

## Foreign Mission Board

### W. B. M. U.

*"We are laborers together with God."*

Contributors to this column will please address MRS. J. W. MANNING, 240 Duke Street, St. John, N. B.

#### PRAYER TOPIC FOR APRIL.

For the work at Grande Ligne and our own missionary among the French. For the officers and members of the W. M. A. S., that they all may feel their responsibility in this Mission Work and plan for its development and success.

#### The Festival at Chicacole.

Xmas 1900—The home letters which arrived that morning were left unread until a late hour. Why so busy? The Festival for the Evangelistic Schools was held that day and the Christians were happy in trying to make others glad.

Xmas—1901.—Shall we have the Festival? No, by all means wait for the boxes. The missionaries arrived a month ago so they should soon be here. Agreed! The Festival is postponed and a programme for the Christians is arranged. In the a. m. the specially prepared service is held and in the p. m. games are conducted by Uncle I. C. A. The usually shy women engage in the spoon and needle contests and the colored balloons afford merriment for all.

January the fourth—the boxes! the boxes! What a commotion! "Here," says Uncle, "is the one from P. E. I." Oh, a big, big fruit cake from Summerside! Won't it be fine for the Conference! A little gift for this one and another for that. And see the quilts for the Hospital and the towels! Look, Miss Clark, at these pincushions, dolls, handkerchiefs, pencils, etcetera and etcetera! Wasn't it good of those young people to send these things for the children. May God reward them!

Yes, that's the idea! Spread seven sheets of thick paper on the floor and divide. Let's see—where are there the most schools—those stations should have a larger share.

Look Auntie, see what's written here: "This doll is given at a great sacrifice." May the Lord bless the little giver!—Good! There will be at least four picture rolls for each station. I know Miss Churchill and Miss Blackadder are anxious to receive them and there are quite a lot of cards too.

"Amma, can't we have the Festival now?" the children are saying: "You deceive, Kismas came and you give us no joy!" "Impossible! The M. P. Conference is to be held at Chicacole you know, then the Telugu Association and Union Conference."

Ten day pass. What fellowship we enjoyed and how encouraging it was to hear the Christians from various parts express their earnest desire to walk more worthily of their high calling of God in Christ Jesus.

Yes, we must have the Festival to-morrow. John, you are responsible for taking the benches out of the church. Abraham, you may order the candy and puppu (a kind of grain). Jagannipu, you and Balaram will notify the schools, please.

The day arrives. The women fill the 400 little bags with puppu and we arrange the prizes. "Yes, this child deserves a pencil, and that one a handkerchief. We will tear this piece of cotton up for the twins and the blind girl, what will we give her?"

Two o'clock comes all too soon. Here they come—15 from the Police School, 70 from the Relie School, 30 from the Mohammedan School and so on. Amruthat Garn arranges them in order on the square in front of the Mission House. Have they all arrived? No, two schools are yet to come. What is that patriarchal looking Mohammedan teacher saying,—"Please do not wait in this public place too long as some of these little girls are afraid. You know their parents like to keep them gosha."

"Where are they?" In reply he points to something all covered up except the bright shy eyes. Stand! Start!—and the 500 children with banners waving march the quarter of a mile to the church.

"Towards, remember the big folks are not allowed to enter until the children are seated (on the floor)"—but when that is accomplished the spacious church is literally filled.

The Relies will now please sing, "Praise to the Son of God." Uncle and Aunt examine this and that school. The Old Chicacole boys excel in reciting the Ten Commandments and the Police boys are questioned on the Life of Christ.

Yes, Linglah, bring the twins to the front—two pairs—girls, and only four and five years old, they say. They have had their hair oiled and a spot of red powder placed in the centre of their tattooed foreheads and then soot has been traced along the lower edge of their eyelashes. Not even a glass bracelet adorns the wrist or a tin necklace the neck, but on the upper lip lies the ring (brass) which is invariably worn by Telugu girls. Pretty dress?

did you say—No, only a small loin cloth but withal they feel quite dressed up for the occasion. But it is not their appearance I wished you to notice. Listen! hymn after hymn they sing and so sweetly! How can they remember those big words! Oh, I wish I could take these four little mites on a visit to the boys and girls of Canada. Would they not become more anxious to have the Telugu children learn the love of Jesus!

