

chosen words to the young people. The twenty or more missionaries delighted in the audience by singing of two hymns in Chinese. Prior to the larger meeting Mr. Beaton led a practical conference on missions, under the heads—Plans, Meetings, Study, Prayer.

Wednesday evening was devoted to literary and social work. Mr. R. Shaw, B.A., conducted a helpful conference, advocating the working of the Literary Department more on educational lines than many Leagues had yet attempted. The later session was addressed by Rev. John Locke and Rev. A. P. Brace.

At nine o'clock a social half-hour was spent and refreshments served.

On Thursday evening Mr. F. N. Stapleford led a splendid conference pertaining to the work of the Citizenship Department, after which Revs. S. Wesley Dean and Dr. T. Albert Moore delivered stirring addresses regarding the social problems, in which Leaguers might lend a hand towards moral reform. Controller J. O. McCarthy made an able chairman.

The Friday evening session was set apart for the Junior Department, Rev. W. A. McTaggart in the chair. A delightful and helpful time was spent. Rev. A. F. McKenzie conducted a round table conference. His Junior League choir from the Fred Victor Church demonstrated what could be done for and with the girls and boys. Our General Secretary, Rev. S. T. Bartlett, gave a practical address concerning work among Juniors and Intermediates, and urged the organization of societies in every church.

The officers of the union are to be congratulated on the success of their well-planned efforts, and we hope that in many of our large centres similar Epworth League Institutes will be held for the study of methods and plans that may do even better work among our young people.

The Kind Word

Kind words count. Speak them often. Allow no one to speak disrespectfully of the minister in your presence. Give the faithful man a lift with your kind tongue. Talk him up in the Church, in the home, in society, in the street, and everywhere. He will take courage, will preach better sermons, and will put increased enthusiasm into all his multiplied duties. He will win all along the line and you will have the joy of knowing that your bracing words proved a real tonic, and helped him to conquests he never would have achieved while struggling alone. Mr. Spurgeon once told of a faithful old servant who one day gave his master notice. "What John, are you going to leave me?" said the master. "Yes, sir," said John. "I am going to leave." "But John," replied the master, "don't pay you enough wages?" "Yes, sir, the money you give me is all right." "Then why leave me?" "Well," answered John, "I have made up my mind to go." "But, John, you have been all around the world with me." "Yes, I have sir, and you never once said, 'Well done, John.'" Ministers, as well as servants and wives, need the inspiration of a kind word, not flattery, but a word of honest appreciation. Flowers on the coffin lid cast no fragrance on the hard and stony road which has been traversed, and the eulogy's blandest note falls silent on the ear of the departed. A kind word will push fresh heart into the fainting warrior, and he wins triumph which will fill all heaven with joy.—*The Presbyterian*.

SHOW THIS PAPER TO YOUR FRIENDS.

Book Shelf

All books mentioned here can be procured from the Methodist Book and Publishing House, Toronto.

Talks to Little Folks. By J. C. Carille. Published by Jas Clarke & Co., London. Price 35 cents.

We find here some 40 addresses on various themes, but all suitable to children. They have been given directly to little folk, and afford many suggestions to all who wish to speak interestingly and profitably to a company of little ones.

Five Missionary Minutes. By George H. Thomas. Bears the imprint of our own Missionary Society, and should be ordered from F. C. Stephenson, Methodist Mission Rooms, Toronto.

This little volume contains 52 short talks on various Missionary themes, each intended, as the title suggests, for a brief address in the Sunday School. May be used either by the teacher in the class or by the Superintendent from the platform. Full of valuable matter for all.

The Joy of the Lord. By J. R. Miller, D.D. Published by Thomas Y. Crowell Company, New York. Price 50 cents net.

This is one of the most helpful little books from the pen of its well known author. No writer on devotional themes has a wider or more appreciative constituency than Dr. Miller, and this book with its message of gladness and good cheer will be welcome to thousands who will read it with much spiritual profit. A delightful gift for a friend.

The Man With the Pitcher, and his story. Published by Thomas Y. Crowell Company, New York. Price 50 cents net.

This story may be ordered without question as one of the most charming parables of our Lord's life. It is presumably told by the "man bearing a pitcher of water," the guide to the disciples who were sent to prepare the Passover for Jesus. His description of what he had seen of the Master is a beautiful presentation in narrative form of what will be of perennial interest as long as humanity exists.

