

particular matter. And we shall continue to impress on all, as we have done time and again in other ways before this, that it is impossible for any person, no matter how wise or experienced he may be, to direct from hundreds of miles distant the operations of a League of whose local conditions, members, opportunities or needs he practically knows nothing. This is not written in any fault-finding spirit or through any unwillingness to serve in every possible way; but to restate the underlying principle of League success, viz., that best results can only follow the most intelligent study, adaptation and co-operation by the local officers in charge. As to matters of local procedure the pastor can advise better than the General Secretary, the League Executive can devise more wisely than the General Board, and, lacking this local intensive study, wise adaptation, and unity in service, all the plans outlined on general principles by any official head, whether person or board, will fall short of realizing the best results. If your work is going to succeed, it must be *your* work, you must put yourselves into it, and if *you* don't do it, *nobody else* can.

Helpful League Devices

Several suggestive diagrams will be found in this issue. These are copies of department charts as used by the Bellefair Epworth League, Toronto, recently. The last meeting in March in this progressive League was somewhat out of the ordinary. Being a fifth night in the month it was used as a kind of stock-taking, and each department was reported by the vice-president in charge. The thermometers were drawn by the energetic president of the League, Mr. Norman Dynes, who worked out the programme from suggestions made by Mr. Tressider, the president of the Toronto Conference League. By consulting the diagrams which we have reproduced elsewhere, it will be at once seen that each department had its own appropriate scale of values by which the work was gauged. The vice-presidents when reporting in turn showed how high up on the scale of efficiency their department stood when judged by the work actually done during the previous term. We see no reason why such a device might not be profitably used in all Epworth Leagues, and while the exact scale may not be the same in all cases, but varied to suit the conditions and needs of the locality represented, the plan is a practical one and may be utilized to the betterment of the activities of our local societies generally. We shall be glad to hear from any League using these or improving on the suggestions they convey. Such practical helps will not only stimulate other workers, but they will contribute no little value to our pages as they appear. Send on any such devices you may have used and we shall pass them on to the whole League world as we are able to reach it.

"Give Ye Them To Eat"

So advised the Master, and the astonished apostles wondered at His words. He who knew the need of the people and was at the same time conscious of His own power, desired above all things to bring the leaders of the band accompanying Him into fullest accord with His plans, and into perfect sympathy with His spirit. The great physical need of the people was bread. Their spiritual need was God. Herein is life. Christ was the manifestation of God. The apostles were to be the dispensers of life. For this Jesus had called them. But as yet they saw not the urgency of the people as did their Master. They were neither conscious of the unlimited provision possessed by Him, nor of their own ability to receive from Him and transmit to hungry men and women all about them. But they learned the lessons. The feeding of the multitude was but a step in their training for world-wide evangelism. The need of the people everywhere is still *Bread*. Physical wants are met by it, and in some form or other it is the world's staple food. What bread is to the body, Christ in His revelation of God is to

the soul. The distribution of the supply rests with the Master's representatives. He still remains the sole source of life. His disciples still rest under the responsibility of giving bread to the people. Only so can abundant life be universal. The counsel of Jesus will abide in force until every need of man has been met. That happy consummation seems still a long way off. But we may hasten its approach and make its existence real. One way, and one way only, is open for this. Feed the hungry multitude! The Bread of God is plentiful; we have it in abundant store; the channels of approach to the hungry are open; the sense of spiritual need is acute; and we rest under the binding obligation contained in His words, "Give ye them to eat." Forget not the emphasis on the pronoun. *Them, give!*

The Silver Jubilee

We have been asked about how many will probably be in attendance at the Buffalo Convention next month; but while our hopes and expectations are high for a record attendance, we have no way of knowing just how many are likely to be present. It is a great opportunity, and we trust that thousands of our Canadian Leaguers will avail themselves of it. There are no restrictions as to attendance. It would be manifestly impossible to conduct a convention of such importance by limiting the numbers to a delegated membership. Every Epworth League Convention of international character in the past has been open to all Leaguers, and this is to be no exception. Every member of your society may attend and enjoy all the rights and privileges by enrolling at the headquarters according to the simple regulations prevailing. Just get to Buffalo, fall in line, and you will not get lost, but will make one of a magnificent multitude of young Methodists, the like of which is seen only once in a generation. If necessary, deny yourself something else by way of summer outing to get to this mammoth celebration. It will be truly international in scope and influence. Then, later in the year, October 25 and 26, we Canadians will celebrate the passing of the first quarter-century of the Epworth League in Canada. The Executive of the General Board approved the suggestion of the General Secretary for the preparation of a suitable commemorative service for the dates named above, and in due time full announcement will be made. This year of grace, 1914, should be from ocean to ocean a year of deepened interest in the young folk of the Church, increased activity in providing for them through the medium of the League, and greatly accelerated spiritual momentum in all branches of youthful service. Let us make the first week in July and the last week in October memorable ones in our League history.

SPECIAL

Buffalo Convention

INFORMATION FOR DELEGATES

The printed circular of information to Epworth Leaguers who propose to attend the SILVER JUBILEE CONVENTION, in BUFFALO, JULY 1-5, has just been received—May 20—and we hold the paper in order to give the facts to our readers. The contents of the circular may be found on page 143 of this number. Had we been able to secure the information earlier we would have given it a more prominent place in our paper. This note, however, will call your attention to it, and we advise you to turn at once to the last page but one of this paper and get the facts well before you—

Then Decide to Come with the Crowd
BUFFALO, JULY 1-5