

## N. B. AND P. E. I. BRANCH.

Will Band members kindly bear in mind that all the Literature of the N. B. and P. E. I. Branch, including 'Light Bearers' Cards' is in the hands of Miss Carrie B. Jordan, Public Library, St John, North? I mention this simply as a matter of economy to our society.

When you send to me for these things two postage stamps are required when one would do.

I would advise all who have not a list of our literature to send a two cent stamp to Miss Jordan and get one. It will suggest where you can get something to read at your regular meetings through the winter.

A few bands have intimated a change in the names of their Cor. Secy., but I fear there have been many changes of which I have not heard. Please send the name of your present Cor. Secy. on a postal card.

Let me draw you two pictures. The first is the image of a lady with care upon her brow and pen behind her ear. The fifteenth of each month, with beseeching eyes, and out stretched hand her face is turned toward Hampton. At the place first named figure No. 2 (also a female) may be seen, any time between the 1st and 15th of each month anxiously looking toward the N. B. and P. E. I. Bands. Do you earnestly ask "What are they looking for? We answer: reports from the mission bands. Will band Sec'y's please address them to,

Mrs. S. HOWARD,  
Band Sec'y  
Hampton, N. B.

### Foreign Correspondence.

The climate in Shidzuoka at this time, is very delightful. You may judge of it when I tell that on December 9th we took the girls to spend their holiday in a lovely orange grove, where the luscious fruit was dropping round us everywhere. However when you will be enjoying your pleasant spring, our turn will come for uncomfortable outdoor and indoor weather. Even now, although it is very warm in the sun, we have to wear thick clothes in the house, which is old and draughty, and here you know, heating houses is not an advanced science and art as with us at home.

Perhaps it will be as interesting as anything if I try to give you a brief outline of my duties in Shidzuoka. I live at a girls' school of which

Miss Robertson of St. John is principal, while I have charge of the Evangelistic work in that town and in other outlying districts.

My programme for the day is about as follows: at six, the bell for rising; at seven, breakfast; then I teach one hour in the school, and after that I devote the time until dinner to study and preparation for my meetings. Three days in the week I study with a teacher for three hours; on the other days I study but one hour, as then I go off somewhere by train to hold meetings. These railway trips occur about sixteen times in a month. I am accompanied by one or both of the Japanese helpers and they are indeed most valuable assistants, one is a graduate of the Tokio school, the other expects to return to Tokio next year to fit herself more thoroughly for her work.

We usually travel third class on these journeys. This is not very pleasant, for the cars are crowded and everybody smokes, however it is cheaper and also it gives a better opportunity of coming in contact with the class of people we are anxious to reach.

A funny thing happened to me one day on the train which may amuse you. A woman got into the car with a two year old boy on her back.

The child had never seen a foreigner before and was awfully afraid of me and begged his mother to take him out, the mother soothed him and told him to look at my hat and tell her what he thought of it. He said "dami desu" which means, "it is a useless thing."

Another day when I was walking along a strange street, a Japanese dog saw me. He, like the child, had never seen a foreigner before and you saw such a scared looking dog before in your life. It is very curious to observe the enmity between the Japanese and English dogs. The former are always the aggressors and bite and torment our dogs, but will at once slink away at sight of Miss Robertson or myself.

When we reach the place at which the meeting is to be held we try to induce the children to come in by singing for them and promising to tell them stories and teach them to sing. We get the women too and talk to them and give them tracts, cards, and small books. They crowd round us in surprising numbers, and eagerly take the books, and seem to like the stories and music. We can only sow the seed, water it with our prayers and trust that it may bring forth fruit.

(Concluded next month)