

SEVENTH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE WOMAN'S BOARD OF MISSIONS.

Through the goodness and mercy of our Heavenly Father we are again permitted to meet together to review the work of the past year, and to discuss ways and means of extending the kingdom of Christ on earth. The work during the year has been in many respects very satisfactory. Several auxiliaries report an increase in numbers. Two have more than doubled their membership. One new auxiliary has been formed. To the friends of missions at home and abroad the year has been one calling for self-denial. To those who have so generously contributed to the work—the sisters of the Maritime Provinces, the Children's Mission Bands, the Sunday-schools, the churches and individuals—we feel that much of the success of our work is due.

O. C. W. B. M. Day was not generally observed by the churches. The majority seem to feel that there are too many special collections. It is not expected that the church give the entire collection on that day for this work, but only such amount as is collected in the envelopes provided for the purpose. This gives any who may desire to contribute an opportunity to do so.

Maritime Provinces.—Our work has been going on encouragingly during the past year. We have now eight auxiliaries in the following churches: In Nova Scotia—Halifax, Milton, Westport, Southville, Cornwallis and Kempt. In New Brunswick—St. John and Lord's Cove. In Prince Edward Island—Kildare. Besides these there are several churches which take a collection at stated times for this work. Among them are Montague, New Glasgow, and East Point, P. E. I. Shubenacadie, N. S., Le L. te, N. B. Since our last report we have had several new mission bands organized, and a superintendent appointed.

The children are very enthusiastic over their work, and we trust they are being trained for efficient work in later years. They have pledged themselves to support a little girl in Japan whom Sister Rioch has adopted. She is to be educated as a Bible-woman, and not only the little ones, but all, are deeply interested in her and are praying that she may yet lead many to the Saviour.

We want here to express our appreciation of our missionary, Sister Rioch, and her faithful work; also our gratitude for the many helpful letters and reports she is constantly sending to us. We know that in this way she is becoming more and more endeared to the hearts of our people in these provinces.

May the rich blessing of our Heavenly Father continue to rest upon her, and her work for Christ in that far-off land. Praying that your meeting may be one of pleasure and profit,

I am your sister in Christ,

MRS. J. S. FLAGLER.

Sec'y C. W. B. M., Mar. Prov.

The Treasurer reports receiving \$195.

The particular foreign work in which we as an organization are most interested is that in Ushigome. The reports sent from time to time are most encouraging. Some months ago, on account of lack of funds, the Foreign Christian Missionary Society found it impossible to send the necessary amount for the carrying on of the work. Your Board, feeling our responsibility in regard to this work, sent \$50 to be used in the charity school's.

The greatest need at present seems to be suitable places for carrying on the work of these charity schools—a prominent feature of the evangelistic work in Japan.

Tumbled down dwelling-houses are certainly not well adapted for good work.

Would not the erection of a small, perfectly plain building to be used as a chapel and charity-school be a good work for the Children's Mission Bands to undertake?

The following is the report from our Missionary there:

Tokio, Japan, April 16, 1891.

TO THE ONTARIO AND MARITIME PROVINCES CHRISTIAN WOMAN'S BOARD OF MISSIONS, GREETING:

Dear Sisters—One more year has rolled away and you have again met together to help each other with words of love and cheer, to look back on the work that has been done for Christ in the past, and thus encouraged to make greater efforts for the coming year to extend His kingdom and to hasten the time when the glad shouts of praise shall rise only to Him who liveth forever and ever, from every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation, when none shall say, "I know the Lord," for all shall know Him from the least unto the greatest. May God's blessing rest abundantly with you all, in what is said and done for His dear name's sake.

In giving you an account of the work of the past year, it would be impossible to give it otherwise than in connection with Miss Oldham's, as our work is so closely connected; therefore the following is not an account of my work, but of our work.

About the time that you were met together last June, we had the privilege of receiving six girls into our home.

This was no small care, for we knew little of the language, and less about the native food and clothing; however, after much waiting we succeeded in getting a suitable helper.

When school began in September, we, with the helper and another assistant, took the girls through the several branches of the ordinary Japanese public school, besides the regular Bible training.

In January we were called upon to transfer the girls, who, with removals and additions numbered nine, to Miss Wirick, so that we might have more time for the study of the language.

Since coming here, six scholarships for Japanese girls have been entrusted to us. May the Lord bless this His work, and may they always be in His keeping that they may be ready to tell their less fortunate sisters what great things He has done for them.

We have three charity-schools entrusted to our care. These are situated in the poorest part of the district around us. The buildings are not very suitable. We are hoping that money may be sent, that suitable ones may be erected. They, at present meet the demands of many who wish for an education, and are too poor to attend the government schools.

