

Foreign Missionary Society.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

(Continued.)

MRS. E. T. WILLIAMS: In addition to the work mentioned in my statistical report, I have held meetings for women at the South Gate Dispensary, going there as a rule twice a week. The lease of my chapel expired in December. The report, therefore, includes but eight months of the year. The helper employed was also in Miss Lyon's employ as day-school teacher, and received from her a partial salary. The number of homes visited refers to work in Nankin only, and does not include those visited during my itinerations. Some of these homes have been visited many times, others only once. When itinerating to places where we have no chapel, I am frequently invited into the homes while Mr. Williams visits the tea-houses. I also receive women on the boat and talk to them there. While the indifference with which the great majority of the women receive the gospel message is, to say the least, disheartening, we are on the other hand encouraged by the cordial welcome given us, and the readiness with which we are admitted into the homes of the rich and poor alike. There must be some "good ground" in a field so wide. We will sow the seed and trust in God for the harvest.

MRS. A. F. H. SAW: Owing to the hot weather coming on I was advised after the Conference last year not to return to Luh Hoh. In consequence of this I took up hospital work during May and June, looking a little after the women patients and preaching to the women on dispensary days. In September, after our house was repaired, I went back to Luh Hoh, where I have been doing some evangelistic work among the women, receiving and visiting, teaching a few and doing a little street preaching, which seems a splendid way to get people to listen who otherwise would not come to us. I have also done a little itinerating—in all 11 days. There has been decided progress in the friendliness and interest of the people, a lessening of prejudice and a better understanding of why we are living amongst them. I feel much encouraged. One woman has been baptized. The work has, of course, been hindered by not having two families, as I need to come away every time Mr. Saw leaves for itinerating, thus breaking up, as it were, what has been commenced. However, the Lord can overrule it all for good. I thank Him for a happy and blessed year, and pray His blessing may rest upon what has been done.

MRS. W. R. HUNT: After last convention I continued visiting the women in their homes, talking in the chapel, helping in the Sunday-school and making fresh acquaintances, all the while inviting them to the chapel, where we did our best to preach the gospel to them. At the end of May I paid my first visit to Chu Cheo, in company with my husband, staying there about three weeks, when it became so hot we were obliged to return to Nankin. During my stay in Chu Cheo numbers of women came to see me; they were very curious and asked peculiar questions, which by answering often opened up a way for telling of the Saviour who died to save them and of whom they had not heard. I was constantly asked why we came to China and left our friends behind, and when I told them it was because we pitied them, having heard how they worshiped idols and did not know of the one true God, it seemed strange to them, as they thought we came on business for our

country. After the summer months were through I went again to Chu Cheo and stayed two months in our thatched house there. The people seemed please to think I had come to stay for a time. The neighbors were very friendly, and would constantly come in, bringing their needle-work, and sit and talk with me. I distributed tracts at the farm houses. We spent four days in Yu Ho-tz and the Christians gave me a right good welcome. We returned for the Normal, then about to be held in Nankin, after having enjoyed a happy and I trust profitable time. I am looking forward with much hope to the time when we can live in Chu Cheo all the year round. At Chinese New Year I was kept busy entertaining and talking with the women visitors. We tried to interest them so as to make them wish to come again. I trust and hope that the work, though done in a feeble way, may in due time help to lead some souls to Jesus and thus bring glory and honor to our Master whom we serve.

MISS EMMA LYON: My principal work this year has been the study of the language, still I have tried to do what I could besides. Almost every afternoon I have gone out to visit among the women to tell them of Jesus. Last summer I taught in a day-school, and since February have had a class in Mr. Melga's school. I enjoy school work very much and hope by next year to be able to give a report of a girl's school. For the last few weeks I have been visiting, regularly, the female in-patients in the hospital. Hope the time spent has not been in vain.

Scandinavia.

DENMARK.—Dr. Holck being sick, O. C. Mikkelsen reports: Number one year ago, 147; total gain, 7; net gain, 2; present number, 149; children in Sunday-school, 120; raised for self-support, \$1200. We lost two by emigration and three by death. With this result, although it is a forward step, we are not satisfied. Still, we have done the best we could. Now M. J. Cramer has come home, and we intend to enlarge the work in the coming year. We have rented a mission-hall in Copenhagen, and expect to begin work about the middle of October.

NORWAY.—Members a year ago, 626; total gain, 151; net gain, 79; present number, 705; in Sunday-schools, 200; raised for self-support, \$1800. We have five church buildings in Norway and seventeen preaching stations. The four main points are: Frederickshald, with 202 members; Fredrickstad, with 77; Christiansa, 109; and Holingsbo, with 31.

We ask for the usual grant for the Scandinavian Mission. Dr. Holck thinks that if the Society would grant \$1000 more annually for the work in Norway, the money would accomplish more good in that field than in any other of which he has any knowledge. He has been in Norway in the past summer and says that if he had enough money he would take the whole land. He dare not say this of Denmark.

