

*N. B. AND P. E. I. BRANCH.**Rules Governing Banner Competition.*

The basis of Banner competition is as follows:

1. The Banner will be awarded to the Mission Band or Circle having the largest increase of subscribers to PALM BRANCH over last year.

2. No two or more Bands of any church can unitedly compete, but they can do so separately.

3. In any church where more than one Band is in operation, each Band shall keep its own list of subscribers, and act independently of each other.

[This came too late for Dec. No., so we are glad to insert it now,]

Mrs. Lucas, Sussex, writes:

"Three years ago Mrs. Stockton and myself, with the help of our Pastor, made several attempts to organize an Auxiliary or Mission Band at Newtown, Kings Co., N. B. We thought we had succeeded, but alas, it proved a failure. No direct attempt was made again till in September, when Mr. Hamilton drove Mrs. Hamilton and myself out there. We visited a number of houses, distributed literature, and in the evening held a meeting, at which Mr. Hamilton did the cause good service. I spoke for a few minutes, but the way was not clear for organization then. We stayed all night. Next day did more visiting and talking. We found that the seed-sowing of three years before was not lost, but was about to bear fruit. About two weeks later we went again; visited most of the houses not visited the first time. In the evening we held a meeting, where our Pastor had another good word to say for us. Before we closed that service we had organized an auxiliary and a Mission Band, including boys and girls, with a prospect of them taking a good hold of the work. Mrs. Hamilton and myself visited the Auxiliary at its first meeting, read some cheering words from the Corresponding Secretary, written directly to them; also helped them to get thoroughly started. We have had encouraging words from the Band. The Auxiliary and Band have been so closely connected that it is hard to give a report of one without the other. Our experience would lead us to say, "Never be discouraged." Let the seed-sowing be done. Some time there will be a harvest."

Mrs. Sellers, of Centerville, N. B., writes:

"You will be pleased to hear of a new Mission Band which we organized on Nov. 26th, at Williams-town. The name "Thanksgiving" was chosen because we organized on Thanksgiving Day. Seventeen members are enrolled, with Miss Ethel McAuley President, and Mrs. Colter McEagan Corresponding Secretary. Three of the officers were baptized and received into the Church the Sunday before the Band was organized. It is good to see them enter into this work for the Master. We have great hopes for this Band, they are such interested and willing workers.

On Nov. 20th the "Gospel Trumpeters" Band was

organized at Shediac, N. B. Six names were enrolled Mrs. W. E. Matthews was elected President, and Miss Evelyn Smith Corresponding Secretary. Many of the children were unable to attend, on account of illness, but they hope soon to double their numbers. They meet once a fortnight, every alternate meeting being devoted to sewing, preceded by a short missionary programme." I. S.

NOTES FROM NOVA SCOTIA.

The Quarterly Reports show that nearly all the Bands have gone to work this year with renewed vigor—an increase in membership and new subscribers for our paper. We would urge them not to grow weary in well-doing.

"Joyous Workers", Cape Negro, held a concert in November, from which they received a collection of \$1.97. They have sewed a quilt, which is to be sent to the Supply Committee.

We are happy to report another new Band.—"The Alcorn," Mission Band—organized at Bridgetown, Nov. 7th. We wish them every success and blessing in their new work.

"Lone Star," Bermuda, reports a membership of thirty, and subscription to PALM BRANCH, twenty-five.

"Burpee," "C. M. Tate," and "Maggie Smith," are all at work with good interest, and have a lot of new subscribers for PALM BRANCH.

The Secretary of "Picquet Guard," So Farmington writes, "Our President entertained us at an "At Home," on Dec. 15. We have adopted a girl in the Colqualeetza Institute, and are going to raise all we possibly can for her support. We have sent two barrels of apples to the Orphan's Home, Halifax."

M. E. BROWN, *Cor. Secretary.*

So. Farmington, Annapolis Co., N. S.

BAY OF QUINTE BAND NOTES.

Northport Circuit is to the front in Mission work with two Bands recently organized. Northport Reapers have been working since September with thirteen members. Pres. Miss Bessie Smith; Cor. Sec. Miss Ethel Brummel. Solmesville Little Helpers reports seven new members with nine dollars realized from sale of a quilt. Blissville Jubilee Circle shows a marked increase in zeal and attendance. The members are busily employed making garments to have ready when needed by Supply Committee. Oshawo Simcoe St. M. Band reports three new members during quarter. Foxboro M. Band reports three additional members, and all at work preparing a box for a mission. Spring Brook reports good attendance with one added to their ranks. Hastings Friendly League reports three new members with a hopeful outlook resulting from a visit from the President of the Branch. Smithfield M. Band is prospering, it has an average attendance of thirty, with two added to their number during the quarter. Their present work is preparation for an entertainment. Tweed, Sunbeam M. Band reports fourteen new members. The girls of the Band wrote letters to the lady missionaries and the boys sent calendars. Port Hope Circle has resumed work and hopes for a successful year in service for the Master. M. G. HAWLEY, *Cor. Sec.*