

the contest. Our beloved pastor, Rev. J. S. I. Wilson, then took the chair, and announced a short programme, part of which consisted of short speeches on such topics as, "What do you think of Local Option?" "What do you think of our literary evenings?" "Who is your favorite poet?" "Who is the hero of the town I live in?" and were ably handled by the young people who were called on, and who showed marked ability in delivering perhaps their maiden speech.

### A Floral Anniversary

Flower Sunday was a great day with the League at Neepawa, Man. The asters were in their glory. Some of us spent part of Saturday afternoon and evening in gathering and arranging in the front of the church. At the evening service a couple of Leaguers stood at the door and presented each other with a small bouquet. For the social, the basement was transformed by use of the class curtains, bunting and flowers. Small tables were arranged about the room, each with a vase of flowers, while flowers were also placed wherever they could add to the appearance.

Two guessing contests were arranged for the evening's entertainment. For one, we borrowed a number of photos of persons in the church, taken when they were much younger. These were fastened to sheets of stiff paper, and fastened along the wall on one side of the room. Much interest was taken in guessing the originals of the photos.

On the other side wall was a "Fine Art Display," or objects intended to suggest the high-sounding titles of pictures printed in the programme. Each object was fastened to a sheet of brown paper, with a border or frame of white to carry out the picture idea. The corresponding objects and names were to be guessed. Much fun and laughter was occasioned by some of the objects. For instance, when we looked for the picture, "The Ceaseless Grind of Labor," we found a set of false teeth; the "Pale Face at Home" was represented by a powder box; "The Origin of a Teardrop" was an onion.

After the papers were examined and prizes awarded, refreshments were served, and when the gathering broke up everyone felt that it had been a very pleasant time. E. M.

### The Open Door

The Walkerton Methodist Church publishes a very attractive New Year's booklet with the title, "The New Year and the Open Door." On the title page the leaf has been cut to represent an open door. On turning back one of these doors the following announcement is revealed:

A WARM WELCOME AWAITS YOU  
at the  
WALKERTON METHODIST CHURCH,  
Sunday, Dec. 31st.

The book contains eight pages, which are filled with practical suggestions concerning church work. We shall be glad to receive specimens of cards, books, etc., used in announcing church services.

The Epworth League at Markdale was in splendid shape for its winter's work, and prospects good, when their church was destroyed by fire, which involves a serious loss. The building cannot be replaced for less than \$15,000, and the insurance only amounts to \$6,000. The people have not lost hope, however, but will proceed to build.

### Just a Line or Two

The League at Clarksburg raised \$25 for the Chentu Hospital by an entertainment.

A new League has been organized in the Louise Bridge Methodist Church, Winnipeg.

A new League has been organized at Walkworth, with a membership of thirty and a prospect of increase.

Barton Street League, Hamilton, has an evangelistic band which holds services in adjoining churches.

The League at Hamiota, Man., reports that their meetings recently have been "varied, and very inspiring."

We want every League in Canada to send a copy of their invitation card to the Editor of this paper. It will pay you to do it.

Mr. Wesley Stewart, President of the Maryland Street Epworth League, Winnipeg, sends sixteen new subscribers to the Epworth Era.

Parliament Street Epworth League, Toronto, now publishes its monthly announcements on a postal card, which is sent to every member.

Lennoxville, Que., League has a Reading Circle of twenty members. The pastor writes: "This is one of the strongest features of our work."

The President of the E. L. of C. E. of Clarksburg reports: "We undertook to sell one hundred copies of 'On the Banks of the Besor,' and succeeded."

The St. Thomas District will hold its Summer School at Port Stanley, from Aug. 8 to 12. The district is now being campaigned by the district officers.

The Methodist Sunday-school at Simcoe publishes the neatest Christmas card we have seen. This church can give most other churches pointers on how to use printer's ink to good advantage.

