

BRANT DISTRICT CONVENTION.

THE Brantford District Convention of the Women's Missionary Society of the Methodist Church was held at Paris, May 12th, presided over by Mrs. Phelps, the District Organizer.

The cloudy morning brightened into a balmy sunny May day. There being a goodly number of delegates from Brantford, St. George, West Flamboro', Jerseyville, as well as from Paris, the meeting was one of unusual interest, and we feel we have every reason to thank God for past blessings and pray that we may all enter the present year with renewed vigor and earnestness.

The morning session opened with devotional exercises. After the nomination of Recording Secretary, and Secretary of Supplies, the different Auxiliaries and Mission Bands were reported upon, and found to be making steady progress. Mrs. President expressed herself as pleased at success of the past, urging upon all present the necessity of enlarged plans, and corresponding liberality, that Christ's kingdom might be established in the heathen world. The afternoon was occupied by the reading of valuable and interesting papers from Miss Nixon, of St. George, on the "Cultivation of Christian Beneficences," from Mrs. Bristol, on "Africa," and Mrs. Graham on "India," a vocal solo by Mrs. Schofield, short discussions on the best method of conducting Auxiliaries and Mission Bands. Greetings from the Women's Foreign Mission Society of the Presbyterian Church, given by Mrs. Brown, and ably responded to by Miss Cooly. The Consecration Service, led by Mrs. T. White, of Brantford, was a delightful season of blessing and great grace. In the evening, addresses were delivered by Rev. Russ, of Brantford, Rev. Boyd, of Deering Centre, and Rev. Calvert, of Paris. The delegates, we feel assured, left Paris with pleasant memories of the kindness which all experienced at the hands of our hospitable entertainers. Thus closed one of the most enjoyable and refreshing District Meetings, all who had participated feeling it was good to be there.

E. S. AGNEW, Sec.

FRENCH METHODIST INSTITUTE.

THE CLOSING SERVICES.

LAST Thursday evening the brilliant illumination of the whole of the north wing facing on Stayner street, Cote St. Antoine, and occupied by the class-room and chapel of the stately building of the *French Methodist Institute*, indicated that some unusual service was being held. On entering the crowded audience room, on the platform and in its neighborhood were seen the Rev. Principal Douglas, LL.D. (in the chair), the Rev. Drs. Antliff, Williams, Shaw, Hunter and Rose, the Revs. Ed. DeGruchy, J. A. Dorian, M. Sadler, and the lay directors of the institute, Messrs. George Bishop, John Palmer, Thomas Jordan, Charles Morton, the worthy treasurer, Mr. Edwin Hanson, of the firm of Hanson Bros., and Dr. Alexander. The opening hymn, Scripture lesson and prayer were in French, after which the Principal, the Rev. Wm. Hall, M.A., presented an eminently satisfactory report. Seventy-two students have been in residence, thirty-six of each sex. Among these are several Indians from Oka, Caughnawaga, the St. Regis tribe and the Nipissing district. The health of the pupils has been excellent, and the manifest advantage which they derive from their social life in the Institute has been evident to all. The staff of the Institute has been marked by much efficiency and thoroughness in their work, as evinced by the result of the examinations.

The head master, the Rev. Leopold Massicott, S.T.L., has proved a valuable addition to the staff during the past year. He has already won distinction for his mastery of French

literature, and is an enthusiastic instructor. The Institute has been specially favored by the continued and most valuable service of Miss Masten, whose teaching power is rendered additionally valuable by reason of her religious and elevating influence over the students. Conscientious service has also been rendered by Miss Tweedie, M.L.A., of Sackville, Nova Scotia; Miss McKee, in vocal music; and the Misses Hall, in instrumental music. To the members of the Douglas Mission Band the students have been indebted in many ways, for instruction in drawing and sewing, a very pleasant Thanksgiving social, and the annual Christmas celebration. The kindness of the trustees of Douglas Church is to be noted in providing accommodation for the students every Sunday morning, while devotional services in French have been held in the chapel of the Institute every Sunday evening, with most blessed results, not a few having been converted during the season.

The closing exercises were full of interest. Various recitations, with musical items, were well rendered. Undoubtedly the most interesting event of the evening was the Bible examination conducted by the head master. The astonishing proficiency which the pupils indicated in their Scripture and dogmatic knowledge was a surprise to all. After the distribution of the well-earned prizes, short and pithy speeches were made by most of the gentlemen named above, and also by Mrs. Dr. Williams, who admirably represented the Women's Missionary Society, which unites with the parent Missionary Society in the support of the Institute. All the speakers of the evening expressed their high appreciation of the work of the year, their confidence in the Institute under its present management, and in the future of French Evangelization. It is universally felt that at length the Methodist Church of Canada has made a noble step forward in its educational work among the French of this Province. The Institute commends itself to the sympathy and loyal support of the Methodism of the Dominion.—*Montreal Witness*.

EASTER CELEBRATIONS.

A LARGE company of ladies, representing the various Auxiliaries of the Women's Missionary Society, gathered in the beautiful flower-bedecked parlours of St. James' Methodist church, Montreal, on the afternoon of Tuesday, April 19th, the occasion being the annual Easter thankoffering meeting, which, from its inception, some years ago, has been regarded as a time of spiritual refreshing and blessing. Mrs. W. J. Hunter presided, and after devotional exercises, called for the offerings, which were presented in sealed envelopes, each inscribed with the name of the Auxiliary from which it came, and also a Scripture verse, expressive of thanksgiving, or with reference to the glad Easter time. The verses were read in turn by two members of St. James' Mission Circle, and seemed in their beautiful appropriateness to give the key to all that followed.

A concise report of the work of the Eastern Branch was given by Mrs. T. G. Williams, the able secretary, with some touching instances of self denial shown by members of our society in the outlying and country districts.

Mrs. Wm. Hall touched upon the spiritual aspect of the work of the French Institute, showing how already during this session a harvest of precious souls has resulted from the patient, prayerful sowing of the good seed.

One instance she gave us, which moved all hearts; that of a pupil who but recently brought into light from the dark superstition of the Romish Church, had been the means of leading to the Saviour one who had received Protestant training; others of the pupils manifesting a deep interest in all the religious meetings of the Institute, some of which are conducted by themselves.