

Woman's Work.

Conducted by Mrs. S. M. Brown and Miss Jessie R. Agnew, 372 Shaw Street, Toronto. Everything intended for this column should be sent to Mrs. S. M. Brown, Winton, Ont.

O. C. W. B. M.

President, Mrs. W. B. Malcolm, 89 Church St., Toronto; Cor. Sec., Miss Bella Sinclair, Blenheim; Treasurer, Miss Jennie Fleming, Killyth.

Programme for January Meeting of Auxiliaries.

Subject.—The Old Year and the New.

Hymn 236—"And now, my Soul, Another Year."

Prayer.

Scripture reading, Psalm 65.

Hymn 469—"Thou who Rollest the Year Around."

Scriptural selections—Psalm xc. 1-6, also verse 12. Deut. viii. 2. 2 Peter iii. 8-9.

Short talks upon these Scriptures.

Reading paper on topic.

Prayer by two or more sisters, expressing thankfulness for the mercies of the past year, and asking for God's blessing upon ourselves and our work for the year to come.

Business.

Reading of Minutes, etc.

Collection of dues.

Hymn 401—"A Sweetly, Solemn Thought."

Prayer.

The time seems so short since we greeted the year 1892 at its birth, that it is hard to realize that it has run its allotted course, grown old, and passed, never more to be written again as a thing of the present. Does the thought give us pleasure or pain? Would we recall it and live it over again if we could? It came to us rich in opportunities, full of great possibilities. What message from each of us does it bear as it returns to the Giver? Can we say "Lord, Thou gavest me two talents, behold I have gained other two;" or must we say, "Lo, Thou hast thine own?"

These are personal questions to be answered to the Master alone. To many of the dear sisters who read this column the year may have brought peculiar joys, or peculiar sorrows. We may have had severe tests of our faith and loyalty, or we may have had deep cause for thankfulness and praise that is known only to ourselves and to God. But what a comfort that Jesus knows—and what a world of comfort there is for us in these words, the Father "gave Him authority to execute judgment, because He is the Son of Man,"—because He is the Son of Man—not because He is the Son of God, possessed of omnipotent power and wisdom, but because He is one of us—wore our nature, and is still touched with the feeling of our infirmities, the Father has appointed Him to be our judge. And so, beloved, whether we feel oppressed and humiliated by a sense of failure and of lost opportunities, of kind deeds left undone, and helpful words unspoken, or whether we have honestly tried to do what we could, and have golden ears to bring, let us lay all down at the feet of our High Priest and Mediator—the Man Christ Jesus.

As a united band of workers in the Master's vineyard we have reason for profound gratitude as we look over the past year. From our mission in Minnedosa, we have these encouraging statements in a letter recently received: "I think I may say that there is a steady growth in every department of the work. The morning and evening services of the church were never better attended than now. The Sunday school has grown beyond our expectations. The Women's Mission Band has made some growth, and done good

work. The Young People's Society has done good work, and is just now completing an eighteen months' course of Bible study."

Concerning our effort to extend the light of life in the dark regions beyond, we all rejoice that it has been so greatly blessed and prospered thus far. The letter from our own missionary in Japan will be read with intense interest by all. We have had very much in the past year to encourage and stimulate us. Let us "praise Him for all that is past," and gladly welcome the gift of another year. We know not what it may bring. We do not need to know, but the richest of all its blessings is the gracious privilege of following the footsteps of the Master in ministering to the wants of others, whether their needs be temporal or spiritual; whether they live beside us, or in the far off land of darkness and death. It is more blessed—much more blessed—to give than to receive.

S. M. BROWN.

Secretary's Letter.

The Bible says some things about money that lead us to think it may become rather a dangerous thing under certain circumstances. And yet how very little we can do without it after all! This is a fact that comes home to me very forcibly those days when worthy calls for help come in on every hand. It almost seems at times as though our Father placed them right in our pathway—and yet we are perplexed as to the wherewithal to render assistance.

I really believe if every sister in this fair land of ours—realized the unused strength she possesses, we would not so often require to send back the message, "we are too poor."

We have just had a rare blessing conferred upon us here in Blenheim in being privileged to listen to Sister Graybiel talk to us of the needs of the people of India. When one thinks of the consecrated self-sacrifice this sister and other willing workers have made and are making every day of their lives, one feels ashamed to say that we sacrifice at all when we remain in our pleasant homes in a Christian land and give our mites to the Lord's work. Dear sister, let us ask God to show us how to plan and work that we may be able to enter more of the open doors! Let us also see to it that those who are already depending on us for support shall not lack for want of means. I am so glad to know that more of our sisters are about to organize for systematic work. If there were only three sisters living near enough to meet regularly it would be wise for them to do so. The monthly meeting should be a means of spiritual refreshing and growth and grace.

