

Annual Meeting of O.C.W.B.M.

The opening meeting of the O. C. W. B. M. was held June 4th, 4 p. m., in the S. S. building of the Western Congregational church, Spadina Avenue. It was opened with devotional exercises, conducted by Sister Jessie H. Brown, Cleveland, Ohio. Sister Malcolm read an address of welcome, and Sister Angle responded happily. Miss Agnew was appointed recording secretary, *pro tem*. After a few informal addresses, the meeting closed with prayer.

An adjourned meeting of the Board was immediately held, and the following committees appointed:—

Committee on Enrollment—Misses Leary, Culp, Forrester.

Committee on Nominations—Messdames D. W. Glendonan, O. Sinclair, Munro, Fleming, Angle, and Misses B. Sinclair, L. Black, M. A. Sinclair.

Committee on Future Work—the Board together with Messdames—Knowles, Bredenstul, MacDonnell, and Misses Parkinson, S. Thomson and Frame.

Committee on "Missionary Tidings"—Miss Leary.

Committee on Obituaries—Miss Agnew, Mrs. Gaff, Mrs. C. C. Pomoroy.

Committee on Resolutions—Messdames Bronenstul, Lediard, Misses M. A. Sinclair, M. Kilgour.

Meeting closed with prayer.

Friday afternoon, June 6th, an open meeting of the O.C.W.B.M. was held in Cecil Street church, the president in the chair. Opened with prayer.

The reports were then read. Mrs. McClurg, the corresponding secretary, showed the number of Auxiliaries to be now 23, with an aggregate membership of 400, as compared with the twelve women who banded together four years ago.

Treasurer's report shows for 1890 91 Balance from last year.....\$ 23 60 Received from Auxiliaries and individual brethren and sisters..... 479 81

Total.....\$ 503 41

Payments.

Paid Guelph church.....\$ 75 00 Paid Toronto, Denison Ave Furnishing Committee.... 100 00 Paid Minnedosa Missionaries 315 00 Paid sundries..... 8 01

Total.....\$ 493 01

Balance on hand....\$ 10 40

Assets.

Unpaid Pledges.....\$ 50 00 Cash balance in hands of Treasurer..... 10 40

Total.....\$ 60 40

Minnedosa Church Building Fund, total receipts during the year 1890 91.....\$ 150 50

CHILDREN'S MISSION BAND.

Total receipts during the year 1890-91—\$183.12

Mrs. Lediard, superintendent of children's work, reported 13 Mission Bands; membership, 350; amount of money raised, \$183.12; number of children who have come into the church this year from Bands, 16.

Sister Jessie H. Brown addressed the meeting. She enlarged upon the Christian's motive of missions, "The love of Christ constraineth us." Bro. Gaff made an appeal for funds to carry on the Women's Work. A collection was taken up which amounted to \$73.00. Bro. Gaff then returned thanks. The meeting then adjourned until 5 p.m., when the local Mission Band was taken charge of by Miss Leary. Mrs. Lediard, Miss Jessie H. Brown and Mrs. Knowles made short addresses to the children. Dismissed with singing and prayers.

The O.C.W.B.M. opened the meeting on Saturday, June 6, at 9.30 a.m.,

in the school-room of the Congregational church. Sister Knowles led in the devotional exercises. Minutes were read and adopted. A pleasant feature of the proceedings was the reading of a letter received by Mrs. Brown from Dr. J. K. Trout, encouraging with helpful words, and with a substantial proof of her good will, namely, a pair of elegant gold bracelets. The proceeds of the sale of these to be devoted to our work. A hearty vote of thanks was tendered Dr. Trout for her kindness.

The president addressed the meeting, earnestly pressing foreign missions upon their consideration.

Reports of committees then were read. Only one obituary reported, that of Sister Gray, of Lobo.

The Enrollment Committee reported 66 delegates and visitors representing 87 places.

The Committee on Nominations submitted the following names:—

President—Mrs. Malcolm, Toronto; 1st Vice-President—Mrs. Brown, Ridgetown; 2nd Vice-President—Mrs. Munro, Erin; Corresponding Secretary—Mrs. McClurg, Ivan; Assistant Corresponding Secretary—Miss M. A. Sinclair, Poplar Hill; Recording Secretary—Miss Annie Kilgour, Guelph; Treasurer—Miss Jenny Fleming, Kilsyth. Carried.

Report of Committee on Resolutions was adopted as read.

Whereas by God's mercy we have been permitted to meet again in convention as a band of Christian workers and feeling encouraged by our past success,

Resolved—That we consecrate ourselves anew to the Master's use, and endeavor during the coming year to do more and better work for Him, and carry with us to our homes and home-work the inspiration of this meeting.

Resolved—That seeing the great progress that has been made in the children's work during the year, this committee earnestly recommends that each Auxiliary should do its utmost to have a children's band in connection with its own work, however small and feeble the beginning may be.

