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L. E. Freeman

The Lever.

Vol. I.

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No. 1.

The Lever.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY

THE MARITIME COMMITTEE OF THE YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATIONS.

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First Words.

This paper is launched by the Maritime Committee of the Young Mens' Christian Associations in the interests of young men. They feel confident that it will assist in drawing closer the bonds which unite the several associations in these Maritime Provinces; and also, that it will serve to bring into more intimate relations, the several departments of the work, viz.:—College, railway, boys and local associations, by supplying a medium of inter-communication, whereby the affairs of each may be brought regularly and prominently before all the others. They cannot but believe, that from such clearer knowledge of each others peculiar situation and needs will spring a deeper sympathy and a more fraternal spirit, which will find expression in kindly counsel and helpful interchange of ideas. Heretofore,

once a year, delegates from the college, railway, boys and local associations have met to hear reports, exchange ideas, and discuss better methods of work; in this way much good has been done, and advancement made, but it is believed that the benefits thus received will be trebled by the discussion of all matters affecting the several departments of the work, in the columns of this paper, and that when delegates meet in annual convention they will have a more intelligent grasp of the varied needs of the work, their minds being better informed, less discussion of details will be necessary. Much time will be therefore saved and a greater variety of subjects treated, with increased benefit to the work.

It will also endeavor to promote a better acquaintance with the work of the several organized associations—their aims and needs, and also the needs of unoccupied fields, through the publication of articles on college, boys, railroad work and various phases of work among young men, by persons who have made a special study of each of these subjects; in the firm belief that a better acquaintance with the work will result in increased helpfulness by the friends of our boys and young men. Briefly stated then, this paper will endeavor to draw closer the bonds of union; to be an interpreter of the nature and objects of the work in general; to keep in touch with the inter national and world-wide movement. Whether it shall succeed in attaining any or all of these objects, will depend in no small degree upon the hearty co-operation of the more active or leading spirits in each of the several departments of the work.

It will be issued monthly; its columns will be open for the discussion of all matters tending to the better equipment and fitting of Young Mens' Christian Associations for their great work.

If you have subscribed for the "Lever" and it does not reach you, please let it be known. If you desire it regularly and have not subscribed, we will be pleased to have you and your help.

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(Gathered Feb. 12th, 1896)

CONCERNING THE ASSOCIATIONS IN THE MARITIME PROVINCES.—SEVERAL REPORTS RECEIVED TOO LATE FOR USE.

- 14 have average attendance at Men's Meeting of **648**.
- 9 have average attendance at Bible and Training classes of **147**.
- 9 had **73** professed conversions, **40** joining the church.
- 2 open gymnasium classes with prayer.
- 7 use tracts in their work.
- 6 had social purity meetings.
- 2 hold gospel meetings and carry literature to lumbermen.
- 11 have **6330** volumes in libraries.
- 2 have literary societies.
- 5 have **11** educational classes with average attendance of **62**.
- 3 have a lecture course, **4** course in practical talks.
- 7 have **367** in gymnasium classes.
- 8 have games on gymnasium floors.
- 1 has physical and medical examinations.
- 1 Association secured **4** situations for young men.
- 2 found boarding houses for **12** young men.
- 9 have bathing facilities.
- 11 have average daily attendance at rooms of **938**.
- 10 have women assisting in the work.
- 5 have reception committees who really serve.
- 9 have games in social rooms.
- 5 have **8** clubs, such as Bicycle, Cricket, Lacrosse, etc.
- 8 held receptions with 1,500 in attendance.

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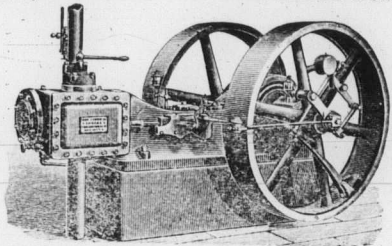
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- 8 have meetings for members.
- 9 Associations have **2,023** members.
- 11 celebrate their anniversary.
- 5 are planning for new buildings.
- 14 use \$15,567 for current expenses.
- 10 have Boys' Branches or Brigades with **384** members.
- 2 plan to send **55** boys to Maritime Camp.
- 8 branches have average attendance at Bible classes of **150**.
- 8 report receiving circulating letter.
- 1 had membership contest.
- 7 branches favor Boys' Conference at Amherst.

One "corresponding member" reports giving fourteen letters of introduction to young men leaving home.

