

SERIES OF DISTRICT SUNDAY SCHOOL CONVENTIONS WILL BE HELD BETWEEN APRIL 9 AND 20

Work for the ensuing year will be discussed and officers elected at each of a series of District Sunday school conventions to be held in various churches throughout lower Dauphin county, beginning Monday evening, April 9. All evening meetings will open at 7.30 o'clock. Afternoon conferences will be held in the same church the evening meetings are scheduled to be held at 2 o'clock. State Field Worker W. D. Reel, of Philadelphia, and other widely known Sunday school workers will be present at each conference. The meetings are as follows: Second District, Monday evening, April 9, at Highville Church of God, comprised of Middletown M. E. and Riverside, Church of God, St. Peter's Lutheran, First U. B. and Presbyterian (Ebenezer, A. M. E. and A. M. E. Zion, Colored), Highville U. B. Church of God and Mission and Lutheran, including Ebenezer U. B. Sixth District, Tuesday evening, April 10, at Steelton M. E. church, District comprised of Centenary U. B., Main Street Church of God, First Presbyterian, Grace U. B., St. John's Evangelical Lutheran, Mark's Evangelical Lutheran, Trinity Evangelical Lutheran, First Reformed, Central Baptist, First M. E., Mt. Zion, Trinity P. E., E. M. Chapel, (colored) Monumental A. M. E., Mt. Zion Baptist, First Baptist. First District, Wednesday evening, April 11, at Royaltown U. B. District comprised of Newberry, Swatara Hill, Shope's U. B., Geyer's U. B., Royaltown U. B., Bachmansville, G. B. Conewago and Deodate; Strickler's Mennonite. Eighth District, Thursday evening, April 12, at Penbrook Church of God, District comprised of Zion Evangelical Lutheran, Penbrook U. B., St. Andrew's Reformed, Penbrook Church of God, Progress, Church of God, Pleasant View Church of God, Penbrook U. E., Shope's L. and R., and Paxton M. E. Eighteenth District, Friday evening, April 13, at Harrisburg Covenant Presbyterian church. Composed of all the Sunday schools of the city of Harrisburg north of North street and west of the Pennsylvania Railroad. Ninth District, Saturday, April 14, at Dauphin U. E. church. Composed of Dauphin Presbyterian, M. E., Zion Evangelical Lutheran, Trinity U. E., Zion U. E., Fishing Creek M. E., Stone Glen Church of God, Fishing Creek U. E., Coxestown M. E., Riverside M. E., Rockville U. B., Shiloh Lutheran Riverside. Fifth District, Sunday, April 15, morning, at Grantville U. B.; afternoon, Union Deposit U. B.; evening, Manada Hill U. B. District is comprised of Grantville U. B., St. Paul's U. B., West Hanover, St. Maria L. and R., Hanoverdale G. B., Bomgardner's Union, Hinkletown U. B., Shope's and Pikestown Church of God, Manada Furnace M. E., Union Deposit U. B. and L. and R., St. John's Evangelical Lutheran, Hoernerstown, Sand Beach Evangelical Lutheran and Hoernerstown G. B. Third District, Monday evening, April 16, at Hummelstown Reformed church. District is composed of Hummelstown Reformed, Zion Evangelical Lutheran, First M. E., First U. B., Sand Hill Evangelical Lutheran, Derry Presbyterian, Fishburn's U. B., Salem U. B., Hershey; Spring Creek G. B., Stoverdale (Union), Holy Trinity and Evangelical Lutheran, Hershey, and G. B., Hummelstown. Twentieth District, Tuesday evening, April 17, at Harrisburg Park Street U. E. church. District comprised of all schools east of railroad, except Bethany and Calvary Presbyterian schools. Seventh District, Wednesday evening, April 18, at Linglestown U. B. church. District is comprised of Linglestown Church of God, U. B., Mt. Zion L. and R., Wenrick's Union and Paxtonia U. E. Fourth District, Thursday evening, April 19, at Oberlin Lutheran. District comprised of Salem Evangelical Lutheran, Neld's U. B., Enhaut Church of God, New Benton M. E., Paxtang Presbyterian, Chamber's Hill (Union), and Rutherford Heights U. E. Nineteenth District, Friday evening, April 20, at Harrisburg Market Square Presbyterian church. District comprised of all schools south of North street and west of railroad, including Calvary and Bethany Presbyterian.

