

ing tributes were paid to their Christian lives and faithful work.

The first item on Thursday afternoon's programme after opening, was the Mission Band reports. Twelve of these records of cheerful and self-denying labor on the part of our young friends were read and received with marked appreciation.

The question drawer was opened, and a number of questions answered by Mrs. Langford and Mrs. Phelps.

Mrs. Burns, President, gave some valuable suggestions as to a plan of work for Auxiliaries.

The consecration meeting held by Mrs. Hugill, of Hamilton, was a season of grace and power, many ladies taking part.

The evening session was a long one, all the elections having been placed on that part of the programme.

After the invitation from Chatham to hold the next annual meeting had been read and accepted, the central organizers were appointed for the three Conferences covered by the Western Branch. For Niagara Conference, Mrs. Jackson, Beamsville; for Guelph Conference, Mrs. Detlor, Clinton; for London Conference, Mrs. Dickson, London. These ladies to appoint district organizers.

The delegates to the Conference to present the work of the Woman's Missionary Society were as follows: Niagara Conference, Mrs. Phelps, Mount Pleasant; Guelph Conference, Mrs. Scarff, Guelph; London Conference, Mrs. McMechan, London.

The following was the result of the ballot for officers: President, Mrs. Dr. Burns, St. Thomas; 1st Vice-President, Mrs. Fowler, London; 2nd Vice-President, Mrs. Langford, London South; 3rd Vice-President, Mrs. Phelps, Mount Pleasant; Recording Secretary, Mrs. McMechan, London; Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. Cunningham, Galt; Treasurer, Mrs. Detlor, Clinton.

Also the following delegates to the General Board Meeting in Montreal on the 22nd October: Mesdames Jackson, Phelps, Wood, Langford, Detlor, Sharp, Davidson, Russ, Williams, Hamilton, Fowler, Cullen, Hurlburt, Saunby, Scarff, McMechan, Beattie, Kay, Laird, Brown, Brethour; alternates, Mrs. Crawford, and Miss McClean. Mesdames Burns and Cunningham go by virtue of office.

The usual votes of thanks to the trustees, choir and friends who had so kindly assisted in making this the most enjoyable and successful meeting of the Western Branch were carried by a rising vote, and the Rev. S. Cleaver pronounced the benediction at a late hour.

A. G. McMECHAN, *Rec. Sec.*

## CENTRAL BRANCH.

### FIRST DAY.

THE Seventh Annual Meeting of the Central Branch of the Woman's Missionary Society of the Methodist Church opened on Tuesday afternoon, October 1st, at 2.30, in Sherbourne Street Church. There was a fair attendance, between seventy and eighty delegates being present. Mrs. James Gooderham, 1st Vice-President, occupied the chair. Mrs. W. S. Finch opened the meeting with devotional exercises in the place of Mrs. Carman, who was absent through illness. Mrs. D. V. Lucas delivered an address of welcome, which was responded to by Mrs. Hughes, of Schomberg. Mrs. Gooderham explained the absence of the President, Mrs. Dr. Williams, who was detained through illness in her family. She then delivered the annual address, which was listened to with marked attention by all present. She contrasted the position of the society to-day with that of seven years ago, and showed how, under the Divine blessing, it had increased numerically and financially. It was doing a

noble work, with every prospect of a rich harvest. Hon. John Macdonald, who had returned from the Pacific slope, said to the speaker that if the Society did nothing but carry on the Chinese Rescue Home, they were engaged in a work that would well repay all their labors. She then gave a synopsis of the work, going into matters of interesting detail.

Greetings were presented from the Baptist Woman's Missionary Society through Mrs. John Lille, who gave a brief but interesting sketch of the work they were engaged in, and expressing regret at the loss, through the removal from the city, of Mrs. Dr. Castle. Greetings were also presented from the Congregational Woman's Missionary Society by Mrs. Robertson, who also gave a short address.

Reports were received from a number of the Auxiliaries, nearly all of which showed an increase in membership, as well as in receipts.

Memorials were presented from Newmarket and Carlton Street Auxiliaries, asking that a preparatory school for both sexes be established at Roxton Pond, Quebec, also from Queen Street Auxiliary, asking for the enlargement of the MISSIONARY OUTLOOK, or that steps be taken to provide a paper of their own. Also, that as the editresses respectively of *Guardian* and *OUTLOOK*, had by election of General Board become officers of the Society, they be placed on Executive in harmony with Sec. 3, Art. V., of the Constitution.

A memorial was presented from Belleville, suggesting certain changes in the Constitution.

Mrs. Massey, who represented the Society at the Bay of Quinte Conference, gave a short account of her experience there, and of the hearty support accorded the work of the Society.

The Nominating Committee being appointed, then withdrew, when Committees on Modes of Work, Memorials, and Courtesies were appointed.

The meeting then adjourned.

### EVENING SESSION.

On resuming at 7.30 p.m., there was a large attendance, principally of ladies. Rev. Dr. Stafford presided, and with him on the platform were Rev. Dr. Sutherland and Rev. P. A. Jourdan, of Roxton Pond, P.Q. After devotional exercises the chairman made a few remarks *apropos* of the occasion, and then introduced Mr. Jourdan. This gentleman, who is laboring amongst the French, gave some interesting facts connected with his work. He vividly portrayed the condition of the poor *habitant*, who, ground beneath the heel of the Church of Rome, has every copper squeezed out of him over and above what is necessary to his existence. Then he went on to speak of the system of persecution adopted by the representatives of the Church wherever they dare practise it. He related several incidents to illustrate the plan sometimes adopted, and to show the terrible power of the Church of Rome. Rev. Dr. Sutherland, who returned from Japan recently, gave an interesting account of the work in that empire, which is so rapidly following in the footsteps of the western nations. The addresses were particularly interesting and full of valuable information.

### SECOND DAY.

On resuming at 9.30 a.m., Mrs. Gooderham presided. Mrs. Massey, of Wallbridge, conducted the devotional exercises.

Reports were presented from a number of the Auxiliaries, which were extremely gratifying.

A telegram of greeting was received from the Western Branch, now in session at Dundas, which was duly acknowledged. The following ladies, who have been acting as organizers, then gave a short account of their work: Mrs.