

sphere of Christian service. During all these years he has commended himself to the Board and to the denomination by his earnest, wise, self-sacrificing leadership. He has been called to assume the Principalship of the new Baptist College to be founded in Manitoba. He has high qualifications for educational leadership, and we feel sure that in his new position our home work in the great North-West will go gloriously forward, and that the Foreign Mission work will always have in him one of its best friends and ablest advocates.

THE NEW SECRETARY.—It was a very fortunate thing that immediately on the resignation of Dr. McDiarmid, the Board was able to lay its hands upon a man, who seems to have been providentially fitted for just this work. Rev. J. G. Brown, B.A., B.Th., one of our ablest and most successful missionaries, had been obliged to return to Canada on account of Mrs. Brown's health, two or three years ago. Much against his inclination, he had reached the conclusion that it would be impracticable for him to return to his beloved work for some years at least. The past two years he has devoted to the completion of his theological course in McMaster University, which he accomplished with great honor in May. During the past year he has been serving as pastor of the little church at Orangeville. He was unanimously and heartily appointed to the Foreign Mission Secretaryship, and will enter upon his work with the confidence and sympathy of the entire denomination. Mr. Brown is an enthusiast for Foreign Missions, is thoroughly acquainted by actual experience with the missionary problems of the time, and is eloquent and magnetic. His qualifications are ideal. Let us all hold up his hands in the great work to which he has set himself, and do all we can to make his first year of service a magnificent success.

THE NEW TREASURER.—In order that Mr. Brown might be free to give his whole time to the forward movement, the Board decided not to ask him to assume the duties of Treasurer, which for economic reasons, Dr. McDiarmid has performed during the past few years. Rev. E. T. Fox, Treasurer of the Home Mission Board, was induced to accept the Foreign Mission Treasurership of the General Society as well. It goes without saying that these additional duties will be well performed.

THE FORWARD MOVEMENT.—After much discussion the Convention determined that the denomination should endeavor to raise during the next eighteen months \$160,000 for Home Missions, Foreign Missions, Grande Ligne Missions, and Manitoba, North-West, and British Columbia Missions. This means a considerable increase upon the rate of giving during the past few years; but it is thought that the general improvement in business, the stimulus given by the close of the old and the beginning of the new century, and the pressing needs of

the various departments of our denominational work fully justify an extraordinary effort at this time. Some brethren were in favor of attempting much larger things; but the opinion of the more conservative brethren prevailed. To raise the proposed amount will require the most strenuous and persistent effort on the part of all concerned. Our women's societies must be prepared to do their full share of the work. The Circles must endeavor to assist as far as may be possible in arousing interest in the forward movement in the churches with which they are connected. Let us begin at once to plan for larger things in our Master's service. Will not each reader of the LINK endeavor to increase her own contributions and to induce others to do likewise?

COLLECTING OUR FUNDS.

The editor has requested me to tell the readers of the LINK about the methods which our Circle has followed of collecting the offerings for missionary objects. Let me say at the beginning that methods will not make givers. Only the grace of God can do that; but in a large city church where the membership is scattered and the women burdened with home cares, some system of collecting the gifts from the loving givers must be adopted, or else the work is hindered.

By way of making our method clear, let me explain that the reception of members into the church occurs on the first Sunday of the month, and that the Mission Circle meets on the first Thursday of each month. In our Circle, in addition to the regular officers we have a Visitor, and a Treasurer who is Chairman of a Board of 22 collectors. Now our aim in the Circle is not primarily to secure money, but interest—for interest and love must precede gifts, and are the important elements in them. We believe moreover that the surest way to secure interest in the work of the Circle is to approach each woman when she first joins the church. Accordingly, directly after the reception of new members on the first Sunday of the month, the church Clerk makes out two address lists of lady members just received, and gives one to the Visitor of the Circle and the other to the Treasurer of the Circle. It is the business of the Visitor, or of one whom she may secure to assist her in this way, to call immediately upon the new member of the church and to invite her to the next Circle meeting, being on hand herself at that meeting to introduce her to the other members if she accepts the invitation. If she is a wise woman she also at her first call leaves behind her a copy of the LINK, and one of the *Baptist Visitor*, as a means of information and an incentive to a subscription later on.

The Treasurer, as Chairman of the Board of Collec-