DELEGATES TO LEAGUE CONVENTION ATTEND PRAISE SERVICES IN THREE PRINCIPAL HOUSES OF WORSHIP

VIEW OF EPWORTH LEAGUERS ENTERING A HOUSE OF WORSHIP IN WHICH COMMUNION SERVICES AS A PRELIMINARY TO THE OPENING OF THE GREAT CONVENTION WERE HELD YESTERDAY, TOGETHER WITH A GROUP OF PROMINENT CHRISTIAN WORKERS WHOSE HEARTS ARE IN RIGHT PLACE.

DELEGATES FORM PLANS

Presiding Elders and Leaguers Confer on Missionary Work

THE presiding elders and all the other members of the Epworth League who are interested in missionary work held a special conference yesterday afternoon in the art gallery of the Pavilion. Although the meeting was essentially preliminary, considerable was accomplished and plans were laid for arousing the delegates to more enthusiastic support of the foreign and domestic missions.

W. W. Cooper called the conference to order and said that mission work was the primary aim of the Epworth League. Rev. Dr. H. M. Du Bose, general secretary of the Epworth League of the M. E. Church South, and Rev. Dr. Joseph F. Berry, general secretary of the Epworth League, delivered short addresses in which they explained the necessity for increased efforts in the missionary field. Dr. Berry presented an official statement from the cabinet of officers to the effect that the coming year has been specially consecrated to missionary work. In this endeavor, during that period, it is the intention of the league to utilize all available energy.

Dr. A. C. Crews general secretary of the Canadian Epworth League, also made a short speech in which he explained the

General Meeting of League Delegates to Be Held To-Morrow

conditions of the missionary work in Canada.

At a result of the conference it was decided to hold a general meeting of all the delegates interested in missionary work to-morrow morning in the main hall of the Pavilion. The committee appointed is as follows:

E. F. Colton, chairman; Mr. Wheeler, Rhode Island; Rev. E. L. Thorpe, New York; Rev. J. N. Frost, Maine; G. R. Lacke, New Hampshire; Miss Virginia Swoonstedt, Ohio; William C. H. Palmer, Indiana; Rev. C. L. Mead, New Jersey; Mr. Davenport and Addie Wardler, Illinois; Rev. M. Keith, Iowa; Miss Alice Haugh, Michigan; C. W. Jaggard, Kansas; Miss Blanchard, Miss Washington and Miss Maggie V. Smith, Montana; Rev. M. Lovejoy, Mr. Donoly, Miss Bean and Mr. Soafborrow, Alabama; E. L. Le Fetra (D.C.) and Rev. J. G. Penn, Georgia; A. J. Rich, Wisconsin; Rev. M. Matthews, West Virginia; Rev. George Barnes, Iowa; Rev. J. H. Wood, Washington; Rev. Perry Puce, Missouri, and C. A. Richardson, California.

OPENING SESSION OF CONVENTION

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are the latest messengers from the old homes. Are we not glad to see you? Did not the bowels of Joseph yearn upon his brother? He sought where to weep. He commanded the steward of his house, saying: "Fill the men's sacks with food; as much as they can carry." We all wish we could put every one's money in his sack's mouth. I see yonder the men and women of Massachusetts. Many of you have come from Boston, as Emerson said, "That darling town of ours"; some of you have come from "the old Granite State" where "the hills"—but not the mountains—are "so lofty, magnificent and great." I see some of the Van Twillers from the Knickerbocker State; "the Pennsylvany Dutch"; some of you are from "the Eastern Sho'"; a few of the "F. F. V.'s" are here from "Ole Virginy"; and you might as well admit it, there is "a lot of Georgia Crackers." I know there are some here from "Tenn-e-see." How many are Wolverines, Badgers, Buckeyes, Hoosiers, Suckers and all the rest I do not know? You are all come from the

Home that our feet may leave, but not our hearts.

What a meeting of the clans there will be! There will be many an hour for reminiscence which is not put down on the programme. There will be many inquiries by the old Californians for some word from—

The old-fashioned homestead
Where I dreamed my dream of dreams.

Well, you are in California. Have you all abandoned your imaginations yet? Have you vividly realized all you expected before you came? I trow not. The country is far from finished, but it is no longer a mere strip of ocean-dunes and sandbanks with an uninviting background of barren rocks and inaccessible mountains at which the Spaniards flung its name as an epithet with contumely. Before you go away, go and see where the mountains store up the waters in the snow which make the deserts to blossom, the corn and wheat and fruit to grow, whenever and wherever the irrigating waters flow. I worshiped on Easter morning in a little church over yonder on the plain where the people brought from their gardens and banked about the altar and pulpit and wall of the building more than a thousand calla lilies. Down the valley is an orchard whose apples were sold for $15,000 before the trees were in bloom. Some person has faith "in futures" in California. I visited a grove in the southern part of the State whose oranges from a single acre netted the owner $500—enough money to build him a house. No man can gather cherries in New England at the season of Easter, and find other fruits as delicious in December as in May.

