

YOUNG PEOPLE'S SOCIETIES.

NEW BRUNSWICK.

Officers of the F. B. Y. P. P. L.
President, Prof. S. J. Case; Vice President, 1st. Dis. A. A. Hartley; 2nd. Dis., Miss D. A. VanWart; 3rd. Dis., Miss J. J. Robinson; 4th. Dis., Miss Dora Mersereau; 5th. Dis., James McCready; 6th. Dis., Miss Edna I. Daggett; Cor. Sec., Rev. J. B. Daggett; Treasurer, T. A. Lindsay; Rec. Sec., Fred White; Asst. Sec., Miss Phoebe Boyer; Auditor, Allen Rideout.

NOVA SCOTIA.

Officers of the F. B. Y. P. P. L.
President, Rev. A. M. McNitch; Vice Presidents, Rev. G. M. Wilson; E. E. Letson and Mrs. James Cushing; Recording and Cor. Secretary, Miss Lizzie V. Prosser; Treasurer, Miss Lavinia Farrant.

Prayer Meeting Topics.

- Nov. 15—A good education; what it is and how to get. Prov. 8:1-11; 9:9-10.
Nov. 22—Some blessings often forgotten. Ps. 104:1-35. (A Thanksgiving topic.)
Nov. 29—How to get good out of troubles. Ps. 27:1-14.
Dec. 6—How to strengthen our faith in Christianity. Mark 9:14-29.
Dec. 13—Lessons from Solomon's life and writings. 1 Kings 3:5-15.
Dec. 20—Joys that were born into the world with Christ. Luke 2:8-20. (A Christmas song service suggested.)
Dec. 27—One spiritual truth I have learned this year. Ps. 90:1-17.
Jan. 3—What prayer should do for the Christian. 1 Kings 8:22-40. (A meeting of preparation for the week of prayer.)

Secretarial Jottings.

A NEW SOCIETY.

On Thursday evening, 22 ult., in response to a call from friends, I went to Tracey Station, S. Co., to assist in the organization of a society. A large congregation assembled at the church. Bro. Ernest Tracey occupied the chair. After devotional exercises, he briefly stated the object of the meeting. The organization was then proceeded with. Sufficient preparatory work had not been done; while there was a strong feeling of sympathy with the movement, there were but few who felt like accepting the responsibilities of membership. However, we succeeded, and, with the material there seemed to be at hand to work upon, we expect soon to hear of a good working society there. Very much will depend upon those who are now members.

A VISIT TO CARLETON CO.

Being called to Carleton Co. on private business, I went to Woodstock Friday evening, 23rd ult. While there I visited several of our active workers. Was sorry to find our Vice-President for the Co., sister VanWart, in poor health; but she was as full of plans and work as usual. The Woodstock society is doing good work. With those whom I met I discussed the advisability of a County convention. On account of certain local circumstances it was not deemed practicable at the present time, especially as a plan is now well in hand for the organization of an inter-denominational C. E. Convention for the county. I have been invited to attend and expect to do so. I will be pleased to meet our workers then. I hope each society will be represented. Miss Lizzie Merrithew has been asked to read her paper on "The Look Out Committee," read at the League at Keswick.

On Saturday I went to Hartland to visit the brethren there. At the station I was met by the genial President of the Hartland Society, Mr. Allen Rideout. There were several whom I desired to see. Bro. Rideout provided me with a horse and carriage, and I soon made my rounds. The society there is, as usual, in the midst of the work. They are few in number, and have to work under a good many disadvantages, but they are always at it, pegging away. The result is that the sum total at the end of the year is very creditable. I was much pleased to find that sister Phoebe Boyer had returned home, and was in her usual place; the society is feeling the effect of her determination and go-ahead qualities.

I returned to Woodstock on Monday. Having an hour to spare I drove to Grafton to see sister Boyer, found her in the midst of preparation for her Hindu Tamasha, an account of which will be found in another item. Sister Boyer is very anxious that some one shall go to India to take up the work she has laid down. Is there not some one who will go? I am confidently expecting every day to hear some young man declare that God is

calling him. We must have a representative in India, and that at once. I trust he shall be from the ranks of our young people.

