

Impressions of the Laymen's Missionary Conference.

(BY PROFESSOR GEO. C. PIDGEON, D. D.)

As we go to press the meetings connected with the Laymen's Missionary Conference are being held. The Vancouver banquet has been a great success. The Conference held in the afternoon was both instructive and inspiring. The Church workers of this city and district have received a spiritual uplift and go back to their fields with new courage.

The delegates from the East are men of experience and power. Mr. H. K. Caskey, General Secretary for Canada of the movement, has splendid executive ability, and withal a most attractive personality. He has the vision of a true missionary and sees the subject in all its bearings. He is a pithy and forceful speaker and there is no escape from his arguments and appeals.

The Presbyterian Church has sent Revs. Robert Laird and R. M. Hamilton, the Methodist Church Revs. C. E. Manning and Dr. Endicott, and the Anglican Church Mr. D. M. Rose, the secretary of the Laymen's Movement in their Church. One noticed two features particularly in their work. They speak from experience; they have themselves tested and proven the methods they recommend. Next, they are anxious to hear of any new methods that have been tried out in each district. Their wealth of illustration drawn from observation and experience, enriches their addresses, and entitles them to speak with authority.

All concede that the addresses of Dr. Endicott are the inspiration of this campaign. Brilliant wit, keen insight, depth of pathos, and the vision of a statesman and a seer, make him an outstanding personality among missionary leaders. His address at the banquet was simply irresistible. To attempt an analysis of its power is out of the question. One must see and hear the man to realize his greatness. He is destined to play a great part in arousing the Church to a sense of her missionary obligations.

While Dr. Endicott is unquestionably the inspiration of the present movement, the other speakers organize the forces and direct the campaign. Mr. Hamilton's address on "The Every Member Canvas," was a revelation of the possibilities of careful organization and thorough work. The number of churches who have quadrupled their missionary givings and largely increased their ordinary revenue by simply offering each member personally the opportunity of contributing is striking. One large city church that thought it was doing wonders by giving \$6,000 a year to missions, now gives \$16,000 as a