

Notice to Auxiliaries in Toronto Conference Branch.

THE Executive of the Board of Managers having requested the Auxiliaries to hold an Easter Thank-offering service, we hope every Auxiliary in this Branch will make a special effort to have this the brightest and best meeting of the year. Let our love and gratitude to our risen Lord lead us to present an offering as worthy as possible of the occasion we celebrate, which means to us redeeming love, eternal life, everlasting joy. Our Thank-offering last year amounted to over \$500. Can we not double it this year? "Then the people rejoiced, . . . because with perfect heart they offered willingly to the Lord."

M. B. WILLMOTT, *Pres.*

A Model Auxiliary.

MRS. LYDIA BOWENNAN.

(A paper read at the Bay of Quinte Branch meeting.

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AN Auxiliary of the Woman's Missionary Society, as defined in the constitution, is "an association of women banded together, whose object is to aid the Woman's Missionary Society of the Methodist Church in its work of engaging the efforts of Christian women in the evangelizing of heathen women and children; to assist in sustaining female missionaries and teachers, or other special laborers in foreign or home fields, and to raise funds for the work of this Society."

An Auxiliary, like all organized societies, consists of its officers and members, and in considering what would be required to constitute a model Auxiliary we will look at the subject from these two points: (1) What qualifications are necessary in the officers to bring it up to the standard of a model, and (2) what is requisite in the members?

Upon the president, as the chief and controlling officer of the society, rests a great responsibility, which she ought to feel; but how? Not as a burden, which she must carry in her own strength, but as something laid upon her by her loving Heavenly Father, who is ever standing ready and willing to give unto her wisdom to perform the duties of her office. No person can be a successful presiding officer of any society without good command of language, and acquaintance with business forms and parliamentary rules of order and debate. They should be prompt and firm in deciding and enforcing rules of order, and able to command their own temper and feelings. They must also understand and be in thorough sympathy with the aims and workings of the society.

A woman cannot be an efficient president of an Auxiliary without being energetic, systematic and possessing the power to govern. Governing power is the capacity to call into action and render effective the latent powers of the different members of the Auxiliary. System must characterize all government, human and Divine. Energy is the magic wand to which all obstacles yield. System has the work completely planned and thoroughly organized. Energy is the power that inspires its movements.

The power to govern by winning the respect, confidence and love of those over whom you preside is to govern through the highest and most ennobling of motives—"We love God because He first loved us."

And lastly, to attain to the highest measure of success, the president must be a woman devoted to God and the cause of missions; a woman who fully believes that as truly unto her as unto the disciples of old was the commission given: "Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature." A woman whose own soul is so filled with love to God and man, that she counts it her highest privilege to, in any way, extend her Master's kingdom, and bring others into the enjoyment of the great love which permeates her own being.

Although the responsibility of the other officers is not so great as that of the president, there cannot exist a model Auxiliary without each officer faithfully fulfilling the duties of her office.

The vice-president should be ready to take the chair in the absence of the president, and in every way possible assist her in the work of the Auxiliary.

The secretary's minutes should be a clear and concise record of the proceedings of the last meeting, such as would give to those who were not present a knowledge of what took place, but she should avoid enlarging for the purpose of giving her own views.

The treasurer should be accurate in keeping the accounts, and ready with her report at each meeting. She should not only be able to give the sum received since last meeting, but also what has been realized since the first of the year, so as to keep constantly before the members the state of the finances.

The corresponding secretary should also be prompt in the discharge of her duties, and in giving any item that may come into her hands which would prove inspiring to the work.

Every Auxiliary should have a programme committee, upon whom devolves the responsibility of providing the literary and musical part of the monthly meetings. This committee should meet early each month to arrange their programme for the next month, so as to give the busy wives and mothers, of whom our Auxiliaries are mostly composed, sufficient time to prepare the work assigned them. By just as much as any officer proves inefficient or fails to do her very best, by just so much does she detract from the efficiency of the Auxiliary.

Having spoken of the duties of the officers, I will now consider the responsibility of the individual members. No matter how well qualified and devoted the officers of an Auxiliary may be, unless each member feels she has some part in making it a success it will never be a model Auxiliary. The day is past when a Christian woman can truthfully say she cannot do anything. So many avenues for work have been opened up that the woman with only one talent can use it for the glory of God. If she cannot publicly speak, or sing, or pray, she can distribute literature or, like Andrew of old, invite some disinterested friend to the meetings. No woman should think when she has paid her fee that her duty is done. Her presence and her prayers are needed, and she needs the information and inspiration she ought to receive there to keep her own heart in touch with the work. If we are to have a model Auxiliary the members must become acquainted with the workers and their work. Without food the body dies, so without a knowledge of the work being done and the persons doing it we cannot pray for them or sympathize with them as we should. Then, we must have a consecrated membership, willing, not only to do what they can to assist the officers, but willing also to bear when opinions are conflicting that God's work be not hindered. There is one individual, no Auxiliary requires, and that is a faultfinder. Little brains will make a grumbler, and yet one grumbler can destroy the work of many earnest members.

The meetings of the Auxiliary should not be entirely given up to business, with devotional exercises to open and close. Let the business be done certainly, but by all means make the meetings interesting by diffusing information about the work. This can be done in various ways: by reading letters from those in the field; by having members prepare and read papers on some department of the work; by having each member give some item of missionary news found during the month, or by normal class work.

Good, hearty singing is very essential to an interesting meeting; an occasional solo or duet by those gifted in song is also an attraction. These and other ways which fertile minds may suggest, ought to sustain the interest of the most indifferent.

As women, we have no scruples about entering this work, for did not the Master at the sepulchre commission Mary to tell His disciples of the resurrection?

Woman owes more than man to Christianity. When we remember that in all heathen countries woman is unwelcome as a babe, untaught as a child, enslaved as a wife, despised in widowhood and considered unworthy of immortality, and then think of our own rights in the home, in the Church, in society, and, when necessary, defended and protected by the laws of the land, we ask ourselves, What