YORK COUNTY QUARTERLY MEETING.

It was a large delegation that met at Gibson on Wednesday evening, 28th ult. The following societies were represented:—Gibson, Marysville, Fredericton, Keswick and Lincoln. The first hour was given to devotional exercises, led by bro. Webb, of Gibson. It was a good service, the testimonies were strong, rich and full of faith. The subject was "The blessedness of entire surrender to God," and will be of much profit to us.

At the close of the social service, bro. Keirstead took the chair, with sister Maud Atherton as Secretary. A resolution was then offered organizing what shall be known as the York County Quarterly meeting. The object of the organization is not so much to do business as to bring together the societies at regular intervals, with the purpose ever in the forefront of deepening and strengthening the spiritual life of the members. While but little time will be given to business, still a care will be exercised over the societies in its jurisdiction. The organization includes not only York Co. societies but all those in the vicinity, the border societies of the neighbouring counties, and any officer of the League. Rev. W. C. Keirstead was elected chairman, and Miss Lottie Vandine secretary-treasurer.

The next meeting will be held with the society at Lincoln in three months. We feel that much good will come from this work.

THOSE PAPERS.

Those who read papers at the Convention will remember that it was voted to publish them. They cannot be published unless they are sent. Three have been received, and will be published. The others should be sent. Please do not keep us waiting longer.

COMMITTEES.

Did your committee meet last month, bro. chairman? If not, why not? If you were on the Lookout Committee perhaps there was somebody you might have brought in, but you were on the Lookout only in name. The active Lookout man from some other society has held hold of him, and your society has lost a member. We are glad there was somebody to look after that stranger, but are sorry it was not you.

You were on the Social Committee. We are sorry to see you make a rush for the door as soon as the benediction is pronounced. You are not very social.

Are you a member of the Devotional or Prayer Meeting Committee? How happens it there was no leader for the last meeting, until the last minute? Who was to blame? Were you?

A Hindu Tamasha

The Christian Endeavour Society at Woodstock, held a Hindu Tamasha at Mr. John Shea's, Grafton, on the 26th ult. For fear some may not know what a Tamasha is I will explain. In English it would read real good; and it was a really good time. Every one enjoyed it, unless it was the little boy who couldn't see. Mrs. Boyer exhibited her large and varied stock of curios from India kindly explaining about the same and singing some of the native songs. Her endeavours to help us pass a pleasant and profitable evening will long be remembered by the friends who gathered in her old home. A number of the young people were dressed in native costumes, and Mrs. Boyer assured them they looked quite "nativized." A well arranged program was rendered after which we had lunch. All felt that they had never enjoyed a social any better. Receipts \$27.

Responsibility of the Individual Worker.

READ BY MISS LOTTIE VANDINE AT THE LEAGUE CONVENTION, AT KESWICK, AUGUST, 1896.

Paul said "I live, yet not I, but Christ liveth in me, I labored, yet not I, but the grace of God which was with me." The place and power of individuality in Christian life and work is suggested by these expressions. First—Every man must recognize his own individuality. Second—Everyone has a work to perform, an individual work. Third—We are not responsible for the work some other does, but for our own particular work.

What shall I do? Place the emphasis on the first word of the question and ask it. What shall I do? There is much to do. Yet we cannot do one thing as well as another, and the question very naturally arises, what is my part, and how much shall I do?

Children are to be taught concerning God. The next generation

will be what this generation makes it. The greater part of the work must be done in the church and Sabbath schools, in young people's societies, and in meetings and classes for that purpose. "What can I do in this work?" is a question every Christian ought to ask.

Then there is the public worship of God to be attended, not only as our duty, but for the sake of the example we set.

Prayer and other social meetings are to be maintained, and some one is responsible for the right use of every moment's time. There are expenses to be borne; the church must be kept up, and we should feel it a pleasure in helping in this part of the work. Above all, we have a personal work in trying to win souls.

