

BISHOP JOYCE has carefully watched the deaconess movement for many years, and he says: "Deaconesses have gained the confidence of level-headed, sensible business men."

MISS HARRIET FRANK, deaconess among the Italians in New York, has learned the language of her people, reads and prays in their homes, and holds services with the women and children. She finds little prejudice, but great ignorance.

A VISITING deaconess once guardedly broached the subject of being a Christian to a poor mother, who was doing her best to keep in the one little room half a dozen children in subjection, and was electrified by the response: "Be a Christian! Look at them twins!"

DEACONESSSES are of many kinds. They are visitors, nurses, both in and out of hospitals, teachers of the Bible in our training schools, singers, editors and writers, stenographers and clerks, kindergarten and kitchengartners, speakers, hospital superintendents, physicians, housekeepers, cooks, etc., etc. Anything that any Christian woman can do may be done by a deaconess. Nothing is too high for her—nothing is too humble.

In his famous address before the British Wesleyan Conference Bishop Fowler mentioned the Deaconess Society as follows: "This is the woman's exchange, where the brain and heart and muscle of the unemployed are coined into the circulating medium of heaven. Let me emphasize the brain, for these deaconesses are nearly all educated. They are not waiting girls. It has 659 deaconesses and owns \$657,775 worth of property."

BISHOP THORNTON says: "A deaconess is not merely a woman who renders lowly service to lowly people; not, for instance, one who only nurses the sick and visits the poor. She is, or may be, a nurse and a visitor, but she is also much more. She is not an ascetic in any sense of the word. She is simply a Christian woman providentially released from other cares and duties who gives herself unreservedly to the Church of Jesus Christ to do any work or fill any position to which she may be found adapted."

ONE day a deaconess took three little girls ranging from eight to ten years of age, from different well-to-do families, on a round of calls with her. They went laden with books, dolls, bits of ribbon, etc., which they distributed among poor children to whom they sang Christmas songs. When they returned home they felt that many hearts had been cheered; but best of all was the reflex action upon themselves. Slowly they had begun to learn the truth of the words of Jesus: "It is more blessed to give than to receive."

Christian Endeavor News.

THE Christian Endeavor Tenth Legion now numbers over 15,000.

SKAGWAY, ALASKA, has a union Junior Endeavor society, besides a splendid Young People's society.

PRESIDENT CLARK announces that over 16,000 have joined the Christian Endeavor Comrades of the Quiet Home.

THE Christian Endeavor conferences at Northfield were a success in every way, and Mr. Moody has announced that they will be a regular feature of the closing weeks of future Northfield conferences.

"I WOULD rather have that than a gold mine," said a missionary from the Black Hills, when two Milwaukee Endeavorers gave him the wall-pledge that hung in their room at home, to carry back to his struggling Endeavorers at Deadwood.

Provincial Sunday School Convention.

THE Annual Convention of the Ontario Sunday School Association at Galt, October 24th to 26th, was a great success. About five hundred delegates registered their names, and it was generally voted one of the best conventions held for some years.

ONE cannot fail to be impressed by the character of the delegates who attend this gathering. They comprise the very best people of the churches; men and women of far more than average intelligence, and among them are doctors, lawyers, merchants, and preachers. A cause that can enlist the co-operation of such elements must succeed.

THE visitors from the United States were Mr. B. F. Jacobs, Mr. Marion Lawrence, and Miss Cote Brown, who made interesting and inspiring addresses. Mr. B. F. Jacobs is one of the most enthusiastic Sunday School workers on the continent, and he is thoroughly at home on a Sunday School platform.

MR. MARION LAWRENCE gave a very fine address on "The Big Boy Problem," in which he made many excellent suggestions on how to get hold of the boys. One of his best points was expressed in the words "make them feel that you want them."

THE sessions were held in the spacious and beautiful Central Presbyterian Church of which Rev. Dr. Dixon is pastor. At the evening services the crowd was so great that it was necessary to hold overflow meetings in Knox Church, which is only one block away.

SOME of the denominational publishing houses had displays of their papers and periodicals which were examined by many of the delegates. The Presbyterian Church especially had a fine assortment of their new publications which were much admired. An enterprising Yankee firm sent over a large supply of sample papers, etc., but the executive committee did not allow them to be displayed, believing that Canadians are well able to meet their own needs.