They also give us the opportunity of reaching the children—and what more important work could be done? Indeed it is conceded by all workers on the field to be the best way of leading these people to Christ. Through the children we reach the parents, not a few of whom have been led to know and accept Him as their Lord, through the little ones reciting at home what they have been taught in schools; and when they see us treating their little ones kindly they will often come in to listen at the meetings for grown people.

The school on Uri Cho was, when handed over to us last June, situated on the Goken Cho. There were one hundred pupils in attendance, taught by two teachers, and everything was in a most prosperous condition.

In a few months on account of persecution the attendance dropped to less than thirty. We were, at last, compelled to remove to Uri Cho in January, where we have fifty-five pupils enrolled, with a daily average attendance of forty.

The Sunday-school held here has an average attendance of thirty-five. In this place also our Evangelist has recently started a meeting for the parents on Saturday evening. This point is in every way encouraging, and we expect before long to have as large a number attending as on Goken Cho.

The school on Tana Machi was opened the latter end of April, and is taught by Miss Oldham's language teacher. This school is situated in a little valley, or hollow rather, where the most abject poverty exists and where the people, I venture to say, had never seen a missionary before, much less

FINANCIAL STATEMENT OF THE ONTARIO CHRISTIAN WOMAN'S BOARD OF MISSIONS FOR THE YEAR ENDING JUNE 6th, 1891.

RECEIPTS.	
Balance from last year (Foreign Mission Fund)	\$150 23
Interest	5 00
Received from the Children's Mission Bands of Ontario (Foreign Miss.)	\$150 00
" " " C. W. B. M. of the Maritime Provinces, "	195 00
" " " Sunday-Schools of Ontario, "	79 97
" " " Auxiliaries and individual contributions, "	227 45
" " " Sale of photographs, "	7 53

Amount collected during the year, " " 509 93

Total..... \$1,121 18

Balance from last year Home Missions	\$140 32
Received from the Auxiliaries for Home Missions	\$328 92
" " Church collections and individual contributions	41 64

Amount collected during the year for Home Missions..... 370 56

Total for Home Missions..... 510 88

Total receipts for Home and Foreign..... \$1,632 06

PAYMENTS.	
Miss Mary M. Rioch, Missionary to Japan (14 months) Salary	\$701 60
" " " support of Charity School, etc.	50 00
" " " Bank Commissions	2 11

Minneapolis Missionary (Salary account)..... \$145 52

Guelph Church, aid in support of minister..... 50 00

Printing, Postage, etc..... 14 00

Total payments..... \$909 52

Balance on hand—Foreign Missions..... \$367 47

Home Missions..... 301 36

Total..... \$668 83

ASSETS.	
Cash Balance in hands of Treasurer	\$668 83
Unpaid Pledges	105 00

Total..... \$773 83

CHILDREN'S WORK.

RECEIPTS.	
Balance from last year	\$189 30
Interest	75
Received from Mission Bands during the year	155 33

Total..... \$346 38

PAYMENTS.	
Paid O. C. W. B. M. for support of Miss Rioch, Missionary to Japan	\$150 00
Balance on hand.....	\$50 38

Kilsyth, June 6th, 1891.

JENNIE FLEMING, Treasurer.

heard the story of the cross. There was no school of any description in the vicinity, and the people welcomed with delight this opportunity of sending their children to learn how to read and write. There are fifty on roll, with an average daily attendance of forty-five. The Sunday-school at this point has an average attendance of eighty; sometimes there are as many as a hundred scholars. At the meeting for the parents as many as six attend, besides twenty-five or thirty children. At this meeting there are some enquirers, and we hope soon to reap some sheaves for the Master.

Our third school is situated on Matsugawa Cho. When first it came under our care, besides the day school and preaching one night a week, there was a night school. In September, on account of financial troubles, this school was to have been closed, but we managed to keep it open by dismissing the two teachers, closing up the night-school and meeting, and procured the services of a good Bible-woman, who took charge of the day-school.

This day-school, last June, had twenty-three in attendance. Now, thirty-four are enrolled with an average attendance of thirty-two. The Sunday-school here has always been prosperous. We seldom have less than sixty present, and generally seventy and over.

Until January last it was taught by the eldest girl in our home, but since then our Bible woman has it in charge. In all of these schools, as soon as a child is able he is taken away and sent to work to earn the family rice; so we are always seeing some leave and others taking their places. With the assistance of the Bible-woman we opened a woman's meeting one afternoon in the week. This is a most pleasing part of our work. Generally six, and often as many as eight women are present, besides a number of our grown girls and children.

