

"He told me to do my best to find a leader, and if I failed, to let him know on Sunday morning in church—you know he sits directly behind us—and he would be responsible. All my efforts were fruitless, so on Sunday I went to church prepared to cast the whole burden on his sturdy shoulders, but—he was not there!"

"Perhaps he stayed home purposely," suggested Perley.

"Please don't put uncharitable thoughts into my mind," said Alice reprovingly. "Let me proceed."

"On Monday morning I called him up at the store, feeling that it was quite impossible for him to refuse because of the lateness of the hour, and he was most cheerful in his assurance that because I hadn't notified him he had given up thinking of it."

"But, Mr. Daiman," I said, "you were not in church."

"No, but there is a phone in my boarding house," he answered.

"I'm sorry I did not know that," I replied, "but these people are strangers to me."

"Oh, well, in any case, I have a business engagement which calls me out of town on Tuesday evening. When you did not let me know, I felt free to make other plans. Really I thought this last remark uncalculated, for it just turned the whole responsibility of his refusal over on me, but I kept myself quiet while he smoothed my ruffled feelings by assuring me of help some other time, because these things were quite along his line. In fact it was second nature to him to help, and he hurged up the receiver with as much complacency as though he had led a dozen meetings."

Perley laughed heartily. "Who next, sister mine?" he asked.

"My next attempt was with Mr. Campbell, the merchant. He is one of the stewards, and church officers are all supposed to be Christians."

"What?" he exclaimed when he heard my request, "I don't know, Miss Welsford, I'm—I'm—afraid I can't—this time. I really—ah!—don't think I have time," and then, as a bright idea struck him, he said triumphantly "Why don't you get Mr. Holland, our pastor? It's more along his line, isn't it?"

"Mr. Holland is overworked already, and I don't like to ask him," I replied. "Besides, it would wonderfully help our League to have the presence and help of the Christian business men of the town."

"Well, that's so, but really for this time I think you had better apply to Mr. Holland."

"Then perhaps we can count on you to help some other time, Mr. Campbell," I suggested.

"Well, I'm afraid I can't promise that either, Miss Welsford. I'm very busy, but I'm sure you'll have a good meeting and make a most successful president. Good-bye."

"Patted on the back again," laughed Perley. "Who was your next victim?"

"This time I chose Mr. Trueman, the hardware merchant on King Street, and judging from his confusion it must have been the first work of the kind he had ever been asked to do. He floundered and stammered in a vain search for a reasonable excuse, until suddenly the thought came to him that he was to be out of town some day during the week, and it might possibly be Tuesday, so, of course, it would not do for him to make an engagement under those conditions. The evident relief in his tone showed me the true state of his mind, and all the while he was smoothing me down with polite expressions of sympathy and good wishes for the success of the League I was wondering just how much he realized the great need of workers

in this important department of the church.

"Thus it went on through the day. I became interested in knowing if there was one in the church who was willing to help, and I put a good many of them to the test. Like Diogenes, I was 'looking for a man,' and still more like him, I didn't find one."

"What in the wide world do you plan to do at this late hour?" asked her brother, with real anxiety.

"Well, I am not really cornered," answered Alice. "There is still Mr. Holland, and if he cannot help I shall take it myself. I would have planned this at first, only that, being new to the work, I did not want to begin by inflict-



"IT'S ABOUT LEAGUE," ANSWERED ALICE

ing myself on the society more than is necessary. I shall call up Mr. Holland now."

Returning a few minutes later, Alice remarked in a gentle tone: "Mr. Holland is true blue. I told him my difficulty, and in spite of a severe attack of indigestion and a very busy day, he has promised to give the address and let me take the rest of the meeting. 'Like pastor, like people,' doesn't obtain in this case, does it? Listen, Perley, I really mean to keep asking help of those men until they begin to realize that they are really needed by the League. It is a new kind of 'Looking up,' but I am resolved to keep doing it until they undertake their share of the 'Lifting up.'"

REQUEST: If after perusing this number you deem it worthy of a word of commendation, do not write to the Editor telling him so, but let your friends who are not subscribers hear about it. You may secure a new name for our list. It is worth trying, anyway.

The New Book Room

On page 146 of our June issue we gave a general view of the building premises as they then appeared. Look it up and you will the better appreciate the various pictures in this number. On May 16th, when the general view above referred to was taken, there was not a sign of a column being raised. A very striking change began early the following week, and day by day the upright pillars multiplied, until the building outlines began to be very much in evidence. The latest views which we are able to give in this paper will be found on page 166. These were taken on June 13th, exact! four weeks after the one on page 146, in our June number. Comparing the three pictures one cannot but be impressed with the great rapidity with which modern building operations are conducted. The perpendicular columns weigh as high as ten tons each, the horizontal beams go to seven tons each. The weights vary according to the place and position in which each column stands and are regulated by the sum total of the weight they have to carry.

Many kinds of labor are necessary in such a gigantic piece of work as this new building, and a varied lot of workmen are constantly on the job. From the general overseer of the whole enterprise to the common laborer it takes many men to make the work go, and the methodical and systematic manner of employing all to best advantage, is a striking object lesson in the value of co-operation. "All at it and always at it," is apparently the slogan of the builders as it has been for so long that of the whole Book Room staff under the sagacious leadership of the Book Steward. It is the old and only true Methodist spirit.

In our next number we expect to illustrate how some of the men actually work on the job, and by the time you read our August pages the building will be almost too large to be included within the area of any ordinary lens. We will do our best, however, to picture this greatest undertaking of its kind in the history of our country, and to keep our readers well informed of its progress.

LANTERN EVENINGS

In our next number we hope to give a detailed list of the sets of slides which we shall have available for Social and Literary Evenings through the coming Fall and Winter season. We have added some excellent sets of travel in our own country, besides a number of informing and entertaining subjects of pictorial and literary value, and take all in all we think our stock will be in every way satisfactory to our friends who use the slides.

LOOK OUT FOR PARTICULARS NEXT MONTH.