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A CALL TO PRAYER.

To-morrow we must go to press, and as yet the Editor has received no special message of her own for the first page. Usually there is something crowding her thoughts for utterance, driving her pen to share it with you.

To-day it is different.

True, there something that must be said—something big and burdensome—but how to express it? It was too great for her feeble pen.

Turning to one of her exchanges for suggestions, she found there what she wanted said and what she verily believes the Lord has sent us for this page this month. And so with apologies to no one, but many thanks to Miss Belle M. Brain, of New York, by whom it is conducted, we take from the Department of Best Methods in the May number of the "Missionary Review of the World" the following extracts:—

Drawing on Unseen Resources.

"One of the most notable utterances at the recent Student Volunteer Convention at Kansas City was that of Doctor John R. Mott: "We must draw more on our unseen resources."

The convention was itself an object lesson on the power of prayer. Blessed of God as these quadrennial student gatherings have ever been, this one, the seventh since the formation of the Student Volunteer Movement, was the greatest of them all. The attendance was large and the interest was intense.

Wherein did the power of the convention lie? Not in a popular, emotional programme. "Never was a program more puritanically simple," says "The Missionary Herald." "John R. Mott can never be charged with creat-

ing or permitting any effects that stir the emotions. Not even an occasional burst of applause was permitted. It was the array of actual conditions on the fields that comprised the appeal to student life. There was no persuading; no urging to place their lives in the missionary enterprise." Yet there were many new recruits for foreign missions, and thousands of young men and women went back to their colleges with lives transformed and hearts on fire for God.

Nor was the attendance the result of advertising the programme or the speakers. "One of the remarkable features of this, compared with former Volunteer Conventions," says "The North American Student," "was the fact that little or no effort was made to advertise the names of even the most prominent speakers who were expected to be present." Nor were there announcements of the programme while the convention was in session. Every delegate had to be in his place at every session or run the risk of missing the greatest speech of the convention. Yet the hall was filled three times a day, and in the evening the number turned away at the doors increased from 1,000 on Thursday night to 3,000 at the closing session on Sunday evening.

Whence, then, did the power come? From God, through prayer. The indispensable place of prayer in all the work of the convention was emphasized at every point, and for weeks beforehand appeals were sent out for the purpose of enlisting intercessors. "Far more money was spent in asking for co-operation in prayer than in any advertising of speakers or programmes," says a leader of the Movement.

Both before and after almost every