

# WEST SCRANTON

## WORK OF THE YOUNG PEOPLE

PAPER PREPARED BY MISS ELIZABETH HUGHES.

Read at the Burning of the Mortgage

Exercises in First Welsh Baptist Church—Howell Team Outplayed by the Harris Men—Local Wheelmen in the Century Run in New York—Children's Day Services in First Baptist Church—Edward West's Hand Cut Off.

At the burning of the mortgage exercises in the First Welsh Baptist church last Wednesday night the following very instructive paper on "A Brief History of the Work of the Young People of the First Welsh Baptist Church" was prepared and read by Miss Elizabeth R. Hughes, a teacher in No. 16 school:

The history is meant the explanation of events. Its explanation is meant the exhibition of the significance of the events as seen in its cause and effect. In what it describes, its effects are more in regarding than its causes, and indeed the tracing out of the causes derives its greatest consequence from the light it casts on the effects. Hence, the office of history is the throwing upon the plain before us the light transmitted from the past. For various reasons, however, it is better to give a minute and exact account of the work of the Young People's society now than of the Young People's union of this church, and, if there are any errors I trust you will pass them by. I have worked to the best of my ability in creating this knowledge. I have confined myself strictly to the Young People's society, which held all its meetings on First night, and from this source much information has been obtained.

These meetings were brought to a successful termination by Dr. Williams organizing a Literary and Debating society, composed of both sexes. These meetings were held on Friday night and the programme was divided into two parts, one subject of the evening, and interspersed with music and recitations the sessions were very interesting. Occasionally a lecture or talk by one of the older members of the church was given. Kindly allow me at this point to drift a little from my subject to say that a Bible class was organized also at this time and that it also was a success until 1885, when Mr. Jones also had care and cast for his native home, after a period of four years' religious prosperity among the young people. For almost two years they were again left without a shepherd, and presumably from this cause the society dwindled down to a very small membership.

In view of this I am glad to welcome our present pastor, Rev. D. D. Hopkins, for we had been living without a counsellor and guide. The society was once again revived and meetings continued on the same plan as before.

During the summer it was deemed best to discontinue them, in order to unite with the general prayer and conference meeting of the church. At the opening of the next session, the number of conducting the meetings was slightly changed.

The study of the Sunday school lessons were taken up, although still adhering to the principles of the Baptist Young People's union.

Under the able leadership of our pastor this has proved beneficial, it being a preparation for the examinations in Christian scriptural knowledge on the different branches of the New Testament.

In conclusion, let me say that the Young People's union was the means of bringing many a young man and woman before the public.

This cup was won by our society in a series of debates; but, according to a rule made by the giver, the cup was to be given to the society which had the largest number of converts during the succeeding ministry, the cup could no longer be retained in our possession.

This literary society numbered about seventy-five members, and the sum of five cents per month was imposed upon them in order to defray expenses.

The president of this society during its existence was Rev. W. S. Jones, and the vice-president, Rev. W. S. Jones, Mrs. Emily Evans-Robertson, Prof. James R. Hughes, Mr. John M. Edwards, Mr. Luther Lewis, Mr. D. J. Davis, and at the present time, our pastor, Rev. D. D. Hopkins.

The annual meeting of the society was held at Mountain Park and the Annual Order of Hibernians and Daughters of Erin to Lake Ladon on Saturday.

Persons naturally gifted, but whose powers or talents lay dormant, were brought forward, and some of our prominent people of the city today trace their success in life back to these days. This society, through its efforts, has done much for the church, and the sum of \$125.00, in addition to individual work, as, for instance, the selling of books containing 100 books at ten cents each. Hardly a member handed back the book with less than \$10 worth of books sold.

A very snug sum was realized from this alone.

The society continued its work until 1890, when many regrets it was forced to disband.

But, as we have said, we have established its work people on a firm foundation, spiritually, educationally, and financially. During the interval of two years, which time there was no pastor, the society, though somewhat in numbers, and as might naturally be expected, enthusiasm was not quite as high as in the previous years.

In 1890 Rev. W. S. Jones, of Wales, and our pastor, Rev. D. D. Hopkins, and the young folks set to work, Mrs. Emily J. Davis supplying the funds for the quilt. About \$80 was netted from this affair, the quilt being afterward presented to Rev. and Mrs. Williams. The pastor now called the young ladies together and a society was organized, called the Young Ladies' System. This marks the beginning of a new body of young people of this church banded together for the purpose of aiding

**HYULER'S SCOTCH KISSES**  
FOR SALE AT  
G. W. JENKINS'.

## A Seasonable Topic

Hosiery and Underwear are always subjects of interest to well bred, intelligent women, when the subject of dress is under consideration, for without perfection in fit, weight and finish, real comfort is impossible.

## The Questions of Styles and Materials

Are purely a matter of taste, governed by the purse, and whichever way your inclinations may run, rest assured of this, we can fill your every want.

At this season of the year

## Light Weight Hosiery and Underwear

Are most in demand. People with luxurious tastes and ample means show a preference for silk weaves in plain and fancy styles, but science has come to the rescue of people of moderate means, and the latest styles in Mercerized Hosiery and Underwear make an excellent substitute for silk.

## But Your Thoughts May Run On

Lisle Thread, Maceo Yaros, Cotton, Merinos, Light Wools, Etc., and there isn't a style that's popular today in any or all of these that you can't find here.

Next time you're thinking of Ladies' Hosiery or Underwear, just remember that you'll get it best at the

meetings were changed from library to library. Shortly after this, the Baptist Young People's union, in connection with the Welsh Baptist Association of Northeastern Pennsylvania, was organized November 21, 1890. Societies were being organized in the different churches, therefore it was decided to organize one central society to be known as the Baptist Young People's Union, the meetings to be held as formerly, on Friday night. This was in 1891. The motto of the union was "Fidelity to Christ," and its object was the education in Scriptural knowledge, instruction in Baptist doctrine and history, their increased spirituality, their assimilation in Christian service and their cooperation in all efforts to promote the cause of God.

The society also purchased the furniture and carpet for the pupils. The sum total donated by the church was \$60.00.

The young men now inspired by the activity of the young ladies, came to the conclusion that they ought to help in some way, so the Dr. Williams invited them to become members of the society. These young men now brought in so many rules and regulations that, after about six months of strictly parliamentary forms, the society, I am sorry to say, passed a motion to dissolve, and so it was dissolved. Later, the young ladies again decided to try working alone. Accordingly, another society was organized, composed of young ladies only, the name being changed to Young Ladies' League, the object being the same as that of the Young Ladies' System. Mrs. Dr. Williams was president of this, and the sum of money handed to the church from this source, was \$60. From this it can readily be seen that much energy was created at this time among the young people.

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