

meets at Lake Geneva, Wisconsin, June 16-25; and the Northfield, at Northfield, Mass., June 30-July 9. These gatherings were attended last year by over 800 representatives from more than 250 institutions of higher learning from every section of the United States and Canada. Their purpose is to deepen the spiritual life of those who attend, to train them for leadership in organized Christian work among their fellow-students and to open up the possibilities of Christian service which await them after graduation. The circular and all necessary information in reference to the Northfield Conference may be obtained by writing to D. A. Davy, 3 West Twenty-ninth Street, New York City; and for similar information in reference to the Lake Geneva Conference write to C. C. Mitchener, 705 Association Building, Chicago.

—The meetings to be held in Philadelphia, May 24 and 25, in celebration of the seventy-fifth anniversary of "Diamond Jubilee" of the American Sunday School Union, will doubtless be of great interest. There will be addresses by a number of men eminent in Sunday School and other Christian work. Among the names of the speakers we observe those of D. L. Moody, Newell Dwight Hillis, Russell H. Conwell, Henry Clay Trumbull and Theodore L. Cuyler. Mr. H. H. McGranahan, with the assistance of the Philadelphia Choral Union and other singers, will have charge of the music. The Committee of Arrangements are Clarkson Clothier, chairman, Philadelphia; John N. Beach and Robert T. B. Easton, New York; Wm. H. Wanamaker, Wm. C. Stoeber, C. H. Cara and J. M. Andrews, Secretary of the Committee, Philadelphia. E. B. Stevenson, assistant to chairman, Cedar Rapids, Iowa. Persons wishing to make inquiries concerning this anniversary may address any member of the committee at 1122 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia.

—It seemed impossible that in any civilized community there could occur more dreadful things than some of those which, during the past few years, have been recorded in connection with negro lynchings in the Southern States. But the deeds which have taken place in the State of Georgia during the past week exhibit a madness of savagery which one might hope was without parallel even in the most savage communities. These deeds are too terrible even to relate. If the principal victim of these inhuman cruelties was guilty of the crimes charged against him, he richly deserved death. But one diabolical crime does not justify, and is not atoned for, by another still more diabolical. If the negro is sometimes a good deal of a brute, he will not be made less but much more a brute by this kind of treatment, and the people of the South who are thus surrendering to the domination of revengeful and blood-thirsty passions are not only winning a name of infamy for themselves all over the world, but they are laying up for themselves wrath against a day of wrath, which may come more swiftly than they think.

From Halifax.

The B. Y. P. U. of the city and county of Halifax held a union meeting at the Tabernacle on Friday, the 21st. It was well attended and deeply interesting. Rev. W. E. Hall conducted the devotional exercises; Mr. Freeman, of the West End church, presided; Miss Norton read the report. A most interesting address on the matter of pledges was given by the Rev. W. E. Bates. The criticisms, adverse to the pledge taken by the members of the B. Y. P. U., were examined one by one in Mr. Bates' happy style. The principle of pledge-taking was justified. Rev. G. A. Lawson followed with another address carefully prepared. Rev. A. C. Chute, B. D., answered all the questions handed in for solution. The interest in these societies is well sustained, especially in view of the low state of the spirituality in the churches generally. A resolution passed by the meeting at the Tabernacle expressed the regret that the Rev. G. A. Lawson is about to leave the city, and also the high appreciation of what he has done in the city and county, especially for the Young Peoples' Unions and Sunday Schools. A committee was appointed to frame a suitable expression of these sentiments. Mr. Lawson will be due at Isaac's Harbor for the second Sunday in May. He has been in Halifax about four years and has endeared himself to his own church and is highly esteemed by all the churches. He is an industrious, judicious builder. When he came to the West End church the average attendance at the Sabbath School was about forty. Now there is between eighty and ninety. The morning congregation about twenty and in the evening about forty. Now the attend-

—There have forty additions to the church twenty of which have been by baptism. There will be five more unite with the church before Mr. Lawson leaves—one of them by baptism. The church begins to feel that a new church building is a necessity. Here is a chance for the coming pastor to do a work that will tell powerfully on the interests of the church and be a monument to him. There is a distinguished old church builder, not in the pastorate just now. He must be pining to get his hands at this work again, especially when no body sees where the money can be raised. If the church could harness him up he might be greatly gratified.

