

A paper was then read by Miss Kennedy, Glanford—"How to make Auxiliary Meetings Interesting." Personal interest was a necessary qualification; come to the meetings promptly, thoughtfully, prayerfully; come with a word for missions and bring a friend with you. "The Reflex Influence of the W. M. S." was introduced by Mrs. Crawford. More prayer has been offered since the organization of this society than before, and the tendency is to make our women more Christ-like. Its work has been a bond to draw us closer together; it has led to more liberality and greater sympathy. The reflex influence is felt in our homes. The Bands give our young people work to do which leaves less time for questionable amusements. Mrs. Hardy, of Hamilton, gave a paper, "Heathen Women," contrasting our condition with that of heathen women, and reminding us of our exalted privileges and our responsibility.

Miss Lund, of Japan, was then introduced to the Convention. Mrs. Dr. Forbes, Caledonia, representative of the W. F. M. S. Presbyterian Church, was also introduced, and gave an interesting report of their society. Mrs. G. Jackson read "Unemployed Talent in the Church," in her own interesting style, and held the riveted attention of all present. The meeting then decided to hold an annual District Convention, time and place left to the District Organizer. Mrs. Kitchen, District Organizer, brought greetings from Simcoe District, wishing us success in our work. An invitation was given to the delegates, visitors, and friends to the lecture-room, where tea had been prepared by the ladies of the congregation. At 7.30 the chair was taken by the pastor, Rev. T. W. Jackson, who conducted the devotional exercises, assisted by Rev. Mr. Canning, Presbyterian minister. Mrs. G. Jackson again delighted the audience with a selection, "How the Church was Built at Keyhoe's Bar." Mrs. Jackson ranks high as an elocutionist and entertainer, and will compare most favorably with those who rank as professionals. After singing that grand old hymn, "From Greenland's Icy Mountains," Miss Lund was introduced and gave a most interesting and instructive address, and for three-quarters of an hour held the closest attention of the audience while reciting personal experiences of her life in Japan. Thus closed a most successful and profitable Convention.

MRS. DR. BURNS, Sec.

Social Programmes.

Paper read by MRS. BANNELL SAWYER, at Eastern Branch meeting, Winchester. Published by request of Branch.

IN the second article of our Constitution the first paragraph reads: "The object of this Society shall be to engage the efforts of Christian women in the evangelization of heathen women and children"; so that the primary object of our Society is to develop a missionary spirit. In order to do this we should enter every open door, we should grasp every opportunity to disseminate missionary intelligence. Someone has said, "If the interest truly Christian people take in missions is equal to their correct knowledge of them, then information is what is particularly needed to awaken missionary zeal."

Before we can engage the efforts of men and women in any kind of philanthropic work, it is first necessary to engage their interest. So then the programme at our socials should be of such a character as to arouse this interest. There lies within all our meetings, and especially our social gatherings, a shut casket filled with possibilities, and it is our privilege and should be our pleasure to open this casket, and bring its possibilities into living realities.

Instances have come to our knowledge where socials have been given by Auxiliaries which were prayerless, and which in no way, either by word or precept, gave intimation that they were under the auspices of the Woman's Missionary Society. Frivolous games were indulged in to the exclusion of all missionary prayer or missionary effort. And so the golden casket, inlaid with precious possibilities of awakening the interest and winning the heart-love of those who had not yet become enthused with the glorious thought of "the world for Christ," was not opened.

Someone has generously, and we believe truly, said that

"Evil is wrought by want of thought,
More than by want of heart."

Surely the Presidents of these Auxiliaries did not think of that high ideal, for which King David prayed, when he asked that "our daughters may be as corner-stones polished after the similitude of a palace." Now we know that the corner-stone is the foundation stone, so that the strength of the building depends upon the corner-stone; and if we as the mothers and daughters in Zion are to be as corner-stones, how necessary it is that we should be "an example of the believers, in word, in conversation, in love, in spirit, in faith, in purity."

With regard to amusements and games at our socials, if we do have them, let us not allow them to exclude all thought of the grand object for which we, as a Society, exist; but if we could utilize these as a means by which to induce the yet "uninterested" to come to our meetings, and then intermingle these amusements with thrilling, awakening bits of missionary intelligence, we certainly would look upon these games as a useful factor in view of the thought of "becoming all things to all men that we may by all means gain some." And as childhood must be passed through in order to attain manhood and strength, so we may use these childlike inducements as a step to bring us up to higher and better things. This loss, or rather putting away of childish things, must not be regretted, for we know that it is only through the loss and death of the lower that we can ever hope to reach the highest. And when we develop to full womanhood, and realize something of the glorious privilege and honor which has been conferred upon us, that we have been counted worthy to be co-workers in establishing the kingdom of God in the hearts of the mothers of the nations, we shall not then need outside inducements to interest us in mission work, but a strong moving power *within* will impel and constrain us to a life of loving service, in heralding to our heathen sisters, the good news that "unto *them* has been born a Saviour."

In times past the hermit or religious devotee shut himself away from all society and regarded everything secular, except particularized acts of devotion. But we as Christians of to-day should reverse this order and make *all* we do devotional acts. Everything we do should be an expression of our loyalty to our King, Christ Jesus. Our social Christianity is devotional, if characterized by an abiding sense of our Father's presence. And if, when preparing our programmes, we ever bear in mind that Jesus is to be one of the guests, we may rest assured that our audience will be lifted into a nobler and more Christ-like experience.

Truly, every meeting in connection with our Society should open and close with prayer. It is but a consistent act that, at a "woman's meeting," the voice of thanksgiving and supplication should be heard. For when we consider what a joyful song of emancipation it is our blessed privilege to sing, and which should rise from our hearts like incense, filling the land, we should never fail to thank that Saviour who, with "pierced hands," has lifted woman from depths of degradation and sorrow, and has placed her upon a "rock of hope."

"In the cross of Christ we glory,
Towering o'er the wrecks of time,
All that's bright in woman's story
Radiates from its form sublime."

So in our social programmes let devotional exercises lead the way for the after-thoughts. Then let us try to impress our hearers—those who are not yet members with us—that they are needed in this great work.

First, the Auxiliary of their Church needs their help, their encouragement, their influence.

Secondly, impress the thought that it is only woman's lips and woman's hands that can do the work of evangelization for heathen women. To-day there are two hundred millions of women and girls who, on account of caste seclusion, have never seen the sun rise or set, and who, unless Christian women bear to them the glad tidings of the Sun of Righteousness, must die in darkness and despair.

Thirdly, they are needed for the reflex influence for good which living for others has upon their own lives; for the heart that gives grows rich.

Fourth, the Lord Jesus hath need of them.

After trying to implant a deep-rooted thought in their hearts that they are needed, let our programmes be crowded with missionary information. It is impossible to have