

Practical Plans.

A "Corker."—"Put a cork in each ear and listen to no other invitation for Thursday evening," etc. This is the crafty way of calling attention to the Society Social adopted by the Second Presbyterian Endeavorers of Dubuque, Iowa. Two little corks were tied by yellow ribbons to the corners of the invitation card.

Every Society Has Them.—If an exact classification of the membership of most societies were made it would be something like this: Active, associate, inactive, and lapsed. It is a practical question how to reclaim the indifferent members. What may be done? 1. Do not permit members to slip out of the society by the door of indifference. Put them to work. Keep them active. 2. Prepare yourself to deal with them personally. This may require that you tell God all about it in your closet. 3. Ask God to help you to reclaim the indifferent. 4. Deal candidly and directly with the member you would reclaim. Tell him your heart. Convince him that the society wants him. Above all lay it upon his heart that it is his duty to be actively engaged in Christian work. 5. Make it easy for him to return.

The Letter League.—A New Zealand Endeavorer tells about a Christian Endeavor Letter League. The plan suggested is that each Endeavorer should pledge himself or herself to write at least one letter a month on some purely religious subject, having for its definite object the extension of Christ's kingdom. The letter may be to any one in need of spiritual help or to any nonconverted friend. Mr. William J. Searle, the originator of the plan says: "The writing of a letter demands some degree of personal effort, and in this it differs from the printed message. The letters would be filled with the individuality of the writer and thus would strongly appeal to all those to whom he is bound by ties of blood and friendship. By this means out-of-the-way places would be reached. Furthermore, the act of writing commits the writer to the truth of his message. It helps to define, to deepen, and to solidify the religious life of those that use it to convince others, since it remains as a witness of their beliefs."

The Press Committee.—Many church people complain of secular county papers having so little of religious matter or the doings of the churches. When as a matter of fact there are very few of such papers that would not publish a great deal of such matter if Churches and Epworth Leagues would only go to the trouble of appointing some of their most intelligent members to prepare such matter for the county press. Local programmes of Epworth League gatherings, Missionary Institutes, District and quarterly Conferences, will be very interest-

ing matter in a county paper where all the local participants in such programmes are known in the county; but of no interest whatever to the readers of the *Advocate* outside of the localities, where the participants in such programmes are not known. Besides, if the *Advocate* should give space to all such elaborate, detailed programmes of local interest there would be no room for matters of general interest. Every Church or Epworth League should appoint one of its brightest and best qualified members to prepare for the local and county press, in the most terse, clear-cut, and readable style, all the current happenings and history of the local church.—*St. Louis Christian Advocate.*

The Roll Call.—We may have a great variety of methods in answering to roll call. We tried some different ways in our society last year which proved quite interesting. The members were told at one roll call meeting what was desired at the next, and were reminded of it in the announcement on the Sunday preceding, and sometimes the League meeting before.

1. One time, the secretary called the roll according to committees, and members responded with a Bible verse or quotation appropriate to their committee.

2. Another plan which proved very good was for members to give some thought or thoughts from a sermon heard during the month.

3. Another time, they were asked to read carefully a certain book of the Bible (Ephesians, I think we took) and give some verse, and any comments upon it, which they especially liked.

4. Another was to give a favorite verse from Psalms.

This year, for some meetings, the members are asked to give some thought, quotation, or reference on the topic assigned to that night. Perhaps we may try some of the following methods, which I have seen advocated:

1. Voluntary. Let the members respond without calling names. At the close the secretary may call the names of those who have not taken part through absence or otherwise.

2. Consecrate to some special work for the month, say mission work. You can respond at roll call with some appropriate missionary sentiment. Another month take some other special work, such as soul winning, temperance, Sunday School. I read of a society whose members made their special consecration for a month not to speak a cross word, or even frown at home or any other place.

3. Give a promise which you have tried and proved.

4. Give a favorite proverb (that is from the Book of Proverbs in the Bible).

5. Give a verse, quotation, or thought, on some such subject as faith, prayer, thanksgiving.

6. Give some helpful thought or quotation from a book you have read during the month.

7. Let the secretary call the names alphabetically. You could respond, if you chose, with a Bible verse beginning with some initial of your name.

8. Have a prayer consecration meeting

in which each member shall take part by offering a short prayer. Call the roll by threes or fours.

9. A biographical meeting. The members should study some of the beautiful consecrated lives that have been inspired by the love of Jesus. Prepare some very brief sketches or talks about them, and for roll call each may have something to say about one of them, either a story or comment on the life and its lessons.

10. Another plan of committee consecration is to have each committee prepared to respond when called upon by rising and repeating in unison some appropriate Bible quotation.

11. Ask the members to take part at the next meeting in the way most difficult to them.

12. After election, each of the new officers and committees may give a verse that they take as their consecration motto for the term.

13. An Epworth League meeting. Each one come prepared with two verses or phrases beginning with the letters E. and L., respectively, to answer the question, "What does E. L. mean to you?"

14. A song consecration. Let each one bring a verse of some hymn which expresses his feelings and experience. Those who can, might sing it alone, or arrange for duets, trios, quartettes. Those who cannot take part in this way, can announce their hymn with some word of comment.—*Miss Emma Matheson, Union, Ont.*

Plans for Presidents.—The president of the League at Londonboro, Ont., sends the following valuable suggestions: "The nearer a League can live up to the spirit and letter of the constitution the better its chances of success. Hence, I insist on thorough organization in every department. After organization, each committee must be instructed in its work. To accomplish this I have tried very well the following plan. Have each committee seated by itself in an after-meeting, and take up the work of one at a time (the work of two committees will be enough for one evening). Encourage a full discussion of the work of the committee in question, and impress firmly how much of the work mentioned should be done before the next meeting. Very often members do not know what to do. I have had great difficulty to get good reports at the monthly business meeting. Officers will sometimes play truant because they have "no report." I insist on written reports, and on the League paper. Anything else shows carelessness. To arouse outside interest, I always try to have a good "League item" in the local paper. Also have the Lookout Committee make a list of the young people in the neighborhood who should join the League, then send them a postcard like the enclosed. Very often they will come to a service, and the members must do the rest. It is a good plan also to occasionally send a card to some of the older of the church members. They appreciate it very much. After each consecration service, I have a card sent to each member who was absent, marking thereon how many consecration services have been missed.