Resolved—That we express to our dear sister, Jessie H. Brown, our warmest thanks and heartiest appreciation of the great service she has rendered us in being with us at this time. We feel that the influence of the earnest, loving and ennobling words of her address, together with the helpfulness of our personal intercourse with her, will tell on our work for the future.

Resolved—That we convey to our retiring president, Sister S. M. Brown, our loving appreciation of her services since our organization as a O. C. W. B. M., and while we regret that ill-health necessitates her withdrawal from the more prominent work, yet we rejoice to know we shall still have the benefit of her counsel and advice as our vice-president.

Resolved—That we tender the thanks of this convention to the Western Congregational church for their kindness in giving us the use of their S. S. room for our meetings.

Resolved—That we express to the sisters of the Cecil Street church, and other friends, our sincere thanks for their kind hospitality and courtesy to us during our sojourn in this beautiful city. Respectfully submitted,

Mrs. J. A. BRENENSTUL, Convener.

Report of Committee on Future Work:—

Your Committee on Future Work beg leave to report that, thanking our Heavenly Father for His manifest blessing on our efforts for the past year, and realizing His command to "go forward," we recommend:—

1st. That we plan to raise at least

\$600, independent of the children's work.

2nd. That we continue our help to Minnedosa to the amount of \$300, requesting our Treasurer to remit to them as soon as possible the \$90 in addition needed.

3rd. That we give \$50 to Owen Sound to be applied on building fund.

4th. That we give a similar sum to the Toronto sisters.

5th. That the time has come when we may reach out our hands to some of the 400,000,000 of our heathen sisters, and consequently that the Board be authorized by the sisters now in convention to arrange to send a lady medical missionary as soon as a suitable person can be found.

6th. That we recommend a general use of mite boxes in our children's bands and women's Auxiliaries, also a liberal use of missionary literature. Respectfully submitted,

Mrs. T. B. KNOWLES, Convener.

A special meeting was called Monday, June 8, to discuss methods of raising funds for foreign work. Personal pledges to the amount of \$185 were obtained. The ladies present undertaking to canvass their Auxiliaries for further personal pledges kindly report these lists to Mrs. McClurg, Ivan, as well as to Miss Fleming, Kilsyth. Moved that the field be divided into districts, and organizers of Auxiliaries appointed. Carried.

Mrs. Malcolm and Mrs. McCollough appointed delegates to the Missionary Convention in Allegheny in October, both ladies insisting on bearing their own expenses. Meeting closed with singing. "God be with us till we meet again." J. R. A.

Rec. Sec., *pro tem*.

Annual Report of the Ontario Christian Woman's Board of Missions

Dear Sisters in Convention,—It is an inspiring thought that all along, the kind hand of God hath led us, and that once a year we come together to exchange friendly greetings, to gain fresh zeal and enthusiasm for the great work in which we are engaged, and to devise plans and means by which we can carry it on with more wisdom and discretion. How quickly the days and years speed by! The goal will soon be reached. Can we come up laden with golden sheaves, and be happy in the kingdom celestial? The promise is to the faithful that they shall receive a crown of glory, and be forever in the presence of the Lord; this alone should bring joy to every heart. We come to thank God for His providential care through the past year, and confidently ask Him for guidance for the future.

Our work is growing somewhat. But four years ago about a dozen women met in the school-room of the church in Guelph and organized the O. C. W. B. M. Now about four hundred are earnestly laboring with us in this great work. This fact is enough to prove that many were only waiting for an opportunity. The interest taken in mission work by the children is startling when we find that only two years ago this work was established, and that over three hundred and fifty children are enlisted at present.

While we are gratified to find such strides made, yet it is only a trifle to what we might accomplish, if all would do their best. We hope to continue, and in a few more years, God helping us, be worthy the name of a Woman's Board of Missions. As you are aware, our effort has been directed toward Minnedosa for the last two years. As a result, the cause has been established, a house of worship built,

and the gospel is being preached regularly, and the fields are whitening unto the harvest. The church work is moving on nicely; there is a well-attended Sunday school, a Y.P.S.U.E., a prayer-meeting, and a O.W.B.M. The little church in Minnedosa is destined to be like a city set upon a hill giving forth her light, that many may believe and believing have life through His name. We can say more: it has two mission points in the country where Bro. Lister preaches, and some visible results of the work are expected in the near future. Would that every church in Canada had one or more mission points carefully nurtured, that fruit might be brought forth to the honor and glory of God; there is room for such work. It will be remembered that Ontario was asked for \$500, before they commenced to build, as a building fund. Of that sum \$326.50 has been paid, I will give a statement of liabilities and resources at present:—

Liabilities.

To hardware account.....\$96 00
June 19, to part Prin.
on mortgage..... 50 00
June 19, to interest
on mortgage ... 40 00

\$186 00

Resources.

