

The Need of the Hour. By Rev. J. Tolefree Parr.

Primitive Methodist Leader

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The Missionary Festival.

The Missionary Anniversary is unquestionably the great event of the year in London Primitive Methodism, and on this occasion an added interest arises from the fact that "the year of jubilee is come." The programme is splendid, and three out of our four African fields are represented. Rev. W. H. Collins is from Fernando Poo, Mrs. Hanney, Mrs. Fritchard and Rev. F. W. Dods from Nigeria. Most, if not all, of these have previously spoken at the May meetings, but the two brethren from Rhodesia are new men. Rev. J. A. Kesswell has spent eleven years at the Namibia and Namun-tonwaba in Rhodesia, and has a fine story to tell of pioneer work in that region. Rev. S. E. Buckley comes from our most lonely outpost. For six years he has laboured at Kunchinder, in the Zambesi valley. Blackwater fever seized him before leaving Africa, and at one time his life was in danger. On reaching home he rapidly recuperated, and we are glad he is able to contribute his quota to the morning meeting. Our friends come from scenes of labour of the most varied character, but each will be able to tell of triumph won in "the dark places of the earth."

A Distinguished Visitor.

As usual, the President of Conference is to be a speaker at the Tuesday morning meeting, and this year the President is James Watkin. He has often captivated a London audience. Who can forget the thrilling effect of his last missionary speech at Holborn Hall? His theme will be the same on this occasion. It is the greatest of all themes, and one peculiarly suited to his genius. The distinguished visitors are both Wesleyans, and this is particularly fitting now that Union is in the air, and soon, we trust, to be an accomplished fact. Rev. William Goodie was for years a distinguished missionary, and since coming from the foreign field has proved himself one of the ablest secretaries the parent society of Methodism has ever had. We do not remember that a layman of another denomination has ever spoken at the evening meeting, but this year we are to have Sir Robert Perks. He is probably the most representative layman in Wesleyan Methodism. His relations with our Church have always been of the most cordial character, and he is heart and soul for Union. We welcome him to the Metropolitan Tabernacle. His will be the speech of a missionary statesman, and we fully expect that he will contribute to the glowing enthusiasm, which is sure to characterize the meeting.

Representative Chairmen.

The chairman of the Saturday evening rally is Councillor R. Spark, of Stockton-on-Tees. We are glad that the North is thus represented by one who sails from a cradle where the missionary fervour burns so glow. There is peculiar fitness in the chairmanship of the Tuesday morning meeting. Alderman T. Swindell, J.P., has for many years been Master of the Temple Church, Great Yarmouth, and it was here that the first proposal to mission the dark Continent originated. The project was long delayed, but the Norwich District had the unique honour of leading the movement, which thirty-three years later issued in sending Rev. R. W. Burnett and Henry Roe to Fernando Poo, and Rev. Henry Buchanan to South Africa. Mrs. C. R. Maynard is to preside at the women's meeting. She and her husband are lifelong Primitive Methodists, and at the present time we have no more loyal and devoted supporters of our cause in London. A Metropolitan audience may be relied upon to greet Mrs. Maynard with warm-hearted cordiality. And the same welcome will be accorded to the Vice-President, Mrs. Henry Roe. Her husband's ministry has been devoted to boldly aggressive work at home,

and she has splendidly seconded all his efforts. They one offered themselves for work in Africa, but the door was closed to them. Mrs. Roe's heart has always been warm towards that land, and we are glad that she has a place in Tuesday's programme.

A Welcome to the Missionary Treasurer.

We hope it will not be regarded as invidious if we say that the most fitting appointment of all is that of Sir William Hartley to the chair at the evening meeting. We believe it is thirty years since he came into denominational prominence by presiding at the Tabernacle meeting and giving £1,000. His appointment as treasurer of the society synchronised with that occasion, and through all the years he has been by far the largest donor to its funds. His challenge offers have inspired others to give, and the vastly improved position of our finances is in no small measure due to his initiative and munificent lead. Thirty years ago the net raisings for the General Fund were a little over £10,000. The report to be presented on Tuesday will show that they have been practically doubled. But what of the African Fund? It has grown from £2,537 to approximately £24,000! Sir William's privately benefactions to our London churches will make his welcome all the more fervid. Seven years ago he offered a handsome percentage on all that could be raised for the reduction of trust debts. The offer was for five years, but it has now been extended to the present month. Now he has made further generous proposals, under the stimulus of which all our London debts ought to be liquidated in three years.

The Jubilee—Nearing the End.

The Jubilee Fund must be closed before Conference. The question is often asked, "Will the £50,000 be raised?" We have not the precise data which would enable us to give a positive answer, but we have a growing confidence that more than that sum will be contributed. It is a great occasion, and we would urge all our friends to hurry up with their donations. It is an honour to be allowed to share in the Jubilee celebration, and we are glad that those in authority have from the first put the matter on its proper level. An average of 5s. per member was requested, and we would emphasise a sentence contained in a circular sent out from the Missionary Office some months ago: "We suggest that the raising of the money be not regarded as the imposition of a tax, but as the glad acceptance of a gracious privilege." It is desired that all payments be made by the first of June. Thus only about a fortnight remains, but within that time all may claim the privilege of having a place in the list of contributors. £50,000 is the large sum we have ever attempted to raise in a single year for a connexional object. Let us all unite to make it the greatest financial triumph.

Optimistic Synods.

The District Synod reports have been inspiring. A note of optimism rings out in them all. And the delightful feature is the justification of that optimism in numerous conversions. At one place no fewer than thirty were reported, and the fervour of the services in many places, especially the Sunday evening, was reminiscent of thirty years ago. The prayer, "Haste again, ye days of grace," was abundantly answered. Conversations made Methodism, not only by these can she be sustained. In 1778 John Wesley said: "Our work is to save as many souls as we can, to bring as many sinners as we can to repentance, and with all this to be busy in the study of the Bible, and without which they cannot see the Lord." That is the mission of Methodism still. And so we rejoice that at these annual gatherings signs and wonders were wrought in the name of Jesus. From the Synods we hope the circuits "will catch the flame," and that the harvest of conversions, which has often been deplored, will give place to a great harvest in all our churches.

Jubilee Services at Stoke Newington

Memorable indeed was the meeting held at Northwood-road on April 26th. Several officials and members were celebrating the jubilee of their conversion and church membership. The circuit steward (Mr. C. R. Maynard) presided. Mr. D. Odell conveyed the circuit's congratulations to the brethren on attaining their jubilee. Messrs. C. H. Maynard, J. Johnson, W. Maynard, H. Street, C. S. Sagger, and S. Ward suitably replied. Thanksgiving to God for the success experienced during the past year in connection with the debt extinction scheme was also expressed. Our three churches are now debtless. For this achievement we are under great obligation to Sir W. P. Hartley. The following items have been contributed—Donations (including £273 5s. 5d. from Sir W. P. Hartley), £1,149 10s.; Northwood-road Circuit, £250 10s.; £250 10s.; schools, C.E., £250 10s.; Slate Club, £10; Northwood-road Choir, £22 5s. 5d.; sales of work, £248 9s. 2d.; other items, £20 10s. 8d., making a grand total of £1,632 3s. 5d. Heartiest thanks were accorded to all the donors. Mr. Gordon Maynard served as soloist, and Mr. H. J. Wilcox, L.G.S.M., presided at the piano. The host and hostess, Mr. and Mrs. Maynard, generously provided refreshments.

Mr. W. Taylor, treasurer to the trustees of our Brookwood Church, and a valued worker has been elected to the Woking Union District Council.

CLAPTON MISSION.

MAY MEETINGS.

SOUTHWOLD ROAD (Near A.R.E. Station.)

SATURDAY, MAY 15, 1920.

4.15 BRIGHT MUSICAL SERVICE.

Rev. A. C. LOCKETT and PATTY (Higgin's Par).
Chairman: J. DARLING, Esq.

5.30 PUBLIC TEA. TICKETS 6d. EACH.

7.0 GREAT PUBLIC MEETING.

Chairman: FRANK R. COLES, Esq.
Speakers: Rev. D. LINDSAY, B.D.
Rev. E. HERMAN.
Rev. J. G. BOWMAN and Station Ministers.
ENTRANCES BY CLAPTON PARK TABERNACLE CHURCH.
COLLECTION FOR CHURCH FUND.

Clapton Park Tabernacle.

SUNDAY, MAY 16.

11 & 6.30. REV. J. G. BOWMAN.

9.45. GREAT P.S.A. RALLY.

Speakers: Rev. J. G. BOWMAN.
Soloist: Miss ELLY PEECE, A.L.C.
Chairman: Sir HERBERT J. ORMOND, J.P.
COLLECTION FOR SOCIAL FUND.

MONDAY, MAY 17.

