

At the last meeting of Ottawa Presbytery Rev. John McNichol presented a report recommending that the young people's societies within the presbytery should have a common aim and work along similar lines. To accomplish this it was suggested that the societies adopt the constitution of the Y. P. S. C. E. After a lengthy discussion the report was referred to the committee on young people's work for further consideration.

A union meeting of the members of all the Ottawa Auxiliaries of W. F. M. Society was held in Bethany Church, Hintonburg, last Tuesday afternoon, to receive reports from the delegates to the Annual meeting in Toronto. There was a large attendance. Mrs. Lorne MacDougall took the chair. The reports presented were most encouraging. Mrs. Gardiner, Mrs. (Dr.) Thornburn, Miss Harmon and others took part in the proceedings.

At the eleventh anniversary services of Bethany Church, Hintonburg, there was an attendance that taxed the capacity of the building. There were present many former members of the congregation who came from a long distance. In the morning Rev. Mr. Ross preached and in the afternoon Mr. Squire of St. Andrew's delivered an interesting address to the Sunday school children. Rev. Mr. Mitchell of Erskine church preached the evening sermon. The advancement of the church was shown by recalling the fact that eleven years ago a mission hall was opened there with Mr. A. G. McCormac superintendent, when there were but five teachers and officers and 40 pupils. From this a large congregation has grown and a Sunday school of 40 teachers and officers and 225 pupils. The social entertainment on Monday evening was quite a success.

Eastern Ontario.

Rev. J. Sieveright, B. A., has been preaching with much acceptance in St. Andrew's Church, Birke's Falls.

Rev. D. Strachan, M. A., Brockville, conducted the preparatory service in the Lyn church last Friday.

Mrs. (Rev.) W. R. Young has been presented with a life membership in the Women's Foreign Missionary Society, by the members of the First Church Auxiliary, Port Hope, and an appreciative address.

St. Andrew's church, Gananoque, subscribed \$2,388 to the century fund of the Presbyterian church, all of which has been paid in except \$207. In addition to the above the Sunday school contributed last year \$46, and last Sunday \$17, making a total of \$63, and the complete total paid by the congregation up to date \$2,444.

During the absence of the Rev. M. W. Maclean until the 1st of August all Home Mission correspondence will be attended to by the Rev. Henry Gracey, of Gananoque, and should be addressed to him. All correspondence relating to St. Andrew's Church, Belleville, should be addressed to Rev. W. A. Bremner, Box 574, Belleville, Ont.

At the close of the prayer meeting last week at St. Andrew's church Belleville, Judge Lazier, in a very neat and appropriate speech, handed to the pastor, Rev. M. W. Maclean, a purse of sovereigns on behalf of the congregation and he was asked to take a trip to the old country for his health. His wife will accompany him. Rev. W. A. Bremner, of Toronto, will fill the pulpit of St. Andrew's during the pastor's absence.

WOMEN WORKERS.

Twenty-five Years of Progress.

The annual meeting of the Women's Foreign Missionary Society of the Presbyterian church in Canada was held in Knox church, Toronto, opening on Tuesday and continuing throughout Wednesday and Thursday of last week. The seating capacity of the church was taxed to its utmost by women—women filled with the missionary spirit, and met together from all parts of the Dominion, to report upon and discuss their last year's work, to enquire into ways and means of extending the gospel in the far countries of the East, and to pray for the furtherance of their plans and an increase of human souls brought to the knowledge of Christ. On the platform were a number of distinguished women, and in the chair was the president of the society, Mrs. Shortreed, who conducted the meeting with great tact and dignity.

Among the 405 delegates who came from far and near to this annual meeting, the presidents of the various societies throughout the Dominion were recognizable by their red badges; those with blue were delegates, while the heliotrope ribbons revealed the fact that the wearers were active missionaries returned on furlough from China and India. Some of these—Miss Oliver, Miss Turnbull and Miss Dow—are doctors who went out as medical missionaries, and their addresses on their work in the East were of absorbing interest and great value. The far West, on the other hand, was represented by Mrs. C. W. Gordon, of Winnipeg, and by Mrs. Perry, of Vancouver.

As was appropriate, the opening meeting of the week was largely devotional, and it was an impressive and moving thing to hear that vast meeting of women from East and West sing as with one voice the familiar hymn, "All Hail the Power of Jesus' hymn," to the solemn organ accompaniment.

Mrs. Parsons led the prayer of gratitude and for divine guidance, Miss Drummond read the Scriptural lesson, Mrs. Irwin, of Clinton, offered the prayer of consecration, a vocal solo was beautifully rendered by Miss Jean Cavan, who at a moment's notice took Mrs. Anderson's place, and the thanksgiving prayer was offered by Mrs. Walker, of Uxbridge. The reports of the year's work of the various Presbyterian societies were presented, in turn, by each secretary.

There were some 28 or 29 of these Presbyterials heard from, and the reports were all bright and cheerful. Where there was slight falling off in funds, this was accounted for by the pressure and demands of the famine in India. But notable among all the reports was that of the Indian Auxiliary of Portage la Prairie. These women, out of their own hard work, have contributed \$42 to the foreign mission work; one Indian woman gave \$3 out of her \$5 treaty money, while another freely gave her full \$5 in the gratitude of her heart and the desire to help the work that had helped her. In the 28 societies it was shown that there are 666 auxiliaries, 315 mission bands and 1,151 scattered helpers. It was further reported that 19 new auxiliaries have been organized, and an additional 26 mission bands. The total membership of the auxiliaries is 10,534, while that of the mission bands is 7,265; and there are 21,279 members in the general society. The increase in membership since organization is 1,186.

