



"PAUL"

Our Epworth.... League Mission. and other Items for our Leagues and Sunday Schools.

The work at our Japanese outposts of Victoria, Nanaimo and Sapperton, will have a steadily increasing interest for our Leaguers, because this special department of missionary work is commencing to be looked upon as "Our Mission."

The real earnestness and devotion manifested by the Japanese young men in charge of these points has been the subject of favorable comment ever since the work began.

The desire and purpose to exemplify the spirit of Christ, which finds expression in continuous and self-sacrificing effort on behalf of the salvation of their countrymen, cannot but inspire the loving admiration of all, no matter what their views may be on the subject of race, differences and privileges.

The face of our enthusiastic little worker, generally known by his adopted name of "Paul," which adorns the corner of this article, naturally directs our attention to the special part of the work with which he has been associated.

About a year and a half ago the Japanese gathered in some numbers at Sapperton, finding employment in the mills which lie along the river about a mile or two above New Westminster.

"Paul" was employed as cook in Columbian College, and became much exercised on behalf of his countrymen. With the self-sacrificing spirit which is characteristic of a truly consecrated heart, he went down to Sapperton and hired a hall, paid the rent himself, provided seating accommodation and books, and started out to work up a congregation. It was not the easiest task, for, contrary to the opinion which prevails in some quarters, the Japanese are not tumbling over one another, to become Christians.

But the loving interest of our self-appointed missionary prevailed and he gathered a school.

When the toil of his day's work was over, he walked the mile and a half and opened school, acting as janitor and teacher, and paying all expenses out of his own meagre salary.

The work became established, and is being carried on with determination, though not with that vigor which would be possible were the funds not wanting.

These Japanese boys are not intrusive or self-assertive, and are disposed to display an almost unnecessary amount of reserve in regard to their own work and service for Christ.

We have been struck with the utter absence of a desire for self-glorification, and the becoming effort to bring glory to His name whom it is their delight to honor.

The Editor spent a pleasant few days interviewing the Leagues of New Westminster and Vancouver in the matter of more perfect organization for missionary work. We are glad to report a hearty response from every League visited.

Already the Missionary Department has been organized at Nanaimo, Wallace street; Centennial, Victoria; Homer street, Vancouver; Mt. Pleasant, Vancouver; Princess street, Vancouver; Vernon, Blunne and New Westminster Central, and arrangements are being made to perfect the organization in other points. Any league wishing assistance may correspond with Rev. W. H. Barradough, Victoria, Coast organizer; or Rev. S. J. Thompson, organizer for the Interior.

A Message to the Leagues from the General Secretary.



Rev. A. C. Crews.

To the Leagues of British Columbia:

Greetings.—The editor of The Recorder has been kind enough to ask me for a few words, addressed to the Young Peoples' Societies of our church in British Columbia. I accede to this request with the greatest pleasure.

It is gratifying to be able to inform you that the Epworth League was never in a more prosperous condition than at present. Its various departments are being more thoroughly and efficiently worked than ever before, and with the best

of results.

The Forward Evangelistic Movement has been enthusiastically taken up, and blessed results have already been realized. The missionary givings of our young people have increased from \$12,760 to \$16,955 during the past year, showing that the missionary spirit is stronger than ever.

Our Reading Course has reached high-water mark with its circulation of 2,500 sets. It is a reasonable estimate that each set has had at least four readers, so that fully 10,000 persons have been reached and blessed by these good books. This year's course, we think, maintains the high standard of former years. The examinations have been taken by a larger number than ever before, and the examiners express themselves as greatly pleased with the character of the papers.

You will be glad to know that the Young People of the Eastern Conference are taking the deepest interest in "The Twentieth Century Thanksgiving Fund." This is as it should be, as the League is part of the church, and it is the duty of its members to be concerned in everything that the church undertakes. Let every Epworth Leaguer in Canada resolve to have his or her name on The Historic Roll.

Our League paper, The Canadian Epworth Era, is meeting with great success. Although not yet a year old it has already a circulation of nearly 6,000.

In your Conference, there has been an increase during the past year of four Young Peoples' Societies and 250 members, which is cause for thankfulness, but I trust that much greater advance will be made this year. There are still many churches without a League, and the most earnest efforts should be put forth to organize a Young Peoples' Society wherever practicable.

Let us consecrate ourselves to the great work before us, as never before. There is much to be done right at our own door.

As a motto for the coming winter let me suggest this: "Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might."

Yours in the Master's work,

A. C. CREWS.

SABBATH OBSERVANCE.

The following resolution, passed at the last meeting of the General Board, should receive the careful consideration of all our Leagues:

"Inasmuch as the Christian Sabbath is assailed from many quarters in its character both as a day of rest and of worship, we urge upon our Leagues and other Young Peoples' Societies, and all the members thereof, the importance of guarding the Sabbath as the institution of God for human welfare, and as binding for its beneficent purposes upon the individual, the home, the church, and the nation. To this end we trust our young people, by example and mutual co-operation, will discountenance Sabbath desecration in every form; and that they will direct the influence of their societies in both public and private life against all plans and measures by which the money-loving and pleasure-seeking spirit of this age would dishonor the holy commandment of God, disregard his worship, and deprive the toiling millions of their rightful day of rest, and their opportunity, with their families, to share on the appointed day in the covenanted blessings of the house of God."