THE Treasurer's report, which was read by Mr. R. J. Score, showed receipts of \$3,465.66, and expenditures of \$3,402.37, leaving a balance on hand of \$63.29.

THE Presidency of the Association is usually passed round among the denominations. This year it went to the Methodists, and Dr. Harrison, of Keene, was elected.

MR. R. J. SCORE proposed a resolution wishing Godspeed to the Canadians going to the TRANSVAL. He was seconded by Rev. Mr. Frizzell. The motion was received with great enthusiasm and passed unanimously, and then everyone rose and joined in singing God Save the Queen. The text of the resolution was, "The Sabbath School Association of Ontario now in session wishes Godspeed to our brave Canadian soldiers en route for South Africa, Psalm 124: 8, 'Our help is in the name of the Lord, who made heaven and earth.'"

Literary Lines.

THE reduction in the price of *Harper's Magazine* to twenty-five cents a copy is a notable step in answer to the call for cheaper magazines.

THE latest English dictionaries contain not less than 260,000 different words. Next in rank comes the German languages with 80,000 words; and then come in succession the Italian, with 35,000; the French, with 30,000; and the Spanish, with 20,000 words.

"BRINGING UP BOYS" is the title of a little book by Kate Upson Clark, published by Thos. Y. Crowell & Co., New York. Price 50 cents. It deals with such topics as "The Boys' Manners," "Keeping Boys Busy," "Shall The Boy Smoke?" "Games

and Athletics," "The Boys' Evenings," "The Boys' Library," etc. The book is on such an important subject and contains so many good things that we shall take occasion to refer to it at more length in a future issue.

THE November number of the *Ladies' Home Journal* is a very attractive issue. Ian MacLaren writes an interesting article on "The Mutineer in the Church," in which he deals with the people who are always ready to make trouble in the church and stir up strife. Rev. C. M. Sheldon, author of "In His Steps," has a contribution on, "Is Christianity Practicable in Worldly Affairs?"

THE YOUTH'S COMPANION still maintains its popularity as a young people's paper. It is arranging for a number of unusually interesting features for the year 1900. Among the writers already specially engaged are soldiers and sailors, travellers and trappers, singers, musicians, scholars, statesmen, and gifted writers of short and serial stories. Early in the year John Philip Sousa will contribute an article on, "My Experiences as a Bandmaster."

S. R. CROCKETT's new story, "Kit Kennedy," is as good as anything that the talented author has yet produced. It is full of quiet Scotch humor, with some pathetic touches that are very beautiful. The pictures of Scotch peasant life and the studies of character are exceedingly interesting. Kit Kennedy is a lively country boy, who has a hard time at first but, eventually makes his way to success and triumphs over adverse circumstances.

MESSRS. T. Y. CROWELL & Co., of New York, have published a number of little books in the "What is Worth While Series," which comprises some very choice literature. Most of the volumes are on devotional topics, or bear in some way on character building, and are specially suited to young people. The low price of 35 cents per volume brings them within the reach of all. We have had the privilege of examining three of them: "The Programme of Christianity," and "The City without a Church," by Drummond; and "The Charm of Jesus," by Gustav Zart. They are delightful books which will abundantly repay reading. We especially commend "The Charm of Jesus" to those who desire to become better acquainted with the Master.

Temperance Items.

THE *Cornerstone* says: "A Government that quarantines smallpox and at the same time licenses saloons, has a loose screw about it somewhere."

THE SALOON.—It never builds up manhood, but tears it down. It never beautifies the home, but often wrecks it. It never creates ambition and thrift, but invites laziness, profligacy, poverty, idleness and crime. It never strengthens the judgment, but weakens it. It never increases respectability, but disorients men and women of it. It never prevents quarrels, but kindles the flames of controversies, cherishes feuds and incites murders.

THE recent publication of the London Asylums' Committee's Annual Report shows an actual increase in lunacy in the asylums governed over and controlled by the County Council of seven hundred, as compared with last year. In one large asylum the medical superintendent states that out of nine hundred and fifty-eight inmates received, two hundred and seventeen of these admissions were due to "intemperance in drink." One-fourth of the insanity, then, is attributed to a vice which is, so to speak, self-inflicted. These statistics also compare well with those issued by the lunacy commissioners, and on taking an average for the last five years, drink as a cause averages 20.9 per cent. of the admissions.