

believe, the sojourn in Canada is likewise a distinct tonic for their physical nature. For the medical missionary it is now recommended that a post-graduate course during some months of his stay in the homeland is a necessity; that is to say, necessary as a preparation for his next term of service in China; for the ministerial missionary, contact with fellow-ministers in the homeland, listening to sermons and lectures in college or out of college, are also a distinct advantage by way of preparation for the next term of service; and so with every other class of missionary. Moreover, there is another side to the question. The good derived from the furlough is not altogether on the part of the missionary. By means of the deputation work, in which all returned missionaries are expected to engage for the major part of their time in Canada, a large number of congregations, Sunday Schools and Epworth Leagues, and all the picked workers attending summer schools, conventions and conferences, are brought into vivid relation with the work as carried on in West China. Furthermore, the General Board of Missions, until 1909, never had a report from West China, other than that derived from correspondence, except such as were brought by returned missionaries. Last year the report of the Rev. T. E. E. Shore brought the West China Mission, with all its problems, and with all its possibilities, before the Board as it had never before been brought. But up to this time the fact remains that the Board had depended to a considerable extent upon the reports of the returned missionaries. In these ways, then, I am convinced that the supposed evil of the furlough is more than counterbalanced by the good.

Missionaries on Furlough.

Mr. Mortimore went to China in January, 1902; Dr. Service in the autumn of the same year; I returned after first furlough in January, 1900. We three arrived in Canada in June or July, 1909, after our respective terms of seven or nine years' service. Mr. Morgan went to China in the autumn of 1906. He was obliged to return to Canada in June, 1909, on account of the serious illness of Mrs. Morgan. The latter is much improved in health, after undergoing a severe operation, and hopes are entertained that Mr. and Mrs. Morgan may be able to return to China with the other three families of us in October, 1910.

Those returning to China in October or November, 1909, after furlough were Rev. J. L. and Mrs. Stewart and Dr. and Mrs. James R. Cox.

Those expected from China on regular furlough in the summer of 1910 are Rev. G. E. Hartwell (whose wife and children have been in this country since December, 1907), Rev. J. Endicott and family and Rev. A. C. Hoffman and family.