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Missionary Convention.—The first International Convention under the direction of the Young People's Missionary Movement of the United States and Canada will be held at Pittsburg, Penn., March 10-12. Notable addresses will be given by the ablest speakers on missionary themes, and the exhibit will be a specially attractive feature.

Methodism and Education.—Sixty-four of the principal colleges and universities of the United States are under Methodist control, almost double the number credited to any other denomination. This is a fairly good answer to the statement sometimes ignorantly made, that Methodism is not so much interested in education as other churches.

Missionary Givings of the World.—The total contributions of the entire Christian church to foreign missionary work, as reported last year, were \$21,280,000. Of this amount \$8,980,000 was given by the churches of the United States and Canada. Almost exactly the same amount, \$8,973,000 was contributed by Great Britain. All other countries combined gave \$3,327,000.

No More Dispensations.—No more dispensations for the marriages of Roman Catholics to Protestants are to be granted in Canada, Archbishop Bruchesi has announced at Montreal, following the instructions of the Pope. We feel like thanking the Pope for this mandate. There can scarcely be any greater mistake than the marriage of Protestants and Roman Catholics. Such alliances are almost sure to result in trouble.

The Bible in Portugal.—The public sale of Protestant Bibles in Portugal no longer constitutes a "crime of disrespect to the state religion," the Lisbon Court of Appeal has decided. The judgment, the most notable ever: given in Portugal in favor of religious tolerance, was announced in the case of a British and Foreign Bible Society colporteur who had been charged at Elvas with selling Bibles, and so "acting in a way prejudicial to the religion of the state." The government *Gazette* congratulates the magistracy on repudiating the almost savage ill-treatment often accorded to colporteurs.

A Riddle Answered.—The *Christian Leader* tells of a liquor dealer in the town of Ayr, Scotland, who had a particular brand of whisky which he wished to advertise. One day the circus was coming to town, and to add interest to the performance and advertise his whisky, he offered a prize for the best answer to the question why this particular kind of

whisky resembled a certain bridge across the River Ayr. The successful competitor proved to be a poor boy, who, perhaps, knew from experience what he was speaking of, and his answer was, "The whisky is like the bridge because it leads to the poorhouse, the lunatic asylum, and the cemetery."

A Rose to the Living.—There is a gospel song, whose burden is that the world is dying for a little bit of love. Yes, and it is dying, too, for a little bit of generous and hearty appreciation. We have plenty of flowers for the dead, but hardly a bud or spray for the living. Nixon Waterman puts the truth clearly in his little verse, "A Rose to the Living":

"A rose to the living is more
Than sumptuous wreaths to the dead;
In filling love's infinite store,
A rose to the living is more,
If graciously given before
The hungering spirit has fled—
A rose to the living is more
Than sumptuous wreaths to the dead."

S. S. and E. L. Institute.—The officers of the Toronto Conference Epworth League began to get busy very shortly after their election. They are now arranging, in conference with the leaders of the Toronto Methodist Sunday School Association, to hold a joint Epworth League and Sunday School Institute for the purpose of studying some present day problems, and strengthening weak points. Our Sunday Schools and Young People's Societies ought to work together in promoting all forms of work among young people, and this the Institute will doubtless help in securing more fully.

Methodist Young People.—Bishop J. F. Berry contributes an interesting article on "The Methodism of To-day," to *The Christian Endeavor World*, in which he says: The young people's movement, the genesis of which was in the rise of Christian Endeavor, has been a real benediction to world-wide Methodism. Not all the branches of the Wesleyan family have adopted that particular form of organization, but all have felt the impulse of the movement. Thousands upon thousands of our young people have dedicated themselves to Christ, and are toiling with undiminished zeal for the establishment of His kingdom. That this young, buoyant, consecrated, aggressive army is to affect in marvellous ways the church of to-morrow is my unwavering belief."

Work for Laymen.—When President Roosevelt received the representatives of the Brotherhood of St. Andrew at the White House, he said to them:—"I want to say to my fellow laymen, that I

do not think that all of spiritual work should be left to the dominies and the women. I am sure there is not an American present who does not agree with me that he is not doing his full duty if he does not take some part in the active work of the church. I am not a member of the Anglican church. I am what you from England call the 'Chapel folk,' in fact, I belong to the Dutch Reformed Church: but I think we are laboring for the same Master, and with the same end in view, and I hope that the time is near when the different churches will come closer together, and be enabled to carry on their work to a much greater advantage by reason of their greater unity.

University of Humanity.—General Booth of the Salvation Army says that he wants five million dollars with which to found "A University of Humanity." He says that he does not intend to beg for it, but is looking for a man to come along, take him by the hand and say: "Look here, general, take me into partnership." General Booth states that he will take money from any source and cleanse it, if it needs cleansing, in the tears of widows and orphans. Speaking concerning his proposed "University of Humanity," General Booth said: "You have good institutions almost everywhere for educational purposes, such as these devoted to literature, science and art. The object of the institutions which I would see founded would be to instruct suitable persons in dealing with vices, sins and misfortunes of mankind. I would see them trained to combat the tendencies of the drunkard, the pauper and the criminal. Take, for instance, our anti-suicide bureau, established in London and recently in this city. Do you know that the number of persons who, through mistakes or misfortunes, throw away their lives is constantly on the increase? In the first five weeks after the establishment of our suicide bureau in London we had not less than five hundred persons apply to us, all would be suicides, men and women. A part of these, you would say, would be loafers. Well, perhaps they are. All men are loafers. I am one myself. But I should think at least one hundred of the number would represent genuine cases."

Forty Million.—The new year saw forty million persons living in prohibition territory in the United States, and it is predicted that the white flag of prohibition will soon wave over states where opposition to the temperance movement heretofore has been keen. Seventeen of the Governors of states have come out in open declaration against the saloon.