

FOREIGN MISSIONS AT HOME.

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We have, no doubt, all heard that venerable phrase regarding the futility of sending money to prosecute mission work in distant lands while we have at home those who yet need conversion. It is an ancient excuse and was heard in church courts quite frequently about a hundred years ago, and will, no doubt, be brought out by those who "care for none of these things" in the present year, with a sunrise of satisfaction in their mean little souls, as if they had found out some new thing. We know its place and value now, no one is likely to be deceived by it. It had a power of its own, being a seal on the purses of sundry close-fisted people and a wearing trouble, by reason of which some of the saints may have gone home before their time.

In these last days that excuse bids fair to be denied to those who used it in our Canadian Church. There has been sent to our shores, and is now there, that which shall be material for foreign mission work at home. The twentieth century will be big with world problems and world changes. If its dawning is to be taken as a promise of its difficult things, then every worker for Christ needs a strong hand and an earnest heart to set themselves to their tasks, for the romance of missions has been dissipated entirely and the reality is facing us. Providence has sent the heathen to people who did not seem anxious to send forth to the heathen lands.

It is not my purpose to refer to the work among the Chinese or Orientals of any kind who have come to be an element in the population of every western city. These do not assimilate into the body politic, but certain other races without that word which alone makes wise to salvation are becoming part of our national life. In these days of imperialistic ideas no man will say that our land is not large enough to afford such a problem. You have but to cross the Ottawa to find what different elements can make up a unity. The Quebec and On-