

source of interest for the Auxiliary. When the children come home, and enthusiastically tell what they have heard, have done, and are going to do, parents may be won to join the older society. Wherever there is a Sunday School there can be a Mission Band, and a Church that has in connection with it a stirring Band, will have some good missionary workers before many years have passed. We cannot estimate the value of this early training, for it is beyond computation, reaching into eternity.

The progressive Mission Band should have three departments, "Cradle Roll," of "Little Light Bearers," the "Juniors," and "Seniors." All may come together in the opening exercises, after which, if competent teachers can be secured, they may be divided into classes, and the lesson given in the way most suitable for each class. In many of our country districts this plan cannot be carried out as it is impossible to secure teachers for the different classes. The Cradle Roll should be an important feature of our Band work. "Bud the tender twig with the fruit it should bear," is a good motto for us in this work, and it will do the girls in your Band much good to secure the names of babies in your Church and vicinity for membership, and you can all be "budding the twigs."

Have enrollment cards printed and given out for the Little Light Bearers to keep, stating that its possessor "began in the cradle, in earliest youth," to send to the Christless, God's precious truth. If advisable have a small membership fee. Have on the card if possible a picture of a little dark-faced heathen baby, and opposite the heathen child, some of our own sweet little children reaching out their tiny lamps toward the little ones across the sea. The cards will not only be a great help in the work, but will also be a beautiful object lesson to the child, ever quietly reminding him that he was enlisted in the service of the Lord from the very first. Was there ever a more promising "dawn?" Far and near the Little Light Bearers are waiting to be ushered in. Will you help to bring them in?

The Cradle Roll party or reception, the chief event of the year to the youngest and dearest branch of our home work, has its problems and rich possibilities. The guests must be invited, not only the babies who already belong, but all the new ones. Dainty, written invitations should be given out, with a cordial word to mothers, besides the church notice. Then the guests must be entertained, and in this the help

of the older children can be counted on, and the more responsibility they have, the greater will be their delight. Have a good musician, for music will be of great value in keeping things orderly. The programme should be short and simple. Nothing will entertain the babies better than watching other children, and the older ones will best enjoy an object talk. Object teaching is of value to us all and to children it is almost a necessity, and we may well use it freely in our Mission Band work. Effective living pictures can easily be arranged. If you can procure an idol, place it upon a shrine made by draping a small table, construct a temple of screens and have a couple of children and a mother in Hindu dress making an offering of food and incense.

As the picture is shown let a choir of children sing part of "From Greenland's Icy Mountains." The temple can be quickly changed into a nursery, with a child kneeling beside a cot bed and a mother rocking a baby to sleep, while the Lord's Prayer is sung. When the children are quietest have brief devotional exercises, just a psalm and hymn in which the older ones can join and an earnest prayer for the babies and mothers here and across the seas. There may be some graduates from the Cradle Roll Department to the Junior Department, these will have their pieces to speak. The youngest may take part in the Roll Call and bringing in mite boxes. Have plenty of fresh boxes made up, enrollment cards ready for new members and leaflets for others.

Secure an old-fashioned cradle with rockers, or where this cannot be found use one of the modern cradles. Trim this with wild flowers or bright colored tissue paper, and while a lively march is played on the piano or organ, let the children march several times about the room, finally passing the cradle and dropping their full mite boxes into it.

The food on the tea-table should be very simple. An appropriate picture pasted on bright cardboard to take home will help each one to remember what it was all about. In all the plans, bear in mind that the Cradle Roll is never an end in itself, but a beginning—an introduction to the Mission Band and to all mission work. Do not fail to give the few earnest words to mothers about the meaning of it all and the use of the money in uplifting neglected childhood and motherhood of other lands. When we reach the mothers' hearts we are truly helping "to bud the twigs." It may be through this