

membership is 2,000. The income was \$3,738, being an increase of \$303. The Mission Bands raised \$1,268.

The Eastern Branch reported, by Mrs. T. G. Williams, 64 Auxiliaries, an increase of 9; members, 1,439, an increase of 641; life-members, 54, an increase of 12; amount raised, \$4,034, an increase of \$867, of which \$3,807 was sent to the General Treasurer.

New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island Branch, reported by Miss Palmer, showed 60 Auxiliaries, an increase of 9; 2,228 members, an increase of 376; 35 Mission Bands, an increase of 12. The amount sent to the General Treasurer was \$3,838, being an increase of \$683.

After hearing these reports the Board sang the Doxology, and a prayer of thanksgiving was offered by Mrs. Carman.

#### MISSION REPORTS.

The reading of missionary reports was the next order of business. At the different Japanese schools where the missionary work is being carried on the principals and teachers had been sorely tried during the year; difficulties and perplexities had fallen across their pathways, but, trusting in His strength, they felt certain of victory. It had been a good year at Tokyo School, where Mrs. Isabella S. Blackmore is principal. The attendance had ranged from 85 to 110, and the Christian girls had grown in grace and in love to God and their fellow-beings. At the end of June only ten of their boarders did not attend class-meeting, and five of those were very small girls, and three others had only been in the school a few days.

Kofu School was reported to be one of the few places in Japan that had not been affected by the general reaction against woman's education. Indeed, the past year's work had been most encouraging in every respect. The school had grown not only in numbers but in the confidence and favor of the people.

A decrease of seven in the attendance at the Shizuoka School was reported. The report of the evangelistic work showed that the number of women engaged in active work, or in one of their schools preparing for future work, was fourteen. All of these but two had taught in the Sabbath-school and seven of them were class-leaders.

Communications were received from Japan relative to the formation of a Woman's Missionary Conference, to include native workers, and a plan was submitted for the establishment of a Bible school, or training classes, both of which were approved by the Board.

#### THE FRENCH WORK.

Two schools in Montreal have been carried on during the year, and two dissentient schools in the country have been aided by a grant. The school in the Salle Evangelique, Delisle Street, has been taught by Miss Jackson, who has given great satisfaction to the committee by her earnest, faithful work. There were 109 names on the roll during the past year; some only attended a few days. Part of the time the attendance was seventy, but the great amount of sickness prevailing during the winter reduced the average attendance to forty-five. Miss Jackson has been re-engaged for this year, and commenced with sixty-three names on the roll. In connection with this part of the work Miss Anderson has been engaged as Bible-woman. From nine till twelve o'clock Miss Anderson has assisted Miss Jackson in the school by taking charge of the youngest pupils. Her afternoons and Saturdays have been spent in visiting from house to house, and, as opportunity offered, reading the Bible, praying, or giving tracts to those she met.

In the east end of the city a smaller school has been taught by Miss Maynard. There were forty names on the roll with an average attendance of nineteen. Miss Runnels, who has been educated in our school at Actonvale and sub-

sequently in the French Institute, is in charge of the school this year. She reports an attendance of thirty scholars. Mrs. Lamontagne is our Bible-woman in the east end. She visits daily among the French in this part of the city, has held mothers' meetings and in many ways tried to reach those who knew not the truth.

The school at St. Theodore is a small dissentient school, assisted by our Society. Miss Berloz taught last year. Rev. Dr. Williams and Mr. Pinel visited the school and were much pleased with the result of their examination.

A grant of \$50 has also been made towards the support of a dissentient school at St. Jovite, through the urgent recommendation of Rev. Dr. Williams, and we believe the money is well applied.

How far the seed thus sown has brought forth fruit we cannot tell. We believe our teachers and Bible-women have been faithful workers, and rest in the promise that such work will be blessed.

The report of the work being done at the Chinese Girls' Home in Victoria was gratifying beyond measure. They had had charge of seventeen young girls during the past year, and during that time five of these had been married to Christian Chinamen of that city. At the present time they had eight young girls and a baby boy five months old.

#### THE INDIAN WORK.

The past year in the McDougall Orphanage and Industrial School has been one of peculiar experience in the history of the school owing to death, disease, and desertion. They had opened their new home, and the number of pupils ran up from nine to forty-two. They expected to enlarge their staff from three to five by the aid of the Board and also of the Government. They still had a debt of \$2,814.36.

During the afternoon the Revs. Dr. Potts and Dr. Sutherland, who had been appointed a delegation from the General Board, visited the meeting and addressed the delegates.

#### EVENING SESSION.

At the evening session the delegates and their friends were splendidly entertained by the ladies of Elm Street Church. An elaborate tea had been prepared in the parlors of the church and the visiting delegates soon felt quite at home with the sociable Methodist women of Toronto. Every person present seemed to thoroughly enjoy the evening. After tea Rev. J. E. Starr, the genial pastor of Elm Street, took the chair and called upon Mrs. Starr to deliver an address of welcome. She did so in her usually happy and characteristic manner, and was replied to by Mrs. J. D. Chipman, of St. Stephen, N.B. Mrs. Strachan gave a statement of the year's work by the Society, and Mrs. W. E. Ross, of Montreal, delivered an interesting and eloquent address on "China." Mrs. McMechan, of London, also spoke to the gathering.

Greetings were received during the evening from sister Societies, the Baptists, represented by Mrs. Humphreys, McAll Mission by Miss Inglis, and the Presbyterians by Mrs. McMurrich. A letter conveying greetings to the convention was read from the Woman's Christian Temperance Union.

#### FRIDAY'S SESSION

opened at 10 a.m. President in the chair. Devotional exercises conducted by Mrs. (Dr.) Burns, St. Thomas, and Mrs. (Rev.) Russ, Brantford. Minutes read and approved.

A report touching on the work being done at Port Simpson Home was submitted to the meeting for their approval, which was granted, the estimates for the coming year, however, being referred to the Committee on Appropriations.

Some time ago the British Columbia Conference, together with the other Conferences of the Church, east and west,