

Early in the year, through the kindness of the Jarvis Street Circle, whose invitation was accepted, we were helped by knowing that our next place of Convention was settled.

In September the Board was surprised and grieved to receive the resignation of our much-loved and efficient President, who for twelve years has presided at the meetings and been our counsellor and guide. Mrs. Firstbrook stated in her resignation that her reasons for this step were two-fold. In the first place, "It does not seem wise," in her opinion, "to make the office of President one for life, but should be changed from time to time, so that the best results may be obtained." The other reason Mrs. Firstbrook gave was that she is no longer able to do the work that a president should do. Mrs. Firstbrook concluded as follows: "The twelve years in which I have held office have been to me happy ones. The Board meetings have been well attended, and the members have done everything in their power to make my work tell for the best, and I would ask for my successor the kind consideration and loving co-operation that has been mine since I first accepted the office of President. This step has not been taken lightly. It is only after much thought and prayer on the subject that I now tender my resignation, and I beg to say that it must be final. My interest in the work is greater than ever, and it will be my joy to mark the prosperous years that I hope will bring larger work to our Foreign Mission Board."

A committee was appointed to interview Mrs. Firstbrook to see whether she could be persuaded to retain the office. The report of this committee was to the effect that Mrs. Firstbrook still felt that the step she had taken was the right one. This final decision was received with regret. Mrs. Firstbrook kindly consented to remain in office until the close of the Convention year.

In closing, we record our gratitude in that the good hand of our God has been upon us in continued blessing. Our own plans have been at times set aside by an all-wise Heavenly Father. But this is His work—we are His servants. As we look into the new year let us say with Nehemiah of old, "The God of heaven. He will prosper us, therefore we His servants will arise and build," and to

Him we will ascribe all glory, honor and power.

Respectfully submitted,
A. E. FENTON,
Recording Secretary.

REPORT OF THE HOME SECRETARY OF THE WOMEN'S F. M. S. OF ONTARIO WEST.

Mrs. H. H. Lloyd.

Someone has said, "It is the whole business of the church and it is the business of the whole church to carry the whole Gospel to the whole world as speedily as possible." Missionary work, then, is the one all-important work of every Christian. Without intelligent missionary interest there can be little spiritual power.

To facilitate the carrying on of this work at home and abroad we are divided up into Associations, of which we have thirteen in Ontario West. Each Association is placed under the supervision of a Director. From this source reports are sent into your Secretary, and at the end of the year a short synopsis is given of the results as far as they can be tabulated.

The first report to arrive this year came from the Northern Association. When we found out what those churches were doing, how generously they were contributing, it made us deeply thankful. Mrs. Renaud had to leave some blank spaces. The words "No report" do not give much information. Let every church have a Circle, and keep the Northern lights burning brightly. You are needed up there.

When we learned that Mrs. J. G. Taylor, of Sarnia, had resigned, we had a feeling of deep regret. The work has fallen to the care of Mrs. Baldwin, of London, and she sent in a full report. We hope Middlesex and Lambton will hold up the hands of their new director and not only keep up to their former record, but far exceed it.

Mrs. J. C. Doherty, of Fonthill, has shouldered the responsibility of Niagara and Hamilton Association. Mrs. Hendry having been compelled to resign on account of illness. The Young Women's Circles are doing well in this Association, and are a great source of strength. The whole report was beautifully neat and very complete,—another result of