

seemed particularly discouraging, the clouds were all about him, and he was almost losing heart. Just then the MESSENGER AND VISITOR came to hand, containing an article—it was a selected article—that seemed just adapted to his need. It lifted him quite out of his despondency and heartened him for his work, so that he was enabled to go on with new courage and hope to the successful prosecution of the undertaking that he had in hand. That word of cheer, through its message to one heavy heart, brought help to a whole denomination and to the world. It is not a mean service—however humble may be the minister—that gives refreshment to the Lord's servants in a time of need.

—The success of Mr. Chamberlain's propaganda in favor of a protective and preferential policy must be a surprise to a great many people both in Great Britain and in other countries. Whatever may be the value of Mr. Chamberlain's scheme and whatever the ultimate judgment of the people of the United Kingdom in reference thereto, it is evident that he has so far obtained a most favorable hearing. Mr. Chamberlain is always strong as a debater, and his positiveness of statement, founded on a strong belief in himself and his scheme, gives added power to his oratory. It must have been the magnetic power of his oratory, rather than the convincing force of his arguments which led thousands of working men at Cardiff and at Newport in Wales to shout themselves hoarse in approval of protection and preferential trade. Mr. Chamberlain is quoted as expressing the belief that he has now won the majority of the people of the country over to his view. But that remains to be seen. It looks as if he had at least made a good deal of progress in that direction, but there are powerful forces strongly opposed to his contention.

From Maine.

A little over a year ago the writer became pastor of one of our churches in the State of Maine, and fortunately for himself he is so situated as to be able to preach by inter-course with some of the most esteemed pastors in the Maritime Provinces, meeting with them in their denominational gatherings, beside the privilege of enjoying social and fraternal intercourse with them. With the Maine Baptists, however, he has become officially associated and some little account, however imperfectly committed to paper may have no little interest to the many readers of the MESSENGER AND VISITOR, which let me assure you is a very welcome visitor indeed to our home, as it is to thousands of others, not only in the Provinces, but in many another place as well. During the summer and autumn months the Baptists in Maine have held their quarterly meetings in the various county associations and last but not least the State Missionary Convention.

As regards the quarterly meetings, I have just returned from one held with the church at West Harrington, Washington Co. A printed programme giving necessary details as to travel, etc., was sent to the pastors and churches some time previous to the meeting by the "moderator" Bro. P. A. A. Killam, one of our State missionaries and a very efficient man, and the secretary, Bro. Wm. Fletcher the highly esteemed pastor of the Harrington church. I will give you the topics simply which were presented and discussed by the ministers and delegates present. Though owing to the prevailing rains the attendance was not as large as usual.

I. Home.—The Life of the Christian.

- (a) In the Home. (b) In the Church. (c) In the community.

II. Christian Economics.

- (a) Industry. (b) Frugality. (c) The use of our capital.
(d) The relation between Earthly Investment and Heavenly Treasure. (e) Returns from Spiritual Investment.

III. Salvation Questions.

- (a) How must we Repent? (b) What is Saving Faith?
(c) What are the Grounds of our Assurance?

WEDNESDAY MORNING.

IV. 8.30. Social Conference. 9.30. Business Meeting; Election of Officers, Reports from Churches, etc. 10.30. What our Evangelistic Committee is trying to do. 11. The Zion's Advocate Anniversary.

V. 2 p.m. Service of Song.

2.30. Theme—The Sunday School.

- (a) What a good Sunday School needs. (b) What a good Sunday School supplies. (c) Department Work in Sunday School.

3.00 Sermon. 3.30 Parting Testimonials.

This programme was adhered to as strictly as possible. The absence of the moderator and Brother Snow, of Cherryfield, being sorely felt—on account of sickness in their respective families. Much prayer was offered in behalf of State Missionary Hatch, now ill, of small-pox, and Mrs. Killam, the wife of the moderator, who was reported as being very ill at her home in Pembroke. Harrington is old Baptist ground, and though the fathers and mothers in Israel have passed away, yet others have arisen who are earnestly and faithfully laboring in the cause of righteousness and truth. It is a good and hopeful thing to find so many young men engaged in the Master's work. Many of them are graduates of State Colleges. Colby of course

adding its quota to the number.