The General Secretary of Sunday-schools and Epworth Leagues intends visiting the Western Conferences in the spring, and will go through to the Coast. He is now making out his plan of engagements.

From the Waterford Star we learn that very successful anniversary services were held by the Waterford League. Rev. F. W. Thompson, of Brantford, preached, and lectured on "A Trip Through Europe" to the delight of everybody.

The League of Euclid Ave. Church, Toronto, held a banquet on Thursday evening, December 28th, which was attended by 130, who sat down to a sumptuous feast. A fine programme of music was rendered, and an excellent address delivered by Mr. Thomas McGillicuddy on "Ideals."

The Bowmanville Epworth League recently held a mock trial, when a breach of promise case was ably conducted by amateur judge, lawyers, witnesses and jury-men. They had lots of fun, and the pastor, Rev. V. H. Emory, remarked at the close that nothing had been said or done that any one need consider out of place.

The Epworth League in Canada loses one of its best workers in the removal of Mr. W. R. Manning, Principal of the Model School at Walkerton, to Iowa, where he will occupy the responsible position of Sunday-school Teacher Training Secretary for the State. Mr. Manning has been a splendid district officer, first at Essex, and later at Walkerton. We congratulate the Iowa State Sunday-school Association on having secured so efficient a man as Mr. Manning, but we are sorry to see him go.

The Meaford Epworth League held a most successful anniversary, on Sunday, November 26th. Splendid sermons were preached morning and evening to a crowded assembly, by Rev. Henry Irvine, chairman of the Collingwood District. The church was tastefully decorated for the occasion, and "inspiring music" (to quote the speaker of the day) was furnished by the choir of the Epworth League. The League received half of the proceeds of the Sunday collections.

### A Service that was Not in Vain

BY H. S. MAJOR.

Last October we conducted a series of services in B—. Among the converts we remarked a young married man. Owing to illness in his home he was seldom in our services after he had made profession of faith in Christ. Two weeks later, in a morning service, he was received into the church, joined in the sacrament of the Lord's Supper, and publicly led in prayer. On the evening of the same Lord's Day he joined the Epworth League, addressed the society publicly, urging all to yield to Christ, and again led in prayer. While hunting, on the following Tuesday, with his father and brother-in-law, his own gun was accidentally discharged into his abdomen and lungs. He dropped to the ground, saying, "Father, meet me in heaven. Tell 'Metchy' (his wife) to be good. Jesus, take me," and he was gone into the presence of his Maker and of that Christ whom he had accepted and confessed so shortly before.

As I mingled my tears with those of kind friends who told me of the sad but triumphant circumstance, and that it had resulted almost immediately in the conversion of three of the most careless men of the community, I said, "Thank God! thank God! that service was not in vain."

### A Leader Lost—A Meeting Found

Occasionally the first vice-president finds himself without a leader for the Sunday evening devotional service. Sickness or duty or a "flunk" by the leader throws the meeting back upon him and he has no time to prepare. We have all been there, indeed we have! Here is how one chapter got past the rocks:

The leader came without an address but not without prayer, and after the opening he told how he first became interested in winning the whole world to Christ. That started the experiences. One had heard Bishop Hartwell just after his election, and had seen with him the world-wide field. Another had heard a returned missionary, and upon her childish mind INDIA had that day been written large, and she was soon to go to Poits Institute.

One had seen the vision through the open door of the mission-study class, and was doing, as everybody knew, splendid work in the missionary department of the League. One young woman told how she heard Dr. Ford quote the command of Christ to "Go." It was to her the voice of God and she meant to obey. Last of all the many witnesses, the pastor told how he had gone to the Silver Bay Conference, and had proved to his own satisfaction that the Lord was there, by the waters of Lake George, he had promised God that he would preach a world evangel.

It was a great meeting, for the spirit of Christ was in the experiences so simply told. The leaderless meeting was rescued and made a service of great spiritual power.—Epworth Herald.