

Annual Synods. Conference Delegates and Nominations.

# Primitive Methodist Leader

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PRICE 2d.

## Demands of the Day

The gradual disappearance of war-conditions is creating new demands, as well as reasserting old claims, upon the Bible Society.

1. Its stocks of editions, which could not be maintained at their proper level during the years of war, must now be replenished.

2. Its organization over wide regions of Europe—notably in Poland, in Czecho-Slovakia, in Yugo-Slavia, in Bulgaria, in Rumania, and it is hoped soon in Russia—must now be entirely re-shaped.

3. Orthodox Eastern Churches are asking for special assistance. Thus the Archbishop of Smyrna has begged for a large new edition of the diglot Testament in Modern and Ancient Greek side-by-side; and the Archbishop of Athens has promised to co-operate in producing a fresh version in Modern Greek.

4. In East and West Africa alike missionaries are busy translating the Gospel into dozens of new languages, and the demands for editions when printed are enormous.

5. In India and Ceylon last year the Society circulated a million and a half books—an advance of 20 per cent. on 1918; while its circulation in China rose to 3,270,000 volumes.

6. In meeting these insistent demands the Society has to face the immensely increased expense of producing books. Paper alone costs six times its pre-war price. In addition to the problem of foreign exchanges, the Society's workers everywhere must receive additional allowances to give them a living wage.

Send your gifts to the Secretaries, British and Foreign Bible Society, 146, Queen Victoria Street, London, E.C. 4.

## Florence Nightingale.

By Rev. J. C. MANTRIPP.

The centenary of Florence Nightingale's birth will be celebrated on May 12, and it is only fitting that her courageous career should be recalled to memory. Reformers who seek to lay the axe to the roots of ancient abuses are apt, even if they get their work done, to pass into obscurity, and Miss Nightingale has not been an exception in this respect. Barely ten years have passed since her death, yet she who was said to be "a legend in her lifetime" has become merely a blurred memory, if not a myth, for the multitude. Yet, although her life work was mainly of a practical character, and achieved practical results, there was sufficient of the mystic, and something of the idealist, in Miss Nightingale to place her among the pioneers whose experience and work are a precious tradition in the records of the human race. Probably she has suffered most in respect of fame because of a conspicuous success which, after all, was but an episode in her career. The nurse at Scutari overshadows the life-long worker for reform.

In those Victorian days when life had leisure for pretty occupations, a passion for forming anagrams was in vogue, and from the name of Florence Nightingale this felicitous phrase was formed, "Fit on, obeying angel." This character fastened upon her. The pen picture of Mr. Macdonald, the Commissioner of the *Times* Fund, in which she is described as a ministering angel, who, when all others had retired, could "be observed alone, with a little lamp in her hand, making her solitary rounds" among the miles of beds in the Scutari hospitals, was vividly brought home to the multitude in Longfellow's poem "Santa Filomena," one of the most popular poems in the English language. The proper poem was fixed by such a verse as this:

"Lo! in that home of misery  
A lady with a lamp I see  
Pass through the gloomy gloom,  
And sit from room to room,  
And slow, as in a dream of bliss,  
The speechless sufferer turns to kiss  
Her shadow as it falls  
Upon the darkening walls."

Yet Miss Nightingale was no sweet angel from another sphere. She was a woman of character, capacity, and amazing energy. Before the Crimea gave her the supreme opportunity to declare her powers, she had caused some consternation in her own home and some wonder in a wider circle by her steady determination to follow a way of life in which she could fulfil her vocation. Neither wealth, the temptations of exclusive society, literary enticements, nor the career of marriage could woo her from her ambition to be a nurse. She was conscious of a call from God. Probably she had no idea of where the call would carry her. Her method was to concentrate on this one thing, and, having won her way through in spite of obstacles, she was not found wanting when other and larger tasks claimed her. It was the Crimean War that gave Miss Nightingale her great opportunity and carried her on to fame. The arrangement for the care of the wounded and sick had hopelessly broken down. It was one of those cases where

the ignorance of responsible authorities and incapacity of minor officials combined to complicate a task that was altogether beyond their powers. Necessary stores, both domestic and medical, were not forthcoming, even if they had been shipped to the seat of war. And there was more fear on the part of those in charge of the hospitals of breaking regulations than there was care to preserve lives. It is illuminating as to the value attached to the soldier of that day that when Miss Nightingale endeavoured to supply common comforts she was accused by responsible officials of "spoiling the brutes." What made the tragedy of Scutari more horrible was that an enquiry at the close of the war elicited the verdict that nothing in particular was at fault, and nobody in particular was to blame. It merely happened. The presence of a company of women nurses was a new thing in military hospitals. They aroused resentment and active hostility. But there was need for their presence. Milton's description is alone adequate to depict the conditions at Scutari:—

"A lazar-house it seem'd wherein were laid  
Numbers of all diseased, all maladies  
Of ghastly spasm, or racking torture, quins  
Of heart-sick agony, all fevers kind,  
Convulsions, epilepsies, fierce catarrhs."  
Miss Nightingale attempted to work in harmony with the officials, yet she insisted on reforms, and she got her way. Fortunately she had brought out stores of her own. Afterwards money poured in from the *Times* Fund and from private sources. Order evolved out of chaos. Her zeal went beyond the care of the patients in hospital. The wives of the soldiers, the camp followers, the soldiers in their leisure hours and their dependants at home, all benefited by her work. She was never known to raise her voice in giving an order. But when she had made up her mind that something must be done, somehow it was done. Her work in the Crimea aroused enthusiasm in this country. All classes combined to do Miss Nightingale honour. A fund of £44,000 was raised and placed at her disposal for the advancement of her chosen work. The Government and the populace sought to do her honour, but she shunned home quietly and at once commenced to use her popularity as a means for pioneering new reforms. She was ill. It seemed probable that only a few years of life remained for her. Rest was necessary, but she refused to rest. Work was her religion. While others were regarding her as an angel, she was using men and women as the instruments of her propaganda in such a way that in calm moments she wondered if she were a "vampyre." Certainly she had the power of attaching others to her and getting out of them the last ounce of energy for her work. Among her friends were some of the most notable men and women of the day, and most of these were proud to obey her commands. Army nursing, sanitation, workhouse reform, Indian affairs, War Office reform were among the matters that engaged her in the years before she went "out of office" in 1872. Even after that she continued to work.

There is no space to tell here of Florence



**Rev. H. J. TAYLOR,**  
St. George's Hall,  
Old Kent Road, London, S.E. 1.

was reported £15,000 had been raised during the year for reduction of consolidated debt or investment. Rev. R. W. B. Whitely was in chair as Friendly Society treasurer. Rev. T. Kynaston being nominated for vice-treasure of the society. The public meetings were held in the evening at the high school, Mr. J. A. Humphries, M.A., J. Kennish, J. A. Kershaw, R. W. Ferguson, T. Kynaston and J. W. Clifford, M.A., taking part. Sunday was an uplifting season.

### Brinkworth and Swindon.

Meetings held at Witney. Rev. F. W. Harper, G.C.D., preached on Thursday. On Friday a civic service was given in the Corn Exchange by Mr. and Mrs. G. C. Farley, Speakers. Revs. R. W. B. Whitely (Rector) and J. Green (Wesleyan). Full sessions opened on Saturday. Chairman, Rev. R. Cowie; Vice-Chairman, Rev. W. Webb; Revs. W. C. Leadbetter and H. Fox, secretaries. Reports of young people's work were very encouraging. Rev. R. J. Barrett was warmly thanked for his eight years' service. £3,150 has been paid off frust debtors. The missionary report was satisfactory, nearly sixpence per member more than last year having been sent to the two Funds. Rev. H. W. Pope announced £1,047 paid and promised for the Jubilee Fund and received a cheque (per Mr. T. A. Hutchings) for his services as Jubilee secretary. Rev. Freeman's case was commended for speedy and sympathetic consideration. Strong resolutions on Temperance, Gaming, and Education were forwarded to the proper quarters. The decision on the "Manchester" proposals was left to the discretion of our Conference delegates. Rev. W. Warham's ordination service was impressive, the "charges" being given by Revs. J. T. Stead and F. W. Harper. At the Monday demonstration, Councillor W. E. Morse presided. Revs. J. W. Hulter and T. Sands dealt with important national questions, and Mrs. T. Stones presented the Morse Challenge Shield to the Purton School. Nominations for international vice-offices: Book Steward, J. Swindon; Secretary, W. Eccles; Endeavour Secretary, R. Cowie. For the Oral Examiners' Committee, Mr. J. H. Thompson.

### Leeds.

The Synod met at Knaresborough. Our church here is not strong numerically, but it is housed in a beautiful little sanctuary. The business sessions opened on Saturday morning, under the direction of Rev. J. Morrison, G.C.D. The ordinary services were elected president, with Mr. E. Luscott as vice-chairman, and Rev. E. Vaughan, secretary. Alderman Shepherd, the Mayor of Huddersfield, reported that Dr. Guttery had undergone serious operation, and Rev. J. W. Cotton led the assembly in prayer. On the chapel reports Rev. F. J. Hadfield showed that in the past five years £25,000 had been paid off the £50,000 debt. Mr. E. McClellan was appointed G.C.D. for 1921, and Wakefield First received the next Synod. A beautiful address from Rev. J. M. Brown opened the afternoon proceedings. On Monday morning, nominations for the various offices were discussed as follows:—Vice Book Steward, Rev. H. L. Wilkinson; Young People's Missionary Dept., Rev. J. M. Brown; Secretary of Hartley College, Rev. W. Eccles. An animated discussion took place on the young people's department, and it was resolved that Conference be urged to appoint a full-time secretary for Endeavour and Temperance work. The proposals of the Manchester Committee re ministers' salaries raised considerable interest, and led to a discussion which resulted in a unanimous recommendation to Conference that the minimum salaries should be of the uniformity of £250. Another appointed list ministers: 2240; and Probationers, £160. The business of the sessions was despatched with unusual celerity and ease. The public services and meetings were of a uniformly high standard and successful character. The fraternal spirit manifested by Canon Hancock, Vicar of Knaresborough, who attended and spoke at the welcome meeting, together with Rev. J. G. Benson (Wesleyan), who introduced the Free Churches of the town, was highly appreciated.

### Bristol.

Held at Westgate Buildings, Bath. Chairman, Rev. Joseph Burton, Vice-Chairman, Rev. W. G. Johnson; Secretary, Rev. T. Fletcher. Rev. J. Evans presided over the Chapel Committee. £2,085 paid off debts during the year. The G.C.D. (Rev. A. Haigh) stated business well in hand. There is an increase of 18 members, and the Young People's Department is distinctly encouraging. The special cases of stationing were agreed to.—F. J. C. Dyer to Cheltenham, a fifth year; Rev. B. B. Bayliffe to Bristol Fifth, a fourth year. Mr. E. C. Ferriday, candidate for the ministry, was heartily recommended. Rev. Wilson Eccles was nominated as assistant to the General Secretary, and Mr. J. H. Holland as secretary to the Local Preachers' Aid Fund. Special attention was given to the subject of Temperance and Sabbath observance. The report for the Jubilee Fund showed that nearly all the circuits have promised or raised their quota. Approval was given to the Manchester legislation for the increase of salaries. The public services reached a very high

standard. On Sunday a very full programme was gone through. A splendid camp meeting was held on the Broad Quay. On Sunday evening the day was crowned with a real love feast, at the close of which eleven young persons publicly accepted Christ as their Saviour. Rev. W. Woodley and the officials were lavish in the entertainment. The delegates and the Council G. T. Cooke received the delegates to tea at the famous pump rooms.

