

together with reports of their annual and semi-annual meetings of Conference, have kept us informed respecting the methods, the character and the progress of the work on the field. Of this we shall speak more particularly further on. Through our Secretary and the several Associational Secretaries, we have endeavored to keep in touch with the home churches, imparting information regarding the work, and seeking to elicit an intelligent and hearty interest in its advancement. We gratefully record the helpful assistance of the *Canadian Baptist* as a medium of communication with the people. We wish also to express our conviction of the great value of the *Link*, published by the Women's Board.

There is one other sphere of contact, and that by no means the least important, which your Board has sought to more intimately establish. Whatever value there is in being in close touch with the workers abroad and the pastors and churches at home, is infinitely enhanced by keeping in close touch with God. We would have it remembered that the Board is not the vital and efficient connecting link between the work in India and the churches at home. The Spirit of God, the source of all life and power, links souls in Canada with souls in India. The Holy Spirit is the medium through whom spiritual power is transmitted from Christ indwelt lives in Canada to the degraded souls in India. It is of the supremest importance that the workers in the remote field, the churches at home, and your Board, as the instrumental medium between them, should be in the closest possible conscious touch with the Spirit of God. Without this all our work will be cold, mechanical and fruitless.

The provision of means for the energetic prosecution of the work has been, throughout the year, a subject of grave anxiety to your Board. We began the year with a deficit in our bank account of \$3,868.66. The considerable enlargement of the staff of workers proportionately increased the necessary outlay. Just at this juncture came the financial depression that has prevailed so widely in our country. The consequence has been that the deficits in our bank account throughout the year have been larger than ever in the history of this work. We spread the matter before the Lord and before our people, and not in vain. At the same time the Board gave itself diligently to the study of the utmost economy of expenditure, consistent with the efficient prosecution of the work in hand,—a work which could not be laid down. The missionaries manifested their sympathy not only in large personal contributions, but in withdrawing some of the estimates, such as were of least immediate urgency. Many of the churches, and many individuals,