

The Canadian Evangelist.

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"GO . . . SPEAK . . . TO THE PEOPLE ALL THE WORDS OF THIS LIFE."

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The Canadian Evangelist

Is devoted to the furtherance of the Gospel of Christ, and pleads for the union of all believers in the Lord Jesus in harmony with His own prayer recorded in the seventeenth chapter of John, and on the basis set forth by the Apostle Paul in the following terms: "I therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beseech you to walk worthily of the calling wherewith ye were called, with all lowliness and meekness, with long suffering, forbearing one another in love; giving diligence to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit, even as also ye were called in one hope of your calling; one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is over all, and through all, and in all."—Eph. iv. 1-6.

This paper, while not claiming to be what is styled an "organ," may be taken as fairly representing the people known as Disciples of Christ in this country.

Foreign Christian Missionary Society.

AN ABSTRACT OF THE ANNUAL REPORT.

During the year several of our number have fallen asleep. Those known to the Board are R. M. Bishop, G. T. Carpenter, James McCoard, Hugh Chain, Jr., Mrs. C. L. Loos, John H. Grove, G. B. Parrington and Mrs. M. A. E. Morrison. Their departure admonishes us to work while it is called day; the night cometh when no man can work.

REPORTS FROM THE FIELD.

JAPAN.—The conversions in this mission number one hundred and two. The report shows a greater increase in every department than in any previous year. This is all the more remarkable as several of the most experienced workers were home on furlough. The additions include an evangelist, a medical missionary, and a young man who is preparing to preach. There are 403 children in the day schools, 588 in the Sunday-schools, and 13 in the Orphanage. The mission can get more children than it can accommodate. Miss Oldham and Miss Rioch have one hundred children in one charity school. At the same place they have a Sunday-school with an average attendance of forty. They have another Sunday-school with a large attendance. Besides, they teach classes in English, and have services in their own home. These services have resulted in several baptisms. They have taken the girls who have been cared for by Miss Harrison. One of the urgent needs of Japan is a building with three departments: one for chapel, one for a printing office, and one for a Bible school. Such a building will cost about \$5,000. The lot has been secured. Chapels and schools are needed in different parts of Tokyo. Dr. Stevens has treated 240 women and children; her dispensary has not yet been opened.

CHINA.—The annual statement gives the number of additions as 19. There are 26 children in the boarding school, 69 in the day school, and 170 in the Sunday-schools. Work has been carried on in Nankin, Shanghai, Luh Hoh, Wuhu, Chu Cheo, Wu Wei Cheo and Che Leng Chiao. The Gospel has been preached at several points each day in Nankin, Shanghai and Wuhu. E. T. Williams and Rose Sickler give their whole time to evangelistic work.

They preach publicly and at home. Drs. Macklin and Butchart attended to the medical work. The report for the year shows that 8,700 cases have been treated. Patients come from far and near. Wherever the missionaries go they find some who have been helped and who speak well of them and their work. There is daily preaching in the hospital and dispensaries. F. E. Meigs and Emma Lyon give most of their time to the school work. The other members of the staff preach, teach and give simple remedies to those who are suffering from simple diseases. The church in U Ho Tsi is increasing in numbers and in good works. It is a light set on a hill. The church is self-supporting. The gospel has been preached to many thousands. The workers have made a number of tours into the interior. They have traveled thousands of miles, and preached in cities and villages. The women have gone into the homes of the people, and spoken to the inmates about the gospel of salvation. They have been sowing beside all waters. While preaching the unsearchable riches of Christ, they have healed the sick. They have caused the blind to see, the deaf to hear, and the lame to leap like an hart, and the tongue of the dumb to sing. When the new hospital was opened, the neighbors manifested their good-will by presenting and subscribing hanging up scrolls, and subscribing several hundred dollars. The mission needs several buildings. Shanghai needs, and will soon ask for, \$10,000 for chapels. A school is needed now in Nankin. Homes are needed in Lu's Hoh and Chu Cheo. The efficiency and the health of the missionaries depend upon having these needs speedily supplied.

INDIA.—During the year there were six conversions. There are 211 children in the day schools; 630 in the Sunday-schools; 12 in the orphanage; 3,485 patients have been treated. The number of additions is not large. It ought to be borne in mind that the mission is yet in its infancy. The work done is on virgin soil. The most successful missions in India did not win any large success till after about thirty years of patient toil and waiting. The first generation sows the seed; the second reaps the harvest. Where a mission has reaped bountifully, it will be found that it first sowed bountifully. It took years to make a few converts, and to train them as evangelists and teachers. After years saw multitudes turning to the Lord. During the year the gospel has been preached in hundreds of villages. In the centers where the missionaries are located it has been preached every day. Children have been taught; orphans have been rescued and trained for lives of nobleness; the sick have been healed; books and tracts have been sold; the workers have done what they could to commend the gospel to the acceptance of the people. Two new features deserve mention. G. L. Wharton has started a Bible and training school. The first session he enrolled eight students. One of the great needs of India is the need of helpers. A nation can not be evangelized by foreigners. They can lay foundations and start and

superintend the work for a season. The work must be carried on to completion by the native church. The work of this Bible school is the work of preparing natives to evangelize India. Dr. Durand has undertaken to build a leper hospital. This is a big undertaking, but he believes it can be accomplished. He needs another hospital. The people can not get the nursing they need in their own homes. The young ladies in Hurda need a bungalow. There is no building they can rent. The Committee would gladly send the money needed, but with an empty treasury this is impossible. The reports show that all the workers have spent a busy year. It can not be that such consecrated service will fail to yield much fruit.

SCANDINAVIA.—A. Holck sends the following figures and comments: "Evangelists, 8; number a year ago, 653; added since, 194; present number, 779; in Sunday-schools, 620; raised for all purposes, \$2,100. I am sorry to say that in Copenhagen we have not as much to report as we desired, but we have done our best. Norway has done well, and from Sweden I expect a good report next year. We have done nobly in finances in Norway and Denmark. Next month I send one of our best men to Drake University. I want to give the work possible, and get our men educated. I send Christian greeting to the convention, and hope you will do for us all you can, and at least grant us the usual aid."

ENGLAND.—The reports show that the churches are growing in numbers and in spiritual power. The West London Tabernacle reports 66 conversions; 472 in the Sunday school; \$2,563 raised for all purposes; \$145 for missions. The church proposes to pay this year \$250 on the preacher's salary. It is expected that the work at this point will soon be entirely self-supporting. J. J. Haley, in Birkenhead, reports 26 conversions during the year; 400 children in the Sunday-school; \$1,415 raised for all purposes; \$65 for missions. The church roll has been revised; the net gain, therefore, is not so large as the number of conversions would indicate. The signs of the times point to a vigorous campaign the coming autumn and winter. The work in every department is in good condition. In Hovey there have been 34 additions; 130 in Sunday-school; \$650 given for all purposes; \$20 for missions. This work was begun by Dr. Kirton, and is carried on by W. Durban. It is expected that a powerful church will grow up here. The germ is planted and is showing signs of sturdy life. Fulham reports 22 added; 205 in Sunday-school; \$407 raised for all purposes. This work is in good condition. The church enters upon the new year with earnestness and hopefulness. Liverpool reports thirty-three added; \$172 in the Sunday-school; \$750 paid on the church debt. The report states that the past year has been a trying, testing and triumphant time for the church. Gloucester reports seventy added; sixty in the Sunday-school; \$800 raised for all purposes; \$50 for missions. Chelten-

ham has had thirty-five additions; has sixty in Sunday-school; has given \$550 for all purposes. The work at these two points is really one work. The majority of the members have been tested by persecution, and have stood fast. E. H. Spring, who has been in charge of this work, has edited, with the help of J. J. Haley, W. Durban and G. T. Walden, the *Disciple*. It is believed that this magazine is a great help to the work in England.

FINANCES.

The year began with \$2,147.81 in the treasury. The receipts for eleven months aggregate \$60,355.01. Of this sum \$2,000 was received from the sale of securities. The net income amounts to \$58,355.01. For the corresponding months last year the receipts aggregated \$64,535.14. The expenditures amount to \$61,793.76. The needs and claims of the work were never so well advertized. The papers were open to our appeals; the editors generously aided us by pressing the matter home to the hearts and consciences of all their readers. The Committee confidently expected an increase of at least \$20,000. The March offering was not equal to our expectations. The Committee felt that it would be necessary to economize and to retrench wherever economy and retrenchment were possible. The workers needed in the different fields could not be sent on.

We received no new bequests. One woman died in California leaving \$2,000, but this has not been paid yet. Something has been received on the bequest of Abram Farewell, of Ontario. For several years we have been greatly aided by gifts from this source. Most of the money put into buildings came from bequests. For two years we have received almost nothing from friends who died.

The Sunday-schools contributed \$18,670.70. The offering last year amounted to \$21,907.09. We ask for and hope to receive \$50,000. A concert exercise was sent to two thousand schools. Much was done to enlist young and old in the cause of foreign missions. The widespread financial panic and other causes diminished the offerings in the Sunday-schools as well as in the churches.

The Endeavor Societies gave in all \$1,717.20. Most of this was given for buildings in Japan. Part of it was for the support of children in the schools. These children are being prepared to help in the mission. It should be borne in mind that the Endeavorers give through the regular channels of the churches.

Special grants were made as follows: \$150 to W. P. Bentley on account of sickness; \$100 for our exhibit at the World's Fair; \$300 for a wall around the mission property in Constantinople; \$100 for medicines for India; \$200 for furniture for the bungalow in Bilaspur.

There is now in the treasury the small sum of \$709.06. While there is a small balance in the treasury, the Society is \$3,000 in debt. This is the first time in its history that the close of the year did not find all claims paid. From the time of the annual convention till March the receipts are usually less than one-third of the expenditures.

The monthly payments average more than \$6,000. This year the dry period is a month longer than usual. Add to this the fact that times are dull, and it will be seen that there is great need of the Society making some special provision to meet its obligations as they mature. The men in the field can not be dismissed. It will cost more to take them home than to support them till the financial panic is over. They must be paid promptly, that they may provide things honest in the sight of all men. Rents and helpers must be paid. Solomon said: "If the ax is dull, one must put forth more strength." So, if times are dull, we must make greater sacrifices. Hard times are not without their redeeming features. They are usually seasons of refreshing from the presence of the Lord. The testing of our faith is more precious than gold. The work is the Lord's and his stewards ought not let it suffer. Besides, there are many indications that the financial skies are brightening. The panic will soon be a thing of the past. In addition to supporting the workers in the field, we ought to plan for an enlargement of the work. We ought to hear and obey the words, "Enlarge the place of thy tent; and let them stretch for the curtains of thine habitations; spare not; lengthen thy cords and strengthen thy stakes: for thou shalt break forth on the right hand, and on the left."

THE WORK IN ENGLAND.

The Nashville Convention recommended that, in view of the many pressing calls upon us from the heathen fields and the scant resources of our society, the appropriations to the various missions in England be reduced year by year, until they become self-supporting churches. Looking to the above end, as well as to the cultivation of a spirit of independence in the English churches, and to the bringing about of a more intimate relation between them and their evangelists, it was further recommended that each church be expected to raise a definite sum for the support of the evangelists, the sum to be named each year by the American Board. After corresponding with the English churches and ascertaining their numerical and financial strength, together with their present obligations, and much careful thought, the Committee decided to decrease the appropriations for the English work ten per cent. each year, beginning with October, 1892—this percentage being on the original appropriation for 1892—\$3. According to this decision all the churches in England will be self-supporting in nine years from this time. Several are expected to be self-supporting in less time.

CHANGES IN THE FORCES IN THE FIELD.

The last convention recommended that at least one additional family, one young lady and two young men, be sent to Nankin; that two lady medical missionaries, five American and forty native evangelists and one zenana worker be employed in India; that men and women, and especially men, be engaged to work in Japan as rapidly as they could be found and money secured to support them; that an

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