### London First.

Synod met at Peterborough. On Thursday evening an inspiring sermon was preached by Rev. R. W. Russell, G.C.D., after which the Lord's Supper was administered. There was a fine gathering. The whole service was refreshing and uplifting. Public meetings were held on Friday evening on temperance and social purity, and were addressed by Revs. R. N. Wycherly, T. B. Cawkwell, J. Holland and J. A. Alderson. Messrs. T. Clark and H. J. May served as chairman and Mr. R. Stather as vice. On Saturday evening Mr. T. Moore presided, and Mr. H. G. Odell was vice-chairman at the public meeting, which was addressed by Rev. P. Jacques, Mr. W. Pishon and Rev. W. T. Hooper. In the Preachers' Friendly Society, on Friday, Rev. Clark Hallam was nominated for vice-treasurer. The application of Rev. C. G. Milson for superannuation was sympathetically received and recommended. On Saturday morning District meeting opened. Rev. W. T. Clark Hallam was unanimously elected president, Mr. T. Moore vice-president, and Rev. W. R. Bird secretary. Under the guidance of the genial G.C.D. rapid progress was made with the business. It was reported that £8,101 had been paid off Trust debts during the year. There was a small decrease of membership, but considerable increase in scholars. Next year's Synod is to be at Southend-on-Sea, with Rev. T. Collins as G.C.D. The following were recommended for connexional offices: Revs. Seivings, and Vice-Secretary Candidates: Examining Committee; G. E. Wiles, as Secretary Young People's Missionary Department; J. Holland as Secretary of Local Preachers' Aid Fund; T. W. Healey, Endeavour Secretary; J. Dobson, Treasurer of S.P.W. and O. Fund; Rev. W. Eccles, Secretary of Hartley College. Rev. J. W. Slack was cordially recommended for the approved list. Sunday was a great day. The ordinary services were held at Coldeston-street, when a fine charge was given by Rev. G. Armitage, and a helpful address to the church by Rev. E. E. Jobling. Open-air services were held each evening at Coldeston-street. A meeting in the afternoon was well attended. Rev. J. G. Bowman preached at New-road in the morning and Rev. A. E. Calvert at Coldeston-street in the evening. On Monday afternoon a motion on the work of God took place, and the various departments of our organisation came under review. The attention of the Conference is to be called to the inadequacy of the present minimum salaries paid to the ministers, owing to the further increased cost of living. Great public meeting on Monday evening was addressed by Revs. H. W. Smith and J. G. Bowman. Mr. E. Tomkins presided, and Mr. A. Knightsbridge was vice-chairman. The outstanding fact of the Synod was that five or six young folk decided for Christ on the Sunday night.

### London Second.

The meetings were held at Forest Hill. Rev. T. Lloyd Page, G.C.D. Conference; Several details were vice, Mr. W. H. Howard; secretaries, Revs. W. G. Rutherford and A. T. Slater. Debt reduced by over £4,430 and investments increased by £2,000. The ordinary fund were in advance, and the Jubilee effort in promises and cash has reached £1,250. Sunday-school income prosperous. A District decrease of forty-three members led to careful inquiry. The reports of work among the young were encouraging, showing the largest District increase, 1,196. Teachers and schools were also in advance. On Saturday a prolonged discussion on this work took place. Endeavour work showed growing popularity and increase. The applications for superannuation of Revs. J. Tolefree Parr and James Middleton were, with many expressions of appreciation, forwarded. Letters of sympathy ordered to the survivors of Revs. Thomas Saunders, Edwin Millchamper, and Thomas Whitehead. The following cases of re-stationing were made: G. C. Dyer, fifth year, Croxford; W. G. Rutherford, fifth year, Rotherhithe; J. W. Chappell, seventh year, Dalham; J. Carter, sixth year, Reading; J. T. Ridley, fourth year, Chatham; A. T. Slater, fourth year, Bristol; W. W. Goldstraw, ninth year, Dover. Nominations for connexional offices were: Endeavour Secretary, E. J. T. Bagnall; Candidates' Examining Secretary, Frank Holmes; Young People's Missionary Secretary, T. Graham; Local Preachers' Aid, T. Lloyd Page; London Chapel Fund, J. Mayles; Education Secretary, J. Tolefree Parr; S.M.W. and O. Treasurer, G. Truher; Vice-President, J. Skinner; J. P. Secretary of Conference, T. Lloyd Page. Letters of sympathy were sent to Revs. A. T. Guttery, D.D., S. Horton and J. W. Chappell, in their sickness. A visit on Monday

## THE ORPHAN HOMES.

THE 31st

## Anniversary

of the

## ALRESFORD HOME

(HANTS),

will be held on

WEDNESDAY, MAY 19TH, 1920.

### 12.30 Luncheon in the Tent on the Lawn

(Kindly given jointly by  
Wales District and Fleet  
Society, Hants)

### 2.0 Inspection of Home, and March Past of the Children.

### 2.30 Great Public Meeting in Tent in Playfield.

Chairman:

BAILEY JAMES GRAY, J.P. (Glasgow),  
Ex-Vice President of Conference

Vice-Chairman:

ERNEST ADAMS, Esq. (Shoffield).

Speakers:

Rev. JAMES WATKIN,  
President of Conference.  
Rev. J. G. BOWMAN  
(Ramsey Guthrie), Editor.

Brief Reports of Work and Finance by

Rev. W. CURRY, General Secretary.  
SIR THOMAS ROBINSON, K.B.E.,  
General Treasurer.

Programme of Music, Recitals, &c., by  
the Children.

### 4.30 Tea (Peace Tea, kindly given by Dr. J. FLETCHER PORTER).

### 5.30 Gymnastic Displays by the Children.

LUNCHEON and TEA 2/6. TEA only 1/-.

CHAR-A-BANCs start near House of Commons,  
London, at 9 a.m.

Return Fare 14/6. Book at once.  
Tickets from the Secretary.

## FUNDS URGENTLY NEEDED.

Donations will be gratefully received by—

Secretary:—  
Rev. W. CURRY,  
109, Harlesden Road, London, N.W. 10.  
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SIR T. ROBINSON, K.B.E., J.P.,  
Grimsby.

morning of Rev. J. Squire, B.A., B.D., of the United Methodist Church, led to expressions of hearty fellowship and general desires for a united Methodistism. The representatives to the General Committee are Revs. G. Truett, T. Lloyd Page, J. T. Goldstein, J. T. Bagnall, Harvey Rice, J. W. Chappell, T. Graham, W. G. Rutherford; Laymen, H. Hadow, J. Walker, M. T. Wigham, J. H. Morton, Councilors A. Jackson, James Holland, C. Pinhorn, Skinner, J. P. L. C.C. and the public services were of the highest character, and in the reports of Sunday it was learned that souls were saved.

### North British.

Synod held at Edinburgh, Rev. G. Roy Russell, G.C.D.; Rev. R. Ferguson, president; Mr. C. J. Tuckwell, vice; Rev. W. Stott, secretary. There is an increase of twenty-three members and 114 scholars. Burnbank School was awarded the Thomas Robinson challenge shield. The illness and absence of Mr. Robinson and Rev. J. Rison from the Synod last week regretted. Trust estates were reported to be in a much healthier condition. Missionary and orphanage revenue continues to leap upwards. District contributions to Jubilee Fund will exceed the quota, four-fifths being secured already. Next Synod at Whiteinch, Glasgow Fourth, Rev. M. Featherstone, G.C.D. Rev. W. H. Campbell was nominated to Candidates' Examining Committee.

Following on last year's report a deputation, Rev. J. W. Stocker and Mr. C. T. Nightingale was received as a deputation from the Wesleyan Church. A unique feature of the public services was the fact that the part taken by outstanding representatives of other Churches. Rev. A. J. G. Seaton, B.D., Wesleyan Central Hall, preached the opening sermon on Thursday, and Rev. Norman McLean, United Free Church of Scotland, the Synod sermon on Sunday morning. At the great temperance demonstration on Saturday evening, over which Mr. J. A. Broughton presided, Rev. James Barr, M.P., of the United Free Church, Glasgow, was a speaker, along with Rev. F. J. Sainty, Rev. Lauchlan McLean, W.D., of St. Stephen's, Edinburgh, sharing the public meeting on Monday evening with Rev. W. H. Campbell. A very pleasant function was the missionary conversation and reception of delegates, over which ex-Bailie Jas. Gray, J.P., presided, on Friday evening at the Easter Road Church. Mr. A. Reid was host and hostess, and Rev. W. Glover advocated the claims of the Jubilee Fund. At the most impressive order of Revs B. Poole, J. W. Sonlby and J. H. A. Maughan on Sunday afternoon the charges to the candidates was given by Rev. W. H. Campbell. A memorable day was brought to close by a powerful and fruitful service, when Rev. T. Dale was the preacher.

### Liverpool.

The Synod was held at Buck's-road, Douglas. The delegates received a civic reception from the Mayor and Mayoress (Alderman J. and Mrs. Kelly), which the Lieut.-Governor of the Isle of Man, Rev. A. J. Wigley was elected chairman of the Synod, Alderman Kelly vice-chairman, and Rev. D. S. Lees secretary. Fraternal greetings were sent to the Chester District. Rev. T. Herbert Barlow, G.C.D., got through the business most expeditiously. There was profound regret that Dr. Guttry was unable to be present on account of the unfortunate turn in the state of his health. Messages of sympathy were sent to him. The reports were of a most encouraging character. Out of 201 churches 122 are reported debtless. During the year £2,026 have been received. The missionary income is again a record, and averages 5s. per member. Interesting discussions took place on young people's work, and Rev. H. J. Pickett emphasised the importance of the young people's training. The applications of Revs. John Giller and A. J. Campbell, F.I.S., for superannuation were approved and excellent testimonies to their ministry were expressed. A number of touching tributes were paid to the memory of the late Rev. James Travis and John Whittle. The District Meeting for 1921 is to be held at Preston (Fylde-road), with Rev. Jas. F. Phillippson as G.C.D. The public service were well sustained. A great gathering was held in the Villa Marina on the Sunday afternoon, at which addresses were given by Rev. John Hall and Rev. H. J. Pickett.

### Sheffield.

Held at Workshop. Rev. P. Gibbon presided over Chapel Committee. Trust debts amount to £54,138. Reduction during year £2,822. Rev. Joseph Maland was elected chairman of the Young People's Ministry, Rev. J. W. Jenkinson secretary, and Rev. F. G. Wade assistant. Rev. W. T. Cole ably served as G.C.D. The meeting sympathetically endorsed Rev. Henry Jones' application for superannuation after fifty-nine years' active ministry. Suitable resolutions were passed relating to the deaths of Revs. William Travis and F. J. Morgan. Gratifying increases were reported of 565 scholars and twenty-five teachers. Application to amalgamate Sheffield John-street and Sheffield Ann-road was recommended to Conference, and also the application for

Doncaster Second to become the new head of South Yorkshire Mission. Legislation re Connexional Salaries Sustentation Fund was referred to District Committee for further consideration. Nominations: Vice-Book Steward, W. H. Wilkinson; S.M., W. and O. Treasurer, Samuel Barker. The Synod of 1921 to be at BAKEWELL. G.C.D. Rev. John Southall; Candidates' Examining Committee, W. Carr. Missionary money: General Fund, 1927-28, £30,000. African, £1,442.5s. 11d., total increase £248.10s. 10d. Jubilee cash and promises, £2,450.6s. 1d.; further amount expected, £464.4s.; total to date, £2,914.10s. 1d. The public services were of a high order. The opening sermon was preached on Thursday by Rev. John Bradbury. The meeting on Friday was addressed by Revs. G. G. Martindale and J. Southall and Mr. N. Bingham. On Saturday night a rousing Jubilee Missionary meeting was addressed by Revs. W. S. Barrett and W. J. Targett and Mr. J. Sivil. The Jubilee statement by Rev. S. Bates on Monday was warmly approved by the Synod. The early morning services were helpful. At the ordination of Rev. T. Usher, B.A., on Sunday morning, Revs. G. Hind and G. G. Martindale delivered the charges to candidate and church respectively. The mass meeting was addressed by Revs. J. W. Jenkinson, J. Maland and J. Bradbury.

