

Foreign Mission Board

W. B. M. U.

"We are laborers together with God."

Contributors to this column will please address Mrs. J. W. MANNING, 240 Duke Street, St. John, N. B.

PRAYER TOPIC FOR JANUARY.

For Visitation, that the Holy Spirit may come in great power upon the missionaries, their helpers and the school, that the undecided women may acknowledge Christ as the only way of salvation.

New Germany.

The new Germany W. M. A. S. held a Christmas service on the evening of Dec. 28th. Pastor Smith occupied the chair. Written invitations had previously been sent to all the sisters of the church soliciting their presence and a Christmas offering. A large number responded either by bringing or sending a substantial offering for missions. The meeting opened with singing by the choir, reading of the Scriptures and prayer. Then followed a very interesting programme of readings, recitations and music. Recitations by Misses Eva Lohns, Edith Taylor and Rachle DeLong were very pleasing. Three excellent readings, "The Civilized Heathen's Conversion" by Miss Maggie Bars, "An Appeal to Women" by Mrs. E. Lantz and "The Progress of the Telugu Mission" by Mrs. G. F. Freeman, were much appreciated. Mrs. W. R. Bars read a carefully prepared paper on "Women's work for Women," and Mrs. Verge delighted the audience with "Sarepta's account of Mission Day at Smithville." The readings and recitations were well selected and were listened to with the closest attention, and we hope will deepen our interest in the work of missions. Pastor Smith in his closing address spoke words of encouragement, referring briefly to the work that had been done by the A. S. in the twenty-two years of its existence. One very interesting item of the meeting was the collection of the Christmas offering which amounted to \$22. Offerings that have come in later swelled the amount to \$25.30. The selections of music by the choir added much to the interest of the meeting. ADA C. WEBBER, Sec'y.

The ladies of the W. M. Society at Bass River, held a very interesting missionary meeting in the Baptist church on the eve of Nov. 17. The programme which was varied was well rendered and was enjoyed by all present. Very appropriate music was given by the Baptist choir. Among the exercises we may mention a solo by Mrs. Chas. Thompson. All who have heard this lady sing will know what a treat we had. We may also mention a missionary exercise by seven little girls, each of which represented a mission station. The collection taken by two small boys was quite large and will go to the Home Mission. The past year has been the most successful in the history of our Society. We have met regularly at the home of some sister. The membership has increased. One Life Member was made by our President, Mrs. Alex. Burns and we expect soon to make another. Never have our meetings been so largely attended and the presence of the Holy Spirit been so powerfully felt among us. We rejoice to know that we are "workers together with God." MRS. C. FISHER, Sec'y.

Missionary Don'ts.

Don't turn this leaf over as the title you scan,
Till you've read to the uttermost line;
If it gives you a twinge in conscience or heart,
Believe it was first felt in mine.

When in some little strait you write to your chief,
Don't on his god good temper impose,
And tax her two cents to bring you relief,
But remember a stamp to enclose.

Or when some lone worker in far-distant lands,
By a message of cheer you would aid
Use overland paper, and not much of that,
Then see that it's fully prepaid.

Don't block all the wheels if a scheme is afoot
To give information galore;
Had you not neglected to send back the blank,
That honor would bid you restore.

Don't undertake service of general worth
With just a wee bit of an air;
As you say condescendingly, "Well, to please you,"
When you only are doing your share.

Don't deprecate measures, nor criticize acts,
Unless, in the very same breath,
You've a course to propose that seems better by far
Than that you may harass to death.

Don't leave your poor mite box to gather but dust,
But give it some prominent place;
To fill it with might-have-beens rather than mites
Should bring shame and confusion of face.

Don't leave your poor orphan, in *medias res*,
Or imagine an evil betide;
Because you know naught of her during the year,
Don't fancy she's married or died.

Don't say to a chairman on programme intent,
(For nothing her courage so quells)
When she cheerfully asks you to read, write or sing,
"Oh! can't you ask somebody else?"

Don't let your auxiliary languish and droop,
For lack of your bright spirit's glow,
Tho' unnamed on the programme you need not forget
That one part is always to go.

Don't elect when appointments by twos or by threes
Clash with meetings whose notice is given,
To give to some private or "social event"
The hour belonging to Heaven.

Don't put a new motion while one slowly pends,
But wait till the last is turned down,
And say, "Madame President," "Chairman," or
"Chair,"
And never "My dear Mrs. Brown."

Don't leave your collections till late in the year,
Then grieve that they seem to have waned;
The prompt once-a-quarter folk ever win in,
And know not a treasury drained.

Don't say to a speaker, "Now, what do we owe?"
As she stands surrounded by friends;
But quietly slip in her hand a fair fee,
With a grace that never offends.

Don't rush for umbrella, parcel or bag
When the business is done to a turn;
There are thousands of meetings in session today
Because they forgot to adjourn.

Don't fail to possess the yearly Report,
Or keep quarterly meetings in range;
This heading, your loyal, unwavering love
Will never be shadowed by change.

If an office you holding with honor and skill,
Don't throw all the ranks out of line,
Because you decide, scarcely weighing results,
That this is the year to resign.

Don't send to the editor order or cheque,
Your well-beloved *Friend* to renew;
With the publishing business, leaflets, and such
She really has nothing to do.

And when the good publisher you would inform
That far from your state you will roam,
Tho' pretty clear-headed, she's not clear enough
To divine both your name and your home.

