

# THE CHRISTIAN.

FAITH COMETH BY HEARING, AND HEARING BY THE WORD OF GOD.—Paul

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## The Christian.

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## Prince Edward Island Association.

JULY 7th to 9th, 1900.

On Saturday, July 7th, 1900, the Christian Association of P. E. Island will assemble in annual convention with the church at Cross Roads, Lot 48.

The meetings, which promise to be of exceptional interest, will continue until the evening of Monday, July 9th, as per programme.

Visiting members and friends from all the churches are cordially invited to be present and participate in the good time expected, and make the meeting all that can be desired.

Delegates travelling by rail to Charlottetown may secure the passage at one first class fare by notifying the ticket agent of their intention to attend the convention. Certificates of attendance will be issued by the Secretary of the Association for use on return passage up to and on Tuesday, July 10th.

J. HARRY WILLIAMS,

Secretary of Association.

### PROGRAMME

- 7 p. m. Saturday ..... Bro. F. Harlow  
11 a. m. Sunday ..... Bro. R. F. Whiston  
Lord's Supper. .... Elder D. Crawford  
8 p. m. Sunday ..... Bro. W. H. Allen  
7 p. m. Sunday .... Bro. G. Nelson Stevenson  
10 a. m. Monday ..... Business Meeting  
2 p. m. Monday ..... Young Peoples' Meeting  
1. Song by Congregation.  
2. Invocation.  
3. Scripture Reading.  
4. Prayer.  
5. Solo, R. F. Whiston.  
6. Address, G. N. Stevenson.  
7. Reading, Miss Ethel Connors.  
8. Solo, Miss E. J. Bagnall.  
9. Recitation, Miss Katherine Boyer.  
10. Address, F. Harlow.  
11. Song, by children.  
12. Recitation, Miss K. T. Campbell.  
13. Address, W. H. Allen.  
14. Solo, Leonard McKay.  
15. Paper, J. Harry Williams.  
16. Male Quartette.  
7 p. m. Monday ..... Bro. A. N. Simpson

# HOME MISSIONS!

## The Importance of Home Mission Work in the Maritime Provinces.

What Some of the Ministers of the Christian Churches of N. B., N. S. and P. E. I. Say About the Home Work.

### HOME MISSION WORK.

L. A. MILES, President Home Mission Board.

As the Home Mission Board, despairing of greater support financially from the churches, and determined to do something to justify their existence, have at last at their own financial risk, placed an evangelist in the field, the time may be opportune to make a few remarks concerning what it has and has not done.

It will readily be surmised by any one who has given the slightest attention to the monthly returns of the Secretary, that the Board has been handicapped in the organization of any aggressive work by the lack of funds.

Although pledges were made at the last Annual meeting to the amount of about four hundred and fifty dollars, yet, at this time, not one-sixth of this amount has been received on account of these pledges. The amount received from voluntary payments have been far and away in excess of that received on pledges. This is calculated to convince one that the taking of pledges which are given at moments of exaltation, and are not backed up by an abiding interest in the work, is an unsatisfactory way of raising the necessary funds. After the impetus supplied by the associations of an Annual meeting is exhausted, it appears that the pendulum swings as far in the opposite direction.

In consequence of this, and the fact that all the available funds are voted by the Annual in regular payments to different churches, the Board is left without any working capital with which to pay the expenses of an evangelist. This applies not only to the past year, but to a number of years past, and unless some change is made, will go on indefinitely. The Annual meeting will be convened, the brethren enthused, the pledges

made under that enthusiasm, the money voted as before, the Board left without a working capital, and then the brethren will disperse with the satisfaction of a good work well and nobly done.

Now the enthusiasm is good, and we hail it with joy, but that in order that our joy may be perfect, it is necessary that the pressure should be kept up long enough for the pledges to be redeemed. At no time, since the beginning of the Church year has the Board been out of debt, and is not at present. The relative position of its assets and liabilities has been such, as to destroy all justification of its existence as a Mission Board. Any individual member might have received the money and paid the bills.

It is quite evident that if any future Board is to organize and carry out any evangelistic work, it will be necessary either that more money be collected for its use, or less be given in regular grants to churches.

At the last Annual meeting, an attempt was made to open up the question of grants to churches, but as it seemed to be the almost unanimous opinion of the brethren that this could not be done, unless the churches that had been receiving such grants were notified of such contemplated action three months before the Annual meeting. The matter was dropped. Although a subsequent perusal of the various resolutions passed at Annual meetings scarcely seemed to bear out this contention, still it was thought better that such notice should be given, and no recommendations for expenditure for the coming year be made, in order that the whole subject of Home Mission work might be opened up and discussed at the next Annual. These notices have been sent, and no recommendations have been made for expenditure in this manner for the next year, in order that the next Annual meeting at Westport may deal with the question of Home Missions and the functions of the Board without any restrictions. We wish the brethren in every church to be apprised of this fact, in order that before the meeting they may have ample time to consider the question, and thus come with well matured ideas upon the subject.