

Chap. X.] Extraordinary Meetings. [Sect. 7.

Sect. 6.—Presentation of Colours—continued.

now explained and promised should be asked to stand and with fixed bayonets sing, "Yes, we will rally round the banner," or other chorus. Then sinners should be urged to enlist under the new Colours, and a proper prayer-meeting be held.

- (m) Of course the Colours should not be unfurled, or in any way displayed in the town or in the meeting, until they have been thus publicly presented.

SECTION 7.—TEA MEETINGS.

Beware. 1. Care should be taken that The Army character of such gatherings is strictly preserved, and that nothing is done for mere amusement or gain.

No joking. 2. In all social meetings where the people have the opportunity for personal friendly intercourse, there is a danger lest the intense friendliness that prevails amongst the Soldiers should degenerate into foolish talking, joking, and merriment, which are inconsistent with sobriety of spirit and a good conscience. Every F. O. should feel himself responsible at such times for the godly behaviour of all present, and heartily assist in keeping the conversation such as becomes Salvationists.

Seat people well. 3. Every provision should be made for the seating of the number expected. If more are expected than can be accommodated at one sitting, a certain part of the building or of the room should be prepared, wherein such persons may wait.

Find out how many coming. 4. A careful calculation should be made as to the number of persons likely to be present. This is not a difficult task if a little thought is exercised; an accurate idea can generally be formed—

- (a) From the number ordinarily attending tea meetings in that place.
- (b) Whether the day be a holiday or not.
- (c) From the amount of interest in the meeting felt and expressed in the neighbourhood.

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- (d) Whether many tickets have been sold previously. The custom of buying tickets beforehand varies. In some towns people never buy until they get to the doors.
- (e) These considerations and others will assist the F. O. in forming a pretty accurate notion as to the number that may be expected.
5. From this reckoning it will not be difficult for the F. O. to calculate the amount of provisions required. It is a pity not to have sufficient, and it is wasteful to have more than enough. To prevent either the one or the other—
- (a) Arrangements can be made with the tradespeople to take back unused bread, butter, and groceries, so as to have little loss if more have been ordered than are required.
- (b) If there is plenty of help, there is no need for a great quantity of bread and butter to be cut up before the time. When cut up it cannot be returned, neither can it be sold, except at a sacrifice.
- (c) When unavoidably there is a quantity of food provided that cannot be returned—
1. A coffee-supper can generally be held on the same evening.
 2. If it is a holiday time a cheap tea for the Soldiers or children may be organised for the following night.
 3. It may be sold at a reduction at the close of the meeting. Even if a trifle is lost by the sale, it will be better than having the food left on hand.
 4. Provisions that can neither be used nor sold should be given at once to Soldiers who may be poor and in need, so far as this world is concerned.
- (d) In all his calculations the F. O. should beware of unreasonable and sanguine expectations. Very often more are expected than attend; it is, therefore, very foolish to make extravagant preparations, seeing that, except at holiday times, when every shop is closed, or in desert places—where we have not many Barracks as yet—more provisions, if required, can always be easily obtained.

Get enough food, and no more.

Don't expect too many.

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Sect. 7.—Tea Meetings—continued.

Officers to be
in command
of tables.

6. Some Officer with a number of Sergeants should always be in command of the tea-tables, so as to preserve order.

Sing them up.

7. When there are more people than can be comfortably accommodated at the first sitting-down, and the first company has had a reasonable period at the tables, it is well to sing the thanksgiving song, intimating kindly at the same time that any who may not have finished can remain a little longer, explaining that others are waiting their turn.

Order.

8. The seats at the tables should then be completely cleared at once, and those unable to find accommodation at the first sitting down, and late comers, should, if possible, sit down all together, and sing the blessing afresh, and should not be allowed to mix themselves up with the previous batch, sitting down here and there as first one and then another rise and leave.

Waiters first.

9. The tea-makers, cutters-up, and waiters should always, when possible, have their tea together before the general company, instead of afterwards, seeing that they will often be wanted in the public meeting that follows. Otherwise, if they come in after it has commenced, whether they enter the meeting in a group, or dribble in by ones and twos, they will help to make confusion.

Sale of tickets
at doors.

10. With respect to the sale of tickets at the doors, one or more Soldiers must sell the tickets, while other Soldiers collect them as the people enter. The Soldiers who sell the tickets should be at the outer door, and the Soldier who collects them should be at the inner one.

Tickets or
locked boxes.

11. Where a price is charged for admission, and it is not convenient to arrange for the sale of tickets, as in the foregoing rule, locked boxes must be used, contrived with a wire or a glass top, so that the amounts deposited can be seen after they are put in, and yet so secured that the money cannot be extracted until unlocked in the presence of the proper officials.

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Sect. 7.—Tea Meetings—continued.

12. When a large crowd is collected who have to pay at the doors the procession should be dispensed with. Procession may be dispensed with.

13. No tickets must on any account be given away for any such meetings without the authority of the F. O., and the knowledge of the Secretary and Treasurer. Giving away of tickets.

Coffee-Suppers, Breakfasts, etc.

14. The foregoing Orders must be taken to apply to these, with such modifications as may be deemed necessary. Foregoing Orders.

Demonstrations of other Organisations.

15. No F. O. must attend, in his official capacity, the meetings, festivals, or demonstrations of any other organisation, religious or otherwise, without the full knowledge and consent of his D. O. F. O. not to attend other demonstrations without consent of D. O.

SECTION 8.—EXCURSIONS.

1. In all cases where excursions by road, rail, or water are made to the seaside or elsewhere, the General Orders and Regulations with regard to demonstrations must be strictly carried out. Strict order.

2. No excursions shall on any account be undertaken, the main purpose of which is not to promote the salvation of souls and the promotion of the spiritual interests of the Soldiers. If any visits or changes or journeys that seem likely to be profitable to the health and spirits of the Soldiers can be undertaken in harmony with this purpose, they will be allowed; if otherwise, they are strictly prohibited. For salvation only.

3. On all such occasions the Soldiers should be kept under oversight and charge during the whole time—in the trains, on board boats, or in whatever other conveyances may be used. Sergeants should keep their Brigades as much as possible together, travelling with them, and watching over them for good during the day, Ceaseless watchfulness.