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Primitive Methodist Leader

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METHODIST UNION.

THE MINISTERIAL OFFICE DEFINED.

VIEWS OF DR. A. S. PEAKE AND G. G. FINDLAY, D.D.

In the discussion on Methodist Union which took place at the Conference on the functions of the ministry, Dr. Peake stated that there was no strictly defined doctrine of the ministry in the Methodist Church. In a recently delivered "Charge" to ministerial candidates on the occasion of their ordination he had sought to set forth as definitely as he was able what was the position and function of those who were called and set apart. He informed the Conference that his own views were confirmed by the late Dr. George G. Findlay, one of the ripest Biblical scholars of the Wesleyan Church, views which he had come across since his own "charge" had been prepared. The Doctor then read the following paragraphs from his utterance on the occasion named:—

"Now that you take your place among those who are no longer on their trial for the ministry, but as men to whom the full status and responsibility of the sacred office have come, what is it that in this service you receive? What is the source of your commission and what is its significance? It comes to you through the Church and can come only in that way. Never forget that the Divine source of your call does not render you independent of the Church. The co-operation of the corporate society is indispensable. You do not derive your ministry from the ministry by any succession which goes above the head of the Church and behind its back to Christ; for in all this He wills to trust His mystical body with the amplest powers and the fullest responsibility.

"You are, therefore, chosen representatives of the Church, possessing no privilege, no authority, which she does not possess, exercising no function which is not within her right, charged with no spiritual gift which is not already hers, entrusted with the communication of no grace which is not in her storehouse of Divinely granted resources. You have your ministerial significance only in so far as you are the accredited representatives of the Church, holding her commission, dispensing her gifts and graces. You are priests, but so is every Christian; and your priesthood is not intrinsically different from that of your lay brethren.

"Yet, deriving all your ministerial status from the Church, and at no time and in no point independent of or above her, you are yet her representatives and her organ in a very special way.

The functions which belong to the Church are peculiarly concentrated in the ministry. It is the man, indeed the exclusive, business of the minister to act as Christ's spokesman to the world, as His servant to the Church, as Great is the dignity of your calling, but a dignity, as He has taught us, not of Lordship but of service. The influence you will exert, simply because you are Ministers, is inevitably great and far-reaching and correspondingly great is the responsibility which rests upon you for using that influence aright. You are to be leaders in your Churches, giving instruction and guidance, kindling enthusiasm, and imparting inspiration."

In support of his own views as above expressed, Dr. Peake then read the following quotation from "The Church of Christ as Set Forth in the New Testament," by the late George G. Findlay, D.D. "I have said nothing yet," says Dr. Findlay, "of the position of the ministry, or clergy, in the Christian society, nothing of their specific claims and duties. Not that I think this is an unimportant matter, either for ourselves or for the Church at large. But it has often seemed to me that this question occupies too large and dominant a place in discussions on the subject. The ministry exists for the sake of the Church, and arises out of the Church, not vice versa. We disavow sacerdotalism; we disavow also clericalism, which is a distinct and only less dangerous perversion of Church office. The apostles were disciples first, and brethren first, before they were apostles. They were disciples and brethren always and to the last.

"In the various functions of her ministry the Church does but specialise and concentrate in particular organs the powers which exist diffused through her whole membership. Christ's people are a spiritual people, filled with the Holy Ghost; and every one of them has spiritual qualities and spiritual duties. Preaching, teaching, public prayer, the care of souls—in all these the ministry has a principal and directing part, but not an exclusive prerogative in establishing the sacraments and committing them to His apostles our Lord does not prescribe their administration by a definite order of men. That the two sacraments should be ordinarily dispensed by those who are set apart to preach the Gospel is, in our view, a matter of obvious fitness, and belongs to the doing of things decently and in order. It concerns the well-being, not the very being of the Church."

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Woman's Views

It is matter for rejoicing that the Free Churches are joining forces in a great campaign against the liquor traffic. Rev. Alfred Sharp (President-elect of Wesleyan Methodism) is making this his chief plank in his presidential programme, and his sincerity will gladly follow his lead. In all our work it is well to use to their fullest advantage all the auxiliary agencies that are available. It is not sufficient that they have now an admirable ally in the Board of Education. The syllabus for the teaching of the hygiene of food and drink, while not issued as a temperance pamphlet, leaves no doubt concerning the scientific aspect of the question. Its adoption by education authorities is optional, and many of them are apparently unaware of their powers.

Thus it becomes a prime duty of temperance organisations to bring the scheme before the notice of those who constitute local education committees with a view to its adoption. This should be done with reference to secondary as well as elementary schools. The syllabus may be purchased from any bookseller for twopenny, and money might be worse spent than in supplying individual members with copies, accompanied by a request for their consideration. It is not always that the Government lends encouragement to the idealist; when "the powers that be" receive the message from the angels let us make full use of the facilities offered. Readers whose activities are linked up with those of the B. W. T. A. and W. T. U. are urged to adopt this course, and there is no reason why our Quarterly Meetings also should not lend their influence. With just a little moral suasion a flood of instruction may be let loose which shall have its effect in the ballot box in future years.

We understand that the resolution went an order of deaconesses went through Conference without a murmur of dissent. Thus quietly, without disturbance, the situation, there is being established within the Church a movement capable of stemming the tide of decline by awakening uncastonced men and women to the spiritual interest in the hearts of unbelievers. The scheme is pregnant with possibilities; and it wisely directed and loyally responded to will have an accumulative effect with the passing years. A committee of twelve has been appointed to consider details with a view to presentation at the next Conference. There is no need, however, to wait twelve months before beginning upon this gracious work, for Church leaders will do well to begin forthwith to enlist the services of women who are suitable and available.

Woman's personal witness for Christ was never more needed than now. Cases often present themselves where masculine business shows itself less effective than feminine tact and sympathy. With most of us the human counts more than merely logical or intellectual alertness; in a final estimate the race is controlled less by the heart than by the head; and the spirit of friendliness, the sense of comradeship, the individual *entente cordiale* are more warmly more welcome than fine sermons or platform oratory. It is here that Christian womanhood must contribute to current needs. For the modern minister life rushes by in such a whirl of events that he has no spare time for personal contact with his congregation; and in these days when people will not go to church the woman who associates herself with the divine task brings the word of God to the people who will be a pioneer in a great and noble movement.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK.—"The soul's armour is never well set to the sword unless a woman's hand has been to it, and it is only when she braces it loosely that the honour of manhood falls."—(Ruskin.)

HOSKINS.

Pussyfoot ' Johnson in Durham.

ADDRESSES CHURCH LEADERS.

By JAMES S. NIGHTINGALE.

Once more Dean Wellton laid his friends and neighbours under obligation in giving them the opportunity to listen to the message of one who has done so much to make the great American Republic the freest country in the world. On Friday evening a large and representative company gathered in the Deanery to listen to an address from Mr. W. E. (Pussyfoot) Johnson, and well they were repaid for their attendance. The heads of universities and colleges, canons, clergy and Non-conformist ministers, city fathers and keen men of business, with many ladies, listened to the story of America's wonderful transformation. And with them, many University students, not out for a "rag," but alert listeners, and in sympathy with the speaker and his objects. It was such an audience as should everywhere be brought together, so that religion and education, the commercial man and the labourer, and the women in the home may have rough but sure ideas of the meaning of an array of facts but what sounded as a modern miracle, and in a land which is not a country merely but a great Continent.

So to "Pussyfoot" whom we had never seen before, he is arresting and convincing from the start. As you looked at this great agent of criminal law and reformer, he might have passed for a bluff, sturdy British farmer, until you heard the Yankee drawl and phrasology. And as you watched and listened you saw a keen, strong man who knew how to stand up to difficulty and opposition. He was not a floundering, and was sure of ultimate triumph. With no arts or oratory in speech, but a witness with a down-to-earthness of a man of a mighty conviction and mastery in his subject that challenged question, "Pussyfoot" made you understand as never before, not only why he was sent for six years to the "frontier" to deal with illicit trading, but what a pillar of strength he has been to sobriety's cause. And his story of Prohibition's triumph in his land of 110 millions of souls, representing nearly every nation on the face of the earth. A few items will be of interest in this glorious record of achievement, and may encourage the men and women in our churches who sometimes are depressed in the thought that Primitive Methodism is not facing the situation as she ought to-day. "Prohibition," said "Pussyfoot," was not a dry law, it was a revolution. When two-thirds of the people who drank liquor in the Western States voted and voted for the reform. The drunkard himself, the quickest to vote that he might get himself killed. The moderate man who saw how drink injured his business fell into line, and whether from the standpoint of the law or business, the health of the country, welfare of the community, a great army rallied to the cause.