Spiritual Surgery. By Oliver Huckel, S.T.D. Published by Thomas Y. Crowell, New York. Price 35 cents net. This book contains some most informing addresses in which the author bases his remarks on the analogies between the processes of modern surgery and those going on in the moral and spiritual world. Every young person should read the chapter on "The antiseptic life." This alone will prove stimulating to increased efforts for the prevention of moral disease. A fine book for the League Library.

Faith Modesty. By Dr. E. B. Lowry. Published by Forbes & Co., Chicago. Price 50 cents.

Much wholesome advice is contained in the eight chapters of this book, on matters of vital consequence to our youth. As the title suggests, much reticence exists on the part of older persons, especially parents, in reference to the problems of sex, and for the intelligent training of the young in knowledge of their physical being and the prevention of habits that work physical disaster, this author properly pleads.

The First Church's Christmas Bazaar. By Caroline A. Stanley. Published by Thomas Y. Crowell, New York. Price 50 cents.

If your League or Missionary Auxiliary is in need of one of the most entertaining Missionary stories, get this book and read it in your meeting. It will make you laugh, perhaps cry, certainly argue, but you will close it very likely with the conviction that you have been

more or less guilty yourselves and it is to be hoped with the resolution that you will never do it again. Try it and see.

The Minister as Shepherd. By Rev. C. E. Jefferson, D.D. Published by Thomas Y. Crowell Company, New York. Price \$1 net.

This volume comprises five lectures delivered by the well known preacher-author at the Bangor Theological Seminary in 1912. They are excellent throughout, and as purposed are of especial value to young preachers. If you have a young preacher for your list for Christmas presents, give him this book. He should be able to better minister for reading its inspiring pages.

Mormonism the Islam of North America. By Bruce Kinney, D.D. Published by H. R. Howell Co., New York. Price 50 cents.

This volume is No. 9 in the International Home Study Mission Course, and is well worth the time spent on its careful perusal by every student of Modern Missions. There are some startling things contained in its 189 pages. The history of Mormonism, its inner purpose and meaning, its political and other intrigues, are all graphically depicted. A live book on a very important subject vitally affecting the world to-day.

David Livingstone. By C. Silvester Horne, M.P. Published by the Macmillan Company, Toronto. Over 200 pages illustrated. Price 35 cents.

The story of this devoted missionary, ever of perennial interest, loses none of its fascination in the telling by the talented author of this valuable little book. During the coming winter, especially, the record of David Livingstone will be receiving more than ordinary attention and study, and as far as relates to the young folk this book ranks in the front line and will doubtless be very widely studied. Give it to your boy or girl.

Tarbell's Teachers' Guide to the International Sunday School Lessons for 1913. Published by Wm. Briggs. Price \$1 net.

All teachers in the Sunday School, who are themselves students, need the best "helps" procurable. This annual volume is always eagerly looked for, and none will be disappointed with the appearance of the new one. It contains the introduction in its itself a valuable part of the whole, and should not be overlooked. It contains matter that should be known by all our teachers and without a knowledge of which no person can do best teaching work. From 8 to 10 pages are devoted to each Sunday lesson, and these are of highest excellence. You will need this book for an intelligent handling of the Old Testament lessons during next year. Get it soon.

Soap Bubbles That Will Last Some Time. No one has yet been able to make a soap bubble that will not burst, but by using an emulsion of glycerine for some time. Its length of life will depend largely upon the mixture used in blowing it and the care we take in protecting it from draughts.

Put into a pint bottle two ounces of best white Castile soap, and fill the bottle with cold water which has been first boiled and then left to cool. Shake well together and strain. The mixture is clear. Decant now of this clear solution two parts, and add one part of glycerine. We add the glycerine to make the film more gorgeous by bringing about a greater play of colors. Bear in mind that a carefully prepared mixture will save you much disappointment.

The solution now being at hand, we use the ordinary clay pipe in blowing. Always use new pipe for one in which tobacco has been smoked is objectionable. With a little practice, bubbles of beautiful size and color may be produced. The blowing of soap bubbles may be made more than a pastime. To the great newsmen supplied many valuable observations on the effect of light on thin films.