They seem to listen attentively, and we are praying for them.

Last spring we started an English Bible-class at the request of some students who attend a large university not far from us. There are at present fourteen members, with an average attendance of seven.

Last January we transferred our Sunday evening meeting to another place. Last June a Sunday morning service was started for preaching and the breaking of bread. A small band of

believers with some few others met with us.

The attendance at the Sunday school in our house is very irregular. The priests, of whom there are dozens living within a stone's throw of us, induce the children, by telling all sorts of stories about us, not to come. However, at present there are from sixteen to twenty-three of the children who have been coming regularly for the past four or five months. A few of those who came last year are returning. Then of necessity we have our English pupils. At present they number three.

Since beginning work in Ushigome Ku, we have had the joy of seeing five believers buried with Christ in baptism. One of these has not proved faithful, but the others are all striving to walk in newness of life with Him whom they have accepted as their Master.

And lastly, we are working hard at the language, trying to break down the wall that stands between us and these people. God has greatly blessed us in all that we have attempted for Him. May your prayers never cease to go up for us that God will so fill us with zeal and love for His lost ones in Japan that we may never grow tired or weary till all have acknowledged Him.

With many wishes that this your convention may be filled with blessings for each and all, and with the prayer that you may not cease to remember me at the mercy seat, I am your loving fellow-worker in Christ.

MARY M. RIOCH.

The Home Mission work is not so encouraging. When the work of Minneapolis was undertaken it was with the expectation that it would in a short time become self-supporting. This hope has not been realized.

At our convention last year it was decided that the church at Minneapolis should pay off the mortgage on the church property within two years, and that your Board secure a preacher to labor with them for this year. They, however, made no effort to clear the debt. Bro. Brown left in September. Since that time they have received no assistance. In December last they asked us to give up all claim and allow the church to be held in trust for the congregation there by a Board of

Trustees. This was done. Enquiry was made recently as to condition of affairs now, but no reply has been received.

At other points in Manitoba there are prospects of a good work being done. Bros. Lister and Brown both report good congregations at a place about six miles from Minnedosa. There are a few families of Disciples living in or near Brandon.

To abandon the work in Manitoba seems folly, for everywhere it is agreed that it is easier to establish churches in a growing country where churches are scarce than where people have already found church homes. Surely there is some young man of zeal and consecration who would offer his services to labor in that country.

We have at present 23 auxiliaries with a membership of 396.

Aurora.—Organized, 1890. Now numbers 15, an increase of four over last year; average attendance, 7; contributed to the work during the past year, \$10; pledge \$10 for this year.

Bowmanville.—Organized, 1890. Present membership, 34, an increase of five during the year; contributed during year, May, '93-'94, \$33.80; pledge for next year, \$25. Our meetings are both interesting and profitable.

Blenheim.—Organized, Oct., 1887. Has 14 members; contributed \$10.20 to the work, year '93-'94; pledge \$10 for foreign missions for next year, and hope to do more.

Collingwood.—Organized, February, 1888. Present number of members, 19; average attendance, 9; contributed during the year, \$8.25; pledge \$5 for coming year.

Erin Village.—Organized, March, 1888. Present membership, 28; average attendance, 8; contributed to the work this year, \$25; pledge the same amount for the coming year.

Erin Centre (Hillsburg).—Organized as an auxiliary, July, 1889. Present membership, 23, an increase over last year of two; average attendance, 6, contributed to the work during the year, \$25.35; pledge for next year's work, \$25.

Everton.—Organized, Aug., 1888. Number of members at present, 25; average attendance, 8; contributed \$42.40 this year; pledge \$30 for coming year.

Guelph.—Organized, May, 1888. Present membership, 20; average attendance, 6; contributed \$22 for the work during year, May, '93-'94.

Galt.—Only four sisters here. Contributed \$5 for year, May, '93-'94. Hope to do the same next year.

Glencoe.—The sisters here have organized with a membership of 20; average attendance, 15; pledge \$5 to the work for the coming year.

Hamilton.—Organized, Oct., 1892, with eight members. Present membership, seventeen; average attendance, 10, contributed during past year \$16.60. We are unable to pledge more than our monthly dues, which amount to \$20.40, for the work next year. Our meetings are well attended and are bright and interesting.

International Bridge.—Organized, July, 1892. Present membership, 17; (This includes seven honorary members, who do not attend the meetings but who send in the monthly fee); average attendance, 61; contributed to the work during past year, \$5; pledge for the coming year, \$8. We would be glad to do more, but our home work is a struggle.

Lobo.—Organized, June, 1886. Present number of members, 18; average attendance, 4, contributed \$23 to the work for the past year. With God's