### Grimsby and Lincoln.

The Synod was held at Ashby, in the Scotter Circuit. The official sermon was preached by Rev. P. W. B. Oliver, G.C.D. Rev. Edric Reed reported that £5,475 had been paid off the chapel debts. Five such years will free the District entirely from debt. At the friendly raised Rev. W. J. W. Water presided. The application of Rev. James P. Langham for superannuation was endorsed, with many tributes to his worth and work. Rev. T. Cook was nominated as Vice-Treasurer to the L.P.F. Rev. J. P. Langham was elected chairman, Mr. Henry Doughty to the G.C.D. and Rev. A. Jackson the secretary. The V.C.D. had matters well in hand, and the business was despatched in expeditious fashion. There was a not less of members of 104. Rev. George Jackson was admitted into the full ministry, and Mr. John F. Humphrey preached as a candidate. The total missionary revenue is £1,692.10s. increase, £116.7s. 4d. For the Jubilee Fund the amount in cash and promises totalled £4,595, leaving £405 still to be raised. The proposed legislation re Book Stewardship was lost. The next Synod goes to Sutton-on-Sea, Alford Circuit, with Rev. A. Longstaff as G.C.D. Mr. C. K. Watkins, J.P., was nominated for Vice-Presidency of Conference. Rev. J. E. Story becomes the new Temperance Secretary, and Mr. B. Thompson succeeds to the L.P.F. Training Committee. The public services throughout have been of a very high order. Special mention should be made of the ordination service and the Monday night public meetings, which will rank with the best ever held. The following nominations to Connexional office were made: Vice-Book Steward, Rev. W. R. Wilkinson; Young People's Missionary Department, Rev. C. F. Gill; Endeavour Secretary, Rev. T. Allison Brown.

### Darlington and Stockton.

The meetings were held at Middleton-in-Teesdale, the opening sermon being preached by the G.C.D., Rev. J. M. Craddock. A direct and manly discourse found a very appreciative congregation. Rev. F. W. Atkin was unanimously elected chairman, and Mr. H. J. Mein vice-chairman, Rev. E. B. Storr secretary. The main decreases were carefully considered. A resolution on the state of the schools was of a very interesting and useful discussion, which manifested a good deal of concern and heart-searching. Revs. G. B. Richmond, E. B. Storr, Mr. C. H. Leach and Mr. W. N. Thompson made useful contributions to the subject. Middlebrough made application to be divided. After considerable discussion the request was granted. The next Synod was to be held at West Auckland. The religious services were well attended. Evidently great interest had been stirred in adjoining stations, and on the Sunday chas-banc, motels and other conveyances carried in large numbers of enthusiasts. On Saturday morning, at seven, Rev. C. Roberts preached a delightfully fresh sermon. At night a large congregation gathered to a Jubilee mission meeting, which was presided over with great urbanity and eloquence by Mr. H. J. Mein and Mr. W. H. Rutherford. The speeches of Revs. F. R. Brunsell and W. H. Holby were of a high order. Rev. F. W. Atkin gave the address for the Sunday morning Communion service. Rev. E. B. Storr preached to a magnificent congregation on the Sunday morning—a strong, devout and passionate utterance. A crowded Young People's meeting was held in the afternoon. Rev. P. McPhail preached to a magnificent congregation at night. On Monday nominations were made: Revs. G. J. Lane, vice to the Book Steward; Rev. G. B. Richardson, Endeavour Secretary; Rev. W. Howarth, as Secretary of the Candidates' Examining Committee; Rev. P. C. Storr, Secretary of the Young People's Missionary Department. An enthusiastic meeting was held at night, when the speakers were Revs. T. H. Keddard, J. Rutherford, and Mr. E. M. French.

(Continued on page 302.)

# WHITECHAPEL INSTITUTE.

## EAST END LONDON MISSION.

Visitors to the May Missionary Meetings are cordially invited to the

# ANNUAL MEETING

of the INSTITUTE, HOME, POLICE COURT & PRISON CARE MISSION.

TO BE HELD IN

THE ALEXANDRA ROOM OF THE INSTITUTE  
(Next door to Whitechapel Station, District Railway)

ON

MONDAY, MAY 17, 1920

at 3.30 p.m. prompt.

Mr. SHERIFF EVES

will preside.

THE LADY MAYORESS

will distribute the Prizes.

Miss PHOEBE DA COSTA,

Soloist

The following have promised to be present:-

Sir STUART M. SAMUEL, Bart.  
Alderman J. D. KILBY, M.P.  
Sir JOHN J. BADDELEY, J.P. and  
Lady BADDELEY.  
HENRY HILL, Esq.  
Rev. J. A. MAYO (Rector of Whitechapel).  
Rev. J. T. BARREY.  
Rev. J. K. ELLWOOD.  
Rev. J. DOBSON.  
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Councillor H. KOSKY, J.P.  
Councillor W. H. JONES.  
Councillor J. W. ROSENTHALL.  
H. CLOGG, Esq., J.P.  
W. TYLER, Esq., J.P.  
W. GROVES, Esq., J.P.  
Mr. H. E. KINCHIN.

The Rev. THOMAS JACKSON will give the Report

Collection for Rescue Work.

# THE BLOOD OF THE BROOMES.

By EDWARD MCLELLAN.

Author of "Shrewsbury of the Guards," "The Winning of Gloria," "The Mystery of Bedstone Manor," etc., etc.

## CHAPTER XVIII.

### Serenity Hesitates—and Loses.

Neither of the two men had observed Serenity, and they passed into the chief's room, still engaged in earnest talk. Serenity followed them with her eyes, her heart throbbing as if it would break the restraining walls.

"Clever-looking brass-hat that with the chief," Tom said, whose eyes missed nothing. "That was one of his compensations. Sight and hearing were unusually quick in these last fleeting hours."

"Yes," Serenity said in a whisper. "He startled me rather. He reminded me of someone I once knew."

"How he gone West, too, Sister?"  
"He went—West—six months ago."  
"Ain't this a lovely war?" Tom said disgustedly. "Tell me some more about that girl, Sister—if you're sure it doesn't hurt to tell."

Serenity allowed the appeal to remain unanswered for so long a time that the dying had feared he had touched a chord that had hurt after all, and it filled him with regret. He had not many instincts to guide him, but such as he had were true, and he hated to think of any making of his had wounded one who had filled his shattered life with visions. He glanced appealingly into the Sister's face, but its changing colours baffled him. He thought the hand that still smoothed his brow and stroked his forehead trembled, steadily tremulous, as though the pulse had quickened a little, but that was all. He feasted his hungry eyes on the lovely colouring of the cheeks, and bathed his very soul in the velvet of her eyes. They were looking far beyond the confines of that cold hospital, resting for its brief ministry in the very heart of that smitten land. He wondered if he could see the sea beating against the headlands of Devon coast, and whether the man the brass-hat had reminded her of had lived there, too.

He did not press his request. That could wait. It was fortunate to be and look into such a face. It was paradise with all the angels in it he had ever dreamed of, to feel that hand caressing his brow, although he was sure, now, it trembled. It was as if he had no pain—no grief—no heartache. And how cool and soft that hand was! And what a depth of light there was in the sound of those eyes! Tom wished he could die, there and then. Fortunately, he came straight from such a person, the God he believed in would have welcomed him, if only for her sake. She made him feel clean, somehow, and that was what he had been wanting—although he hadn't known it until then.

It was destined that his question was not to be answered then, for the chief came out of his room, cast a hurried look round, and seeing Serenity, marched straight to the bed where she sat. She rose to receive the expected order, and he said swiftly,

"G.I.Q. has sent a man down to test a special operation newly discovered. It's tremendously important, for if it succeeds it will expedite our work enormously—almost unbelievably. The value must be determined by tests on the field, and as we are one of the most advanced hospitals, and are getting the kind of cases he treats, they've sent him to me. I'm a doctor, a case has just come that meets his requirements. It's a very delicate thing, as he's explained it to me, and I don't risk any carelessness anywhere. I know you are tired, but the man can't wait any longer than is absolutely necessary. Can you do the work?"

Serenity stared into her chief's eyes like one bemused. She was sure that the man she had seen pass down the ward was Yorke. And yet how different he was! That Yorke had escaped she knew, as all England knew, and that he had not been recaptured she knew. The doctor had advised her of that. He had disappeared into the void, and she had never doubted that he had made his way back in safety to his German base.

How, then, could this man be he? Dressed in the uniform of an English officer, and commissioned to test a difficult and dangerous experiment in such an advanced dressing-station as this was? They were in sight and sound of the line, in the very heart of an intricate network of communications of the front, and yet, operative freely in such a place, could do untold mischief and undo the patient, laborious work of many heart-breaking months.

She concluded at once, so swiftly did thoughts weave out its piece, that Yorke was capable of doing this. It would be like him, with his intrepid spirit, his utter fearlessness of consequences, to dare it. How he had controlled his administrative fire in such a commanding now, she could not fathom. Nor did that matter. She must, of course, accept the chief's request. She could do no other. Besides, it would

bring her face to face with the man, and that would make her sure. Not that she needed any further assurance. No other face, no other figure, no other tread, could have made her heart turn somersaults as hers was doing then. She would confront him, and if it were he—undeniably and indubitably he—she would make no mistake, for she knew the faintest flick in his lip, and the faintest scar on the curve of his lip—then she would confront him.

So swift it thought that she had reached these conclusions within the time a tired woman may reasonably claim for the consideration of such an appeal as her chief had made. She turned to Tom and said quietly, "I'll finish that story by-and-by." Then she rose and said to her chief, "I am quite ready," and followed him without another word.

The time it takes to traverse the length of a long hospital ward counted in seconds is not long, but it can seem like years. The number of thoughts that can pass through the mind within the same space of time can conceivably be reckoned on the fingers, and yet within the same space a life can flash its panorama upon the screen, with every picture as distinct as a photograph. It can be argued that there is no room for more than one emotion in the heart at the same time, and yet some experiences can tell of love and hate, of hatred fed, of some of the most vivid alternating rapidly that the seem to combine into one vast devastating wave of feeling. Serenity knew all of this kaleidoscope change as she followed her chief, and yet she confronted with a demeanour as outwardly calm as though he were the very sturdiest, with whom she had no more concern than a lancet.

For that it was Yorke she knew beyond the shadow of a doubt the moment she faced him. His uniform made him statelier, but there could be no disguising of that strong face, and none had been attempted; besides, there was no duplication of those eyes in all the world. She knew the brow that she had seen, and she noted the scar on the lip—ever so faint a scar—but beyond any doubt there. The words were on her lips to denounce him—to speak the word that would transform him from a trusted surgeon to a condemned spy, when he said, quietly,

"You look very tired, Sister. Do you think you can go through with it?"

He was looking deep into her eyes. If he had recognized her—as he must have done, she asserted to herself passionately—he made no sign of it. He spoke kindly as he would have done to a child, or a servant, or a dog, but the words, and the voice, imperious though it was, killed the words on her lips. She could not send that man to his death, whoever or whatever he was, then. She would see what his hands could do, for she knew surgeons' work, and when he had revealed what he had come to teach—then! Besides, that would give her time to think.


"I am the only one of my age," she said, her voice sounding miles away, and not in the least like her own, "and I am willing to do my best."

