

WE are pleased to learn that the Montreal Conference, at its session in 1891, appointed a committee to inquire in reference to deaconess work. If any action has been taken by any other Conference we have not heard of it. This is a question of true Home Mission Work with which all would do well to acquaint themselves.

THE *Woman's Evangel* has an article on "How to Retain Members," which is very suggestive with the following hints:—Every member of a live society must be an enthusiastic supporter of the banner of Jesus, and *must be willing* to aid in the evangelization of the world by her wealth, talents and prayers. Many join the societies without a proper conception of the aims or work, and because it promises some amusement and recreation. The real missionary element is often subordinate to that of entertainment for sake of the finances. Much time is wasted in preparing readings and recitations which have no missionary bearing. The social element is not to be relied on as a safe means for retaining members, but rather the implanting of a fervent love, among the young, for the whole human race. Each one has some specific duty and responsibility.

SOME idea of the success of woman's work in India is conveyed by the following reply of a Hindoo to the question of a missionary, "Which of all our methods do you fear most?" "We dread your women and your doctors. Your doctors win our hearts, but your *women win our homes*. What is there left for us?"

"Thy Kingdon come," came in trembling voice
From a man about to die;

"God bless the Church of my early choice,
And all her needs supply."

"On earth as in heaven Thy will be done,"
He added with failing breath,
Then gave his wealth to his spendthrift son
And slept in the arms of death.

"THE Magic Lantern in the Monthly Concert," is the title of a very suggestive article in the *Missionary Review*, by James Carter. We have long thought it would be a most serviceable adjunct to the work in the mission halls of large cities. In our French work in the cities of the Province of Quebec, mission halls in the more densely populated parts, equipped with well-lighted reading rooms and magic lantern service, would no doubt attract and win many to allegiance to a faith exemplified by wise, instructive and pleasurable methods. *How to win* those who are loosing their hold from the errors and superstitions of Rome is worthy of deep consideration. The educated and in-

telligent may if they desire seek where light may be found, but the masses of the illiterate and indifferent must be attracted through the powers they possess.

THERE are many aged and invalid members in our W. M. S., and to most, if not all, of these the OUTLOOK is a regular visitor. We bear them upon our hearts in prayerful sympathy, and have peculiar pleasure when we find a suitable message of cheer or encouragement for them. The following beautiful lines, written by a lady who lay upon a bed of extreme suffering for many years, is such, and will "speak comfortably" as from one to another. It is entitled

NOT SHUT IN.

Shut in, did you say, my sisters?
Oh, no, only led away,
Out of the dust and turmoil,
The burden and heat of the day,
Into the cool, green pastures,
By the waters calm and still,
Where I may lie down in quiet,
And yield to my Father's will.

Earth's ministering ones come round
With faces kind and sweet,
And we sit and learn together
At the loving Saviour's feet;
And we talk of life's holy duties,
Of the crosses that lie in the way,
And they must go out and bear them,
While I lie still and pray.

I am not shut in, my sisters,
For the four walls fade away,
And my soul goes out in gladness,
To bask in the glorious day.
This wasting, suffering body,
With its weight of weary pain,
Can never dim my vision,
My spirit cannot restrain.

I wait the rapturous ending,
Or rather the entering in
Through the gates that stand wide open,
But admit no pain and sin.
I am only waiting, sisters,
Till the Father calls, "Come home!"
With my lamp all trimmed and burning,
Till the blessed bridegroom come.

—Pres. Journal.

IT is now five years since the Students Volunteer Missionary Movement started, and in connection with it almost 6,000 have pledged themselves to the foreign field if the way shall open. Of this number thirty per cent. are young women.

WHAT do we live for if it is not to make life less difficult for others?
—Selected.
We live in deeds, not years; in thoughts, not breaths;
In feelings, not in figures on a dial.
We should count life by heart throbs. He most lives
Who thinks most, feels noblest, acts the best.