

McDiarmid and Muriel Brown, of Walmer Road Church, Toronto, and Mary L. Warner, of First Church, Woodstock. Last year 108 Bands gave \$922.70 for Home Missions; this year, 117 Bands gave \$1,155.10, a gain of 9 contributing Bands, and a gain of \$202.40 in funds. Six joined the ranks of life members—Queenie Shields, Fort William; Cora M. Wismer and Frederick C. Wismer, St. Catharines; L. Ross Leaver, Jacqueline Norton and Elizabeth MacNeill, Toronto. The total amount given, therefore, from Bands is \$2,821.56, a total gain of \$161.94. One thing we especially note in the reports, that is, that no mention is made concerning gifts to outside objects. Hence we infer that our Bands are more closely adhering to the purpose of our organization—to prove auxiliary to our Women's Home and Women's Foreign Missionary Societies. The directors always find difficulty in securing reports from all their Bands. However, this year 134 reports were obtained. Of this number, 65 gave exactly the same to both treasuries. Thirty-nine gave to both, the amounts being not exactly equal, but often nearly so. The remainder gave to but one object, Home or Foreign.

The number of Bands varies but little, for, while we learn of the organizing of about twelve new bands, we hear that, for various causes, a few others have disbanded. A few sentences culled from letters sound a note of hopefulness: "We expect to organize very soon." "We have a new Band. Our church has no interest in missions. We hope, through our Band, to awaken an interest in the church." "We are planning to give a banner in our association, and it is to be awarded on a three-fold basis—average attendance, average giving, and highest number of certified readers of the eight-lesson course in 'Link' and 'Visitor.'" "We are so scattered that our Band cannot meet, but we give through our mite boxes." "Our associa-

tion has a lending bureau of literature, and the one in charge is pushing this work." "Perhaps our small Band will some day have a missionary come from our ranks, then we will know how the work has paid." "We are weak, but hoping for better things. "We have no money now, but will have some to send in the near future." So let us continue to be workers, always at it, and never saying "fail"; yes, and "workers together" with a long, strong, united pull; and "workers together with God," who is our ever-present, all-powerful Head.

None work alone; through one act, many may be blest. Some years ago, Mr. Nathan preached a sermon in St. Louis on "The Hidden Minister." He told of an awkward, illiterate young Swede, who was converted in Mr. Moody's meetings, and who wanted to do something for Jesus. Mr. Moody prepared two boards, strapped together, for him to carry over his head up and down Chicago's thronged thoroughfares. On one side was printed in full John 3: 16, and on the other side, a notice of the meetings then being held. A travelling man stopped to read the notices and watch the smiling face of the happy young Swede. He went to the meeting, and was saved. He had a splendid voice, and made it a rule to sing in the missions of the cities which he visited on his travels. One night, a young Jew, attracted by his singing, slipped into the meeting. But he scowled, when he heard the name of Jesus. The singer watched him, and when he saw him going to the door, was there to meet him. He drew him into an adjoining room, and urged upon him the claims of Jesus, the Messiah. This message eventually led him to Christ. In conclusion, Mr. Nathan said: "The Swede lies in an unknown grave in Chicago; the travelling man also is dead; but I am that Jew, and am now a missionary in Morocco." Oh, dear fellow-workers, what shall we