The work began in small areas and thus developed. The difficulties in the way of doing the conquering of America, with its many States and Legislatures, were all set forth. Yet the more than formidable obstacles had come to a halt. God's work was done and kindred institutions all over the Republic in great numbers no longer were needed for their original purpose and were turned to other uses. Mayors of cities were testifying on every hand to the beneficial results. Soldiers who had returned from the great European conflict, after standing shoulder to shoulder with our sons, had voted for Prohibition, on their return, in great numbers.

Of course there was hostility, especially from New York City, in which correspondents of European papers resided. But New York was not America.

It was cosmopolitan, so much so that the census had to be taken provisionally in no less than twenty-two languages. Much of what they read in some English newspapers was from New York, and was full of lies. The New York deaths from alcohol decreased by 80 per cent. Prohibition had not created a great fiscal problem as many in America expected. The enormous saving in public expense and taxation on land and everything on the land saved them from any extra contributions.

Prohibition had brought an epidemic of building, which, of course, increased taxable value. Deposits in banks had increased in some instances by more than 100 per cent. As to the statement that there had been an increase of crime, it was not true, as there had been an actual decrease. He believed the future was with the English speaking races. It was more than desirable there should be a good understanding between this country and America. Let them beware of sinister influences abroad, whose object was not only to wreck Prohibition but would overthrow civilization itself.

So this Great Heart spoke to us. He sent many of us back to our task with renewed hope and courage. The "rag" of the London students left "Pussyfoot" minus an eye. But that was an actual decrease of the great man, who, like all the pioneers of righteousness, has learned to suffer as well as serve, is everywhere opening the eyes of the world to the possibility not so far distant when the British Empire will be free from the curse and thraldom of the liquor traffic.

Primitive Methodism is on the move, slowly, but surely, and our great Church into the arms of a mighty campaign? What, if after all, it is the road to the greatest revival of religion we have ever known in this country? Move, power to your arm, friend Goodred, to you Mr. President Horwood, and to the Leader in its more than valuable advocacy.

Rev. H. Carden's Ministerial Jubilee.

A great gathering of Birmingham Primitive Methodists assembled at Rookery-road, Handsworth, to celebrate the ministerial jubilee of Rev. Henry Carden. The President of Conference, Rev. S. H. H. Jones presided in the afternoon. A large company gathered for tea, after which Revs. H. Carden, A. Bateson, R. F. Wearmouth, Messrs. W. H. Shaw and J. D. Duncanson welcomed the President. This was followed by a very fine public meeting. Mr. H. Millington, circuit steward, presided. Mr. E. Jones voiced the congratulations of the circuit to Mr. Carden, and spoke of the value and high appreciation of his services. The President, in the address not only congratulated Mr. Carden on his long and successful ministry, but gave an address which raised the meeting to a high spiritual level. Rev. Joseph Odell (who was present at Mr. Carden's reception meeting at Wandsworth when he entered on his first station in 1871) gave a splendid address of congratulations and was also expressed by Revs. J. Scarlett and A. Bateson. On the initiative of Mr. Carden, the celebration was turned to good account as a financial effort for the relief of the poor. The result that over £70 was realised.

Miss Nellie Hewitt, only daughter of Mr. J. H. Hewitt of Gateshead, had just received the B.A. (Honours) Degree in Durham University, carrying with it the right to an M.A. without further examination. Her honours were won in English and Latin.

The Ramblings of a President.

On the advice of all my friends and on the order of the Home Government I spent three days at the Derby Conference in a lovely part of Derbyshire, where the son of my host, Mr. Ernest Sivil, generously motored me. Save that for the first night or two I was calling recalcitrant members of the Conference to order, and passing resolutions on all sorts of questions, I had a great time climbing heights, finding rivers, watching salmon fishing, trying to catch fish in the haunts of Isaac Walton, and letting the quiet soak into me.

On Monday, June 26th, I went to Birmingham, where my old friend Rev. Henry Carden was celebrating his ministerial jubilee. A surprisingly large congregation gathered in the fine chapel at Handsworth where I preached. At the tea which followed a surprise was sprung upon me, for the brethren in Birmingham gave me an address of welcome in their great kindness and warmth left nothing to be desired. Revs. Henry Carden, Bateson, Wearmouth, Scarlett and several leading members of the Conference were present in terms which were all too flattering. At first I was glad my wife was present, for I felt she was discovering that I was not in the great world of qualities which she had never suspected were in him, but on further reflection I was rather sorry, for I wondered how I should live up to the reputation thus gratuitously bestowed upon me.

But the great joy to me of that hour was the very optimistic tone with which he spoke of the future of the Primitive and future prospects in Birmingham. My thoughts went back to the Derby Conference when Birmingham was the scene of the Convention of Conference to the appointment of the Birmingham Commission, and the hopeless tone of the first meeting. "Our position in Birmingham," he said, "is a very good moment," Mr. Bateson declared in ringing tones, and all I saw and heard confirmed that statement.

In the afternoon a banquet was done to Mr. Carden, who, at a time of life when most men retire, took hold of the most difficult situation at Lord Street, and has turned it round and round into a flourishing business of life and vigour. No wonder he was received with a standing ovation, or that Rev. J. Odell and all the other ministers present vied with one another in congratulations and good wishes. It was a wonderful story, briefly outlined for us, of those fifty long years of hard work—years of sacrifice, of the giving of money raising and soul saving. I was delighted also by the many testimonies to the successful ministry of Rev. J. Scarlett.

On Wednesday, June 29th, I went to a circuit gathering in the Ely Circuit. Here the people foregathered from the towns and villages, and I was in a very good company of the type which has made Primitive Methodism strong and fragrant in the Eastern Counties. I presided to a full chapel in the afternoon, and was greatly helped by the congregation, and lectured on the lawn of a prominent Churchman—A. Peake, Esq.—who had kindly loaned me a very good tea and meeting. A veteran, Mr. G. Washington, presided with tact and ability. I was delighted to find the young superintendent, Mr. J. G. Carter, is deservedly popular, and is doing a good work among these people.

I am just at the beginning of a very strenuous task, and ask for the prayers of all my readers, and for that this year may be one of our best years for our beloved Church. S. H. H. H.

The name of Rev. Percival Tomlinson was duly recorded at the Conference, and the fact that he had been elected into the full ministry. Mr. Tomlinson goes to Church Stretton.

Social Movements.

The Christian Social Union

By ERNEST B. STORR.
Resurrection.

War killed many things. Some never rise again. It killed the Social Service Union, but it has risen again. The meeting for its resurrection was difficult to squeeze in. Conference becomes ever more crowded, not only with its own business, but with meetings of auxiliary institutions. We had to take the hour after tea on Monday. The gathering was not large, but it was enthusiastic. The President of Conference—than whom no one has taken a deeper interest in the Social Service Union—Mr. Longstaff, general secretary and its president—was in the chair. After a brief introductory statement by myself, a resolution, moved by Mr. J. Longstaff, was unanimously adopted, declaring the Social Service Union to be the only institution of such a kind, and desiring its revival.

The Socialist Bogy.

We slightly proceeded to frame the constitution, and the first battle was fought around the name. My own preference was for the word "Socialist." Some were of opinion that the word "social" ought not to appear in the title. It excited prejudice, they said, suggested to individuals the idea of Socialism. That the union stands for Socialism. That, of course, is a profound mistake. It stands for no such thing. We are not making any pronouncement for or against any social or political doctrine. A Socialist can come in; an anti-Socialist can come in. We have no decision to give the principles of Jesus Christ to all public gatherings. That is our object, our bond of fellowship. We are not making any pronouncement of the spirit and character of our union. It is a distinctly spiritual movement. It is a spiritual union. It is a spiritual movement. It must be based in the spirit of prayer.

Organization.

