

After the meeting, in which all felt the presence and blessing of the Master, we were ushered into the dining-room, were the excellent taste of our hostess was so charmingly exhibited, being not only pleasing to the eye, but wondrously conducive to an appetite.

I am sure as we bade our sister good-night, we all felt that the afternoon would linger long in our memories and certainly produce a lasting effect on our society.

NINA A. DUNLOP
Secretary.

Kentville, N. S.

Dec. 17th., 1904.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT OF BANDS FROM AUG. 1 TO JAN. 1.

	F.M.	H.M.	Total.
Received from Bands, N.S. . . .	\$258 41	\$34 20	\$292 61
“ “ “ N.B. . . .	38 30	2 00	40 30
“ “ “ P.E.I. . . .	20 00		20 00
			\$352 91

By comparing this statement with corresponding date last year we find the Bands are \$22.00 behind. Nearly \$2000 must come into the treasury in the next seven months to reach the amount in last years report. We are nearing the close of the second quarter, and have only made a beginning. Let us as we enter the New Year determine to give our best service to the Master, and leave the results to Him.

I. CRANDALL,
Treas. M.B.

SYSTEMATIC STUDY FOR OUR W. M. A. SOCIETIES.

BY SPECIAL REQUEST.

The greatest problem facing the church of Christ in connection with the growing missionary work in the foreign field is—How to provide the necessary means. But next to that, our greatest need in a broader and more intellectual and more thoughtful grasp of the whole subject.

How then, are we to increase and deepen the interest at home as to call forth increasing gifts and increasing prayers? I think it is not that there is a lack of interest, but that interest is not adequately distributed. Some are intensely interested, they feel the need of extension along many lines. Others are only moderately interested. Others have no interest at all, while

some are openly hostile. The remedy for all this is information and enthusiasm. Our people must be informed and enthused. We must touch their minds, their intellects, their imaginations and their hearts, so as to awaken their interests, and thus secure their co-operation and prayers in our work. The agencies to be used to accomplish these ends are various.

The standing difficulty at home is lack of information, not only of the work abroad as being carried on at the present time in our various stations, but a wider, more comprehensive view of missions the world over, from the time Christ gave His marching orders “Go ye into all the world,” until now.

The churches all have abundant material. Do we use it? Do you each individually take into and make a part of your lives, your minds, the facts and interesting missionary matter you see daily and weekly in our papers and magazines? Or do we allow ourselves to think them not worth while! What we want is an education campaign. Again, let me repeat, there is no lack of written and printed information, books, magazines, reports, reviews, but these materials need systematic use. We will all, I think, agree to that.

Heretofore, we have had a certain smallness in our missionary meetings. We have trusted to leaflets, tracts, extracts, snap-shots for our usual literature. Perhaps we feel that these time honoured methods should not be cast aside.

But cannot we combine them with something more substantial? And how about young women accustomed to study? You invite these young women to your meetings and place in their hands a little paper upon the women in China, or a short letter from our mission in India. Let us not undervalue these by any means, they have their place, but the chances are that that young woman, accustomed to study thoroughly anything she attempts, will not attend the next meeting. But if she finds that your society is meeting the subject deeply and is going to study it thoroughly, she will come every time.

Further, when we come to realise that foreign missions includes all phases of statescraft, civilization, politics, history, poetry and art, and the living history of our living God, we shall find we have a study that may well fill our lives. Let us see if such studies are to be had in available form.