Don't offer to more than one paper at once
The very same story or song;
This fashion of putting two strings to your bow
Is journalistically wrong.

Don't wonder subscriptions have suddenly ceased
Till you glance at your cover and date;
If the price you have carelessly failed to remit
It is not the town office that's late.

If by last will and testament as you would bless,
Don't follow your own will and way;
Find the right legal form, lest you look down from
Heaven
To see your good gift gone astray.

In brief, if the glorious Golden Rule law
Control all your motives and powers,
The sun will ne'er rise nor set on the day
We thank not the Lord you are ours.

—Woman's Missionary Friend.

Foreign Mission Board.

NOTES BY THE SECRETARY.

How is this for pastoral leadership? A meeting was held in a certain church, the pastor was assisted by a visiting brother, the latter was intensely missionary in act and spirit. At the meeting which was held on a Saturday, he persuaded the pastor to announce that an offering for missions would be taken the next day. And what do you think was the announcement which the pastor made? "Brethren, we have decided to give an opportunity tomorrow for the church to make an offering for missions, so you will all take due notice of this announcement and each one of you try to bring a nickel." Just think will you of such an announcement from the pastor of a church whose mission in the earth is to give to the last limit of its power, the gospel to all the world. Two Scriptures occur to my mind in this connection: "Alexander the coppermith did me much evil," and "Thou hatest the deeds of the Nicolaitanes, which I also hate."

Sometimes there is heard the plea that while missions are all right under certain conditions, yet if a church finds it difficult to raise funds for its current expenses, that church is excused for not giving to missions. There never was a greater fallacy. The fact is the difficulty in raising funds for local purposes may be due entirely to the refusal of pastor and people to do the bidding of their Lord and Master in giving the gospel to those who have it not. It is the surest way to drying the streams of benevolence, and if persisted in, will result in spiritual barrenness and ultimately in death. If you want the work in the home church to flourish, scatter the good seed of the kingdom. Reach out to the ends of the earth. If the finger-tips are warm, that is a pretty good sign of a strong and vigorous heart-beat.

EXCUSES THAT DO NOT EXCUSE.

In appealing for funds for the great work of missions to heathen peoples the answer frequently returned is something like this: "We have had so many calls, or we have been paying off a debt on the home church, or building a house for our pastor or repairing the church-building, etc., and so you must excuse me from responding to your call."

Now it is easily right to recognize the genuineness of these claims as indicated, but when this is done, the fact remains, that all these numerous interests in the home-land, would be attended by vastly more of blessing if the plans for giving on the part of the Lord's people were so made as to recognize the primary obligation to evangelize the utterly destitute heathen according to the terms of Christ's last command.

If the church, with its pastor leading, plans to provide for all sorts of other things, however excellent in themselves, first, and at the expense of ignoring the foremost thing in the mind of Christ, there will be many a sad disappointment concerning the ultimate worth of the things done. Indeed this is the surest way to bring on spiritual decline, in the church of Jesus Christ.

Revivals fraught with blessing and spiritual enlargement of every kind have always followed devotion to the evangelization of the heathen. Note the movements following the influence of men like Carey, Brainerd, Judson and the late missionary movements in England, Germany and America.

Let the endowments of Colleges, the building and costly churches, and libraries, hospitals, etc., and the extension of home philanthropies go on apace. Let them be extended never so broadly, for they are good and will do good, but let them spring out of increased fidelity to missions and then they will be thrice blessed. As the late ex-President Harrison well said, "All these are worthy only and in proportion, as they contribute to the regeneration of mankind. Every invention, every work, every man, every nation, must one day come to this weighing platform and be appraised." You give liberally to foreign missions and the home work will not suffer one whit. Nay, rather, will the work prosper as never before. Some of us, brethren, are working at the wrong end. We need to reverse our plans and our methods in order to insure the best results.

Foreign Mission Receipts.

A member of the F M B, \$75; Mrs and Peter B Risor, \$2; Indian Harbor church, \$4.25; Zion church, Truro, \$2.25; in mem of D F and Libbie Parker, \$10; Mrs Adelia Parker, \$2; Tryon B Y P U support of Kanchama, \$1.50, total \$97. Before reported \$129.75. Total to Jan. 1, 1903, \$226.75.

SUPPORT OF MR. GULLISON.

Mrs N P Crosby, \$5; Mrs John Nalder, \$5; C B Vall, \$5; Windsor, B Y P U, \$11.35. Total \$26.35. Before reported \$15. Total to Jan. 1, 1903, \$41.35.

LEGACY.

Bequest Rosa R Raymond, \$101.

J. A. GLENDENNING FUND.

Dartmouth church, \$25; Miss Band Milton, Yarmouth, \$5; W M A S, Bridgewater, \$5; John Moser, \$2; Hants Co per Mrs J Nalder, \$5.75; Mrs Frank Strickland, \$5; W M A S, Temple church, \$10; Main Street church \$50; C W Rose and Sen Clara, Newton, theological Seminary, \$25; Harvey Miss Band, \$10; Rev J Howard Bars, \$30; Rev S S Poole, \$10; Main Street, Junior Union, \$5; German Street Sunday School, \$21.85; Mrs J S M Young, \$25. Total \$279.35. Before reported \$348. Total to Jan. 1, 1903, \$627.35.

The treasury will hold a few more dollars and these are greatly needed you need to give them, we need to give them.

J. W. MANNING, Sec'y-treas.

St. John, Jan. 1, 1902.

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