

women of our Leagues one supreme responsibility. To them the appeal comes for volunteer willing to lay down their very life for the sake of Jesus and the perishing souls of the heathen; willing to accept and bear the Cross He thrusts upon them, willing to obey and follow implicitly wheresoever He leads; willing to lose their very life in the sacrifice and toil of the field for the souls of men dear to Christ as his own life; and thus finding again the life they gave to Him, in His own appointed way to them. Witness in evidence of this the many Leaguers already upon the field, and the many more who have not only volunteered, but prepared themselves to go and await only the action of Church to which they have given their life and service.

II.

If it were truly said that the obligation of missions rests upon the Epworth Leagues of our Church, and if the foregoing considerations tend to bear out this fact, then we need not hesitate to assert that one-hundredfold more does this divine obligation rest upon the pulpits of our Church. It has ever been strongly and rightly held that in every cause and movement dear to the heart of our divine Master, and for the benefit of mankind, that the pulpit should occupy advance ground, and direct the way for those who are willing to follow. In addition to this conception held concerning the pulpit, it had almost become a truism that no department of the Church's work could rise above the standard taken by the pulpit; but in these days over and over again we find churches in which the Epworth League has, in the interest and service of missions, taken an advance position a long way ahead of the pulpit.

On the other hand, where in many churches there are Leagues that are not missionary at all, and have not taken a hold of the Young People's Forward Movement for Missions to do good service for their Master and their Church, we are convinced that the blame must rest largely upon the pulpit. If the pulpit were missionary, so would be the Epworth League. This thrusts great responsibility upon the pulpit. There are many ministers who feel the weight of this responsibility, and whose pulpits burn with missionary zeal and spirit. But we speak of those pulpits that are not deeply interested in the broader subject of world-wide missions. In these pulpits usually but one Sabbath a year is devoted to the discussion of this, the first of all Bible themes. Such pulpits do not grasp the full meaning of multitudes of Bible texts that inculcate the principles of a universal brotherhood of man and the promise of power to witness Christ from Jerusalem to the uttermost parts of the earth. They have not heard the command that the Gospel is to be preached to every creature. They have not understood that the baptism of the Holy Ghost is inseparable from the service of missions; they have never heard the piercing cry of the heathen, countless millions of them, who are lost in utter darkness, and are perishing without the light and Word of God. The question of the preaching of the Gospel of Christ to these Christless souls is the burning question of the Christian Church to-day. Shall not the pulpit become more intensely missionary and lead the way, thus doing its duty to itself as well as to the people who wait upon its ministry? We are of the firm conviction that if the pulpit would raise the standard and sound the appeal for a rally of all our young people in the interest of the world's immediate salvation, that thousands of the members of our Epworth Leagues would come forth offering heart and hand to the accomplishment of this greatest work. Let the pulpit accept the obligation of Christ and dying souls.

Cost of Living in China.

We copy the following from a letter read from the beloved Superintendent of our mission in China:

"Affairs at this end of the line are in good shape and we could make good use of four more men at once.

My printing press is up and running.

I noticed in a CAMPAIGNER at Chentu that you have been badly informed as to China prices. The following prices will hold fairly good for most places in China:

Beef	10	Mexican*	cts.	per lb.
Mutton	12	"	"	"
Goat	8	"	"	"
Pork	10	"	"	"
Chickens	10	"	"	"
Ducks	8	"	"	"
Geese	8	"	"	"
Pheasant	8	"	"	"
Eggs	7½	"	"	"

* Mexican dollar is worth 51c. in gold.

Vegetable poor and cheap and little used for various reasons.

Fruits dear except oranges.

We make large use of refined sugar, about 8 cts. per lb.; California flour and American milk (American and French butter, 65 cts. per lb.); cheese, 35 cts. per lb.; bacon, 40 cts. per lb.; ham, 40 to 60 cts. per lb. All foreign of course. Flour at \$11 per bbl. If a family lives up to same grade as in Ontario, the cost will be quite as much if not more than there. Almost all important articles cost us more than at home. Fuel and lighting more than at home, especially lighting, for we use American oil. Coal at Chentu dear, here in Kiating cheap. Transportation and likin—local taxes—upon a ton of coal from here to Chentu by river costs about \$3 Mexican. Distance 120 miles.

Rice has been away up almost to famine prices for months: much lower now, new rice coming into market.

We all send best regards to all.

Faithfully yours,
V. C. HART."

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For illustrated circular, address

PRINCIPAL DYER, D.D.