

THE annual report of the Missionary Society has just been issued, and is being shipped from the Mission Rooms as rapidly as possible. Circuits failing to receive their supply within the next two weeks will kindly notify the General Secretary.

THE Rev. G. W. Dean, formerly pastor of the Emerald Street Church, Hamilton, has been transferred to the Manitoba and North-West Conference, to take charge of the work at Banff. This is an important field, and we wish Bro. Dean a pleasant and successful time in his new sphere of labor.

REV. G. F. HOPKINS, of Port Essington, B.C., has been forced to take a furlough on account of the ill-health of his wife. Mr. and Mrs. Hopkins are at present staying with relations in Chicago, where we hope that rest and relaxation from all anxiety will prove beneficial to both.

WHILE the Rev. Dr. Cochran and Rev. J. W. Saunby were on a missionary trip, Dr. Cochran was taken seriously ill. The symptoms developed into low typhoid fever, and for several weeks he was unable to return to his home in Tokyo. By the last mail a letter from Bro. Saunby has been received, stating that the Doctor has arrived home, and is recovering as rapidly as could be expected. He adds: "We, as a mission, have been intensely anxious about him because the loss of him now, especially with his literary work incomplete, would be almost irreparable, to say nothing of the sorrow to his family. It is, therefore, with great thankfulness we hail his recovery and return." We are sure the Church at home will join with the brethren in Japan in heartfelt praise to the Great Head of the Church for His loving-kindness in again restoring Dr. Cochran to his family and work.

WE give an extract from a letter of the Rev. Jos. Hall, Chairman of the Victoria District, B.C., which will be read by very many with thankfulness:—

"I hope that arrangements will soon be made for the Chinese building on Fisguard street. This mission is very prosperous. Within the past few weeks—since occupying the new hall—there have been several conversions. And what a noble Christian work is being done by the Chinese Girls' Rescue Home! A visit to that Home, so orderly and Christian, where the contrast between heathenism and Christianity is made so evident, and which is pervaded by the harmonious and industrious spirit which the religion of the Saviour engenders, is a means of grace to any one imbued with the missionary spirit of the Gospel. May these young girls be made a great blessing to their countrywomen."

Editorial and Contributed.

THE FRENCH INSTITUTE.

THE cut on the first page of this issue gives a very good idea of the new building recently erected at Côte St. Antoine, Montreal, for educational work among the French. A large "helio-type" engraving, 15 x 18 inches (of which the cut referred to is a reduced copy), has been printed on drawing paper, 20 x 24 inches, and will make a handsome ornament for any parlor. Any one sending to the Mission Rooms One Dollar or upwards in aid of the Institute will receive a copy of the picture by mail, post paid.

NOTES FROM JAPAN.

BY THE GENERAL SECRETARY.

ON Monday morning, June 24th, I joined Drs. McDonald and Cochran on board the train, bound for Kioto. This was in accordance with a resolution of the Mission Council, and the object of the journey was not only to visit the missions on the Shidzuoka District, but to explore the country to the south, in view of the possible extension of the work in that direction. It has already been remarked that the cars on Japanese railroads are inferior, of which we had ample proof on this journey. Motives of economy prescribed second-class fare; but as similar motives have led the railway authorities to construct these cars without cushions, a continuous ride of fifteen hours is somewhat fatiguing. Showers fell at intervals during the day; but the varied scenery of hill and valley, low-lying rice-fields and terraced slopes, flowing rivers and open sea, was very interesting, especially to the stranger. At 9 p.m. we reached Yagohama, and immediately went on board a small steamer on Lake Biwa. About 10 o'clock a start was made. The night was very dark, but still, and the run of forty miles was made in less than four hours. At 2 a.m. we reached Otzu, and put up at a native hotel, kept in foreign fashion, where we got a comfortable bed and a fair breakfast at a moderate price.

If "misery makes one acquainted with strange bed-fellows," as saith the proverb, it is no less true that travelling brings one into contact with all varieties of character. In the cabin of the little steamer were two young men, both dressed in foreign fashion, and one of whom spoke English fairly well. His companion gave a practical illustration of the extent to which foreign customs have invaded Japan, by ensconcing himself in a corner of the cabin and producing a bunch of cigars and a bottle of beer, both of which were