

The Doctor considered the movement phenomenal in its growth. The confidence of the young people in the counsel and guidance of the General Board of Missions, and their loyalty to its interest, are deeply appreciated, while, on the other hand, the Board places every confidence in the young people. This mutual trust has had much to do with this remarkable movement, which not only enlisted the sympathy of the young people, but had among its most earnest workers many white-headed boys, numbers of whom he was glad to see present.

Perhaps one of the most profitable features of the session was the question box, by Dr. Sutherland. For more than an hour pointed written questions continued to be handed in to the Doctor, which he answered and discussed much to the gratification and satisfaction of the large audience of leaders in Epworth League missionary work.

Twenty-five out of the thirty questions asked had been answered by Dr. Sutherland and Epworth Era. Two of the five not dealt with in the above papers referred to the work of societies other than that of our Church.

The other three are as follows: "Would you divide Home and Foreign Funds?" Dr. Sutherland said that this question had been discussed by all the Annual Conferences and by the last General Conference, with the result that all these bodies came to the conclusion that it would be unwise and detrimental to the work to separate the Home from the Foreign Missionary funds. "Is the business of the Mission Rooms managed on the principle of strict economy?" Dr. Sutherland answered yes, and gave comparisons with other societies, and quoting the statements of others who had made careful and extensive inquiry and comparison, which resulted in proving that our society was at that time (and it is under the same management still) carried on at a lower per cent. of cost than any other large society in the United States or Europe. "How does the salary of a home missionary compare with that of a foreign missionary?" Actually the foreign missionaries receive more money. But the Doctor said he would rather have the home missionary's salary, because it would purchase more conveniences, comforts, and necessities. He spoke at some length on this question, showing that while the home missionary received only a little over \$500, his horse and horse-keeping per year, this sum wisely spent would supply more to the family than \$800 in the Indian work, far away from supplies, or in West China, or \$1000 would supply in Japan.

#### THE TEMPERANCE QUESTION

was discussed during the forenoon session of Thursday.

A paper on "The Temperance Outlook," prepared by Mr. Ernest Coombes, of Newmarket, was read by Rev. S. L. Harton. The author thought that great strides have been made towards temperance reform during recent years.

The study of physiology and scientific temperance were strongly recommended. "Save the youth, and in a few years when toppers have tottered to their graves we will have the world."

The speaker believed in making prohibition a distinct issue. As long as revenue and commerce are the chief planks in political platforms we need not expect that temperance will receive much consideration. Politicians say that the question of revenue is the first to be settled when a prohibition vote is taken. The confederation of the provinces of this Dominion would never have been accomplished had not revenue been abandoned for the time, and a coalition been formed for the completion of the one great object. We must make temperance reform the great issue of the next election. Can we not, for once, break away from party and vote for principle? Can we not send to Ottawa a party of legislators

strong enough to carry a temperance act? If we are not in a majority let us make a few more converts and then try again.

In the discussion that followed, Rev. E. S. Rowe made some practical remarks. He thought that the liquor traffic was doomed. When judged from the economic standpoint it could not be tolerated. If, however, we expect prohibition in the near future, we must send men to the legislature who will support it.

#### THE JUNIOR LEAGUE.

Miss Effie Wilcox gave an excellent paper on "The Junior League." The following are some selected sentences from the paper: "We learn from history and observation that the men whose lives have shone out with the greatest beauty have been those who began early to think about, to study after, and to work for, God."

"A young, clean heart, free from the impress of bad habits, will be more capable of receiving the Christ spirit to dwell therein."

"No one wishing to go from Toronto to Hamilton would first go to Kingston to get ready. Neither is it necessary for the child to go into the far country of sin and come back by the way of conversion, but teach them that Christ can save the youth from sin and keep him pure."

It is important that the Juniors be taught the evils of alcohol and tobacco, and the benefits of total abstinence therefrom."

