

Convention of the Woman's Baptist Foreign Missionary Society of Ontario (West)

Reported by Miss Gertrude E. Dayfoot.

The thirtieth annual meeting of the Women's Baptist Foreign Missionary Society of Ontario (West) opened on Nov. 7th in the Baptist church, St. Thomas, the President in the chair, with the singing of "All hail the power of Jesus' name," reading of the Scripture by Miss Tapscott, and prayer by Mrs. Firstbrook.

The annual reports followed. The Link reported receipts of \$997.49; expenditure, \$934.17, leaving balance on hand of \$63.32. Though the total circulation has decreased on account of the fact that the Maritime Provinces have now their own paper, the Ontario and Quebec circulation has increased and there is reason for encouragement.

Mrs. Dancy, in charge of the Bureau of Missionary Literature, reports a decrease in sales, which is attributed to the fact that bureaus have been established in both of the Maritime Provinces and the Northwest. Cash on hand at first of year and receipts, \$100.49; disbursements, \$44.33, leaving balance of \$56.16.

The Associational reports were generally encouraging, but we note throughout that the directors are still caused great inconvenience as a result of the delinquency of Circles in sending in reports.

The Question Drawer, conducted by Mrs. Urquhart, gave us an interesting discussion on methods of collecting the Indian Fund, and in the matter of applying thank offerings to life memberships, an expression of opinion taken showed that such a course is not considered advisable.

After a prayer service conducted by Mrs. R. H. Yule, an address of welcome was given on behalf of the ladies of the St. Thomas church, to which the President replied briefly.

In the afternoon, after singing, and prayer by Mrs. W. P. Reekie, the retiring President addressed the session, choosing for her subject, "The Master and the Woman at Sychar," which was applied to the need of the day in a few well chosen words.

The election of officers resulted as follows: President, Mrs. Firstbrook; 1st Vice-President, Mrs. S. S. Bates; 2nd Vice-President, Miss Elliot. Members of Board—Mesdames Woodburne (London), McEwen (York Mills), Geo. Matthews (Brantford), Wm. Craig, Geo. Cross, W. J. Robertson, C. T. Stark, Jno. Hooper, Miss Moyle (Toronto).

In her address on the Bungalow Fund, Miss Elliot told briefly of what had been done and

explained the present situation. Money is needed for the completion of the Akidu Bungalow, and must be in by the first of February next. Miss Elliot urged that the matter be given careful consideration by each individual as a personal call.

"Hindu Life in Northern India" was the subject of a most interesting address by Mrs. Jno. Craig. Benares, with its hundreds of temples, its mosques, and its sin, and Allahabad, with its millions of pilgrims seeking in vain rest for their souls, were pictured to us in vivid colors.

Rev. J. G. Brown presented to the convention some of the results of the missionary efforts in India, the staff of over 3,000 missionaries, mission buildings to a value of \$10,000,000, the Bible in the language of 240 out of the 300 millions, educational institutions with 500,000 of the young life of India in Christian training; 20,000 native Christian workers; about 3,000,000 native Christians.

The indirect influences, Mr. Brown said, have infinitely greater results; the influence on the Government and on the Hindu and Mohammedan religions resulting in a general seeking for something better.

The evening session opened with "The Glory Song," reading of Scripture by Mrs. J. W. Hoyt, and prayer by Mrs. T. S. Johnston. After a well rendered solo by Miss Murdock, of Simcoe, Mrs. Eva Rose York addressed the audience on "Stewardship." We are stewards of (1) Time, our Lord spent 33 years away from the glory of the Father for us. (2) Personal endowments, our gifts and graces are for God's glory. (3) Money, which is perhaps the most difficult to recognize as the Lord's. (4) The word of God, which is ours to lead us into the fulness of life in Him. (5) Immortal souls, this is most solemn, as all around us souls are going out into the night.

Mrs. Mills, of St. Thomas, who favored us also in the afternoon, sang a solo, and Rev. Jno. Craig spoke of the Revival in India, tracing it from the beginning to our own Canadian Mission. He read extracts from letters of missionaries on the field, describing the effect of the Revival, and in closing urged that we pray earnestly for the newly cleansed Christians and for a continuation of this outpouring of the Holy Spirit.

The Convention closed with the benediction.