8.30 UNITED GATHERING OF WOMEN'S OWN.

RECITALS BY MRS. NINA SMITH.

5.0 PUBLIC TEA. TICKETS 6d. EACH.

7.0. GREAT PLATFORM MEETING.

(Anniversary of National Agencies).
Chairman: J. G. MARRIOTT, Esq.
Speakers: Rev. J. G. BOWMAN.
JOE LONGLEY, Esq. J.P.
Rev. Ed. McLELLAN.
Supported by Revs. THOMAS JACKSON, T. P. MAYHEW and others.
Rev. J. K. KILWOOD will give a brief Report of Year's Social Mission.
COLLECTION FOR SOCIAL FUND.
EVERYBODY WELCOME.

BOOK STEWARD'S LETTER.

The Holborn Press,
Holborn Hall,
Clerkenwell Road, E.C. 1.

11th May, 1920.

DEAR FRIENDS,—I beg to thank you for your continued support and for the various indications of the growth of this great business, to which you have so splendidly contributed. We have recently been engaged on our annual stock-taking and our accounts have been subject to the usual audit. We are not yet able to announce the net gain of our turnover for the year, but in the fact that we have been able to net profit by the Income-tax authorities, but I am able to intimate that our aggregate sales for the year ending March 31st last have reached the magnificent amount of £27,534. This result is £2,083 in advance of the returns of a year ago, £218,434 in advance of two years ago, and £23,175 in excess of three years ago, and this is not by any means all due to the fact that in the thick of the great war we did an extensive business through the Y.M.C.A. for the benefit of the soldiers in the military areas of France and other countries. This practically came to an end at the cessation of hostilities. For the past twelve months has been nil. Some other avenues of business have also been detrimentally affected. On the other hand, I delight to think that our business with the Sunday schools of the Church has been considerably expanded during the last two or three years. Many of the orders owing to books being dearer are smaller in bulk, but a larger number of schools have placed their orders with us in our hands. All this is to be good for the future. The unsolicited testimonials to the satisfaction of our schools with the quality and value of the books supplied during the past year have been too numerous to reproduce, but they have greatly delighted and encouraged us. I am confident that our schools do well to lavishly support their own Book room, and I hope that in larger numbers than ever they will continue to do so.

I would like to call attention to some of our most recent publications. "The Flash Lamp," by the Rev. S. Palmer, of Chester, deserves special mention for the information of parents on the look-out for good wholesome books to put into the hands of their children. This volume contains forty choice stories, written on all manner of interesting subjects. The character of the talks, their style and vivacity, the humour and living interest running through the whole will surely win for the book a large place in the list of its class. Every home where there are young people should have a copy. The book, too, is very suggestive for those who are frequently called upon to give addresses to young people. I would venture to say there is not on the market at the moment a volume of choice addresses to boys and girls. The price is 6s. 6d.

"British Methodism: As it is, and as it was, and as it will be" is the title of a new book by Rev. George Eayrs, F.R. Hist. S., which has been jointly produced by the Methodist publishing houses, and is now ready for sale. It is in the style of a manual with headed paragraphs, and is indeed a most informing and useful book. Now that the question of union of the Methodist Churches of the United Kingdom is to the fore, all who desire to be in a position to discuss this question intelligently should get this book. Its publication at this time is most opportune, and the author has rendered great service to all the Methodist Churches by compiling such a useful manual. The price is 3s. 6d. net. By post 3s. 9d.

"The Holborn Review" is growing in circulation and influence. The sales of the January issue reached 1,500 as against 1,016 for the same issue last year, and the sales of the April issue last month were 1,543 as against 1,270 for the April issue in 1919. Orders for the July issue should be given to your minister as soon as possible, as it will be ready to send out with the June parcels next week. We are hopeful that the sales of the forthcoming issue will be still further increased by previous issue this year, and we would counsel you to place your orders without delay, and to urge your friends to become subscribers to this excellent quarterly which is only 2s. 6d. net.

We again commend to your notice our splendid handbook on "The Folly of Betting and Gambling," by Rev. W. R. Wilkinson. It will doubtless save many a youth from a slippery and ruinous path, and circulate this handbook among young people. To be forewarned is to be forearmed, and all who are interested in helping and saving the young life of our Church will do well to possess themselves of a few copies of this booklet and distribute them here and there among the young. Price 3d. net.

If you have not yet secured any copies of our missionary tract publications you should ask your minister to get you a set. They consist of four booklets and five missionary tracts. The cost of the entire set is 3s. 3d.—Yours faithfully,

JOSEPH JOHNSON.

The Friends' Emergency and War Victims' Relief Committee, 27, Chancery-lane, W.C. 2, gratefully acknowledges the sum of 10s. from the M.M.A.

Lights from Side Windows.

The University of Glasgow has determined to confer the degree of Doctor of Divinity on Rev. J. H. Shakespeare, M.A., of the Glasgow Free Church, for so distinguished a leader of the Free Churches, and one wonders that it has been so long delayed. The anomaly is that it has to be left to Scotch and American Universities to suitably recognize Free Churchmen who in character and ability are at least equal to the leaders of the Established Church, and that our English Universities still treat them as schismatics. We congratulate Dr. Shakespeare. We cannot forget that to him our Church owes the initiation of the United Army Board.

The District Synods have come and gone, and with them many inspiring memories. One cannot but be struck with the very little attempt there seems to have been made to gauge the requirements of the new age or to arouse the latent energies of the Church to meet the turbulent world situation. Are we lacking in daring or in men who are wise to read the signs of the times? One wonders. One cannot but wish that some brave attempt had been made in some quarter to commence a great spiritual advance campaign.

The "Nation-wide Drive" in America has had nothing parallel in all the history of the Church of Jesus Christ. It has been an attempt to mobilise the wealth of the Continent for Christian purposes. Its keywords are "The Slaveship of the Nation," "Service and Prayer." As one result, the Methodist Episcopal Foreign Missionary Board will have an income of £20,000,000 a year, instead of the £400,000 it has raised in the same situation. The Foreign Boards hope to have £20,000,000, instead of £4,000,000 as heretofore. This is Yankee thoroughness consecrated to the noblest purposes.

From the column, "Under the Clock," in the "Daily News," we take the following:—"A Methodist preacher, a bachelor, began a marriage service with the hymn in Wesley's collection: 'And ye shall be married together in the presence of God and man.' And seek to find it here below,"

while a Baptist deacon sought to fill up a gap in a harvest hymn with the verse, "Lord, what a wretched land is this."

"There is no other side," declared a great Wesleyan Statesman and an ex-President of the Conference in the Methodist Union, when he was asked to give his opinion. Certain it is that the opponents of Union, if they have a case, have so far failed to present it. The one-sided and ill-informed statements in the famous manifesto can hardly be regarded as a serious attempt to put the other side. But the other side is now to have its chance. The "Methodist Times" is offering two prizes, one of £250 and the other of £10, for two essays raising the objections to Union, and is placing its columns at the disposal of those who are opponents to the idea of Union to state their case. It does not, however, let its own position remain for a moment doubtful. It is frankly and wholeheartedly for Union.

A gentleman was describing the advantages he had received from going through a system of memory training. "It is wonderful!" he exclaimed. "I could not have believed it would have made so much difference. I was sure I should get on for it, old man." "Well," replied his friend, "I'll think about it. My memory is certainly a bit shaky. Whose system did you say it was?" "Oh, dear me, the name has slipped my mind. But I'll send you a paper on it." "Oh, don't trouble," laughed his friend. "No trouble at all. Let me see, what is your number, I always forget numbers."

A KNIGHT OF THE PEN.

"Christ and Woman's Power." By E. Picton-Turberville. (Morgan and Scott, 3s. 6d. net.)

This book of address is a study in the life of the woman was never so prominent, its pertinence never so apt. Lady Frances Balfour's introduction is in itself a bright and useful contribution, and adds value to the volume. Miss Picton-Turberville's chapters are crowded with what woman has done, and this is but an intimation that the future will give to her only an enlarged opportunity. Joan of Arc, St. Theresa, St. Hilary, St. Elizabeth, Florence Nightingale, Josephine Butler and others are all made to pass before us. The book is informing, but it is much more than that—it is a challenge and a call to action. It is a study in the life of the woman and moral redemption of their sex and their age. The pages burn with the wrong woman has suffered; the authors are alone with the wrong woman has done; the woman can help to make it. It is a great though by no means a complete contribution to the reconstructive forces of the day.

Reconstruction : Answering To-Day's Call.

THE STORY OF CROOK CIRCUIT REVIVAL.

Crook Circuit has experienced great blessing during the last winter, and is still feeling the glow of it. Spiritual life has been quickened, congregations have increased, some of the services have been marked by a strange thrill and power, young people have come into the church and made public confession of discipleship. There is nothing of the "small talk" that has been no upheaval, no excitement; just a quiet work of grace and conversion through the ordinary agencies of the church. And perhaps for that reason, because the story is so simple and commonplace, it may be encouraging to steady workers in other circuits.

