

Work for the year was given by the Home Secretary:

Presbyterial Societies.....	27
New Auxiliaries.....	18
New Mission Bands.....	17
Auxiliaries unreported or disbanded	11
Mission Bands.....	19
Total No. of Auxiliaries.....	642
Total No. of Mission Bands.....	302
Auxiliary Membership.....	10,685
Mission Band Membership.....	7,097
Yearly members of General Society.	3,40
Life members added during the year	66
Total No. of life members since or-	
ganization of Society.....	1,102
Scattered Helpers { Number.....	1,321
{ Contributions.....	\$ 664.74
Contributions from all sources.....	\$45,513.28

Publications. The secretary-treasurer for publications, Mrs. Telfer, reports an increased and encouraging demand among young people, especially for detailed information regarding particular fields, their missionary history and present condition. The sale of the Foreign Missionary Tidings has resulted in a balance on hand of \$518.55, its circulation being 16,353. Over 1,200 pamphlets and manuals have been sold, and the use of the mite boxes is growing.

On the afternoon of Wednesday prayer was offered for the Queen and Empire, and excellent missionary addresses were delivered by Miss Agnes Turnbull, M.D., Neemuch; Miss Duncan, Neemuch; Miss Calder, Mhow; Miss McLaren, Birtle; Miss Johnston, Alberni, B.C. The night's session was devoted to an address by Rev. J. Wilkie, M.A., of Indore, Rev. Dr. Moore, convenor of the General Assembly's Mission Committee, presiding.

The following are the officers elect: President, Mrs. McLaren; vice-presidents, Mrs. MacLennan, Mrs. Hamilton, Mrs. G. H. Robinson, Mrs. W. Mortimer Clark; recording secretary, Mrs. Playfair; corresponding secretary, Mrs. Campbell; home secretary, Mrs. Grant; foreign secretary, Mrs. Shortreed; secretary of Indian work in N. W. T. and B. C., Mrs. Jeffrey; secretary of international conference, Miss J. Caven; secretary of life membership, Miss B. McMurchy; treasurer, Miss George; secretary-treasurer for publications, Mrs. Telfer; editor of Tidings, Mrs. MacGillivray.

NOTES.

Knox Church, one of the handsomest buildings in Ontario, made an ideal meeting place for the two hundred delegates present.

The delegates gave unstinted praise to the good people of Woodstock for their lavish hospitality. It was cordial and most abundant.

The business of each sederunt was transacted in a very business-like manner. There were no long-winded addresses. In this respect the ladies showed a good example to their relatives of the sterner sex.

The Lord's followers are supposed to be morose and melancholy, but they have a thousand sources of joy which others know not of.

Coast Work in British Columbia.

The secretary of the Foreign Mission Committee has received the following letter from Rev. John W. Russell, for which we are glad to make room in this column:—

Dear Mr. Mackay: I shall be glad when we shall be able to send a teacher up the coast. One is needed for Nootka Sound, where the two tribes, Neuchlaht and Neoaehaht, could be under the one teacher. These tribes are just above Heshquaht, where Father Brabant is stationed. The Indians are longing for a school and a missionary. There is no school at Heshquaht. Several of the Heshquaht Indians want to send their children to Ahousaht. Then there are the two tribes, Ahatesaht and Neufchelaht, further up again. One teacher could take these in charge. Above them is Kynquaht, where is Father Sorby. Above them again the Chicksahts, with no missionary, and above them the Quatsno Sound Indians (another language) with no teacher. All want missionaries.

The more the Indians come into contact with the white men, the harder it is to impress them with the truth. We are losing time. No other Church seems to come to them. They are practically waiting for us. I trust they may not wait long.

We are all quite well. The Indians have entirely recovered from the measles, though at present there are several sick with influenza. Events have moved very fast within the last two months. Recently the tribe decided unanimously to prohibit cards, gambling and whiskey from the reserve. The cards were publicly burned by the little boys of the village, and speeches were made by various Indians at the burning. Since then a few packs of cards have been unearthed, and were burned as well. This is over a month ago. Since then—and now—there has been no gambling whatever—the longest period ever known in Ahousaht. I am getting them interested in a gymnasium, and now expect, within a month, to have something to give them in the place of their gods which they have burned. On a recent Sabbath, nine young men spoke during service, voluntarily renouncing evil and seeking after truth and right. A deeper interest is in evidence at all services. In short, the Ahousahts are changing, and are becoming more manly in their appearance, conversation and actions. It is God's spirit that is doing this. We realize that God's spirit is working in realize that God's spirit is working in them. They are listening more fully to Christ's teachings, and we are waiting for greater things than we have yet seen. Opposition is stronger in some quarters, but the triumph will be all the more glorious.

We had an Xmas entertainment on January 6th. The W. F. M. S. of Eburne, B.C., kindly sent a bale of clothing.

The F. M. C. would like to hear from some young men of the type of Mr. Russell, for work amongst the Indians on the west coast. It requires faith and consecration, but it is not without hope and encouragement and reward.

R. P. Mackay.

The Limits of Friendship.

Friendship, at its very best and purest, has limits. At its beginning, it seems to have no condition, and to be capable of endless development. In the first flush of newborn love it seems almost an insult to question its absolute power to meet every demand made upon it. The exquisite joy of understanding, and being understood, is too keen to let us believe that there may be a terminal line beyond which we may not pass.

Friendship comes as a mystery, formless, undefined, without set bounds; and it is often a sore experience to discover that it is circumscribed and limited like everything human. At first, to speak of it as having qualifications was a profanation, and to find them out came as a disillusionment.

Yet the discovery is not all a loss. The limitless is also the vague, and it is well to know the exact terms implied in a relationship. Of course, we learn through experience the restrictions on all intimacy, and if we are wise we learn to keep well within the margin; but many a disappointment might have been saved, if we had understood the inherent limitations of the subject.

Human friendship has limits because of the real greatness of man. We are too big to be quite comprehended by another. There is always something in us left unexplained and unexplored. We do not even know ourselves, much less can another hope to probe into the recesses of our being.

Friendship has a limit, because of the infinite element in the soul. It is hard to be brought up by a limit along any line of life, but it is designed to send us to a deeper and richer development of our life. Man's limitation is God's occasion. Only God can fully satisfy the hungry heart of man.—From Essays on Friendship, by Hugh Black.

The Gospel is an invitation: "Come unto Me." It is also a command which may not be disobeyed without the penalty of disobedience to legitimate authority: "To-day, if you will hear His voice, harden not your hearts." They who harden their hearts perish.

No one ever wanders where a promise does not follow him. An atmosphere of promise surrounds believers as the air surrounds the globe.—Spurgeon.