

The only way open, then, was to assume the responsibility of buying materials, and then disposing of the finished work in Canada.

If we can but keep the girls employed and sell the embroidery at prices that will cover the expense, our object is attained. Through the kindly interest of the friends at home, however, the work has been sold at prices which leave a fair profit to the Society. They have also sent enough orders for work to relieve us from any anxiety as to keeping up the class through the coming winter; also to warrant us in enlarging the cramped quarters by the addition of two rooms to the Kawakami building, giving us thus a preaching place well suited to the needs of the growing congregation, while providing suitable rooms for the night school and envelope work.

When the charge of this work first fell to me, on Miss Hargrave's leaving in the spring, and I realized how many hours of precious time it was going to consume, I was led to seriously question (as Miss Hargrave also had done) the right of devoting that amount of time to such seemingly non-missionary work. As I went more among the girls, however, and saw from what kind of lives this was helping to lift them, saw the change which it was making in their feelings toward Christianity, and their increasing interest in their Bible lessons, I felt that here was a grand opportunity for work, and though my part in it may be indirect, I am content to do it so long as I have faithful and consecrated Bible-women to do the direct evangelistic work in teaching the girls and visiting in the homes.

Recently when thinking of this matter it came to me in this light: Suppose we closed this embroidery department. I would then have at least an hour or two more time each day to devote to visiting at homes, but I must take my interpreter with me, for it will not do to use blundering Japanese when trying to make Christianity plain to darkened minds. I am really not using any more time if I give my hour or two to attending to the business part of the work, letter writing, etc., while my interpreter is free for the visiting and teaching those truths which have previously been taught to her. This has settled the question for my own peace of mind at least.