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Advertisements under this head two cents a word.

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MISSIONARY EFFORT.

Quarterly Meeting of the London District W. M. M. S.

Reports of Auxiliaries and Circles—Addresses by Active Members.

The quarterly meeting and London District Convention of the Women's Missionary Society of the Methodist Church in Canada, was held yesterday afternoon in the Queen's Avenue Methodist Church, a large number of the members of auxiliaries and circles in the city and surrounding country being present. Mrs. Fowler presided, having with her on the platform, Vice-Presidents Mrs. (Dr.) Eccles and Mrs. (Rev.) Geo. Boyd, and Mrs. E. A. Hamilton, secretary. The president opened the proceedings with a few remarks of welcome, followed by the reading of reports from several auxiliaries and mission circles.

The Dundas Street Center Methodist Church Auxiliary report showed an increase of eight members, with a present membership of 58, including six life members. The receipts for the quarter had been $41 60.

The London West Auxiliary reported a membership of 24. A sewing circle had been organized in connection with the society, and many useful articles had been made, the sale of which had increased the funds materially. Feeling reference was made to the death of Sisters Impitt and McPherson.

The Queen's Avenue Mission Circle had between 35 and 60 members. The Earnest Workers had disbanded during the year and joined the circle. The report of the auxiliary in connection with the same church, stated 38 to be the average attendance, with a constantly growing membership. During the year $35 had been raised from fees, and $80 from gifts, $60 of which came from Mrs. (Dr.) Eccles for the support of a Bible woman in Japan.

The Grove Church Auxiliary reported a membership of 14, with receipts of $45. The mission band of the same church had 30 members.

The Arva Auxiliary has been just organized, but is on the high road to success. It has at present 12 members. Littlewood claims 21 members on the roll, while Lambeth, another newly organized auxiliary, is in a flourishing condition with 20.

South London Auxiliary report showed 58 members with receipts for the quarter amounting to $67 80, of which $24 55 had been raised by a concert at Mrs. Rowell's.

Wellington Street Church Auxiliary had succeeded in getting an increased membership during the quarter. The mite boxes had been found a fruitful source of income, and $60 22 had been sent to the branch treasurer as last year's harvest.

The Dundas Street Center Mission Circle reported an income of $156 74 for the year, of which $52 24 had been handed to the auxiliary. Another third of the amount was sent to Eby's tabernacle in Japan, and a portion, if not all, of the remainder forwarded to a young Japanese in the States, to be applied towards his education. A gathering of the circle had decided in favor of affiliation with the Women's Missionary Society.

The South London Mission Circle attested to a membership of 50, and was in a thriving condition.

Miss Griffith brought the report reading to a pleasant conclusion by singing a solo in her sweet alto.

Mrs. McMechan next addressed the gathering, dealing with the principles and operations of mission work. They had 4,000 members of the Women's Mission Society in the London district, and out of that they had enlisted 400 young ladies in the work. The necessity of organizing where a sufficient number of ladies could be found, was impressed by the speaker. Prayer was affirmed to be a chief factor in the work, and the formation of prayer circles urged.

Mrs. E. A. Hamilton read an extract disserting on the methods of making the missionary meeting of a more attractive nature. It recommended among other things punctuality in the beginning of meeting, the succeeding business to be similarly characterized; the making of the devotional exercises something more than a mere formality; the reading of the minutes to be rendered interesting by a little tact on the part of the secretary; distinctness of articulation on the part of the speakers; a division of the reading of the treasurer's and corresponding secretary's reports; a cordial recognition of new members; and a judicious amount of entertainment, though not partaking of the nature of a concert company.

Mrs. Dickson was the next speaker and gave an interesting resume of the mission work, together with statistical references to the character of the field. The operations in Japan, British Columbia and Quebec were touched upon, and the fruits of mission labor in those spheres shown to be in a healthy condition. Professor Max Muller, said the speaker, had divided religion into several classes, and had declared that those not engaged in mission work were dying and the others living. In the latter there were three religions—Mohammedanism, Buddhism and Christianity. In the city of New York there were 15,000 Buddhists among the refined and educated classes, many of the conversions having been wrought by their missionaries there. In Paris there were 30,000 adherents of that religion—native French people and of the enlightened class. Although the number of Protestants in the world had been computed at over 100,000,000 the figures had been arrived at through a process of estimation by nations, professedly Protestant, but the actual number of communicants had been calculated at 38,000,000, of whom 4,000,000 were women. Yet there were 30,000,000 of Moslem women in harems, who could only be reached by their own sex, and there were 300,000,000 women whose only hope was that in some future state they might be born men. While in this country there was one minister for every 800 souls, in heathen lands there was one missionary for every 400,000 souls. Twenty years ago there was not a single woman missionary; now there are 2,400. The Moravian Church set an example in their missionary zeal. There were about 25,000 members, but they raised $300,000 a year for mission work—an average of $12 per member per annum. It was understood that the wealth of the Christian people of the United States increased every year $500,000,000, and still they wanted $1,000,000 for mission work, while in this country $250,000 was desired. In conclusion Mrs. Dickson pointed out the alarmingly enormous number of unsaved heathens, and strongly pleaded for renewed efforts in the cause of missionary work.

It was decided to hold the next quarterly meeting in March at the Askin Street Methodist Church, South London. Singing and prayer brought the convention to a close.

Mr. J. W. Fetherston kindly presided at the organ.

Teeth extracted without pain. Consciousness retained during the entire operation. Parents should pay strict attention to children's teeth from the age of three years. O. H. ZIEGLER, Dentist, 192 Dundas street. ywt

MUNICIPAL REFORM.