EXTOL U. S. FOR WAR-BLIND AID

Heads of French Institutions Laud A. B. F. B. Fund For Generous Gifts

France's gratitude for American generosity is strikingly shown in letters received during the last few days by the A. B. F. B. Permanent Blind Relief War Fund. The letters come from the executive heads of seven French institutions for blinded soldiers and sailors. The A. B. F. B. fund distributed \$50,000 for immediate relief among the seven institutions, following a meeting of its executive committee on January 3, at which it was voted to send \$150,000 to France. The \$100,000 remaining is now on deposit in the Bank of France. It will form the basis of a permanent endowment of \$2,000,000 for the Allies war-blind. The recently received letters are addressed to Eugene Brieux, the French Academician, who is chairman of the A. B. F. B. fund's French committee. They were forwarded to the New York headquarters of the fund, 590 Fifth avenue, and were made public yesterday (Saturday) by Mrs. George A. Kessler, one of the fund's honorary secretaries. An impressive feature of all the letters is the unmistakable evidence they contain of the need of an efficiency financed and managed organization, of nation-wide scope, in France, to provide the many blinded men with permanent adequately paying work, after they have been trained at the score of already established training schools. The letters are signed by: (1) Monsieur G. Roblemaitre, president of the Valentin Huay Association at 9 Rue Duroc, Paris. The A. B. F. B. fund allotted \$14,000 to this institution, which, however, really needs \$49,000 a year. The fund provides months' training at practical paying trades to one hundred blinded soldiers at a time. After this six months' training, the institution provides the blinded men with facilities for permanent adequately paying work, after they have been trained at the score of already established training schools. (2) Madame E. Levy Dhurmer, general secretary of the Blind Soldiers' Shelter at 129 Avenue Daumesnil, Versailles. The A. B. F. B. fund apportioned \$10,000 to this institution, which has been authorized by the French government to collect and distribute sums of money so that the blind soldiers may be kept from want in their own homes until they can support themselves at practical paying blind-trades. (3) Monsieur R. Vallery Radot, president of the Friends of Blind Soldiers at 129 Avenue Daumesnil, Versailles. The A. B. F. B. fund allotted \$20,000 to this institution, the purpose of which is to aid and support blind soldiers, after they have been trained, until they may become self-supporting. (4) Madame L. Poisson, vice president of the Central Office of Charities, 175 Boulevard St. Germain, Paris. The A. B. F. B. fund allotted \$2,000 to this institution, which is authorized by the French government to make loans to blind soldiers who have been trained at a blind-trade, but who are not yet self-supporting. (5) Monsieur L. V. Morel, president of the Society for Workshops for the Blind, 9 Rue de L'Echelle, Paris. The A. B. F. B. fund apportioned \$2,000 to this institution which provides the blinded soldiers with practical paying work in its own shops. (6) Madame Martha Brandes, head of the Blind Soldiers' Shelter to which the A. B. F. B. fund recently sent \$1,000. This shelter actually supports a number of helpless and maimed blind soldiers under its own roof. (7) Monsieur Henry Guedy, general secretary of the Help for the War's Blind, at Rue Galvani, Paris, to which the A. B. F. B. fund recently sent \$400. The above sums were allotted to these institutions, after thorough investigation by the A. B. F. B. fund's French committee, consisting of Eugene Brieux, president of the French Government's Committee for the Blind; ex-Premier Louis Barthe; General Florance; and the Honorable of the Legion of Honor; David Mennet, president of the Paris Chamber of Commerce; M. Morel, Governor of the Credit Foncier of France; Valude, head physician of "Quinze-Vingts" hospital, and M. Schneider, proprietor of Le Creusot. Grateful Spirit Typical of the grateful spirit of all the letters from the heads of the seven French blind institutions, is the communication of M. Roblemaitre, president of the Association Valentin Huay. "Express our deep gratitude to the New York committee," Monsieur Roblemaitre writes. "The generous gift will be used at once for the most urgent needs. Since the beginning of this terrible war, the United States has given us innumerable evidences of its long-standing friendship. Americans have not forgotten our services which we rendered them when they fought for independence a hundred years ago." "I send you the receipt for 100,000 francs remitted to our organization," writes Monsieur R. Vallery Radot, head of the Friends of Blind Soldiers' Society. "This large sum will shortly be devoted to giving aid and support to many blind soldiers in organizing their work, practicing their trades and furnishing necessities for their own and their families' lives." "Convey to the Permanent Blind Relief War fund my very deep gratitude for its noble generosity," writes Madame Martha Brandes, founder and president of the Blind Soldiers' Shelter. "Thanks to this generosity, we can now give much more aid to those who have given so much for us." "Our directors instruct me to express their thanks for the gift, which you have kindly given to our work," writes Monsieur Guedy, general secretary of the Help for the War's Blind. "This sum of money, as you desire, will be applied to immediate relief. Thanks to you, we shall now be able to help many unfortunates." "Less than a week after the long letter which I sent you," writes Madame Levy Dhurmer, general secretary of the Blind Soldiers' Shelter, to George A. Kessler, M. Brieux asked us about our financial needs. You committee of apportionments, of which he is president, then gave us 50,000 francs. I hasten to send you, in the name of our board of directors, the expression of our deep gratitude." "I thank you for the part of the Permanent Blind Relief War fund which you have apportioned to us," writes Madame Poisson, vice president of the Central Office of Charities. "I avail myself of this opportunity to advise you of the grants to individual blind soldiers made at our last meeting. Theophil Baptist, 1,200 francs; de Paris, 500 francs; Bertrand, 14 Rue des Roues, Poitiers, (for medical care to his wife) 300 francs; George Foudeville, 4 Rue de la Pompe, Guingamp, (partly for raw material) 1,200 francs; Fourc Noe, 31 Rue de Vieux Versailles, Versailles (partly for clothing) 400 francs; Albert Seriesys, 78 Rue St. Maur, Paris, 1,500 francs." "I beg to acknowledge receipt of

