

# WHAT THE POSTMAN BROUGHT

## CANADIAN EPWORTH ERA



Sydenham Street, Kingston, League is buying a piano, and the president says they "hope to do a good winter's work in all the committees." Good! Have as many committees as you need for your work, and work all the committees you have.

In Perth, the League President of last year reports that he "found a personal letter to the irregular members and the young people of the Church helped the attendance." It is the personal touch that means for most every life. General appeals may be appropriated; a personal word or letter must be.

At Little Britain League life is flourishing, and they write: "We are encouraged in some ways, especially in the Citizenship Department." They find that "leaving each meeting in the hands of the vice-presidents in succession is a good way to keep up interest and secure variety." A progressive working League!

Here's optimism for you. It is contained in a communication from Seaford. "Never lose sight of Jesus. Live for others. Never give up. Victory is sure. God is on our side." That has the ring of conquest in it, and surely will encourage some of the Faithfuls to do more valiantly for the Divine Leader.

The Thornbury League is hoping for increased life and power from special meetings there during the current month. We hope to hear of hundreds of accessions to our active membership roll this winter as the fruitage of widespread revivals on our circuits. Let us all pray, and work for God, with this end in view, "Our young friends for Christ!"

From Epsom comes another encouraging note: "We are working each Department of the League, and find all very interesting and helpful. . . . We do not need more entertaining meetings, but want to realize that every Epworth Leaguer is a soul-winner." Let no active member be content without leading at least one soul into fuller fellowship with Christ during this winter.

At the Trenton (Westley) Junior League, on the first night of each month, the sexes are divided. The pastor, Rev. W. P. Rogers, takes charge of the boys, and Miss Collins conducts a sewing class among the girls. This is a splendid arrangement, admits variety, brings the pastor into living contact with his boys regularly, and emphasizes what is often lacking,—the industrial element.

The Hartington League is helping in the laudable enterprise of raising money for the repairing of their Church. No League should be wholly dependent on the Trustee Board; but should in some way or other assist in the finances of the local Church. At Freeton the League pays the sexton's salary of \$50 a year, thus directly contributing to the running expenses of the whole establishment, of which the League is a part. Leaguers, do your duty in this regard.

We are glad to hear good reports from the Roseville Mission Band, "the Banner Mission Band of the Montreal Conference." They claim to be "a very wide-awake Band," and in that surely set a good example to many older societies. Keep awake, girls and boys, for if you let "the sandman" get into your eyes he will put you to sleep sure. We would like to hear from more of our Mission Bands everywhere.

The Juniors of Cameron, Ont., have been studying Christianity lately, and held a very successful Rally a few weeks ago. The Superintendent wisely remarks: "I find it pays to keep the boys and girls busy." Of course it does, and their big brothers and sisters, too. There is no hindrance or injury so great as that produced by idleness, whether the idler be big or little, old or young, male or female. So, to work, everybody!

Here is a cheery note. Why cannot your League write one similar or even better. It refers to the Sandford League. "Our League recently added fourteen new members. . . . We think that is pretty good for a country place. We raised thirty-five dollars for missions last year, but mean to come above that this year, and do not see why we cannot, with earnest work and prayer." Excellent record, splendid purpose, right spirit, correct method,—all are here. "Go and do thou likewise."

Thank you, Kinsale, for your short but expressive testimony, "We find the ERA just grand." I would like to print more new music as you suggest, but really the call for that splendid new Epworth League hymn, as printed in the June paper, and offered at a cent a copy on single sheets, was so very meagre, I am not encouraged to try the experiment very often. It seems that the majority of our Leaguers are satisfied with old time-honored hymns, and do not appreciate a good thing when they have it offered to them for practically nothing.

The Richmond Hill League inaugurated the present season with a banquet,



YOUNG LADIES' RACE, WELLINGTON SUMMER SCHOOL, 1911.

Rev. A. H. Foster, Judge.

for which an attractive menu card and fine toast list was issued. The toasts were "King and Country," "The Trustee Board," "The Ladies," "The Press," "The Churches," "The Council," "The Ratepayers' Association," "The Fraternal Societies," "Village Organizations," and "Educational Institutions,"—a comprehensive list surely, and all perfectly proper and well within the purpose and scope of up-to-date Epworth League work. Let those who think that an Epworth League has no business studying anything but the Bible and missions, or having any other than prayer meetings, wake up to the larger pressing need of doing something practical to realize high Christian ideals in the control of all local municipal concerns, and in whatever pertains to good government generally.

Our Sackville, N.B., League finds that debates are a good thing to arouse interest. They are having one every two months, and the young people are greatly benefited thereby. Perhaps there is no method better calculated to develop the art of expression than this. The debate, if the subject be well chosen, intelligently prepared, and presented with enthusiasm, will greatly assist a young person in public speech—skill in which we surely need to cultivate to-day. The League should aim at raising speakers, and may succeed if it goes the right way about it. Tell us of some of your debates.

The Montreal Juniors met in their annual Thanksgiving Day Rally in the lecture room of St. James Church. Not only did they greatly enjoy the programme in what they received; but especially so in what they gave, for we read that "a most generous collection of useful articles had been gathered together for distribution by mission workers among the needy ones of the city." This is education of the right kind. It trains in practical Christian philanthropy and gives the girls and boys the right view of life, not so much in getting as in giving. By all means cultivate this spirit in your Juniors, and during these winter months there will surely not be lacking abundant opportunity.

Prospects are good in the League work on the Vancouver Districts. The energetic President, Mr. W. C. Findlay says, "As a District we expect to make this the biggest and most fruitful year in the history of the East and West Vancouver Districts." That they are on the right road to realize their aim is evident from another important sentence referring to the District officers, "Every person is pledged to do their best work in the interests of the District." When District officers personally take up their duties with a serious purpose, and then collectively plan for diligent and faithful work, there is little doubt of prosperity being realized. We need officers who have been selected, as Mr. Findlay says, "with the utmost care," and who after their appointments "do their best work."

The Epworth League at Kingsville was "At Home" to their friends on Halloween. A pleasing programme was provided. The second page of the printed announcement and invitation is particularly attractive and business-like. It contains the following set up in display type in excellent form: "A Thousand Welcomes. Our Object: To seek the advancement of Christ's Kingdom among the young people of our Church and congregation, and the spiritual, social and mental improvement of the members of our League. We need you. You can help us. And we can help you. Speak to others about coming."

Let us never fail to keep the supreme purpose of our organization to the front, even in our social gatherings. These may well be made a means of grace to all.