

ed very grateful thanks from Mr. and Mrs. Burman, who were then in charge. Later on, after the school was taken over by the government, we made the bold venture of supporting our own Lady Missionary. We collected \$100 for salary, besides numerous smaller sums for passage, outfit, etc., and we were fortunate in finding a very suitable young woman, Miss Wooster, to go out from Winnipeg. She spent a year with Bishop and Mrs. Young, and proved most acceptable and worthy to become the wife of a devoted missionary, Rev. Mr. White, whom she is now assisting in his work at Lesser Slave Lake. All this time we had only one branch for all the City of Winnipeg. This we were very conservative about, and very loath to break up. We worked together so happily that we could not make up our minds to part company. For this we were found great fault with by two Diocesan officers from the East, who visited the Northwest one summer. They said we could never expect to grow until we broke up into parochial branches; that we ought to make up bales together, and relinquish those sent hitherto from the East. This seemed hard, but I believe it was wholesome for us. Though we did not immediately take action upon their advice, still it simmered in our minds; and we talked it over periodically, and all the while we were ripening for it. At last, during the General Synod last fall and the most opportune visit of Miss Montizambert, Provincial Corresponding Secretary (to whom we cannot be grateful enough for her kindly interest and help), with fear and trembling we took the step. I won't say it was in the dark, but it was in faith, and how abundantly we have been blessed our reports of to-day will show. Almost every city parish has now two active, earnest branches, a senior and a junior, manned by capable, self-denying officers. Bales are being made up constantly and sent off to meet requests; funds are voluntarily forthcoming for any special need that appeals to our sympathies: supplies and groceries are contributed and packed up; willing collectors for the Home Mission Fund are found, and a bond of union is being welded month by month between our W. A. and the country clergy that nothing can ever sever. One of our missionaries said to me the other day that he could not begin to tell me the lessons he was learning of the reality of faith, just believing that their needs would be supplied, and so they were. Ought we not to feel honored that God has used us a little as humble instruments in strengthening the faith of such men as these.

The country parishes are one by one affiliating with us, and though obliged to work for the immediate and pressing needs of their own missions, still they use our missionary prayers, pay their affiliation fees, and in many cases reach out towards their poorer brothers and sisters in more remote regions.

Our union meeting that we were so unwilling to break up continues as our monthly Diocesan Board meeting. We see familiar faces there, and from month to month welcome new ones. We feel that the interest in this work is growing and increasing. It is not a cause for self-glorification. Let us shun that insidious thought. Rather let us cultivate a spirit of humility, and though we can thank God for His blessing in the past, we must all acknowledge how far short we fall

of what we might do. What infinite possibilities lie before us, and how short the time may be ere one and another of us is called to her account, or before the trumpet shall sound, and we shall all gather around the great white throne.

Some I know are here to-day seeking information with a view to establishing branches in their parishes; others are longing for fresh enthusiasm in work already going on. May none go away disappointed. May each be able to say that it has been good to be here, and return to their homes refreshed and heartened by the kindly sympathy shown them by the women of the W. A.

In organizing and carrying on your meetings be very careful to do everything in a business-like way. It is fatal to the success of a meeting to allow side conversations. Let anyone who has anything to say, stand and address the chair. Do no business of importance without a vote, and make no change, except by another vote. See that all minutes are carefully kept, and read, and approved, and signed. Have all funds pass through the treasurer's hands; then you can expect from her a full and clear report. Prepare a small agenda, or programme, for each meeting, following as closely as you can the order of business laid down in the Constitution. It will be easy to prepare an annual report if these simple rules are followed.

Some country branches say, What can we do for missions? First of all, you can pray as individuals and unitedly. Then we would strongly urge you at your meetings to read some missionary information. You may say this is not always easy to get, especially of an interesting nature. I would, therefore, take this opportunity of pressing upon you the great value and usefulness of the W. A. Leaflet published in Toronto. It is cheap, only 15c. a year. It is concise. It is living, current news; not a record of work done long ago, but of what is actually being done now. Extracts from letters of missionaries in all parts of the world are given, besides a monthly record of the work of each Diocese in Eastern Canada. Would that every member of the W. A. became a subscriber to it. But if you think that impossible, could not each branch take at least one copy, and have it read at the meetings? It would pay for itself a thousand times. When you read, then you are interested, and ways and means to work will soon follow. The more a missionary spirit grows within you, the more you will uphold the hands of your clergyman in his arduous and often discouraging work, and the more your hearts will go out in loving sympathy towards those in greater need than yourselves. Perhaps you could work up a missionary meeting in your locality, and, if you desired it, a delegation from the centre might be invited to go and speak to you. In many ways you would find your society would become a living force for

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