

## Woman's Foreign Missionary Society

THIRTY-THIRD ANNUAL MEETING AT OTTAWA.

The annual gathering of the members of the W.F.M. Society this year at the Capital of the Dominion may fairly be called a great success. The attendance was large, and the reports uniformly indicated progress and achievement. Mrs. Shortreed, who for several years has most ably filled the office of president, was again able to attend and took the chair at the several sediturms. It was expected that Dr. and Mrs. MacLaren would be present, but a bad shaking up from a fall, while getting on a street car in Toronto, prevented his and Mrs. MacLaren's attendance; both were greatly missed. A birthday greeting was wired Mrs. MacLaren on Wednesday.

After the opening devotional exercises Miss Martha Smith, one of the home missionaries of Toronto, gave a very interesting talk on the splendid work which is being accomplished through the medium of the Jewish mission established in Toronto by the General Assembly two years ago. It was stated generally that there are in Canada 150,000 Jews; of these 15,000 are in Toronto, 40 or 50,000 in Montreal, and the remainder scattered throughout the country from Halifax to Victoria. For several years work had been carried on interdenominationally among the Jews in Toronto, but the results were not entirely satisfactory. Now under the F.M. committee it has been placed in charge of Mr. Rohold, a converted Palestinian, and a man of culture and devotion, who is assisted by three lady missionaries. A majority of the Jews in our cities come from Russia, where there is a very spurious kind of Christianity, and this made it more difficult for us to reach them with the Gospel. Miss Smith made reference to 250 young girls in one departmental store as a class most difficult to reach. These young business women are taunted and ridiculed by their companions if they venture to attend the mission, and in many cases they have been actually for bidden, under pain of severe penalty, to cross its threshold. However, they are being reached, and the claims of the Saviour, so often rejected, are anew presented to them. The outlook for the mission is quite hopeful.

Mrs. Shortreed, in her presidential address, voiced the pleasure of the members at again meeting in Ottawa. This is the fourth time on which the Women's Foreign Missionary Society has met together in Ottawa. We all remember the courage and hopefulness of the ladies of Ottawa nine years ago, when they would not yield their privilege of having us meet here immediately after they had been burdened by a great fire. She briefly referred to the great opportunity at hand for women to pursue the great missionary cause. "It is the day of opportunity, doors are open everywhere. Let no one fail in her own more personal and earnest effort." As president, she rejoiced with all others that the Laymen's Missionary movement was a thing of the present, and she felt sure that it was what had long been wanted. Still the women must not flag; there is much more to be done.

### Reports of Auxiliaries.

Miss M. M. Reid, secretary of auxiliaries and bands, then called for the reports of the various branches, which were given in the following order and by the various representatives:—

Alameda—Miss Reid. Missionary spirit growing; one new life member; one bale sent, value \$90.

Barrie—Mrs. Cameron. Seven auxiliaries withdrawn during year; spiritual growth observed among the workers. A member has gone to train for work in home at Toronto. Circulation of Tidings increasing; bale prepared and valued at \$410. Three new mission bands formed.

Brandon, Manitoba.—Miss Reid. Three new life members reported. Bale valued

at \$500 was sent to Rev. Dr. Hughes. Many Indians working in that locality.

Brockville—Mrs. McLellan. In all branches of work progress reported; one new auxiliary and one new band organized; three bands reorganized.

Bruce—Mrs. Ross. Two new auxiliaries organized, making 17 in all, and 8 mission bands; thankoffering meetings well attended and contributions liberal. Chatham—Miss Reid. Systematic missionary study a feature of auxiliaries; an increase reported numerically. Six new mission bands formed.

Edmonton, Alberta, is a new presbyterial formed. Report read by Miss Reid. In but five months old; work is progressive; membership 111 in auxiliaries, 22 in mission bands; total receipts \$459.

Glenboro—Mrs. Colin. Auxiliaries all doing good work; seven of them are in the country, where work is difficult at times. Mission band have adopted talent system to raise funds.

Glengarry.—Meetings held regularly and are well attended; offerings liberal; good bale sent to the Northwest; 444 Tidings taken by 26 auxiliaries.

Hamilton.—Thirty years ago presbyterial was organized with four auxiliaries. Eleven new life members reported this year, against fourteen last year. Membership now 2,115. Clothing valued at \$718.91 was forwarded to a worthy mission. Mission bands gaining in membership; two new ones formed.

Kingston.—Mrs. Binnie. Membership increased 100 during year; more interest displayed in all branches of work, evidenced by study of Gloria Christi; one new life member added; 850 pounds of clothing, valued at \$500, have been sent to the West.

Lanark and Renfrew.—Auxiliary membership 850; clothing sent valued at \$1,000; 993 Tidings are taken.

Lindsey—Mrs. Willis. Bales of clothing, etc., valued at \$452, sent to Indians in Northwest; 451 Tidings taken. Thankoffering meetings are inspiration to members; three new mission bands formed.

London.—Mrs. Weir. Forty auxiliaries in presbyterial; contributions larger than ever before; 975 Tidings taken. Mission bands sent bale valued at \$321; a Busy Bee band formed at Ivan. Training of children a special feature of workers of the presbyterial.

Maitland.—Miss Macdonald. Good work done during year; united missionary study is encouraged and found helpful.

Minnedosa—Miss Macdonald. All auxiliaries working well, assisting an Indian child at Regina school. Two new life members.

North Bay reports progress.

Orangeville reports nineteen auxiliaries; one new life member this year.

Ottawa—Mrs. Geo. Hay. Greater attention paid to devotional exercises; membership not commensurate with membership of congregations; contributions increasing; total number of members, 1,276; funds amounted to \$2,317; mission bands, 560 members; contributions, \$340.

Owen Sound—Mrs. H. H. Burgess. Sixth annual report. There are 128 scattered Helpers; total membership 377. Contributions amounted to \$1,183.15. Supplies sent to Round Lake valued at \$500; Tidings taken, 400; 3 new life members added during year; two mission bands organized. Birthday offerings are encouraged in the mite boxes.

Paris, read by Mrs. J. W. Robertson, Brantford. Six new life members; Hope and Perseverance the watchwords of the members; there are 455 members of aux-

iliaries, 623 numbers of Tidings taken, 22 children clothed in Indian schools. Bales sent out were valued at \$400.

Peterborough, one new life member added, 744 Tidings circulated, 1,100 lbs. of clothing distributed by means of bales sent out, 21 mission bands, with an increase of 121 members over last year; total sum contributed by auxiliaries and bands, \$2,639.98.

Portage La Prairie, read by Mrs. Hanna, two new auxiliaries formed, clothing valued at \$200 given to Indian school at that place, 270 Tidings taken by members; total amount subscribed was \$1,056.90; mission bands number seven, the members having contributed in cash \$60.83.

Quebec, Mrs. McLeod, 213 members, total contributions \$689.47; 2 bales of clothing were sent to school at Portage la Prairie.

Regina, read by Mrs. Scott, a newly organized auxiliary, not a year old; 107 members, one new life member, \$181 contributed in eight months, clothing valued at \$60 sent to Industrial school, 4 mission bands have contributed generally to Regina Industrial school. A band was formed at Lumsden.

Sarnia, heartily celebrated the 21st anniversary of its organization this year, 11 new life members added to the list, 540 Tidings taken; total sum contributed by auxiliary and mission band, \$2,069.87.

Saugeen, Miss Taggart, secretary, 709 pounds of clothing valued at \$461.02 was sent to missions, 397 Tidings are subscribed for; total contributions amounted to \$1,131.24.

Stratford, Mrs. Hamilton, secretary. Discouragements encountered, but still the members maintained hope, mission study a special feature, 23 auxiliaries are formed, donations of goods in kind sent to India, 9 mission bands are working in Presbyterial; total contributions, \$2,072.44.

Toronto, Miss McNichol reported 65 auxiliaries, and 50 mission bands by whom 5,000 pounds of clothing was sent to missionary points, 3,585 Tidings subscribers.

Westminster, Mrs. White, though working under difficulties, have 185 auxiliary members and 139 mission band workers, who contributed \$1,104.23.

Whitby, Mrs. Gerow reported increase in membership and offerings, three new life members added, 2 auxiliaries formed, the sum of \$1,228.96 was contributed by the members, while the mission bands gave \$124.35.

Winnipeg, Mrs. Wilson, 20 auxiliaries with 450 members, total contributions amounted to \$2,193.96, mission bands have a membership of 483, the members of which have subscribed \$524.67.

### India and Formosa.

The report of the secretary for India and Formosa, Mrs. Bell, of Toronto, was of especial interest. In India the W. F. M. S. supports 29 lady missionaries, of whom five are medical doctors, and in Formosa, seven lady missionaries. The centre of the Indian field is Indore, where eight missionaries are stationed. There are hospitals and dispensaries, churches, boarding schools, day schools, one widows' home, orphanages, one school for the blind, and industrial schools. This part of the field calls urgently for an extension of the work, however, especially in the medical branch, in which \$3,000 more is required for a maternity ward. Twenty-eight thousand women visited Indore hospital during the year for attention from Dr. M. Oliver, Dr. E. Master and Miss Thomson; where evangelistic work was combined with the medical attendance given. The dispensary is open to outside patients each Sunday morning, but only those very ill come on that day as it is now realized that Sunday is a holy day.