

Toronto. At the same time, a proposal was made by the Women's Foreign Mission Board of Manitoba, to undertake the support of a lady missionary, as regards salary and munshi, if this society would assume the expenses connected with outfit and travelling. On these conditions Miss Priest was appointed to the work.

She is one who has long cherished a desire to go to the foreign field, but, being providentially prevented from doing so by the pressure of home cares, she has devoted herself to Christian work at home, in which she has proved herself well fitted for the wider sphere to which she is now called. Miss Priest left Toronto with the missionary party sent out by the General Board, on Tuesday, September 26th.

At the meeting of February 24th, a letter was received from Miss May McDonald, tendering her resignation as a missionary elect of this Board.

At the meeting of April 14, word was received that Miss Hatch had set out on her homeward journey, it having been considered wise by the missionary party in India, on account of the state of her health, and for other reasons, that she should return to Canada for a season of rest this year. Miss Hatch arrived safely towards the end of May, and during the last few months, by her presence amongst us, has been giving valuable assistance to the missionary cause.

A kind offer was received from an anonymous gentleman friend, for the Board to order mite-boxes at his expense. This offer was gratefully taken advantage of, 5000 boxes being ordered and advertised to be procured at the Book-room, or from Miss Stark, President of the Bureau of Missionary Information.

Through the Rev. O. C. S. Wallace, an unknown friend expressed to the Board a willingness to contribute \$200.00 towards the \$500.00 required for providing a missionary boat, for Miss Stovel, of Akidu, on condition that the balance should be raised by our women as an extra effort. The offer was gratefully accepted by the Board, and the necessary \$300.00 has since been collected and paid over.

The following have been added to the list of life-members during the year:—Mrs. Wm. Davies, Jr., Toronto; Mrs. Alexander Nelles, Boston; Mrs. Cooper, Toronto; Mrs. Maria E. Bell, Grimsby; Miss Anna Moyle, Brantford, five in all.

Respectfully submitted,

ELLEN DAVIES, Rec. Sec'y

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY'S REPORT.

The will of God our Saviour is that *all* men shall "be saved and come to a knowledge of the truth," "for there is one God and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus; who gave himself a ransom for all."

To accomplish this salvation the Creator of the universe laid aside His glory and suffered the death of the cross. To lift up fallen man God himself became man. To give to those who sit in darkness a knowledge of Him who is the Light of the world, Jesus our Lord and Master, our Life and Light, has commissioned us to preach the Gospel in all the world, to every creature—has said, "As Thou hast sent me into the world, even so have I sent them into the world," and has promised His continual presence with us as we fulfil this commission.

What part have we as Baptist women taken in carrying out this last command of our ascended Lord? The record of the past year will tell; while many Circles and

dividuals have done nobly, others have done nothing. Some Circles have more than doubled their gifts to Foreign Missions, but alas there are many that have fallen far behind last year's offerings, and ten Circles which reported last year have given nothing this year! Surely the love of Christ must be almost dead in the hearts of those who can do nothing to brighten the lives of the thousands of Telugu women who have no Christ—no light, no gladness.

The appropriations made by the Board at its annual meeting were \$700 less than the income of the previous year. This was done in the hope that the society might be able this year to send out and support another missionary in India.

The past has been the most anxious year in regard to funds that the Board has ever experienced—never before has the treasury been so empty, never have the officers been in such perplexity.

There has been, we regret to say, retrograde movement in the work here, for the past two years; and the receipts for this year are behind those of last year (the boat money being *extra* money).

We fear that our young friends in the Bands are losing sight of India's children and students, for the income from them is more than \$150 short of last year.

The returns from the Associations show 208 Circles, of which only 206 have reported to the Treasurer. Of these only 79 have come up to the standard of *one dollar a year to Foreign Missions*, seven have given \$2 and over per contributor, three have given \$3 and over, one has given \$5 per contributor, but as this Circle only reports *two* contributors and 200 women in the church, it is not a fair estimate.

Ninety-three Circles have increased their offerings to Foreign Missions, sixteen have given the same as last year, and 67 have given less, and others have reported too late.

There are a great many women in most of the churches who do not give through the Circle. Cobourg, Burks Falls, Eglinton and Blytheswood, are the only Circles that report every woman in the church as contributing—several others come very near the mark. It is pleasing to note that most of these are in country places, where the population is scattered and the collecting much more difficult.

A number of new Circles have been organized this year.

From the January Conference held in Cocanada a request came for at least three more ladies to be sent out this year, and also for \$500 to build a boat for the lady or ladies on the Akidu field.

About the same time Miss Ellen Priest and Miss Anna Murray, of Toronto, offered themselves for missionary work in India, and it became known to certain members of the Board that Miss Katie McLaurin was very desirous of going out under the Canadian Society, if it were possible to send her. A meeting of the Executive was called on the day set apart for prayer for Foreign Missions. The Treasurer reported the money coming in very slowly and the treasury very low.

What was to be done? Here were the three ladies asked for, and no prospect of being able to send out more than one, if even that could be done. Prayer after prayer arose from troubled hearts to Him who has said, "Call upon me in the day of trouble; I will deliver thee and thou shalt glorify me." The need was made known through an appeal sent to every Circle.

The Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Society of Manitoba had some time before asked