In the June Quarterly Meeting of last year the superintendent minister proposed that a fortnight's mission should be conducted at each church by the circuit by himself and his colleague. He urged that the state of continuous siege might well be broken occasionally by a concerted and prolonged assault of the titanic; but that the right persons to conduct the campaign were the leaders of the siege. He claimed that the ministers were evangelists, and that they should be entrusted with the glorious task of urgent appeal. The meeting unanimously agreed to the proposal. It was decided to run a mission each month during the two winter quarters, so that six have now been held, leaving three to be conducted next winter. It has meant heavy work for the ministers, for there has been scarcely any interference with the routine work of the circuit. Not much effort has been made to attract the general public to these services. They have been advertised, of course, as fully as possible by poster and by invitation cards personally delivered. A few open-air meetings have been held. But the aim has been first of all to reach the young people and the unconverted members of our congregations.

And it is here that success has been realised. Some of the missions have been singularly lacking in concrete results. At one church there were two converts the first Sunday night, and not another during the whole fortnight; and yet the services held there were most powerful. The most potent of experienced preachers has no church in the circuit with a more vigorous spiritual tone. "The wind bloweth where it listeth." In other cases the response has been fine, and scenes have been witnessed that have made our hearts leap for joy. At Crook especially this has been so. On the Sunday after the mission Rev. R. K. Spedding conducted the services, and in the evening prayer-meeting twenty-one young people stood up to respond to his appeal. On the Tuesday following a Sacramental service was held at which seventy persons were present, and quite forty of these had never before sat at the Lord's table.

Causes are always difficult to trace. But two or three factors in this success stand out clear. One is the character and quality of the circuit itself. There are worldly and indifferent and awkward members here and there. Every circuit has them, and will have them until human nature is radically changed. But on the whole the circuit officials are sensible men, with a forward outlook; and there is a fine temper of spirituality and moral earnestness and unity in the churches. Then the return of the lads from the Army helped us wonderfully. I am glad to say this, because sometimes expressions of disappointment are heard that, though the going of the lads meant loss, their home-coming has not meant commensurate gain. Most of our men have returned to the pulpit and the Sunday-school class and the Endeavour Society with a fine fervour, and they have brought with them a breath of new life.

Chief perhaps has been a steady insistence on spiritual facts and forces. Both our ministers are ardent Socialists, striking in the pulpit a clear note on social righteousness. But their Gospel has been essentially evangelistic—they have. We have Christ as the only Saviour of men and of society. The circuit, like many others, has had great financial success. Our missionary effort has resulted in a gross total of £255. Five churches have been freed from debt during the last year. There has been a ready response to numberless appeals beyond the range of circuit interests. But money-raising has been kept in a subordinate place. We have remembered that our first business was to seek the Kingdom of God. Our missions have been baptised in prayer.

The circuit regards its present success as a call to larger service. A mining community like ours presents big problems. Sin and indifference confront us on all sides, and we must meet the challenge. At Crook (and probably at some other places) we propose to hold our week-night preaching service in the Market-place. A platform is being made; a harp; and we will be brought out, and seats for elderly people; we expect to have the aid of the choir; and a volunteer committee of young men and girls has been appointed to see that everything is ready for each meeting. The subject of the address will be adver-

tised each fortnight, and along these lines we hope to reach with our message some who never attend a place of worship.

Another helpful feature of our circuit life has been a series of mid-week services at which some church leader has preached and lectured. Our president, Rev. J. Watkins, has been, and Rev. H. J. Pickett also. Our last visitor was Dr. Alexander Irvine, and he drew two great crowds and stirred the hearts of the people with his humour and his eloquence. These gatherings are promoting circuit spirit; moreover, they are attracting others besides our own people, and making our church a real educational and spiritual centre in the district.

At the March Quarterly Meeting we decided to report an increase of sixty members, and gave who have known the circuit for nearly half a century stated that, in their opinion, it was never healthier than now, and never had brighter prospects. A proposal was made to engage one of our own young men as hired local preacher during the next winter, with a view to calling out an additional minister by and by. The spirit of hopefulness and aggression is in the air. God has blessed us, and we hear His voice bidding us go forward.

E. B. STON.

A Broadminded Vicar.

Our church at Sale, Manchester Fifth, has been making history; upon the occasion of the annual Trust sermons. It began on the Saturday when the usual tea meeting was held, followed by a lecture. Rev. H. G. Meacham, B.D., former minister, gave a splendid lecture upon "James Hope Moulton, Methodist Scholar and Saint," and was enjoyed by a good audience under the chairmanship of Mr. T. Penrose. The lecturer also preached on the following Sabbath to congregations that had been looking forward to the visit of their late minister with keen delight, and the pulpit was never better sustained. To start the parish, Rev. N. V. K. Y. K. occupied the pulpit in the afternoon, under the chairmanship of Mr. W. T. Hall. The church was crowded, and the audience gave him a gracious welcome. His presence was not to be enterprised that he was giving anything away, he was too loyal a churchman for that, and he hoped all Primitive Methodists to see this church as much as his own. He supplemented his remarks with a powerful discourse upon Paul's preaching of the cross, which was devoutly delivered. Never before, in the history of Sale Church, has an Anglican occupied the pulpit, and what pleased all his hearers, was his great acceptance of the privilege extended towards him. The chairman and Rev. H. G. Meacham, B.D., tendered thanks for the visit, and expressed the disappointment of Rev. G. R. Trussell (resident minister), who was away from the circuit, and it should be stated that a great friendship has arisen between the Vicar and our minister which should do much good in the religious life of the district. The Trust sermons this year will be long remembered. The offertory was in advance of last year.

The Late Rev. F. W. Wilkinson.

The news of the death of Rev. Frederic W. Wilkinson came as a shock to our people. Less than a week prior to his death he was about his circuit—vigorous, cheery, apparently quite in his usual health. During the last four days of life he suffered intense pain, but showed great fortitude throughout. A man of fine native power and rich culture, of exceptional business aptitude, of sterling character, he easily took a place of precedence in any ministerial gathering. His qualities as a preacher were best appreciated by those who regularly sat under his ministry. The findings of the scientific and philosophic student, fused with the vision and passion of the prophet gave his pulpit messages a flavour, glow, and value which deepened and became enhanced as the years passed on. To those who knew his splendid past it was surprising that official connoisseur recognition did not come down to him in larger measure, but this was doubtless owing in part to a certain reserve he made no effort to overcome. It sufficed him to serve, and he did so in such fashion as to win the warm, grateful, and love of multitudes in the churches to which he was appointed. For a number of years an only daughter has kept house and assisted her father in his pastoral duties. That he had a serene and untroubled life, he consoled and sustained, all our people will earnestly pray. An impressive memorial service was held in our church at Swineston on Sunday evening, May 2nd.

The Nottingham Synod expressed itself, with slight modifications, in favour of the Manchester District proposals re ministers' salaries.

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. KILEY, 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.
W. C. JOHNSON, Esq., L.C.C.
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.

ANNUAL DISTRICT SYNODS.

Hull.

Hornsea has had a great Synod—an old-time experience with a modern spirit. The moving message of the G.C.D. (Rev. F. Winterburn) struck a note which gave a tone to all that followed, and his conduct of the business was as effective as his message. Rev. W. Swales was elected President and Mr. G. Field the Vice-Chairman. The decrease of 300 members caused deep heart-searchings, and the wonderful spiritual power of the meetings is a good omen for next year. The missionary returns are up to the high level of the previous year, and £1,500 is already in sight for the African Jubilee Fund. The Jubilee Missionary Meeting was indeed "great," and Revs. R. B. Hall and F. H. Edwards spoke with genuine power, the Chairman—Mr. J. Andrew and Mr. P. Garrett—worthily helping to the happy result. The sudden death of Rev. F. W. Wilkinson, of Swinefleet, evoked deep sympathy, and his good work was spoken of by many brethren. The ordination ceremony to R. Hind, B.A., was given by Rev. F. Holmes, and the charge to the churches by Rev. G. P. Maynard. The camp meeting had to be held indoors owing to the weather. The evening service, conducted by Rev. C. T. Bishell, will long be remembered, and, best of all, a brother gave himself to Christ. Nominations for Connexional offices were:—Book Steward: Rev. W. R. Wilkinson; Candidate Examination Secretary, Rev. F. Holmes; Young People's Missionary Department, Rev. C. F. Gill. Public questions had a good place, temperance, gambling and other matters being under consideration. The happy expedition of business gave a splendid opportunity for a discussion of the work of God in the district. A high level was maintained, searching questions asked, and an honest facing of facts desired. The Monday meeting in the Wesleyan Church, which was presided over by Mr. J. Reed and Mr. A. Dugdale, was the high-water mark. Revs. W. Swales, W. R. Wilkinson and P. Nume were the speakers, and with such a platform any meeting was sure of genuine success. The "forward look" characterised all the gatherings, and it is confidently expected that greater results will be possible in the near future.