As to Sweden, we have nothing to report, as we have not yet found the right man for that field.

Turkey.

G. N. Shishmaman writes: Members last year, 342; added since, 35; net gain, 28; present number, 370; in Sunday-schools, 200; in day schools, 220; raised for self-support, \$60. With heartfelt gratitude to God, the Giver of every good and perfect gift, I present our fifteenth annual report. The work of the year began while the cholera was in our city and in several other cities in the country, and quarantine restrictions as well as political disturbances

K. D. C. is an excellent tonic.

made all manner of communication most difficult, as it is at the present time, as both of these causes still exist. Considering these hindrances, the progress of the work has been numerically larger than in any of the preceding years except one, and more general than ever before. The additions were in the following named cities and towns: Constantinople, 6; Bardiza, 2; Smyrna, 5; Dal Dag, 2; Djerah, 5; Sevsz, 3; Mirash, 5; Birjek, 4; Lejah, 3. The nearest of these places is one day's journey from Constantinople; the farthest is one month's journey. As we have no evangelists in these fields, and as the work is in the hands of the converts, its success almost all along the line is a proof that the whole country is white unto the harvest; but where are the reapers? No American has yet been sent to take the oversight of the work in Turkey, though we have been expecting one for years. The chapel in Marash is still closed. The recent earthquake caused considerable damage to both our house and chapel, as well as to our old school building. I trust that the Convention will leave no longer in suspense, but tell us once for all, Shall we go forward? If you say "Yes," we must have the men and the means to do so, and that very soon.

Garabed Kevorkian reports for Marivan, Chaharshambah, Kapon Kara-Hadji Kei, Aza Bagher, Aghjagoona, as follows: Stations, 6; number a year ago, 241; total gain, 6; net gain, 4; present number, 245; in day schools, 173; in Sunday-schools, 308; raised for self-support, \$8; number of helpers, 5. I rejoice to say that, through the mercy of our Heavenly Father, I have been preserved to preach the gospel among the millions of this land, for which I raise the Lord. I was compelled to spend the greater part of the year in Constantinople. Nevertheless, I went to see our brethren in Checharshambah, Kapon Kara and Aza Baghee. My visits have been a great encouragement both to the dear people and to myself. I left Constantinople on June 25th, and arrived here on the 5th of July. I was very glad to return to my work and to the people who had been prayerfully waiting for me for so long a time. Our two schools in Kapon Kara and in Aza Baghee are doing very well, and also our two schools in Marivan, one for boys, and one for girls. All our brethren and sisters at every station, are striving to keep themselves in the bond of union, and to live in peace. All the difficulties of the year, the cholera, earthquake and poverty, have not been able to discourage us in our work. We are rather encouraged, seeing that the hand of God is with us, and that we have the sympathy of our brethren and sisters in America. Truly the harvest is great, in this great missionary field, but the laborers are very few. Brethren, please send us more missionaries, and pray for us.

England.

The report from England is as follows:

LONDON.—Membership a year ago, 507; added since, 86; net gain, 50. Our tabernacle seats 1,250. On Sunday nights it is about half full. The property is worth \$35,000, and we owe on it \$10,000. We raised \$3,000 towards self-support. Of this \$1,200 was to pay off an old debt. We raised \$175 for missions. All the agencies of the church flourish. During the winter we held eight gospel meetings on Sunday night exclusive of our Tabernacle service. We are doing our best to be self-supporting, but when it is known that our congregation is so poor that \$600 a year of our collections is copper and that the majority of our members do not average an income of \$6 a

week, you will see it will only be by degrees we can be without your kind and most valued support.

HORNSEY.—Membership one year ago, 34; added since, 18; net gain, 15; membership now, 49. The seating capacity is 400; value of the same, \$4,500; debt, \$2,250; raised for self-support, \$590; raised for missions, \$25; in Sunday-school, 170. We have a Band of Hope, and in connection with the Sunday-school, a library. Hornsey is one of the rising North London suburbs, and as the church is paying for its property by monthly installments, we will own a fine corner property and be able to support ourselves. The membership is steadily increasing. Since the work was commenced, now over three years ago, a beautiful spirit of harmony has prevailed. The brotherhood is delightful, and there is a sure and certain prospect that, when this new suburb of London is built up, a great work will be done. The denominational forces are gathering and are looking on very coldly; but the Christian love inside is all the warmer for the wintry cold of sectarian without. For large numbers are here to wait for the development of the district which will now shortly proceed at a rapid rate.

SOUTHAMPTON.—Members last year, 100; added since, 24; net gain, 22. The building seats 1,000, and is worth \$27,500; the debt on it is \$4,250; in Sunday-school, 160; raised for self-support, \$1,190; for missions, \$325. The Band of Hope flourishes. The Endeavor Society numbers 43. In the Sunday-school library there are 500 volumes. The church has made fair progress this year. Since H. L. Gow has been here it has been much prospered. The church building is a good one, and is in the best location in Southampton for aggressive work. The town has taken on quite an American air since the American Line steamers have made it their English port of call. We look forward to a prosperous year.