Maritime Secretary's Report From Dec. 16th, 1895, to Feb. 5th, 1896.

Assisting the New Glasgow Association in opening of new building and work.

Assisting at Truro during Evangelist Gale's visit. Attending the re-union meeting of the workers.

Helping the District Work Committee in re-Corresponding Membership work.

Attending three Y. P. S. C. E. Local Union conventions, the Grand Division and the week of prayer meetings at New Glasgow.

Met with Finance Committee, preparing letter from them to Associations, and have worked almost constantly at finances since 1st December. This meant typewriting names, and copying lists into index books, and much detail work. Through the goodness of God and the kindness of friends, \$600 was raised.

Issuing prospectus and advertising matter, writing for the paper, and meeting with the Publication Committee. Meeting with Boys' Work Committee to plan for further work.

Printing and mailing 2,576 circular letters. Wrote 519 letters and postals, and had 40 talks on association work with that many men. Attended 2 Board meetings. Spoke at 3 young men's, 1 boy's, 5 prayer, 1 mission, and 3 Y. P. S. C. E. meetings. Distributed 93 pamphlets on the work, attended 4 Committee meetings, and wrote 10 articles for the press.

Have kept in touch with the Associations on the field.

Have enlisted all the helpers I could.

Travelled 353 miles.

Office Secretary.

At the last Maritime Committee meeting this matter came up—was thoroughly discussed. The need was apparent, if the Maritime Secretary, whoever he be, was to do work that would tell in wider circles, his hands must be freed from the never ceasing detail of the office work, so necessary in a work of supervision.

The Committee approved of securing an assistant, and referred the matter to the Finance Committee for their ratification, should the way be open financially for the employment of an assistant secretary. At the Finance Committee meeting the matter was brought up and final action deferred, simply because the money was not in sight. It would be a relief if some one whose purse is not shorter than their love for young men, would step in and say to the Committee "go on and I'll settle the salary." Where is he?

College Movement.

It is doubtful if any branch of association work has shewn such marvellous growth and is likely to have such far-reaching influences as this movement in our colleges and universities.

Very few were in existence in 1877; the number in that year reporting reaching only 26 associations with a membership of 1300 in all North America. Now there are few, if any colleges of note, where associations do not exist, and it is safe to state, when we include the Indian and Foreign College Associations, which are the outgrowth of our International Committees work, that in 1895 there would be at least 625 associations, with a membership of 37,000.

In 1894 it was reported that 3,400 college men had been influenced to become christians, and this number would be largely increased in 1895. Within the last few years, upwards of 20 have a quired buildings, and 30 others raising funds to erect buildings costing from \$10,000 to \$100,000.

The threefold object of this work is: 1st. To help unite the christian men of the college world. 2nd. To establish and promote the religion of Christ in the lives of college men. 3rd. To equip and send forth leaders to extend the Kingdom of God throughout the earth.

The closer our college associations stick to these three cardinal principles, the greater will be their success.

Then there will go out from among them year by year, laymen, calculated to be leader of laymen in the extension of our Redeemer's Kingdom.

This work has reached all our university colleges, and very encouraging reports were received at the recent convention held at Mount Allison; from Acadia, Dalhousie, Prince of Wales, Mount Allison, Pictou Academy and University of N. B.

The representatives from these associations were all anxious to do aggressive work. The aim of this conference seemed to be to study the field and the work, to know what was to be done and how to do it. This should be the important feature in all our work, and actuated by such motives, the great head of the church, through the agency of the Holy Spirit will surely lead on to victory. May prayers ascend from every christian reader that there may go out from these various institutions christian men, imbued with the Spirit of Christ to take their stand for Him in the business marts, the medical, the legal, and in fact, all professions; men of strong faith to see the final overthrow of Satan's Kingdom, and the establishing of the Kingdom of our God!

Intercollegiate Conference.

It met at Sackville, Nov. 22-24. Was fairly well attended. Among the topics considered and addresses delivered were the following: "The Student and Religion;" "The Religious condition of the Maritime Colleges;" "Our own methods of work;" "Bible study in our Colleges;" "Relation of the Association to College Athletics;" "A spiritual awakening among the Maritime Colleges;" "How can we further the cause of Missions."