The subscription was fixed at a minimum of half-a-crown. The following officers were appointed:—President, Rev. S. Horton; vice-president, Mr. C. K. Watkinson, J.P.; editor, Rev. J. C. Mantripp; treasurer, Mr. J. Longstaff, J.P.; general secretary, Rev. E. B. Storr; organising secretary, Rev. E. H. Pittwood. These, with Revs. J. Maland and S. Rowley and Mr. R. Hetherington, form the executive committee.

Wanted, 1,500 Members!

We commence our new career with thirty-eight members, and subscriptions amounting to \$5 10. 6d. This is a far greater sum than the £500 goal ought to be reached, and must be reached, if the movement is to do its work. My own impression is that the success of the movement in 1906 made the mistake of creating an elaborate and expensive organisation, and that the office staff of 1906 had dug itself in. Our first year will be devoted to the work of gathering in members and establishing districts. The local secretaries will be asked to make a very earnest two-fold appeal to those who are already interested in the cause, and to many others in the connexion. It is our aim to wait to be personally approached on this matter that involves work and expense. Secondly, and thirdly, we will wait to be approached by one of the secretaries. Secondly, go further than joining up. Become a nucleus in your own district. Establish a district. Secure a branch. Form a branch. Either of the secretaries—Rev. E. H. Pittwood, Bank House, Neisemon, or Mr. J. H. Crook, 20, Durham—will be delighted to receive an application for membership, and will be glad to offer help, from any quarter.

Conference: Some Impressions.

By THE LADY OF THE GALLERY.

MY DEAR MIRANDA.—

I cannot claim to be fluent in language or skilled in word-por-tuguese, but my recollections of the Sheffield Conference are so fresh and delightful as to impel me to a disquisition thereon before they fade from my mental retina. An inconspicuous seat in the gallery afforded an excellent view of the hub of the Conferential universe. It was like observing a landscape from the advantageous height of an airship: it was being in the world but not of it, witness to the storm and stress of debate and argument, alternately criticising and admired, and only being intimately affected in the calm of the intermission, when the place was hushed by the consciousness of the Holy Presence.

I would not, Miranda, for worlds, have missed the devotional exercises with which each day commenced. The religious atmosphere of the household characterized the Scripture-reading, the atmosphere generated by prayer combined to engender an aura of holiness and reverence the glow fitting lone to the religious life.

The platform was admirably sustained by the men who constitute Congregational officialdom for the time being, although I heard you say, "Where were the women?" Hush, Miranda, for shame! As soon as one begins to talk generalizations, one is liable to be rebuffed by the sequence by asserting the equality of the sexes. *You did! I say it!* Well, so you would in your reply if I failed to get my tunings first, said, and I see that you are not averse to the same. The platform was sustained by MEN.

[illegible][illegible]

I think men must like us very much, Miranda, or they would not exercise this protective care toward us. There is no doubt that the President does, because he stated that the womanhood of this country is the highest achievement of nation-making, and there is no higher praise than that. The Vice-President and the ex-V.-P. paid warm and fitting tribute to their wives, through whose self-denial alone their own work was made possible, and also to the many women of our Church who render similar sacrifice.

To men it must be bothersome to have women in Conference at all. You see, it involves a new nomenclature, or rather a revised phraseology, or, to be quite accurate, an adapted Nominative of Address. The immemorial greeting has been "Fathers and Brethren."

the President commenced. The Sisters, fathers and brethren, and the retiring Editor, "Fathers and brethren and mother, in Israel" (to be strictly correct, of fact, this was a terminological inexactitude, a ministerial malversation, for they were in *Shorefield*); a College professor expressed himself afraid to use the traditional greeting, lest it might involve him in addressing "mothers and sisters," an addendum which offended his meticulous taste. The new Vice-Editor hit upon "Sisters and brethren," which answered the purpose very well, and avoided involutions, convolutions and excessive verbiage.

It has been frequently said that women collectively constitute a nonentity at our Conferences. This time they have broken "their birth's invidious bar and grappled with their evil star" not one alone but several joined in debates, and their voices were heard in prayer. I observed that invariably they spoke only when they could render definite contribution to the subject under discussion, and as if impelled by a sense of responsibility and (to use an ugly but expressive phrase) an inward urge.

Considerable diversion was created by the pronouncement that two of them had elicited from the Connexional Secretary, to the effect that there is nothing to be said by saying that the two women were his cousins. His cousin Margaret had been distinguished by taking her B.A. with a degree with Honours. How I should have loved to hear that she is bringing her husband to the Church! Why not? And why should he not some day be a Hartley Lecturer on (only women are permitted to be) "spellers" or a future Editor (if he is) of the *Connexionist*? But please don't mention this; we would be sorry to be the innocent means of prejudging masculine officialdom. I am reminded that a request was made privately to a woman delegate to allow herself to be nominated for Vice-President. Your extensive circle of friends and acquaintances had the reputation of good manners to refuse.

How much does the P.O. take for trospenec, Miranda? I find it impossible to keep pace with changing rates, and must avoid risks by drawing to a close my intention (only I have foolishly gone side-tracked) was really to tell you how proud I felt of our men, ministers at laymen alike. They roused the maternal instinct to white heat. One reflection how rejected their mothers must have been during years of development to steady their steady growth in grace and ideas, and so addition to native goodness. I think they must one and all have been the fostering care of good women about them; they could scarcely have emerged otherwise.

Supposing your boy develops the way, Miranda, I shall want to wear phylactery announcing to all the world that he is my nephew! Let him minister or layman, V.-P. or the humblest Endeavour Secretary, let him be anything so long as he uses himself for the service of man and the glory of God. Train him to this, and you will afford me true consolation for not being the proud mother of one of the crowd of selfish and noble souls who led the Sheffield

Conference. Tell him my loving prayers are with him and with all our lads that they may prove themselves worthy of their forebears.

Yours lovingly,
BETTY.

Rev. W. G. Cripps Ordained

The ordination service of Rev. W. G. Cripps was held at Stratford on June 30th. The chapel was filled with friends from the East London churches, and the meeting was deeply spiritual. Mr. Cripps related in lucid terms his religious experience and call to the ministry.

[illegible]

Tunstall's "Big Charity."

The greatest religious event of the year in the Potteries is what is universally described as the "Big Charity Bazaar at Jubilee Church, Trent Road." The annual bazaar has been held since 1890, and its success is due to the fact that it was one of every six people were out of work. But the last time it was held was in 1914-15, on preceding Sunday mornings.

On the great day itself—June 19th—the proceedings began by prayer, music and hymns. Then the church was assembled at 9 and processioned to the principal streets, headed by the band, followed by the choir, the past and present school superintendents, the teachers, the members of the choir, the preachers, the aged sister who has been named for nearly seventy years. Four choirs groups sang several times during the morning.

The bazaar was the morning's main feature, with a great gathering in the Market-square, where Mr. J. W. Hulme (superintendent) presided, and Mr. J. H. Saxton and J. Holland. In the afternoon Mr. Holland preached in the church and Mr. Saxton in the hall. Between 2,000 and 3,000 people were present, the order was reversed. The children sang sweetly, and the choir sang themselves finely. Mr. Geo. Dakefield, F.R.C.O., accompanied with his well-known mastery of the organ, and the collection was £5 and 6 p.m. The collections totaled £475, the highest record with the exception of last year when, in response to the appeal, the total of £500 was raised.

Mrs. Robert Hunter

Miss, Elizabeth Hunter, the dearly-beloved wife of Mr. Robert Hunter, fell on sleep at the home of her daughter, Mrs. J. V. Hill, Wearhead, on the 23rd, in her eighty-first year. For over fifty years she was a devoted member of our Church and an exemplary Christian. During her residence in Seaham Harbour she acted for some years in the capacity of assistant class leader to the Rev. B. F. Wilson, and was a true and a loving mother to her family, one of whom is the Rev. T. Hunter, Worcester, are all members of the Church, and call her blessed. Her remains were laid to rest in the quiet solitude of the Burial Ground, Silegh, on the 26th, the Rev. J. Rosly officiating.

Rich and Poor.

By J. C. MANTRIPP.

This column has nothing to do with economics, as such. Only everything that appeals to life has contact both with religion and with the expression of religion in literature. Some years ago I heard an American orator say that although the wide ocean separated England from the States, yet they were one—the lands were linked together underneath the ocean. Thus no apology is made for the following passage, quoted in the "Life of Canon Barnett," from the pen of Father Adelder.

To Evangelise the Rich.

