

The Societies at Work

Our News Department.

TO stimulate interest in this part of the **HERALD**, and to encourage our readers to write, a reward will be offered month by month for the best written item of news, not to exceed 75 words. For the best item for the February issue I will give a copy of any one of Sheldon's works. Address, "The News Editor, Endeavor Herald, Toronto." I would especially like to hear from societies outside of Ontario. I want this department of our paper to be as helpful and interesting as we can make it.

Kindly allow me to suggest a few classes of news that I especially desire to receive:

1. Any unusual accession to your church from the associate membership.
2. Any special work undertaken by your society.
3. Money granted to mission work, noting briefly how it was raised.
4. Anything of general interest developed in any meeting of your society.
5. New methods of committee work, that have proved successful.
6. Ways of helping your church and pastor that have been found useful.
7. Very brief accounts of local, county, and denominational union meetings.
8. One good point from an address or a paper read before the society. In fact anything of a Christian Endeavor nature that is practical, original, and helpful.

Yours in the work.

THE NEWS EDITOR.

Canadian C. E. Council.

A Strong Team for Montreal '99.

John Willis Baer, Secretary of the United Society, Boston, and Rev. J. Wilbur Chapman, D.D., of Philadelphia, have been secured for the Dominion Convention programme, "Montreal '99." This is certainly a splendid start for our Dominion Convention—two of the strongest convention speakers on the continent. Of course it is understood that with an announcement made so long in advance, the letters "D.V." should always be bracketed; but we have the promise of each of these gentlemen to make all their plans with a view of keeping the first week in October, '99, for Montreal.

John Willis Baer is one of the most magnetic of men, having a strong personality, and a winning manner. His addresses are always bright with the wit that invigorates, and touching with the pathos that inspires. He is nothing if not practical, and should be a drawing card for "Montreal '99."

Rev. Dr. Chapman is pastor of Bethany Presbyterian Church, Philadelphia, which requires the services of three assistant pastors to carry on its many undertakings, and of whose Sunday School the Hon. John Wanamaker is superintendent.

Dr. Chapman has peculiar aptitude for convention work, and is one of the most helpful speakers possible along spiritual lines. At the Nashville Convention his "Quiet Hour" services in the early morning were attended by thousands, and were one of the leading features of that great gathering. He has seldom, if ever, appeared in Canada, although many efforts have previously been made to secure him for C.E. conventions.

Letters have been received within the last three weeks from four provincial presidents, promising active co-operation in making "Montreal '99" widely known, and securing a large attendance from their respective provinces.

Orders for the C. E. Handbook are coming in splendidly. Has yours been filed? To start the new year right, you should have one in hand before January 1st.

C. J. ATKINSON,
Secy.-Treas. C.C.C.E.

26 Langley Ave.

From the Ontario Treasurer.

I beg to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the following pledges to the work of the Ontario Provincial Union for the month of November, 1898: Leeburn, \$1; Thorold Baptist, .50; Branchton, .50; Seaford, First Presbyterian, \$2; St. George Presbyterian, \$1; Brockville, First Presbyterian, \$1.50; Lancaster Union, \$1.

W. J. DOHERTY.

508 George St., London.

From the Ontario Secretary.

SUCCESSFUL conventions were held in Brant and Oxford Counties on Nov. 21st and 28th respectively, the former in Brantford, the latter in Ingersoll; nor do we wonder at the success, when such consecrated Endeavorers as T. Hendry, Brantford, Bruce Wilson, Paris, Mrs. Mackay, Woodstock, and Miss Reader of Ingersoll, were in the lead.

County officers kindly note that it is particularly desirable that we know when your annual conventions are to be held and the publishers of the **HERALD** have very kindly promised to keep a standing list of

the coming conventions. Send us your dates, county and social union secretaries, even though a year or more in advance. We want to know what you are *going to do* as well as what you *are doing*.

The following letter from a county secretary is well worth reading, and county officers would do well to consider the *sticklatitiveness* of this secretary:

How a county secretary enlisted every society in the county.

DEAR FELLOW ENDEAVORERS,—My experience of the last five years as county secretary, will necessarily be similar to a great many others in like positions, but it may perhaps help some who are new in the work, and to such I cheerfully write.

After looking over the register societies belonging to the union, I noticed that the number was very small as compared with the number of societies in the county, and I at once started to work and plan means whereby all of these societies could be induced to join us.

On writing to the secretaries of the Presbyterian, Methodist and Baptist district and local unions, I got a list of the societies under their charge, and at once communicated with them in reference to strengthening our county C. E. Union. I told them the object of the union, what it was, and why we met in annual convention, explained that we made no tax on the societies and did not in any way interfere with their local society constitution.

After considerable correspondence many of the outside societies were induced to join and the remaining ones were again written to in as nice a way as I could (remarking that silence usually gave consent) and told them that unless we heard from them to the contrary, we would enroll their society as a member of the union and take the liberty of sending them our circulars and other items of news.

The result was that only one society refused to join, and after a few letters of explanation that one also became a member of the union.

When my list was, as I thought, complete, I had printed copies of it sent to a prominent worker in each township accompanied by a request to look carefully over it and if there was any society not recorded, to send the name of their president or secretary, with whom I might communicate.

This resulted in quite an addition to my register, and all societies of which I had never heard.