Nothing more was needed, and nothing more was said. With two such men at the table as her chief and Yorke, for she knew the two, and the one below the actual work commenced, that he was a master, too—words were unnecessary, and she knew her own work so well that no directions, save of the briefest to forest the new tests, were needed.

Serenity could not remember when she had felt so tired as at that moment when she had stood looking out on the night, and now, within the hour, an exaltation possessed her that made the thought of fatigue an absurdity. All men of fine breeding are greatly impressed by great work greatly done, but when a woman, so finely and splendidly human as Serenity was, observes a masterpiece of surgery performed with such ease and so little effort, and in thousands of urgent cases as aid had never been possible before, then the effect is spiritual to an inspiring degree.

She sat as one entranced, and yet with every faculty awake and alert, anticipating with a rare intelligence every need, almost as if she could read what was passing in Yorke's mind. Once, at the very crisis of the operation, by an exclamation of admiration—the merest word—but it sufficed. Apart from that one word, she might not have existed, except as an automaton, for the notice either man paid to her. She was a mere-spy adjunct—and that was all.

Serenity's heart moved evenly now, but her brain flamed with fire. That man with the wizard's fingers was a spy. That man with the face of granite and the mind of a disabbed cleverness was a traitor. Ostensibly he had come to heal, and he could guarantee his credential to the letter abundantly interpreted, but actually he had come to discover



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secrets that would make his gift to surgery a mockery, and the occasion of laughter among devils. But this time he should not escape. That was the no scene. She knew what the order would be. When the operation was over she would be invited to coffee in the chief's room, and she could do it then. She actually imagined how he would look when she sprung the mine. He would neither bluster nor deny, but unless he were rendered incapable of flight or further mischief, he would balk them. She was sure of that.

Then her mood changed. How could he work with such superb coolness, knowing that the woman who stood at his elbow knew that he was a spy? What kind of a brain had he that could banish her as completely as though that lazar at Friars Haven had no existence? What kind of a heart was his that had been capable of such passionate pretensions, and that now would not even admit of her proximity?

She had wit enough to know that such a mood was perilous to efficiency, and she banished it. Decals were being done on that prome body stretched on the table that would ring round the world and revolutionise a thousand methods. No lack of hers must hinder. The spy must leave his secret complete and perfect, and there would be time enough for Nemesis to drag him down at heel and make him powerless for ever.

At last it was over—splendidly and successfully—and both now stretched themselves and smiled. The chief said, "Good man!" in a tone that meant more than a volume of fulsome praise, and Yorke replied, "Not bad, is it?" his face lit up like a schoolboy's who has won a prize and is proud of it.

It had been swiftly done. That was the essence of the whole idea. The chief led the way back to his room, and after Serenity had attended to the things that belonged to her domain she followed. She wasted no time. Unless she hurried he might have gone already, for he would surely know what she would do, and forestall her. But she was wrong. He had not gone. Nor did he seem in any hurry to go. He stood, a cap of hot coffee in his hand, listening intently to the chief's recital of the troops that were at work in that sector, of the engagements that were impending, and of the probable casualties his hospital might expect to deal with.

Serenity's heart froze with horror as she grasped the full scheme that underlay this revelation of triumphant surgery. It was to glean this information that the distant exploit had been planned. Had it not been for her knowledge of the man, nothing

could have prevented it from succeeding. Yorke would have got away with the disposition of a whole segment of the line in his mind, and piled up disaster for our armies would have followed. She must end it, and now!

She walked straight to the chief and opened her lips, when Yorke interrupted by saying,

"This coffee is yours, Sister. I have claimed the honour of serving you in recognition of the honour you have done in some of your work. Your name is only equalled by your precension, and that is phenomenal."

"But—" Serenity began, her face flushing crimson.

"You have contributed to the saving of one life to-night, that must have been lost but for your help," Yorke went on smoothly, giving her the full benefit of his piercing eyes, "and you must not mar it by losing another—your own," he added, with a significant emphasis. "Your chief has been telling me that you are invaluable. He needed not to have told me that. Some things are too obvious to need elaboration."

"You must—" Serenity began again, but Yorke's resonant tone silenced her again.

"I must go now. I must be far away from here before daybreak. Thanks, again, Sister. I envy your chief. Good-night."

And before she could speak he was gone. (To be continued.)

### Hartley College Reunion.

A good number of "old boys" came up to the reunion at Hartley College, and a particularly happy time was spent. The unexpected arrival at the tea-table of Rev. Tom Sykes, fellow-carpenter, present much pleasure, and a typically "Tom Sykes" speech after tea delighted both visitors and residents. Tuesday's programme opened with a Communion service in the College Chapel, conducted by the Principal, assisted by Professors Wardle, Lea, and Revs. J. E. Storey and E. B. Holtby. At 12.30 p.m. a most impressive ceremony took place, when a portrait of our late brother and fellow-student, Ernest Robson, was presented to the College by Mrs. Robson. Touching speeches testifying to the abiding worth and character of Mr. Robson were given by Revs. P. Shaw, S. Gray and W. Harrison. A portrait of another fellow-student who was killed in action, Mr. Nowall Thornthwaite, was recently presented to the College. Both portraits now hang in our Common Room. A memorial is being erected in the College Chapel, and will be unveiled at a later date.

A pretty wedding ceremony was conducted at Pleasant Grove Church, Upton Park, on April 24th, the contracting parties being Miss Florence Lilian Kibbler Heard, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Heard, of East Ham, and Charles William, son of Mr. and Mrs. B. Cornwall, of Upton Park. The bride, who was given away by her father, was charmingly attired in a dress of white satin and train edged with pearls, and wore a veil and orange blossoms, and carried a beautiful bouquet. The bridesmaids were Miss B. Green, Miss R. Cornwall, Miss K. Howard and Miss A. Vickery. Mr. R. F. Cornwall (brother of the bridegroom) served as best man. Rev. R. F. Fink officiated, and Mrs. J. F. Plummer presided at the organ. A reception was afterwards held at the home of the bride's parents. There was a large number of beautiful presents.

### BLACKPOOL NEW SITE FUND.

COST OF SITE	£4,750.
AMOUNT RAISED	£2,775.
WANTED	£1,975.

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### WILL YOU HELP?

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## THE MAY MISSIONARY JUBILEE ANNIVERSARY.

### PROGRAMME.

HOLBORN HALL, CLERKENWELL ROAD,  
SATURDAY, MAY 15th, at 5.30 p.m.  
THE POPULAR RALLY OF THE YOUNG PEOPLE OF OUR CHURCHES.

CHAIRMAN - - - - - Conncillor R. SPARK (Stockton-on-Tees).

SPEAKERS: REV. W. H. COLLINS (Fernando Poo); REV. J. T. BARKBY (General Missionary Secretary); REV. A. BALDWIN (Financial Secretary). Circuit Groups will give One-Minute Missionary Responses.

A New Feature: REV. F. W. DODDS' "THE BLACK MAN'S TREE," by Survey Chapel Young People's Mission.

METROPOLITAN TABERNACLE, NEWINGTON BUTTS, S.E.,  
TUESDAY, MAY 18th.

10 a.m. PUBLIC PRAYER MEETING,  
led by Rev. W. M. KELLEY.

10.30 MORNING MEETING.

Chairman: T. W. SWINDELL, Esq., J.P. (Vernmouth), representative of Norwich District, which first requested the Conference to send Missionaries to Africa.

SPEAKERS:

Rev. W. GOUDIE (Secretary Wesleyan Methodist Missionary Society).

Rev. J. WATKIN (President of Conference).

Rev. S. E. BUCKLEY (South Central Africa).

Rev. J. T. BARKBY will give the Annual Report.

The Luncheon will be given by the Darlington and Stockton District, and the Tea by the Norwich District.

Tickets for Luncheon and Tea, 3/6. Luncheon only, 3/- Tea only, 1/.

Collections for Missionary Funds. Donations may be sent to the Rev. J. T. BARKBY, 8, Holborn Hall, Gray's Inn Road, London, W.C.

1.0 PUBLIC LUNCHEON in the Lecture Hall.

2.30 AFTERNOON MEETING.

President: Mrs. C. R. MAYNARD.

Vice-President: Mrs. HARVEY ROE.

Speakers: Mrs. G. H. HANNEY and Mrs. E. E. PRITCHARD.

Soloist: Mrs. HARRISON.

Mrs. J. JOHNSON will give the Report.

4.30 PUBLIC TEA in the Lecture Hall.

6.30 THE GREAT EVENING MEETING.

Chairman: Sir WILLIAM P. HARTLEY, J.P.

SPEAKERS:

Sir ROBERT W. PERKES, Bart.  
Rev. J. A. KERSWELL (South Central Africa).

Rev. F. W. DODDS (Nigeria).

Rev. J. T. BARKBY.

Rev. A. BALDWIN.

and the Tea by the Norwich District.





**EDITORIAL.**—All communications should be addressed to the Editor, P. M. Leader, 73, Farnborough Street, London, E.C.4. MSS. are always gladly received for consideration, but must not be accompanied by a stamped addressed envelope for return if not used.

**ADVERTISEMENTS.**—All notices for advertisement must be sent to Mr. T. M. Brindley, 11, Imperial Buildings, Lodge Circus, London, E.C.4, and must arrive by Tuesday morning.

**MEMBERSHIP.**—The "Primitive Methodist Leader" will be forwarded post free at the following rates, payable in advance: United Kingdom, Quarterly, 10s.; Yearly, 35s.; Colonies, Quarterly, 12s.; Yearly, 40s. 10s. per annum. Cheques should be crossed "The National Provincial and County Bank of England and made payable to the Manager."

# The Primitive Methodist Leader.

Incorporating the Primitive Methodist and the Primitive Methodist World.

Thursday, May 6, 1920.

## THE METHODIST UNION COMMITTEE.

### Draft Constitution Approved.

By FIDUS.

On Wednesday and Thursday of last week the United Committee on Methodist Union met at the County Buildings, Westminster. This was the first meeting as historic in the annals of this great movement. The Constitution of the proposed new Church, prepared by the Executive, had been submitted to each of the three Denominations. The Committee's recommendations and suggestions were further considered by the Executive, and their final report was presented to the United Committee on these two days. Rev. Dr. Barber, President of the Wesleyan Conference, presided. The discussions were preceded by a devotional service, in which Revs. Dr. Brook, G. Armitage, John Moore and Sir A. S. Peake, Sir Henry Lunn and Mr. G. P. Dymally, Congregationalists of the brethren. It was in this devotional atmosphere that the discussion proceeded. Every paragraph of the report was considered. New minds came to the inquiry, and it was natural that many questions needed to be answered. It was found, however, that practically everything had been before the minds of the Executive.

The Doctrinal Statement was considered and finally confirmed. The arrangements for the administration of the Lord's Supper also came under review, and these too were confirmed. The question of the Vice-President of the Conference was challenged, but in the end only two voted against it. Mr. Albert Shaw and Rev. J. G. Bowman proved the high advantage of having Vice-Presidents. The many questions that were unanimously agreed that there is no insuperable difficulty in that sphere in the path of Union. Mr. J. Barker spoke for our Church, and enquired that the service rendered in the Department of the George Parkley, of the United Methodist Church. One vital change was made in regard to the thirty ministers and thirty laymen who are to form a more permanent feature of the proposed Conference. The suggestion was that they should hold office for six years, and that the first appointed should hold the position for six years before the policy of retirement began. It was pointed out that this would mean that some would be members of the Conference for eleven or twelve years. It was decided that the retirement should begin at the end of the first year, but that there should be the possibility of re-election. Only slight changes in verbiage here and there were made.

