

methods, etc. The afternoons are given up to recreation, and delegates are free to go boating, bathing, or fishing, as they may desire. In the evenings preaching services are held. It is certainly a very pleasant and profitable way to spend a few days.

The Bible study was conducted by Rev. W. A. Cooke, B.A., who took up the Epistle to the Ephesians. His work, which was well done, and gave great satisfaction, afforded an illustration of the fact that it is not absolutely necessary to get a college professor to take charge of a Bible study class. Almost any one of our ministers could do it, by giving a little special attention to the subject.

My work consisted of Round Table Conferences on League methods. A solid hour was given to this each morning, so that we were able to consider the work of the four departments. As a rule, at district conventions, scarcely more than half an hour can be obtained for this purpose. It was a great satisfaction to be able to go into the work so thoroughly. No feature of a League Convention or Institute is really more valuable than the Round Table, and it should always form part of the programme.

Perhaps the most interesting address of the week was given by Rev. Dr. Morrison, of the "All People's Mission" Winnipeg, who spoke of the work he is carrying on among the foreigners. He told us of the great need there is for books and leaflets printed in the language of the people who attend the Mission. Although he made no special appeal beyond merely stating the case, the sum of \$75 was contributed before he had finished speaking, and one gentleman who was not at the meeting at all subscribed \$5.00 on being told about it. This shows how ready people are to give to a cause which really enlists their sympathy.

The young folks enjoyed the afternoons on the lake immensely, but with the exception of a few hours fishing and bathing in company with Rev. Mr. Hull, and an evening drive with Rev. S. Wilkinson, my afternoons were given up to hard work. During the week I prepared the Sunday-school Rally Day programme, also the programme for Young People's Day on October 12th, and attended to numberless matters of detail, besides writing several articles for this paper. Whoever supposes that the General Secretary enjoys one continual holiday is welcome to change places with him for a month.

The services in Killarney on Sunday were largely attended, in the evening the church being crowded. Walking down the street on Monday morning I received a rather unique compliment from an Englishman, who said: "That was a fine sermon you preached last night. It was the best that I have heard since I have been in the country." There was food for comfort in this, and I should have left well enough alone, but unfortunately I asked him, "How long have you been in the country?" "Just two weeks," was the reply. Further questioning would probably have revealed that he had not attended church at all on the other Sunday that had been spent in the Province.

The next point touched was Napinka. Owing to unavoidable circumstances the attendance was small here.

A GOOD COLLECTION

was the remarkable feature of the service. By actual count, there were 35 persons present, including several children. The collection amounted to exactly \$3.50, an average of ten cents for each man, woman, and child. In what other part of Canada could a similar average be reached? The people of Manitoba do certainly see the collection plate when it passes, and contribute liberally. It is no uncommon thing to see a dollar bill as a part of the loose collection, and ten cent pieces are numerous. One might travel in Manitoba for months and never see a copper.

At Hamiota I had two days' services, one devoted to the Epworth League, and the second to the Sunday-school. Unusual interest was manifested in both departments. Even at the afternoon session there were nearly one hundred Leaguers, who took quite an active part in a Round Table Conference, on methods of work. The Sunday-school gathering was a representative one, of several denominations, from South Shovel Lake County. They appeared to be an unusually intelligent and devoted band of work-

Having a small camera with me, I managed to get a snapshot or two of the pow-wow, but they had to be taken very cautiously, as the Indians would have scattered in a moment if they had seen a photographic instrument pointed at them. During the day a snap was taken of the chief, but he discovered the mischief too late to remedy it. The old rascal wanted me to pay him \$1.00 for the privilege of taking his picture.

It can easily be understood that a day of this kind was a very interesting introduction to an Epworth League meeting, and to make matters worse there was a football match in the evening a short distance from the church. The cheers of the spectators came through the open windows, and some of the young folks cast wistful eyes toward the scene of contest. On this account we made the meeting short, and closed at nine o'clock to allow the people to see the fire-works.

At Minnedosa similar conditions prevailed. It was the day of the annual fair, and the whole town was upset. Through some misunderstanding, my coming had not been announced, and there was no public meeting. It happened, however, to be the night of a regular Epworth League meeting. Notwithstanding the counter-attraction of a lacrosse match at the same hour, in which the whole town was interested, there were a few present, and a very profitable meeting held. The President took up the topic of the evening, and gave a very helpful talk.

Sunday was spent at Arden and Gladstone. The morning service was at Arden, then six miles to Winchester in the afternoon, and fifteen miles on to Gladstone for the evening service. This sort of a programme makes rather a heavy day, but it supplies a feature which I always enjoy, namely:

A DRIVE OVER THE PRAIRIE

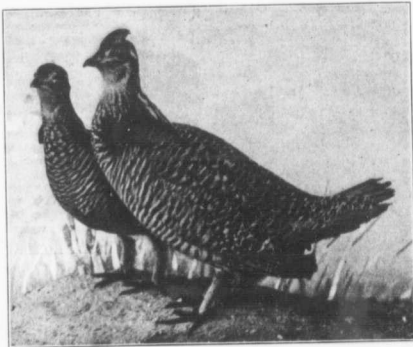
which is interesting largely on account of the number and variety of the living creatures which are to be seen. One is surprised at the beauty of the birds. A preacher told me that in a drive of six miles he has counted more than forty different kinds of birds.

You are driving along quietly when—whirr! there goes a prairie chicken, followed by half a dozen others. The prairie hen, a very odd picture of which is here given, is almost exactly like the prairie chicken, only larger. It is otherwise known as the pinnated grouse. In the autumn these chickens and hens are shot by the thousands, but the country is full of them, and there does not seem to be any diminution in the supply.

What is that little creature running along on the trail, ahead of the horse? Look quickly, for in a moment it will probably have vanished into its hole. It has very much the appearance of a red squirrel, but it is really a gopher. The farmers have no great love for the gopher, for it is very destructive to the growing grain, and in the autumn eats the wheat. Perhaps some one asks, what difference does it make, the small amount of grain that such a little chap as this consumes? There would be something in this if there was only one of him, but when the family numbers millions then the case is different. In the spring the farmers soak wheats in strychnine, and put it at the mouths of the gophers' holes, and in this way many of the pests are destroyed.

One habit of the gopher is rather interesting. In the fall, he gathers quite a quantity of grain, and stores it up in his hole, and when the cold weather comes curls up in his snug quarters. He takes a rather long nap, and does not wake up until the early spring, when he finds that the stores which he laid in supply him to the until the crops begin again to grow.

Yonder is a prairie wolf. He is looking at us as if he never saw a human



THE PRAIRIE HEN.

(Pinnated Grouse.)

ers, who seemed intensely anxious to make themselves more effective as teachers.

AN INDIAN POW-WOW.

At Rapid City there was a general holiday, and during the afternoon almost the entire population went out to the fair grounds to enjoy a programme of sports. The feature of principal interest was the presence of a large band of Indians, who had come in from various reserves. There were 110 of their tents pitched just outside of the town, making a most picturesque village. In the afternoon they made an enclosure by drawing up about a dozen wagons, arranged in a circle, and stretching a canvas around them. Inside of this extemporized show grounds they held a pow-wow. About fifty Indians took part in it, and they were dressed in the most brilliant costumes they could obtain, and most of them were painted in more or less attractive style. Almost every man was literally covered with bells. The old lady "with rings on her fingers and bells on her toes" wasn't a circumstance to these warriors, who had bells all over them. The performance consisted simply of dancing around a circle, jingling the bells, and whooping.