We will next ask ourselves the question, "What shall I do?" We can see now that this is a personal matter with us. It is not what my brother ought to do, but what I ought to do that fixes the measure of my own duty. We cannot all do the same work: each person has his own individuality; one is calm, another explosive, one prosaic, another poetical—hence, the different individualities we read about. Moses was wise in the wisdom of Egypt; David differs from the wise Solomon. Isaiah stands in vivid contrast to the rude herdsman Amos; and so all through the ages we have revelations of the same principle. In the church to-day some are fitted for Sabbath school teaching or leadership, others are qualified to fill different offices in young people's societies, while still others are glorifying God best in mission work.

We each have our own part to perform in the grand work of salvation.

We may say, these are commonplace ideas. They are, and yet, is it not the little commonplace things that make up this life in all its stern reality? Lastly, ask the question, "What shall I do?" If we are Christians in the real sense of the word we will want to work.

Doing is the outcome of the Christian life. God has no use for idle Christians. We need not ask what is to be done when there are souls perishing all round us.

There is not one of us who can count for nothing. The world will either be better for our having lived, or worse. It will be better unless we, of our own accord, go wrong. A man or woman has only himself or herself to blame if their lives do not prove a blessing, however small. We may be poor and unknown, or may think we are unfortunate, and it is not our fault, but if we are ignoble, selfish or hurtful, if we refuse to do the work given by God, it is our fault, not life's, not nature's, not fortune's, but ours, ours, ours. You, intelligent, sweet-natured young woman are responsible for the way you perform your part in life's arena. You, young man, though seemingly with no cares placed, as yet, upon your shoulders, have a duty to perform. I wonder how many of us think what part we are to play in the future; how much for which we are to be held responsible.

Look out upon the future. It is as if we stepped upon the threshold of a stately palace, so vast that we stand awed at its magnificence, and as we gaze through the open portals at the emptiness of its seemingly endless halls, our sense of duty increases as we begin to realize that we as individuals simple, ordinary, are called upon to do work worthy to furnish this palace. We will fill its rooms with the warmth and beauty of human love, or with the hideousness of wrong and crime. Here will be a corner filled with little acts of kindness, there, a room filled with friendships and virtues, with acts of love and self-sacrifice. There will be dark corners also, where men and women of their own free choice live, not enjoying the pure light of God's presence, but enduring the misery resulting from their own wrong deeds. Yes, when the human world has done its work, the palace will be filled and furnished; but as we look down through the yet unfurnished rooms, we ask ourselves the question "How is it to be done?" Are we beginning to feel the responsibility placed upon us as individuals in helping to furnish this palace as God would have it? Will our room be full of light and sunshine, or will it be dark, damp and loveless?

Of course we do not all exert the same influence, hence we all have not the same responsibility. If, in standing on the threshold of to-day, we could look back over the years we have lived and see the lives upon which we exerted an influence, the lives that perhaps we helped to mould; if we could see a reflected image of all that we would be responsible for, we would probably start back in agony of soul, we would wonder why we had not made better use of the many opportunities for doing good. But we all hold in our hand the white tablet of to-day, and the opportunity of writing fair characters upon it, or disfiguring it with lines which will

mar forever the book of life. There are those who will trifle, who will shirk the work given them, but the nobler ones will take up the cross manfully and cheerfully, and do the work that God assigns them with a willing spirit.

We, as young Christian Endeavorers, have a bright future before us. We have the power within us of doing something to make the world brighter and better. Then let us come with reverent glowing souls, clear eyes, strong hands and warm and generous hearts. We need not wonder long what to do. The chambers of our palace are so vast: vast enough for the greatest work, lofty enough for the highest, noblest and most ambitious, and yet there is no pure and kindly deed too simple and small to make more beautiful the waiting spaces. We do not need to go to India, China, Japan or any other foreign country to do work for our Master. We can begin right at home—in our own church, in our own society. What are we doing as individuals in our society? Are we using the talents God has given us? If we are helping the younger members, if we are filling the niches or helping to lighten the burdens, God will bless us.

