

ANNUAL MEETING W.F.M.S.

The thirty-second annual meeting of the W. F. M. S. (Western Division), will be held in Westminster church, Toronto, on May 5, 6 and 7.

The opening session on Tuesday afternoon will begin with devotional exercises and Tuesday evening will be one of the regular sessions for the delegates and members of the W. F. M. S. Part of the time will be devoted to conference on the Society's work, followed by a talk by Dr. Chone Oliver on the work in India.

The usual public meeting will be held on Wednesday, when addresses will be given by Rev. Clarence McKinnon, of Winnipeg; Rev. Wm. Gauld, of Formosa, and Rev. S. B. Rohold, the recently appointed missionary to the Jews in Toronto. Wednesday and Thursday will be devoted to the regular work of the Society, and a number of the missionaries on furlough will take part.

Delegates should purchase first class, full fare, one way tickets and secure standard certificate. If there are 300 in attendance delegates east of Port Arthur may purchase tickets any time between April 30 and May 6, inclusive, and the return certificate will be honored in Toronto until May 11.

Delegates west of Port Arthur to Moosejaw may purchase tickets from April 30 to May 3. West of Moosejaw to Coleman and Laggan, April 23 to May 2. Kootenay to Pacific Coast, April 29 and 30 to May 1. All certificates for return will be honored up to June 4, and continuous passage must be made in either direction. For one way lake trip an additional charge of \$8.50 will be made for meals and berth. The extra charge for lake trip both ways is \$17.

THE W.H.M.S. BOARD.

At the meeting of the Board in Westminster church, last week, the Conveners of the various committees reported their plans of work. They are getting the work in the several departments well in hand, and the prospects of a fruitful year are bright.

Miss Macdonald, convener of the Finance Committee, gave an interesting report, which showed that all matters relating to finance are in wise and capable hands. They passed, with the Board's approval, another \$250 for Mr. Bodrug's church in Winnipeg.

The convener of the Publication Committee also gave her report. They have an editor and business manager, and hope to have a good supply of interesting literature.

The convener of the Organization Committee reported four new auxiliaries. Five new life members were also reported.

Mrs. Anderson, convener of the Supply Committee, has allocated to the different presbyteries and auxiliaries their work, and said that the committee were sending out a number of comfort bags which were needed immediately.

The letters read by Mrs. Kipp are always interesting; some from the mission fields, some from the nurses in the different hospitals, and some from the auxiliaries. One auxiliary sent five dollars from their "memorial fund." In that auxiliary, when one of the members dies, a special collection is taken up, and, instead of sending flowers, it is sent to the Board, to go to some needy work in which they were interested, as a memorial of the one who had passed away.

Norman A. McEachren, who has just returned from Scotland, conducted the anniversary services of St. David's Church, St. Clair avenue, last Sunday.

BRITISH AND FOREIGN.

The Possilpark United Free Church, Glasgow, will henceforth be known as the Henry Drummond Memorial United Free Church.

The curse of Brazil lies in the great illiteracy of its men and women. According to the official government figures the illiteracy is 80 per cent.

Professor Marcus Dods, D.D., has withdrawn his resignation of the Chair of New Testament Exegesis in New College, Edinburgh. This is most reassuring news, and will be accepted as a welcome sign of returning strength.

The adherents of the United Free Church in the Highlands are, of course, enthusiastic supporters of the new buildings scheme. In Dingwall on Sunday they proved the sincerity of their attachment by contributing a collection of more than £1,000 in aid of the fund.

To Dr. Oswald Dykes has fallen the distinction of being appointed the first Cunningham Lecturer since the allocation of the lectureship to the United Free Church by Lord Elgin's Commission. Dr. Dykes, since his retirement from the Principalship of Westminster College, Cambridge, has resided in Edinburgh, the scene of his labors as colleague of Dr. Candlish. His Cunningham Lectures will be delivered in the spring or autumn of 1909. The subject will be "The Christian Doctrine of Creation and Providence."

The death is intimated of a venerable Irish minister, whose life was given to the service of the Free Church of Scotland. The Rev. John White was born at Lisburn in the year 1816, and was for a time English master in Foyle College, Londonderry. Studying in Edinburgh for the ministry, he threw in his lot with the Church of the Disruption, and was ordained in 1845 to the charge of the Free Church, Carluke, which, when he began his work there, numbered eight souls. His congregation is now the largest in the United Free Church Presbytery of Lanark.