"I have always myself believed that there should be missions to the rich, and that the message delivered to them should be by those who really understand the social question. I suggested to a Bishop who was about to hold a mission to the West End of London that Canon Barnett should accompany him, and to the 'Barnett-form' work. This was thought to be a very odd idea. I suppose it is because we think that there is only one way of working a mission to the rich, rather than the usual (called) to the mind there is a more truly evangelical way than the fashionable one—namely, the way of St. John the Baptist, who was a peasant and dealt with the class difficulty (the Pharisees, the publicans, the soldiers, etc.). It seemed to me that Barnett was exactly the man to tell the rich to repent, and I still think he was the man." Canon Barnett admitted me, but feared that such a mission would be "a form of excitement which many people would like as a change."

The Curse of Poverty.

Where there is plenty for all, a curse descends on the nation, content that multitudes should not have enough to make a full life possible. Poverty is built up not only on the ignorance, indolence, and inefficiency of the poor, and on the selfishness and luxury of the rich. It is built up on the ambition of the majority of those above the poverty line to possess, rather than to use, material things. Canon Barnett was a great believer in humanity. Yet he writes concerning co-operation: "On Wednesday the co-operation came to dinner. They are a heavy and serious lot of men and women. They take pleasure in business and the main chance ends in their stomachs. I don't know if co-operation is best able to raise them; if it is, it will be only just in so far as it absorbs a bit of Christianity."

A Disturbed Conscience.

There will always be degrading poverty while selfishness remains. There are signs of a disturbed conscience among comfortable church-going people to-day. There is no desire to sing:—

"Take my silver and my gold,
Not a mite would I withhold."

This is creditable. But no congregation with conscience will be caught to sing without difficult work to be done.

"Take my will and make it Thine,
It shall be no longer mine."

The Best that is to Be.

The difficulty is to learn the mind of Christ. Those who were with Him during His ministry could not evade His wonderful personality or His marvellous teaching. We can evade these, and do. We can not up for ourselves treasures on the earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and thieves break through and steal, but we do not get so far. Life would become more than getting the means to live if we did, and then went further. Christianity would make the rich with wealth, and make the poor rich. Not by transfer of material so much as by the spirit that makes transfer inevitable. Yet—

"How very hard it is to be
A Christian!"

A Wonderful Week-End.

The closing week of the ministry of Rev. H. J. Taylor on the South-East London Mission will not be forgotten by the many who were privileged to be present. During his absence at the Conference the officials and staff laid their plans and all the friends cheerfully co-operated. Mr. Taylor is well known in the district and held in very great esteem. On Sunday morning the gallery of St. George's Hall was filled with Scouts, Guides, Cubs and Brownies belonging to the Mission, and besides these some hundred special constables of the Tower Bridge and Peckham Divisions were in attendance, and a very impressive service was held. A very large congregation gathered in the evening, when the Mayor of Bermondsey spoke a few words in sincere appreciation of the splendid work of the superintendent. Most inspiring sermons were preached by Mr. Taylor, and the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper administered at the close of the evening service made a beautiful and impressive conclusion to the day.

At the Women's Home on Monday morning a large number gathered. Mr. Taylor spoke very sincere words of farewell to the women, Mrs. J. W. Ward presided. Mrs. Taylor with a beautiful silver-plated tea tray. This was an expression of love and appreciation from some four or five hundred poor women, many of them contributing with not a little sacrifice, yet counting it all joy to have a share in this "love gift." A great gathering was held in the evening, presided over by Mr. J. Darling. Addresses were given by Rev. H. Taylor, Mr. T. Frost, A. E. Gledhill, G. P. Cowdell, G. Farrer, A. Court and Sister Elsie. High tribute was paid by each speaker to the splendid work done by Rev. H. J. and Mrs. Taylor. The Circuit Steward, on behalf of the Mission, presented to Mr. and Mrs. Taylor a leather wallet containing a bank note for £100, and Mr. Taylor graciously spoke a few words of thanks.

Rev. W. Gellay's Jubilee.

The Rev. William Gellay has now completed fifty years in the ministry of our church. The story of these years is one of aggressive, strenuous, and full temperance advocacy, strong apologetic for the Christian faith as against the secularist lecturers of a few years ago, and many a battle for civil and religious liberty. He has been a preacher and crusader of the very first order. He is still going strong. For physical and mental vigour his present pulpitations are remarkable. His interest in connexional affairs is shown by his passion for Primitive Methodism in general. In spite of his seventy-six years he hopes to see the great revival of spiritual religion which he believes to be imminent.

In connection with his Jubilee celebrations he preached at Durham-road, Gateshead, on Sunday evening, June 26th, and at the same time, on Wednesday to a large and representative audience on "Fifty Years of Public Life: Things I have seen and done." Mr. W. W. Carr, J.P., presiding. Mr. John Gellay, of Bishop Auckland, presented to the trustees framed portraits of his father and the Rev. Hugh Gilmore. Congratulations were given by Mr. F. Aitchison (Circuit Steward), Revs. H. Yooll, C. Abrahams, G. W. Taylor and H. Fox, who, on behalf of the members of the church, presented to Mr. Gellay a number of books as a memento of the evening.

Orphanage Garden Party.

The Ladies Committee of the Bradford and Halifax District are to be congratulated on the great success of their initial effort for the year, which took the usual form of a garden party. Mr. and Mrs. Tom Lupton, who were the host and hostess, and their beautiful

and spacious grounds were thronged with over 1,000 visitors. Mr. Lamb provided a striking and varied programme, in which the Skipton Prize Band, a male voice choir, the Broughton-on-Tyne School Choir, the Skipton Crownley Boy Scouts, and others took part. By the kindness of Sir Thomas Robinson and other friends the children from the Maragropic Home were present, and contributed several choruses and part songs. Tea was provided in the gardens, and admirably served by the ladies of the Skipton Circuit, who held the party on the lawn, presided over by Alderman R. Fletcher, J.P., who warmly commended the work of our orphanages. The district orchestra, consisting of Messrs. W. Watson, gave a brief report of the work of the district, and especially of the Ladies' Committee in relation to the orphan homes, and Mr. H. Massey, J.P., and Alderman Shepherd, very heartily voiced the thanks of the gathering to Mr. and Mrs. Lamb and the ladies of the Skipton Circuit. It is estimated that the proceeds will be about £200.

Hungry Children's Fund.

Sir,—The results of the appeal for the above fund are far from satisfactory. The total sum contributed is meagre, so much so that our secretary is anxious to be true. The "Daily Herald" Fund is rapidly mounting up to £100,000. The Leader, I know, has many appeals presented through its pages, but rarely has there been anything so urgent as this fund for hungry children. All honour to those who have heard the call and have responded to it. Messrs. T. Jackson and others have done nobly, even old-age pensioners have joined in the list of those who have made contributions. It seems increasingly difficult to keep up the Church's attitude as a champion of the poor. Unless we are careful we shall find a spirit creeping into our midst which will be akin to democracy, and this will contribute further to the alienation of the people from the Church. Little children are in need of food, let this be remembered. We need again to recall the words of our Lord: "As ye feed the least of these, so ye feed me."—Yours,
Thornton Heath.

Progress at Broad Heath.

Still another long-closed village chapel has been re-opened under happy auspices—Broad Heath on the Broadway station, where the Rev. C. Rendell is prosecuting an energetic and successful ministry. Closed, save for a brief interval, for nine years the re-opening promises exceeding well. Sent by God to the neighbourhood, Mr. Davies, farmer and a stalwart Primitive Methodist, has flung himself into this cause with magnificent verve and understanding. Largely at his own expense, the complete renovation of the property, assisted by the minister, who thought it not derogatory to toil with hands as well as to preach so as to save the funds.

On Wednesday, the 22nd ult., the village was all alive with people, who came first to a tea meeting and then to hear the Rev. J. Pearce (District Minister) deliver a lecture on "The Pleasures of Life." Mr. R. Jones, of Tenbury, presiding. Flocked was the place, the audience including the mother and sister of the poor man, a number of Baps, who, with others, rendered appropriate music. Statements were made by Messrs. Jones and Rendell. The gathering was in every way a great success. The collection yielded £5 13s. 6d. An encouraging experiment is this, where other derelict causes are concerned. It is a part of the great revival of religion which we believe is imminent.