West Midland.

The meetings were held at Old Hill, and the great traditions of the Tabernacle have been worthily

maintained, the Building Committee Secretary, Rev. W. C. Rose, presiding. Rev. W. E. Webber reported £13,074 paid off the trust estates. Rev. W. Dudley presided at the Friendly Society. Rev. A. E. Reesley, secretary, presented the application of Rev. J. Teece for superannuation, calling forth generous tributes. Rev. J. Brace Evans, G.D., opened the full session and efficiently guided the business. Rev. W. C. Ball presided. Mr. Philip Cole was Vice-President, Rev. W. E. Webber Secretary. The missionary income increase is £105. The Jubilee Fund, by special appeal, was raised to £2,050 and urgent steps to complete are to be taken. The scholars increase is 329, active Endeavourers 42, and Associates 153, but there is a decrease of 17 members and 120 teachers. The conversation on the work of God was spirited and searching, and the outlook was hopeful. Nominations for Connexional offices:—Vice-Book Steward, W. R. Wilkinson; Endeavour Secretary, W. C. Ball; Local President Aid, J. Holland; Conference Secretary, J. B. Evans; Vice-President-designate, Ald. Turley, J.P. Mr. J. Black introduced the Manchester legislation on ministers' salaries. A high-toned discussion followed, and the proposals were approved. The list of donors included Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Roberts (for late C. W. Roberts' Esq., gift), Mr. F. J. Chandler, Counr. Bayley, Mr. J. Horton, Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Kidson, Messrs. J. Sankeys and Sir W. P. Hartley, J.P. The Bourne College report, presented by Mr. Hoscon, was a story of great progress and success, and greater things anticipated. Resolutions on temperance, gambling, Sunday observance, League of Nations, subject peoples and education expressed the mind of the meeting. The religious services were of a high order, and everyone did well. The G.C.D. in the opening sermon, set a fine tone, and the evangel in open-air and indoors was proclaimed with ardour and ability. The weather made camp meetings impracticable, but in the churches great power was manifest. Mr. F. Davies, ministerial candidate, showed great promise. In preparation, official work, business session, religious service and song ministry the Synod will rank with the best.

Liverpool.

The sessions of the Synod at Douglas were continued after our report last week, when Rev. John Swinden was nominated as the Candidates' Examination Secretary. Rev. F. N. Shimmis as Treasurer for the S.M.W. and O. Fund, Rev. A. J. Wigley as Endeavour

your Secretary, Rev. H. J. Pickett as President-designate, Coun. D. Lewis, J.P., as Vice-President-designate. It was decided to recommend to Conference the appointment of a full-time Connexional Endeavour Secretary. A very helpful discussion took place on the work of God.

DELEGATES TO CONFERENCE.

Hull.

Ministerial: F. Winterburn, H. J. Dixon, J. S. W. Stanwell. Lay: W. Walker, C. J. Day, J. Reed, C. Eastwood, H. J. Tatner.

West Midland.

Ministerial: J. Brace Evans, E. Allport, M. P. Pearce. Lay: J. Black, Alderman A. G. Turley, J.P., F. W. Gadaby, Coun. A. Harrison, J.P., T. Partridge, S. Hunt.

Thanksgiving and Reunion Services.

In connection with the church anniversary at Mattison-road, Harringay, London, special thanksgiving and reunion services were held on Sunday and Monday to celebrate the extinction of debt on the church premises. Rev. T. J. Gladwin (York), who was stationed for ten years at Harringay and was minister when the church was built, preached to crowded congregations on Sunday. In the afternoon a musical service was held, under the presidency of Mr. W. Ward. On Monday Rev. E. J. T. Bagnall (Reading), who was minister in charge when the final debt reduction scheme was initiated, preached to a large congregation. A largely attended tea followed. The evening meeting was presided over by Mr. J. J. Green, supported by Messrs. E. Laws, Brotherton, W. Ward, Hilton, J. Cooper and T. G. Ivey. Excellent addresses were given by Revs. T. J. Gladwin, E. J. T. Bagnall and Wilson Eccles. Mr. H. Hudson gave the financial statement. Over £50 was realised. Deep regret was expressed at the absence of Rev. John Swinden (pastor) through serious illness.

Mr. John Robbin, circuit steward of Pembroke Dock Station, has been a lay preacher for sixty-four years, and is still able to take his appointment.

SOUTH-EAST LONDON MISSION,

ST. GEORGE'S HALL, OLD KENT ROAD.

Table to ELEPHANT, Trams 38, 36, 52. Bus 1a, 4, 21, 21a, 42, 53, 53a, and 63.

19TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SISTERS' SETTLEMENT & TRAINING HOME

Saturday, May 15th.

Grand Popular Concert, 7.30 p.m.
Eighty Performers. **Conductor: Mr. Sidney A. Court.**

Sunday—MORNING AND EVENING, 11 & 7.

Rev. JAMES WATKIN (President of Conference). **Open Air Services** led by **Mr. J. Darling** and the Brass Band.

AFTERNOON, AT 3.15.

Sir KINGSLEY WOOD, M.P. Full Orchestra.

Monday, May 17th.

11.30. Praise and Prayer. 12 noon: Sermon. **Dr. MALDWIN RUGHES.**

Public LUNCHEON at 1.15. Ex-Bailie **James Gray, J.P.** (of Glasgow), presiding.

Organ Recital at 2.45.

3.0. THE STORY OF THE YEAR told by Sisters Elsie, May, and Kathleen.

Infant Welfare Exhibition, Miss Hunter, of Liverpool, presiding. Solists: Madame Florence Groombridge.

Report by Mrs. E. J. Taylor.

PUBLIC TEA. 4.45. Display and Sale of Work made by the Crippled Children of the Mission. **Open Air Grand March** led by the St. George's Hall Brass Band.

ANNUAL DEMONSTRATION

AT 7 P.M.

Chapman:

SIDNEY WALTON, Esq., M.A.

Speakers:

President WATKIN, Rev. TOM SKYES, Mr. BEN SPOOR, M.P.

SELECTIONS BY THE CHOIR.

MR. STANTON NICHOLLS (the South Staffordshire Baritone), will sing on Saturday, Sunday and Monday

It is imperative that £350 should be raised by this Anniversary in order to meet immediate needs of the Sister's Settlement. Owing to War costs there is a great increase of suffering in the district, which involves an increased demand on the labours of the Sisters as well as on the resources of the Mission. The suffering of many of the poor is pitiable. We beg, therefore, that all who can will come to our help.

It is hoped that every reader will send a gift.

Contributions, large or small, should be addressed to the Superintendent:—

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

NEWCASTLE MAY MEETING.

Great Missionary Convention.

The Newcastle May Missionary Meetings have come and gone, and a new venture in our Church life in the North has been amply justified. Since first the idea was mooted many months of hard work have been put in by a band of eager and willing helpers. A splendid programme had been arranged, and every Primitive Methodist in the district met acquainted with our plans. Delegates were called from every circuit and homes provided so as to ensure representation. No wonder the Committee looked for triumphant success. And they were not disappointed.

Long before the time of starting on Saturday, May 8th, people were gathering from far and near to the Central P.M. and Brunswick Wesleyan Churches, with the result that the Central was crowded for the women's meeting, and a large company of men gathered to hear the address of Mr. Lenwood. The women's meeting was marked with great spirit and power. Mrs. T. Bowran made a most admirable president, explaining the purpose of the gathering, and expressing her delight that the Metropolis of the North was to share in this way in the stimulus of united gatherings. Mrs. T. Dodds was in the vicar-chair, and the speakers, Miss Margaret McMillan and Mrs. E. W. Dodds, both of whom Mrs. Dodds told of her eight years' work in Bende, redeeming African women. Miss McMillan told of her educational work and of the success of her nursery schools, and delighted the audience with her eloquence and power. The women's collection, including £28 from Mrs. Bowran and £10 from Mrs. T. Dodds, amounted to £210.

In the men's meeting Rev. Wm. Younger presided. Rev. Frank Lenwood, in an informative address, spoke of the shrinking of the world through increased means of communication, the new internationalism of business, and the closer contact of peoples the war had brought about. There was an infection of evil which was a great danger present with us in consequence. Contact with people heathen races must inevitably lower all our standards, unless we could carry the war into their territory, and raise them. We needed a new quality of missionary energy, information, and eager, wider, and deeper, and a world aim. The discussion which followed gave an opportunity for Mr. A. Victor Murray, M.A., and Rev. J. A. Kerswell. Mr. Murray is a local preacher, and a speaker of the highest calibre and personality. Out of his experience in the Student Christian movement he was able to illustrate vividly Mr. Lenwood's thesis. Mr. Kerswell, a local preacher, is at work in Africa, digging the wells from which the water of life would flow to justify this world so rapidly becoming a unity.

