

BRITISH COLUMBIA BRANCH.

THIRD ANNUAL REPORT OF THE BRITISH COLUMBIA BRANCH, 1893-94.

The third Annual Convention of the British Columbia Branch was opened by a public meeting in Homer Street Church, Vancouver, Sunday, May 13th. As the Conference was sitting, we were favored by the presence of the wives of the missionaries.

Mrs. Crosby, of "Glad Tidings," gave a sketch of their missionary efforts among the Indians, particularly in the way of Homes on the northern coast. For twenty long years the struggle had been carried on in loneliness and isolation. In the early days she had been the only white woman in that part of the country, and a brief visit from Mrs. Tate was an event never to be forgotten. At present they have two Homes for the children.

Mrs. Tate traced the history of the Coqualeetza Home from its early beginning some years ago, when a few Indian children were received in their own house, down to the present Home but lately opened. The work had been long and not always hopeful, but the results were now no less gratifying than beneficial.

The President, Mrs. Sexsmith, referred in her address to the great privilege we had in the presence of so many missionaries. The meetings were presided over with ability and tact, the business being despatched with little loss of time. Mrs. McCraney, in a suitable and hearty address of welcome to the delegates, expressed a desire that we, in this Province, might be foremost in mission work. Mrs. Chapman, in replying, spoke of the pleasure she had at the cordial reception of the delegates.

Mr. Gardener, in a short address, referred to the good work that was being done in Victoria by our missionaries. They had many comfortable, Christian homes among the Chinese there, and the good work through these converted in Victoria had spread to China.

A very touching address was given by Mrs. Raley, of Kita-maat, which has more children, for its size, than any other place on the British Columbia coast. They had started a Home at their own expense, having twenty-three children in residence. Their school had been very successful, although they had to work under great disadvantages, and they hoped that their Home would ere long be as satisfactory as the one at Chilliwack.

On Tuesday afternoon a very interesting paper on "How best to interest Auxiliaries in our own work" was read by Mrs. (Rev.) C. Watson.

A paper on "The Lord's Tenth," read by Mrs. Nicolls, was followed by a short discussion on "Systematic-Giving."

Miss Buttimer gave an interesting account of the Princess Street Mission Band, and the various methods by which they raised money.

The Committee on Modes of Work urged the importance of each Auxiliary appointing one person to distribute leaflets and try to secure new members.

For the same reason, it was resolved to hold monthly missionary prayer-meetings and "at-homes." A Supply Committee was formed, composed of the following persons:—Mrs. Teague, Victoria; Mrs. Peers, New Westminster; Mrs. Shannon, Vancouver; Mrs. Wells, Chilliwack. Mrs. Nicolls was appointed District Organizer. The various collections amounted to \$33.30.