

the full amount of the budget was not raised, yet the burdensome bank overdraft was reduced by \$7,700. The Women's Board had a gratifying surplus and the Foreign Missions Board also reported a reduction of debt. While the financial situation still demands rigorous economy, yet the outlook is hopeful.

The congregations are to be commended for their liberality in such a stressful year. Brandon College has had an exceptionally good year and is entering upon a forward movement with especial emphasis upon the theological department. This college is in affiliation with McMaster University of Toronto. An encouraging feature of these union meetings was the evident spirit of mutual confidence and respect. The difficult times through which we are passing, the heavy burdens to be borne, and the uncertainty of the future has a tendency to reduce the factional spirit to the vanishing point. Increased harmony makes for increase of effectiveness. The only note of friction was the divided opinion among the women of the different provincial organizations regarding the advisability of earmarking funds for specific objects. The majority have ruled that this is not wise under the budget system and doubtless the minority will work harmoniously with this decision. The increasing effectiveness of the Baptist Union is due not only to the enlarging experience and increasing stability resulting from the passing years, but not a little, also, to the consecrated ability and zeal of the president, Mr. A. B. Stovel, who has been re-elected for his third term of office, and also to the wise and energetic leadership of the general secretary, Mr. C. R. Sayer.

Hands Across the Sea.

A fine human touch that awakened a sympathetic response at the recent Baptist Union meetings was the announcement that the British Baptists have increased their gifts this year to our Western Mission work one hundred and fifty per cent. Our confreres of the Motherland have thus given practical expression to the Apostle's exhortation to "look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others." When they across the water are themselves bearing such crushing financial burdens entailed by the war, their increased gifts are not only a delicate expression of the Motherland's appreciation of what Canada is contributing in men and money to the common cause, but also of the political and spiritual solidarity of the Empire.

A Five-Year Programme.

With sanctified foresight and enterprise our Western Churches have committed themselves to a five-year programme that will make for progress along all lines of religious life and activity if carried out with diligence and enthusiasm. We may unfold this programme at some future time.