To balance on hand \$ 1 60
" balance expected
from Ontario.... 174 50
" Manitoba subscribers..... 50 00

\$226 10

Balance.....\$10 10

You will see from this statement that there is \$50 part principle of mortgage, and \$40 interest on mortgage due June 19th, and we find that they have no money on hand to meet this. It would be becoming in us to help them out at this juncture, and send them \$90 if possible. That will leave only \$84.50 to be paid of the \$300 asked for.

A BRIEF REPORT OF THE AUXILIARIES.

Erin Centre.—This Auxiliary consists of twenty-five members at present, six sisters having left during the last year. Their meetings are well attended in summer, but not so well in winter. Their pledge of \$30 has been paid. They have sent quilts and several parcels of clothing to Bro. Crewson to be distributed among the needy in Muskoka.

Blenheim.—The society as usual is prompt in its undertakings, it being the first report of the year. Their pledge of \$20 has been duly paid; also O. C. W. B. M. day was observed and a collection of \$2 realized; they are hopeful and cheerful in the work. They are about to organize a Children's Band, which is their hope of the future.

Lobo.—At the beginning of the year we were moving on perceptibly, but there came a time when the work began to wane, and nothing of special interest can be related, save that a few met every month, and the rent paid in their dues. But now we have taken a new lease of life, and our meetings are developing a greater zeal, and our hope is burnished for the future. One death and some negligence have decreased the membership, which is now seventeen. We are glad to say that we have redeemed our obligation; \$35 has been sent the Provincial Treasurer, \$30 on pledge and \$5 for Minnedosa Building fund O. C. W. B. M. day was observed in a quiet way; \$1 was received as a collection. We will have a small balance in the treasury.

Owen Sound, which is quite fresh in our memories, where we so much enjoyed ourselves only twelve months ago, report just what we might expect of them, that the year's work is marked with earnestness and zeal in the Master's work. Their meetings are characterized by pure and elevating aspirations, which reach out beyond them-

selves, and are helpful wherever help is needed. The literary part of their programme must be interesting, for they discuss such practical subjects as "Progression in the Christian Life," "Trials and Joys of the Christian," etc. They have also supplied themselves with some good books and tracts, and through the instrumentality of some of the sisters nearly \$20 worth of books have been added to their Sunday school library. The attendance is good, and when members are absent the "look-up" committee goes to work and the missing ones brought back to a sense of their duty, their pledge of \$20 has been fulfilled. Three new members were added to their number.

Walkerton.—The membership roll is 24; the average attendance at the monthly meetings is 14. The interest in the meetings is still kept up; they have remitted \$25 to the treasurer, and hope to do as well, if not better, next year.

West Lorne.—The present membership is ten, one having moved to take membership in Redney, and one withdrawn on account of being unable to attend the meetings. They have raised during the year \$20.30, there being \$7.55 in the treasurer's hands last June. They have spent \$11 at home and have exceeded their pledge to the O.C.W.B.M. by \$1.25, making a total of \$16.25. They are also preparing a box of clothing for Muskoka. On the whole the work is very favorable.

Rodney continues in the work though not with the same zeal, as they have concluded to meet only quarterly for the next year. They have remitted \$4 more than their pledge which was \$12.

St. Thomas.—Present active members thirteen, honorary members seven; loss by removals two; withdrawn one; raised since June, 1890, \$40.50. They take nine copies of the *Tidings*. They had one public meeting, and two open Auxiliary meetings where brethren participated. They sent \$5 for Minnedosa Building Fund and \$6 (contents of the Auxiliary Birthday box) to Mrs. Lediard for children's work, and \$30 (their pledge) to the O. C. W. B. M. They also spent \$1.00 in tracts.

Selkirk.—This Auxiliary is about disbanded. For some reason they have not met for a long time, but yet the spark has not gone out; we will hope for better results next year. They remitted \$1.

Toronto, Denison Avenue.—This Auxiliary have proved themselves efficient workers notwithstanding their busy year. They have raised during the year \$63.96. Their pledge of \$25 has been paid—the balance they used at home.

West Toronto Junction.—They organized on the 27th May, 1890, with the proper staff of officers. A monthly fee of ten cents is paid by each member; their meetings proved profitable and interesting to all who attended. Present membership seventeen; last year they raised \$50.

Those two Auxiliaries with Bowmanville are to be commended for their liberality, having the additional expense of building their church houses last year.

Wainfleet reports favorably with their pledge of \$20 fulfilled, and rejoicing in the work.

Wentworth.—The present membership is twenty-six; four less than last year. Some new members gained, but removals lessened their number. The average attendance is eleven; their pledge of \$30.00 paid with a small balance on hand. They hoped to have raised considerably more, having contemplated a missionary entertainment; but owing to sickness their plans were thwarted.