Attention, children, please! We will now sing altogether, "Yasu ruktham mathrum." We walk up and down playing the concertina. "Stop, you began the chorus too soon. You left out the third line—" What can make me whole again." D. S. will repeat the words. Now sing! What a volume of sound; the roof is nearly carried away. Perhaps like the Scribes and Pharisees of old, some would sneer, but we believe that Jesus would be pleased, for did He not say, "Yea; have ye never read, out of the mouth of babes and sucklings thou hast perfected praise?" Praise the Lord! The foundations are being laid. Sin and hell, Christ and heaven are no longer meaningless terms. As we have visited the various streets in which schools are held we find the children help not a little in singing hymns and answering questions about which their elders seem to have never heard.

The discouragements are many, the contrary teaching in the home being one of the chief, but we would press on believing that some have learned to love Jesus and praying that we may be enabled to press home to the heart and life more than ever before the truths in some measure mentally grasped.

"Still thousands and thousands, who wander and fall, Never heard of the heavenly home; I should like them to know there is room for them all, And that Jesus has bid them to come."

I long for that blessed and glorious time,  
The fairest, and brightest, and best;  
When the dear little children of every clime  
Shall crowd to His arms and be blest."

MARCEL EVANGELINE ARCHIBALD.

#### W. M. A. S. Meeting, Carleton County.

A very successful W. M. A. S. gathering was held at Florenceville, in connection with the Quarterly Meeting. The brethren very courteously placed one session at the disposal of the sisters and helped them in many ways. Mrs. W. S. Saunders occupied the chair; Scripture read by Mrs. Newman Hestey; Prayer offered by Rev. J. Cahill; Mrs. Freeman, Centreville, gave a paper on "The Need of Being Interested in Missions"; Mrs. Fash, Woodstock gave a fine map exercise and a brief historical paper on "Our work in India. Mrs. Hartley gave a very interesting address. Mrs. Saunders read a paper on "The Opportunities of Christians To-day." Miss Estabrooks added much to the interest of the meeting by preparing very good music. After the collection, the benediction was pronounced by Rev. Z. Fash, Woodstock. We hope this is a beginning of better things in regard to our Aid Societies in Western N. B.

#### Amounts Received by Treasurer of Mission Bands.

FROM FEB. 22ND TO MARCH 5TH.

Moncton, F. M. \$5; Forbes Point, for Mr and Mrs Gullison, F. M. \$4; Pleasant River, support of Hospital, F. M. \$5; South Brookfield, Miss Archibald's salary, F. M. \$5; Cavendish, support of Amelia, F. M. \$2; Marysville, F. M. \$5; Hebron, F. M. \$2 86, H. M. \$2 87; Lunenburg, support of San Vasi, F. M. \$17; Dartmouth, F. M. \$5; Harvey, F. M. \$3 98, H. M. \$4.

IDA CRANDALL, Treas. Mission Bands.  
Chipman, Queens Co., N. B.

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NOTES BY THE SECRETARY.

Rev. Geo. Churchill in writing tells of his visit to the Baptist Association at Ramatam, in connection with the work carried on by the Missionary Union among the Telugus.

He says:—"This was the first time I have been at one of their conferences and most of their missionaries were strangers to me. It was a large gathering and a very pleasant and interesting one. There were 76 adults and nearly 30 children. Dr. Barbour and his secretary Mr. Isaacs, were present. The subjects for discussion and the problems to be settled were much the same as we have had to meet in our own mission. Hitherto they have been behind us in the matter of organization, each missionary being more or less a law to himself as regards his own work. But at this Association action was taken bringing them more closely into relation to each other and the Executive Committee at Boston. They have a Reference Committee to whom questions are placed before being referred to the Home Board. Dr. Barbour seems to be a level-headed man and has a good grasp of the whole subject of mission work in relation to the Home Society. He seems much encouraged by what he has seen. He is now spending two weeks visiting a number of stations in their mission and then goes on to

Assam and from there back home. I wish I could find time to visit some of our stations. Of course we have not the number of Christians to show him, but I am sure he would be struck with the superior intelligence of our people.

