

in this great enterprise to which we have put our hands is measured and limited only by our ability, and that if we are giving \$1 a year when we could give \$2 or \$3 or \$5, we are just so far failing to fulfil our obligations, and so far hindering the coming of the Kingdom. It would be perhaps one of the very greatest things that could happen to our Society if we could dislodge forever from the minds of hosts of our women throughout this province the thought that their duty is done to women's foreign mission work when they pay that poor little dollar a year.

2. Another place where mistakes sometimes arise is that many Circles have members who do not pay as much as \$1 a year. Provision was made for that possibility in the Circle Constitution. Needless to say, it was not made to accommodate the shirkers who are sometimes among us, but to make it possible for those whose giving must be very limited, to find a place in our organized work. But, while these women may be members of the local Circle, they are not, and cannot be, members of the Society. The only practical way in which that makes any difference, perhaps, is that these local Circle members cannot be sent as delegates to our Annual Conventions, nor can they be elected as members of the Board of Managers. Only members of the Society (those who pay \$1 a year or more) are eligible for election as delegates to the Annual Convention, or as members of the Board. It is for the Circles to watch against this irregularity creeping in.

3. Another point of confusion sometimes arises from the amount of the payment necessary to become a member of both the Home Mission Society and the Foreign Mission Society. The Home Mission Society was formed after the Foreign, and, in many minds, the idea had become firmly rooted that \$1 a year was the amount to be given

to women's work wherever it went, and it is to be feared that very many are still giving that dollar, in the belief that they are members of both Societies. As a matter of fact, if they are members of a Union Circle, and are giving that amount to be divided between Home and Foreign, they are members of neither Society. The Home Mission Society has exactly the same to both day's provision for membership as the Foreign Society,—\$1.00 a year, and consequently to be a member of a Union Circle eligible for election of the Convention, or, in other words, a member of both Home and Foreign and Societies, the necessary minimum payment would be \$2 a year,—\$1 to each Society.

4. Just one word about life-members. The Constitution states very clearly that the \$25 for a life-member must be paid into the Treasury in one year, and must be a special contribution over and above regular Circle fees. This rule is strictly adhered to. The only privilege of a life-member mentioned in the Constitution is the right to vote at the Convention whether or not appointed a delegate by the local Circle.

Next month we shall hope to discuss the object and status of our Society.

#### MISSIONARY NEWS.

A striking example of the influence of Christian missions and Christian missionaries on things Chinese is seen in the fact that seventy-five per cent. of the text-books used in the Government schools of China were prepared either by Christians or under the supervision of Christians.

A remarkable organization is making itself felt in Italy,—an organization which, if successful, will do a very great service in overthrowing priestly authority and opening the way for the Gospel. It is called the "Union for Religious Reform," and it is advocating liberty of thought, the abolition of priestly authority and bondage to tradition and the separation of Church and State, and above all, it insists that its members live a genuine Christianity so that they may have an influence on the people.