H. W. Georgi, office secretary of the International Committee, was present, and his words were a quiet staying inspiration. J. E. Irvine, chairman college work committee for Maritime Provinces; J. H. Crocker, Gen. Secy., Amherst Association and other interested friends of college work were there. Any illusion to the programme and the addresses would require more space than is at present at our disposal. The things most emphasized were: The absolute need of better work being done, in personal effort for the unsaved; in bible study; in missionary efforts and gifts. The reports showed great improvement in the organization of the Association and in the character of the work done.

The members of the college associations have their best opportunities during this and the following month. They will be true to their privilege.

Corresponding Membership.

The well known object of Young Men's Christian Associations is to unite, systematize and direct, for the extension of Christ's Kingdom among young men, the efforts of these young men who now regard Jesus Christ as their God and Saviour and desire to serve Him.

In cities and towns of sufficient population, these efforts centre around and emanate from one or more local Associations: provided with a properly equipped building, efficient officers and a loyal working membership, an Association should helpfully reach the young men of their own town. All past experience seems to confirm the opinion that in small villages and country districts Young Men's Christian Associations cannot be advantageously maintained, but it is undeniable that in these very localities are found scores of young men who need the help that associations are fitted to afford. How then can the Association reach and benefit the young men of the rural districts? *Through corresponding members.*

These corresponding members are really agents or representatives of the Young Men's Christian Association. They are carefully

selected and appointed under direction of the Maritime Committee, through its sub-committee on "District Work." The corresponding member is in hearty sympathy with association methods. In the absence of any organization he is the living active exponent of the "Association idea" in his community. His qualifications are necessarily high, his privileges numerous and his opportunities for usefulness almost limitless.

It is hardly possible in this short article to state, even briefly, all the duties of a corresponding member. These are fully set forth in literature furnished freely by the Maritime Committee. Probably first in importance among the duties of this useful worker is the furnishing of letters of introduction to young men removing from his district. He is supposed to keep himself informed as fully as possible regarding the movements of young men. When the value of such introductory letters is fully appreciated, parents, pastors and all others interested in the welfare of young men, will gladly seek to co-operate with and assist the Y. M. C. A. corresponding member.

Supposing a young man or boy from any country district intends leaving home to work or study in any of our association towns, the wide awake association representative is aware of it. He gains what information he can regarding the youthful home leaver's plans, &c. He places in the young man's hands a letter of introduction to the Secretary of the Association in the town about to become the young traveller's home. The secretary in question is also informed in good time, directly by the correspondent of the expected visitor. Letters of a similar character to pastors or other christians in the town to which the young man is bound may also be sent by the corresponding member. The importance of this is obvious. Beyond question a young fellow's first days in a strange city are momentous days to him. He is forming companionships that may eternally influence him. Shall these new ties be helpful or hurtful? The Young Men's Christian Association through its corresponding membership seeks to surround young men at such critical periods with influences altogether helpful. This aspect of their many sided work appeals strongly to fathers and mothers all over our country. How often eyes unaccustomed to tears become moist as one by one the boys have to leave home. Parting may be sad, but its the anxious inquiry "can my boy withstand the moral temptations of his new life?" that presses most heavily upon the parent's heart.

In conjunction with the existing organizations the Young Men's Christian Association desires so to extend and organize its corres-

ponding membership that in every section of the Maritime provinces young men may feel its friendly influence.

J. D. Mackay, of Truro, is chairman of the committee having this work in hand.

The "Corresponding members" are, Isaac Whitman, Canso, N. S.; John A. McDonald, Sherbrooke, N. S.; Jas. T. Stewart, Antigonish, N. S.; Jas. W. Day, Parrsboro, N. S.; Wm. Shannon, jr., Annapolis, N. S.; C. S. Wilcox, Windsor, N. S.; E. L. Nash, Lunenburg, N. S.; Robt. Dawson, Bridgewater, N. S.; Douglass Keddy Mahone, N. S.; D. McGregor, La Have, N. S.; D. J. Bruce, Campbellton, N. B.; Wm. Wallace, Dalhousie, N. B.; Robt. M. Beers, Richibucto, N. B.; Robt. Loggie, Black Brook, N. B.; H. M. Ferguson, Kingston, N. B.

"Young Men's Sunday"—The District Work Committee are advising the holding of "Young Men's Sundays" at points where no Association exists. Meetings will be held with special relation to young men and work on their behalf. Pastors or workers who desire such a "day" will please write J. D. Mackay, Truro, N. S.

Our Real Work.

The main work of the Young Men's Christian Association may be briefly stated as follows: To reach, save and develop into the greatest possible usefulness for the church of Jesus Christ the boys and young men of our country.