Advice to Visiting Leaguers.

If you have been disappointed, go to Humboldt County. You will travel 200 or 300 miles on the Pacific Ocean to get there. But it is worth all the cost of the voyage in seasickness and money to stand for an hour in the unbroken forest a hundred miles long and twelve miles wide of redwood trees where one can find retirement which is absolute solitude. I went with the woodmen to select the standing tree, the first cut of which made that sixty-foot booth in the corridor over there. I stood beside a single giant which tourists have never yet gone to see, when Byron's tribute to Mont Blanc was instantly paraphrased in my mind:

Sequoia, monarch of trees,
On a throne of mountains and snow
They crowned him beside the sea
A thousand years ago.

Do you care for the rhapsodies, which Oliver Wendell Holmes said "sound like fugues played on a big organ which has been struck by lightning?" Go, then, where you can hear the wind and cataract roar through the mountain canyon. But if you prefer, take with you the rod and line. Talk about fishing in Maine! I would like the Maine delegation to go with me into the northern mountains. Six or seven hundred miles east of Portland, on the Northern Pacific Railroad, is a station called Trout Creek, which excites the aspiration of every disciple of Izaak Walton who comes or goes that way. But at the western end of the station is a large white board on which is printed in black letters, "Fifty Miles From Hope." I had never been able to get that notion out of my mind until I was induced by the chairman of your committee to go with him last month to the Klamath Hot Springs and Shovel Creek. I will not speak of myself, but I saw this chairman come out of the brook—where he had been only forty minutes by the watch—with twenty-two pounds of rainbow trout; three of the fish together weighed ten pounds. Come to California and go a-fishing.

You will not all go to the Yosemite, that large grizzly bear of the Sierras, where the river leaps 2000 feet over the shoulder of the mountain. But you have come to California just when the great valley has been solemnly dedicated by the death of one of its worshipers. How fitting that Joseph Le Conte, high priest of its trees and its rocks, should betake himself there to lie down and die.

You will not take the time, I know, to find all the rapturous welcome California can give you. Go, then, into the galleries and see something of the many things the many counties have brought to you in their wonderful exhibit. And please remember that we have the Golden Gate, and it is over our highways the ransomed of the Lord will return and come to Zion with songs and everlasting joy upon their heads.

No Longer to Be Feared.

This great commonwealth is no more only a great mining camp whose uncertain legends brought border men with profligate characters from the Five Points of New York, the Seven Dials of London and the Botany Bay of the South Seas to make up a population to be dreaded and feared. Nevertheless, there were taken out of the mines in the State last year nearly thirty millions of dollars. But heterogeneous as the population is, anarchy has given place to stable government with peaceable control. The population is rapidly changing. They told me in the Southern Pacific railroad office that 21,000 colonists came into the State between the 18th of February and the 30th of April this year. Christian missions will soon have penetrated to the remotest settlements. The Spaniards first drove out the Indians; the Mexicans then expelled the Spaniards; the pioneers the Mexicans; the first settlers the pioneers, and the immigrants from the Eastern States with immigrants from abroad are fast taking the place of the first settlers. Nearly one-half of the population is born of foreign parentage or mixed with foreign, and every nationality almost is to be found in the State. There are not more than a thousand Spanish people left among us, but there are nearly, or quite, ten thousand Mexicans. There are more than fifteen thousand Indians. There are seventy-five thousand Chinese, one-third of whom are in San Francisco.

The first missionary, who established the Methodist Episcopal Church in this city, and planted it in many of the surrounding towns, is now the venerated Bishop of Africa, William Taylor, who is still living in Palo Alto and whose sun will go down in a clear sky. The Presbyterians had founded their mission a few months before he came. Both the Methodist and Presbyterian churches have gained greatly "on the standing order" of Roman Catholics whom they found so firmly established here. There were more Presbyterian church organizations than Roman Catholic in California, according to the census of 1890, and there were more than twice as many Methodist as Presbyterian. There were 18,934 Presbyterian communicants; 36,874 Methodist. The total population of the Roman Catholics was 157,346, or about one-eighth of the population of the State. The population of the Methodists was 129,059. These figures will be greatly modified when the census which was recently taken is reported.

In the Eyes of the World.

California is neither at the world's end, where it costs a fortune to go, nor hidden from the world's view, so that nothing can be seen of what it may say or do. It is more in the eye of all the people to-day than any other political State east or west, north or south, the earth over.