THE LIGHTER SIDE OF CONFERENCE.

Stationing Committee Humour.

"If we must have a minister, send us an unmarried married man." "This man will have to go to a dry, warm place to be restored." "The proposal was reserved against the action of the Stationing Committee." Sometimes we thought the committee was like the army once led by the good old Duke of York; at other times it was like one trying to find his way out of Hampton Court Maze. "This man has offered to postpone his marriage." The secretary: "Then he deserves a circuit."

An African Opinion.

"I come from the hottest circuit in Primitive Methodism, yet the atmosphere is congenial to me, and more satisfactory than the atmosphere of this Conference."

Nomination Tit-Bits.

"You can domesticate a bull, but my task is to condense to a tabloid forty-one years of ministry, and to make you swallow it so that the magic of it will compel you to elect my nominee."

"It has been said that a good nomination is the best of things: a good text and a good imagination. What I want to know is what can be done with a good text and five minutes."

My man gives to Primitive Methodism, and other men ought to give to their wives."

"Men may come and men may go, but John Walker is still going strong, giving the two hundred of his Circuit wherever he makes it possible for him to perambulate the Connexion."

"All the men desire this office. With this difference: my man desires it most."

Bottled Eloquence.

"I have waited fifteen years to say what I want to say."

Confidential Poverty.

"They are all poor members in my Society. I am the richest, and I am the poorest man in this Conference."

Who Told You That?

Though the following appeared in the "Sheffield Telegraph" we don't believe it. Three Scotchmen attended the P.M. Conference. They enjoyed the enthusiasm until the chairman uttered unexpected words: "The collection will now be taken." Then one of them fainted, and the other two carried him home.

Contra Mundum.

"At our open air services we preach to Jewish Gentiles, men from Libya, Pamphylia, Cappadocia, and to the dwellers in Mesopotamia; to Bolchevics and Direct Actionists. We have no communion, and we shoot straight."

The New Secret of Longevity.

"The most guaranteed against old age, the impact of a good enthusiasm, and, incidentally, the appointment of a good colleague like myself!"

Quite So!

"Being wise men, when they see something going well they leave it alone."

The Secretary of the Million Shilling Fund.

"If the building of Noah's Ark had been left to a committee it would never have been built, but my committee could have built anything."

"I have seen the larnen to give a minister. This was a discipline for the ministry and it did them good." The new Ded Poll member was given five minutes to tell "all he knew" and he was right-ah.

Good Investments!

"The best way of laying up treasure in Heaven is to subscribe to this Fund: when you live, and leave something to it when you die."

Churches and People.

The President of Conference writes: "Kindly permit me to take this opportunity of thanking the large number of friends who have sent me congratulatory telegrams and letters. It has been impossible to answer them all. I feel very rich in the affection and friendship of so many friends."

Ramsay Guthrie's serial, *Bessie Binney*, made this week, but not of *Bessie Binney*. *Bessie* will be heard of again, arrangements for her re-appearance have been concluded. From *Bessie Binney* our readers will now begin to form the acquaintance of "Applet blossom" who will prove to be one of Mr. Horton's most captivating heroines. "Jeremiah" and "Deborah," two characters that will appear next week in the first chapter of "Applet blossom" will be found to be equal to Rufus and the other characters of the author in "Roses and Thistles." In "Applet blossom" the President of the Conference will again provide for all our readers a story which when once begun will be compulsorily read week by week.

The Rev. J. Whitlock, of Cardiff, is celebrating his ministerial jubilee, and is using the unique event to clear the debt off at Barry Docks Church, where he has been in charge during the last six years. No one is more highly esteemed in the South Wales district in which area he has laboured for more than forty years. It would be some small recognition of so noble a life for his numerous friends to rally around him on this occasion and enable him completely to lift the burden off Pyke-street Church.

Colman-street, Wesleyan Circuit, Milf, has organised a remarkably successful "Centre for Biblical Study," and has, during the past season, had a large number of students from Mrs. Findley, Horton, and other churches. Mr. J. W. Jones and Gervie, and in a few weeks will have visits from Dr. Tasker and Dr. Walker, of Aberdeen. The summer rally will be held at the Wesleyan Church, Thursday and Friday, 27th and 28th inst., at Wilton, to which the men are invited to stay in charabancs, when the special preacher and lecturer was Rev. J. C. Deane Parr, the subject of his lectures being "The Bible and the Church—Some Popular Objections?" He was supported by the four circuit ministers, and the president of the society, and in the afternoon a number of local preachers took part in the service. The preacher, the lecturer, and the society with the keenest interest, and Mr. Deane Parr was accorded enthusiastic thanks. A suggestion was made that the lectures be continued, but Mr. Parr was asked to pay another visit.

Immediately after the Rev. H. J. Taylor had been elected President designate the following interesting note was handed to him in Conference by the Rev. J. T. Ecob: "When you were a candidate for the ministry and preached your trial sermon in Traffic-street Church, Derby, Mrs. Brassington, who was present and heard you preach, prophesied that you would become President of Conference."

Rev. J. H. Rose visited Sheringham, one of his previous circuits, on Sunday and Monday, June 26th and 27th. On Monday he preached and lectured, and the collections were given to the Castle-street Church, Cambridge, Debt Extinction Fund. With donations £7 12s. 6d. was received. Mr. Rose visited North Waleham, on June 29th for the same purpose, and £9 was subscribed.

The official Handbook of the United Methodist Conference which will commence next week at Newcastle-on-Tyne has just been issued, and should be carefully studied by those who have to prepare such documents. Its get-up is excellent, it contains sixty pages of letter-press, and is published at sixpence. There are some features in the arrange-

ments of names which are a source of convenience. Prior to the war our own handbooks adopted a system of cross references, and a block plan of the seats of delegates. We hope that there may be a reversion to this order at Leeds. The Editor of the United Methodist Handbook, Rev. G. Eayre, F.R.Hist.S., is to be congratulated upon so skillfully using his material and presenting such a large and attractive guide at so small a price. We notice with pleasure that at the Conference public meetings Rev. W. Younger is one of the speakers.

Rev. H. H. Taylor, St. George's Hall,
South-East London Mission, writes:—
"Will you allow me a word of sincere
thanks to my brother ministers and
many other kind friends who have sent
me telegrams or letters of congratulation
upon my being elected President-Designate?
I cannot say how deeply I
appreciate all these kindly communica-
tions, and I shall hope, by a little
service I am able to render in the
future to show my appreciation. Will
you allow me also to thank the re-
spondents to the questionnaire ques-
tions which have reached me for their
answers so numerous that it will be
quite impossible for me to send indi-
vidual replies at present. I hope to
deal with these at the end of the present
year, and may I ask that any Church

had been unwell, but it was hoped that a complete rest would have restored him. His illness took a serious turn, however, and in spite of the highest medical skill he passed away on Wednesday of last week. He was to have changed circuits this month, and was due to go to Peel, in the Isle of Man. Our church will deeply sympathize with his loved ones in their tragic loss.

The monthly meeting of the Hull Church Council expressed high appreciation of the services of Revs. W. R. Wilkinson and W. Swales, who have acted as president and secretary. During their term of office there has been revived interest in the work of the Council. Rev. T. Cook, the newly-appointed president, gave a timely address on "Prayer and our Church Life." Rev. W. Jacques is the new secretary. A programme for Evangelistic propaganda has been formulated for the autumn and winter season.

At the Missionary Meeting at Conference a lady sitting next to a minister's wife in the audience inquired if the *Primitive Methodist Leader* was a paper only for Primitive Methodists, and when told that it was a paper for anyone and could be bought at the stall she said: "I want to take the paper after these meetings to-day, so that I can follow the doings of the Missionary Society. I have never been so thrilled

APPLEBLOSSOM
and
THE PRESIDENT OF CONFERENCE
—
THE *LEADER* NEW SERIAL STORY
APPLEBLOSSOM

Rev. S. HORTON (President of Conference
will commence next Thursday, July 14th.

It is an interesting incident that a President of Conference should have a series running in his own denominational journal during the year of his presidency.

Mr. Horton needs no introduction to our readers—the fact that he is President of Conference is enough.

Those who recall the delight they had in reading the "Wentworth" series, Ruth and Joe and Gwen, will find the same unfailing pleasure in the new story "Appleblossom."

