SUNDAY SCHOOL WORK AND WORKERS.

A County Convention in Chestertown—Interesting Discussions and Beautiful Exercises.

The meeting of the Kent County Sunday School Convention in Chestertown last Saturday and Sunday was an occasion of religious interest generally, and especially to those who are actively concerned for the youth of the community.

In the last issue of the NEWS a full list of the delegates were given and also reports from the different Sunday Schools in the county, with statistics, &c. Delegates and visitors were met upon arrival in town and provided with homes by an efficient reception committee, and at the appointed hour 9.30 A. M. the convention was called to order in the Methodist Episcopal Church by President Samuel Vannort. Mr. M. Wilber Thomas acted as secretary.

After a short song and prayer service Rev. W. P. Compton, pastor of the M. E. Church, delivered the address of welcome, which was responded to by Dr. J. L. Mills, of St. James, and State Organizer Rev. G. H. Nock, of Baltimore.

The first topic: "Should a Sunday School teacher habitually neglect one of the Sunday services?" was opened by Mr. Robert S. Griffith and discussed in a most practical manner. He was followed by Mrs. Chas. H. Hurlock, who added many timely suggestions upon this important theme; Revs. Mr. Compton and Nock also spoke on the subject.

The second topic: "Qualifications of a successful S. S. teacher; what are they?" was ably discussed by Rev. T. B. Cooper, of Pomona, Dr. Mills, and Rev. W. P. Compton.

Afternoon Session.

Opened with a half hour's devotional services, led by Rev. Mr. Cooper. The third topic was then considered: "Organized temperance work in the Sabbath School."

Rev. Jesse Shreeve opened the subject and was followed by Mrs. Brown, Lucas Aldrich and a number of others.

Mrs. C. H. Hurlock said the W. C. T. U. was always ready to aid in this work, and submitted a plan for organized work in Sunday Schools, which suggested a temperance secretary as a prime feature, with pledges and an occasional mass meeting or rally. Nov. 24th, said she, is the world's Sunday School temperance day.

Rev. T. B. Cooper said there was more sentiment than practical work in the temperance cause. Organization is the thing needed, and that in the Sunday School, as upon the children must be relied the work of banishing this evil from the land.

Dr. Mills endorsed Mrs. Hurlock's suggestions and thought that as she was assistant superintendent of a school she should begin work there with an organization. He had taken the pledge often—in fact never refused it. But he did hesitate when the G. T. pledge was presented to him, because it was for life; yet he soon overcame his objections here also.

Mrs. Wm. H. Stewart stated that her daughter, Miss Anna Stewart, who was to open the subject, was in another part of the State engaged in the temperance work, but sent a paper to this convention, which Mrs. H. read.

President Vannort commended Miss Stewart's paper, closing with a "God bless her!"

Mrs. Mary Brown said the plan had been tested in the Sunday School here and found to be eminently successful.

The following was adopted:

Resolved, That the Sunday Schools of Kent county are urged to organize the children into Temperance Societies in accordance with the plans of the W. C. T. U.

Secretary M. Wilber Thomas then read the reports and statistics from the various Schools in the county which showed a very flourishing condition of the good cause.

When the Kennedyville M. P. report was read the pastor, Bro. Shreeve, said it was not exactly full as it reported no conversions in the school. At the recent revival in the church there had been over fifty conversions about twenty of which were in the Sunday School.

Sup't. W. E. Reck also reported a number of conversions in the Worton Presbyterian School.

Bros. Griffith and Spry responded for Sassafras school, one of the most distant in the county.

Messrs. F. S. Bottomly and John H. Wiest represented Millington.

Mrs. Rambo said she didn't want Zion school overlooked. It was little, and Morgnec not as noted as some other places, but they were alive and trying to do valiant service for the Master.

At this point President Vannort announced the following committee on officers for the ensuing year: Rev. W. P. Compton, Wm. B. Usilton, Chas. Miller, Miss Carrie Smith and Miss Victoria Power.

Bicycle Recreation.

The fourth topic: "Is the wheel a proper form of Sunday recreation for teachers?" seemed to be of special interest and the speakers handled the subject "without gloves." It was, however, altogether one sided.

Miss Vic. Power said she heartily sanctioned most of the modern athletic exercises, and bicycle riding she thought a healthful pastime when properly indulged in, but it was altogether improper for Sunday recreation. She related instances of its injurious and immoral results. She knew one young man in a certain city who began his Sunday bicycling by taking short rides; then he would go on a trip of a hundred miles! And on the return he looked as though he had been in a football game, so utterly bent and worn he appeared.

Rev. Mr. Compton said that he recognized the fact that a great many people enjoyed bicycle riding, but there were none here to defend it as a proper form of Sunday recreation—especially for Sunday School teachers. He regarded it as most vicious in its influence and tendency.

Rev. Mr. Nock said the Devil seemed to have a fast hold upon the bicycle as a Sabbath desecrator; especiall in the city is the tendency to the ruin of young men.

Bro. R. S. Griffith had hoped that some one would speak on the other side as he could always speak best when stirred up. His is a sort of "combatative" nature. He could see no good of Sunday bicycle recreation.

Mrs. Hurlock asked some questions which she wanted the pastors present to answer relative to the discharge of their duty in preaching against Sabbath desecration.

Replies came from Revs. Compton, Nock, Cooper, Shreeve and Dr. Mills, each of them expressing decided views against not only bicycling on Sunday, but especially on Sunday newspapers.