Following the afternoon meetings tea was provided for 1,000 people, and after tea a united choir entertained the gathering crowds. Brunswick Church was packed with some 1,800 people when the evening service began, under the presidency of Mr. E. Z. George, of Consett. Miss McMillan again put in an eloquent plea for the children, and told of her own work in Deptford, saving the children of the slums. Rev. P. T. Dodds told of Bende, and the transformation that ten years' work had seen. From the slave-traffic, sanctified by religious customs, from human sacrifice and cannibalism, from cruel customs, from the twin-murder, the 250 people were rapidly being saved, and where 10 years ago there was one white man and only a handful of Christians, to-day there were, under the leadership of the late Mr. George, 77 churches, seating 20,000 people, and with 12,000 in regular attendance and 365 church members. In spite of persecution everywhere, not only church members but the people were being saved, they were the stronger for the fires of persecution. The outlook was bright with promise. Rev. Frank Lenwood wound up what had been a magnificent gathering in every way.

On Sunday throughout the 300 or more churches of the district there was a missionary interchange, and in the pulpits at the Centre our missionaries told of large congregations and the story of the work and its success. A feature of Sunday was the Young People's gathering in five centres—a great success. Monday was a great day and an inspiring day. In the morning at 10.30 a meeting for prayer and fellowship was held, addressed by Rev. S. E. Buckley and W. Groves. Mr. Buckley told of his work in Kanchinder, and of the splendid signs of growth in the East. Mr. Groves made a heart-searching appeal for consecration, and lifted the meeting to high levels of aspiration and emotion. The delegates were entertained by lunch at the Hutton Hotel, and then gathered at the afternoon service. The Central Church was crowded to the doors with an eager and excited congregation as Dr. Hulton delivered his message on Paul's call to Europe. It would be impossible in a few words to describe the sermon. Full of tense passion, it revealed a peer's insight into Paul's experience and a prophetic power of relating that experience to the needs of the present. By the very embarrassments of the present God was calling

us to go forward to world evangelism and world unity. As our hearts bled to serve, so would Christ triumph and the Kingdom be realised.

After tea a Missionary Questionnaire was conducted by Mr. Murray and Rev. F. W. Dodds. Then we were enraptured again with the music of the united choir, and the public meetings—the last of a magnificent series—was a veritable triumph. The Central Church was far too small to hold all who would hear, and all the speakers—Dr. Hulton, Mr. Kerswell, and Mr. Murray—spoke greatly. Mr. Robert Bowran, J.P., the chairman of the committee, presided. Reference was made to the death of the saintly Bishop of Durham, and a message of fraternal good wishes sent to the Church Mission Society, holding its meetings concurrently in Newcastle. The financial total was £370, but no record of money raised could reveal the intense interest created and the missionary path engendered throughout the District by these wonderful gatherings. The May Meetings in Newcastle have more than realised all expectations, and have already won an assured place in the programme of the North's activities for Primitive Methodism. We aspire to £1,000 next year and bigger meetings than ever.

Clapton Mission.—May Meetings.

Sir,—Again we have been able to provide a rich bill of fare for our May meetings. Readers are kindly urged carefully to scan our list of preachers, speakers, chorists and chorists. Rev. J. A. Kerswell, a breezy, inspiring preacher and speaker; Rev. Ed. McMillan, Editor-elect, who never fails mightily to stir the heart and soul; Mrs. E. Herman, one of the most brilliant writers and speakers in any of the Churches; Rev. David Lindsay, B.A., a popular Baptist minister, a friend of all Churches; Rev. A. C. Lockart, a United Methodist minister, a man of great spiritual charm; and Joseph Longstaff, J.P., Vice-President-Designate, a truly great-heart, who has redeemed many a meeting from mediocrity. Our chairmen are all well known by the fellows: J. Darling, a giant in open-air work; Frank R. Coles, whom to know is to love; Sir Herbert J. Ormond, J.P., one of the most popular men in North London, and J. G. Marriott, who radiates the life of Christ. Our services and meetings will be greatly enriched by the fine singing of the Clapton Church choir and by soloists who have won distinction—Miss Lily Peck, A.I.C.M., and Miss Lena Folkes. With such an array of talent, we feel justified in giving a pressing invitation to visitors from the provinces to attend at least one of our services or meetings. And to those who cannot be with us, we would say, that that great blessing may be upon all our meetings, and, if at all possible, send along a donation to help our work, for our needs are great and urgent. Kindly send to our superintending, Rev. J. E. Billwood, 65, Elderfield-road, Clapton, London, E. 5.

Our Church in Blackpool.

Sir,—Kindly allow me to acknowledge the following donations to our New Site Fund.—Mr. R. Brown, sen. (Blackpool), £20; Mr. A. Adams (Timperley), £10; Mr. S. Gerrard (Southport), £5 5s.; Mr. J. S. Higham (Southport), £5; Mr. Thos. Lloyd (Staford), £10; "A Leicester Friend," £5; Mr. Wm. Poulton (West Bromwich), £3 3s.; Mr. Wm. Lea, J.P. (Nantwich), £2 2s.; Mr. Wm. Quirk (Barrow), £10; making, with the amounts previously acknowledged, £2,445 10s. raised to pay cost of site. Of the remaining £1,900 10s. Sir Wm. Hartley has promised £250 and Mr. G. Morris £250, conditional on whole amount being raised. Our task is not opened, but by Easter next, for which date great thanksgiving services have already been fixed. Our President recently writes in his "Diary," published in your columns: "Sometimes we must adopt a forward policy in relation to these seaside circuits." The cry goes up, "How long?" Meanwhile we labour, pray and hope. With thanks to all who have so generously helped.—Yours, etc., D. OAKLEY, 51, Park-avenue, Blackpool.

A most successful bazaar has been held at Knight's-hill, West Norwood. The opener on the first day was Mrs. C. B. Maynard, of Bush Hill Park, the chair being taken by Sir Harry Samuel, M.P. On the second day, Mrs. Gladys Evans Spicer opened, and the Mayores of Lambeth presided. The third day was the children's opening. Several scholars and young people gave interesting items, and presented purses to Mrs. Tom Sykes, the amount received being £11. Mr. N. W. Hubbard, J.P., took the chair. Rev. A. Goodacre and several ministers also took part in the opening proceedings. On Saturday a bazaar was held at the same place, the amount received being £11. The results were: Collections, £5; donations, £36 7s.; children's purses, £11; church stall, £49 10s. 11d.; sweets, etc., part, £56; refreshment, £23 17s. 6d.; concert, 19s. 1d.; making a total, together with £20 from Sir W. P. Hartley, of £253 14s. 9d. This will enable the trustees to practically extinguish the debt, besides paying for necessary improvements, including the installation of the electric light.

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 South 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. (Sheffield).

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 (Poace Tea, kindly given by Dr. J. FLETCHER PORTER, J.P., C.B.E.).

5.30 Gymnastic Displays by the Children.

LUNCHEON AND TEA 2/6. TEA only 1/6.

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

Return Fare 14/6. Book at once. A few seats still vacant.
Tickets from the Secretary.

FUNDS URGENTLY NEEDED.

Donations will be gratefully received by—

Secretary:—

Rev. W. CURRY,

109, Harleford Road, London, N.W. 10.

Treasurer:—

Sir T. ROBINSON, K.B.E., J.P.,
Grimsby.

THE BROOM OF THE BROOMES. No Money Wanted.

By EDWARD MCLELLAN.

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

CHAPTER XIX.

York's Message to Serenity.

Serenity went straight to her little room that, as Sister of the ward, she could call her own, and locked herself. She was afraid. She dared not meet her chief on his return. Her opportunity had gone. She had been overcome by the flash of an eye and the vibration of a tone.

Was it—that only that? She probed herself fiercely as soon as she was in sanctuary. Hers was not the nature, she assured herself, to be hypnotized by a steady gaze, or reduced to impotence by any appeal to sense. And yet she had let him go without a word!

At first she would not admit the truth that she knew. She would not yield the argument that her heart had proved a thousand times in a thousand searching reveries during the past six months. She dared not. To have done so would have meant disloyalty to her country, and such a disloyalty would have brought every Broomie that lay sleeping on the floors of every ocean that covered the depths to haunt her for her traitor. And yet she had failed. It was a critical moment—for she admitted it now—she had let him go down before her heart. She had not been silenced because York's will was more impressive than her own. She had been unable to betray him because she loved him—traitor though she knew him to be. She had allowed him to go, unchained, to the immeasurable sea, to the unknown, because her heart had acknowledged him man.