The whole tone of the discussions was admirable. All were conscious of the guidance of the Spirit of God, and equally conscious of the splendour of the hour and of the opportunity. The comradeship at the United Committee was altogether delightful. The ministers and laymen of the three Churches are friends. With absolute unanimity it was decided that the final report should be sent to each of the three Conferences this year, with the recommendation of the United Committee. The Conferences also are desired to reappoint the Committee and to submit the proposed Constitution to the District Synods of next year for their consideration and record. What is required next is for the proposed Constitution to be expounded to the Methodist people everywhere. It needs to be seen in all its parts. It will be found that it is broader based and more democratic than any of the three existing Churches. The Constitution of the Quarterly Meetings, Leaders' Meetings and the District Meetings are greatly in advance of anything existing in Methodism at the present time.

The whole Committee greatly regretted the absence of Dr. Guttery, and especially because of his condition of health. It is hoped that he will be able to join the United Committee in the near future in suggestion and statesmanship. Not only were the Primitive Methodists on the Committee distressed by his absence, but the members of his Union, his friends and of the other sections were keenly sympathetic. We were sorry, too, that Mr. Horton, who has been our secretary, was obliged to leave after the first session. We noticed that he was sitting at a table in the cold. He was missed in the remaining sessions of the Committee. Rev. James Watkins, our President, made a most effective contribution. He pleaded that we should keep the Union of the three Churches. He had no sympathy with the policy of Union that was inspired simply by reasons of economy. Metho-

dism Union should mean the expansion of the Kingdom of God. He pleaded that in all our outpourings and commendations we should keep this steadily in view. The luncheons and tea were provided by Mr. Robert Turner, Mr. Joseph Ward and Sir W. P. Hartley. Sir William's interest in Methodist Union was well expressed by Mr. Walter Dr. Paul and Rev. J. T. Barkby. We think we express the mind of the whole Committee when we say that the Cause is of God. No movement has had such conscious guidance. It is now for our people everywhere to have the proposals explained, and we do not doubt the issue.

## METHODIST UNION.

### Official Report.

The meeting of the full Methodist Union Committee, composed of over 200 representatives of the Wesleyan, Primitive and United Methodist Churches, was held at the Central Buildings, Westminster, on Wednesday, Thursday, April 28th and 29th. There was an excellent attendance, although there were one or two notable absences through illness, such as Rev. Dr. A. T. Guttery and Rev. George Barker, and Rev. E. L. Wiseman, who is in America. The President of the Wesleyan Methodist Conference, Rev. W. T. A. Barber, D.D., presided. The large Committee was crowded, and the fine hour was spent in prayer and devotional exercises. The influence of the Divine Spirit rested more manifestly than ever upon the assembly.

The agenda was the consideration of the next steps to be recommended to the Conferences for dealing with this most important question. The universal feeling in the Committee was very definitely that the matter must be handled with judgment. The general impression was that Adequate time must be given to the Methodist people to become familiar with and to understand the meaning of the proposals and to form a calm and unprejudiced judgment. The general feeling was that it was recommended to take the Synods into consultation before the proposals are submitted to the various Church Courts for decision. If the suggestions of the Committee adopted by the Synods will be in the best possible form before the definite decision on Methodist Union is taken. The Committee then considered the report of its Executive. At the first meeting of the full Committee it had appointed an Executive to draft a scheme for Union. That Executive has met again and again and has appointed sub-committees. Its proposals have been submitted to the Denominational Committees, and their suggestions have been considered in the production of the report that was considered by the full Committee last week. The general impression against the representatives of all the Churches is that the scheme is much more acceptable to their Churches than has been deemed possible.

It is difficult to state the proposals in a brief space without giving a false impression. The different parts of the scheme affect one another. The doctrinal basis of the United Church will be the evangelical doctrines for which Methodism has stood from the beginning. The final decision will be based on the basis of the scheme will be based on the basis of the scheme with regard to all questions concerning the interpretation of the doctrines of the United Church. On the much-debated question of the purpose of the Lord's Supper of the Lord's Supper the general usage of the three United Churches by which the Sacrament is administered by ministers will continue to be preserved. The general feeling was that the special provision to secure the regular administration of the Sacrament, the Conference will be responsible for the authorisation of duly qualified persons set apart for the purpose. The basis of membership will be that all persons will be welcomed into membership who sincerely desire to be saved from their sins through faith in the Lord Jesus and evidence the same in life and conduct, and who seek to have fellowship with Christ and His people in the Methodist Church. There will be no doctrinal tests for membership. All the names of members will be entered upon a Class Book and will be under the pastoral care of a Class Leader. The Conference will consist of ministers and laymen in equal numbers. To them will belong all questions of discipline and of the Church's administrative system. The ministerial session will have full power to decide upon the questions reserved to it, such questions being those upon which

ministers are experts. The President will be elected by the Conference and will be a minister. The Vice-President, who will be a layman, will also be elected by the Conference. His Confidential duties will be confined to the sessions where laymen are members. Any circuit or Synod may nominate its Conference and all proposed legislation, when provisionally approved by the Conference, will be sent to the Synods, and the reports of the Synods will be considered by the Conference before the proposed legislation becomes law.

The Secretaries were authorised to prepare an annotated edition of the report. This is necessary by reason of the most interesting customs and mode of expression in the existing Churches might occasion misunderstanding of the proposals. In a short time that edition of the report will be ready. When considering the report on financial matters the Committee passed a resolution unanimously that the report showed that financial questions did not raise any difficulties that should hinder the accomplishment of the Union. The meetings of the Committee were characterised by great hopefulness and a spirit of good will and cordiality.

E. ALDOUS FARNCE.

## THE BOOK OF THE DAY.

### A Methodist Union Handbook.

"The secret of statesmanship," said Gardiner the historian, "is power to recognise existing facts." Every Methodist in Great Britain needs that power just now. Union is before us; a momentous question will shortly be decided, and the acid test of power for what we know, but for what we are able to get to know, on this subject. Likes and dislikes, prejudice and privilege, are all to be brought to the acid test of power. What form of Methodism will be best in the new age? What will make the witness of the Methodist Church most effective? Has the union of Methodists in Canada and Australia met the need of the Church a more powerful instrument for righteousness? Are the United Churches pleased with the result? Is there anywhere any desire to revert to the old denominational divisions? Can the best in each of the negotiating Churches in Britain be carried over into a new and united Church? And will this mean not only more strength but more power to make kindred decisions? These are the issues now to be faced. And each of the three Churches will shortly have to say Yes or No to all these questions, and either use their force to elect or to preclude existing divisions. It will be pathetic and culpable to settle this great issue without taking the trouble to know the facts.

Rev. George Eayrs, F.R.S.E., is the greatest living Methodist historian. His ripe scholarship, rare ability and clear outlook make his book unique. "British Methodist History" is a book that is a "Who's Who" of the salient facts of yesterday and to-day, and tells whence we came, how and why, and shows where we have arrived; and with fine insight suggests what we may go and what we may do for God and the world. His book is just the thing for the busy man and woman, and happily it is beautifully illustrated, full of sparkling quotations from the leaders through all the years. Primitive Methodists will find it a mine of wealth in relation to their own Church, and for all Methodists it is a sort of "Who's Who" and "What's What" of the history of what has been done and what is now proposed by reunion. The get-up and subject-matter are everything that could be desired. Every preacher, teacher, leader, and every necessary, sacrifice a meat and get George Eayrs' book.

H. J. TAYLOR.

## Boys' Home, Leeds.

The anniversary services, held on April 25th and 26th, were well recorded, the standpoint of numbers and offerings, Sunday services being attended by large congregations and pervaded by a spirit of optimism. The Rev. Mr. Halsey, gave a fine musical programme. On Monday the church was crowded to hear Dr. Dalton's lecture, "An Uncrowned King." The soloist, Madeline Barry, sang "The Song of the Voice." Messrs W. H. Cooper and T. Lumb, the chairmen, contributed most generously. £63 was realised. The Home was inspected by a large number of visitors. A glowing testimonial and the usefulness of the Home to its value to the city by Mr. J. Thornton, Clerk to the City Justices.

Mr. Robert Foster, C.C., local preacher, of the Aspathra Church, has been made a J.P. for the county of Cumberland; and Mr. Robert Bell, also a local preacher of the same society, has been elected Chairman of the Urban District Council and a J.P.

\* British Methodism: As It Is; As It Was; As It Will Be. By Rev. George Eayrs, F.R.S.E. (The Herbert Press, 2s. 6d.)

## THE DISTRICT SYNODS.

(Continued from Page 297).

## Carlisle and Whitehaven.

The Synod was held at Aspatria. Trust estates in a healthy condition. Rev. T. K. Upright was elected president, and Mr. W. Wallace vice. Re-election of Revs. J. Bogness (fifth year), J. Tweddle (fifth year) and A. J. Bull (seventh year) heartily approved. Legislation re Connexional Equalisation Fund for payment of ministerial salaries was passed. Nominations for Connexional offices as follows: Rev. J. Gorton, for Endeavour Secretary; Young People's Secretary, Rev. P. M. Hoyle; S.M.W. and Fund Treasurer, Rev. T. J. Walton. The religious services generally were of a high order. Rev. J. Tweddle, G.C.D., gave a good start by his opening sermon. The African Jubilee demonstration on Friday afternoon was presided over by Mr. G. Armstrong, and addressed by Revs. E. Campbell, J. Tweddle, and Mrs. T. K. Upright. A citizens' meeting was held on Saturday evening. Chairman, Mr. F. J. Jones. Speakers, Revs. J. Foster, J. Tava and J. Gorton. The preachers on Sunday were Revs. E. Campbell and J. Gorton. The ordination service in the afternoon was presided over by Rev. G. T. Rose, who in his Quine felicitously related his "Christian experience and call." Rev. J. Tweddle gave the charge to the candidate. Rev. A. McDonald presented to the candidate a fine copy of the Scriptures. The early morning preachers were Revs. W. Atkinson, J. Gorton and J. H. Quine. The meeting on Monday night brought the Synod to a fitting close. Chairman, Mr. J. Atkinson. J. P. Spalderson, Mr. T. D. Bland, Revs. T. K. Upright and A. J. Bull.

## Bradford and Halifax.

The Synod and its Barrowed. The gathering opened on Thursday with an uplifting service and Mrs. K. Hobson, G.C.D. On Friday Convivial and Mrs. Blakey received a large company of guests, at which Revs. J. H. Hobson, J. P. Potter, and Mr. J. Atkinson responded to the civic and religious welcome. On Saturday Rev. W. Potter was appointed chairman and Mr. N. Thorpe vice. Rev. F. Collin secretary. Guests were sent to Manchester, Leeds, York and Scarborough Districts. Sympathetic consideration was given to applications for superannuation from Revs. T. Wedd, M. Knowlson and George Freeman, the distressing circumstances of the last evoking a generous response from the assembly and friends. G.C.D. next year. Rev. P. Tyers, and the next Synod to be at Kighley Second. The Jubilee Memorial meeting was held on Sunday. Mr. J. H. Hobson, G.C.D., presided. Rev. J. H. Fletcher presided. Revs. J. H. Hobson and J. H. Middleton gave rousing speeches. On Sunday morning Mr. H. Shepherd (candidate) preached, and later Rev. H. Brougham was ordained by the late minister. Rev. T. Tyers gave the charge to the minister and Rev. W. Bithorpe the charge to the Church. Rev. W. E. Goodrich preached at night in the Synod church in a service of unusual power. On Monday, Preachers' Friendly Society, Ophlanghe, Temperance and Missionary matters received attention in very earnest discussions. The District will realise its allocation of £3,000 for the Jubilee Fund. Nominations for Vice Connexional offices were made as follows: N.M.W.O. Treasurer, Rev. W. R. Wilkinson; Examining, Rev. Johnnie Doherty; Education Secretary, W. A. Hammond. The Manchester legislation on ministers' salaries was considered and rejected as too commercial in principle. The Monday night meeting was addressed by Revs. W. Atkinson and V. Watson, Messrs. T. Thorp and J. Lund. The following the vice-president voiced the thanks of the delegates, and Rev. H. Pickup made suitable reply. Special thanks should be made of the services of the choir at all meetings.