Mr. G. A. C. Phillips gave an enthusiastic address on Junior work. He told about attending the Brampton convention two years ago when he had no interest in Junior work, but his attention was called to the subject by an address from Rev. Mr. Fish, who had also through private conversation greatly inspired him. In starting a Junior society, he felt that they had been providentially guided in the selection of officers, etc. He showed the convention the topic cards, badges, Bible reading cards, look-out books, etc., that are in use in his League. The members are preparing ship's bags, which are filled with good literature, and sent to the sailors' mission; scrap books are made and sent to the Sick Children's Hospital. He believed not only in teaching children to pray, but also to do something of a practical kind. Mercy and help work had been carried on by his League, about \$40 having been raised and expended by the Juniors themselves on behalf of the poor. They also expected to raise \$100 a year for missions.

On Sunday afternoon, after Sunday School, about thirty of the members are in the habit of going out to visit the aged and the sick, to sing and pray with them. He believed that this was the grandest work that they had ever engaged in. It had brought great blessings to the poor, the sick, and the unfortunate. Mr. Phillips' talk was listened to with unusual attention.

In the discussion Rev. C. O. Johnston told of a "Boy's Club," which had been organized in Queen Street Church. His testimony was that the organization, which is not distinctly religious, had been the means of interesting the boys, taking them off the streets, and helping them to be gentlemen. Rev. T. E. E. Shore emphasized the importance of enlisting the boys and girls in direct Christian work. He thought that there was a possibility of going too far with the mere entertainment idea.

The afternoon session of Thursday was given to the Social and Literary Department. Miss Green, of Orangeville, read a paper on

#### "SOCIAL TO SAVE."

She said that friendliness is a great power. A church that looks after strangers and welcomes them will have much more influence than one that pays little or no attention to newcomers, except to collect their pew-rent.

Religion makes people happy as well as

pure, and there is room for the exercise of the social instinct in seeking to save men.

Mr. T. S. Keough thought that many social committees made a mistake in supposing that their work was done when they had prepared a monthly social entertainment. That is only a part of their duty. The members of the Social Committee should make it their business to develop a social atmosphere in every meeting.

Rev. William Burns was glad that the young people were doing so much to shorten the faces of Christian people, and brighten their lives.

A delegate suggested that it would be a good thing if Leagues would visit each other more frequently.

Miss C. Wallace read a thoughtful paper on

#### THE LITERARY PROGRAMME.

She said that there was not so much danger of overestimating the importance of literary culture as there was of neglecting it altogether. The Christian Endeavor Department will gain in efficiency by the success of the Literary Department. The empty head is very closely related to the empty heart, and empty hand. If the average young man should be judged by the size of his library, we would have to look at him with nagging glances.

In the discussion which followed, Dr. Watson spoke on the importance of promoting the education of young people after they have left school. Even a small number of people can derive very great profit from associating themselves together to carry on a course of reading.

Rev. L. W. Hill suggested that very much could be accomplished by improving the spare moments that come to most of us.

#### WHAT THE LEAGUES ARE DOING.

The Round Table Conference, conducted by the General Secretary, was full of practical suggestions coming from the delegates. The following were mentioned as some of the "good things" that the societies are doing:

One League raised \$125 to help pay off the debt on their church.

Another League invited a Deaconess to address them, and gave her a large quantity of provisions to distribute among the poor.

A country society reported a gracious revival, and a large number of young people brought to Christ.

Four Leagues on one circuit arranged for a number of "Historical Evenings," when the history of the local church was studied.

One League has adopted a new plan for the Roll Call. The members are expected to respond to their names by giving a thought from one of the sermons preached during the month.

Another is trying to get every active member to take some part in the meetings, and with gratifying success.

#### THE RESOLUTIONS

passed by the Convention referred to the war in South Africa and expressed sentiments of loyalty to Great Britain, and sympathy with the homes that have been bereaved.

They also called attention to the objectionable posters on the bill-boards of the city, and urged the authorities to prohibit them.

Satisfaction was expressed at the success of the Canadian Epworth Era, and the Leagues were urged to push its circulation.

#### THE CLOSING SESSION.

The devotional exercises were conducted by Rev. E. R. Young, B.A., after which the new President, Mr. G. H. Wood, was introduced to the audience and took the chair.

The first speaker was Rev. J. G. Shearer, the new General Secretary of the Lord's Day Alliance, who expressed his gratification at appearing upon a Methodist platform. He said that the first invitation he had received