Order the LEADER at once.

that cannot await my decision will be good enough to make any other arrangement possible. I hope this will cause no serious inconvenience to any of my many friends."

"Thee and of God" is moving many churches, and in Cannock Circuit there have been cheering tokens of the refreshing breeze. The West Midlands Conference at Sydenham, London, last year, and here and at other churches where delegates served great blessing has been realised. The work began at Carlisle in 1890, and in the wake of it came sixteen decisions were made. A Chasmoan similar work developed following on a remarkable breakdown of converts. At the same time, Mr. Cooke, Rev. H. S. Millward and his officials are wisely guiding the movements and seeking to conserve the results. It is no wonder if it has cheered the heart of those who are planning for a manifestation of the power which in former days rested upon it. These days are pregnant with awakening life.

We regret to have to announce the death of the Rev. Charles Kelly, M.A. B.D., of Manchester First Circuit, at the early age of 34 years, and after a ministry of only nine years. H

with missionary work as I have this day."

The achievement of a playing field adjoining the church by the Shinyer road Church, in the Houghton-le-Spring Circuit, has added considerably to the usefulness of this Christian community.

The church is pleasantly situated, and has a large and growing congregation. The popular centre of social life. The services of the church are well maintained. Rev. J. S. Francombe, who ministered with conspicuous ability and devotion, leads a fine band of youth in aggressive evangelism. His intention to leave the circuit is generally regretted. His work has added greatly to the strength and success of our Church in this minimum district. Before entering the ministry he was a winner in this locality.

A postal order for £1. reported in April last as sent to Sir Thomas Robinson by an anonymous friend for the Orphanages but which was not received by the Orphanage Treasurer, has now been discovered by the Postmaster General. The missing order was eventually received by the Hull District Treasurer, Mr. W. Hives, of Driffield.

The teachers of the Sunday-school at Westgate Buildings Church, Bath, a few weeks ago determined to have the

school thoroughly renovated. But as funds were low the superintendent, Mr. H. E. Hunt, and his family and teachers, determined to do it themselves. For several weeks they have worked distemper, painting, varnishing, etc., and now it looks most beautiful, with a hint of the amateur about it. It has been a fine effort, saving the trust the expenditure of many pounds. The school has launched upon an aggressive work, especially in the Primary Department.

Mr. Louis Robinson, son of Mr. C. L. Robinson, circuit steward of York Second, has secured his B.A. at Leeds University with first-class honours (History). To those acquainted with his career it will be remembered that he set up a record in our Scripture examinations by taking the first district prize nine times in succession, and the first Connexional prize five times, his final effort being the scholars gold medal in 1916. His success is all the more meritorious seeing that he was handicapped by the loss of an eye in the war.

There are encouraging signs of life and vigour in the Kamsar Circuit. The two ministers, Revs. A. Pearson and J. W. Slack, are throwing themselves into the work of the circuit with much success into the work of this wide circuit. Most of the twenty-two societies are small, but the buildings are creditable and the work is being carried on. A great circuit rally was held on a recent Saturday in the level, fertile village of Oskamoor, not far from the coast. The morning service, which began at noon, drew a large congregation, and the afternoon schoolroom was full. The evening service, which began at eight, was also well attended. The lecture on "Scotland and Unrenewed King," by Rev. A. Wilken, was well received. The chairman was Mr. S. Clarke, who is the minister of the church in the locality, the vice-chairman being Mr. S. Mottram, a relative of George Mottram, the well-known writer of "The Dying of the Sun." Both ministers, Rev. S. Mottram and Rev. S. Clarke, the resident Congregational minister, took part in the service. The service will long be remembered as a memorable one.

The Northern May Meeting Committee met on Friday. The financial report of the meetings showed £250 net for Africa, after paying all expenses. Preliminary arrangements were made for next year's meetings in Newcastle on May 6th to 8th.

We regret to learn that Rev. James Burton, of Fleetwood, has had a breakdown in health. The circuit authorities have kindly arranged to carry on the work of the church during Mr. Burton's absence, in the hope that he may have a speedy recovery.

Rev. A. Wilkes has received a letter from Dr. Jowett acknowledging the receipt of a copy of "The Implications of the Christian Ministry," of which the great preacher speaks in most appreciative terms. He says: "I have the charge with the deepest interest and I think it is admirable. It will no end of good."

Throckley Church, Lemington (Cumbria), was reopened after renovation on Saturday, July 2nd. Rev. C. C. C. tree preached and lectured in the evening on "James Flanagan." One of the members of this church, Mr. George Agar, has just passed his B.A. examination, Durham University, with honours in English and French.

Bessie Russell Potter, the eleven-year-old daughter of the Rev. W. C. Potter, and granddaughter of the Rev. Thomas Jackson, has secured a valuable scholarship tenable at the King Edward VI. Grammar School for five years. She has also passed with distinction the examination of the Associated Board of the Royal Academy and the Royal College of Music in piano-playing.

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The Primitive Methodist Leader.

Incorporating the Primitive Methodist and the Primitive Methodist World.

Thursday, July 7, 1921.

Notes and News.

The Wesleyan Conference.

The Conference this year meets at
Middlesbrough, and one of the earliest
subjects of discussion will be that of
Methodist Union. The Committee in
its report affirms its judgment, that
while there is a divergence of opinion
on some points in the tentative scheme
for Union, there is good ground to hope
that a satisfactory basis will be found.
It recommends the Conference to re-
affirm its resolution of 1913, and to
renew its assurance to the other two
Conferences of its continued warm
desire for the closest possible unity of
the whole Methodist people. To one or
two points in these clauses amendments
were introduced which it adopted would
have had a weakening effect, but the
substantive resolutions were carried by
an overwhelming majority. The Com-
mittee also advised the Conference to
direct that wherever possible united cir-
cuit gatherings and District conferences
should be held, and to express its
approval of the proposal for an inter-
change of pulpits which will be one of
the recommendations are in har-
mony with the decisions of our own Con-
ference, and we confidently anticipate
that they will be adopted at Middles-
brough.

Difficulties of Stationing.

Some of the appointments made by
Conference have given a shock to those
concerned. Several approved sta-
tioning have been appointed to sta-
tions where there are no houses, and
in some cases we fear it will be very
difficult even to obtain apartments. The
circumstances must be distressing, and
we greatly sympathise with our friends
who are thus affected. The difficulties
were acute twelve months ago, and they
are still more so at present. Ordinarily
provision is made by a furnished house
is assured to every man received into
the full ministry, but we are in the
aftermath of war conditions. Fifty
chaplains have returned to circuit work,
and quite a number of laymen have
come straight from college on to the
approved list. The best adjustments
that are possible will, we hope, be made
by the General Committee. No avoid-
able disability should be placed upon
either men or circuits. For the moment
we trust patience will be exercised, and
with all-round goodwill and hearty co-
operation the difficulties will be reduced
to a minimum.

Brighter Industrial Outlook.

The miners have returned to work
and the engineers' dispute is practically
settled. For months past there has
been such industrial chaos as the country
had never previously known; but
there is now ground for hoping that
conditions of greater stability will be
reached. If that expectation is fully
filled, experts assure us that great com-
mercial prosperity will be experienced
in the near future. The miners have
failed to secure the "8 and the
"national wage board," but the terms
upon which they resume work are a
great improvement upon those offered
three months ago. A higher standard
of living than that which obtained in
pre-war times, we believe, an impos-
sible condition of permanent peace.
Labour has never had its fair share of
the wealth it produced, and more equit-
able conditions must obtain, not only
in the mining, but also in a good many
other industries. The manual worker
will never consent to such exploitation
as he has previously endured, and public
opinion will be on his side. The New
Unionism has also been there, and we
believe the Church is coming to a
fuller recognition of the fact.

Prayer for Ireland.

The Bishop of Birmingham, in a
letter to the "Times" on the new
opportunity of Ireland, concluded with
a request which all Christians should
respond to. He said: "I hope one of us
who believe in prayer will ask God
most earnestly so to guide all who may
influence the settlement of this all-
important question that England and
Ireland may for the future stand to-
gether, not only for their own mutual
benefit, but for the good of the world
generally." The murders and reprisals
of recent months constitute a terrible
record, and unless a settlement is
reached worse things may be ahead of
us. The present marks a crisis fraught
with issues that are of incalculable
moment. Our readers have widely
divergent views on almost everything
that pertains to the government of
Ireland, but for the time being all that
all concerned may well stand in
abeyance. The Prime Minister has
invited representatives of the contend-
ing factions to meet in London, and as
evidence of good faith several Sinn Féin
leaders have been released from prison
that they may participate in the
negotiations. Let us pray, as never
before, that a pacific settlement may
be reached.