## South Wales.

Through the kindness of the minister and officials of the United Methodist Church, Harry Deck, the

Synod was held in their beautiful church. The trusts are in a prosperous condition; £5,000 has been paid off during the year. The application for superannuation by Rev. H. Walton was approved. Rev. W. Overton was appointed president of the Synod, Mr. W. G. Bowles vice, and Rev. W. Tootill secretary. The business was under the able guidance of the G.C.D., Rev. A. Ryder. An illuminating conversation on the work of God and the Young People's Department took place on Saturday, and gratitude was expressed at an increase of members, teachers, scholars, and Endeavour members. Mr. T. Littlewood was cordially recommended as a candidate for the ministry. A special feature of the Synod was the attendance of representatives of the Wesleyan and United Methodist Churches, and a frank and brotherly conversation on Methodist Union was introduced by Rev. W. Wainman (Wesleyan). The religious services during the Synod were rich in spiritual power. On Friday Rev. A. Ryder gave an exceedingly forceful sermon. On Saturday evening Mr. J. W. Haskins presided over a very fine Young People's meeting, addressed by Revs. W. Price and W. Overton. Sunday was a beautiful day, and the opening services were well attended. Messrs. J. G. Wilding, G. Adams, Revs. W. Tootill and E. S. Cole gave excellent addresses at the Camp Meeting and other services. In the Synod church Revs. J. Lewis Williams and J. H. Balford officiated. The Monday public meeting was addressed by Revs. A. Ryder, T. H. Bryant and G. Remison.

Rev. S. Horton was nominated for the position of President designate, and Rev. S. Horton was nominated as Secretary of the Candidates' General Examining Committee; Rev. W. Overton as the Treasurer of the Friendly Society.

## Lynn and Cambridge.

Meetings held at Solihull commenced with a sermon by Rev. J. H. Rose. District Chapel Committee and Preachers' Friendly Society meetings were held on Friday afternoon. Rev. J. A. Smith and Mr. P. J. Whiting were elected president and vice-president of the Synod, with Rev. E. Sellers secretary. Great decreases received serious attention. The special cases of retaining were: W. H. Curtis, P. R. Wedd and F. C. Davidson a sixth year, and J. H. Rose a fourth year. The nominations for vice-connexional offices were: Vice-Chaplain, Rev. J. H. Rose; Wilkinson; Endeavour Secretary, Rev. J. H. Rose; Candidates' Examining Committee, Rev. John Swinden; Young People's Missionary Department Secretary, Rev. P. M. Hoyle; President Designate, Rev. J. Mayles. The state of the District occasioned a heart-rending debate, and proposals were made to the Quarterly Meetings for further aggressive work. The principle of Methodist Union was endorsed after an informing discussion. The Conference is asked to consider means by which ministers' salaries may be raised to meet the continued increase in the cost of living. The public services have been well supported. On Friday the Young People's Rally addressed by Revs. W. H. Curtis, T. Thompson, and J. Graham. Saturday, the ordination service was held. Rev. F. S. Collinson being the candidate. Rev. N. Brown gave the charge, and Mr. S. F. Armstrong presided. The church, Messrs. W. H. Wells, H. Jackson, and W. Frost made first-rate chairmen. Sunday was a great day. From 6.30 a.m. till late in the evening the praying, singing and preaching bands were busy. Monday's tea and meeting were splendidly supported. Chairmen were: Messrs. W. Crawford and A. Butt. Speakers, Revs. E. Sellers, J. H. Rose, and G. C. Challies. Rev. J. H. Geeson and Mr. H. Balford received unstinted service in entertaining the Synod.

## Salisbury and Southampton.

The Synod was held at Blandford. Rev. H. Preston officially acting as G.C.D. Rev. J. A. Taylor was appointed chairman, Mr. C. W. Bosworth vice-president, with Rev. J. W. Gregory secretary. In strong resolutions the Synod expressed its convictions on the League of Nations, education and temperance.

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THOMAS J. GLADWIN, Secretary.

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## Personal.

We deeply regret having to report that Dr. Guttery is having very serious trouble with his throat, and at present is in a nursing home in Liverpool. Dr. Guttery is one of the best of the greatest throat specialists in this country, and we are glad to state that up to this point they are satisfied with the progress he has made. Thousands of people are suffering from throat trouble, and the land are praying that God will restore our beloved A. T. G. May God bless him and his dear ones in Liverpool. Although Dr. Guttery is in the hospital, Mrs. Guttery and family are deeply grateful for the many letters and telegrams from friends all over the country, and particularly appreciate the resolutions and expressions of sympathy which are so numerous that it is almost impossible to acknowledge them separately. The family desire to sincerely thank all those who have written to them, and to those which have been a source of great comfort to them.

From an advertisement in another column of this issue our readers will see the programme of the remarkably fine series of May missionary meetings which are to be held in Newcastle-on-Tyne this week-end. For several months a strong committee, with Mr. Robert Bowran, J.P., as chairman, and Rev. J. G. Soulsby as secretary, has been perfecting the arrangements, and so keen is the interest that the meetings promise to rival the great Metropolitan gatherings. The handbook prepared by Rev. Chas. Crabtree is almost like a Conference handbook, and

gives much interesting information. The last of these is the *Journal of the Rev. John G. Lawson*, Frank Leinen, M.A., of the London Missionary Society; Mr. A. Victor Murray, M.A. of the Students' Christian Movement; Miss Margaret McMillan; together with Rev. J. A. Kewell, Rev. J. Dodds and Mrs. Dodd, Rev. W. T. Morris and Mrs. Morris, Rev. S. B. Bickley. The meetings will be held in our own Central Church and in the famous Brunswick-place Wesleyan Church. So confident are the promoters that great crowds will attend from Tyneside and Weirside, that overflow of the Great Gillingham Road. The meetings anticipated that this splendid new venture will become a permanent annual gathering of the clans.

On Monday afternoon last, at the South Wales Synod at Barry Dock, a special session was devoted to the consideration of Methodist union. By invitation Rev. William Wakinshaw (Wesleyan) came to give an address on the subject. He spoke for forty minutes, and laid the whole question before the Synod after it had been introduced by the chairman, Rev. W. Overton. Addresses were also given by Rev. Thomas Ryder, Rev. J. J. Ward, United, and the whole subject received a very favourable consideration from the members of the Synod.

Rev. H. J. Taylor has promised to speak at the Convention of the Christian Endeavour Union of Great Britain and Ireland at Bristol on Whit Monday on "The Industrial Challenge."

[illegible]

Last autumn Pitts-hill Church, Tunstall, launched a scheme to raise £600 for debt reduction, church renovation and erecting a memorial window and tablets. The efforts were recently concluded by a service at which the Rev. H. H. Pickett, vicar of the school, announced that £722 had been realised. The school anniversary followed soon after, Mr. F. Phillips, B.A., preaching special sermons. The singing, led by Mr. S. Brockley, was a great contribution to the fund, of which the vicar was the organist. The announcement, made by Mr. G. Unwin, that £152 had been raised gave much pleasure. This amount was £20 over last year.

Rev. H. H. Pickett, Vice-Principal of the Marlton College, is again the appointed preacher at the mid-summer service of the Tunstall Central Hall. According to arrangement he is to take the service on Tuesday, May 11th, at 12.45. These services are greatly appreciated and enthusiastically supported by a large number of Marlton College students, old and new. A growing number of our own ministers who are now asked to serve on these occasions is another indi-

## Personal.

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## Personal.

We deeply regret having to report that Dr. Guttery is having very serious trouble with his throat, and at present is unable to speak in Liverpool. We understand that he is in the hands of two of the greatest throat specialists in this country, and we are glad to state that up to this point they are satisfied with the progress he has made. Thousands in our own Church and in the Free Churches all over the land are praying that God will restore our beloved A. T. G. May God bless him and his dear ones in the anxious time through which they are passing. Mrs. Guttery and family are deeply grateful for the

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District Synods. The

many letters and telegrams from friends all over the country, and particularly appreciate the resolutions from the various District Synods. They have been so numerous that it is almost impossible to acknowledge them separately. The family desire to sincerely thank all for their sympathy and prayers in this dark hour.

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all for their sympathy and love in these dark hours, which have been a source of great comfort to them.

From an advertisement in another column of this issue, readers will see the programme of the remarkably fine series of lectures and meetings which are to be held in Newcastle-on-Tyne this week-end. For several months a strong committee, with J. G. Soulsby as secretary, has been perfecting the arrangements, and so keen is the interest that the meetings promise to rival the great Metropolitan Conference of 1914. The Rev. Canon C. H. Crabtree is almost like a Conference handbook, and gives much interesting information. The list of speakers includes the Rev. John H. Huston of Glasgow, the Rev. Canon C. H. R. Ingham of London, Frank Lawford, M.A. of the London Missionary Society, Mr. A. Victor Murray, M.A. of the Students' Christian Movement, Miss Margaret

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markedly fine series of May missionary meetings which are to be held in Newcastle-on-Tyne this weekend. For several months a "strong committee, with a number of members, and a chairman, Mr. J. G. Souldy as secretary, has been perfecting the arrangements, and so keen is the interest that the meetings promise to rival the great Metropolitan Missionary Conference of 1902. The Rev. J. Crabtree is almost like a Conference handbook, and gives much interesting information. The list of speakers includes Dr. John A. Hulton, of Glasgow; Mr. Leonard Rogers, of the Glasgow Mission; Mr. A. Victor Murray, M.A. of the Students' Christian Movement; Miss Margaret McMillan; together with Rev. J. A. Kerswell, Rev. J. H. G. Smith, and Rev. J. H. G. Smith, and Mrs. H. G. Buckley. The meetings will be held in our own Central Church and in the famous Brunswick-place Wesleyan Church. So many of the speakers are of the "new type" that we attend from Tyneside and Wearside, that overflow meetings are being arranged for. It is confidently anticipated that this splendid new venture will be a success.

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end. For several months a strong committee, with Mr. Robert Bowman, J.P., as chairman, and Rev. J. G. Souleby as secretary, has been perfecting the arrangements for the coming year. The speakers promise to rival the great Metropolitan gatherings. The handbook prepared by Rev. Chas. Crabtree is almost like a Conference handbook, and the list of speakers includes Dr. John A. Hulton, of Glasgow Frank Lenwood, M.A., of the London Missionary Society; Mr. A. Victor Murray, M.A., of the University of London; Mr. A. M. Macmillan, of the University of Edinburgh; Mr. J. C. McMillan, together with Her. J. A. Kerswell, Rev. F. W. Dodds and Mrs. Dodds, Rev. W. T. Groves and Mrs. Groves, and Rev. S. E. Buckley. The meeting will be held at the famous Brunswick-place Wesleyan Church. So confident are the promoters that great crowds will attend from Tyneside and Weirside, that overflowed last year, that they have already anticipated that this splendid new venture will become a permanent annual gathering of the clans.

On Monday afternoon last, at the South Wales Synod at Barry Dock, a special session was devoted to the consideration of the proposed Conference (Rev. William Wakinhaw (Wesleyan) came to give an address on the subject. He spoke for forty minutes, and laid the whole question before the Synod. The subject was then discussed by Rev. W. Overton. Addresses were also given by Rev. Amos Ryder and Rev. R. J. Pollard (United), and the whole subject received a very favourable consideration.

