

their hearts and completely captivated those of their friends who were fortunate enough to meet her.

Besides, not every one in this new, bustling, Western town could boast so sweet and lovable a grandmother, and before long Grandma Holden found herself, to her innocent surprise, the centre of attraction at various quiet, select and quaint little teas and receptions given in her honor.

All her social, hospitable instincts so long lain dormant, were aroused, and it is to be doubted if ever before in her quiet, uneventful life, she had been so complete a social success.

What of the home she had left?

At first the children, felt a guilty, unconfessed sensation of relief, for now they would not have to be quiet while grandma took her afternoon nap.

Then one day Bob cut his finger and rushed in to his mother to have it tied up. She, busy as usual, began hurriedly:

"Oh, I'm busy. Run into—" and then she stopped suddenly as she remembered. Grandma's sitting room was empty, and Bob discovered that he had lost a sympathetic friend.

As the days passed and childish troubles had to be attended to personally and childish stockings had to be darned, Mrs. Holden found that she had lost a helper, whose aid had been rendered so quietly and unobtrusively that she had never realized how great it was.

Mr. Holden could not bear to enter the silent, empty room, for somehow he could not help thinking of the time, not so far distant, perhaps, when it would be silent and empty of the familiar presence forever, because its gentle inmate had gone on the long journey from which she would never return.

He thought how pleasant it would be if they could all gather in the evening around the open fire in grandma's room and spend the after-supper hours in cozy, social chat.

He wondered, half-remorsefully, why they had not made a practice of this, instead of doing it only at very irregular intervals. And how pleased she had seemed when they did it.

Letters came from grandma and John, filled with the story of the delightful times they were having—letters which, as they read, made them grow half-jealous of these people who had taken her from them and appropriated her so completely.

They felt resentful, too, of the fact that she seemed so happy and contented away from them, and they planned counter-attractions for her when she should come back.

They began to wonder if she would come back, as the weeks passed and she still stayed. Their hearts filled with the fear that perhaps they might not regain the treasure they had just learned to fully appreciate.

Then a letter came that turned fear to joy, for it said she was coming home. Yes, "home"—for in spite of the kindness and all the attention paid her, the Western country was a strange land, and home-sickness seized upon her at last. She grew quiet and pensive, in spite of all her efforts to be bright and cheerful.

John suspected the cause and questioned her gently, and she confessed that her heart was longing for the old home where her life had been spent.

Regretfully they gave her up and John took her home. Such a home-coming! John had no fears in leaving her alone now.

And, as the days passed filled with loving ministry to her every need, Grandma Holden wondered how she ever came to imagine herself lonely or dull in her little sitting room, which she was now sure was the brightest and cheeriest room in the house.—The *Presbyterian*.

Pussy's Big Playmate.

The superintendent of the Central Park menagerie at New York, the other day found in the rhinoceros cage his large black cat, Snyder, which had been missing for a week. While going through the elephant house, in which Smiles, the old rhinoceros, is kept, Superintendent Smith saw the missing cat coiled up in the hay beside the big beast. The rhinoceros was licking the cat's paw with its tongue. Superintendent Smith watched the pair for a time, and tried to coax the cat out; but it would not leave Smiles. A keeper informed him that the two had struck up a strong friendship in the past week; and, when the rhinoceros was asleep, the cat would frequently perch itself on Smiles' back and keep watch.

"In its native state," explained Superintendent Smith, "a bird known to hunters as the rhinoceros-bird keeps watch over the rhinoceros when sleeping, and pecks at its ears to arouse it at the approach of danger. Nature perhaps, is working on the same lines in bringing Smiles and Snyder together; but it's a queer friendship, and I shall not disturb it."—Alliance.

A lady desired Dr. Johnson to give his opinion of a work she had just written, adding that, if it would not do, she begged him to tell her, for she had other irons in the fire, and, in case of it not being likely to succeed, she could bring out something else. "Then," said the doctor, after turning over a few leaves, "I advise you, madam, to put it where your irons are."—E.

The Young People

EDITORS, J. D. FREEMAN, G. R. WHITE. KINDLY ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS FOR THIS DEPARTMENT TO REV. G. R. WHITE, FAIRVILLE, ST. JOHN.