She faced it now and admitted it, and although the admission humiliated her to the very dust, she neither wept nor stormed. It was not the time for herent or rapid sentiment, but for sacrifice. Her father and her brothers had made the sacrifice of life; she would make the greatest of love. It would mean resolution; it might even mean heartbreak; it would involve lifelong loneliness; but the alternative was a perpetual self-accusing. What the Broomies of her kind had done for their kind, she had brought to this. They had died that England might live; she would suffer that England might conquer.

It was then that she prayed, and although her communion left her comfortless, she altered it, and left her without plans. But plans would come. They would need thinking out. And now that resolution had been taken and sacrifice made, the prime necessity was a composed spirit. Peace had brought her that. Time and opportunity would solve the rest. She went back to the ward, and found Tom awaiting her with a consuming eagerness to see a warrior, and she could see that the light would soon flash out.

Still interested in that girl, Tom? she asked cheerily, as she bathed his forehead again, and moistened his lips.

"Yes, Sister. I thought you was never a coming."

"Duly, Tom. You saw that man come in with the chief?"

"Him that reminded you of the man that went west?"

"Yes. Well, he turned out to be a very clever surgeon who has discovered a new operation that was of immense value. We've had a demonstration."

"Tom was not interested. His filming eyes were fixed on Serenity. He was waiting for her to say."

"It's taken it out of you, Sister. All your colour's gone."

That'll come back after a sleep, Tom. Besides, that's nothing. Where was I when the story?"

"You were tellin' me about the trainin' that makes the proper sort of a sport," Tom said swiftly, anxious not to let her see how precious seconds were just then.

"So I was. And the girl I was telling you about had sacked her trainer, hadn't she? Well, she was a fool, Tom. She thought it was being very smart, and very clever, but she found that she was about as much good without her trainer as you would have been for that special match if you'd sacked yours and gone on the randy, as you boys call it. So she went back."

"And did he take her on again?" Tom asked with intense interest.

"Why do you ask that, Tom?" Serenity said, arrested by the question, but more by the manner of its asking.

"Cause most trainers I've known are kittle cattle, an' they're just as likely to tell a man to go to blazes, as take him on again, once they've turned him down."

"No good never does that, Tom," she said very softly.

"If you say you are sorry you've failed, a fool will prove it by getting into training again as hard as ever, so as to make up for lost time. He just lays himself out to do the best he can for you."

"Strewh, but that's a knock-out of a trainer. Wish I'd known about him earlier. And did he get that girl her muscle back again?"

"Yes, pounds of it, and wind too, Tom. She stopped tucking her head under her arm and whim-

pering that life wasn't fair fighting, and letting every time they came along give her a jolt as they fancied. She stood up to the game and looked the players over. Some could run, and others were like a stone wall. Some could fight, and others could tell you never again if you'd been fouled, and others had a punch that was as vicious as the kick of an Army mule. Others were as wily as foxes, and some as savage as tigers. You know all of them, don't you, Tom?"

"They're always in a team with ginger in it," Tom said, sighing for the battle of the past days, and utterly oblivious of the greater field on which he had fallen. It's a terrific combination, he added, as if it were a little mistrustfully.

"But think of the trainer, Tom. He knows the combination to a man, and there isn't a trick but he has a defence."

"But the bledgers are always inventin' new tricks," Tom urged—"that's the trouble. You no sooner master one than you're sophisticated with another. How'd ye get at the idea, like? D'ye study 'em out of books? I could never make much of books, anyway. There are too many words in books for me. I tried to see a man doing it. That learnt me the soonest."

"And you are right, Tom. See a man do a thing once, and that teaches you more than a lot of reading would. You're like a lot of about me, Tom. I do things, didn't you, Tom? I'll swear you used to devour the Saturday night 'Football' to the last paragraph."

"Smile, and it was a sufficient answer. He had no breath to waste, anyway. He might need it for more important talk later."

"I thought so," Serenity went on, smiling happily. "Well, the way you liked to go about me, I'd seen into into the field to show the world how a proper sport ought to play the game. He wouldn't fool, and he wouldn't cheat, and he wouldn't take a mean advantage. He was a real sportsman. He was a real sportsman in mind he was attacked, and the field wouldn't have him. They hooted him off."

"The blighters!" Tom said in a whisper. "Did he play against them?"

"He did until they killed him."

"Tom closed his eyes. That wanted thinking out. He knew what Sister was driving at now. How keenly it was to feel her cool words in his brain. When he opened his eyes again they were wet, and he whispered quickly, "That's Him what they call Jesus Christ, ain't it?"

"Yes, Tom. And after He had gone back to be with His Father, men wrote what they remembered about His play and His teaching. They put the rules down that He'd given to them, and the promises that He'd left for them, so that they should know how to live after He was gone. It's a wonderful story, Tom, and that girl read it, and read it, and depended on the promises, and has tried to play the game at its best ever since."

"Has there been plenty of ginger in it, Sister?"

"Full of it, Tom, and the fight gets harder. But the harder the game the readier the Trainer is with His help. He's always on the field, and the advice He gives is the best. He's always there when it's needed. It's great, Tom, and it's the only game worth playing."

"Tom closed his eyes again, and they remained closed. He'd looked at Serenity looked to see if he still breathed, for the pulse was all but stopped. But not quite. He looked up again and said, a faint smile wreathing his mouth,

"Remember 'em of them rules, Sister. I'm going to play the game."

Serenity took her Testament and read. She knew, it so choicely that she had not to hesitate, but she had tested it so thoroughly that her comments were of the richest value. Tom's eyes never left her face, and again and again she caught the whisper, "I'm going to play the game. I'm going to play the game."

It was a quiet night in the ward, and other nurses were on duty now, so that Serenity was un-interrupted in her ministrations of mercy and peace. He had been asleep—sleep deeply needed, for he had been through weariness, and her mind played for rest—but she played the game. Before the dawn, Tom had been introduced to his new Trainer, and he had shaken hands with him. Serenity still sat at the edge of the bed, holding one of the hands in her own, her face spiritualized by the long vigil, her soul mounting on the thoughts she had been interpreting. The gentlest of pressures that had told her of the last fighting life ceased, the throbbing of a final blaze of intelligence, and she heard him whisper,

"Sister, that brass-hat what came in with the chief, and what reminded you of the man who went West, must be a chum of your Trainer's, too. He came at

Readers of "Primitive Methodist Leader" offered 140 Doses of Valuable Tonic Beverage.

A fair and honest offer. I will send 1,000 readers of this paper over a month's supply—three or four doses a day—of my natural, vitalizing Tonic, Vita-Ore, for a fair test. You will send a postal note for Vita-Ore to be benefited. I take your word. I am honest, and believe other people the same. My word is good, I will take your word. If you can honestly say that Vita-Ore has benefited you, you owe nothing. This is the only way I sell Vita-Ore: I will not take the money until you are benefited. My name is well enough known to you to trust me. But I do not ask you to trust me. I trust you. Your word is enough. If you say you will pay when benefited, I am satisfied.

Therapeutic

MEDICALLY APPROVED TONIC.

Thousands tell me that Vita-Ore gave cow life and vitality into them. My customers include medical men, clergymen, business men of position, ladies of title, women of education and social standing. The Government analyzed Vita-Ore and exempted it from stamp duty: it is therefore not a patent medicine. Vita-Ore has the greatest medical authority in the world—said: "The clinical results obtained were satisfactory."

Vita-Ore is perfect for all ailments from the slightest ill-effects, and pleasant to take. Fill up the form at once. Do not delay. Receive the benefit NOW.

THE REPUTATION OF VITA-ORE.

Vita-Ore has given new life and vitality to thousands of sick, anxious, and exhausted men. It has restored grace and healthy cheer to thousands of tired, weary, careworn women, and to girls whose development to womanly life has been delayed. The vital forces are powerfully and noticeably increased by Vita-Ore. Wherever Vita-Ore is tried, it is recommended to other people. Even if you are in average health, the new vitality stored up by Nature in the chalybeate water of which Vita-Ore is the dried and concentrated essence will give you new vigour, strength, brain and nerve power. Sluggishness, lassitude—cured by the vitalizing force of Nature—when Vita-Ore is taken as a beverage. Write me at once by letters open to your inspection that suffers from the following have been thus cured—

General Weakness	Neuritis	Weakness and Rheumatism
Debility	Dyspepsia	Run-down conditions
Neuropathia	Neuritis	Resulting from Stomach, Liver and Kidney Weakness
Anemia		

Vita-Ore is a powerful nerve and spinal tonic. The headaches, pains in back, and special weaknesses of women which when it is used. A man who suffers from general lack of energy, want of manly vigour and ambition, who is easily fatigued and does not feel the aggressive strength of manhood, will derive new life from Vita-Ore by its judicious stimulation, but by a powerful tonic action which permanently benefits. Vita-Ore has made new men of thousands.

IT WILL DO YOU GOOD.