"Westward the course of empire takes its way." The first great drama was acted upon the waters of the Mediterranean; for 400 years the play has been upon the Atlantic Ocean; time "shall close the drama with the day" on the Pacific. California has the vantage ground of the world. The lines of our latitude when stretched across the continent include the Atlantic coast from Boston to Charleston. We may hope some day to have the character and culture of the one with the pride of ancestry and social distinction of the other. If the lines still further cross the Atlantic Ocean and go on to the East, the State is seen to lie in the latitudes corresponding to Spain, Italy, the Mediterranean coasts and the Holy Land. With the Japanese stream and Alaskan current along our coast, the trade winds in from the southwest, and the mountains to hold back the storms from the East, we have the climate of both the temperate and torrid zones. But what shall it profit us if we gain the whole world and are profligate with our privileges? The throne of righteousness is the throne of empire. Righteousness tendeth to life. Righteousness exalteth a nation. California needs nothing so much to-day as the controlling influence of more righteous men and women. Now that you are all here, you can do nothing better for us than to stay. What a crusade it would be for 30,000 Christian young men and women to build their altars over against our worship of Mammon and the god of this world. If you will think of it and stay, we will make your welcome life-long. It is more to be desired than gold. Yea, than much fine gold.

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PRESIDENT McKINLEY SENDS CHEERING MESSAGE TO LEAGUE

CANTON, Ohio, July 16, 1901.

DR. JOSEPH P. BERRY, International Epworth League Convention, San Francisco: I have much pleasure in sending to the International Epworth League Convention assembled at San Francisco my hearty congratulations upon the good work the great body of Christian men and women which it represents has accomplished in the past, and my earnest wish that even greater success will crown the future efforts of the League.

WILLIAM McKINLEY.

OYSTER BAY, N. Y., July 12, 1901.

Dr. Joseph P. Berry, International Epworth League Convention, San Francisco: Heartiest greetings, and may good luck attend the Epworth League in its efforts for social and civic righteousness.

THEODORE ROOSEVELT.

COMMUNION AT CHURCH

Praise Services at the Many Churches Are Very Well Attended

THE preliminary communion services of the Epworth League were held in the Howard-street and Central M. E. churches and the First Congregational Church yesterday morning. They were very lightly attended, not more than six or seven hundred participating in the three combined. Being strictly of a religious nature, the public apparently took little interest in them.

The Howard-street Church was tastefully decorated with red, yellow and white paper festooned around the galleries, ceiling and organ loft, with Epworth League flags on the stations. The congregation began gathering early and fifteen minutes before the hour set for the service began singing familiar songs. Rev. J. A. B. Wilson took charge and a testimony meeting followed.

When Rev. A. C. Crews, general secretary of Canada, announced the opening song, "Rock of Ages," at ten minutes past the hour, the edifice was about half filled. Rev. Mr. Wilson followed with prayer, and the audience sang "Alas, and did my Savior bleed and did my Sovereign die." Mr. Crews then said:

"I am not sorry that there is not a crowd here this morning. I like this quiet hour with a few faithful ones. We will have plenty of big meetings with great enthusiasm. This service is commemorable. It is not restricted to any denomination. Any members from other churches are cordially invited to participate with us in this service."

The Rev. G. W. Kerby and the Rev. G. R. Turk of Canada rendered "I Shall Know Him" as a duet with much feeling, after which Dr. Beard made the confession, and the communion was administered by the Revs. Goodsell, Beard and Shore.

At the Central Methodist Episcopal Church Dr. John J. Tigert of Nashville, Tenn., presided. The entrance to the church was tastefully decorated in paper and two large American flags. Streamers were suspended from the choir loft, and on the organ pipes hung an Epworth League badge in colors. The Rev. W. P. Thirkield, Rev. T. A. Monk, Rev. J. Young and Rev. Van Anda assisted in the service, which was simlar to the one at the Howard-street church. Dr. Tigert making a few earnest remarks on the purpose of the gathering.

Simple yet impressive were the services held at the First Congregational Church. There was no sermon or extended musical programme, but only the presentation of the solemn ritual service of the Methodist Episcopal church. Bishop Isaac W. Joyce, president of the Epworth League, officiated, and numbers of delegates attended the service in the hope of hearing him preach, but in this they were disappointed.

In opening the services Bishop Joyce offered a fervent prayer for the success of the great convention and that the deliberations might be guided by the divine spirit. In conclusion he invited all the Epworth Leaguers, all the Methodists and all the people of other denominations who were present to partake of the sacrament of communion. Almost 1000 advanced in turn to the chancel rail and kneeling devoutly, in accordance with the custom of the Methodist church, received the sacrament of the last supper.

In the services and in administering the sacrament Bishop Joyce was directly assisted by the following clergymen: Rev. Dr. W. S. Matthew, presiding elder at Sacramento; Rev. Dr. S. G. Dale, presiding elder of the Napa district; Rev. Dr. John Kirby, presiding elder at San Jose; Rev. Dr. W. A. Spencer of Philadelphia, Rev. Dr. J. H. N. Williams of Napa, Rev. Dr. Clodius Spencer of Kansas City, Rev. Dr. C. M. Griffin of Iowa, Rev. Dr. J. B. Green of Los Angeles, Rev. C. B. Mitchell of Minneapolis and Rev. Dr. Thomas Filben of this city.

The Preliminary Work Begins by Leading Officials of League