check number 40580 on the Bank of France for the sum of 10,000 francs, from the French Committee of the Permanent Blind Relief War fund," writes Monsieur L. V. Morel, president of the Society of Workshops for the Blind. "The blinded, whose sufferings your liberality will relieve, send to the generous American nation their gratitude." Several of the letters are accompanied by detailed descriptions of the work which the institutions are actually doing to-day. These descriptions show with tragic vividness the apparent insufficiency of adequately organized effort at present in France to give permanent paying work to the blinded heroes after they have left the training schools. There are about twenty training schools for the blind at present in different parts of France. But, although several of these institutions provide the blinded men with tools, materials and several hundred francs of capital, when they graduate, this aid is apparently not sufficient to enable them to support themselves at a central institution, which will assure all the blinded men in different parts of France of steady earnings by marketing their products, as well as by financing them temporarily while they are making these products, is greatly needed. Such an institution is actually to be established by the A. B. F. B. fund within the next few months near Paris. M. Brieux and other members of the French committee are choosing the location for this central institution at the present time. The helpless situation of many of the blinded soldiers after they have learned a trade, was strikingly exemplified a few weeks ago when M. Brieux cabled to George A. Kessler asking for an immediate remittance of \$10,000. Forty blinded soldiers who had received six months' training in blind trades at Reilly's hospital, according to M. Brieux, were about to be discharged from the institution because their place was needed for others. All these forty blinded men lacked money to buy raw materials and places in which to make and sell their products. Unless something was done for them, they would apparently be reduced to begging. The \$10,000 was cabled to M. Brieux at once. Madame E. Levy Dhurmer of the Blind Soldiers' Shelter, encloses a list of seventeen blind soldiers who, though trained to a blind trade, have had to receive small sums of money from the institution since last December. Almost all of these men have either wives, parents or children depending on them. Practically all of them are without resources. They are unable to make money from their brush-making and other trades, because they have no facilities for the steady sale of their products. The foyer has distributed among these seventeen men a total of \$1,000 since last December for their immediate needs. In addition to the \$150,000 recently sent by the A. B. F. B. fund to its French committee, \$50,000 was also sent to the fund's English committee in aid of the work for the blind soldiers and sailors at St. Dunstan's. The English remittance was acknowledged