Girls who are bloodless and anemic—pale, easily tired, short of breath when going upstairs—derive the most wonderful benefits from Vita-Ore.

Send no money. We send you a month's supply without payment. If Vita-Ore does you good you pay 4/6. If not, we will supply. If not benefited, simply write and say so, and we will send you a new supply. You do write. It is a fair "no benefit no pay" offer.

But Vita-Ore WILL do you good. It will strengthen and tone up your system, and give you more energy. Your direction will be better, your eyes brighter, your skin and complexion clearer and younger-looking.

Do not delay. Take advantage of the offer at once.

The "Nod Co., Ltd. (Dept. 16), 89, Ladgate Hill, London, E.C. 4.

FILL IN THIS COUPON FOR FREE TRIAL OF ONE MONTH'S SUPPLY.

To the THE "NOD CO., LTD.

(Dept. 16), 20, Ladgate Hill, London, E.C. 4.

Dear Sirs,—Please send me a month's supply of "Vita-Ore," with full directions and free book of particulars.

I will use it according to the "Directions," and promise to report result in 30 days.

If it does me good I will send you 4/6 (four shillings and sixpence) in payment for the month's course of treatment. If not, I will write and say so, and in that case you are to charge me nothing.

Name _____

Address _____

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: - - - Councillor R. SPARK (Stockton-on-Tees).
SPEAKERS: Rev. W. H. COLLINS (Fernando Pool); 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 Surrey Chapel Young People's Mission.

METROPOLITAN TABERNAACLE, 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. (Varcoath), 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

1.6 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.

E. E. PRITCHARD.

Soloist: Mrs. HARRISON.

Mrs. J. JOHNSON will give the Report.

of the Darlington and Stockton District, and the Tea by the 'Norwich District.

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. PERKS, Bart.

Rev. J. A. KERSWELL (South Central Africa).

Rev. F. W. DODDS (Nigeria).

Rev. J. T. BARKBY.

Rev. A. BALDWIN.

of 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, 3, Holborn Hall, Gray's Inn Road, London, W.C.

Bakerloo and City and South London Tubes to Elephant and Castle. Trams from Embankment to Elephant and Castle, and Trains from many parts.

looked at me afore he went out, an' he said, 'You lucky lad! When she comes back tell her—I love—her—'

A fainter smile than before, a soft sigh, a close closing of the eyes, and another casualty remained to be reported.

Serenity gazed into the dead face with burning eyes; she felt herself to be sinking into an abyss engulfed in darkness. A silence as of the grave held the ward as if the world had ceased to swing, and noise had passed out of experience—but it was only for a moment. There was a crash and a blinding explosion, then another—and then another—and then a roar of continuous, tearing, shattering sound and a blaze of searing flame as could only accompany the explosion of a world in its final catastrophe.

When Serenity recovered consciousness she was in a strange room, and the chief was bending over her. His first exclamation when he saw the light of reason in her eyes was "Thank God!" His next was in answer to her whispered inquiry, "What was it?" "The burmen did it," he said bitterly. "Yes, there were casualties," he added in response to the question in her eyes, "but you are not to trouble about them. Thank God!" he ejaculated again. "You are not hurt. No bones broken, no bruises even. Your escape is a miracle. So is mine. Thank God, again! I never felt so thankful in my life. But you are all right now. We'll soon get you out of this. Where would you like to be sent?"

Serenity thought hard for a minute before she replied. It was not easy to think. Her mind was full of splintering crashing, and blue fire were raging in her eyes, and thought was desperately difficult. "Can I go where I like?" she asked at length.

"You can go anywhere on this continent if you'll only say the word," the chief said.

"Paris," she whispered faintly, her strength going.

"Paris!" the chief exclaimed incredulously. "Are you sure you mean Paris? Don't you mean Devon?"

She shook her head, for she felt that speech was too laborious if a sign would do. She was tired. Tired to death. She wanted to sleep—to sleep for days until she could forget, and until she noises had ceased and the flames burnt themselves out.

She only wanted to be assured that her wish was granted. "Then you shall go to Paris, and I will come and see you as soon as I can. Now go to sleep."

So it was that when next Serenity opened her eyes she was in Paris. It took her some time to recall what had happened and why she was there. Then,

as the full recollection flashed across her mind, and she realised that her head was clear and her brain cool, she breathed a deep sigh of thankfulness and went to sleep again.

Paris was to be the place of her new beginning. She was a Broomie, and the Broomies were neither to be browbeaten nor bedridden. Yorke had escaped her once because she had been a woman with a heart. She would prove to him that she was also a woman with a conscience.

(To be continued.)

IN MEMORIAM.

Councillor J. W. Bewick, J.P.

In the presence of Councillor J. W. Bewick, on May 6th, our church at Bourne, Longdon, has lost one of its oldest and most valued workers. For more than fifty years he had been in labours abundant. It was largely through his agency that our magnificent church at Stone-road was erected at a cost of over £4,000, and he had lived to see the debt extinguished, with the exception of £200. His bright, winsome disposition and unflinching courage endeared him to the hearts of all. His home was ever open to the preachers and his gifts to the church most generous. He was a member of the Staffordshire County Council, and ever since the federation of the Pottery towns he had been a member of the federated borough and had served on its most important committees. On several occasions he had represented his District in Conference. He had also been elected a member of the forth-coming Conference at Hull. His end came with tragic suddenness. On his return home on Monday from the Synod at Chesterton he was taken ill with heart trouble, and on Wednesday passed into the presence of his Lord. The funeral was a representative one. Members of the Stoke Borough Council were present, together with representatives from the various committees which he had served so faithfully. The Tunstall District Committee was represented by Revs. A. Wilkes, C. L. Tack, R. H. MacFarlane, A. Jackson Smith and Mr. A. G. Jones. Others present were Revs. R. C. Noble, G. Walmsley, F. Brock and the local ministers of the Free Churches, together with Rev. G. Davies (C.E.). An impressive funeral service was conducted by Rev. George Emmett.

Stanley Meredith.

A deep sorrow has fallen upon Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Meredith, of Bourneville, loyal and generous officials and workers at Selly Oak, in the passing of their only boy, Stanley. He was of exceptional winsomeness and intelligence, and was greatly loved. After all that medical skill and parental love could do, Stanley went to the Friend of little children on April 24th. The interment took place at Lodge Hill, and was preceded by an impressive service, conducted by Rev. J. M. Gunson, in Selly Oak Chapel.

MARRIAGE.

A pretty wedding was solemnised on May 4th at Central Church, Derby, between George Henry, son of Mr. and Mrs. G. Stevenson, of Littleover, and Gladys Hilda, only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Webb, of Derby. The bride, who was given away by her father, wore a dress of pale cream lunaria, trimmed with satin and beads, with embroidered veil and orange blossom, and carried a beautiful bouquet. The bridesmaids were Miss Winnie Hand, cousin of the bride, and Miss Pollie Stevenson, sister of the bridegroom. Mr. Alec Stevenson acted as best man, Miss Louis Smith, A.T.C.L., officiating at the organ. The ceremony was performed by Rev. W. Brown. The bride has been an active worker in the school at Littleover, also church and school organist for a number of years. A reception was afterwards held in the schoolroom.

Silver Wedding.

The silver wedding of Mr. and Mrs. L. J. Harris took place on Saturday, May 1st, at the Co-operative Hall, West Bowling, Bradford, Yorks. They were the recipients of many beautiful presents, including a silver cake stand, and two silver flower vases from the Superintendents of the Refuge Assurance Co. in Bradford. They also received a French time piece from the agents belonging to Mr. Harris's Division. Mr. Harris, who as held in high esteem by his colleagues, is also a local preacher in the Bradford Sixth Circuit, where he has rendered excellent service for 32 years. About 150 guests were entertained to tea, after which several friends expressed good wishes and congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Harris having attained the 25th year of wedded life.

Our Churches and People.

Dr. Guttery's Progress.

The many friends of Dr. Guttery will be glad to know that though he is still in a nursing home his first operation is considered quite satisfactory. Early specialist's advice is being obtained pending the next step. He is in good spirits, and appreciates the many letters and inquiries that he has received from his many friends. Dr. Guttery and family wish to thank all for their sympathy and loving prayers on his behalf during these very anxious days, and regret it is impossible to acknowledge separately these tokens of love and friendship.

The London Festivals.

I see from the *Leader* announcements that our London Festivals are close at hand, culminating in the great meetings at the Tabernacle and at Alfreod. They are all organised in connection with each other, primarily, I judge, for convenience. Friends are up in London from the country, so are some of the distinguished speakers, and each mission centre in London and the orphanage at Alfreod naturally take advantage of this. They are to be commended. Each centre has its claims and merits due recognition. Mr. Ellwood at Clapton, Holborn Hall, Young People's meeting and St. George's Hall, Young People's meeting, Mr. Thomas Jackson concentrates on the Saturday. Mr. Thomas Jackson concentrates on the Monday afternoon, St. George's Hall, arranging some portion of its celebration from Monday morning till night, Clapton afternoon and evening. All merging into the Missionary Anniversary on the Tuesday. The attractions, too, are well distributed.