The means adopted for the accomplishment of this purpose are many. But the chief agency is the Young Men's Meeting; and the Worker's Bible Training Class. The best day, hour and effort is given to the men's meeting, which is usually at 4.00 or 4.15 Sunday afternoons. The subjects considered are of a practical and evangelistic character, and selected with a view to meeting the needs of young men and leading them to an acceptance of the Young Man of Nazareth as their Saviour and ideal in life. The worker's Bible Training Class is for the purpose of training those who have accepted Christ; to become in turn the helpers and saviors of their fellow companions.

Young men thus reached, brought in and won for Christ and enlisted in His service are passed into the church of their choice; fitted by virtue of the experience gained through the Association to take hold with a strong hand and a firm and intelligent grasp, the various enterprises of the church, and carry them to a successful issue. That this is more than a theory may be proven by visiting the churches in any town where the Young Men's Christian Association exists. In them it will be found that the best and

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most active workers are members of the Young Men's Christian Association. In the foregoing we have simply stated the "main" work of the Association and the chief agencies employed, and relied upon, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, for the accomplishment of this work. But many other agencies are used for the reaching and benefiting of the boys and young men. Indeed any means adapted to this end will be readily adopted. The following may be mentioned among those already in vogue: Reading rooms, supplied with the best current literature; Libraries, Educational classes, Debating Clubs, Lectures, Practical Talks, Social gatherings, Gymnasiums, Athletic fields, Boarding House Registers, Employment Bureaus, etc. Nearly all of these possess in themselves an end worthy of the support of all who desire the best interest of young men. But in the Association these are made a means to an end as well, and that end is the highest for which any organization can possibly exist, which is, as already stated, to save to Christ, the church and lives of the greatest possible usefulness, the most important element in any community; the most potent factors for good or evil in any community:—the boys and young men.

In this day of constantly multiplying associations, the Y. M. C. A. occupies a most unique position. A position that is not likely soon to be taken by any other institution, not even by the Institutional Church. It is the church, with an office down town doing business with the young men every day and every night in the week. In many towns it offers the only nightly counter attraction to the bar rooms and billiard rooms. It is inter-denominational in its character, orthodox in its teachings, practical in its methods, aggressive in its efforts, and has enjoyed tangible tokens of the pleasure and favour of God with its work, and is destined to still greater usefulness in the future. According to the latest scientific definitions of life, it possesses the elements essential to continuous and indestructible life, viz., "the power of adjustment to existing environment." In a word, it is the child of necessity and has come to stay. You had better make friends with it and give it your hearty support.

Bible Study in Young Men's Christian Associations.

Every protestant claims the right of being his own interpreter of scripture, and I hope that I am too good a son of the reformation to deny the right. However true it is that truth must appeal to the individual's intelligence, we must be certain of this, that it is

the truth and not some supposed truth that is making itself felt in our soul.

For many people, bible study is such an easy thing that it involves no special effort. The bible for them consists of a few scattered texts that have gone their way through their minds so long, that in any emergency or at some special service, these same old texts naturally recur, and there seems to be no notch in their path to pull them up, so that their meaning may be brought out for spiritual edification. Verses are forced from their setting to explain all sorts of things and to back up positions that were far enough removed from the original writers intention.

This great fact has to be learned by most of us, that if we are to get real spiritual value out of the bible *we must toil for it.*

We work hard for attainment of other ends in life, and surely we cannot neglect the highest end of all. The bible is our great source for the upbuilding of our religious condition, and we must go to it and quarry from it seriously.

This puts a most excellent opportunity in the way of our Christian Associations. We are supposed to have a number of young men in each town, who are banded together for christian purposes. What higher purpose can there be than to learn well and inwardly digest the great book of Revelation? This should be set about systematically in a bible class. A bible class is not merely a class in which every one appears with a bible and a text that he has hurriedly chosen on his way to the class.

A period from the Old Testament, say the time of the Judges or a book as e. g. Isaiah, might be selected on which a whole winters work would be spent. In the New Testament the Galilean ministry of Jesus, or one of Paul's Epistles might be taken to alternate every three months with an Old Testament subject. Throughout, the object should be to understand the spiritual motive of the period or the writer. Why did Paul write thus to the Galatians? What is the cause of his argument? What is the eternal religious truth lying behind it all? Such questions as these the bible student should set before himself.

