

it is the duty of every superintendent minister to enroll the children of his congregation in catechumen classes for religious instruction, with a view to their being publicly received into the membership of the church;

And, whereas the object of the Junior League is definitely stated to be to systematize the work of and assist the pastor and those appointed by him in the instruction and nurture of the catechumen classes, as provided in the Discipline, it is manifest that there should be in every congregation either a class of catechumens or a Junior Epworth League;

And, whereas the Toronto Conference has 534 preaching appointments, it appears, therefore, that if our circuits were organized for the care of the children, as provided by the Discipline, there would be at least a large majority of the congregations in which either catechumen classes or their equivalent in the Junior League would be organized.

According to the Minutes of Conference, there are only 56 circuits reporting catechumen classes, and 69 Junior Leagues are also recorded.

It appears, therefore, that there are only 125 places where there is like systematic work to hold the children in the church and train them for the church's activities is being done—

Therefore be it resolved, that this Epworth League of the Toronto Conference, in convention assembled, do hereby respectfully call the attention of all the ministers to the provisions of the Discipline regarding our children, and would respectfully urge upon them the supreme importance of making provision in every congregation for the salvation and spiritual culture of every child under their charge;

And whereas we have 225 Epworth Leagues in the Toronto conference, with only 69 Junior Leagues, it is manifest that there are 156 Epworth Leagues without the Junior Department;

And whereas we realize the absolute necessity of introducing constantly into the League new members from among our boys and girls, that our Leagues may retain their distinctive characteristic as young people's societies;

And whereas the Sunday School and Epworth League Institute, held in this city, April 1-3, 1908, pledged itself by formal resolution "to organize and instruct in every church catechumen classes among the Juniors of our schools and Leagues, and to introduce wherever advisable a Junior Department in the League for the purpose of bringing our boys and girls into active church membership,"

Be it therefore resolved that we respectfully urge on all our Epworth Leagues to organize a Junior Department.

The following resolutions were added by the Conference in regard to this department:

1. While we are in the most thorough and hearty accord with the training of our boys and girls in missions by the formation of Mission Bands, we cannot admit that the organization of a Mission Band in any of our congregations is sufficient to fulfill the obligation of the church to the children under its care.

While Mission Bands good, and should be encouraged, they provide for at best, only a part of the obligation of the church for its children.

We recommend that where there are Mission Bands, and the existence of a Band is held as justification for the absence of a Junior League, that a Junior League be organized so as to include the Mission Band as its Missionary Department. This would simply mean that all the boys and girls would be included in the Junior League, and that those who pay the necessary annual fee of 10 cents be the Mission Band in connection with the Women's Missionary Society,

and that the whole Junior League would meet three times a month, and the Mission Band, as the Missionary Department of the Junior League, would hold its regular monthly meeting as provided for in the Mission Band Constitution. It is also suggested that the pastor be requested to visit the Junior League at least once a month.

#### CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR DEPARTMENT.

It was recognized that the great foundation of success in this as well as in all other departments was committee work. A great weakness is the fact that committee meetings are not held, and it was urged that committee meetings be held in the homes where, by leading in prayer, timid members be encouraged to lead in prayer, and in other ways take part in the larger meetings.

#### LOOK-OUT WORK.

Various plans for look-out work were discussed.

The method of securing new members by competition between two parties in the League was explained.

The members of outside Leagues were

particularly asked that they follow their members when they remove to the cities, by letter to Leagues and pastors, and if uncertain as to whom to write, to communicate with Rev. S. T. Bartlett at the Central Office. The Look-Out Committee should watch for strangers in the church and divide the church district. It should look after the absentees and co-operate with the Sunday School Committee.

#### MISSIONARY DEPARTMENT.

The Missionary Committee, as well as any other committee, must map out a definite policy at the beginning of the year. A reasonable amount of work should be planned. Missionary Committees work is helpful if divided into the following departments or sub-committees:—

1. Financial,
2. Educational,
3. Programme,
4. Temperance and Moral Reform,
5. Visitation and Relief.

It was suggested that the Missionary Post-office plan be adopted as the best (Continued on page 152.)



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