



# Woman's Work



## HOME MISSIONS

Please send all communications for this Department to Mrs. R. O. Burton, Raleigh, N. C.

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### A DELIGHTFUL COMMUNICATION FROM MRS. W. H. CALL, SECRETARY RALEIGH DISTRICT.

It is my pleasure to make you glad again in presenting another new Auxiliary, organized at Zion Church, Kenly Circuit, August 20, 1909. We must thank Miss Emma Matthews, of Kenly, who has shown deep interest in Home Mission Work—not only in her own town, but in sowing seed all about her that are already bringing forth rich harvest.

The occasion of which I write was a Sunday-school Rally. The morning service consisted of songs and recitations by the children, an address of welcome by Mr. Wellons, the superintendent, and a talk by Mr. W. A. Edgerton, of Selma, after which a sumptuous picnic dinner was spread in the church grove.

The afternoon session was given to the Woman's Home Mission work. Service opened with song, "The Kingdom is coming." Scripture reading (Matt. 10:..), Miss Matthews; prayer by the pastor, Rev. Mr. Culbreth; responsive reading, "Orientals in America;" song, "Rescue the Perishing;" leaflet, "Why Have Home Missions?" Mrs. Call; solo, "Fling Out the Banner," by little Miss Helen Snow; reading from "Our Homes," Mrs. Joe Darden, of Kenly; recitation, by Hubert Womack, of Selma Brigade; reading, "Need of Mission Work," and a talk on our work, by Mrs. N. E. Edgerton.

Leaflets and copies of Our Homes were distributed, and eighteen names enrolled.

The following were elected officers:

President, Miss Emma Matthews.  
 First Vice President, Miss Omega Wellons.  
 Second Vice President, Mrs. J. L. Boyett.  
 Third Vice President, Miss Stella Fitzgerald.

Recording Secretary, Miss Pearl Wellons.

Corresponding Secretary, Miss Pearl Aycock.

Treasurer, Mrs. D. H. Bagley.  
 Agent for "Our Homes," Miss M. E. Wellons.

Each member was given a Home Mission Calendar, with date of meeting every second Sunday afternoon. We hope the Women of the Conference will pray for this new Auxiliary that it may be a model Home Mission Society.

We thank Mrs. Hall for this interesting and entertaining account of the organization of Zion Church Auxiliary. We warmly welcome our sister workers and pray that they will be greatly blessed in their efforts for missions. It gives me pleasure to present the officers to our Conference.

### HINTS FROM CITY MISSION WORKERS.

On the good neighbor type of citizenship the permanent success of all social progress depends.—Richmond.

Mr. F. H. McLean of the Field Department N. Y. Charity Organization, feels that the proper opportunity for neighborhood recreation is the greatest social need of the smaller cities. Out of the play center of Rochester, there have grown seventeen adult men's clubs, besides numerous organizations for women, girls and boys and little children, all of which are forces for good, says Mr. Edward J. Ward, of that city.

Chicago's Wise Use for Money.—Chicago has eleven million dollars invested in its play-ground system and spends four hundred thousand dollars in its maintenance each year.

### TWO STRIKING ITEMS FOR MOTHERS.

"Once I suddenly opened the door of my mother's room and saw her on her knees and heard her speak my name in prayer. I quickly and quietly withdrew with a feeling of awe and reverence in my heart. Soon I went away from home to school, then to college, then into life's sterner duties. But I never forgot that one glimpse of my mother at prayer, nor the one word—my own name—which I heard her utter. Well did I know that what I had seen that day was but a glimpse of what was going on every day in that sacred closet of prayer, and the consciousness strengthened me a thousand times in duty, in danger, and in struggle."

When Bishop Vincent (of the M. E. Church, but a native of Alabama) re-visited Tuscaloosa, Ala., after an absence of thirty-five years, he declared that he could find unaided the home in which he was born. "Just take me to the Methodist church," said he, "and I'll go straight from there to my old home, for I could never forget the road I traveled so often to church clinging to my mother's hand. To how many

of this generation will be given the heritage of so sweet and sacred a memory?"

