

time, that one and another of the Auxiliaries and Bands have dropped from the ranks. Another discouraging feature is the failure on the part of not a few Secretaries to send in any reports. Often a good contribution is sent to the Treasurer, but no word comes concerning the general work of the Auxiliary or Band. In some cases even the names of the officers are not given.

We feel sure this neglect is not intentional, but all the same it adds very materially to the duties of those expected to report for Presbyterian or General Society.

We very much regret the loss of several Auxiliaries. One small band of brave workers lost nearly all its members through removals, and feels that at present the meetings cannot be continued. A struggling Auxiliary in the North-West has engaged in Home Missions, hoping in that way to better its own condition. A few seem to have given up from "lack of interest," and others because of difficulties which they found impossible to overcome.

Many of our workers have been inspired to renewed zeal through the thoughtful words of our missionaries. Although here for rest they have given themselves unsparingly, and the reports speak of the advantage it has been to hear from those who have practical knowledge of the foreign fields.

Excellent work has been done in most of our isolated Auxiliaries. "Ormsdown"—always so faithful—heads the list. Those in Quebec, North-West and British Columbia give evidence of continued interest and earnest effort. The "Purab ka Tara," Indore, reports most interestingly of their meetings and of the work of their Bible-woman, who, since her appointment, has had entrance to twenty-five houses. "A monthly average of one hundred and eighty-five of our heathen sisters hear the story of our Saviour's love through her." Our faithful helpers in the "Beulah Reserve" Auxiliary continue to manifest self-denying devotion in the Master's service. Their report, which appears in the Brandon Presbyterian abstracts, is full of interest.

"Scattered Helpers" have materially aided the work, but are not yet so fully reported as they should be. In some cases the amounts contributed is stated without giving the number of Helpers; in other instances the number is given without the amount. "Richmond Church" Scattered Helpers are still working and have contributed liberally. Muscowpetung, no longer an Auxiliary, has those who still remember the work and generously aid it by their gifts.

#### MISSION BANDS

do not report the advance hoped for. In several of the Presbyterian Societies the membership has decreased. A number of the Bands have ceased to work. One withdrew to engage in Home Missions and another merged into Christian Endeavour Society. Two or three Bands seem to have misunderstood the constitution of our Society, for, while nominally auxiliary to it, they have devoted their funds to outside objects. These are some of the discouraging features that appear in the reports, but we are glad to find in them much that is bright and hopeful. Many of the young people have been very faithful and brave, and have in large measure made up for the loss sustained in the failure of those already referred to.

Some of the senior Bands graduated into the Auxiliaries; in this way the number of Bands decreased, but the workers are not lost. Several Bands report that they have been encouraged and strengthened through the interest taken in them by their Auxiliaries. Many pleasing incidents are told of the children's self-denial and of their methods of work, showing that they are being trained to the true spirit of giving.

For watchful oversight of this work among our young people we must look to those in Presbyterian and local Societies who come in close contact with it. No part of our work needs more careful attention.

The appointment of a Mission Band Secretary in each Presbyterian, or at least in the larger ones, was recommended last year. The suggestion does not seem to have been carried out. We therefore again urge the desirability of having such an officer for the special work of supervising and fostering the Mission Bands.

In these days of over much "organization" we need to see to it that our young people are encouraged to be faithful to this work which has an especial claim upon their interest and help.

Auxiliary and Mission Band "Records" have been more generally used. One President-Secretary writes that "they appear to be well liked," and another, that "There was an improvement in the 'Records' returned this year, when they fail it just proves how much such a thing was required." From some we learn that there is still much room for improvement, and it is hoped that each Secretary will in future carefully enter the items as directed. If the printed instructions are followed there need be no mistake in reporting, and the labours of Presbyterian Secretaries would be greatly lightened.

#### PRAYER.

We are glad to note that thank-offerings were held in nearly all of our Auxiliaries and in not a few of the Bands. Many of these meetings were truly "times of refreshing from the Lord."

Only a few Auxiliaries report meeting for special prayer. Those who did, testify that they were strengthened, and we doubt not that the work and workers at home and abroad received special blessing through the prayers then offered. We know that our heavenly Father honours the prayer of faith and has revealed it to be His will that He should be enquired of concerning the things of His kingdom. It is our blessed privilege to ask of Him who has "all power in heaven and on earth," and there is much need that we be earnest and consistent in the use of this privilege. Many of our struggling Auxiliaries ask for an interest in our prayers. Our missionaries frequently make the same request. In our reports we constantly meet the mournful refrain "so few in our congregation take an interest in this work." Have we not been slack in coming to the throne of grace on their behalf? May it not be because of the littleness of our faith that there are still in our congregations so many unawakened to their responsibility and opportunities.

The record of our 18th year is closed. We rejoice in the progress made and in the measure of success granted, and ascribe all the glory to Him who so graciously led and prospered us. Our glance at the things that are behind has, we trust, been profitable to us, but we may not linger with the past, its opportunities are forever beyond our grasp. Let our aim be now to "press forward in humble trust and confidence to do what in us lies to win 'the world for Christ.'"

#### SUMMARY OF THE HOME WORK AS REPORTED.

Presbyterian Societies.....	25
New Auxiliaries.....	50
New Mission Bands.....	25
Auxiliaries unreported or withdrawn.....	22
Mission Bands.....	18
Total number of Auxiliaries.....	569
"    "    Mission Bands.....	228
Auxiliary Membership.....	12,574
Mission Band.....	5,881
Yearly Members of General Society.....	3,563
Life Members added during the year.....	92
Scattered Helpers { Number.....	312
Contributions.....	\$346.45

After Mrs. Shortreed's summary of work at home, with its record of losses and gains, came the

#### REPORT OF SUPPLIES TO MISSIONS.

read by Mrs. Jeffrey.

"A circular appealing for clothing for Indian women and children in the North-West was sent to our Auxiliaries in October, 1884, which was heartily responded to by many of them from the extreme east to west to the extent of not less than two thousand dollars (\$2,000) in value." This is the opening sentence of the first Supply Report of the W.F.M.S. If the record of this branch of our work for the past ten years could be fully given, we would find that it has been a very important factor in the successful work carried on by our missionaries among the North-West Indians. Indeed they have repeatedly said that without the assistance thus given they could not carry on the work. The severity of the climate and the difficulty of finding employment suitable to Indian capacity, and we might add also their disinclination to manual labour, have compelled our missionaries to supply to some extent the necessary clothing. But the Board have felt for some time that there is great danger in

thus relieving the Indians of all responsibility in the matter of providing clothing for themselves and their families, and have for the last few years requested the missionaries and teachers to give the clothing only to children and the old and feeble; and if clothing remained after the wants of these were supplied, able-bodied men and women should be permitted to buy what they required, paying for it either in labour or supplies for the Mission. It has been felt latterly that this arrangement is not entirely satisfactory; owing, however, to distance from the Reserves and lack of knowledge from personal observation, the Board did not feel themselves in a position to decide what steps should be taken to put this matter on a more satisfactory basis. It was decided therefore to communicate with the North-West F. M. Committee, and the following is an extract from the reply received: "Our Committee have been much concerned lately about the growing practice of selling clothing sent from the East to able-bodied Indians in return for work. As you are aware when the policy of sending clothing to the Indian Reserves was begun, the clothing was intended for free distribution to relieve the suffering of infants on the one hand and the sick and aged on the other; and also to provide for the needs of school children. What was attempted at first was nothing but free distribution. When, however, by the generosity of the W.F.M.S. the gifts increased, there was more than was needed for the classes as above indicated, and the missionary welcomed the increase as a means of securing the good-will of the Indians who had hitherto held aloof. It soon became apparent that the indiscriminate giving of clothing to able-bodied men and women had a demoralizing effect; thereupon the system of requiring some service in return was inaugurated. With the increase of the annual sales the distribution of this clothing has become a work of such magnitude as to absorb a very considerable portion of the missionaries' time in the months of early winter, partly in bargaining with the Indians and allocating the clothing and partly in superintending the work which the Indians are required to do by way of payment, and this work often not absolutely essential to the well-being of the Mission. The writer adds: "I am decidedly of opinion that the sales of clothing which have been sent have been an untold blessing to the Indians and a great help to the missionaries, both as a tangible proof of the sympathy of friends in the East, and as a means of commending the gospel to the heathen, but it is evident that this good work may be overdone." In view of the above opinion the Board have decided to ask our Societies to send a smaller amount of clothing for adults, and also that greater care be exercised in re-packing in order that only such articles as will be useful be forwarded. In a report received from one of our teachers this year, it was stated that a number of short, tight-fitting jackets had been sent which were absolutely useless for Indian women and girls, and asking permission to use them for some needy white people, which request was granted.

The amount paid for freight by the different societies for the past year was over seven hundred dollars (\$700), which, with the sums expended in the purchase of new material, is a heavy drain upon the money at the disposal of our members; consequently every cent paid for useless freight is so much taken from what might be used for direct missionary work.

Our Societies responded loyally to the allotment made by the Board, and thirty-two thousand (32,000) pounds of warm clothing, quilts, blankets, etc., have been sent to the different schools and Reserves, all of which have been liberally supplied. One of our Presbyterian Societies prepared outfits for the children in one of our schools, the missionary sending the exact measurements. This was found to be very satisfactory and a great help to those in charge. The Ottawa Presbyterian Society and the Mission Bands in the Stratford Presbyterian Society sent a large supply of useful gifts and prizes for the children in the schools in Central India.

Chalmers' Church, Quebec, have again sent a valuable box to Mrs. Morton, Trinidad; but owing to Mrs. Morton's absence in England, on account of ill health, we have no acknowledgment of its arrival. Ormsdown Auxiliary sent a box to Crowstons Reserve, and Howick Auxiliary one to Mis-ta-wa-sis. Our friends in the eastern Provinces have again been very liberal in the supplies sent to the different Reserves, and we thank them most heartily for their assistance. The usual supply from Salt Springs, N.S., was sent to Birtle from St. Stephen and St. John, N.B., to Regina, and from Fredericton, N.B., to Alberni. Two boxes were also sent from New Westminster, B.C., to Alberni, which, Miss Johnston writes, were filled with clothing for old and young, all nicely mended. I could not help saying, she adds: "God bless the women who looked over the things before they were sent." Cavendish and Kensington, P.E.I., sent clothing to Regina, and New London, P.E.I., to Birtle. Carman and Petal Societies (Man.) have also sent contributions, and other Societies in the North-West may have sent clothing of which the Board has received no report. We trust that all who have taken part in this work have indeed found it "more blessed to give than to receive." "Blessed is he that considereth the poor; the Lord will deliver him in time of trouble."

Mrs. Telfer read the

#### PUBLICATION REPORT.

which records how the work of publication in the hands of the Society has grown, but of which we omit the details.

In recording the work of another year, we have as usual to report progress.

The promise made in our last Annual Report to enlarge the *Leaflet* to 28 pages has been carried out. Owing to this enlargement \$130.66 more has been spent upon it. We feel sure no one has felt that they have had too many letters from our missionaries, or received too much information regarding the work of the Board. This year closes the tenth year of the *Letter Leaflet*. Issues began in May, 1884, with a circulation of 150 per month. Before the end of the first year it had increased to 300. It will be remembered that for a time the *Leaflet* was sent free to the Presidents and Secretaries of Auxiliaries and Mission Bands.

I am indebted to our late Home Secretary, Mrs. Campbell, for the way in which the *Leaflet* was distributed during the first year. "Fifty-three were sent to Presidents and Secretaries of Auxiliaries and Mission Bands, 79 to Presbyterian Societies, 36 to members of the Board, 15 to sister societies, 20 to Halifax. Our missionaries also had the *Leaflet* sent to them" in 1884.

At such a period in our history, we naturally call to mind those members of our Board who were the first promoters of our *Leaflet*, begun, we doubt not, with earnest prayer for their undertaking and not a little anxiety regarding the success of the work. They are to-day reaping the reward of their well-directed judgment. Our President, late Home Secretary, and those associated with them have cause to rejoice that what was begun on such a small scale has, under God, proved such a help in building up the work of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society.

Faces are missed around our Board to-day who had much to do in the planning and carrying out of the work. But so long as our *Leaflet* is in circulation it will ever be a monument to their well-directed zeal and interest in the work.

We close the tenth year of our circulation with a list of 12,115 subscribers. Since 1890 there has been paid to the Treasurer of the General Society \$1,786.57 to help forward the work of the Society. With our large list of subscribers, we still miss the names of quite a few of our Auxiliaries and Mission Bands. Why should this be so?

We have, during the year, received from sales of *Letter Leaflets* \$1,392.90, and after meeting all expenses have handed to General Treasurer \$311. This, along with the extra \$130.66 spent on the enlargement of the *Leaflet*, show that we are still progressing.

We have only one plea to make for our *Leaflet*—the plea of interest in our missionaries and in the work of our Society.

To Miss Ferrier and our Band of Young Lady Helpers we are grateful; their reward for loving service the Master will not overlook.

With the success of our work for the past ten years we cannot but feel encouraged. Yet humbly would we lay our services at the feet of our Lord and Master, asking Him to overlook all imperfections and to accept what, in His sight, has been done from love to Him and His cause.

#### LITERATURE.

The interest in this department is still on the increase. We have sent out 20,248 more than last year, the total for the year being 69,962.

We are glad to report more envelopes in use. Mite boxes have also increased. Our Thank-offering Leaflet and envelopes were largely in excess of last year. Twelve thousand Leaflets and 17,131 envelopes were ordered and sent to our Auxiliaries and Mission Bands. The Thank-offering meeting is now felt to be one of the most hopeful meetings of the year. Many more of our Auxiliaries are now adopting them. We have received from sales of literature \$333.55, and after meeting all expenses have a surplus of \$41.41. This, along with the \$311.00 from the *Letter Leaflet*, making in all \$352.41, we have handed to the General Treasurer. It will be noticed that the free distribution is large this year, but not more than the Literature Fund is able to meet.

Now that the work of the Publication Department has increased to such an extent, we think we are justified in asking from our subscribers a little attention to a few small matters of detail that would materially help to lighten the work of our Secretary.

The first is, in ordering your supplies always send the money with the order. This will save a large amount of book-keeping and postage, as well as time in sending out accounts. Don't hurry your Secretary too much as regards time. So many write at the last moment, and wish their parcel to be in time for their meeting, which is to be held the following day. A number of these small matters help to swell the work, and we feel sure we have only to name them to have them rectified. We would draw attention to our table of literature. On it will be found a Leaflet on the "Origin and Work of the W. F. M. S.," also rules to guide our presidents in conducting meetings. We have printed for the Annual Meeting six new Leaflets. We have also sample copies of the maps of Trinidad and New Hebrides, newly published by the F. M. S. of the Eastern Division; a pamphlet on our Indian Missions, by the Rev. Dr. McLaren; one on Foreign Missions, by Rev. R. P. Mackay, Foreign Secretary; the Report of the Missionary Conference held in Chicago. All these are worthy of careful study. We trust all will visit the table and show the interest they take in this part of the work.

The last report, in some respects the most vital of all, was presented by Mrs. MacLennan, Treasurer, and is as follows:

#### TREASURER'S STATEMENT.

Elizabeth MacLennan, Treasurer, in account with the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society of the Presbyterian Church in Canada (Western Division).

DR.

To balance in hand as per audited account, April 4th, 1893.....\$47,449 01

CR.

By paid Dr. Reid, in pursuance of resolutions of Woman's Foreign Missionary Society, at annual meeting held at London, April 20th, 1893.....\$41,168 70  
May 1st, balance in bank.....6,280 31  
\$47,449 01

#### RECEIPTS.

To balance in hand after payment to Dr. Reid.....	\$6,280 31
" collection at evening meeting in St. Andrew's Church, London, April 19th.....	66 55
To special contributions.....	383 15
Miss McWilliams, outfit money returned.....	150 00
To Secretary-Treas. of Publications on taking over receipt books for fees.....	41 87
" balance in hand of Sec. Treas. of Publications (after paying expenses), now paid into general account.....	352 41
Barrie Presbyterian Society.....	1,061 75
Brandon Presbyterian Society.....	1,088 60
Brookville Presbyterian Society.....	1,450 00
Bruce Presbyterian Society.....	582 15
Chatham Presbyterian Society.....	931 84
Glengarry Presbyterian Society.....	1,962 37
Guelph Presbyterian Society.....	2,175 84
Hamilton Presbyterian Society.....	3,157 65
Huron Presbyterian Society.....	1,408 67
Kingston Presbyterian Society.....	1,324 11
Lanark and Renfrew Presbyterian Society.....	3,689 86
Lindsay Presbyterian Society.....	1,456 65
London Presbyterian Society.....	2,030 71
Maitland Presbyterian Society.....	1,504 00
Orangeville Presbyterian Society.....	730 67
Ottawa Presbyterian Society.....	1,049 19
Owen Sound Presbyterian Society.....	790 87
Paris Presbyterian Society.....	1,724 89
Peterborough Presbyterian Society.....	1,540 10
Sarnia Presbyterian Society.....	602 88
Saugeen Presbyterian Society.....	662 50
Stratford Presbyterian Society.....	1,421 38
Toronto Presbyterian Society.....	5,874 50
Whitby Presbyterian Society.....	1,204 84
Winnipeg Presbyterian Society.....	575 11
Quebec Presbytery.....	97 73
Montreal Presbytery.....	157 50
Regina Presbytery.....	50 00
Calgary Presbytery.....	63 65
Columbia Presbytery, B.C.....	157 65
Interest on General Treasurer's Bank Account.....	300 67
	\$48,102 62

In addition to the above there was contributed by the Purab ka Tara Auxiliary, at Indore, during the last three years, the sum of Rs. 134. 8a. 3p., equal to about \$47.00, and which is now in the hands of the Mission Treasurer, Central India, for the support of a native Bible woman.

#### EXPENDITURE.

By expenses of Annual Meeting held at London, April 18th, 19th and 20th, 1893.....	\$45 21
" Printing and distributing Annual Report.....	642 34
" Lithographing life membership certificates, mailing tubes and postage.....	20 70
" Dr. Marion Oliver's travelling expenses attending Meeting of Board, etc.....	17 00
" Expenses of Presbyterian President in representing the Board at Miss Dougan's designation.....	1 85
" Home Secretary, postage.....	11 30
" Foreign Secretary, postage.....	9 20
" Secretary of Supplies, postage.....	7 65
" Corresponding Secretary, postage.....	3 30
" Recording Secretary, postage and minute book.....	2 40
" Secretary to the Woman's Alliance, postage and sub. to Quarterly Register.....	1 75
" Treasurer, postage.....	4 28
" Discounts.....	2 54
	\$769 52

By Paid Dr. Reid, on account of estimates for current year.....	\$6,800 00
" Furnishings for Miss McIntosh, Okanase.....	\$48 57
" Freight charges on the above.....	19 87
" Other freight charges and express to the North-West; also charges on box to India.....	51 96
" Bibles, Commentary and Hymn Book presented to Missionaries.....	26 05
	146 45
	7,715 97

" Balance in Canadian Bank of Commerce, April 2nd, 1894.....	40,386 65
	\$48,102 62

I have examined books and accounts of Mrs. MacLennan, Treasurer of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society of the Presbyterian Church in Canada (Western Section), and find everything correct, the balance being forty thousand three hundred and eighty-six dollars and sixty-five cents (\$40,386.65).

TORONTO, April 7, 1894.

WILLIAM REID.

(Continued on page 270.)