

the provincial Union. He made a strong plea for increased interest in social questions by the Christian church.

Social progress, he maintained, must be toward the Christian ideal, and the essence of Christian sociology is effort and legislation toward human betterment. Improvement in machinery, he said, has caused a revolution in industry. Industry has come to be impersonal, and man is almost automatus, standing by to feed the machines.

Mr. Rowe regretted that personal relations between employer and employee had practically ceased. He spoke with great pathos of the awful waste of human life, and of the large number of men who were born into the world with no reasonable hope of more than a precarious livelihood. A living wage had come to mean the least amount for which a man could be secured for the work required.

Unfortunately the poor had an idea, too well founded, that there was schism in the church, and that rich and poor did not meet together. The most potent voice in the church was usually behind the biggest purse. Mr. Rowe said that the Christian church was bound to give an exhibition of the highest social life, and the church that would do the work of Jesus Christ must be an institution to which the unfortunate could appeal.

Christian Endeavor and the School.

The theme chosen for the Hon. G. W. Ross, Minister of Education, was "Christian Citizenship." He was warmly received by the great audience, and his able address was along the lines of his own special work.

He began by saying that the closing years of the nineteenth century gave ample proofs of the ascendancy of Christianity. If one would epitomize the century that has almost gone by, he would speak of it as a century of inventions and of great discoveries. In peace and war old appliances and old methods had been laid aside. Freedom had made gigantic strides. Everywhere the world was being disenthralled by the genius of English liberty.

Of all the great enterprises that have sprung from the Christian church, the ones that would be most remembered are a free Bible, a free Sunday-school, a free elementary school, and a free press for free men.

Dr. Ross said that he was going to suggest a line of work somewhat different from what Christian Endeavorers had been doing. "I do not want to be remembered," he said, "as a politician, as a statesman, as an educationist, or as a public speaker, merely. I would like to be remembered above all things as the children's friend. See how large the field is! There are 10,000 people engaged in the work of imparting instruction in the public schools. There are 506,000 children under the Education Department of the province. In twenty years they will have crowded themselves into the positions which

we occupy to-day. Are we doing our part in preparing them for the duties which they are soon to take up? Let me point out two or three ways in which Christian Endeavorers may help the Education Department."

The first thing for which the speaker made a plea was more sympathetic interest in the public school teachers of the province. He said that the education imparted was insignificant compared with the influence exerted by the teacher upon the character of the pupil. He pictured a friendless school teacher in a district school, and showed how the teacher's life might be brightened by a little thoughtfulness.

He suggested also that sympathetic interest should be taken in the school children. He advocated the use of pictures and flowers in the schoolroom. Many schools were but rectangular rooms with bare walls and without a picture or flower. He did not wonder that boys were indifferent to flowers and grass, and cruel to birds and animals. The boys were not taught to love the beautiful in nature as they should be.

The Minister of Education also asked the young people to help along philanthropic lines. Many children were prevented from going to school because they lacked clothing. He urged Endeavorers to visit the schools and quietly examine the register, then to go on an errand of mercy and see if Johnny Jones, or some other boy, was not, for want of a pair of knickerbockers, being trained for the reformatory. There were 9000 children in Ontario who absented themselves from school.

A Year of Progress.

Early Morning Blessings.

THE second day of the convention was begun with sunrise prayer-meetings. The subject chosen for consideration was "Discipleship." The attendance at these meetings was very good, and the blessings received were acknowledged by all who attended.

The Bible study by Rev. Elmore Harris, of Toronto, on the "Fulness of Blessing" was exceptionally profitable. Under his guidance many were led to see more clearly the way into a life of richer experiences, closer fellowship with Christ, and more power in His service.

Gleanings from the Reports.

The tenth annual report was given by Secretary Morris at the business session on Wednesday morning. It was full of encouragement, and showed that Christian Endeavor, in spite of some drawbacks, is still on the onward march.

During the year 42 new societies were added to the roll, the total number now being 2,792. Over 100,000 young people are now enrolled under the standard, "For Christ and the Church," in Ontario.

The following is the table of societies and membership in the various county unions: