

movement are the students of Victoria University. This institution has twenty-seven representatives in the mission field, and many more ready to go as soon as they can be sent. A Students' Missionary Union has been formed, with an energetic secretary.

Our Epworth Leagues are taking an active interest in missions. Many League Districts are organizing for the diffusion of information, the deepening of sympathy, the securing of systematic contributions, and the maintenance, under appointment of the General Board, of their own missionaries in the foreign field.

Our largest church was crowded with enthusiastic Leaguers, who were addressed on the duty and privilege of personal consecration and missionary effort, by the Rev. Dr. Carman, General Superintendent; the Rev. A. C. Crews, League Secretary; Rev. Dr. Henderson, Assistant Missionary Secretary; and the Rev. Dr. J. E. Williams, of Buffalo, N.Y. It was a significant rally of the young life of the Church in support of mission work.

One of the most important factors in this forward movement is the Woman's Missionary Society. The consecrated zeal, the intelligent methods, the social and devotional character of its monthly meetings; its wide diffusion of information, its close touch by frequent correspondence with its forty missionaries in the field, its thorough organization, by which in fifteen years its givings have reached \$340,000, have been an object lesson and inspiration to the General Missionary Society.

At the woman's meeting nearly two thousand persons were stirred to the depths of their natures by the womanly appeal for their sisters in heathen lands, of Mrs. Wellington White, whose stories of the conversion and consecration in trials and persecutions of Chinese women will not soon be forgotten.

A unique feature of the Convention was the missionary breakfast, which added the needed social touch. Dr. Leonard thought this missionary function a great improvement on "a missionary for breakfast" of cannibal times.

The climax of the Conference was reached in the mass meeting, at which five thousand persons assembled in Massey Music Hall—the free gift to the city by a Methodist layman, the late Hart A. Massey. So great was the interest that an hour and a half before the time for the meeting the people began to gather in the street—a novel feature at a missionary meeting. A choir of four hundred voices from the Methodist churches gave a stirring service of song. Dr. J. J. MacLaren, Q.C., a zealous lay member of the Missionary Board, to whom more than any one else is due the inception and success of this Missionary Convention, presided. The Rev. Dr. A. Sutherland, our Missionary Secretary, stated that as a result of this forward movement the subscriptions and collections were already far in advance of any previous year, in some cases a hundred per cent.

The Bitter Cry of India.

We have no right, and we have no wish to exploit the Sunday-schools of the Methodist Church on behalf of any charity or philanthropic enterprise. In everything, except what is directed by the General Conference, the authorities of each school must decide for themselves. Nevertheless, the famine among our fellow-subjects of the Queen, in India, is so severe, and the need for assistance is so great, that his Excellency the Governor-General appeals to the different provinces for aid in this emergency. Some of our schools and churches desire to help in this time of need, but do not know what way to send contributions. Several of the Canadian banks have agreed to forward contributions without charge. But they have not agencies in every town. At the request of the committee, to whom this matter was referred, the Rev. Dr. Briggs, Book Steward of the Toronto Publishing House of the Methodist Church, has agreed to accept and forward contributions to this fund. Schools, therefore, that desire to aid in this time of pressing need may send their contributions to the Rev. Dr. Briggs, Toronto, by whom they will be forwarded to the British authorities for immediate application to the relief of the many starving thousands in India.

It is a grand opportunity to show our Moslem and Hindu fellow subjects that there throbs a heart of sympathy in Christendom for their need. This will do more to prepare a way for the Gospel than any other thing. There is no use preaching to a hungry man or offering him a tract when he wants bread. Let us deny ourselves a little in this happy Canada of ours, where it "snows within our house of meat and drink," on behalf of our plague-smitten brethren of darker skin in India.

We glean the following facts from an appeal, issued by the Montreal *Star*, which, in a few days, raised a fund of \$16,000, to the ministers of Canada, asking their aid in this matter:

"From India comes the cry for succor. Upon large districts of that densely peopled empire rests the dark shadow of famine and pestilence. The terrible facts of the case can no longer be doubted. Each day's despatches from the East confirm previous information, and add to our knowledge respecting the extent of India's sufferings and needs. The food supply of millions is insufficient, hundreds of thousands are on the verge of starvation and upon tens of thousands rests a plague whose victims already number many thousands. In the Bombay district alone three thousand deaths have been reported and the contagion is spreading. The inhabitants of Bombay are fleeing the city, and over-busy streets are now deserted. The