Extent of the Work.

The Foreign Missionary Society controls two stations in China, one in Formosa, five in Central India and 15 in the Northwest of Canada and British Columbia. It has also five special missions to the Indians and Chinese in British Columbia.

In one of the lecture rooms there was a curious and immensely interesting collection of objects gathered from such places as Formosa, India, China, New Hebrides and our own Northwest. There was some wonderfully clever wood and metal work, also hunting bags and amulets, and a horrid object is the skull of a savage chief, who in his lifetime had killed nearly a hundred persons.

Financial Statement.

The financial statement showed a total revenue of \$16,571.55, from which, after deducting all expenses, there is a balance of \$16,418.41. The cost of sustaining the various missions was: India, \$17,858; Honan, China, \$2,402.56; Formosa, \$1,143; Northwest, \$18,311.48; British Columbia, \$5,686.93; a total of \$45,403.97. The estimates for 1900-1901 are \$45,290.75. The amount received for the India famine fund was \$7,992.59.

Tidings and Publications.

In speaking of the publications issued by the society, Mrs. Telfer said that the official organ, Tidings, has proved very satisfactory. Twelve mail bags, averaging 1,000 pounds each, carry this little paper out every month. The income from Tidings was \$2,900.08; disbursements, \$2,474.18, leaving a balance of \$425.90. The financial statement of the general literature committee gives receipts of \$370.75; disbursements \$315.56, leaving a balance of \$55.39. This committee sent out 24,289 leaflets, 2,427 mite boxes, and 1,457 prayer cards. The stock on hand is valued at \$419.52.

A very satisfactory report was read from the Ewart Mission Training school, mention being made of the fact that eight missionaries have gone to the field from this school. The

treasurer announced the year's receipts of the school to be \$1,422.56 with \$1,303.43 disbursements.

Officers for Ensuing Year.

President, Mrs. Shortreed; First Vice-President, Mrs. MacLaren; Second Vice-President, Mrs. H. Campbell; Third Vice-President, Mrs. G. H. Robinson; Fourth Vice-President, Mrs. J. C. Hamilton; Foreign Secretary, Mrs. J. J. Bell; Home Secretary, Mrs. R. Grant; Recording Secretary, Miss B. McMurchy; Corresponding Secretary, Miss Martin; Secretary of Indian Work in the Northwest and British Columbia, Miss Craig; Secretary of International Conference, Miss J. G. Caven; Secretary of Life Membership, Miss Parsons; Treasurer, Miss George; Editor of "Tidings," Mrs. Telfer; Secretary-Treasurer of "Tidings," Mrs. Telfer; Secretary of General Literature, Miss Marion Smith. London was selected for next year's meeting, and the date first Tuesday in May.

Valuable Papers Read.

After devotional exercises on Thursday a prayer for mission bands was offered by Mrs. Woodside of Carleton Place, and a number of excellent papers were read by Mrs. Hay, of Ottawa, Mrs. Nisbet, of Sarnia and Mrs. Steele, of Dundas.

Mrs. Hay's paper, read by Mrs. Gardner, was a plea for more extensive use of literature published by the society in the programmes of mission bands. Mrs. Hay urged that the missionary literature of the W. F. M. S. should have the first attention of all members, as it dealt with the first attention of the Presbyterian Church, which should be to them of first interest, "The Value of Systematic Study in Missions" was the title of Mrs. Nisbet's paper. It pointed the necessity of studying maps of the countries where mission stations have been started, and also the places themselves, and the names of the missionaries. "The ones who don't believe in missions," she said, "and the ones who don't care are the ones who know least about missions."

Mrs. Steele dealt with the need for co-operation of members and officers and the faithful discharge of commonplace duties. Members were too often inclined to leave all of the work for the officers to do, which was not productive of progress that should result from united effort. Officers were often overburdened with work, when a little relief from the members would be for the material advancement of the cause.

A neat booklet, "A Quarter of a Century," by Mrs. G. H. Robinson, has met with much approval. It is a concise yet comprehensive review of the work of the society during its 25 years of activity, and includes also a number of excellent sketches of some of the late members, prominent in their day, and also of present energetic workers.

Thursday afternoon session was devoted to the passing of resolutions, votes of thanks, "The Question Drawer," by Mrs. Grant of Orillia, the disposal of money and to prayers of thanksgiving.

Resolutions and Memorial Service.

That the society record its sympathy with the China Inland Mission, the American Congregational Mission, the American Presbyterian Mission, the English Mission, the Theo-Yung Independent Mission, the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, the British and Foreign Bible Society, the Christian Missionary Alliance and the Scandinavian Alliance Mission for losses sustained during the uprising in China; that the society express its deep regret at the death of Mrs. Jeffrey, late Secretary of Indian missions in the north-west and British Columbia; that the society place on record deep regret for the loss sustained by the death of the Queen and congratulation to the King.

A memorial service led by Mrs. H. Campbell was held to commemorate the death of the Queen, Miss Harris of India, Dr. L. Graham of China, Mrs. Ewart of Toronto, Mrs. J. M. King of Winnipeg and Mrs. MacMurchy, Mrs. D. J. Macdonnell and Mrs. Jeffrey of Toronto. Prayers of thanksgiving for the examples set by these departed ones were made by Mrs. Blair of Prescott and Mrs. Ball of Guelph, and the meeting closed with prayer by Mrs. Robertson of Walkerton.

If Mr. Heeney accepts the call from the Presbyterian church at Lansdowne, the ordination and induction will take place on Thursday, 23rd inst., at 2.30 p. m. The moderator will preside, Rev. Mr. Fairlie to address the minister and Rev. A. Laird the congregation.