Whitechapel and Thomas Jackson.

Whitechapel has carved out a sphere of its own, as it was bound to do. Wherever Thomas Jackson had laboured he would have been his own architect. Through all the years—and they are now well over forty—he has toiled as few are able for the prevention of evils and for the remedy of evils that exist. Year by year on he goes, without noise or parade. But he has won the heart of the Church, as he has also won the hearts of multitudes in Whitechapel and neighbouring localities. His is the premier position in London as a social and philanthropic worker. The influence of his mission is seen in the list of sympathisers who rally at his call. His work is for the Kingdom rather than the denomination, yet because it is reflected in the Church's face. The work at this centre, as at all the other missions, demands increasing financial support. The remedy of all this social work is that when the men and women have worn their hearts out in bearing others' burdens they have to "seek diligently" for the piece of silver. This quest for money ought to be prevented by a great inflow of gifts to all the mission centres.

A Great Home Mission Centre.

The ramifications of the work at St. George's Hall are very extensive. Recently I was privileged to survey the buildings and the work, and was deeply impressed. Now that the Hall has been renovated it is most attractive, without and within. The work among children is of many forms, some of it smiting the heart with sharp yet tender pangs as one looks at the little cripples making paper flowers and entering into the joys of life. The work among the broken wings. It is a beneficent ministry this, and as Christ-like as can well be. The Sisters are everywhere radiating brightness, and gladdening mild abounds. And the Sisters always smile, the need defend themselves that way. It is either that or heartbreak. All

the year round it goes along, and this is only one of the many years of their work. If only our people in the provinces could see it as it goes on from week to week. The President of Conference will have a great day at St. George's on Sunday; atmosphere is peculiarly appealing to his genius, and the atmosphere that pervades is among the most distinguished preachers. What follows the advertisement tells, but it will be noted that the evening meeting will be addressed by Mr. Sykes and Mr. B. C. Spoor. Mr. Taylor needs no less, not a large sum at all when the work done is remembered. This is the nineteenth anniversary of the Sisters' Settlement. This takes us back to James Flanagan and Joseph Johnson, leaving work to-day is being so splendidly carried on by Mr. Taylor.

And at Clapton.

A remarkable man that Ellwood, of Clapton—little in size, but big in heart and always on the job. This greeted me the other day when we were casually talking about our work in the Metropolis. I acknowledged it was all true, and that more, much more so, as he is familiarly known, has the art of making you feel you are bigger and better than you really were you are. It is all natural to him, is just what he believes and feels towards you. It is all deeply genuine, and it is worth a donation to talk to him. Again it is personality that counts. Clapton has been his only work, his lives for it. His attention is never diverted by wife nor child. Just Clapton, always Clapton, the poor of Clapton, the hungry children who swarm around the mission centre. When you cannot hear "Clapton" it is when he is silent, and then you breathe it. No wonder he is widely known, and that in the locality everybody loves him. He draws his helpful friends from far and near, and his May Festival increases in interest from year to year. His Saturday programme is full of great things. On Sunday he has Mr. J. G. Bowran, and on Monday his programme equals any Colerence meeting. But Mr. Ellwood needs money; friends will remember this.

Where Merry Voices Sing.

Alfreod is always popular. Those who will go to the City will find it a delightful spot. The sight of the children is the most compelling argument for support, and this never fails. Mr. Curry has secured as goodly an array of chairmen and speakers as any secretary could wish for. It is a favourable day is needed, then all will be merry. Indeed it will be merry at Alfreod even if it should rain. There is always one treat at the Festival, apart from speeches—the President of Conference is always enticed to play cricket. This year there will be a fascination, and all will want to witness the President both when he bats and when he delivers the ball. It is said he is simply "great" at the game.

Another Achievement.

It is difficult for George Shapcott to rest. He began his ministerial life in the seventies, and along with Thomas Jackson holds the record for length of service in the Metropolis. And as Mr. Jackson has centred in the East so Mr. Shapcott has concentrated in the London of N.W. And almost if not all the time, he has been on what was the old London Second Circuit. Several years ago he superannuated after a long, aggressive and honourable ministry, and then almost at once took charge of the church at Wembley. It has steadily grown, and its prospects were never

so bright as now. Through the stimulating generosity of a local friend and a splendid promise from Sir W. P. Hartley there is every prospect that the debt will be cleared off during the approaching Whitsunday. The same local friend who promised substantial help also prompted Mr. Shapcott to secure additional land for future extension purposes; this Mr. Shapcott obtained at once, and the purchase money has been given. This additional site materially adds not only to the value of the property, but improves the future outlook of the church. The building and newly-acquired land, from the main road, and as Wembley has the prospect of great developments there is an enlarging future for the church; indeed, none better in Greater London.

Rescue Work at Leeds.

In connection with the recent anniversary of the Leeds Boys' Home, the superintendent, Mr. T. J. Heywood, not only had the gratification of the event proving one of the most successful, but testimonies were borne to the good effect of his work by Mr. William Thornton, clerk to the City Magistrates. Throughout the West Riding Mr. Thornton's name, as was that of his honoured father, is held in the highest esteem. In his appreciation of the work Mr. Thornton says: "I should like to testify to the value of the Home. Without such provision, the work of the Police Courts would be rendered rather nugatory and the most important branch of it, the reformation of young lads, would be hopeless. I am sure this view would be subscribed to by every Magistrate engaged in the administration of justice. May I add one word as to the value of your Home? I have been freely used by the Justices, and has proved invaluable. The city is to be congratulated not only upon possessing the Home, but also upon the admirable manner in which it is conducted. The rescue work which the Home promotes is gaining confidence and winning the admiration of the City of Leeds, and under Mr. Heywood's guidance is giving many a youth the chance of 'a second innings.'" QUORUM.

A sale of work was held at Upton Park on Wednesday and Thursday of last week. The Mayor of East Ham presided the first day and the Mayors opened the sale. On the second day Mrs. R. F. Final presided and Mrs. E. Sturgess declared of Miss open, the scholars, and the leadership of the sale, rendering "The Bunch of Keys." Mrs. Whitmarsh and Mrs. F. Cable were the soloists. In addition to the circuit ministers, several local ministers took part. The results of the sale were: £124 7s. 6d. After paying for the recent installation of the electric light, the trustees have over £250 towards the necessary renovation. Mr. T. J. Cadman and Rev. R. F. Final thanked the workers for their splendid service.

Wolsley Hall, Oxford



Founder and Principals
J. WILLIAM KNIFE,
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WOLSELEY HALL, OXFORD.

THE PRIMITIVE METHODIST INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

Revision of Fire Policies. URGENT.

The Directors desire again to remind Trustees, Circuit Authorities, and Ministers who have not yet increased the amount of their Fire Policies that it is of the utmost importance, in their own interests, that this should be done at once to avoid serious financial loss in case of fire. Such loss could not be covered from any other Connexional source, benevolent or otherwise.

In view of still rising prices for Furniture, Labour, and Materials, the Directors strongly advise that in every case policies should cover full present values.

Immediate attention will be given to Policies and Instructions forwarded to this Office.

Registered Office:
Kentmere House, Scarcroft Hill, York.

THOMAS J. GLADWIN, Secretary.

SUNDAY, MAY 16.

PROVINCIAL

REV. C. HUNT'S ENGAGEMENTS.—May 15th and 16th,
Hinekey Circuit.
MR. AND MRS. BARRACLOUGH.—Gloucester, May 16th
fill 31st.

EVANGELISTS' ENGAGEMENTS.
OPPORTUNITY FOR REVIVAL.—P.M. Gospel Tent Mis-
sion. The Evangelist, Mr. J. Hodges, is now open for en-
gagements with his tent. Many souls won for Christ last
winter at Seville, Bay of Biscay.

WIFE—The dearly beloved wife of J. F. Stepmatson, 611 St. George, who passed to the "Homeland," May 15th, 1919. Eternal rest.

WIFE—In affectionate remembrance of my dear husband, Richard F. Whiteside, of Liverpool, who entered the "Homeland," May 12th, 1912. Loving thoughts and memories of our dear one are ever with us.

of Lust," "Lies and Theology," "Lies and
drugs" are all arousing. The regret is that they
contain so much that is true. The facts even in their

not much surprised. I have attended services wherever there has never been a word addressed to the children and young people present, with the result that they have lacked interest in the service and in the Lord's House. Hence when they leave school most of them

hosts of friends will go out to Mr. and Mrs. Roe and their daughter, Mrs. H. Aldridge, in this hour of bereavement.

