

Foreign Missions

W. B. M. U.

"We are laborers together with God."

Contributors to this column will please address Mrs. J. W. Manning, 240 Duke Street, St. John, N. B.

PRAYER TOPIC FOR AUGUST.

For Chiacole that the good work begun there during the past few months may be gloriously carried on until many shall openly confess Christ.

For our Conventions that the Holy Spirit may direct all our meetings and assist every speaker. That each delegate may receive a great blessing.

Notice.

W. B. M. U. Convention meets in Halifax First church. Executive meetings Tuesday 16th of Aug.—Convention 17 and 18.

A large attendance is expected. All names of delegates to be sent to Mrs. Will Freeman, Willow Park, Halifax, before Aug. 1st. Will all remember the prayer topic for August?

The annual meeting of the W. M. A. Societies connected with the Eastern Baptist Association, was held in the vestry of the Sackville Baptist church on Saturday, July 16th, at 2 p.m., our Provincial secretary, Mrs. Cox, presided. After the opening hymns and prayers and the most helpful and suggestive Bible reading by Mrs. Chubböck of Amherst on the subject of giving, Mrs. Walter Cahill cordially welcomed the sisters on behalf of the Sackville W. M. A. S. To this welcome Mrs. Hutchinson of Moncton fittingly responded.

Reports were given from the Boundary Creek, Dorchester, Forest Glen, Harper's Brook, North River, Magic, Point de Bute, Petitcodiac, Sackville, Middle Sackville, Salisbury, Steers Mountain, River Glad, Moncton, Lewisville, Albert, First Harvey, Elgin, First Hillsboro, Hopewell Hill, Hopewell Cape, Surrey and Havelock. While in a few of these reports there was a note of discouragement, the most of them were truly encouraging, even inspiring as revealing the faithful work and the devotion to the cause of so many of our sisters. We heard good reports also of several Mission Bands and a statement of the band work of the year by the Treasurer, Mrs. Crandall was read. The helpful words of Mrs. Mary Smith of Amherst in her earnest plea for the Mission Band work could not but inspire us to greater efforts in the coming year. Our returned missionary Mr. Corey gave us a very interesting talk on the work going on in our Telugu mission fields, especially on that done by our young lady missionaries. A letter was read from Miss Flora Clark to the sisters of the Association and after a collection amounting to five dollars the session closed with prayer by Mr. Corey.

Florenceville, N. B.

On Monday evening, July 11th, at the home of Mrs. A. H. Hayward, our Missionary Aid held a R-ll Call service. Quite a large number were present, one new member joined the society.

The programme consisted of music, a Bible Reading led by Mrs. F. McCain, Round Table talk, on our mission work among the Telugus, led by Miss McCain; a letter from Mr. Archibald was then read by pastor Smith, and one of the young ladies of the society read a paper, giving a sketch of the organization of the W. M. A. S. A collection of \$5 was taken, after which ice-cream and cake were served.

It is to be hoped that more interest has been awakened in the subject of Foreign Missions, and that each and every Christian woman may see the present need of willing workers to help spread the Gospel among the heathen.

A. H. E.

N. B. EASTERN BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.

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tion of our churches to this matter, and ask all the churches paying their pastors less than \$800 to make a vigorous effort to increase their pastors salaries.

6. Resolved that this Association is in favor of the present of the H. M. Board of N. B. uniting with the N. B. Baptist S. S. Convention in procuring a man for H. M. work and work for Baptist Sunday schools, each paying half his salary.

7. Resolved, that we commend the Duplex Envelope system to our churches as a ready assistant in matters of finance. Address F. W. Emmerson, Moncton, for information.

8. The usual votes of thanks was passed to our entertaining friends, the choir, the preacher of Associational sermon, and moderator, and writer of circular letter, and railway companies, etc.

The report on Denominational Literature was read in which the MESSENGER AND VISITOR was commended as having a strong and helpful influence in all departments of Denominational work.

It was resolved to print 1000 copies of the minutes for circulation among the churches.

Monday evening it was resolved to accept the invitation of the Petitcodiac church to meet with them next year. Rev. M. Addison preached a very forceful, honest and frank sermon on Temperance striking at the root of the hindrances to prohibition. We trust that the sermon will reveal itself in action. J. W. Brown, Hopewell Cape, July 20.

British Columbia Baptist Convention.

The eighth annual meeting of the British Columbia Baptist Convention convened in the First church Vancouver on the 5th, 6th, 7th and 8th of July under the most favorable conditions as to weather, and with a very promising outlook for a large delegation from the churches. The favorable weather continued throughout the four days sessions of the Convention and the delegation exceeded the hopes of the most sanguine, reaching the large number of 94, including pastors, by far the largest in the history of the Convention. When it is remembered that some of these delegates came from Nanaimo on the west, a distance of 180 miles, and from Nelson on the east, a distance of 300 miles, and when it is remembered that there are but seven self-sustaining churches in the entire convention field, and but thirteen pastors all told, adding to all this the expense of travelling and the length of the convention, the size of the delegation speaks volumes for the downright earnestness and zeal for cause of Christ, of our Baptist brethren in the far west.

The women are much in evidence in B. C. as elsewhere, the sisters forming a larger portion of the delegation. We thank God for consecrated women, but we are praying that the time will soon come when our brethren will put the kingdom of Heaven first in the list of their concerns and shall cease to delegate the women to do the work which they ought to do. The first session on Tuesday afternoon was given to the women for the consideration of their work. Five papers of unusual excellence were read, one on "The Philippines," by Mrs. (Rev.) S. R. Stephen's who has spent two years in that country, the second on "Village and Boarding schools in India" by Mrs. A. A. MacLeod, a missionary of twelve years standing under the Upper Canadian Board, a third by Mrs. (Rev.) W. C. King, on "Circle Work," a fourth by Mrs. W. H. Spafford on Mission Bands, and the fifth by Miss Sadie McNeen on "Foreign Work at Home." Miss McNeen has been doing work among the Chinamen in the coal-mining camps. These papers which pressed home the need of careful training and education among the young, resulted in the appointment of Mrs. W. C. King as superintendent of education in our Sunday schools and Young People's Societies. It is thus hoped to stimulate an interest in the teaching of the young in doctrine and in mission work and to train them to fill useful places in the church later on.

The Convention sermon was preached by the Rev. B. H. West his subject being, "The Voice from the Cloud." The president's address by Rev. J. F. Vichert, M. A., was both seasonable and fitting. The burden of his message was "ye can do nothing against the truth but for the truth." Bro. Vichert is one of the strongest men on our convention field.

The report of the superintendent of missions, Rev. V. H. McEwen, was most encouraging. Good work has been done by missionaries on the field, one new missionary has been settled at Nelson for an indefinite period, and one at Ladners for a time at least. The property at Rossland has been taken over by the convention and secured to us. No new fields have been opened but on the contrary five previously opened fields all of them with churches have been unoccupied because of lack of funds and so of men. The country is rapidly filling up, people are flocking in, and yet we are unable for lack of money and men to send them the gospel. In view of the urgent demands for mission work, after much discussion the convention decided to substitute the office of missionary and evangelist for that of superintendent. For the ensuing year the executive of the mission board will do what superintending needs to be done, and the energies of the men employed by the convention will be given wholly to missionary and evangelistic work. The mission board is now looking for and praying that God will send them a man to take up this great work. It requires a man of metal, a man of stirring worth, and of strong evangelical gifts. Brethren pray that the Lord of the harvest will send us a laborer.

On recommendation by the future policy committee the following resolutions were passed:

"That the mission board be instructed to co-operate with the publication board to issue a denominational paper suitable for the church, home and young people's societies represented by the convention;

"That an appeal be made to the Baptist Union of Great Britain and Ireland both for ministerial and financial aid for the churches in this province."

The first issue of our paper the Western Baptist is due to appear the first of October next.

The report of the years work in the Sunday schools was of a most qualifying nature, and showed that steady and solid progress was being made throughout the convention. The convention decided by vote to conduct simultaneously throughout the provinces half-yearly written examinations in the Sunday schools for scholars and teachers alike, examination papers to be same throughout and diplomas to be given these making 60 per cent. with a view to doing more efficient educational work in the schools.

The report on B. Y. P. U. work was not all that might be desired but the presentation of the case by Brothers

Williamson of Kemloops and Trantes of Ladners backed up by the efficient committee in charge for the coming year lead us to hope for more thorough and enthusiastic work.

It was the great pleasure of the convention to recognize and fellowship the new Baptist church just organized at Peachland with twenty members and Rev. T. N. Ritchie as pastor. This little church is made up of new settlers from the east, who are evidently sturdy men and women of God for they have started out and intend remaining a self-supporting church.

Friday afternoon the convention resolved itself into an ordination council with Rev. P. H. McEwen as moderator and Mr. Charles Durden secretary for the ordination of Mr. P. Morton Walker pastor at Nelson. The reason for the convention taking this step will be seen when it is remembered that Bro. Walker's nearest neighbors in Baptist pastorates are 61 miles away on one side and 150 miles on the other side.

Bro. Walker is a young man and comes to us from old Scotland, where he has had two years in a Presbyterian Theological school, and from the Presbyterian church. His statement of Christian experience and belief was made in a clear and concise manner, and was entirely satisfactory and the convention decided by an unanimous vote to proceed with his ordination. Rev. J. F. Vichert gave the charge to the candidate and bade him look to his best interests in body, mind and spirit. Rev. J. H. Banton delivered the ordination prayer, and the newly ordained pastor received the right hand of fellowship from Rev. V. H. McEwen. Thus our eighth convention was made memorable by the reception of a new self-supporting church and the ordination of one of our missionaries to the work of the gospel ministry.

A profitable half-session of the convention was given to "Echoes from other Conventions." Rev. S. R. Stevens spoke on methods of work in California, Bro. L. E. Trantes on methods of work in Australia, Rev. E. Le Roy Dakin on methods of home mission work in Nova Scotia, and Rev. J. Willard Litch president of the North West Baptist convention reported on the work of the year in Manitoba and the North West, he having come directly from that convention.

Supt. V. H. McEwen gave a very graphic map-talk at one of the evening services describing the country and the conditions under which our missionaries labor. There is real pioneer mission work to be done here in B. C. We just now need not only a missionary and evangelist but these rugged, self-sacrificing, consecrated men who are willing to go into the mountain districts, as our missionaries go to India, and stay there if need be as missionaries all their lives and minister to the miners and loggers and the continually changing population. God send us men! men of heart, of wisdom, of truth.

On Thursday evening Rev. E. Le Roy Dakin gave an address on the "Duty of the church to the Sunday School," and the Rev. J. Willard Litch of Calgary gave a most eloquent and inspiring address on "Pressing forward towards the realization of Baptist principles." Mr. Litch is a born orator and the congregation sat spellbound throughout his address. On the last evening of the convention we had the very great pleasure of listening to two soul-inspiring addresses by our beloved missionaries Rev. A. A. MacLeod and wife of India. Bro. MacLeod gave "A Birdseye View of Our Work in India," showing that steady progress had been made since the inception of the work. Mrs. MacLeod spoke on "Our Women's Work in India," and in her excellent style gave us a vivid picture of the conditions and the methods of work among women in India.

The reports from the churches showed a membership of a little over 1600 for the entire province. The Treasurer's report gave \$541, raised by the churches for Foreign Missions and \$2100 for Home Missions. The total number added to the churches by baptism during the year was a little over 100, 68 of whom came from the Sunday School. There are 7 Young Peoples Societies in the convention, and the total enrollment for Sunday Schools is 1826. The school raising about as many dollars for local expenses and mission work as there are scholars enrolled.

It will be seen from the above that our Baptist Convention in British Columbia is very small compared to our Maritime Convention, any one of the Associations in the provinces being stronger in number of pastors. The convention is the one and only meeting of the Baptist body here during the entire year. This is made necessary, by the long distances that have to be travelled for meeting. It must be remembered that our province is 700 miles north and south by 700 miles east and west. Only the southern portion of the province is at present in the convention field but we have men in the extreme west and in the extreme east with the great Rocky Mountains intervening. This being the case a great deal of routine work has to be done at the convention, committees and boards sitting far into the night discussing the vexing problems and laying plans in prayer for the work of the ensuing year. Such was the character and work of the eighth Baptist convention in British Columbia, which by unanimous consent of the pastor and delegates, was the strongest and most spiritually helpful and most satisfactory of them all. Now we have begun a new year of work and advancing upon our knees we are hoping to report greater things accomplished for our Master when our ninth convention meets next year at Nanaimo.

E. Le Roy Dakin, Emmanuel, Victoria, B. C.