Rev. W. E. Hall is engaged to assist Rev. J. M. Parker in a series of meetings at Shulee.

The educational work of the Presbyterians of the Maritime Provinces is centered in Halifax. They have Dalhousie College, the Ladies College and their Theological College at Pine Hill, a beautiful locality overlooking the Northwest Arm. They are giving a good account of themselves.

Dalhousie's closing exercises as usual were held in Music Hall. A preacher is reported to have said that when the millennium comes choirs will behave like other people. These hopes were indulged in respect to Dalhousie students, or some of them rather, at convocations. But these hopes have been happily disappointed. Last year they did their worst. This year they were only reasonably cheerful, but very respectful. This has come to pass and the millennium has not yet dawned. Good. The B. A.'s numbered thirty-seven, eight of whom were young ladies. Six received the degree of Master of Arts, one the degree of Master of Letters, and one the degree of B. S. Medals and certificates of honor were distributed as usual. Twenty-three received the degree of Bachelor of Laws. M. D. was conferred upon eleven, one of whom was a young woman and she led the class.

The Theological College held its convocation in the assembly room in the new Library Building on the 26th. J. C. Dumaresq was the architect and Rhodes, Curry & Company were the builders. All speak in the highest terms of the form and workmanship of this fine building. It is of stone and brick and cost about \$18,000. Shelves are made for 30,000 volumes. The attendance this year was 48 students. Eleven graduated. All B. A.'s of Dalhousie also. One goes to the Klondike. They are well prepared for their life work. Not long before the close of the College year one of the young men, a Mr. Noble from Mirimichi, died suddenly of appendicitis. He was highly spoken of by the faculty.

The past year has not been one of marked advance in the city churches of any denomination. An indifference, gravitating towards stolidity, has fallen upon the disciples as a whole. It is keenly felt by some at least, and the hope is that it will soon pass away. Nature is reviving, but religion's winter is extending into nature's spring-time. The North Church ought to be excepted. Some life too has been felt at Dartmouth also and at the West End. Extra services have been held by Brother Fash. Over thirty have been added to the membership, a part of them by baptism.

The County Missionary, Rev. P. G. McGregor, has been spending the last months in the eastern part of the county, where for a time there has been no minister of the gospel of any denomination.

The ministers in the county outside of the city report that the storms of the winter have greatly interfered with their public meetings. Otherwise they have been encouraged.

The Book Room's new departure has been commenced. G. A. McDonald, the superintendent of the work from its beginning, is now authorized and directed to make collections for the work, so as to make it more efficient and enlarge the volume of trade. All interested in this great work, so important to the Baptists, are invited to correspond with Mr. McDonald and remit to him donations for this good cause.

REPORTER.

Flood-tides Past and Present.

"There is a tide in the affairs of man Which taken at the flood leads on to fortune."

The tide of Canadian empire sets westward. The devil rides on the crest of the wave fully equipped with all his appliances for empire building. The church of Christ should in this case take passage with His Majesty. It is impossible to be ahead of him. We must not be behind him. In this new and rapidly developing country the economic way is to strongly occupy the ground. Scanty investments are often of necessity largely thrown away. To stop the channel of a Fundy estuary the dyke-builders do not dump a few cart loads of earth for the rising tide to bear away. Almost as futile is it to take feeble possession of a growing settlement or town in this country. Again, the church like the world finds that to occupy the ground early is to possess cheaply and to reap full benefits from following development. To be late in the field is to pay top price and get small profits. If Baptist history in the west serves no other useful purpose it will at least furnish examples of this principle. We have many struggling churches in as many flourishing communities, because in these places we were late (and invariably last) on the field and because even then resources did not permit the

work to be pushed with the required concentration of effort.

Brethren you intend some day to help occupy this land for Christ. Come in on the flood-tide. Don't plan to dribble your gifts over a score of years. Double your gifts now, and in ten years time if you want to stop we will find someone to take your place. Many a field, strongly attacked at the right time, may be possessed in a few years. Delay the attack and it will take twice as long to develop a self-supporting church. This in many cases accounts for the weakness of our churches in towns where other churches are strong. We were a little too late and in other congregations and churches will be found many families who, had there been a Baptist church in their new home, would have attached themselves to it. The policy of the other denominations has been to send their missionaries where they saw the people going. We have waited to see the community established, and usually to see a band of Baptists holding out exploring hands before we have sent the missionary. Coming in late we not only lose many who would have been adherents and would have become members, but we are regarded as intruders and have to overcome the prejudices connected with that fact.

