

W. B. M. U.

Of The Maritime Provinces.

Communications for this Department should be addressed to Mrs. A. J. Christie, Amherst, N.S.

MOTTO FOR THE YEAR: "WORKERS TOGETHER WITH HIM."

CONVENTION ECHOES—WOODSTOCK, N.B.

ECHOES lose much of the force and beauty of the original sound, still they are useful in assuring us that there *has been* at least a starting point, an original sound.

After a very earnest and helpful devotional season, led by Mrs. A. T. Dykeman, Fairville, the Convention was opened by the President, Mrs. J. W. Manning, at 10 a.m. August 19, '03. "My faith looks up to Thee," was sung, and prayer offered by Mrs. David Hutchinson, Moncton. Mrs. Manning then spoke a few words of gratitude for what had been accomplished, though far less than should have been. After enrolment of delegates and the appointment of committees, the Provincial secretaries read their reports: That of Nova Scotia, by Miss M. E. Hume, showed gratifying progress, 170 Aid Societies, with increase in membership and interest, though some societies had not yet reported.

For New Brunswick, Mrs. M. S. Cox reported 72 Aids, with a financial increase, a few, however, failing to send reports in time for the Annual Convention.

Mrs. J. E. Spurr, reported for P. E. I. showing a great increase of interest in "the garden of the Gulf," especially noticeable in the fact that the Provincial Secretary wrote 55 letters and received 65 replies. This fact made a deep impression, especially on the sister Provincial Secretaries.

After discussion all these reports were adopted.

Owing to the difficulty of finding sisters for the office of Associational Directors, and the duties of these officers being so nearly the same as those of the County Secretaries, it was resolved to do away with these officers for the present, and try to have a County Secretary in every county.

Some discussion on Crusade Day took place, many sisters very strongly favoring the observance of the day, while others wished to make every day as an opportunity of reaching our sisters and striving to interest them in this work.

The ideal day will be when every sister is a member of Aid Societies.

2.30 p.m.—Devotional meeting, led by Mrs. N. C. Scott, St. John. Business resumed at 3 o'clock. Mrs. Fash extended a very hearty welcome to the W. B. M. U. from the Woodstock Baptist Church, and Aid Society.

Greetings were given from the Free Baptist Woman's Missionary Society by Mrs. McKinney; from the Women's Foreign Missionary Society of St. Paul's Church (Presb.), by Mrs. Rankin; from the Reform Baptists, by Mrs. Wiggins; and from the Methodists by Mrs. Campbell. Greetings were also sent by the New Brunswick W. C. T. U.

Mrs. Hutchinson, of Moncton, gave a most suitable reply.

India, too, was represented by a letter from Miss Mabel E. Archibald, Chicacole, read by Miss Dykeman, appealing to our women to do more for the 2,000,000 Telegus, and help to lighten the weight on our missionaries' hearts.

The Home Mission report, prepared by Mrs. W. P. King, was read by Miss Edith Barss. Last year's estimate of \$2,500 had been realized. Thanks were given to all who responded so generously. North-West called loudly for help, fifty towns, each with a population of 250 to 300 with no Baptist Missionary. Scandinavians give the best promise to become Christians.

Indian work more hopeful than at any time since its beginning. Mr. J. F. Clarke, brother of our missionary, Miss Martha Clarke, now on furlough, is going to take up the work. Grande Ligne received much attention. There are 180 pupils at Feller Institute. Twenty-five professed conversion. Debt, \$15,000. A recent gift of \$5,000 reduced the debt to \$10,000.

HOME WORK.

There are 83 Home Missionary Churches; 35 pastorless. Special attention is given to the grouping of weak churches. The needs—men, work, money, zeal—were urged on Bands and Aid Societies.

After the adoption of this report, the Report