Now, two things are necessary for the success of such a class as this. First, there must be a good leader. Secondly, there must be good books to aid in our study. The first of these we expect to find in the Secretary; the second we may choose from material supplied by those whom the Association may appoint to supervise the work of bible study.

Just here, I think the function of the Maritime Committee comes in. In my

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judgement, they should endeavor to afford the Secretaries of the local associations such help as will enable them the better to equip themselves for the leadership of the Bible Class. How can such an opportunity be provided? I can think of no better way than by a Summer School for Secretaries, who may learn methods and lay by store of material to supply them more or less adequately for their winters work. Suggestions as to the best books in different departments of bible study might be supplied by the Maritime Committee's department on this subject or through the columns of our monthly paper.

If this or any other department is to be successful it requires effort, patient, plodding, often discouraging effort. But is it not worth any to gather for ourselves some of the inexhaustible riches from the book of all books?

Any expressions re the Summer School will be in order.

Expressions of Interest

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"I enclose \$4. Should have sent it before. Hoping and praying for every success in the work."

"Enclose \$1. Would wish to give more."

"Enclose \$2, and the little book."

"At last I have \$1 for this work. Sorry could not reply sooner."

"Rejoicing in the progress of the work, I wish still more abundant success. Enclosed \$2"

"Am returning book and P. O. order for \$5. Trusting the funds necessary for the work will be forthcoming in time."

"I enclose \$1 to show that you have my very best wishes, if I cannot contribute all I would wish."

"I now beg to enclose \$5 towards the \$600 you are trying to make up."

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- POCKET ENCYCLOPEDIA,.....50c.

"I now enclose the little book, with a very small gift (\$2) in it. Sorry I could not give more. Sincerely hope you will not have much trouble in getting the amount needed to carry on the good work."

"Accept this small amount (\$5) with my best wishes, and regret I cannot afford more at present. Hope you will be very successful in every respect."

"With compliments of the season. I beg to enclose \$1 for the cause in hand."

"Am in hearty sympathy; pray that your efforts may be abundantly crowned with success. Enclose \$5 at present. Hope to do more in the future."

"I have great pleasure in forwarding \$1 towards the association work."

"Yes. All right; here it is; just found it. Enclose \$5."

"I enclose \$1. Would like to send you more."

"Make sight draft on me for \$10."

"Draw on me for \$7.50."

"I'm hard up, but if I don't send you \$5 by the end of the month send me a reminder."

"Enclose P. O. order for \$1 to aid you in your work for young men. My blessing with it."

"I enclose the amount promised. Hope it will fill a gap."

"May God's rich blessing rest upon the Y. M. C. A. this new year. Enclosed find my check for \$10, regretting delay."

"Please accept this small contribution with best wishes of giver. God bless you in your good work, and grant that during 1896 you may see nations of young men, charmed by the heroism of our captain, to march with him to victory"

"Enclose my subscription. You will not object to its arrival a few days before the date promised."

"With best wishes for a prosperous 1896. Enclose \$5."

"Enclose \$1. Hope it will be of service. Wish I could honestly give more."

"It is but a small amount I can send you (\$2). I do wish I could give a great deal more. The cause is good and it will with God's blessing prosper."

Very many of the kindest expressions come from those who feel utterly unable to give.

It is a privilege to give to a work that is shaping young life at its critical time.

What has been given this year has been given with a ring of cheerfulness and cordality that is inspiring.

Four hundred dollars is still needed. We are ready for volunteer helpers. How gratifying it would be if those who really appreciate the work done would subscribe to ward the current expenses without being called upon

Pentathalon.

A recent critic of the Pentathalon contest made statements as follows:

1. The Pentathalon idea is correct in principle, but needs to be made broader, so as to allow freer scope for individual preference.

2. Contests are dull. 3. They put on great a strain upon the contestant. 4. They interest a small number of men.

This last objection is offered by the fact that a larger number are interested through the pentathalon system of awards than by the other system which makes specialists. That it puts too great a strain upon the contestant we cannot believe. Half an hour's training taken every day would easily enable him to win his laurels without one injurious effect being felt the next day. Let the training be regular and the strain will be considered as nothing.

The charge of dullness however, must be admitted. But is there not a remedy? Where lies the blame?

Poor management undoubtedly may be responsible for it. But this was not so at our first Maritime contest, as the management was voted excellent. Interest in the contest and the contestants must be aroused.

In the provinces few take any interest in a Lacrosse match, while thousands attend a game in the upper provinces.