Tacitus said of Agricola that "he governed his family, which many find to be a harder task than to govern a province."

Emerson said: "A wretchedly poor woman once said to me, 'I give my children their own way, for it's all I've got to give them;' and her peculiar logic would seem to hold sway in many a home of higher grade."

He also said: "In dealing with my child, my Latin and my Greek, my accomplishments and my money stood me nothing, but as much soul as I have avails."

### ANSWER TO "HOW AND WHY."

The Epworth League, referred to in my contribution to the Advocate, of June the 3rd, is that of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

There were in this Church, until May 14, 1889, the following Young People's Societies: The Methodist Alliance, the Oxford League, the Young People's Methodist Union, and the Methodist Episcopal Alliance of the North Ohio Conference.

The aims of these societies was the same: intellectual culture, reverent study of God's word, a deeper religious experience and methods of practical Christian work. It was felt that these aims could be more easily realized if the several societies were united under one name with one staff of officers and one literature.

May 14, 1889, delegates representing the above societies held a convention in the city of Cleveland, Ohio. Then and there it was unanimously resolved that they unite.

By what name shall these united societies be called?

Now the Oxford League had the prestige. It was in pursuance of a provision of the General Conference of 1880 that it was organized. Its organization was effected at the Central Conference of the American Methodist Churches held in Baltimore in September, 1884.

"This noble society, the idea of which and the plans for which were carefully matured by Dr. (now Bishop) John H. Vincent, pointed back to the birthplace of Methodism in the Holy Club of that venerable university."

"The name Oxford told of the weekly meeting of these fine young men who assembled for the study of the Greek Testament, and whose zeal and peculiarities won for them the contemptuous name of 'Methodists.'"

The Oxford League, in 1884, was adopted by the Board of Managers of the Sunday-school Union of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and the General Conference of 1888 appointed Bishop Edward G. Andrews, Bishop John H. Vincent, Rev. Jesse L. Hurlbut, D.D., Rev. James M. Buckley, D.D., and Rev. Jas. M. Freeman, D. D., to be the Board of Control of the Oxford League.

By the first of May, 1889, the Oxford League had enrolled over five hundred Chapters, and had a membership of about twenty thousand.

Now, my father's good friend, Bro. W. R. Johnson, you see why many delegates in that Cleveland Convention contended for "Oxford."

But there is a tender spot in man's heart for the place where he was born. And there is a sense in which every true Methodist can say I was born in Epworth and Susanna Wesley was my mother!

They felt this in that great Convention. "Oxford has the prestige, but Epworth is where I was born."

The contention for "Oxford" on the one side and for "Epworth" on the other was kind in spirit, but it was warm.

Finally Rev. R. R. Doherty, a man of engaging personality, a gifted speaker, and one of the champions of "Oxford" arose to plead for his side.

Happily in his plea his tongue slipped and he said Epworth. Immediately the Convention unanimously cried out Epworth. And its name was Epworth.

Now the Epworth League of the Southern Methodist Church was born in Trinity Church, Los Angeles, in the winter of 1889. It was called the Oxford League. It proved to be useful. The pastor, Rev. H. M. DuBose, and officers organized Chapters in California, Oregon, Montana, Arizona, and Colorado.

The Church Conference of Trinity Church, in the first week in May, 1890, at a session called for that purpose, memorialized the General Conference, then about to sit in St. Louis, to accept the Oxford League, or order the formation of young people's societies under a central Board of Control. The General Conference acted favorably on the memorial and ordered the Sunday-school Committee to proceed with the preparation of a constitution and by-laws for the proposed organization. When the Committee had performed these duties it advertised for several weeks for appropriate names for the society. Many were proposed. After weighing every consideration, it was resolved to christen the infant movement the "Epworth League of the Methodist Episcopal Church South."

In preparing the above I am indebted to Bishop O. P. Fitzgerald's "The Epworth League Book."

E. NORMAN HARRISON.

### The Road to Success.

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We must have passed through life unobservantly if we have never perceived that a man is very much himself what he thinks of others.—Faber.

You will find that the people who influence you are the people who believe in you.