

The Thirty-Second Annual Meeting of the Woman's Baptist Missionary Society of Ontario (West.)



THE Convention of 1907-8 assembled in the Bloor St. Church, Toronto, Wednesday morning, Nov. 11th, at nine-thirty a.m. The President, Mrs. Firstbrook, in the chair.

After the opening hymn Mrs. Distan, of Collingwood, read the twelfth chapter of Acts, giving very helpful thoughts on the subject of prayer. Earnest prayer followed, for God's presence in Convention and for His help in the Foreign Field and at home.

Miss Martha Rogers addressed a few words of cordial welcome, on behalf of the Bloor St. Circle, to the delegates in Convention. In reply Mrs. Mulock, of St. Catharines, voiced the thanks of the visiting delegates, at the same time urging all to greater efforts in the future, in their work at home.

The reports of the Recording Secretary, Home Corresponding Secretary, Treasurer, Bureau of Literature and "Link" were read and adopted.

Mrs. Sycamore urged on all the claims of the "Link." Mrs. Sycamore stated that owing to decrease of subscribers from the Maritime Provinces, on account of having their own paper, and the number of subscriptions in arrears, the Link is not paying at present. Mrs. Sycamore most emphatically stated that we must remedy this falling off.

The reports of the Associational Directors were read. These reports proved most interesting. Most of the Directors report progress and activity all along the line. Many of the Directors proved themselves indefatigable in their efforts to revive dead or dying Circles and Bands, or in organizing new ones. Circle membership has increased greatly, owing largely to Crusade Work, but in the Bands, many reports have shown a decrease.

After a hymn, Mrs. Halkett, of Ottawa, led a most interesting and practical discussion on "Methods in Band Work." Mrs. Halkett, better known as "Sister Belle," took up the reasons why Foreign Missions are more generally interesting to Bands; then told what

Mission Bands can do for Home Missions. She told how Band children can gather pictures for use in Mr. Harbor's work among the Indians. Mrs. Halkett advocated letting Bands choose their own scholars for support in Grande Ligne, making it a personal matter by giving their money, prayers and love to the little French boys and girls, to whom the Bible has been in ages past a closed book. The sympathy of the children can readily be aroused by asking them if they would not like to help organize a Sunday School for children who have no such privilege.

A discussion followed and many questions were asked which were answered by Mrs. Halkett in a most interesting and helpful way.

The afternoon session opened with a hymn, after which the minutes of the morning session were read and approved.

The election of officers and members of the Board resulted as follows: President, Mrs. Jno. Firstbrook; 1st Vice-Pres., Mrs. Thos. Urquhart; 2nd Vice-Pres., Mrs. J. J. Ross; Members of the Board, Miss V. Elliott, Mrs. S. S. Bates, Mrs. Wm. Davies, jr., Mrs. W. H. Elliott, Miss Tapscott, Mrs. W. H. Wallace, Mrs. Chas. Senior, Toronto; Mrs. C. W. King, Woodstock; Mrs. W. E. Matthews, Chatham.

Mr. Singer, missionary to Jews in Toronto, spoke briefly of the debt which Christians owe to Jews. Paul and many others suffered martyrdom for our enlightenment, without whose preaching, we would be ever as the heathen of India to-day. The Jews need Christ just as much as does any other nationality. Fifteen thousand are now in Toronto, and they still come. The President, in her address called to mind the great commission given to a few humble fishermen—the results showing that its fulfillment is "not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit." Continuing Mrs. Firstbrook showed that as a Society we have much to be thankful for during the past year, but we have also much responsibility and must devote our life and energy toward "this one thing" of giving the Water of Life to those who have not received it. The report of the