

April 26th, 1900.

Rev. J. W. Stephan,
264-Leyden Street,
East Boston, Mass.

My dear Brother:

I thank you for your courteous letter with its full information of April 24th. I think you are acting wisely and well. You seem to take hold of matters with the grip of a master. I am glad you enlisted the sympathy of the Presiding Elders. That is half the battle.

To get young people interested in some great object to the extent of one dollar hurts no other cause and so cultivates their generous impulses that they will the more readily respond to other things. The Upham Memorial church is worthy the gifts of the young people and must appeal largely to the loyal young Methodists in the neighborhood of Boston, where young Upham was so popular.

We must complete our canvass, of course, within this year. It might be well for you to lay your plans now and then go to work in dead earnest when a few of the other things are out of the way. Interest the cooperation and help of all the pastors with whom you are intimate, and thus sub-divide the work as you suggest.

We cannot set any sum which any Conference ought to give, but I should think there would be from at least three to five thousand Epworth Leaguers in the New England Conference who could be induced to give a dollar a piece, and such a gift would make a creditable showing. You are very wise I think to enlist one young pastor in each District, but you must keep personally in touch with all of them. The object is a great one and should appeal to their generosity.

I should be glad, as I suggested, to send you letterheads with your name as the Conference Treasurer. They will aid you greatly in your correspondence. I can furnish you the subscription books and all literature needed.. Then I would advise the sending out of the circular letter to the President of each League, a copy of which I will send you in a day or two. It was one issued out in the bounds of the Pittsburg Conference, but I think it completely fills the bill. I send you a package of literature, which I think will give you all needed material for a fine address. I send you also ten copies of the beautiful certificate which you can show and donate as a sample at points where you think it will avail.

I hope you can go to spring District meetings and conventions.

The matter of the ten per cent. on all cash turned in to us will be confidential, but you ought to have it for your interest and we can afford it if good results come. "The laborer is worthy of his hire." I shall assist you in your postage account and when you make a journey in our behalf I will see that you are reimbursed for the same.

Now, I hope I have made everything plain. Write me for other information. Thanking you most sincerely for all your interest and praying God's blessing upon you,

I am, yours sincerely,