

STORMONT W.C.T.U.

The annual meeting of the Stormont County W.C.T.U. was held in the Presbyterian Church, Avonmore, on July 25th. The president, Mrs. Bigelow, of Cornwall, called the meeting to order at 11.30 a.m. Mrs. (Rev.) Harkness conducted the devotional exercises. Mrs. Nellie McDermid gave the words of welcome; Mrs. J. H. Wert greetings from the W.F.M.S. Mrs. Binnie, of Cornwall, responded.

After singing the crusade "Glory Song" Rev. Dr. McLean closed with the benediction.

The convention met again at 2 o'clock, opening with prayer and consecration service by Mrs. Harkness, who based her remarks on Rom. 12: 1.

Rev. Dr. McLean, pastor of the church, expressed his pleasure at meeting with members of such a noble organization; they had his hearty support.

The following unions reported:—

Cornwall by Mrs. E. H. Brown; Avonmore by Mrs. Nellie McDermid; Aultsville by Mrs. Bigelow; Finch by Mrs. J. J. McMillan; Berwick by Mrs. James Pollock.

It was encouraging to see so many children, (the hope of our country.) Three Bands of Hope were represented—Monkland, Avonmore and 4th Con.—in all a membership of one hundred and forty.

On motion of members the secretary was instructed to send Mrs. Kirk, supt. of juvenile work a letter of sympathy in her late bereavement; also to Mrs. D. P. McKinnon, cor. sec., conveying to her their appreciation of past service and regret at her removal.

A very excellent paper was read by Mrs. E. H. Brown, Cornwall, on the subject, "Seed Sowing in the Home."

The different departments of work were reported by their respective superintendents.

The appointment of superintendents was then proceeded with, resulting as follows:—Evangelistic—Mrs. (Rev.) Harkness, Cornwall; Scientific Temperance—Mrs. Bigelow, Cornwall; Temperance in S. Schools—Mrs. (Dr.) McGill, Cornwall; Mother's Meetings—Mrs. J. D. McLennan, Cornwall; Press Work—Mrs. A. B. Warner, Cornwall; Franchise—Mrs. Bigelow, Cornwall; Systematic and Proportionate Giving—Mrs. Binnie, Cornwall; Railroads—Mrs. Cline, Cornwall; Lumbermen's Missions—Mrs. Jardine, Newington; Juvenile Work—Mrs. J. Kirk, Finch; Anti-Narcotics—Mrs. J. J. McMillan, Finch; Fruit Flower and Delicacy—Miss McLean, Finch.

The President presided at the evening meeting. After a song service Rev. Dr. McLean led in prayer.

The following officers were elected for the ensuing year:—

President—Mrs. Bigelow, Cornwall; Vice-President—Mrs. Binnie, Cornwall; Cor. Sec.—Mrs. Nellie McDermid, Avonmore; Rec. Sec.—Mrs. D. D. McIntyre, Avonmore; Treasurer—Mrs. J. J. McMillan, Finch.

As the hour was late and heat excessive the President's well prepared address, giving a concise history of the organization of the W.C.T.U. and dealing very truly with its aim and object, was heard under unfavorable circumstances, and it is hoped it may be published in full in the near future.

On the 30th ult. Rev. R. W. Ross, lately of Guelph, was inducted into the pastorate of Fort Massey church, Halifax. This is one of the most influential congregations in the Maritime Provinces.

BRITISH AND FOREIGN.

The King has no intention of going to Ireland this year.

During the last year 34,954 were added to England's already large alien population.

In the breast pocket of a menacing-looking scarecrow on an allotment garden at Ashbourne, Derbyshire, a pair of robins have built a nest and reared a brood.

Because milk contractors refused to supply milk for the Limerick Board of Guardians, at a low price, the master gave the paupers porter as a substitute.

It was stated at a Lambeth inquest on a boy who fell 50 feet from the window of a house, that he was the second child the parents had lost, within twelve months through a habit of climbing.

The Duke and Duchess of Portland, in thanking all those who supported them by their presence at the Hotel Cecil dinner on behalf of Queen Victoria's Jubilee Institute for Nurses, announce that upwards of \$20,000 was collected for the charity.

British returns show that from January to May, 17,420 persons from Canada landed at United Kingdom ports.

To save it from the builders Liverpool, has opened as a public park a new municipal open space of 18 1/4 acres.

The largest and heaviest building stone ever quarried in Britain was taken some time ago from the Plankington bed, near Norwich. It was in one piece, without crack or flaw, and weighed over 35 tons.