Cricket to some is the dullest game on earth, yet thousands attend a game in England. Occasionally we hear of an Association in the U. S. having made one or two or more hundred dollars out of a season's baseball, but you could not make enough to pay for your outfit in Canada. We must work up an interest in the contest: get the fellows of the home association enthusiastic and confident that their team is going to win. A little enthusiastic noise will sweep out the dullness. But with regard to the first criticism it may be well to remember that "individual preference" thus far has resulted in "specialism," the thing which the Pentathalon principle enters the lists of combat. However, it may be possible to broaden a little, substituting a long jump, a tug of war, a bicycle race, a hurdle race, &c., for one or

other event, providing that the five events bring into action all the muscles of the body as well as the vigorous action of the heart and lungs.

It is time now to think of the coming contest and to quicken an interest in it among all the members of the Association. Who speaks next?

The "Pentathalon Contest" this year bids fair to far eclipse last year in the number of teams entering. Is your Association team preparing?

The next Maritime Convention will be held in Picton, July 30th, 31st, and August 1st. Make a note of this and plan to be present.

REACHING OUT BLINDLY...

The young man or woman who enters any business or profession without a practical business training simply invites failure from the start. They are practically blindfolded. There is no trade or profession under the sun that is not easier to follow for the man or woman who is equipped with the many business facts and forms that are absolutely necessary to success. This applies to the mechanic or laborer as well as to the lawyer or merchant. They have to have it.

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Young Men's Era.

The Maritime Committee would call special attention to the International official organ of the Young Men's Christian Association, "The Young Men's Era." It is published weekly in Chicago, Room 10, Metropolitan Block. The subscription price is \$1.50 a year; in clubs of 10, \$1.25. It contains all the latest news regarding the movements among young men on this continent, and articles on the phases of life that affect them most.

Every member of an Association who desires to be an intellectual, broad, and efficient worker should take it. Pastors and other Christian workers would be greatly inspired by the matter in its pages. Orders can be sent through the Maritime Committee if desirable.

Finances.

The total amount collected from Associations and individuals, and from convention at Halifax, in August, '95, to February 6th, is \$830 71.

The total amount expended for same period, for salary of Maritime Secretary, travel, postage, printing stationery, &c., is \$858.38.

The balance of \$27.67 is due the Treasurer. The demand on the treasury are great at present and any help will be appreciated.

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High Grade

Pianos and Organs.

Revised List of Secretaries.

Amherst, J. H. Crocker; Charlottetown, T. B. Kennedy; Chatham, A. C. Woods; Fredericton, E. J. Payson; Kentville, W. L. Wright; Halifax, A. F. Bell; Moncton, G. A. McWilliams; New Glasgow, John G. Thompson; Pictou, Frank McQuarrie; Port Morien, A. McEachran; Sackville, J. A. Hart; Shubenacadie, S. Geo. Ervin; Spring Hill, W. Murray; Stellarton, J. J. Grant; St. John, Geo. E. Williams; St. Stephen, W. T. Robb; Summerside, A. S. McKay; Sydney, D. G. McPherson; Truro, P. F. Moriarty; Westville, J. W. H. Sutherland; Yarmouth, W. J. McCleery; Milton, N. S. F. H. Hutchinson; Truro, (Railway) Wm. Ellis; Richmond, Samuel Orr. Moncton (railway) Harry Morion; Acadia University, (Wolfville,) W. J. Morse; Dalhousie University, (Halifax,) A. H. Denoon; Mt. Allison University, (Sackville,) J. N. Rice; Prince of Wales College, (Charlottetown,) Addison Anderson; Pictou Academy, P. D. Mackintosh; University of N. B., (Fredericton,) D. McLean.

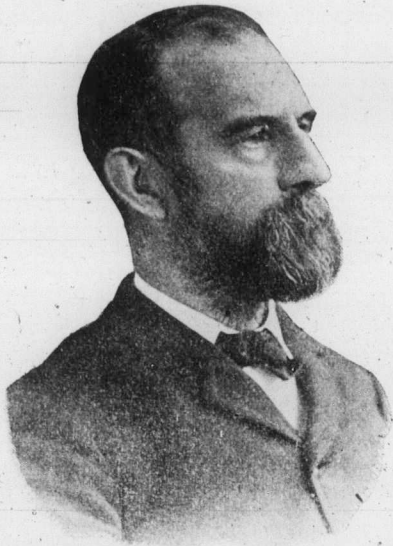
Our Advertisers.

