

A reckless newspaper writer recently stated that three-fourths of the towns of Kansas virtually licensed the whiskey traffic, that prohibition in that State is, therefore, an utter failure. Mr. T. E. Stephens sent letters to the city clerks and treasurers of two hundred of the largest cities in the State, asking for the cold facts, with this result. One hundred and ninety-two answers were received. Out of these 192 cities, in 92 there were no saloons, and but little occasional boot-legging, that is, peddling drink in small bottles concealed in the boot. Fifty-two cities neither openly nor clandestinely licensed saloons, but saloons were run surreptitiously, and in continual fear of arrest. In 23 cities saloons were clandestinely licensed, in 25 they were openly licensed. That is, 13 per cent. of these cities were in revolt against the law, instead of 75 per cent., as recklessly asserted.

We may expect that every effort will be made to discount, disparage, and deny the success of prohibition. Today's despatches have a long yarn about smuggling liquor from Canada by means of hollow "skee sticks!"

The Epworth League of the M. E. Church, following the example of our Canadian League, is planning an aggressive missionary campaign. It has already disposed of 58,000 volumes on missions, aggregating 60,000 tons, and over 3,000 classes of young people are using the books and helps. A prominent feature at the Theological Conference, at our own Victoria University, was the great table of missionary literature.

The missionary authorities of thirty different Churches are planning a comprehensive scheme of mission studies. A text-book of their history is already issued at thirty cents. Few things are more needed than an intelligent comprehension of the needs of missions and their blessed results.

The Woman's Home Missionary Board met in New York. Its income for the year was \$234,246. An afternoon and evening were given to deaconess work, the growth of which is almost phenomenal. It is impossible to keep pace with the demand for parish and nurse deaconesses. From Alaska to Porto Rico this society has its consecrated agents. It appropriated over \$300,000 for the coming year.

The Wesleyan Methodist Church, of Great Britain, reports a large increase of membership for the year. Evidently in the parent church the flame of evangelism has not died out, or the old Methodist power failed. The London Methodist Recorder says: The census of membership this year yields a very satisfactory result. The net increase of fully accredited members in society is 8,136. Last year the increase amounted to 2,481 only. The present is the largest increase for nineteen years—in fact, the largest since we undertook the duty of publishing the statistics of membership in detail. Though a smaller number of members is reported "on trial" than was reported last year, it is still several thousands higher than for any other year in the near past. The number of candidates for the ministry is one more than even the large number of last year, viz., 156.

The superintendent of Wesley's Chapel, City Road, London, is the Rev. Charles Wenyon, M.D., who is, perhaps, the best travelled man in Methodism. He has been a medical missionary in Australia and in China, where he established a mission hospital. At the request of the Chinese Government he served as surgeon to the armies fighting the French on the frontiers of Tonquin. He afterwards visited Mongolia, Corea, and returned to England overland through Siberia. His record of this journey is one of the most illuminative on the country traversed that we have ever read. He returned to China through Asiatic Turkey. He was imprisoned by the Turks, but travelled through Persia, India and Burma, and has returned from the very outpost of Methodism to its very heart and centre, the scene of the late Ecumenical Conference.

The union of the different Methodist bodies in Japan, says The Missionary Outlook, is one of the most interesting questions at the present time. At the Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church the matter received very careful consideration, and after full discussion the basis proposed by the joint committee was adopted unanimously, the name "United Methodist Church" being suggested by the brethren as indicating their preference.