Prayer Meeting Topic—September 11.

B. Y. P. U. Topic.—A temperance meeting. Isaiah 5: 11-24.

Daily Bible Readings.

Monday, September 12.—Isaiah 32. A new king to reign, (vs. 1). Compare Zech. 9: 9. Tuesday, September 13.—Isaiah 33. The true stability in troublous times, (vs. 6). Compare Ps. 56: 4. Wednesday, September 14.—Isaiah 34. The cause of the desert waste, (vs. 8). Compare Isa. 63: 4. Thursday, September 15.—Isaiah 35. Rejoicings in the desert. Compare Isa. 32: 14, 15. Friday, September 16.—Isaiah 36. A challenge to faith, (vs. 18). Compare Acts 4: 13. Saturday, September 17. Isaiah 37: 1-20. The prayer of faith, (vs. 20). Compare Dan. 9: 18.

Notes on the Seventh Annual Convention of the Maritime Young Peoples' Union, held at Amherst, Aug. 18-22.

The first session was held Thursday evening, Aug. 18th, President A. E. Wall in the chair. After the opening exercises a cordial welcome to delegates and visitors was extended by Mr. Martin, President of the Amherst B. Y. P. U. President Wall made a fitting reply in which he referred to the splendid record of the Amherst Union, in connection with the C. C. work. The excellent addresses of Rev. J. B. Morgan and Dr. Chivers, which followed were reported at some length in the MESSENGER AND VISITOR of Aug. 24th.

FRIDAY MORNING.

Dr. Chivers again addressed the Young People, subject "Our Christian Culture studies." The importance of these studies was clearly set forth. That these courses are being taken hold of and appreciated is shown by the fact that over 14,000 examination papers have been sent in this year. In some sections it would seem that the Sacred Literature Course was the only one pursued. A plea was made for the Bible Reader's and Missionary Conquest Courses. The Sacred Literature Course for the coming year, is to embrace a series of lessons on fundamental Christian doctrines.

FRIDAY EVENING.

On Friday evening the fine auditorium of the church was again thrown open to the young people. A duet at the opening of the service by Messrs. McLean and Lawson was much appreciated. The programme for the evening consisted of three strong addresses: "Our Baptist Young People and Education" by Rev. Mr. Hatch of Wolfville; "Our Baptist Young People and the Evangelization of our own Country" by Rev. J. A. Gordon of St. John; "Our Baptist Young People and the Temperance Problem" by Rev. W. B. Hinson of Moncton.

EARLY MORNING MEETINGS.

Of these there were four; two of them Worker's Conferences on "Our Christian Culture Studies" and "Junior Union Work" respectively, and the other two consisting of A Young Peoples' Model Prayer Meeting, under the leadership of Mr. A. E. Wall and "A Young Peoples' Model Thanksgiving service" with Rev. David Price as leader. These early services were well attended and proved very stimulating and helpful. Special mention should be made of the Conference on Junior Work under the leadership of Rev. G. R. White, when the following carefully prepared papers were presented: "The Importance of Junior work," Rev. G. R. White; "Junior Unions as a means in Junior Work," Miss Whitman; "How to organize a Junior Union," Miss West; "Some ways of conducting Junior Unions," Miss Thompson.

An address by Rev. H. F. Adams on the "Young Peoples' prayer meeting," was full of suggestion and a very entertaining "Blackboard Talk" illustrating work that could be carried on with Juniors was given by Rev. J. B. Morgan.

Officers elected for ensuing year: President, Judge Emmerson; 1st Vice Pres., Rev. H. Carter, Murray River; 2nd Vice Pres., C. L. Martin, Amherst; Sec'y Treas., Rev. G. A. Lawson, Halifax; Assistant Sec'y, H. C. Henderson, Fredericton; Auditor, C. H. Perry, Sussex. Transportation leaders, Rev. J. B. Morgan, N. S., I. J. Yeo, P. E. I., Arthur Porter, N. B.—Associational Secretaries, P. E. I., R. H. Jenkins, Charlottetown; N. B. Eastern, Chas. Bulmer, Salisbury; N. B. Western, F. W. Porter, Fredericton; N. B. Southern, Fred A. Dykeman, St. John; N. S. Eastern, G. H. Lawrence, Acadia Mines; N. S. Western, Rev. G. W. Schurman, Bear River; N. S. Central, H. G. Harris, Kentville.—Junior Sup't, Miss Ethel Thompson, Sackville.

The business sessions unfortunately had to be held at odd intervals, with the result that many matters had to be disposed of hastily. Among the items of business transacted were the following.

1. Concerning the B. Y. P. U. column in the MESSENGER AND VISITOR, Bros. Corey, White and Steeves were appointed a committee to confer with the managers of the MESSENGER AND VISITOR with reference to the B. Y. P. U. column, with the result that the Board of the Maritime Publishing Company offered to take charge of this column with the understanding that all original matter that the B. Y. P. U. should deem necessary be supplied through any arrangement its executive might make, all other matter for the column to be sent direct to the editor of the MESSENGER AND VISITOR. This proposal was accepted and Rev. J. B. Morgan was appointed supervisor of the column on behalf of the B. Y. P. U.

2. Reports.—Reports of the Executive Committee, the Treasurer Rev. H. G. Estabrook, the Ass't Sec'y Rev. G. A. Lawson, and one on Junior work, by the retiring Junior Sup't. Miss Jessie West, were read and on motion adopted, the first mentioned after some alterations. The report of the Treasurer showed the receipts for the year to be \$178.55, and the expenditure \$176.13, leaving a balance of \$2.28, with some four societies yet to report on receipts taken at the rallies addressed by Dr. Chivers.

3. Recommendations.—On motion it was resolved that each Young Peoples' Society be requested to contribute to the funds of the Maritime Union an annual sum equal to three cents per member.

4. Votes of thanks.—A vote of thanks was extended to Rev. H. G. Estabrook for his faithful labors as Sec'y-Treas. for the past two years. A vote of thanks was also tendered to the Baptist people of Amherst for their splendid hospitality.

H. C. HENDERSON, Assistant Sec'y.

Immanuel B. Y. P. U., Truro, N. S.

The interest in the B. Y. P. U. meetings has been very marked during the summer months. We regretted having to accept at the first of the season the resignation of our esteemed president, Miss Jessie C. Smith, who resigned on account of ill-health. But the work has been successfully carried on by her successor, J. A. Lawrence. We are looking forward in the near future to the re-opening of our "Literary Society," that was so successfully and profitably carried on last winter under the leadership of our pastor, H. F. Waring, by which we come in touch with the lives and works of the leading authors of the day.

August 29.

The Liquor Problem.

The report of the U. S. Commissioners of Labor, on the "Economic Aspects of the Liquor Problem," although the statistics are not as full or as clear as one would like them to be, contains much that will be carefully studied by those who are always on the alert for any idea that promises to lessen the terrible evils of alcohol. The Bureau of Labor sent out a circular letter to 30,414 employers of labor, embracing almost all branches of industry, asking for information as to whether men addicted to the use of intoxicants were employed as readily as non-drinkers, whether there was more drinking among those who worked at night, etc., and asking for suggestions as to the best way to lessen the consumption of intoxicants by wage-earners. Replies were received from 7,025, representing 1,745,923 employes. 5,363 of the replies stated that preference was given to non-drinkers, and gave various methods adopted to ascertain the habits of applicants for employment. Eight large employers of labor, all in the transportation line, required bonds for the sobriety as well as for the honesty of all their employes. In a number of establishments no man who drinks at all is employed, some saying the rule had been found necessary to "guard against accidents," and others that it was made necessary by the "responsibility of positions." According to answers from 1,659 employers of men engaged in night work, the popular impression that there is more drinking among night-workers, is erroneous. The number who stated in their replies what means they had taken to learn the use of intoxicants among their employes was comparatively small, and the number, reporting result of these efforts was still smaller. 1103 expressed the belief that prohibition was the best remedy; 769 that a refusal to employ drinking men was the best remedy; 445 the imposing of a high license, and 180 that the education of the young was the best and surest way to put a permanent end to intemperance.