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Toronto, July 5, 1894.

The Cleveland Convention.

IN this issue we publish information of the great convention of Young Peoples' Societies which is about to take place at Cleveland, Ohio. Few conventions of Christian workers call forth greater interest than this one. Not only is it important as being comprised of the young men and women of the churches but on account of the high character of the work which the organization represents. The Young People's Societies are, indeed, to some, not free from objection because of the novelty of the movement, and because of a feeling that they are governed within themselves, and not entirely amenable to the control of the sessions, yet these very objectors have nothing but good wishes for the members and if their approval be qualified the qualification itself springs from kindness. And, moreover, we are getting more and more accustomed to the innovation, and it is safe to say that the better the work of the societies is known in its wider scope, as a world influence, the more apparent becomes the great good accomplished.

Last years convention will be long remembered in Canada, especially on account of the Karmarkar incident, which aroused the ire of the Roman Catholics of Montreal where the representatives of the societies were gathered together; and the indignation of Protestants of all denominations on account of the remarkable manner in which the Press Committee shirked responsibility by throwing the Hindoo overboard, but it is not likely that there will be an exhibition of such weakness this year. The organization is still making wonderful progress. At last year's annual meeting the membership was 1,500,000, at this year's convention the reports will probably show a membership little short of 2,000,000. In Great Britain the growth has been wonderful, over one hundred new societies having been formed there. In Australia, in Canada and in the United States the societies are rapidly increasing in number and in usefulness. They penetrate everywhere, and infuse vigor and new life into many of the staid agencies of the Church, while their own distinctive work has, as has been said, marked in its success.

The Cleveland gathering will be very large. There will be many thousands of delegates. The duty of providing for their accommodation and comfort has been an arduous one, but not too heavy for the energy and resource of the local societies. The City of Cleveland is well adapted for a large convention, having spacious halls, and the readiness with which the various churches placed lecture rooms and halls at the disposal of the Committee will enable the sections, provinces and

States to have separate headquarters for their delegates. The arrangements foreshadowed on the programmes seem to be complete, leaving nothing to be desired, and doubtless, added to the feeling of good done will be one of gratitude on the part of the delegates for the welcome with which they will be received and the thoughtfulness which will minister to their convenience.

Indian Missions.

THE June number of the *Forum* contains an article of much value to the cause of Christian missions. The writer is F. P. Powers, the theme, The Success of Missions in India. Mr. Powers says that Protestant Christianity is growing in India as fast as it is in the United States, and that the growth of the missionary churches has exceeded the estimates, or rather the conjectures, of the missionaries twenty-three years ago. He gives the following statistics: According to the figures of the Bombay Missionary Conference of last year, the communicants in Protestant churches in India numbered 182,722 at the end of 1890, which was a little more than the communicants in the Presbyterian Church, South, in the United States. From 1880 to 1890, the Methodist Episcopal communicants in the United States increased 31 per cent.; the Congregational 33 per cent.; the Presbyterian, North, 37 per cent., and the Protestant Episcopal 55 per cent. In the churches of India, represented by the Bombay Conference, between 1881 and 1890, the increase of communicants was 61.24 per cent. This rate of increase is a little discouraging in view of the fact that the communicants increased 114.56 per cent. between 1871 and 1881, and 111.46 per cent. in the previous ten years. In spite of the Mutiny, the increase between 1851 and 1861 was 70 per cent. Baptist missionaries worked among the Telugus thirty years to get 25 converts, and then baptized 2,222 converts in one day, and 8,691 in six weeks, and, now, have over 50,000. The ordained ministers, both native and foreign, are not much in excess of one to 200,000 of the population; but the number of ordained natives is increasing rapidly. In 1890, there were 300,000 pupils in the missions schools. Instead of reckoning six adherents to one communicant, as in the earlier years, the missionaries, in 1890, reckoned only three, so careful are they not to exaggerate, though "statistics of conversions," wrote Sir Charles U. Atchison, lieutenant-governor of the Punjab, to Rev. Robert Stewart, of Sialkot, in 1886, "are no proper or adequate test of missionary work." In 1871, the missionary statisticians reported that at the then rate of progress there might be nearly 1,000,000 Protestant Christians in India in 1891, 11,000,000 in 1951, and 138,000,000 in 2001; but they added: "It is needless to state that such calculations hardly come within the bounds of sobriety." Yet, at four adherents to a communicant, they would have had a good deal over 700,000 in 1891, and would have many more than 1,000,000 in 1901. In other respects as well as that indicated by these figures is Mr. Powers defence interesting and the article deserves wide perusal.

Sabbath Observance.

This time last year Toronto was in the throes of a well-fought fight against the running of street cars on the Lord's Day, a fight in which what was best in our citizenship came out victorious. It was thought that