The Passion for Sport.

We view with grave apprehension the
ever-increasing passion for sport. With
multitudes of people it has become the
all-absorbing subject. Newspapers
supply what the public demand, and
in turn, the prominence given to
athletics whets the appetite and in-
creases the obsession. Legitimate
pastimes are viewed as though they
were the chief end of life, and so induce
people to neglect their duties. Not
worse than that, sports that are
brutalising and degrading provoke the
greatest interest. Last week half the
people were well exercised over a prize-
fight in America, and this at a time
when the world lies shattered and the
greatest need is reconstruction. "Now
a day's sport is worth a year's work,"
and the levity of that ancient monarch finds
its counterpart in much that is happen-
ing to-day. The passion which we
deplore is infecting the Church, and
even the pulpit does not escape. We
have been shocked to hear of preachers
referring to pugilistic encounters in an
airy and almost patronising manner.
Surely the Church is not to be content
except in terms of condemnation, as
they have no place in the practices
which the law of Christ allows.

Sunday Newspapers.

A few years ago the proprietors of
some of the most popular papers of the
time announced their intention to issue
their journals seven days a week. The
Church was roused, and this encroach-
ment on the Sunday was scolded. The
proposal in the form suggested did not
mature, but while we thought we had
won a victory there certainly was no
cause for boasting. Since those days
Sunday newspapers have multiplied,
and the Church patronises them. In
one of the principal organs of High
Anglicanism, for instance, the
appeared last week to issue a half-
page advertisement of "Sunday Illus-
trated," the chief attraction of which
was "a devoutly inspiring article" by
Mr. Horatio Johnson, M.P. We
make no comment, but simply state the
fact. Sunday as we once knew it has
gone. Restrictions which then obtained
were in themselves unwarranted.
The last of those to be represented a loss
that cannot be estimated.

By SYDNEY WALTON.

Up rose from the arena of the Conference a son of the countryside, his brow sunburnt, and, indeed, his face bore the marks of communion with all weathers. "Let us," said he, "go out into the open air and make it musical with the Gospel. We live to

"I hope," I said to my neighbour, "that Primitive Methodism never will forget that its birthplace was on a hillside with the open heavens for its nursing-mother and the winds for its evangelists. Sometimes in the history of human institutions the faith that first thrilled them is forgotten in care of the fabric."

Every District ought to appoint capable, energetic secretary who has this cause at heart, and will organize on its behalf. And every Primitive Methodist should join the Union. This is essentially religious work, and if it is faced in a religious spirit our Church will acquire a noble part in making the League the effective instrument by means of which peace and friendliness will be maintained among all peoples.

JOSEPH LONGSTAFF.

Shake

it Off

Shake it Off

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Continued from page 436.

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A Friend, Hayton, 10s.; A Friend, £1;

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Guild of Kind Hearts.

When the Brook Dried Up.

The little brook went babbling along, talking of many things. Not many grown-up folk understood what it was saying; but there were those who were a poet, or one who had not quite outgrown his childhood, and who therefore found a poem in a poet at any time. The child, by the way, was not a poet. It was their constant playmate, and they loved it. Its chatter was not about great things, but chiefly about the small things the creatures who dwell in it. Thus the children loved to hear about the strange life of the caddis worm; of the earlier part of the life of the mayfly; of the ugly creature he was before he emerged in shining splendour to fit above the water.

The brook told the children about the funny little tadpoles, all head and tail, and how they grew two pairs of tiny legs while their tails shrivelled up, until at last they jumped out of the water as frogs, not much larger than a good-sized bluebottle fly. The brook loved to tell the children, too, all about the little fish that swam about in its waters, or to feed on the flies that danced above it. Blackbird and thrush, chaffinch and yellowhammer, swallow and wagtail, the brook knew them all, and so did the children. But the children never saw the stately kingfisher that once stayed to drink of the brook, though the brook was wonderfully proud of being visited by one of the rarest and most splendid of all our birds.

But its proudest memory was that a great poet had once listened to its babble, and then had written the famous verses in which occur the lines:

"For men may come and men may go,
But I go on for ever."

These lines were true, at least for a long while, until there came a dry, hot, parching summer. Day by day the poor brook shrank to a mere trickle. Then one day even that ceased. In many places its bed was dry, and only here and there stood pools of water, which soon lost their beautiful clearness and became thick and muddy.

The children came down to play with the brook as usual, and were very sorry when they saw it getting less and less. They said to it: "Oh little brook, why do your waters run low?" And the brook replied: "I have asked the hill why he does not send me more, and he says that he has nothing to send."

"Where does he get his waters from?" inquired the children. "He says his waters come from above," answered the brook, "and the clouds drop them on him."

But for weeks and weeks there have not been any clouds; or the few that there have been never gave the hill any of their store, but have passed on. The hill says that he is as dry as my stones are."

Then the children said: "What will you do until the rains send you some more bright waters?" And the brook replied: "I shall have to live a poor kind of life, and many little creatures in my stream will die. The birds will forsake me, and the trees and grasses will not wave over me as green and beautiful as before. My waters support many lives, and I live by my giving."

"This made the children think a good deal, and their thoughts were something like this: 'We are rather like the brook, for we have our best life when we are able to give to others. And we also get our life from above, even from the great Father. It is a poor life when we do not receive anything from Him, for He is our life.'"

What do you think about this? Your brother.

WILLIAM DAW.

10, Park-view, Wallend-on-Tyne.

The Jarrow Women's Missionary Federation at its last meeting presented gold-mounted umbrellas to Mrs. Palmer and Mrs. Robinson, the wives of the ministers leaving the circuit in July.

Endeavour Topic.

The Gospel in Great Pictures.

"Christ Washing the Disciples' Feet."

(MADOX BROWN.)

John 13, 1-17. July 10.

By Rev. W. HOWARD.

W. M. Rossetti speaks of Brown as a "man of unworldly, independent and honourable character, of warm affections, a steady and self-sacrificing friend." His independence and sincerity are stamped upon this picture. He was a few years older than the three famous members of the Pre-Raphaelite Brotherhood, Holman Hunt, Millais and D. G. Rossetti; and to some extent he influenced their work, though his later work owes much to them. He has been called the real founder of the P.R. movement. His earliest work shows that he had broken the claims of convention and even Nature with his own eyes. Among his lifetime pictures were not popular, and his diary shows a frequent anxiety over financial matters. Some of his best work was done in the midst of his struggles against debt.

"Christ Washing Peter's Feet," as Brown called this picture was painted in 1854, and is now in the National Gallery. Jesus and Peter are the centre of interest, though the faces of the disciples sitting round the table are an

interesting study. Judas is leaning on his sandals and his face is turned to watch Jesus. The close mouth and lowering brows suggest his unfriendly spirit. John is looking over Peter's shoulder, his face lighted with dawning apprehension of the act. Peter sits with one foot partly in the bowl while Jesus wipes the other; his hands are clasped upon his knees, his head sunk upon his breast, and he watches Jesus under his brows. He has submitted himself, but evidently he does not know what Jesus is doing. The figure of Jesus is most attractive. He is the carpenter of Nazareth—note the strong muscular arms. He is also the strong Son of God. In His face glows the divine love which stoops to save.

"I have given you an example." Thus Jesus points the lesson of the incident. Whatever the standard of the world may be, kindly, loving service must be the watchword of this band of men. At the supper table they had contended about leadership (Luke xxii. 24). After supper Jesus showed them the more excellent way by which they could prove their greatness. "Ye call me Master and Lord; so I am." And with the consciousness of his divine origin and destiny and power (v. 3) he washed the feet of his followers. It was an act of trust, kindness. The disciples were shortly to be called to exercise the power of leadership in the new community, and they must learn that this power is a sacred trust, to be used for the service of others. Christ's call is never to lordship, but to service.



The wisdom of ye Gooseberry Fool:—

"First stew some gooseberries, mash them, too.
Then make—a single pint will do—
Of good Bird's Custard, stand till cold.
Then to complete this gooseberry fool,
Put all the gooseberries in post-milk.
They should be sweetened, beet them well."