The associations in the different counties have seasons of refreshing indeed. Washington County holds its association with the First Calais Church, Milltown. The brethren came to us from the different parts of the county and were gladly welcomed. Their words were helpful, and their visit to our homes will not soon be forgotten.

The State Convention was held in the fine City of Rockland on the Penobscot Bay. Brother Lorimer of Bangor, had secured one of the fine river boats for transporting passengers at cheap rates from Bangor to the place of meeting. The day was very fine. It was pleasing to meet with our old friends Bro. L. S. Ford and wife, of Houlton. Bro. Ford has quite recovered from his attack of fever and is vigorously and successfully promoting his work at the important centre. He also does work along the line of Bible Study at the Hebron Academy.

Penobscot river is the ancient boundary between Canada and the United States, might have been still but for Lord Ashburton who like Lord Alverstone deserves but little credit for the manner in which they have decided over boundary questions. We do not wonder that "Our Lady of the Snows" is demanding as a matter of prudence if not of right that her representatives should have a little more say in such matters. And that Englishmen who have so little real practical knowledge of the geography of the country should be allowed the "casting vote" when in the nature of things there must be an equal number of voices on either side of such international disputes. The sail down the Penobscot river is exceedingly fine. We were much interested in each place as it was pointed out to us from the Pilot house of our fine steamer Castine. With its association with our Nova Scotia politics in so far as collegiate education is concerned was of more than passing interest to the Baptist contingent. The old fortifications are still in evidence and a visit to the spot will repay the tourist. Arriving at the city of Rockland we were met by the committee who spared no pains in locating the over four hundred delegates in attendance. The hospitalities of the pastor and members were abundant. The New Testament law is not forgotten by our Baptist bishops in Maine in their churches for they all appear to be "lovers of hospitality" (Titus 1:8); a good will which we trust may never be forgotten on either side of the line of those who claim the Bible as their only rule of faith and practice.

The proceedings of the Convention were made exceedingly helpful by the number of esteemed missionaries—notably the Chinese veteran, Bro. William Ashmore, still hale and vigorous—holding to the old truths and abundantly able to present them in such a manner as to delight, instruct, and sometimes amuse the audiences who are so fond of hearing every word he speaks. Dr. Ashmore and his wife are willing and ready to return to their work in China after over fifty years of service there, but it will probably be deemed better to have them visit the churches in this country and inspire our people in the interest of mission work.

The 75th anniversary of your Baptist Contemporary was another interesting feature of Convention work. Dr. Burridge, the editor, is the secretary of the Convention and has prepared a history of Maine Baptists which will soon be in print. Dr. Burridge is well qualified for such a work, and the forth coming volumes will be a valuable contribution to the literature of our denomination and to the general public as well. One hundred copies of the Advocate were taken by the Convention and placed at the disposal of our four State missionaries, this will mean the visitation, weekly, to as many homes of this excellent paper. Would not the MESSENGER AND VISITOR be a valuable aid to our General Missionaries in the provinces if a reasonable number could be supplied in some such way. The most intelligent and broad minded and freest supporters of our work are for the greater part those who become conversant with our aims and purposes through the denominational organs. Printers ink is becoming more and more a valuable auxiliary in religious and benevolent work as in other business life, and the proper use of this factor is becoming an increasing necessity if locally and generally the work of the Lord is to be prosecuted in any measure commensurate with the demand.

It is hoped that Zion's Advocate will continue its mission in the State of Maine without other hindrance and that the Baptists here will give to it all the support it needs. Dr. Burridge is an able and noteworthy writer and the history nearing completion will make an excellent companion volume to the other Baptist histories we already have, not forgetting our own Camp, Saunders, Wallace and Bill in this connection.

