

advantageous, but there are objections, the first being 'that the Clergy of whom there were many this year, coming from distant places to the Enconia at Windsor, have to return to their homes before the Synod, because as one Sunday has to be spent in Halifax, they are generally unwilling to be absent from their Parishes on two consecutive Sundays, and as all the Clergy are, or are supposed to be absent on the Synod Sunday, no substitutes can be obtained.

The Executive Committee according to your wish has appointed the public Missionary Meeting to be held within the period of the Session of the Synod, viz. on Friday evening, and has set apart Monday evening for the Conference, to be held in accordance with the report of Committee on page 62 of Journal. A sub Committee consisting of the Bishop with two Clerical and two Lay members: Mr. Murray, Dr. Partridge, W. C. Silver, and C. B. Bullock, was appointed to make arrangements, and decided that the Conference should last from 7 to 10, that there should be two subjects, with a writer and two appointed speakers upon each; the subjects being, "How to increase the number and efficiency of Candidates for Holy Orders," and "How can the work of the Church in our Parishes and Missions be made more effective," and I trust that the results of this Conference may be such as to justify the experiment. I have already pressed the importance of a due consideration of these topics with a view to action, and I may state that I am glad to have to report a considerable increase in the number of lay readers. It has been proposed also to introduce some of the officers of the Church Army, an organization which is rapidly increasing in number and in influence in England. It adopts to some extent the tactics of the Salvation Army, without its irreverence and almost blasphemous treatment of holy things. That this method has been effectual in moving some whom no ordinary ministrations can reach is undoubted, and if the good can be accomplished and this low stratum can be reached, apart from the injury done by the Salvation Army, we ought not to shrink from adopting it, always taking heed not to "do evil that good may come." Certainly we are taught to go into the highways and hedges and compel to come in those who require pressure and strong attraction, and will not come of their own accord.

I regret that we again have several errors in our Journal, some of which have been pointed out, and corrected in the circular from the Executive Committee, but we must remember that our Secretary was new to his work at the last session, and I have no doubt that the records of the present session will be satisfactorily presented to us. We have also to recognize our Secretary in another capacity to-day, and in your name I venture to thank him, as well as heartily on my own account, for the able and appropriate sermon preached by him this morning.

I will not further detain you, since this is not to be regarded as

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