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On Monday afternoon last, the South-Eastern Synod of the Wesleyan Union, a section devoted to the consideration of Methodist union. By invitation Rev. William Wakinshaw (Wesleyan) came to give an address on the subject. He spoke for forty minutes, and his subject was "The Wesleyan Synod after it had been introduced by the chairman, Rev. W. Overton. Addresses were also given by Rev. Amos Ryder and Rev. I. J. Pollard (United), and the subject was discussed with considerable consideration from the members of the Synod.

Rev. H. J. Taylor has promised to speak at the Convention of the Christian Endeavour Union of Great Britain and Ireland at Bristol on Whist Monday on "The Industrial Challenge.

Abbeylea Circuit, Sheffield, is giving special attention to the subject of the Industrial Challenge. The Abbeylea Church has recently purchased a site of land to be used for tennis. Rooms are also in course of erection for the accommodation of young people during the winter months, the stone-laying ceremony having been performed on the 10th inst. The names inscribed their names: Messrs. L. Jones, J. Stanley,

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bazaar, at the close of which the secretary, Mr. E. E. Scott, announced that £722 had been realised. The school anniversary followed soon after, Mr. F. Phillips; B.A., preaching special sermons. The singing, led by Mr. S. Brockley, was a great contribution to

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LEICESTER.

cation that other communities are becoming better acquainted with the preaching resources of our own Church.

Mr. John White, of Newlyn, an esteemed local preacher of the Ponzaize Circuit, has been elected Chairman of the Paul and District Urban Council. This will entitle him to a seat upon the Justices' Bench. Mr. White is a valued official of our Newlyn Church.

Mrs. E. H. Brown, Fulwell House, Sunderland, gratefully acknowledges the following for Women's Jubilee Gift:—Mrs. J. T. Wood, Crews, £50; Mrs. T. Broad, London, £10; Mrs. Mayley, Stockport, 45; Mrs. A. T. Guttery, Liverpool, £5; Mrs. J. Johnson, London, £3; Mrs. Grimson, Beccles, £2; Mrs. James Griffin, Newport, £1 1s.; Mrs. Tophill, Sunderland First, £1 1s.; Miss Lena Cook, Pontefract, £1; Mrs. Snowden, Sunderland Third, 10s.

The diamond jubilee of Werrington Chapel, in the Peterborough First Circuit, coincides with the sessions of the London First District Synod, which have just been held at Peterborough. The foundation stones were laid in May, 1860, and there is still living an old lady named Elizabeth Snow who was present at the ceremony and has a very vivid recollection of the sermon preached by Rev. George Lamb. She still speaks in glowing terms of the ministry of Rev. J. P. Langham's father. She is celebrating her ninety-first birthday on June 24th next, and reads her Bible and the daily newspaper with ease.

The following are the officers of the recently formed Tyne-side Church Council:—President, Mr. Robert Bowman, J.P.; vice-president, Rev. W. Younger; joint Secretaries, Rev. T. Galloway, J.P., and Mr. Bowman; financial secretary, Mr. F. Aitchison; treasurer, Mr. Thomas Spencer.

An interesting presentation took place in the Langley Moor Church on Wednesday, when Mr. R. E. Gennar, the retiring choir-master, was presented by the church and choir with an illuminated address and an ebony walking-stick suitably inscribed. Mr. J. Tyne and Mr. R. Johnson made the presentations. Rev. Irving Graham spoke highly of Mr. Gennar's forty years' excellent service as choir-master, twenty-five of them at Langley Moor.

Mrs. William Hodgson and family have presented a beautiful picture of the Bible to the chapel at Mount Pleasant, Crook Circuit, in memory of their son, who was killed in action when serving with the Forces in France.

As a result of gas poisoning, received in France, Mr. T. A. Hancock has been compelled to resign the secretaryship of the Young Men's Club at Newbury. On Friday last the members made him a presentation of a handsomely bound copy of the Hymnal and Supplement, with tunes, in recognition of valuable services rendered.

Muriel and Leslie Wilkinson (The Manse, Winterton) have passed the examination recently held in connection with the London College of Music, the former the Senior and the latter the Primary for piano playing. Olive Prestwood also passed the elementary examination on the pianoforte, and Harry Parker the elementary on the American organ. All are scholars in our Winterton School.

### Debt Extinction at Stockton.

Thursday, April 22nd, was a red-letter day in the history of the Bowesfield-lane Church, Stockton-on-Tees. Stimulated by the offer of Mr. J. R. Clapham to give half the amount of the debt if the other half was raised, the members have worked so efficiently during the winter. The termination of the efforts took the form of an "American Evening." The Mayor presided, with Councillor Spark in the foreground. Rev. J. W. Gargett, the Primary for host and hostess. There was great rejoicing when the total was announced. The amount aimed at was £175, the amount actually received £266. The young ladies by "singing" and an "At Home" raised £44 10s. Gd. Words of congratulation were spoken by Rev. G. J. Lane, Mr. J. W. Gargett and Councillor Murgatroyd.

### MARRIAGES.

A pretty wedding took place at Grassington on April 20th, when Henry Chavner, youngest son of Mr. G. R. Chavner, of New Ferry, was married to Mary E. Shaw (Emma), the elder daughter of Mr. Shaw, Silsden, and the late Rev. Thomas Shaw. The officiating ministers were Rev. J. Hodges and Rev. T. Barron, the bride's uncle. The bride was given away by her brother, Mr. George Barron Shaw, and was attended by Miss Dorothy Shaw (her sister). The best man was Mr. Robert Firth, of Ben Thylking.

An interesting wedding was solemnised on April 21st at Purton Stoke Chapel, the contracting parties being Arthur, son of Mr. and Mrs. C. Archer, of Purton Stoke, and Dorothy, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. Chunn, of Brackdown. The bride, who was given away by her father, was charmingly attired in cream

crepe de chine, with embroidered veil and orange blossom, and carried a bouquet of white flowers. The bridesmaids were Misses Ethel and Olive Chunn (sisters of the bride) and Eric and Doris Archer (sisters of the bridegroom). Mr. Cecil Chunn acted as best man. The ceremony was performed by Rev. R. Cowie, Miss Nina Young presiding at the organ. The guests were afterwards entertained at the Brook Farm. The presents were very choice and beautiful.

### IN MEMORIAM.

#### Mr. William Orange.

In the passing away, on April 21st, of Mr. William Orange, at the age of eighty-two years, the Woodborough Society has lost one of its oldest members and most valued workers. He had filled a long lifetime with valuable service to his church, having been a member over sixty-five years, society steward for more than fifty, and school worker for forty years. He was a member of the District Committee, and had been one of its representatives to Conference. His sunny presence was always an inspiration to the preachers. The funeral service was conducted by Rev. J. T. Clarke, the vicar being present at the service in the chapel.

#### Mr. J. T. Bourne.

Mr. John T. Bourne, of Brierley Hill, passed Home on April 6th, aged sixty-four years. He was a man of rare sweetness of disposition and a preacher of great gifts, which he used generously in the pulpits of his home circuit and the West Midland District. The interment took place at Best-street Churchyard, preceded by an impressive service in the church. Rev. J. T. Pearce and J. P. Elliott and Mr. G. Lloyd officiated, and Mr. Albert Shaw, J.P., C.C., gave an impressive address. Though suffering from severe affliction, Mr. Bourne rendered service until the end. He was society steward and leader in the Best-street Church. In all his offices he gave wholehearted service.

#### Mrs. J. Riley.

Mrs. J. Riley, of Kinner, passed to her eternal Home on April 8th, in her sixty-ninth year. She was connected with the Sunday-school at Crawshawbooth from infancy. For over fifty years she was a member of our Church, to which she gave liberally, guiding, yeoman service. Her home was a sanctuary of loving service, and she threw it open to the preachers of our Church. She was given to hospitality, and many are the memories of kindly service rendered.

### BAZAARS & SPECIAL EFFORTS.

A great thanksgiving tea and social gathering has just been held at Shrovesbury-street Church, Glossop, to celebrate the extinction of the debt of £380 on the premises. Mr. Thomas Rhodes presided, and Rev. William C. Hunter handled over the deeds to the trustees. Those who spoke of the past history and progress of the church included Messrs. S. Fletcher, J. Byrom, E. Hoath, B. Booth and F. Skilton. The old-time service held on Sunday evening was a time of great power. Mr. E. Heap presided, and Messrs. T. Rhodes, S. Fletcher, J. Jarman and Rev. William C. Hunter were the preachers. Hymns of an old-time character were sung. Mr. W. C. Hunter served splendidly as the soloist. A substantial sum was raised for the African Jubilee Fund.

The scheme to clear Washington Church, Jarrow-on-Tyne, of its £158 debt, brought before the members by Rev. J. Palmer, has proved a great success. The financial statement, presented by Mr. R. Miller, showed an income of £162. It is but fifteen years since the church was opened, costing £222. By the

devoted work of the members and the assistance of the Church Extension Fund, we have been able to complete the purchase.

During the winter the members at Sandy have been trying by a series of efforts to raise £150 for debt reduction and a war memorial. The final effort was held on Thursday, when Mr. and Mrs. A. Cope, of Beeston, opened a sale of work, assisted by Rev. R. N. Wycherley. The efforts realised the handsome sum of £153 15s. 6d.

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## International Lesson.

The Centurion's Servant.  
Mat. vii. 1-10. G.T. Psalm iii. 4.

May 16.

**BY HENRY A. PICKETT.**

5.—Anything about this Roman official indicates a man of the highest class. His representative, the Centurion, is honest, receptive, obedient to Jesus, loves to meet, qualities which never fail to win His confidence, and which readily yields the claim of Jesus when it is presented. He is one of the earliest first fruits of that Gentile world to which we belong, and which Jesus sought as eagerly as the Hebrew. And it is an interesting question for reflection, how much confidence as these—for this may only be one of many—explain the fact, that long before Paul reached the capital of the Empire, there were "Saints in Caesar's household," possibly the direct fruit of the ministry of Jesus! Capernaum, the scene of the lesson, standing at the head of the Lake, on a great road-way connecting West and East, the headquarters of Roman officials and tax-gatherers, witnessed a ceaseless stream of traffic, bringing Jesus with a pulpit from which to speak to the then known world!

11.—Returning now to the Centurion, we find a certificate of merit is supplied by verse 4? It is a great thing that the official of an intensely hated foreign power should have earned such a reputation, but one of the "wonders of the world!" It reveals a fine ethicality of spirit, a high level of life, a profound love of truth, and an unusual breadth of human sympathy. All of them, now as then, making the possessor a very likely candidate for discipline. No wonder, that in the Centurion's own mind, we read in verse 6 that Jesus went with him? Whenever did Jesus miss the chance of winning life?

12.—In addition to the qualities named already, the attention of the class may be centred upon five features marking the Centurion, and as serving to explain the absence of duty. 1. Putting forth of Divine power. When we as quickly and as unreservedly yield the same qualities, we shall usually prove that healing power. 2. Consider (1) His Love (verses 5-6) and remember that the marginal reading for servant is "bond-servant." 3. "Alone," regarded then as cheaply as goods or cattle. A man who could so far rise above the custom and prejudice of his day, and allow his humanity to govern his official position, has fine possibilities in him! When such a love finds its answering source in God, our life is crowned with beauty. (9) His Reverence (verses 6-7) always a condition of introduction to larger truth, and to higher attainment. Contrast it with the selfish slight and prejudice of Pharisees, even, as in their case, growing into contempt of Jesus. It is always to the reverend, the leader, the "happening," Jesus reveals "the more of His grace." (3) His Willingness (verses 7) "Say the word." We mark the entire absence of any display of quibble, or to stumble over small points of race, or class, or etiquette. The readiness to give Jesus absolute trust and confidence in each ready, who never fails to receive His blessing. (4) His Obedience (verse 8). This is trust, becoming active and positive, taking up a public and open confession of faith and showing itself ready to go any length in proving its loyalty. (5) Healing (verses 9-10) is always the accomplishment and issue of each ready, immediate and unquestioning obedience. To Christ always says, "Be it unto me even as thou wilt." If, on our part, the Saviour's act be not denied, He, on His part, never fails to give unstinted supplies of grace and strength.