It may be we are earnest young men and women, looking around for something to do. Have we spoken to that young friend who has grown careless and indifferent as to the society he is keeping—have we tried to entice him from his wicked companions, or invited him to prayer meeting or Christian Endeavor?

Ah friend! one cannot tell what a word might do—one little word or act might change the whole course of his downward career.

Do not despise the little things; they may prove in the end the greatest blessing. We may think it a small thing to invite a friend to church, to give some one a religious paper to read, to speak some little kindly word, or do some little generous act, and yet, such small things as these have been the means of lifting a degraded fallen brother to a higher, nobler sphere, even up to God. We do not know, we can never fully know, what an influence we are exerting over the lives of others, and yet we may be assured of this fact, that we, as individuals can be the means of doing valuable work for the Master. Work we Christians must do if men are to be saved.

Individual work begins right in our homes. "The measure of our opportunity is the extent of our responsibility." Just count up the many little opportunities and see whether our responsibility is not heavy. The cross will not be heavier than we are able to bear. God never asks of us anything that we cannot do. What an influence for good or evil we may exert in the home! Unconsciously, we exert an influence over the other members of the family. Is your brother out of the fold? Is your sister not a Christian? This then should be the motto, "Let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works and glorify your Father which is in Heaven." How many opportunities will present themselves to let the light shine. How many times our Father can be glorified by acts of self-devotion and of love.

Then, again, we exert a certain influence in society. What about the companions we associate with? Have we any special duty to perform in our daily walk and conversation? Yes, we have a God to glorify in all the relations of life. We should not be afraid to take up the cross. God has a certain part for us to perform, and shall we dare to slight his work?

"It may be some one falters. On the brink of sin and wrong, And a word from you might save him, Help to make the tempted strong. Look about you, oh my brother, What a sin is yours and mine If we see that help is needed, And we give no friendly sign."

In these days we organize societies and hold conventions. It seems as if many good purposes can only thus be accomplished. But is there not a danger of the individual sinking into insignificance when it comes to the great business of soul-saving. Is not the individual too often swallowed up in the church or the Society? A certain writer says: "Christ commands His disciples now as much as ever to let their lights shine in the world; but is there not danger that each Christian may forget that he or she is the bearer of a lamp? and if that lamp be well filled with grace, and its light be lovingly thrown on one sinner's path, more good will be accomplished than by a whole torch-light procession out on parade. Immortal souls do not go to heaven or hell by regiments; they go one by one, and they must be saved one by one. The process of saving is also to a great degree an individual process. In battle it is said that only about one bullet out of a hundred brings down a man. A powerful sermon may be heard by a thousand people, and yet only half a dozen souls may be brought under conviction of sin, and they must be dealt with face to face.

A minister looking back over his experience said "I see now that a large part of the soul converting work was done by personal conversation. For example, I met lately with a veteran Christian who has been for nearly forty years a zealous member of the church; and I recalled to him the evening on which I had made a pastoral visit. On that evening a long talk with him had not produced much impression; but before I left he took me up into the nursery to see his rosy children in their cribs. As we stood looking at the sleeping little cherubs, I said to him, My friend, what sort of a father are you going to be to these children? That arrow lodged at the next communion season he was at the Master's table. Preaching from the pulpit had not brought him to a decision; the preaching he needed was face to face. Finally, two simple lessons are to be taught. Respect your individuality, and at the same time give God the glory of what you are and do. Let us live our own lives, and not expect our experience to be like our neighbor's. Let us live in and through God, doing our own work according to the grace given us.

Let us, as Christian Endeavorers, be sure that Christ is our foundation, that he is in us and in our work, and let our humble and hearty utterance ever be "not unto us, not unto us, but to thy holy name be all the glory."

Mrs. Celeste Coon, Syracuse, N. Y., writes: "For years I could not eat many kinds of food without producing a burning, excruciating pain in my stomach. I took Parnele's Pills according to directions under the head of 'Dyspepsia or Indigestion.' One box entirely cured me. I can now eat anything I choose, without distressing me in the least.' These Pills do not cause pain or griping, and should be used when a cathartic is required.

1896.

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