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still in missionary service in India; and Mrs. M. F. Churchill, dwelling in retirement with her daughter in Toronto. In addition to these there are, in retirement in India, Rev. and Mrs. John Craig, Mrs. I. C. Archibald and Miss Folsom, with service ranging from forty to forty-five years; while in Canada there are three Bolivia missionaries—pioneer Rev. A. B. Reekie and Mrs. Reekie, and Mrs. L. M. Mitchell. But, though retired, they are all, in various ways, still serving the Great Cause they love so well.

Toronto, Ontario.

ONTARIO AND QUEBEC WOMEN

Mrs. H. H. Ayer

"Women's work for women" was a new departure when, in response to the clarion call of Rev. A. V. Timpany, at home on his first furlough, the Baptist women of Ontario and Quebec organized for service with "the evangelism of the women and children of heathendom" as their primary object.

The Women's Baptist Foreign Missionary Society of Eastern Ontario and Quebec was organized in Montreal on September 27th, 1876, and almost a month later, on October 24th, the W.B.F.M.S. of Ontario West was formed in Toronto, whose first President was Mrs. William McMaster. Mrs. T. James Claxton, the first President of the Eastern Society, occupied that position almost continually until 1909, and was Honorary President until her death in 1912.

Although the aim of the Societies, "A Circle and a Band in every church," and the ideal, "Every woman in the church a Circle member," has not been realized, the home base has grown wonderfully in numbers and efficiency, and in recent years has received renewed inspiration through the organization of Young Women's Circles.

The "Missionary Link," first issued in 1878, another product of Mr. Timpany's foresight, has been invaluable in provid-

ing information, and numbers nearly 7,000 subscribers.

The work of the two Societies has been closely identified but the Western soon outstripped her "little sister" in growth and expansion, which may be explained by the fact that the Eastern constituency—from Kingston to Quebec—lies in the heart of the great Roman Catholic community, making extension a difficult proposition.

Thirty Circles were organized during the first year in Ontario West, and seven in the East. In 1923, at the end of forty-seven years, Ontario West reported 261 Circles, 55 Young Women's Circles, and 161 Bands, and the Eastern Society 57 Circles, 12 Young Women's Circles, and 36 Bands. The joint incomes the first year amounted to \$1,024.81. In 1923 the two Societies gave \$36,621.00, and in forty-seven years their contributions have totalled \$648,313.00.

It is interesting to note that the first appropriation made by the Western women, in 1877, was for the Girls' School in Cocanada, started by Mrs. McLaurin, their beloved Honorary President, who has recently returned to India to celebrate the Jubilee.

The chapel at Cocanada and a houseboat were soon provided, while the Eastern Society contributed funds for the girls' dormitories.

In 1882 the Societies joined in sending out their first missionary, Miss M. J. Frith, who opened up the work among the women and children in Cocanada. When ill-health forced her to return to Canada in 1887, Miss Frith was succeeded by Miss Hatch, so widely known for her ministry of love among the lepers of Ramachandrapuram.

The three missionaries who went to India in 1888 represented three lines of work peculiarly belonging to women.

Miss Simpson, in whose support the Eastern Society shared, developed a wonderful Zenana work. She started the first Caste Girls' School and was particularly successful in the organization of Sunday schools.