

expect their co-operation and assistance in preparing recitations, music, etc., for these same small children, ask them to suggest some new plan of work that they think would be practicable and enjoyable. While they discuss they will become interested, then for that time at least you may consider that you have won them. But it is the boys who will need your special thought, study and prayer. For their sakes you will require to be widely familiar with missionary literature. Cultivate in them the desire to read such books by giving them bits out of the lives of the missionaries. Then have them in turn write and read or narrate to the Band selections from what they have read.

Never require anything of them that they will consider lowering to their dignity, but rather show them from your expectations and requirements of them, how high is your ideal for them. If they love you they will not willingly fall below your ideal.

Do not try to do all the work yourself. Associate as many as possible in it with you. Have in training those who shall take the lead in your absence. Moody says, "It is better to set ten men to work than to do the work of ten men."

Let me invite you to accompany me to our Band as I think you will enjoy even one of our ordinary sessions. We meet at seven-thirty for the accommodation of those who are studying or at work. As we enter we hear the buzz of lively, not boisterous conversation, and we see from twenty-five to forty bright young people, whose happy faces and eager manner tell us they are expecting to spend a pleasant hour. The President, who is this term a modest young maiden of fourteen summers, is at her table with hymn sheets, bell and collection plates before her. The chairs have been properly arranged and everything is in readiness.

The moment the hand of the clock points to the half-hour the bell is gently tapped, and the officers, the Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer take their places, while the Superintendent sits at another table near enough to be able quietly to prompt the President if occasion requires. Then the ushers come forward and distribute the hymn sheets, retaining a few too hand to late comers as they are shown to their seats.

The organist is at the instrument, ready to start the instant the hymn is announced. And oh, such singing! you find yourself carried away with it, and even if the strain is unfamiliar, you are forced to join in with those happy young voices. After the singing, the Band remains standing, and together repeat a familiar portion of scripture, with motions where this is admissible.

Then follows the roll call, each member responding to his own name by chosen missionary name. Proposals for membership are then in order, no member being received except on motion of the band. The minutes of previous meeting are read and adopted on motion.

The President then reads out a number of questions, the answers being Bible rules for giving, which have been distributed and memorized, one by each member, who stands while repeating the text.

The reports of Look-out committee on absent members and Program committee are next received and any other items of business are attended to.

A pleasing feature of the opening exercises is the taking

of the collection. The Band rise, mark time with their feet, and led by the officers march around the room singing "Hear the Pennies Dropping" to the tune of "March Along Together" in "The Old Sunday School Organ."

The Treasurer's report is then called for and if the sum exceeds fifty cents we have a good round of applause. The Secretary announces the number present.

Finally the President announces that we are ready for the missionary exercises. Singing is a great feature of our Band. The Superintendent has gathered from various quarters, a number of the very choicest mission hymns, these he has printed on the Neostyle and the boys and girls are thoroughly drilled in them.

Sometimes we have a blackboard drill, on the names of the missionaries and their stations, sometimes a map exercise, selections are read or recited by various members. And so the hour has flown all too quickly, the ushers are requested to gather the hymn sheets, and with a word of prayer the Band is dismissed.

Any number of hints and plans might be suggested, but it is not so much my object to furnish these, as to try and stimulate my fellow-workers to renewed activity and consecration. From the organizations of Circles and Bands, it is universally conceded that mission work has received a new impetus, and shall we now go back on our record and suffer this work to flag.

Very soon the responsibility of Christ's work will be laid on the same boys and girls, whose character it is now our privilege to mould and train. Much might be said about the reflex influence of the work on their own lives, of the broadening and expanding effect on the mind that comes from the knowledge of the lives and thoughts of men in other countries and different ages. Some day it will be given you with joy to see that the work you took up so hesitatingly and tremblingly, has resulted in the gathering of many into his garner.

There, do not be overwhelmed at the responsibility. Remember who has said, "Certainly I will be with you." We are strong when our weakness is linked to His might. Above all be much in prayer. It were vain to try to do the Lord's work without his help. With a heart full of love to him and an earnest desire for the advancement of his cause you cannot fail.

If you cannot accomplish all you would like, be content to do what you can—and

"Do it so bravely, so kindly, so well,
Angels will hasten the story to tell."

MRS. ASHMEAD'S BUREAU DRAWER.

(Continued from last month)

"You are neat, dear, I had said many times, but you are not orderly, and you must learn to be more tidy, or you'll never make a good housekeeper."

"I looked at the drawer. I had never seen it in such confusion before, and I sighed in discouragement as I said:

"Ida, you are getting more careless every day. Instead of improving, you are going back, when, when will you learn to do things well?"