

# Canadian Missionary Link.

*Published in the interests of the Baptist Foreign Missionary Societies of Canada.*

VOL. XXX.

TORONTO, MAY, 1915.

No. 9

## MISSIONARY NEWS.

The head of the Y.M.C.A. in China tells us that Christianity is facing a new situation there. The literati—the million men of the educated class, the men who have really ruled China—have always presented an unbroken wall of indifference to Christianity. But in some way a marvellous change has taken place, and now these men are eagerly and exhaustively studying Christianity. They claim to have tried everything to make China a strong nation—militarism, education, republican forms—have failed of their purpose, and are now claiming that it must be Christianity—the power of personal religion—that makes western nations what they are. Therefore their change of attitude. When Mr. Eddy visited China, the President of the Republic received him, and the Vice-President arranged a meeting in his own house for him. But all this, while a great encouragement, is also a great challenge. There is no doubt that the Christian religion can stand the test; but there is not the same assurance that the followers of the Christian religion will rise to the opportunities afforded them.

“Missions” gives this note: “One of Abraham Lincoln’s wise sayings was: ‘If you cannot remove an obstacle, plow around it.’ That is what missionary information is doing with the huge boulders of indifference in the church fields.”

The Finance Committee of the Northern Baptist Convention of the U. S. A. is facing the possibility, and almost probability, of a reduction in estimates for foreign work of \$100,000. That

will involve no new missionaries being sent, none on furlough being allowed to return, no building of any sort erected, a cut of 18 per cent. on estimates for each missionary’s work, and a reduction of 10 per cent. on estimates for Europe.

There has been a movement in operation, somewhat strongly supported, attempting to co-operate mission work in Mexico—to establish one national church, to be known as the Evangelical Church of Mexico—to combine different church journals into one, to create one large training school for Christian workers from the union of those of different denominations now at work, and to divide the country into a number of districts, allotting one to each of the denominations. The Baptist Home Mission Society has been obliged to approve of these plans only in part. They cannot accept the name, which implies a national church, since we know only the local church. Neither can they approve of the interchange of church members, since adult baptism, and that immersion, is a necessary condition of membership in our churches. Nevertheless, they wish to co-operate in all possible matters, and look for some practical outcome of the conference.

Mr. Fetler has written from his exile in Sweden of the causes of his exile and the state of religious liberty in Russia. Accusations were made by the clerical party that the Baptists and others were German sects; that Bismarck gave them an immense sum of money to propagate German ideas in Russia; that the German Emperor is publishing, at his own expense, a Russian Baptist journal;