One great question was the appointment of a successor to the late lamented Dr. Dunn. This office carries with it in large part the care of the missionary churches. The corresponding secretarial work of the denomination and an immense deal of work, besides preaching in vacant pulpits, addressing the quarterly meetings, associations, conventions etc., secretary to the Board of Trustees or its executive, collecting funds for the prosecution of denominational work, aiding Sabbath schools, and he is generally the Baptist representative on the different interdenominational Boards and committees for the carrying on of such benevolent and religious work as is being done along the line of such fraternal co-operation. Dr. Dunn was a most remark-

able man and did an immense work. After a lively discussion and one or two ballots were taken, the Rev. J. B. Mower (pronounced More) was on motion unanimously elected to this important position. Mr. Mower, is a successful pastor in the State and has rare qualifications for his new and important work. He enters upon the discharge of his multitudinous and exacting duties with the assurance that he has the hearty sympathy and earnest co-operation and prayers of his brethren throughout the State. His home and address will be Waterville.

The mention of Waterville of course suggests "Colby College," yes "College," "University" is a term not used here to describe this Maine Baptist Educational Institution which obtained its chartered rights early in the last century 1818, and which has "turned out" so many of our brightest and ablest men during the years of its existence. Some little friction occurred last year between the Faculty and certain of the students, all of which, of course, fell into the hands of the ubiquitous reporter and found a prominent place in our State papers but the turbulent waters soon became calm again and after vacation the new term began with the usual favorable outlook for continued success and efficiency. We had the pleasure of listening to President White's excellent address as also members of the Faculty, including Prof. Hatch, so well known in the Provinces. At the educational meetings instructive and interesting addresses were given by Principal W. E. Sargent of Hebron Academy, F. W. Johnson of Colum. Classical Institute, H. Warren Fass of Higgins Classical Institute, and J. O. Wellman of Ricker Classical Institute, Houlton. All these principals of these preparatory schools are alive to the importance of their work and it is no wonder that Maine Baptists feel a pardonable pride in their fine and comprehensive Educational System, and the men who are conducting them, and grateful should they be to the earnest and devoted men and women who have consecrated their means for the proper endowment of this educational work throughout the State.

Home Missions; Foreign Missions and all the various interests receive their share of attention. The address of the four Home Missionaries and the report of their work were deeply interesting.

New Sweden in Aroostook Co., a Swedish Baptist Church, is one of the banner churches in the convention. Besides giving freely to sustain its local interests, it contributes some five hundred dollars to denominational work—no wonder that this church is so prosperous. They are not cursed with that withholding which tendeth to poverty, but they are blessed with that "which scattereth and yet increaseth." (See Prov. 11:24.) This church has a resident membership of 112, is under the pastoral care of Bro. Nylm, was organized in 1871, has a house valued at \$6,500, and raised last year \$1,425. \$542 of which was for benevolence. Swedish Baptists would make fine settlers for the Canadian North West.

The Bangor & Aroostook Co. R. R., is taxed to the utmost to bring the products of their fine farms to the markets; but let it be noted that this prosperous road in one of the finest and most prosperous countries in this or any other State does not run any Sunday trains. Will our government roads and company owned properties kindly take such matters under consideration, "and remember the Sabbath day to keep it Holy?"

But already this letter has earned for itself a resting place in the waste basket, and with Thanksgiving greetings, to you and all old friends in the Provinces.

I am yours still, in the work.

SOJOURNER.

SELECT NOTES. A commentary on the Sunday School lessons for 1934. By F. N. and M. A. Peloubet. Illustrated. Cloth, \$1.25. W. A. Wilde Company, Boston and Chicago.

Peloubet's annual has become an old friend of a host of Sunday School teachers all over the Continent. It makes its appearance this year for the thirtieth time, and is apparently, if possible, better than ever before. The wealth of exegetical and illustrative material which it brings together is probably to be found nowhere else in a single volume, and the "Notes" are therefore not only almost indispensable to Sunday School teachers, but are welcomed by thousands of other Biblical scholars, especially pastors, who find it of great value in connection with their sermonic work. The trained mind of its author has enabled him to prepare a book which, while satisfactory and eminently helpful to the most scholarly, yet is so simple as to be clearly understood by any layman. The issue for 1934 is especially rich in its helpfulness, for there has been garnered from hundreds of volumes the latest approved thoughts bearing upon the passages studied, and all has been arranged in a systematic and progressive manner. This year's volume has, in addition to a large number of text illustrations, four beautiful full-page pictures, printed in colors, which will add materially to the value of the book.

Any subscriber sending a new subscription with a renewal will receive the two papers for one year to separate addresses for \$2.50.