

raised for Foreign Missions is \$1,393.17 from 96 Bands. This is \$317.02 less than last year. Can we call this a declension? Last year's extra sum was raised by special effort for a special purpose. This year we are not far from our usual position, just \$13.82 ahead of 1909. To Home Missions, 91 Bands gave \$781.30, a gain of \$55.36. Three life-membership certificates have been issued for Home Missions, and four for Foreign Missions.

How has this money been obtained? Collections are taken at all regular meetings. The "Headlight Band," of boys, at Stratford, has two "rubber captains," who scour the town periodically for discarded rubbers. This nets them a goodly sum. A few Bands have Cradle Roll or Baby Band members, whose mothers are glad to add baby's mite to the treasury. Some have honorary members at 25 cents a year. Others have regular fees, payable weekly or monthly. One young woman made over one hundred dust-caps, which were sold by the little girls of her Sunday School class. This netted \$22.00 for Band funds. Another Band has a sale of home-made baking. Mite-boxes are frequently used, and a mite-box opening is held with a good public program. Missionary entertainments awaken renewed interest in parents and friends. A sunshine social proved very successful. Many Bands never omit the annual thank-offering meeting.

But if the Bands were simply money-making institutions, we would long ago have thought our project a failure. This is only one section of the work. The boys and girls of to-day will control business enterprises and manage Canadian households to-morrow. Then the financial interest of our missionary work will depend upon them. The training in regular and systematic, purposeful giving now will mean much to the work at home and abroad, then. In our Bands they must learn, not only how to give, but why to give, and where to give.

"Facts are the fingers of God. To know the facts of modern missions is the necessary condition of intelligent interest. Knowledge does not always kindle zeal, but zeal is according to knowledge and will not exist without it. A fire may be fanned with wind, but it must be fed with fuel, and facts are the fuel of this sacred flame, to be

gathered, then kindled by God's Spirit, and then scattered as burning brands to be as live coals elsewhere. Such is the telling statement of the great missionary writer, Dr. A. T. Pierson. That is the great work of the Band leaders—to keep constantly, steadily, at this work of education. The field is wide; the material abundant, the missionary periodicals and works are reasonable in price. Who can complain of the paucity of articles for her Band programs? It takes skill to-day to choose from the much that which is best. It takes time and prayerful study to put the best and most instructive and most necessary subjects into a form that shall prove interesting to young people. Then the tendency is with us to do too much ourselves. Direct every program with this end in view, to make use of all the talents of others. Inspire in them the desire to read, to learn, and know something of these great world problems and world movements. One cannot be an intelligent reader of world news to-day without some knowledge of missions. Each Band member, each giver, each leader is a fraction of a mighty force, which is making the world more out of darkness into light, and bringing daybreak everywhere. We are not working alone in some secluded corner. We are working with a host; and the God of Hosts Himself is working with us, and in us, and through us for the accomplishing of His own great purposes.

In teaching, what shall we put first? What Jesus put first. Emphasize the foundation principles. Jesus bade us come to Him and there find life for ourselves. Then He bade us go and tell others everywhere, that all might know Him whom to know aright is life eternal. What first? A learned judge said: "A man's first duty to his country is the integrity of his own life." May each Band member be true—true to himself, true to his country, true to the world, because he is true to his God.

SARAH STUART BARBER.

Secretary for Bands.

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Brantford, Ont.

Miss Hatch would be glad to have her correspondents note that her address is now Brandon College, Brandon, Man.

Aylmer
Calton
Flanagan
Gloucester
Iona
Jaffa
Lakewood
Malahide
New River
Shedden
Spartan
St. Thomas
Collection

18

Director
Acton
Berlin
Berlin
Brampton
Cheltenham
Flamington
Fullerton
Galt
George
Guelph
Hesperia
Hillsdale
Nissouri
Orange
Shelburne
St. Mary
Stratford
Collection

16

Middleton
Dresden
Allan
Alvinston
Arkon
Brook
Brook
Calva
Court
Crest
Denfield
Forest
London

Old
Park