6.—Memento.—Our church at Penals being badly in need of renovation, the Agent, Mr. J. Wilding, secured volunteers to do the work by a public call, viz., £15. The work will be completed within the week and the money saved.

## Guild of Kind Hearts.

The Little Cloud.

The Little cloud sailed along delightfully. It was high above the sea in company with kindlier clouds. They were of very bright and happy, for they were filled with brilliant sunshine, which made them most radiant to look on. Far away down on the earth a poet praised them.

"Where are we going?" asked the little cloud of its brothers. And they answered, "We do not know, and we are too happy to care. We are all in the arms of our great brother Wind; who carries us all along. Ask him!"

So the little cloud asked the Wind; but he was too busy to hear or to heed, for he had a great work on hand in keeping the air of the world so clear and free of young and not answer little questions of very common and tiny clouds.

There was nothing to do but to sail on and keep cheerful. Presently, far below, land appeared in the distance, and soon the little cloud was floating high above seashore and cliffs. Then came fields, a mighty river wound its way to the sea. The country became more irregular and was broken up into little hills and valleys. The clouds began to peer over the tops of the hills, and saw that the beautiful views were seen by the little cloud, who was enjoying himself greatly. Houses began to appear with people moving about in the streets. Closer and closer the houses came together, as they drew near a great city. The little cloud was gradually getting lower. A change came in the air, which grew heavier, and all the clouds sank nearer to the house-tops. It was not a beautiful city. Hundreds of tall chimneys were sending out black smoke that looked thick enough to eat.

The little cloud could see that the streets were very dirty, full of rags, children, and beggars. The smoke and drizzle was running water of a new colour, not at all like some of the brighter, clearer, and sweeter rain. Suddenly a great far seized it, for it felt itself sinking lower and lower and growing heavier. A mass of huge dark clouds shut out the sunshine, and all became very gloomy.

There was no help for it; and the little cloud simply had to fall in a hole to rise again into a dirty corner, where it ran away into a corner, and settled into a stagnant little pool. There it stayed, unable to get away, and feeling very miserable among the dirt. One dark day succeeded another, and the only man who came near suddenly held his nose and walked quickly away.

The little cloud wished itself back again in the bright sunshine, sailing above the sea, surrounded by kindlier clouds. It began to get up, but the way of getting there again, but felt a mighty desire to go on. At last the sun came out again and shone down on the little cloud. It felt a dirty pool, felt itself growing lighter. Soon, on the wings of its desire, and with the help of the great sun, it was able to rise up into the air, and leaving all the dirt and evil smells behind it, and floating far away from the blackened city, back to its well-lord fields and ocean who looks to it with a song of thanksgiving to the great sun who had helped it.

You may find out what all this means for ourselves by reading W. King, Emma King, Joshua King, Elho Mason, Daisy Mason, Agnes Kent, Gladys Mason, Rose Tuplin, Ruth Grundy, Jack Grundy, Mrs. Ellen George, Taplin, Bert Hink, Florrie Foster, Ernest Hinch, Alfred Hinch, Dorothy Hinch, Lizzie Campbell, Edna Hinch, Mrs. W. King, and the crew of Grassy, Lincoln, whom we heartily thank for his kindly interest in the Guild. Who'll be the next?

W. L. DAVEN.

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New Members.—On 13564 John King, Harry King, William King, W. King, Emma King, Joshua King, Elho Mason, Daisy Mason, Agnes Kent, Gladys Mason, Rose Tuplin, Ruth Grundy, Jack Grundy, Mrs. Ellen George, Taplin, Bert Hink, Florrie Foster, Ernest Hinch, Alfred Hinch, Dorothy Hinch, Lizzie Campbell, Edna Hinch, Mrs. W. King, and the crew of Grassy, Lincoln, whom we heartily thank for his kindly interest in the Guild. Who'll be the next?

## Endeavour Topic.

"The Challenge of Islam."

Deut. vi. 5-10. John ix. 24-29.

Tuesday 9.

By Rev. J. E. STOREY.

Islam is one of the three great religions of the world which proclaim themselves as alone fit for all mankind. Along with and as against both Christianity and Buddhism it seeks to become the sole religion of the world. At the present population of one seventh of the total population of the globe as its adherents. And since it is making steady progress, in Northern Africa particularly, it can at least urge the argument from numbers in support of its claim.

The beginnings of Islam are fully known. It came into being as a living force with Mohammed (born 570 A.D.). He was forty years of age when two convictions possessed him; God is one, Mohammed is the Apostle of God.

The conception of the unity of God was by no means original. Mohammed himself certainly learned it from Judaism. But it held him as a living truth—and it was plainly an immeasurable advance on the polytheism of his neighbours and fellow countrymen. The fact of his own apostleship Mohammed bravely preached. He suffered persecution. But it is evidence of his sincerity that persecutions did not drive him from his faith. In 622 A.D. he left Mecca, the capital city, for Medina, farther north, through plots of assassination. But he held them round him. In Medina he established the true worship of Allah and became to his followers both prophet and law-giver. He died in 632 A.D. But Islam lived on vigorously. So vigorously indeed that in 732 A.D. the empire of the Caliph Arabah stretched from Persia—through Egypt and along the Northern Coast of Africa, even into Spain.

It is just as to say that Islam was wholly false and vicious in its early stages, or is so even now. The Eternity, Unity and Sovereignty of God are great truths. These Mohammed stressed, to gain moral obligations, such as to abstain from lying, theft, murder and adultery, he urged upon his followers. The admission to law of God, which is so marked a characteristic of the devout Mohammedan, is surely a praiseworthy feature also. But whilst these considerations are to be allowed other things, more deadly in their total effect for evil and inherent in Islam as a religious system, are to be noted. The conception of God is not fruitful in the highest sense. God is neither remote nor a Judge alone. The type of manhood preached by Mohammed is not exalted by his followers into an absolute ideal of individual character, is unacceptable to an enlightened, sensitive conscience. To reduce woman to the position of a creature of sex is wholly bad in itself, and utterly vicious in its social and moral consequences. To exalt the book of the Koran into the position of the final rule of faith—and to inhibit progress by making it, with all its impurities, conscience, the ultimate court of appeal: this is its cry. "No!" to all the noblest impulses of civilised man. To sanction, and even to encourage, an inhuman and unchristian spreading of faith and dogma is not simply futile, it is hopelessly immoral. And these are elements of Islam.

The early spread of Islam was a serious challenge to Christianity. Its insidious and comparatively rapid progress in the world to-day is a menacing challenge to the principles of Christianity. Its early tolerance it only serves to trench still more deeply superstitions and practices hostile altogether to the true demands of the Christian religion. Gathering the affections of its devotees round the central figure of Mohammed, it approaches its victory made the more difficult and arduous. Recognition of these facts has become an urgent necessity.

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## Church News.

**Kennington and Battersea.**—On Wednesday the Band of Hope, in connection with the King's Own Mission, held its first anniversary since the amalgamation. Tea was provided by an old Warham-street scholar, at which 150 partook of liberal fare. A public meeting and medal distribution followed. Mr. Howard Green presided, supported by Mr. J. Walker, both of whom are temperance stalwarts, their labour having extended over a quarter of a century at King's Own and Warham-street respectively. Miss Flaxman gave an excellent report. The children sang well, under the able direction of Mrs. J. A. Flaxman.

**King's Lynn.**—At two of the societies of this circuit highly successful efforts have been made, and in each case the money required was raised by means of a Silver Tree. At the Gayton Thorpe—a small society of 7 members—Miss Loades plucked the tree. Result, £37. At Tenington Mrs. Hunter of Wisbech plucked the tree and Mr. Hunter provided; £31 were raised. This result is very creditable, because Tenington Society has been working hard all the winter and raised over £100 towards cost of renovating and repairing the chapel.

**Manchester Second.**—The school anniversary was concluded at Upper Moss Lane by Rev. Tom Sykes on the Saturday. Mr. H. Meredith presided, and Mr. W. T. Hall addressed a well-attended meeting following the annual tea. On Sunday Rev. T. Sykes preached inspiring sermons. In the afternoon

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Mr. Thos. R. Ackroyd, J.P., gave an address. Mr. Reginald Marriott, of Boston, presiding. On Monday a splendid address was given by Mr. Sykes. Mr. J. F. Gibbon, who presided, was presented in recognition of over 40 years' service in the school with a testimonial in album form containing the signatures of a large number of fellow teachers and friends. Rev. T. Sykes, in his address, after thanking Mr. Stanley Robinson announced that the record sum of £177 had been received.

**Newlyn.**—On Monday last Sir Clifford Cory, M.P., unveiled two brass memorial tablets; one in memory of 28 men who had paid the supreme sacrifice, and the other in thankfulness to Almighty God for the safe return of 243 men who had served in the Great War. Rev. Albert Penness, after a brief speech, presented the survivors with a copy of the Connexional Hymnal. Alderman J. H. Tonking, J.P., presided over the meeting which was addressed by Sir Clifford Cory. Mr. James White and Mr. J. M. Johnson also took part.

**Oswestry.**—At the chapel anniversary services we were well served by Rev. Walter Barlow (Birmingham). Musical services in the afternoon by the choir, conducted by Mr. Harry Hughes; Miss Pimmer, organist. Mr. W. Perks (Mayor of Oswestry) presided. Collection realised over £33. The Band of Hope have concluded a successful season by a concert. The recently-formed school choir have also given an excellent concert. The respected churchmaster, Mr. E. Price, who, for 45 years, has led the praise services in our church, is suffering from ill-health. It is gratifying to find the young men ready to relieve him of the more arduous duties.

**Preston Third.**—A special effort organised by the young men of the Cathedral Church has been a splendid success. The services on Sunday were conducted by Mr. J. Billington, of Thornton-le-Fylde. On Thursday Mr. T. Holland and family gave a delightful musical programme. A supper

followed. Mr. J. Kirby presided at the concert, supported by Rev. H. MacRow. Financial result, £20.

School anniversary services were conducted at Eldon Hall by Rev. W. E. Lead, a former minister. In the afternoon the service was presided over by Mr. Jas. Banker, speaker, Mr. F. Burgess. The services were all highly appreciated. Financial result, £55.

**Sandon First.**—A successful "Four Seasons" sale of work held at Prospect-place realised £40 for School Funds. The Mayors, accompanied by the Mayor (Alderman S. E. Walters), declared the sale open. The missionary jubilee scheme was inaugurated in the circuit by a visit from Rev. S. Horton to Stratton St. Margaret, when about £70 was promised. Rev. J. Mayles visited to Prospect Place realised £20. The "American Fair" at Cricklewood realised £20.

**Torquay.**—On Friday the members of Market-street assembled to give a hearty welcome to Mr. and Mrs. M. Perrett and to congratulate them upon their marriage. Rev. Ezra E. W. Ramm spoke of the good spirit existing in the church and of the efficient service rendered by Mr. Perrett as organist. Mrs. Ramm, on behalf of the church, presented to the happy couple a marble clock, as an expression of their appreciation. On the same evening seven new members were accorded a welcome.

## Women's Missionary Federation.

**Warrington.**—The April meeting of above was held at High-street Church. Rev. J. H. Chapman gave a splendid address. Mrs. A. Mounfield presided. A solo was rendered by Mrs. A. E. Hovell, accompanied by Mrs. F. Bennett. Mrs. C. Worthington read the missionary letter, and announced that over £20 had been promised for the African Jubilee Fund.

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