But the mistakes of the past should arouse us to meet the opportunities of the present. We shall have abundant opportunity to prove our penitence. The next ten years will doubtless see more new ground occupied by settlers than has been in the past twenty-five years.

Northern Manitoba is being rapidly opened. A few years will see the whole Saskatchewan valley from Lake Winnipeg to the Rockies dotted with settlements and villages. This belt of country lies from two to three hundred miles north of the C. P. R., and is at present only tapped in two places by railroads, namely, at Prince Albert and Edmonton. But it cannot be long before the whole valley is opened by railroads. Shall we be there with the pioneers to pre-empt the land for Christ and his truth? or neglecting the flood-tide of opportunity must our voyage again be bound in "shallows and in miseries," taxing every effort to avoid shipwreck, when we might be sailing the deep seas of denominational prosperity.

NOTES.

A recent report of Presbyterian missions in the West shows that the Presbyterian Board is spending \$4500 this year in the Edmonton Presbytery. The Baptist Board spends in the same district about \$400. We may not be able to duplicate their figures but the discrepancy should not be so striking.

We praise God for the coming National Baptist Convention at Winnipeg, when the Baptists of Canada "will review the entire work from a national standpoint." We blush for shame at the too well founded implication that hitherto Canadian Baptists have been narrowly provincial in their outlook. Come to Winnipeg next September and get a bird's eye view of your heritage.

We venture to predict that the editor will almost regret having voiced the regret of the East at the departure of the Moncton pastor to the Pacific coast, when he has had a closer look at the larger opportunities of the future Montreal of the west. We say this with all respect and sympathy for Moncton. Brethren, let not such separations mean broken ties. Let them rather make "ties that bind." East to West and West to East. Mellick, McDonald, Vincent, Stackhouse, Saunders, Hinson, men of proved worth whom you have given the West. We trust the ties have in each case lengthened and not broken, and have become mediums of sympathy, occasions of prayer and means of stirring up that gift that is in thy pocket.

Evangelists D. G. McDonald and W. Pugsley have been greatly blessed in their labors during the past year. Many souls have been won, weak churches have been made strong and insignificant mission stations have become strong centres. Let the good work go on. Help it along.

We want a college, we need all the blessed influences, such as have radiated from Horton and Woodstock in days past. We must have the help of student missionaries in occupying this vast land. So we must keep our students with us in a college of our own. It is announced that sufficient financial support is guaranteed to warrant a beginning. In the early days Acadia received help from England and the States. Who will help to pass along that gift to this new "child of providence."

The Calgary church, (if I mistake not, the first organized in Alberta) after years of weary working and waiting is being mightily blessed. Pastor Litch is happily wedded to this church. C. B. F.

Edmonton, April 19th.

Stephen Crane has written a remarkable short story entitled, "God Rest Ye, Merry Gentlemen," for The Saturday Evening Post, of Philadelphia.

In it the Managing Editor of the New York Eclipse starts off his war correspondent, "Little Nell," with the cablegram. "Take tug. Go find Cervera's fleet."

"Little Nell" starts out on the Johnson, "a harbor tug with no architectural intention of parading the high seas," wondering how, if he finds the cruiser, he is going "to lose them again."

His remarkable experiences on the Johnson and at Santiago, where "he takes his mackintosh and invades Cuba," and learns that "the emphatic time of history is not the emphatic time of the common man, who, throughout the changing of nations, feels an itch on his shin, a pain in his head, hunger, thirst," . . . are told in the Post of May 5.

The American Monthly Review of Reviews of May devotes considerable space to a survey of recent developments in American cities. The editor comments on the re-election of Mayor Carter Harrison in Chicago, on Mayor Jones' remarkable triumph in Toledo, on the Detroit project for municipal ownership of the street railways, and on the general situation in Boston, San Francisco, Minneapolis, Cleveland, Denver, St. Louis, Philadelphia, Pittsburg, and New York. Dr. Shaw also contributes a special study of the new San Francisco charter—a remarkable document in its way, and Mr. George E. Hooker gives some interesting facts about Mayor Quincy's administration of Boston.