consecrate a little artistic talent. The Budgets may be prepared in either one of two ways: The President may appoint each month, two editors—if possible, a lady and gentleman—whose duty it shall be to prepare the Budget for one month; or, the president may act as editor, and ask a number of young people to contribute to its pages, and then select two of the number to read it. While the first way is best, the second has the advantage of giving a large number a place among the contributors.

2. *The Watch Tower.*—Each month appoint a watchman, whose duty it shall be to watch the whole field and report the latest news, and prepare the Watch Tower. This should be very much like the Budget in form, with card-board covers, also decorated and tied with ribbon, though letter-cap paper will be a better size for it than foolscap.

As it is wise to vary the plan each year let the Watch Tower give place, at the end of a year, to Heralds. Appoint twelve young people, one for each field in which your own mission board is working, and one for the "Field is the World," whose special duty it shall be to watch his own special field, and report anything of interest at each meeting during the year.

Let the Heralds in turn give place to the Bulletin—just the same plan as the Watch Tower only changing the form of it every month. One month cut the cover and the paper on which it is written in the shape of a six-point star; a second month, use a Greek cross; a third, a circle; fourth, a clover leaf, etc.

3. *Tourist Letters.*—Appoint twelve bright young people—if possible, an equal number of gentlemen and ladies—to form a band of missionary tourists—imaginary, of course—to visit each mission field, and once a month send the society a letter from the field for that month. Inclose the letter in a large envelope, properly addressed to the society, and seal it. Cancelled stamps from each field can be secured by writing to the various mission boards, and be placed on the envelope. The letters should be written so as to be as real and true as possible; and many are the facts about manners and customs, and also about the mission stations and missionary workers, that can be vividly impressed in this way.

4. *Sketches of Missionary Heroes.*—Still another plan, which may with profit run through the meetings of an entire year, is to appoint some one, each month, to prepare a sketch of some missionary hero connected with the field for the month. The sketch should be written on heavy white card-board, about twenty by twenty-seven inches, which can be divided into two, three, or four columns, as the writer chooses. Decorate the card-board in some pleasing manner, printing the name of the missionary hero across the top. If possible, secure a picture of him and place it at the top of the first column. These pictures may be found in missionary magazines or newspapers, and by cutting right around the outline of the picture,

and leaving none of the original background around it, and pasting it on the card-board sketch, it will be almost impossible to tell that it was not printed there in the first place. It adds much to cut other pictures of the field in which the missionary worked, and paste them in the same way at the bottom of the sketch. The whole must be finished with a narrow gilt moulding across the top and bottom, and ribbon tied to hang it by.

When twelve of these have been prepared, the same idea may be used, but varied somewhat. Let the new sketches be smaller, nine by eighteen inches, and a living missionary, now at work in the field, be selected. Procure a photograph and some of the facts about her life and work, both before and after she went to the field. Prepare these smaller sketches very much like the larger ones; but, instead of pasting the photograph, cut a round hole in the card-board, and fasten the picture back of it. The same person who prepares the sketch must also write a letter to the missionary selected, and read both sketch and letter at the meeting. By the end of the year the society will have had direct communication with twelve living missionaries in twelve different fields.

In addition to these yearly plans are many that will be found helpful at a single meeting to give variety.

1. Select twelve items, some long, some short, just one line, but all bright. To make this exercise effective it should be called sharp-shooting, and should be literally what the name suggests—sharp-shooting. Little things help; it creates a pleasant interest to call the items "shot," and each one who reads one of them a "sharp-shooter." Distribute the shot several days before the meeting; and, as at least one is almost sure to be absent, keep a duplicate of each shot, and also the name of the one who is to read it. Carry the duplicate and also the list of names to the meeting, and if any one is missing hand his shot to some one else to read. When you are ready to begin the exercises, call for the item by number. If possible, try to drive each shot home by a short pointed comment.

2. For the June meeting, when Africa is studied, arrange a palaver. A palaver, in Africa, means a "big talk." Select a number of items about Robert Moffat's life and work, and conduct it just like a sharp-shooting, but call it a "Palaver (big talk) about Robert Moffat."

3. For July, the month for North American Indians, hold a pow-wow. Pow-wow is a word having the same meaning among Indians that Palaver has among Africans.

This exercise is nothing more than an adaptation of the idea of a "topic party" to a missionary meeting.

Select five topics. Have cards printed with the topics, and a dotted line below each one. Give one to each person present, and request the gentlemen to select a partner for each topic. When each gentleman has selected a lady for each topic, tap the bell, and announce that the gentlemen may claim partners for the first topic and talk to them on that subject for five minutes. At the end of five minutes tap the bell again, and announce that partners must be changed, and the second topic discussed for five minutes. And so on through the whole list. Care must be taken in the selection of topics. It is not wise to select very deep subjects that require a good deal of knowledge to discuss.

4. Contests can be arranged. For example, appoint four young people, who are interested in missions, each to prepare as strong a plea as possible for foreign missions. Appoint judges to decide which has made the strongest appeal. To avoid any unpleasant feeling, allow the judges to mention only the best one, and not to grade the other three.

5. Another good scheme is an objection-box. Let each member bring all the objections to missions that he has heard during the month. Answering these will perhaps win some one over to the cause, and will also be useful in putting weapons into the hands of members to use when they hear objections to their loved work. Perhaps it would be wise to have the pastor or some able speaker invited to answer the objections, as infinite harm might result from a failure to answer them wisely and correctly.

6. It is sometimes advisable to have all present take some part. When this is desired select a number of facts, not more than one line each, but fresh and bright, and to the point. Write each one on a slip of paper, and distribute them. Call for them by number in quick succession, and you will find that it will brighten the meeting and fasten many facts in the mind. Call them "fifteen fixed facts," "twenty truths," "thirty thoughts," or "forty facts for thinking Christians," according to the number.

Every leader of a missionary meeting should feel that no meeting must be held without presenting direct and definite appeals of some kind. Never hold any meeting just for the sake of holding a meeting; but at every meeting seek, in some way, to impress on those present the great need for workers, for money, for prayer.

In making a programme the very first thing to do is to pray over it. Go to God as you would to some earthly friend, and plead His promise in James i. 5. He has promised wisdom to those who want it, and you may be sure of an answer. And, above all, do not get discouraged. If one plan fails, try another. Do not forget what glorious work it is, and that a divine Saviour stands ready to help.

Melinda Rankin, the pioneer missionary to Mexico, says this word, which should be treasured in every worker's heart: "The word 'discouragement' is not found in the dictionary of the kingdom of heaven. Never let yourself use the word if you have God's work to do."—*Sunday School Times.*

LEADING authorities say the only proper way to treat catarrh is to take a constitutional remedy like Hood's Sarsaparilla.