Those who have advertised in our paper have had two motives, one was purely a matter of business. We trust there may be no disappointment in any of the modest claims we have made. We would ask that the fact of seeing the ad. in this paper be referred to by those ordering. The other motive was to help the paper—and thus to help along the work. To all who have made the paper possible, hearty thanks are extended. We have a few more spaces left. Anyone desiring space will please correspond with the business manager, J. C. Gass, Shubenacadie.

Evangelist Gale.

Truro, and St. Stephen Associations received an impulse from the services of meetings held in each place, under the leadership of Evangelist Gale, of Boston. He will hold meetings in Sussex, New Glasgow and Pictou, beginning March 1st.

The need of our work is only for money secondly; men of faith, prayer, hope and courage, ready for service are our supreme need.



J. C. MACKINTOSH, HALIFAX, N. S., CHAIRMAN
MARITIME COMMITTEE.

Personal Mention.

A. M. Mackay is Gen. Secy., and L. W. Archibald, Physical Director of the Hamilton, Ont., Association. They are both N. S. boys. The Hamilton Association issues a monthly paper called "Hamilton's Young Men."

A. W. Macleod, once Maritime Secy., and Secy. at St. John, now of Tacoma, Wash., is giving good account of himself.

H. V. Smith, Pictou's former Gen. Secy., is doing yeoman service in Peterborough, Ont. We do not grudge these gifts to other fields in the shape of live men, but would that they and many more might be retained in this needy field.

John Stewart, a member of the Maritime Committee and President New Glasgow Association, was elected Mayor of New Glasgow February 4th.

"The Association rooms are the church of the week day. They tell us that a man has to live some other day than Sunday, and that there is a week day and a Saturday night, a time when you are sad and when you are merry as well. I thank God for these buildings, with something in them for every young man, for his mind, body, spirit and social nature, the whole man surrounded with a gospel environment."—*Prof. Graham Taylor.*

New Association.

At Milton, N. S., (two miles from Liverpool) an Association has been organized. A flat has been secured in a good sized building in a central part of the town. Their trust is in the Lord. Hard to get financial support. Preparing an entertainment to help.

In the Woods.

Several Associations are holding special meetings for lumber men, and in other practical ways making the sojourn in the woods more pleasant and helpful. Papers, magazines and books will be gladly received by J. C. Gass, Shubenacadie, N. S., who will distribute to these men shut off the greater part of the winter, in "God's first temples."

"FRUIT HOUSE."

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New Building.

The New Glasgow Association dedicated its building on New Year's day to the work for which it was erected. In the morning a meeting addressed by all the town pastors was held. In the evening a "house warming" was given. Upwards of 1000 people passed through the building during the evening. Since the opening the work has advanced very hopefully. The building has on the ground floor, two stores; on the next the association parlor, reading room, reception room, boy's room and office. The upper flat is taken up with a gymnasium and dressing room, one of the neatest "running tracks" in the province, and two shower baths.

English Year Book.

The English year book for '95 is out. It is a splendid compendium of the state of the work among young men in all lands. The book has good cuts of some of the largest buildings in foreign lands. Even a passing glance through the Year Book impresses one with the magnitude of the work and the fact that despite many obstacles the association is growing into a "plant of renown"—renown gained only by hard work and constant adherence to the real work of the Young Men's Christian Association—to save young men for this and the next life.

It's All Right.

It is encouraging to those who sometimes look askance at the modern methods of association work, as for example the Physical features to know that while gymnastics have increased 175 per cent. during the past ten years, bible and training classes have increased 339 per cent. This is a healthy ratio. The study of the Word of God in the church or association argues for deeper spiritual life. There is no robust life, nor aggressive work apart from it.

The work of the Young Men's Christian Association is as much a part of my church as the Sunday School, and a part to which the young men are as truly pledged as to any other department. More economical and efficient work can be done by the united efforts of churches through the Association than individually.—*Rev. Alex. McKenzie, D. D.*

The Boy's Work Committee decided upon the holding of a separate conference for boys, at Amherst January, 1897.

The Annual Meeting of the St. John Association was held Feb. 12th. From reports submitted a strong year's work for the young men of that city has been completed. The membership is now 774, 134 more than last year; Boy's Branch, 80.

The absolute necessity of a new, more commodious and modern building was referred to in several reports. The attendance at the Men's Meeting for the year was 2397; an average of 114 at each service. They have a Yoke Fellows Band of 15 members.