The People Will Have a Chance to Express Their Views.

Action of the Board of Trade in Favor of a New Division of Wards.

The special meeting of the Board of Trade called yesterday afternoon to discuss the propriety of the reduction of the number of wards in the city to three, was well attended. Among those present were President T. H. Marsh, Mayor Taylor, W. M. Gartshore, Col. Lewis, W. T. Strong, John Bland, J. S. Pearce, J. W. Little, E. Parnell, W. J. Reid, J. M. Lawrason, E. A. Cleghorn, A. E. Pavey, J. D. Clarke, T. S. Hobbs, A. M. Smart and Secretary John A. Nelles.

Mr. W. J. Little as one of the members signing the requisition, was asked to state the object of calling the meeting "I think, Mr. President" he said, "that it was the intention of the members signing the requisition to petition the City Council to give the ratepayers of the city an opportunity of saying by ballot whether the wards of the city should be reduced or not. The members did not wish to be arbitrary or force anything upon the Council, but the citizens generally have signified a desire for a change."

Mr. John Marshall held that as the Council had power to remodel the wards of the city, the object of the great majority of citizens would in this way be secured without any special act of parliament. "I believe" he said "a reduction of the number would be advisable, and it can be gained in this way more easily than in any other. The only question before us is whether we shall ask the Council to submit the question to the people or not."

Mayor Taylor followed Mr. Marshall. He had no doubt, he said, but that the Council would bow to the will of the people. "There is at present, I think, nothing to compel them to reduce the number of aldermen; but if the wards are reduced it will no doubt follow that the number of men at the Board will be reduced as well. Each ward should have a business center as well as a suburban part, and in this way many of the objections to the scheme would be done away with, and I think that it would prove satisfactory."

Mr. E. Parnell placed himself on record "I am," he said, "in favor of having the matter go to the people, as everything should when the interests of the public are at stake."

Major Gartshore contended that the old division of wards should be wiped out. It was the only way, he said, that the present evils could be overcome and ward-grabbing done away with.

Col. Lewis said he did not see that the change would be beneficial to the city. "I think," he said, "there would be as much back-scratching with nine men as with eighteen."

Mr. W. J. Reid—There would not be so many backs, would there, Colonel?

When the laughter following this sally had subsided the colonel admitted that perhaps there would not. "My experience," he said, continuing, "has been that the aldermen look out for the full amount of the ward appropriation whether the ward needs the expenditure or not. I think the Board should take an interest in all matters of public moment, but I don't know whether the Board is justified in interfering in this matter at all. If there was a hope that it would be adopted it would perhaps be all right, but I have my doubts as to the benefits of the scheme. At the present time I cannot see that there will be an improvement in any reduction."

Mr. John Marshall—Do you not think there was an improvement when the former reduction took place?

Col. Lewis—Yes, I think there was; but I do not see that the same result would follow a second reduction.

Mr. W. J. Reid brought the discussion to a close by moving the following motion:

That a petition be circulated among the citizens for signatures and presented to the mayor and the aldermen of the city of London, respectfully requesting that in order to ascertain the wishes of the citizens the following question be submitted at the coming municipal election: Shall the wards of the city be reduced to three?

The motion was seconded by Mr. John Bland, and on being put to the meeting was carried unanimously. The president was authorized to see that it was properly circulated without delay in order that it can come before the Council at the next meeting. The Board then adjourned.

SUPPER, MUSIC AND SPEECHES

Mark the Opening of the St. James' Church New Lecture Hall.

The formal opening of the new lecture room of St. James' Presbyterian Church was celebrated last evening by the members of the congregation and their friends, the hall being first made acquainted with the public as a supper room. It is a natty little structure adjoining the church. 24x45 feet, and costing about $1,000. Refreshments of the choicest nature were served in abundance by the young ladies and were not the less appreciated on that account. Subsequently the gathering adjourned to the church, the seating capacity of which was severely taxed. Music and speech-making followed.

Rev. M. P. Talling, the pastor, presided and briefly expressed his gratitude to those who had so liberally aided in contributions to the new structure.

Rev. J. Allister Murray was in the best of humor and succeeded in bringing his hearers to the same state. He congratulated the members of St. James upon the completion of their handsome addition to the church building, and also complimented the pastor on the signs of progression.

Rev. A. C. Courtice made "Parental Responsibility" his theme. He spoke on some of the causes of juvenile depravity, in which he classed the danger of street education for the children; the imperfections of parents themselves, the necessity of a happy medium between severe and lax discipline on the part of the parent; the cause of the liquor traffic, and the influences of parental example. In conclusion he detailed some of the methods in training, by which a child's nature might develop into a godly life.

Rev. Geo. Boyd was glad to see that there was life in St. James' Church; it showed the congregation were not stick-in-the-muds. (Laughter.) The reverend gentleman waxed merry on the architecture of the church, the style of which even the pastor, with his massive forehead, had been unable to inform him. (Laughter.)

Rev. W. S. Ball, of Vanneck, made a humorous appeal for a liberal collection.

Rev. W. J. Clark concluded the speech-making by disclaiming any intention of keeping his hearers from going to bed at reasonable hours and therefore would be brief. He congratulated pastor and people on the occasion.

In the interval of speech-making solos were rendered by Misses Hiscott and Raymond and Mr. Frank Soper; a duet by Mrs. Colwell and Mr. W. Crone, and well-rendered selections by the choir. Mr. Charles Wheeler, organist of St. Andrew's Church, was the efficient accompanist.