On Sunday we observed the Lord's Supper at which between two and three hundred native Christians on the Ramapatam field were present. Dr. Barbour conducted the service, and W. B. Borge interpreted for him most admirably. He and Dr. McLaurin are two of their best men. There were quite a number of different nationalities represented, e. g., Russian, Welsh, English, Dutch, Canadian, and American.

On my way back I spent a day at Ongole. They have a lot of work going on here. A College, a Normal School, a large Orphanage, a High School and I don't know how many day schools in the neighborhoods. Four Christians passed matriculation leading their class. They are trying to start an Industrial School for their Christian boys, and are at work making articles of aluminium ware. Some of the boys are being trained for whobies (washermen). They are spending a good deal of time and money in carrying on the work at this station. Whether it is all legitimate mission work is a question."

Dr. Matri of the Missionary Union, says, "that within ten years its workers have baptized 142,000 heathen converts, more than twice the number received by any other denomination or society in the world." He rightly says, "that this should humble the Baptists and encourage them to do greater things."

The Baptists of these Provinces are certainly engaged in a good work in India. While the baptisms have not been large, there have been some 77 the past year. The mission is yet in its infancy as mission work goes, but it is growing. We need to put heart and soul into it, to obtain largest and best results.

Miss Archibald writes: "We spent 14 days in Budmur, a village of about 2,000 people, 9 miles from Chicacole. It proved a good touring centre. We made a map of the villages around and found there were 34. The people listened well and in some places showed a deep interest. We reached here last Saturday and have taken up our residence in an old mosque. Such a time as we had getting it cleaned, and we are sorry we did not bring the tent with us as we would have been so much nearer the village. But the Sec'y. of the Vizag, Rajah, who really owns all the land of this region, told us we would find everything comfortable and convenient.

The Rajah, through the influence of Miss D'Praser, is very friendly and has recently given us land in Budenur for a preacher's house. Oh, the multitudes of unshepherded people! How we long for present results! There seems to be more than one foundation. The people do not believe in the personality of God. Transmigration and a host of foolish ideas are imbedded in their minds. Never mind, we will keep at it and proclaim the truth knowing that the Lord will bless His own Word. 'Turn us again, O Lord of hosts, cause Thy face to shine and we shall be saved.'

"I have all the younger men on tour with me and we have quite a force, (5 men and 3 women). We divide up into 3 or 4 parties for the morning and go to different villages or different streets in the same village. We usually go to the nearest village for an evening service, 7 to 9. Then we have hundreds to hear and we all go together, one of my helpers has a violin, one an accordion, and I have a concertina. All the helpers are good singers and the most of them can give a clear, earnest testimony. In these night meetings, we utilize the large lesson pictures on the 'Life of Christ' arranged in a series.

We are now learning the poem on the 'Incarnation of Christ' composed by Veeracharchu, one of the Bilmi helpers, learning to sing it in the native style. People are very fond of music and seem to appreciate anything rendered in true Hindu fashion.

Miss Havergal tells of going away to a boarding school shortly after she united with the church. When she entered the school she learned that among all the hundred girls she was the only Christian. Her first feeling was one of dread—she could not confess Christ in that company of gay, worldly girls. But her second thought was that she could not but confess Christ. "I am the only one he has here," she said. This thought gave her great strength—she was there for Christ, and if she failed him he would have no witness in the place. The same is true in a sense of all of us, wherever we are placed. He has put us where we are because he wants a witness just there.

Only Christ can influence the world; but all that the world sees of Christ is what it sees of you or me.—Drummond.

We are not commanded to understand, but to believe. Faith demands submission and obedience. Knowledge comes afterwards.

Man say they do not know; God says they do not believe.—Baptist Union.