Medical authorities have come to the conclusion that a disease which has long puzzled them is due to the prevalence of the "kissing habit." The fact was mentioned by Dr. W. Rushton in a lecture delivered under the auspices of the British Health Society. The jaw is at first affected by the disease—known to scientists as "Pyorrhea alveolaris"—a loosening of the teeth follows, and finally, although they may be perfectly sound, they fall out one by one. A victim is not, it appears, likely to recognize the malady in its insipient stage, and outwardly there is no sign to betray its presence.

A RAILROAD MAN'S PRAYER.

The following is a text of a "railroad man's prayer" posted in the fireman's side of a switch engine in the Northern Pacific yards in Spokane:

"Now that I have flagged Thee, lift up my feet from the rough road of life and plant them safely on the deck of the train of Salvation. Let me use the safety lamp of prudence, make all the couplings with the link of love, and let my hand lamp be the Bible, and keep all switches closed that lead off the main line into the sidings with blind ends. Have every semaphore-block along the line show the white light of hope that I may make the run of life without stopping. Give me the Ten Commandments as a working card, and when I have finished the run on scheduled time and pulled into the terminal may Thou, Superintendent of the Universe, say: 'Well done, good and faithful servant; come into the general office to sign the pay roll and receive your check for eternal happiness.'"

SPARKS FROM OTHER ANVILS.

Herald and Presbyterian—No one may estimate the results which may come from the conversion of one soul. It will take all eternity to disclose the good that will follow. No wonder that there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner that repents. But if there is joy over one, there must be more over one hundred. Let us seek the one, but let us not stop with the one.

Philadelphia Westminster—Those ritualists who imagine that ritualism is Rome only betray their ignorance as to what Rome is. Rome centres in the Pope. Forms and ceremonies, however Romanesque, have no standing with the Apostolic See. The Thames and the Tiber have their own respective sources, and no power on earth can force them through the same channel.

Lutheran Observer—And so, at its very core, the gospel is power—the power of a new life, the life of faith, the life of Christ in our mortal flesh overcoming the law of sin and death. For the application of this power to us the forms of religion have been ordained. For this cause they exist and to this end they are adjusted. No higher reason could be given why they should be valued and used.

Presbyterian Witness—The old Orthodox Evangelical doctrine is as good to day as when it was taught by the Apostle Paul. The teachings of the Shorter Catechism are as Biblical as they were when set in order by the men of Westminster Assembly. And on the other hand the "Council of Trent" with its dogmas is as objectionable as it was when Spaniards and Italians compacted it together. No lapse of years can improve its religion or its philosophy or its politics.

HOW IT WARMS.

"But, doctor, I must have some kind of stimulant!" cried the invalid earnestly; "I am cold and it warms me."

"Precisely," came the doctor's crusty answer. "See here, this stick is cold"—beside the hearth and tossing it into the fire; "now it is warm; but is the stick benefited?"

The sick man watched; the wood first sent out little puffs of smoke, and then it burst into flame, and he replied, "Of course not, it is burning itself."

"And so are you when you warm yourself with alcohol; you are literally burning up the delicate tissues of your stomach and brain."—Youth's Companion.

Let me truly feel that in myself I am nothing, and at once through every inlet of my soul God comes in and is everything to me. And as soon as I feel this, the almightiness of God pours through my spirit like a stream, and I can do all things through him that strengthens me.—William Mountford.

On earth our best music is dissonant, for our instrument is sadly out of tune. To die is to be set in tune to God's eternal keynote—love. It is to come into harmony with one's self, and therefore with God; it is to come into harmony with God and therefore with one's self.

At a congregational meeting of St. Paul's Church, Smith's Falls, held on the evening of Tuesday, April 21, the salary of the pastor, Rev. E. W. Mackay, M.A., was increased by \$200 per annum. Authority was given the Board of Managers to have the schoolroom enlarged for Sunday school purposes; and with the assistance of the Ladies' Aid Society, to have the interior of the church renovated. St. Paul's is enjoying a high measure of prosperity.