

cap, as there were no other companies in the district; but with the rise of other companies and the greater facility of procuring the regulation belt, haversack and cap, the full brigade uniform will be adopted. The adoption of uniform has a recognized value in producing the right spirit of discipline.

The elementary routine of squad and company drill with us took more time than would be demanded where it had been



AT WORK WITH THE RESCUED PATIENT

acquired in the public school. And then, for the training in mental alertness, as well as providing an excellent system of light gymnastics without any thought of gymnastic, we took up army signalling. At the Winchester convention a message from the General Board of Missions was flagged in by a signalling section of boys and received and read out by a similar section of girls. We have several boys who can meet the requirements of the army standard in semaphore signalling. We have found this a valuable adjunct to our missionary work, as it lends itself readily to the promotion of missionary information.

Then we have our first aid work. This takes in the older girls and the boys who have qualified as scouts. And here I must pause to indicate the relation of the boy scout patrol to the company. Promotion into the inner circle of the scout comes only by good conduct and efficiency—the reward of good work being more work to do. Here swimming is required, and certain tests must be passed dealing with accuracy of observation. In our first aid work the most interesting part at which to start was the life-saving from water. It might appear impossible to train for this on land, but the National Life Society has worked out the problem in a very satisfactory manner, and in our illustration we have



HOW THE RESCUERS WORK.

a snapshot of a squad at work. The rear member of each couple has approached the imperilled person from the front, quickly reversed the body, secured it from behind, and is about to swim off on the back, carrying the patient. There are, of course, a large number of drills adapted to different situations. Nor does one need to expound the value of

learning how to resuscitate the apparently drowned. Another photo shows our boys at work on the bank of the canal basin with their newly-rescued patient.

It is obvious that in all this there is the inculcation of the basal ideas of good citizenship. Boys are taught to find their pleasure in preparing themselves to serve and save. The great idea of Froebel's kindergarten play is also embodied. The constant interdependence in all these games tends to neutralize the excessive individualism fostered by the competitive element in our schools. In all these exercises each member learns that he is dependent on the whole, and that one member suffering involves difficulty for all.

But we have our outdoor work. Any person who is familiar with Baden-Powell's book will find it easy to adapt a variety of valuable scout games, all of which tend to develop as they demand vigilance, promptness, resourcefulness, and hardihood. We secure the value of outdoor sport without the feverish excitement of the cruder games. As a specimen of improvisation another picture shows an injured lad being borne off on a stretcher which has been made in ten seconds by splicing sticks with handkerchiefs and the use of the boys' jackets.

But a word must be added of other departments of work. At our meetings we have our discussions chiefly directed to the practical problems of boy life, its difficulties, delights, and temptations. We have our stories of heroism and endurance and skill. We have four departmental secretaries, who report each once a month on the progress made in their departments. One is for Canadian affairs, a second for foreign affairs, a third takes cognizance of all advance in discovery and invention, while a fourth reports the movements for the im-

OUR PRESSING PRESENT NEED!

WE are dissatisfied, and justly so. "Why?" Our present circulation is not large enough. There are scores of Epworth Leagues that do not take even one copy of this paper. There are thousands of Leagues who never read it. Our immediate need is that every subscriber become an active canvasser for an enlarged subscription list. A study of our mailing sheets shows us that hundreds of our ministers do not get the paper. We have recently discovered many District E. L. officers whose names are not on our lists. How can any minister keep informed of our young people's work without the "Era?" How can a District official expect to do good work without studying it? How can any local President, Vice-President, Committee Chairman, or Leader, do justice to the work in their charge if they know nothing of what is going on outside of their own little circle? Candidly, we don't know. But this we do know—THE CANADIAN EPWORTH ERA cannot exert the influence it ought to unless its subscription lists are much increased. We need your support!

S. T. BARTLETT, Editor.
WILLIAM BRIGGS, Book Steward.

provement of the world by the churches and organized benevolence. Thus there is produced a wider world of thought and interest to neutralize the temptations which thrive in a petty world. All meetings open with a hymn and prayer and close with the national anthem.

Of course, we take our missionary work. Our girls can find a place to fill in supplying our nursing deaconesses with some requirements, while both companies may take their part both in reporting and supporting the missionary work of our Church.

This synopsis of the work, though very sketchy, will suffice to indicate the comprehensiveness yet the simplicity of the whole affair. It is but needful to point out, further, that the crisis is on us. The organization of the boy scouts will cover the country very rapidly under the vigorous incentive of the Militia Department, and already some other churches are alert. The question is, Shall this splendid scheme for the development of our boys be carried on outside our church, or shall it be informed by the Christian temper and spirit? A year from now the situation will have been vitally changed, and we shall be late in the field. There is now time, though barely time, for our Church thus to co-ordinate the forces within her own hands.

Merrickville, Ont.

"A thousand contingencies may combine to make some children's opportunities better than those of others; but where those who are responsible for their training are to blame for their lack of chance, they, and not the children, must answer for the results. On the other hand, if unfavorable conditions are due to circumstances for which parents or guardians are not responsible, our Father will know how to adjust his judgments accordingly."—Y. C. Evers, D.D.

"There is always noble service for noble souls to do."