Mrs. Brown suggested that the ministers should take the Decalogue and to preach a sermon on each of the commandments.

A resolution against Sunday bicycling was unanimously adopted.

Here Miss McKnett sang very sweetly the solo "I stood outside the gate," assisted in the chorus by Miss Mollie Parks.

The fifth topic was now taken up: "How can the church assist in Sunday School work?" Mr. James H. Baker opened this subject with an earnest talk in which he strongly argued the duty of the church to do all in its power for the school. He said he saw no difference between S. S. work and and church work. He suggested that an improvement might be made in the regular service by having the children sing one of the regular hymns.

Bro. Beck said that church members who were not in the Sunday School lose a great deal.

Rev. Mr. Compton spoke of the great religious work in his school—there had been a refreshing revival and many conversions.

Rev. Nock—The Sunday School is the church in active work.

Mrs. Brown—Some persons call the S. S. "the nursery of the church." Some of our scholars are 65 years old.

Bro. L. Aldrich—We go to 70 years!

The sixth topic: "Revival services. How? When? The need of." Was opened by a warm-hearted talk from Bro. Aldrich. He said the first essential is for the membership of a church to go personally to the Saviour and then coming from the feet of the blessed one, if they can feel with the lines just sung, that "their sins are all washed away," the time is come for the revival!

Miss Lula Shreeve followed in a short but beautiful address on the same subject.

Rev. Mr. Bischnell, the evangelist, here spoke very pointedly for a few moments.

Evening Session.

President Vannort conducted the half-hour's exercises which consisted of earnest prayers and inspiring songs—Miss Anna G. Lambert presiding at the organ and leading the singing in the most effective manner.

Rev. Mr. Compton, chairman of the committee on organization reported the following officers for the ensuing year:

President—James H. Baker, Bond M. E.
Vice-Pres't—Wm. E. Beck, Worton Pres.
Sec'y and Treas.—Miss Blanche McKnett, of Kennedyville M. P.

Executive Committee—Samuel Vannort, St. James; Jos. W. Harper, Still Pond; R. S. Crew, Rock Hall.

The hour having arrived for the address of the evening, Rev. Dr. S. R. Murray was introduced. After touching reference to a recent affliction—the death of his aunt, Mrs. Dr. J. Thomas Murray—he proceeded to discuss Sunday School work. His ideal of Sunday School teaching was high, and he was no doubt correct in the supposition that not one teacher in a hundred reached it. He lamented the fact that so few teachers had even a superficial knowledge of the Scriptures, and that the majority gave so little time to the preparation of the lesson. There is no denying the fact that the greatest defect in Sunday school work today is just along this line.

Dr. Murray's ideal *plan* is altogether different from that now in vogue. He thought the work would be much more effective if the school was graded and divided into groups, say the infant class, the juniors, the seniors, and the graduates—making four classes in the whole school. These in separate rooms and under competent teachers would be gainers in many ways over the present plan. The Doctor's suggestions certainly deserves serious consideration.

The Sabbath.

The M. E. Church was filled Sabbath morning and overflowing. The M. P. congregation united in the services there and the two choirs made grand music—Miss Anna Lambert presiding at the organ. The sermon of the morning was delivered by Rev. S. H. Nock, Rev. Mr. Compton, the pastor, and Rev. Dr. Murray of Christ Church, assisting in the services.

In the afternoon the children's mass meeting was held in Christ Church. It was an inspiring occasion—a great multitude of people being present including the children of both Sunday schools. Rev. Mr. Compton had charge of the exercises, and choirs of both churches led the happy band of children in singing, Miss Clara Usilton presiding at the organ. Short and excellent addresses were delivered by Revs. Dr. Murray, Nock, Compton, Mr. R. S. Griffith, Mrs. M. E. Brown and Mrs. T. R. Hubbard.

Sunday Evening.

A great congregation gathered at Christ Church Sunday evening to enjoy the closing scenes of the county Sunday School convention. The choir space was filled with the two choirs, as in the afternoon, and contained voices hard to excel anywhere. The choruses were joined in heartily by the audience and the special pieces were well rendered. The retiring president, Mr. Samuel Vannort, presided in the absence of the president, Mr. J. H. Baker, and short addresses were delivered by Revs. Mr. Compton, Nock and Dr. Murray, and Messrs. R. S. Griffith, Samuel Burgess and Mrs. Miller. The latter an intelligent lady, formerly of California, now of Chestertown. The committee on resolutions reported a paper which expressed the thanks of the convention to the community for its reception and entertainment; to the choirs of the two churches for the excellent music and in opposition to Sunday bicycling.

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CHANGE OF SCHEDULE.
FALL 1895.

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GEORGE WARFIELD, Pres't.
Nov. 2, 1895.

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Going East. Pass. No. 1 Daily ex. Sunday.	STATIONS.	Going West Pass. No. 2 Daily ex. Sunday.
Leave. A. M.		Arrive. P. M.
6.50	CHESTERTOWN	12.05 A. M.
7.05	WORTON	11.50
7.10	LYNCH'S	11.45
7.15	HEPBRON	11.40
7.28	KENNEDYVILLE	11.27
7.41	BLACK'S	11.14
7.54	LAMBSON'S	11.01
8.08	MASSEYS	10.47
8.22	DELANEY'S	10.32
8.30	BINGHAM'S	10.25
Arrive.		Leave.
8.40	CLAYTON	10.15

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