

He shall propagate the principles and promote the policy adopted by the General Conference. He shall travel throughout our work holding temperance meetings, in co-operation with superintendents of circuits, and when possible shall attend

acquired before the attention of the Christian young women of our congregations in order that they may be led to consecrate themselves, for at least a few years, to this Christ-like and much needed work."

The Committee on the State of the Work referred to an important matter as follows:

"The standard of success in every Christian enterprise is the quality of parental discipline and piety which is seen in the average home belonging to the church. It may therefore be asked if our people give due attention to their home life, as it pertains to the duties and privileges of a life of faith in Jesus Christ. Do the parents and children gather daily at the throne of grace? Are the gracious fruits of the Spirit manifest about the family hearth to any superior degree over the greed of gain or the lust for pleasure? Are the principles of holy living, by the power of grace divine, seen to control and conquer the forces of worldliness?"

"The greatest promise of permanent and effective ingathering is from the young of our homes and congregations, and the most fruitful fields of pastoral endeavor are in the Sunday-schools and young people's societies. For this reason it is a matter for constant and diligent inquiry as to the efficiency of these departments. Are they organized for spiritual results? Are the scholars suitably instructed and faithfully dealt with by pastors and teachers? Are our young people's meetings spiritually helpful and filled with evangelistic enthusiasm?"

The Committee on Systematic Benevolence made the following recommendations:

1. We urge upon our people the duty and privilege of giving systematically and proportionately, and of discountenancing all unscriptural methods of raising church funds.

2. We urge all our ministers and official boards to emphasize the importance of this matter by sermon, social discussion and the distribution of suitable literature.

3. That careful attention be given to the inculcation of the principle of systematic benevolence in our Sunday-schools and Epworth Leagues.

THERE were two invitations for the next General Conference, one from Vancouver, B.C., and the other from Sackville, N.B. The question will be settled later on by the General Conference Special Committee.

Sunday-school Work.

Very serious and earnest attention was given to Sunday-school affairs at the General Conference by the large and representative committee, composed of men who have given much of their time and thought to this important department of the Church. A number of memorials and motions were laid before the committee and received careful consideration. The following are the conclusions of the committee, briefly stated:

1. The request of the Toronto Conference Epworth League Convention that the Sunday-school and Epworth League Board be divided was not concurred in, but it was recommended that distinctively Sunday-school affairs be considered at one session of the Board, and distinctively Epworth League work at another session.

2. It was strongly urged that Decision Day shall become an annual or semi-annual institution in all our Sunday-schools, and that the hearty co-operation of parents, pastors, superintendents and teachers be secured in order to make it successful.

3. It was recommended that at least one question from the Catechism be placed in all our Sunday-school helps and papers in connection with each lesson, and that this question be uniform in every publication, the same as the Golden Text.

4. A memorial from the N. B. and P. E. I. Conference asked that the Sunday-school Committee of the Annual Conference be made a standing committee. It was adopted, and this standing committee was authorized to elect from their number an executive of five



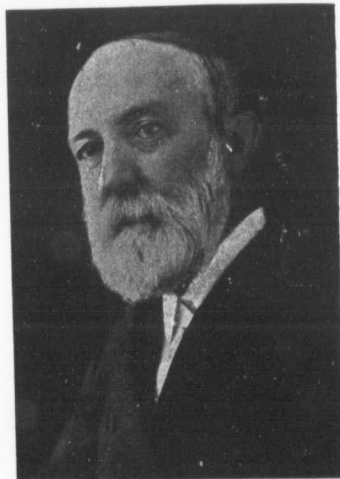
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temperance anniversaries, Epworth League Conventions and Sessions of the Annual Conference to present the claims of our temperance and moral reform work. He shall be authorized to receive collections and subscriptions on behalf of this work."

Extracts from General Conference Reports.

The Book and Publishing Committee made the following important deliverance: "Your committee desires to express its great satisfaction with the increase of circulation of our Young People's and Sunday-school periodicals, and while rejoicing in the high standard of these papers, second to none on the continent, regret that some of our Sunday-schools have gone out of the country in order to procure such literature. We would therefore recommend that every effort be made in order to have placed in all our schools the publications of our Methodist Book Room, thereby showing loyalty to our institutions and church."

The Committee on the Deaconess Movement emphasized the importance of this work and pressed its claims as follows: "In view of the great and increasing demands for Deaconesses, a demand which in present circumstances it is utterly impossible to supply, we would urge our ministers throughout the connexion, to bring the claims and advantages of the work, and the facility with which thorough training for it can be



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members, whose duty it shall be to assist in carrying out the resolutions of Conference and the suggestions made.