

St. Pauls, Mrs. Beard; and on a later afternoon by Mesdames McLeod, McAll mission, McMullen and McKay, Presbyterian. All these greetings were affectionate and sisterly in tone and spoke of the unity of Christians in mission work. Miss Whitfield, from Liberia, Africa, spoke at some length. She described the degraded condition of women in that country and thrilled her audience with her description of the barbarous treatment of a wife by her brutal husband. Five years ago, Miss Whitfield went from Dundas, Ont., to work under Bishop Taylor. Although the progress of the gospel is slow and there is much to discourage, Miss Whitfield purposes returning shortly. The choir rendered valuable assistance, and a good collection closed an interesting meeting.

Wednesday morning was taken up with Committee work; five being in session from 10.30 till noon, viz.: Memorials, Modes of Work, Organizers, Mission Bands and Courtesies. The afternoon was largely occupied with reports of the morning's work. The Memorial Committee report dealt principally with changes in annual report.

The Committee on Modes of Work recommended (1) that as far as practicable a monthly prayer meeting to promote the interest of mission work be held in connection with the regular prayer-meeting in order to interest and instruct the general public; (2) that as a number of members are engaged in business and never attend the meetings, that once or twice a year the auxiliary give a plain tea and especially invite members and any others they may wish in order that they may be interested in the work, and that members be asked to bring any interesting missionary matter for use in meetings; (3) that in each auxiliary there be a recruiting committee of four appointed, and that there be a thanksgiving offering, a birthday box and a self-denial week established.

Mesdames Burns, Wood, Atkin and Wright took charge of a "model auxiliary." This exercise was for the assistance of those not familiar with the mode of conducting auxiliary meetings. It was instructive and profitable, and was closed with an effective recitation by Mrs. G. Jackson. By request this was repeated on the Mission Band evening.

The second calling of the roll gave the number of delegates present as 139, with thirty visitors from surrounding towns.

On Wednesday evening a crowded audience assembled to hear Miss Wintermute, lately returned from Japan.

The Rev. J. S. Ross, pastor of the church, occupied the chair, and introduced Miss Wintermute in appropriate terms.

Miss Wintermute is a graceful and fluent speaker, and won her audience with her unaffected descriptions of Japanese life, dwelling specially on our progress in the schools. The W.M.S. has done good work among the Japanese women and girls in Tokio, Shizuoka, and Kofu.

The Organizers followed with reports of work done in their respective Conferences: Niagara, Mrs. Jackson; Guelph, Mrs. Scarff; London, Mrs. Wright. Faithful work had been done by the District Organizers, resulting in the formation of some Auxiliaries on nearly all of the districts, those yet vacant being largely missions, where we do not naturally look for openings. Still there are circuits vacant where we are waiting for open doors.

Thursday morning's session was opened with the usual routine, followed by the election of Conference Organizers as follows: London Conference, Mrs. G. Wright, London; Niagara Conference, Mrs. T. W. Jackson, Caledonia; Guelph Conference, Mrs. Scarff, Guelph.

The Corresponding Secretary and Treasurer gave their reports in detail, both of which were accepted. Miss Dickson, Corresponding Secretary of Mission Bands, gave her report in detail, of which the following is a summary: Number of Mission Bands, 50, an increase of four; number

of members, 1,723, a decrease of seventy-four, this decrease being accounted for by the fact that all members not paying the full fee had been struck off this year; income, \$2,098.16, sent to branch Treasurer, \$2,078.00, being an increase of \$572.31. Report adopted.

Continuing the reports of committees, the Organizers reported (1) that each District Organizer be furnished with three copies of Annual Report, twenty-five copies each of "Ten Reasons," "Duties of Auxiliary Officers," "Our Work," and Constitution, also sample copies of OUTLOOK and Treasurers' blanks. (2) That the duties of an organizer be to organize in new fields as quickly as possible, keep in communication with all Auxiliaries and Circles on District, particularly the new ones, and hold District Conventions, and arrange for public meetings when desirable. (3) Committee recommend the advisability of the District Organizer or some other person appointed by her, appearing at the May District Meeting on the second day to present the claims of our Society, its aims and objects, to ministers and laymen there convened. Report adopted.

Invitations for the next Annual Meeting being called for, Listowel, Milton, Centenary church, Hamilton, and Strathroy responded. The vote selected Listowel.

Thursday afternoon opened with a consecration service led by Mrs. Jackson. A number of ladies took part, giving cheerful testimony to the value of this missionary work in advancing spiritual life both in their own hearts and in the Church generally.

The report of Mission Band Committee followed, read by Miss Daly:

1. Where two Bands send their money through the Auxiliary Treasurer, neither Band having a membership entitling them to a delegate, they be allowed to combine their membership and send one delegate, and if one Band has more than a sufficient membership to admit of sending a delegate, they should be allowed to add the surplus number of members to the Band having an insufficient number, so that they may have the advantage of being represented at the branch meeting.

2. That the Organizers give particular attention this year to the organization of Mission Circles and Bands, and that they should be provided with aids to their work in the form of suitable Mission Band literature.

3. That Mission Circles and Bands be provided with annual cards similar to those of last year instead of using blank forms as used by other M. B. Cor.-Secretaries.

4. That as Circles and Bands are usually formed of those inexperienced in the work, it has been thought that the cultivation of a closer relationship between the older and younger workers in the same church would tend to encourage the latter and to prevent many of the mistakes made by them in the reports of their year's work; we therefore recommend that Auxiliaries, Circles and Bands in their localities arrange for an interchange of friendly visits at least twice in the year, and that at the conclusion of the year's work two officers from the Auxiliary be appointed to confer with the Sec. and Treas. of the Band concerning the report sent the M. B. Cor.-Sec. Report accepted.

A conference of Mission Circles and Auxiliaries followed, led by Mrs. Burns who divided this exercise into three parts: How to make Auxiliary meetings interesting; How to increase attendance; How to sustain country Auxiliaries.

Under these heads were the following suggestions: Visiting committees, Personal Work for the Lord Committee, "at homes" at houses of members, distribute leaflets, missionary prayer-meetings, make use of your young people, etc. Mrs. Mason, of Muncey, told very affectively of an Auxiliary composed of seven Indian women who had raised \$20 last year.

The question drawer in charge of Mesdames Sutherland