The Prime Minister of Queensland, the Hon. William Kidston, has arrived in London. He intends to reorganize the Queensland agency in London. A native of Falkirk, he left Scotland at the age of 38 years.

The statue of William of Orange, near Boyle, County Roscommon, which several years was decapitated and tarred, has again coated with tar about the head and neck. The incident is generally condemned.

The Johannesburg correspondent of the "Daily Telegraph," telegraphing on Friday, says—The experiment of employing Nyassaland natives in the Rhodesian mines is being attended with a terrible sacrifice of life, the mortality in one mine exceeding the rate of 500 per 1,000 per annum.

Mr. J. M. Barrie last week unveiled a memorial to Mrs. Oliphant, which has been erected in St. Giles' Cathedral. In the course of an appreciation of the novelist, Mr. Barrie said it would be for the future to sum her up, but they at least knew that she was the most distinguished Scotswoman of her time, and her steady light among the band of writers would help to make the Victorian reign illustrious. Lord Dunedin, as president of the Cathedral Board, accepted custody of the medallion.

During the month of July the congregation of Knox church, Montreal, has been united with the Dominion Square Methodist for church services, and the Rev. Mr. Shepherd, here on a visit from Ireland, has been preaching with great acceptance. For the month of August Knox Church will be re-opened and the Dominion Square people will join with their Presbyterian friends and worship there, the preacher being Rev. Mr. Hart, the new pastor of Dominion Square church.

The services of the united congregations of Chalmers Presbyterian and Sherbrooke Street Methodist Churches Montreal, will be held next Sunday, and throughout the month of August in the former church, St. Lawrence Boulevard, near Prince Arthur street. Both congregations deeply regret the continued illness of the Rev. G. Colborne Heine.

NEW BOOKS ABOUT CANADA.

You see a place, it attracts you; you visit it again and again; in some way you feel that it belongs to you. You pick up a book, and in that book someone has expressed in words exactly what you have felt for years. A bond of friendship has been formed—with a book.

What is Muskoka to you? The Maganetawan? The Customs of old Quebec? The reverence of Ste. Anne de Beaupre's Shrine? The Saguenay? Chicoutimi?—The quaint ocean-side towns of Nova Scotia? The genuine goodness of the peoples of Cape Breton? Someone has gone to the heart of things and put it in words, so that your own thoughts come with even deeper meaning as they greet you from the printed page.

Send for the books—they are yours for the asking. "An introduction to the best Country in Six Provinces," and "The Lake Shore Line of the Muskokas." Address Information Bureau, Canadian Northern Railway System, corner King and Toronto Sts., Toronto.

BIRMINGHAM AND IDOL-MAKING.

Apropos of my last week's note on "The Tricks of the Idol Trade," a correspondent sends me the following cutting from a London contemporary, which may be of interest:—"Once when in London I went with my husband to a church we sometimes attend. A sermon was preached eulogizing an enormously wealthy merchant who had just died. He had been a great benefactor to the church, and an especial friend to foreign missions. When we came out of church, my husband asked me as we walked along the street: 'Did you know who the sermon was about to-day?' I said I had heard the name, but did not know the man. 'Did you know how he made his money?' On my replying in the negative, my husband laughed. 'Well,' he said, 'it is one of the funniest things I ever heard in my life—he made it by selling little brass gods, made in Birmingham, to the Chinese. Being an astute man, he had, during a visit to China in his early days, grasped the possibilities of such a trade, and he manufactured little brass gods by the ton. These he sold in the East, and amassed an enormous fortune.' It was a little odd, wasn't it, that his particular form of charity should consist in supporting foreign missions?"

FORECASTING THE WEATHER BY BALLOON ASCENTS.

At first sight it may appear absurd to the uninitiated to suppose that any good can come of meteorological observations from balloons, observes a student of the subject in Paris Cosmos. Yet, without going into technical details, it may be briefly pointed out that the weather depends on the wind, and that the latter not only differs in velocity but frequently blows in contrary directions at varying altitudes. Again, if the wind is blowing in the form of an exceptionally deep stratum or volume from the direction of a large body of water, it may safely be assumed that it will be laden with moisture which will eventually descend in the form of rain unless the course is changed. This degree of humidity is ascertained by means of the hygrometer or dry and wet bulb thermometer. It therefore follows that unless we are aware of these conditions for a height of say three or four miles, the observations obtained on terra firma are of comparatively little value. This explains why so many forecasts are not justified by the result, and also why twenty-four hours is the limit of accuracy. It is to be hoped, however, that the new aerial experiments will enable us to receive warning of any great atmospheric disturbance at least thirty-six hours beforehand. If so, the benefits to mankind will be almost incalculable.—Current Literature (June).