This is an unrivalled dish—easy to prepare and low in cost.

Recipe for GOOSEBERRY FOOL.

1 lb. Gooseberries. 1/2 lb. sugar. 1 pint Bird's Custard.
Method.—Stew the gooseberries until tender, with sufficient water to cover. Rub through a sieve or strain through a band. Put in 1/2 lb. Bird's Custard, and while still hot, stir in the Gooseberry pulp. Serve when cold.

The cream-like qualities of Bird's Custard are especially apparent in this Gooseberry Fool. It is an easily digested dish, because Bird's Custard removes any possibility of the fruit disagreeing, and backs it up with real nourishment. To ensure success, use only

BIRD'S CUSTARD

In Summer-time, whether it be broiling hot, close, or pleasantly fresh, Bird's Custard and fruit is the one dish which is appetising and enjoyable always. Bird's Custard also provides the nutriment which fruit lacks.

Remember—the nourishment value of milk is increased by 25% when transformed into golden Bird's Custard.

An interesting wedding took place on July 2nd at Moor-lane, Bolton. The contracting parties were Rev. Leonard Jones, who till recently has laboured at Southend-on-Sea, and Miss Marion Greenhalgh, of Daubhill, Bolton. Both bride and bridegroom received their early training at Daubhill Sunday-school, and the bride was a morning school superintendent and singer in the choir up to the time of marriage. The ceremony was performed by Rev. John T. Goodacre, assisted by Rev. John E. Ogdin. The bride was given away by her brother, Mr. A. A. Greenhalgh. Mr. H. Crump acted as best man, Miss Edith Jones as bridesmaid. Mr. W. Desbury, A.T.C.L., presided at the organ. After the ceremony the guests were entertained to a sumptuous tea in the Daubhill School, where good wishes were expressed for the happiness and future ministry of Mr. and Mrs. L. Jones.

Church News.

Harry Deck.—The school anniversary services were preached in the morning by Rev. James Whitlock and evening by Mr. E. Cook. In the afternoon a children's service was held. Councillor Dudley T. Howe presided. The choir and children sang well, ably led by Mr. S. Draper. The Monday meeting was addressed by Mr. W. W. Marshall. Special singing and reciting by the children. Mr. C. Camble presided. Proceeds, over £7. At the recent local Sunday School Union Scripture Examination the school secured second place in competition for the "Shield of Honour."

Bury St. Edmunds.—The Circuit Gospel Mission Band gave a sacred entertainment at Northgate-street Chapel, on Thursday. During the meeting two photo groups of the Mission Band were presented to Rev. J. Foster, as a token of their appreciation of his past services and their good wishes for his future.

Neverley.—Rev. G. Percy Maynard closed his ministry at Wednesday Market on June 26th. After the evening service the society steward presided. Mr. T. Danby spoke in eulogistic terms of the minister's character and work, and Mr. J. H. Johnson, circuit steward, made the presentation of a Treasury note case. Other presents privately given.

Hull Third.—Rev. E. D. Pigott, who has just closed a three years' successful ministry in the circuit, was the recipient, with Mrs. Pigott, of several tokens of appreciation and respect from the members and friends. There was a large gathering at Holderness-road on Monday. Mrs. Pigott was presented with a brooch by the ladies' sewing meeting; Mr. Pigott a gold watch from

the young men's social club, a wallet of notes from the church, and an auto graph album from the young men's class.

Jarrow-on-Tyne.—Rev. G. Colin Robinson concluded his four years' successful ministry here on Sunday. At a social gathering to wish them God-speed, Mr. and Mrs. Robinson were the recipients of a beautiful silver cake basket from the members and friends of the Hebburn, Argyle-street, Church, also Mr. Robinson received the newly published "Life of C. H. Spurgeon" from the Washington Endeavour Society.

London (Hford).—The anniversary at the school at Connaught-road was celebrated on June 26th and 27th. Mr. E. T. Tabary (Wandswoth) was the special preacher. Rev. R. Final presided at the afternoon meeting, which was addressed by Rev. T. E. Sims-Davies. On Monday Mr. H. O. Polard presided until the arrival of Mr. Tom Robinson. The Superintendent (Mr. Heron) gave a very satisfactory report. An excellent programme was rendered by the scholars, under the direction of Mr. J. M. Butterford and Miss E. Goddard. Proceeds over £7.

New Mills.—A circuit gathering was held at Hayfield on Saturday to bid farewell to Rev. and Mrs. R. J. Fenwick and Mrs. Peach. Mr. James Hobson presided. Kindly reference was made by the steward from each place to the work of Mr. and Mrs. Fenwick and Mrs. Peach during the last seven years. On behalf of the circuit, Mr. W. Whitehead presented Mr. Fenwick with a gold watch, and Mrs. J. W. Booth presented Mrs. Fenwick with a ladies' dressing case. New Mills Women's Own have also presented Mrs. Fenwick with a silver cream jug and sugar basin and Mrs. Peach a silver bread fork.

Rochdale.—A special gathering of the "Women's Own" was held at

Smith-street on Tuesday to bid farewell to Mrs. Robertshaw (the president), who was leaving the town for Wakefield. An address was given by Rev. J. H. Robertshaw, and a solo sung by Miss Hoyle. After tea a social hour was spent. During an interval a presentation of a gold wristlet watch was made on behalf of the "Women's Own" and others. Addresses expressing appreciation of the splendid services rendered to the church by Mrs. Robertshaw were made by Mesdames Tattersall, Tweedale and Buckley.

Ryde and Sandown.—A successful season of work was held at Oakfield, when £32 was raised. The Ryde "People's Own" Choir, led by Mr. J. H. Sout, gave a splendid concert in the evening. The circuit anniversary at Sandown was a decided success. Each church was well represented at the tea on the Monday, when over seventy sat down. A splendid address was given by Mr. R. E. Duck at the evening service, and solos were rendered by Miss Jones. The Wroxall Church anniversary was a record. Sermon by Rev. S. S. Coulson, solos by Miss Jones and Mr. A. Gregory. A goodly number sat down for tea on the Monday, and in the evening the church was packed to hear the service of song rendered by the Sandford U.M. Choir. Connective readings by Rev. J. Saturday (U.M.). This church hopes to wipe off its debt this year.

At Ryde a garden party in aid of bazaar funds was held at Glenholme, by kind permission of Mr. and Mrs. R. E. Duck. Music was provided by the Johnson Bros. and Mrs. C. Hockley. St. Helens.—As a token of their love and esteem for the splendid service rendered during the past five years Mrs. Leon, wife of Rev. A. G. A. Lee, was presented with a beautiful handbag by the ladies of the Women's Missionary Auxiliary and Ladies' Aid. Mr. W. Evans, in making the presentation, spoke of the way in which Mrs. Lees

had endeared herself to all the members.

Stroud (Gloucestershire).—The school anniversary at Parliament-street Church was conducted by Mr. A. Mitchell Bell of Halifax, a former teacher. In the afternoon an interesting programme was given by the young people, under the direction of Miss Burton. Mr. A. H. Plevin presided, Mr. A. M. Bull gave a helpful address; Rev. J. Burton also took part. The singing of the children was excellent, thanks to Mr. J. W. Thompson, Miss E. Gardiner and Mrs. W. Thompson. Collections in advance of last year.

Wangford.—A social gathering was held at Wrentham, on Tuesday, to raise funds for the renovation of the chapel. Revs. F. Davies, J. Norton and others took part. After a pleasant hour it was announced that £35 had been raised. Mr. E. Sallows expressed thanks to all who helped.

Women's Missionary Federation.

Oldham.—A successful social was held at Lees-road Church. Mrs. Bayfield presided. Rev. T. Bullock was the speaker. Mrs. Ellis, on behalf of the ladies, made a presentation of an oxidized plant pot, a beautiful handbag and purse, and half a dozen stainless knives to Mrs. Bullock. Mrs. Bullock, in reply, heartily thanked the ladies. The tea was kindly given by Mesdames Gill and Sutton. Proceeds, £7.

Crook.—The auxiliary meeting was held at Wolingham. Rev. J. Clegg presided. An excellent address was given by Mr. John Green. Tea was provided by the ladies. The meeting was very inspiring.

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