by Sir Arthur Pearson, the blind publisher and philanthropist, who is chairman of the fund's British committee, in a cable of three words. "A thousand thanks!"

In making public the A. B. F. B. fund's recent French correspondence, Mrs. Kessler appealed to the generous American public for substantial contributions adequately to

conduct the fund's pressing needed work. Checks should be made payable to Frank A. Vanderlip, honorary treasurer, and mailed to the fund at 590 Fifth avenue, New York City.

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How Our Country Is Preparing For War

That a state of war between Germany and the United States actually exists now, is asserted by Vice-President Marshall, and his opinion is echoed by such eminent authorities as Charles E. Hughes, Elihu Root, and Theodore Roosevelt, while the preponderance of newspaper sentiment in the United States reflects the same conclusion.

"Our citizens have been murdered, our rights have been invaded, and treason has been plotted by German agents within our frontiers," notes the New York Tribune, and then asks "what are we going to do about it now?"

An official answer to that question will doubtless be given by President Wilson to Congress when it convenes on April 2d. At least this is the consensus of public opinion. Under these circumstances a knowledge of what preparations for war the United States plans and actually has under way is of absorbing interest to the American people.

It is to furnish this information that the article "A 'State of War' With Germany" in THE LITERARY DIGEST for March 31st, 1917, is presented. Man-power, money, food, submarines, submarine destroyers, aeroplanes, mobilization, coast defense, munitions, transportation, and many other topics are covered.

Read "The Digest" this week and judge to what extent the United States is ready for war. Among other articles in this exceptionally interesting number are these:

How the Entente and German Press View the Russian Revolt

- Enthusiasm in the Allied Countries, Uncertainty in Germany Is Germany "Retreating to Victory" on the Somme? Democratic Russia As Our Ally Japan, On United States' Break with Germany Why China Joined the Allies Swatting the Submarine What Supreme Court's Decision in Railway Case Means Are We In a Fool's Paradise? "Scientific Management" In Arithmetic Bucking Record Snow-Drifts French and German Music In America An Irish Writer of One-Act Plays Testaments On the Battle-Field A Standard of Principles For Evangelists

Many Interesting Illustrations Including the Most Significant Cartoons Let "The Digest" Be Your Guide in the Search For Truth

If you wish to find out all about a country you will not be content with the report of a single person who has visited it. You will read all the books you can get that treat of its people, its government, productions, manufactures, art, scenery, etc. You will saturate yourself with all the view-points you can obtain and from these you will reason out your own opinion of this country, which will approximate very closely to the truth. Are you doing this with relation to the great issues of our times? Are you taking pains to get all the facts before you take sides? If you are anxious to do this THE LITERARY DIGEST, unique among news-magazines, will give you just the material you want, an impartial weekly summary of all the news in every field of human activity. It gives you the facts, drawn without bias from all sources, and leaves you to do the judging. Read it every week and act on conviction.

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