TASSO TABERNACLE, LONDON.—Members last year, 106; added, 10; lost, 39; present number, 77. The losses are accounted for by removals, and having had to exclude a leading member, his family and friends left. The church is now at peace and hard at work. The building seats 300; is worth \$3000. The debt on it is \$1755. There are in the Sunday-school, 255. We raised last year \$450 for self-support and \$65 for missions.

BALHAM.—We have only just begun work here, Dr. Moore having conducted two services. The audiences have been fair in number and above the average in intelligence and attention. This is one of the attractive new suburbs of London, and we are hoping to see a great work done here. Dr. Moore is doing the preaching at present, and Frank Coop furnishing the money needed.

GLOUCESTER.—Members last year, 130; added since, 55; net gain, 30; present number, 165. Our chapel seats 450; is worth \$6750; the debt amounts to \$5000; raised for home work, \$750; for missions, \$42; in Sunday-school, 60. We have a flourishing Young People's Meeting and the best tract societies among our people in England. The Gloucester church, with the advantage of a permanent building, well situated and able to maintain its work in the midst of difficulties, has been successful in the past year. Actually in the two churches of Gloucester and Cheltenham eighty persons have been immersed, the majority of whom have joined the church, while others have moved to other towns; and a few are spreading our principles among other bodies. Our tent work was fairly successful, although the weather was against us, but we gathered in some permanent members to our con-

gregation, some of whom have since been immersed. In my short holiday I held some services at a village near Lngney, which resulted in three baptisms and several inquirers. Two ladies were immersed, both of whom will, I believe, prove intelligent workers. The Disciple continues to maintain its position, and we have issued a series of thirteen tracts, many thousands of which have been circulated. In Gloucester our tract district covers nearly 1500 houses, where loan tracts are regularly left, interspersed with our own tracts. The work is carried on by over 50 workers, and has led to special inquiry and some opposition. Where there is opposition I visit the cases, in order to deal with objections.

CHELTHENHAM.—Members last year, 60; added during the year, 12; lost, 12; raised for self-support, \$325; for missions, \$30; in Sunday-school, 50. We have a good tract society. We have been sowing the seed among the fashionable families of this aristocratic town. Two ladies, the wives of generals, have allowed us the use of their drawing-rooms for our meetings. We hope to report the harvest next year from this seed-sowing. The great drawbacks to our Cheltenham work are (a) the absence of a church building in what is a fashionable town, where all the churches and chapels are of a permanent and attractive character; and (b) the uncertainty which has prevailed for the last twelve months as to whether the Board would sustain a permanent supply for the double work at Gloucester and Cheltenham. There is a good opening in the town for our work; if it can be put upon a permanent basis. Taking the two churches together, our present membership is 255, and if we were placed in a position to secure a permanent building for Cheltenham and a regular and reliable supply, the work would progress well and reach other towns in Gloucestershire. It must be remembered that there is no misunderstanding of our position by the hearers at Gloucester and Cheltenham, and that the work is carried on in the face of steady and persistent opposition and misrepresentation, and that the workers have to endure considerable persecution in which no denomination is exposed in the city.

LIVERPOOL.—Members a year ago, 15; added since, 7; lost, 16; present number, 142; in Sunday-school, 170. The church property cost \$11,350; the debt on it amounts to \$6950; the seating capacity is 600. We raised during the year for our own work, \$800; for missions, \$35.

BIRKENHEAD.—J. J. Haley reports: On the whole the year has been fairly a prosperous one. Membership reported last year, 259; additions during the year, 30; 25 by baptism, 5 by letter, and 4 from the Baptists; losses, 10; present membership, 279. Money raised for self-support, church, \$227.16; Sunday-school, £70.18.1; for missions, £15; total, £313.14.1; in American money, \$1528. This has been the hardest year financially the church has ever experienced. Great business depression has prevailed, and many of our people have been out of work and unable to contribute. Notwithstanding this fact, we have raised more money this year than last, which speaks well for the liberality of the church and its friends. Financial depression in England hinders religious work among the poor in every direction. The Sunday-evening audiences have been well maintained, and the Sunday morning meetings and communion services have been the largest in the history of the church. The S. S. numbers 400, with 21 teachers, and is in a flourishing condition. A tract society has been organized, which has done much faithful work in distributing tracts and advertising the meetings. We have a good Y. F. S. C. F., which has done and is doing an excellent work among the young. The outlook for future work is very hopeful if a good man can be found to take up the work at once. The church is looking forward to the appointment of my successor, and there is a strong feeling that someone should be secured at the earliest possible date.

K. D. C. is a flesh producer.