Their debt for current expenses (\$10.00) has been reduced till it is now but \$173. The Physical Director, J. M. Edmunds, has been very successful in his work.

The directing power of the whole work; the General Secretary, Geo. E. Williams, has patiently and practically planned and executed the work in such a way as to win the hearts of the young and business men, and the pastors of the city.

The constitution is to be changed in some particulars. Instead of a Managing Committee of 33, a Board of Directors, electing their own officers will be elected.

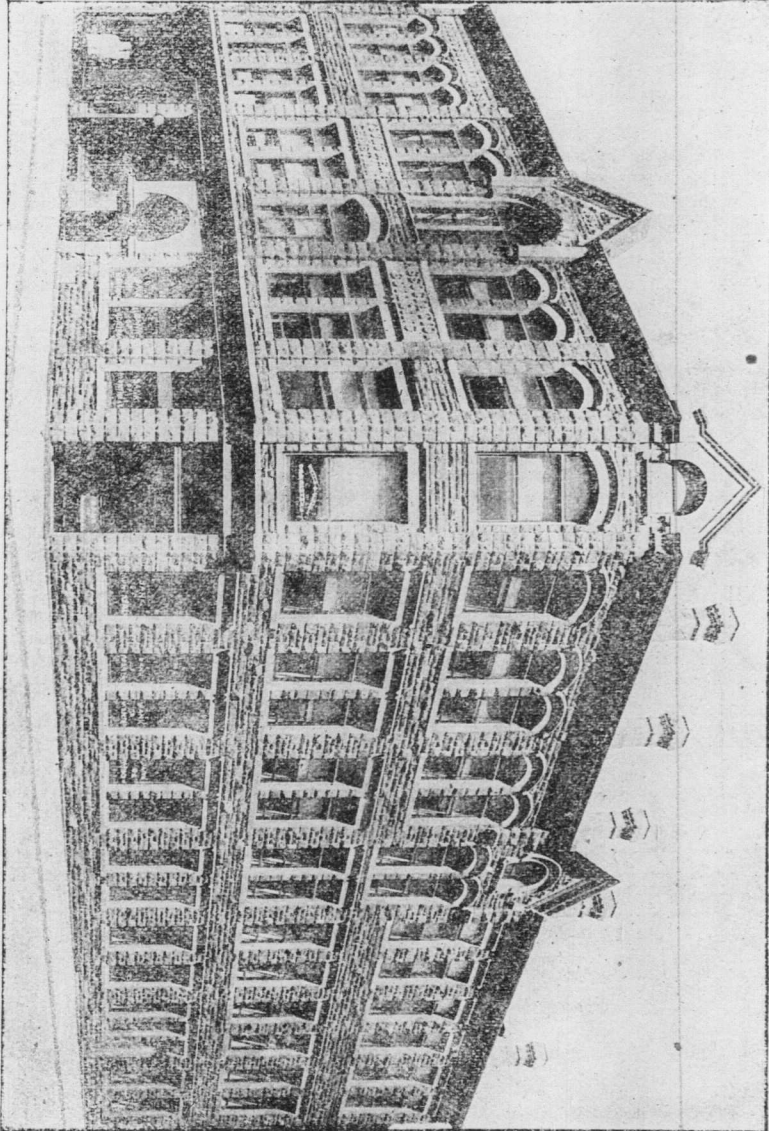
We trust the words of the General Secretary in opening his report may be prophetic as well as retrospective; "The year has passed pleasantly on the rising tide of a growing work, and our hope is that the tide will continue to flow, and that the ebb may set off far distant."

We hope to issue this paper on the 15th day of each month hereafter. Any items of news or articles for insertion please send along by the 10th. Any friend of young men can help us in this matter.

With regard to the name of the paper, one St. Stephen man thinks it should be named "Don't Lever." The committee to whom the choice of a name, among other things, was referred, thought it was short, comprehensive, and better than a wedge, a clasp or many other names which would be significant of what we hope the paper will accomplish. It is now "The Lever," and we trust it may be used of God to lift something for His Son's Kingdom in the uplifting of young men.

There is one profession at least that is not overcrowded, that is the General Secretaryship of the Young Men's Christian Association. If you are adapted for the work and feel called by God to enter it as a life long business for young men, correspond with Fraser G. Marshall, Traro, N. S.

The annual Maritime Boy's camp opens about July 15th. Write E. M. Robinson, St. Stephen, for details.



BUILDING OF THE MONTROSS, N. H., YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION.