

Foreign Missions.

W. B. M. U.

"We are laborers together with God."

Contributors to this column will please address MRS. J. W. MANNING, 178 Wentworth Street, St. John, N. B.

PRAYER MEETING TOPIC FOR NOVEMBER.

For the Northwest Mission and Indian work, that this year may bring a great harvest of souls. For the officers of our Unions and Missionary Societies.

The Missionary Aid Society of the Fredericton church held its annual re-union October 18, in the church parlors, which were tastefully decorated for the occasion. Notes of invitation were sent to members and contributors, to which was given a general response. Reports of the year's work, as submitted by Secretary and Treasurer, were very encouraging, the latter showing that \$158 had been raised. Sisters being present from Marysville, reported their Aid as holding on its way, and that a Mission Band had recently been organized from which they were hoping much. Information was given by our President concerning the good work of the Band in Brockway, under the fostering care of Mrs. Smith. The Secretary, Miss Brown, reported encouragingly of Fredericton Band. The time of our reunion had been made to correspond with the date of Mr. and Mrs. Archibald's visit to the city, so we were greatly cheered by having them with us. After a hearty welcome had been accorded them by our President, Mrs. Archibald gave an instructive and entertaining address, dwelling especially upon the lady missionaries and their work. At the close of the meeting, as the result of crusading, six new members were enrolled with the promise of more. The time from five to seven-thirty o'clock was spent socially, and in partaking of a sumptuous tea, presided over by Mrs. Havelock Coy and a band of willing, efficient helpers to whom much credit is due. Among the eighty-five who sat at the tables were about one dozen gentlemen who thus availed themselves of the privilege of adding to our funds. On separating we felt that of a truth the work of rescuing the women and children of the Telugus was finding a lodgment in the hearts of more and more of our sisters each year, and if we are faithful the heaven will work until the whole is leavened. Much prayerful thought had been given this meeting of which the Father only is cognizant, and he can best measure the results. On the afternoon of the 11th inst. Mrs. Archibald gave a highly instructive talk at the regular meeting of the W. C. T. U. She spoke of the growth of the liquor business among the Telugu since she went there as a missionary twenty years ago. The traffic was introduced and is strengthened and fostered and controlled by the British government. Not being afraid of having too much of missions Mrs. Archibald gave a live address on this live subject in our vestry on Friday evening, 13th inst. She left a very vivid conception of the awfulness of heathenism on the minds of her audience. R. A. B. P., Sec'y. Fredericton, Oct. 21st.

The Women's Missionary Aid Societies of Colchester County, Nova Scotia, have been holding a session in connection with the Ministerial Quarterly for some time and have found the plan a good one.

The first Quarterly for this convention year was held in Bass River, Colchester County, on October 16 and 17. On the afternoon of the 17th, at 3.30, Mrs. Gunn, County Sec'y, took the chair and opened the women's session with short devotional exercises.

We all regretted the enforced absence of Miss Williams but rejoiced that it was preparing for India that kept her away from us.

The first business, was the appointing of a recording secretary, and the duties of this office were laid upon the writer. Mrs. Gunn next read the statistics of each society in the county with a few comments, in which we were told of the departure from life of two Aid Societies. Can they not be resurrected by His help who is the "Resurrection and the Life?"

The delegates then reported verbally as to the health of their local societies. The usual moan was made, viz: the lack of interest and in consequence small attendance at the meetings.

Some discouragements and some encouragements all through the county. The reports finished, some remarks were made, some parts of the work talked over, and after a paper by the recording secretary on "Our Duty to Home as well as to Foreign Missions," the session closed with the benediction by Pastor Dimock. We sisters would like if more of the brethren would remain to this session at these Quarterly meetings.

EFFIE A. JOHNSON, Rec. Sec'y.

Truro, October 19th.

Chipman, N. B.

We were obliged to defer our regular Crusade Day owing to the dedication of the new Baptist church in this place. It was deemed advisable to observe Thursday, Oct. 19th, it also being Thanksgiving. In the afternoon all the sisters in the church were visited by the committee appointed, resulting in an increase of twenty-five new members, thus making a total membership of fifty. In the evening a public meeting was held with a good attendance. We were pleased to have with us Rev. J. W. Manning, Secretary F. M. Board, who spoke with great earnestness and power. The meeting was also addressed by Rev. J. B. Anderson and our own pastor, Rev. W. E. McIntyre. Much interest was manifested and at the close a thank-offering was taken, amounting to \$14.08 besides a special offering of \$12 for Foreign Missions. We are hopeful and encouraged.

L. HAY, Sec'y

Lockport, N. S.

There is a prosperous W. M. A. Society in this town. Mrs. Georgiana Kempton is President, and Mrs. Woodland, the pastor's wife, Secretary. Monthly meetings are regularly sustained and fairly well attended. A few evenings ago, a committee of the society paid a visit to the home of Mrs. Maria Chadsey, the oldest and one of the most faithful and honored members of the society, and presented her with an address on her 71st birthday, and a Life Membership Certificate of the W. B. M. U. Our dear sister has given long years of faithful toil, earnest prayer, and generous giving to this branch of the Master's work, and is deeply loved by all the mission workers in the town. The amount raised for the Life Membership Certificate, is of course in addition to the regular annual contribution of the society. There is also a Mission Band in the Sunday school here, which contributes \$30 per year towards the support of Rev. L. D. Morse, Bimlipitam, India. It is just now gathering new enthusiasm for the work.

Granville Centre.

We are pleased to report our W. M. A. S. re-organized with fourteen members. Mrs. W. B. Withers, president, Mrs. H. A. Goodwin, secretary. We have every reason to feel encouraged as again we take up the work. Several of our members have never before belonged to an Aid Society and they come to us anxious to work and learn. We pray for wisdom and strength from on high to enable us to carry on the work of this society successfully, and to interest those of our sisters in the church who as yet are not members.

CARRIE E. GOODWIN, Sec'y.

The W. M. A. Society of St. Martins observed their annual thank-offering service Wednesday, Oct. 18th. This was also taken as our Crusade day. Prayer in the homes in the morning, visiting in afternoon, followed by a public missionary meeting in the evening. Although the night was very rainy and a small audience in consequence, a programme of rich variety was well rendered, and a collection of \$9 taken from envelopes and plates. As a result of Convention in August last a Mission Band has been organized and is doing excellent work under the efficient leadership of Miss Annie L. Vaughan and Miss Jennie Davis. Though scarcely two months old this Band has attained a membership of 46, and we trust may be the means of educating the young in the great missionary movement. Already they are planning for a public missionary meeting to be held November 2nd, and would be pleased to greet a large audience.

MRS. A. W. FOWNES, Sec'y. Aid Society.

Amounts Received by Mrs. Ada G. Fownes, Treasurer Mission Bands, from Oct 7 to Oct. 24.

First Yarmouth church Mission Band, \$20.70, towards Mr. Morse's salary; Lewisville, \$12, to Chicacole hospital; North River, \$10.60; Forbes Point, \$3, for Mr. and Mrs. Gullison's work; Upper Point de Bute, \$4.50; Tanook, \$3.50, towards Mr. Gullison's salary; Sidney "Light Bearers," \$4.84; "Willing Gleaners," mite boxes, \$4.71.

Foreign Mission Board.

NOTES BY THE SECRETARY.

The Foreign Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention of the U. S., carries on its mission work in China, Japan, Africa, Italy, Mexico and Brazil. There are 82 missionaries and 128 native assistants. 100 churches have been established with a membership of 5,347. Last year there were 845 additions by baptism.

Some people are very fond of looking at missionary work from a mathematical point of view. They say that so many thousands of dollars are expended, and so many hundreds of converts have been won. Then they divide

the one sum by the other and with a great flourish they say, "to save one soul costs \$—". What a waste!" A writer in the C. M. S. Gleaner puts the matter in this way: Let x equal the amount of money spent by the society in the year; and let a equal the number of baptisms in the year; then x-a equal the cost of each convert.

For 1898-99 this question for the C. M. S. would be x-a equal to £330,000, 10,000 converts, equal to £33 each.

Not a very large sum of money, but is it correct? No, certainly not, and a real mathematician would at once see where the fallacy lies. There is another factor which ought to be taken into consideration, viz., 'b,' equal to the immense amount of work done, which, while perhaps not resulting in direct conversions, is yet steadily breaking down cruel, hellish, awful heathen customs; it is raising the position of women, saving life, healing the sick, lessening the immorality, teaching the doctrines of Christianity—in short, work which is slowly, but none the less surely, civilizing the world—teaching that there is no true, real, permanent civilization which is not based on Christian principles. If some of our good brethren would stop and think a little, they would have far less to say about the cost of missionary converts.

It might be a more healthful occupation, if they must do a little figuring, to endeavor to compute how much it costs to save a soul in some of our large city churches, with all the machinery at work for such an end. The fact is, we cannot reckon after this manner, because no man can tell how many nor how varied the influences which are at work anywhere, under the direction of the Holy Spirit in saving lost sinners. A more helpful thing to do would be to set to work personally, in trying to get hold of somebody for Jesus, or to provide the means to enable somebody else to do what these cannot do. Try it, brother, it will be well worth your while. Your own heart will be greatly cheered, your faith strengthened, and your zeal quickened, and the souls which you may save from death (instrumentally,) "will hide a multitude of sins." Send along your offerings to the Treasurer of the Foreign Mission Board, who will find a place where your money can be put to its highest and best uses.

Dr. Pentecost, who has visited the mission fields in India, and speaks from personal knowledge says: "The Foreign Mission enterprise is not an incident, but is fundamental to the mission of a Christian church. The only justification for the existence of its various ecclesiastical organizations is, that they send the gospel to the whole world."

This is what the writer of these notes has been saying all along. A few people agree with him; but there are a goodly number who hold aloof from this great work. It is high time that they fell into line.

Supt. Vining and the West.

In a short time Supt. A. G. Vining will be in the Maritime Provinces, in the interests of God's work in the Great West. At the July Convention of the B. C. Baptists, Bro. Vining was appointed to present the claims of this province, in conjunction with those of Manitoba and the Northwest, during his Eastern Campaign.

Both Conventions are of the opinion that one man should represent the West from Manitoba to the coast, when we appeal for help to our Eastern churches, and thus reduce the expense of the canvass, as well as bring about a great unanimity in our Western work. We trust that our Brother will receive the heartiest sympathy of all the churches whose privilege it shall be to hear him; and that such a generous response may be made to his appeal, as shall greatly aid us in the large work God has called us to in the West.

Bro. Vining commands the fullest confidence and highest esteem of his brethren from the centre to the circumference of the great field where he serves. Bro. Vining is a man who possesses great faith in the future of God's work in Western Canada; and believes that no mission field on the face of the earth is more important than the one to which his life is given. He has grasped the idea of a Great Canada for God, and seeks to carry his idea into effect. In all this we are with him, and we ask your kindest consideration of the great cause he shall advocate. Our work moves forward hopefully in this province, and we are looking into the future which is fast becoming the present, to marvellous victory for Christ and his church.

Through your kindness, Mr. Editor, I will shortly furnish your readers with some interesting facts regarding our work in this province. W. T. STACKHOUSE. Roseland, B. C., Oct. 1899.