

# Canadian Missionary Link.

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## THE SOCIETY'S CONSTITUTION

(Continued)

In the May "Link" were discussed the conditions of membership in the Women's Foreign Missionary Society of Ontario West. To know these is essential to intelligent membership and just as essential is it to know the object which the Society has set before it, and how it proposes to accomplish that object.

The Constitution read as follows:—"The main object of this Society shall be the evangelization of the women and children of heathendom by (a) aid to lady missionaries and other special laborers; (b) the employment of native agencies for this work; (c) provision of suitable means for work. This object it shall seek to accomplish through 'the Foreign Mission Board of the Baptist Convention of Ontario and Quebec,' to which it shall be auxiliary."

That is to say, the Society and the Circles auxiliary to the Society seek first of all to do work among the women and children, by means of teaching, preaching, visiting and healing. Such work as the girls' boarding schools, the village schools and the Timpany Memorial School, comes under the heading of the evangelization of the children. Such activities as Zenana visiting, training of and service by the Biblewomen, touring and medical attendance form part of our attempt to evangelize the women. Our constitution does not say, however, that we can undertake no other work but that directly relating to women and children. It says simply, 'The main object shall be, &c.' If special needs or unusual circumstan-

ces lead the Board to make a grant towards other work, they are not necessarily violating their rules in doing so.

Again, it will be noticed that what has always been our field of work, India, is not mentioned in this Article II. of the Constitution. It is simply 'the women and children of heathendom.' That leaves us a wide field, but it is limited by another sentence 'This object it shall seek to accomplish through the Foreign Mission Board of the Baptist Convention of Ontario and Quebec.' Our General Board does its work in India and in South America and therefore these are also our possible fields of labor. We in Ontario West, have entered only India so far, but South America may be possible some time in the future.

The means by which we propose to accomplish our object are stated so simply that they need very little comment. We propose to send out and maintain lady missionaries, to employ native agencies, such as Biblewomen, preachers and teachers, and to provide suitable means of work, which includes the building of school-houses, dormitories, missionary homes, &c.

There is one other statement in Article II., that needs emphasizing and that is the last one, which states that our Society is auxiliary to the General Board. This General Board is elected by the churches through their representatives at Convention, and is directly responsible to the churches. It is the only body directly authorized by the