

Figures that Talk!

Statement showing approximately the Financial Strength of each Annual Conference, the amount raised for Missions, the amount necessary to reach the \$250,000 line, etc., etc.

IT is a common saying that "figures are dry," but, if the figures we present in this and succeeding numbers of the OUTLOOK are carefully studied, we venture to predict that they will be found to be anything but dry. To say the least, they are very suggestive, and afford material for serious reflection. This will not be quite so apparent in the first table, which deals only with Conferences, as it will be when we come down to details of Districts and Circuits; but even a comparison of Conferences serves to show what grand results might be attained if each Conference gave to Missions in proportion to its givings for other objects.

In preparing the following table the first thing necessary was a basis of computation, something that would show, at least approximately, the financial strength of each Conference. It was seen at once that a membership basis would not answer, because the worldly circumstances of our people do not bear any necessary relation to their numbers. After looking over the whole ground, it seemed that the closest approximation would be reached by ascertaining the aggregate of givings in each Conference for all Circuit and Connexional purposes, except Missions, especially if such aggregate did not vary largely from year to year. Let it be clearly understood that, in preparing these tables, there is no intention of levying an assessment for Missions or anything of that kind. The design is merely to show what is required if a proportionate amount of the \$250,000 is to be raised by each Conference, according to its estimated financial ability. We trust the following figures will be carefully pondered, as an introduction to other tables that will be given subsequently.

TABLE I.—Estimated Financial Ability of Conferences—Amount Raised for Missions—Amount Necessary to Reach \$250,000, etc., etc.

CONFERENCES.	1 Total Amount raised in each Con- ference in 1893-4 for all Circuit and Connexional purposes, except Missions, showing approximately the financial ability of the Conference.	2 Percentage of preceding total raised by each Conference.	3 Raised for Missions from subscriptions and collections and juvenile offerings, 1893-4.	4 Amount to be raised by each Conference in order to reach \$250,000 on basis of estimat- ed financial ability (see col. 1) Percentage same as in col. 2.	5 Proportionate increase necessary in each Confer- ence to reach the \$250,000 line.	6 Figures opposite each Conference show what would have been raised on \$250,000 line had each of the other Conferences given in the same proportion.
Toronto	\$329,402	15.7	\$35,665	\$39,250	\$3,585	\$227,165
London	234,614	11.2	17,531	28,000	10,469	156,527
Niagara	240,055	11.4	25,834	28,500	2,666	226,614
Guelph	228,879	10.9	19,285	27,250	7,965	175,318
Bay of Quinte	235,829	11.3	22,619	28,250	5,631	201,681
Montreal	360,776	17.2	37,956	43,000	5,044	221,964
Nova Scotia	108,878	5.2	12,213	13,000	787	234,865
New Brunswick and P. E. I.	109,634	5.3	7,566	13,250	5,684	142,756
Newfoundland	43,721	2.1	8,087	5,250	385,095
Manitoba and North-West	147,511	7.0	9,591	17,500	7,909	137,014
British Columbia	58,253	2.7	3,555	6,750	3,195	131,666
	\$2,097,552	100.0	\$199,902	\$250,000	\$52,935	

There is little in the foregoing table that calls for explanation, but, to prevent possible misapprehension, one or two Conferences may be cited in illustration. Thus, the Toronto Conference, in 1893-4, gave \$329,402 (column 1), or 15.7 per cent. (col. 2), of the \$2,097,552 (footing of col. 1) given by all the Conferences for all Circuit and Connexional purposes, except Missions. Now, if the Toronto Conference gave 15.7 per cent. of the \$250,000 asked for Missions, the amount would be \$39,250 (col. 4), or \$3,585 (col. 5) more than the same Conference gave in 1893-4 (col. 3). In like manner the Newfoundland Conference gave \$43,721, or 2.1 per cent. of the whole amount raised for all Circuit and Connexional purposes, except Missions. A similar percentage of the \$250,000 asked for Missions would be \$5,250, which is \$2,837 less than was actually raised by that Conference in 1893-4. Thus, it will be seen, if our basis of computation is approximately correct, that Newfoundland leads the Connexion in Missionary givings, having contributed not only her proportion of the *first* quarter of a million, but \$2,837, or more than half her share of the *second* quarter of a million, which we hope to see before we die.