I trust our sisters will remember to send in their quarterly reports regularly, that we may have a good account to render at the Annual Meeting.

BELLA SINCLAIR.

Secretary's Letter, No. 2.

A letter has just been received from Sister Flaglor of St. John, N. B., thanking the Ontario C. W. B. M. for the letter of greeting sent to the Annual Meeting in St. John. She says: "They were all very pleased to hear in this way from the Ontario sisters, and expressed by a rising vote their appreciation of the message, and their desire that greetings should be returned."

What a bond of union there is in a common work! Our sisters in the Maritime Provinces are feeling the same anxiety with the Ontario sisters in hearing news from our dear sister in Japan. (This reminds me that the acknowledgement of the \$250 for Sister Rioch's travelling expenses should have

read from the Ontario C. W. B. M. and Maritime Provinces C. W. B. M. I know our sisters will understand there was no intentional oversight.) Sister Flaglor says the interest in foreign missions is growing, and that they are very hopeful for the future. They are organizing some more auxiliaries. I am sure that every sister will feel like making this closing sentence of our sister's letter her own: "I do hope and pray that in this year a greater work may be accomplished, and that we may be encouraged by the thought that it is not our own, that our Father will care for the work and its results."

BELLA SINCLAIR.

From Japan.

160 Benten Machi,
Ushigome Ken,
Tokio, Japan.

To O. C. W. B. M. and MARITIME PROVINCE SISTERS.

DEAR SISTERS: I have now been in my new home a week to-day. God has been very good to me, in granting me not only a very pleasant passage, but also many kind friends on my arrival. Miss Oldham and myself have taken up our residence with Miss Calla Harrison, than whom a kinder, more lovable friend it would be hard to find. Her home consists, besides ourselves, of five little girls, who are supported by different churches in the States, and a man who teaches for her in one of her charity schools in the morning, and does chores for her in the afternoon. She also has a helper, who comes on Friday and returns Sunday evening after the service. Her work is to make a home and training school for these young girls. She is always willing to increase the number when some person takes upon themselves to support them. The cost of one girl is \$60 a year. We must have women helpers, and as we can get no good ones, we must train them for ourselves. It is necessary also to get them when young and have them under our personal superintendence from morning till night, for the wickedness of this immense city is not even dreamed of in our own dear country. O pray that I may be the means of bringing one soul to the foot of the cross, and to remain steadfast.

There is one poor little girl that has been brought under our notice that we would like to take in. Her father is a jinriksha man. He has four children, and the mother has lately died. They are in abject poverty. He is perfectly willing for us to take her, thereby laying aside all claim to her in the future. Could you get no person in our vast domain to adopt her? I should take such pleasure in being her guardian, her teacher, her foster-mother. If she is not taken in, she will likely be sold to train as a dancing girl, which means to be lost. Aye, more than lost, for it means not only lost for this present world, but lost for the world to come. Oh, Christian women of Canada, did you know the lot of the women here and their utter depravity, you could not sit quietly there in your comfortable homes and not do something to help them. It makes my blood chill to think of it—but enough.

Miss Oldham and I carry on Miss Harrison's work when she leaves for her home in the spring. May I do my part to my utmost ability.

Miss H. has given each of us one of her schools to superintend, and an English class. On Monday we start our study of the language with a competent native teacher; so good-bye, laziness.

Your loving sister in the Work,
MARY M. RIOCH.

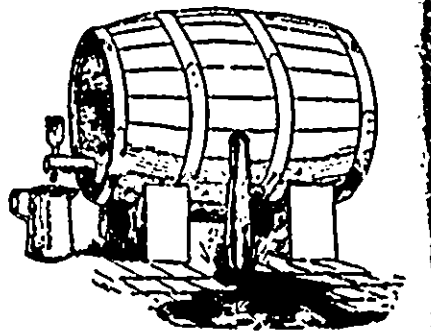
P. S.—Write soon. How I long to hear from you, you cannot guess.

A Social Evening.

It was proposed some little time ago by the President of our branch of the C. W. B. M. that we should have several social meetings to which all the members of the church would be invited, and expected as far as they could make it possible to attend. There was a two-fold reason for having the social; one was, that there was a small remaining debt on some repairs that had been made on the interior of our meeting house, and although we had all given as much as we thought we could, still that little balance remained to annoy us every time we looked at our improvements. The other reason was to try and get a little better acquainted with one another, for after giving the matter our gravest consideration we came to the conclusion that we could not call it being acquainted, at least not intimately so, to glance at one another occasionally across the meeting house or maybe say a cool "good morning" or give a half-hearted shake of the hand as we chanced to meet in the aisle or the lobby. Our congregation is badly situated for sociability, part of it being in the town and part in the country. No doubt the members living in the town see one another often and know all about one another's virtues and failings; but those living in the country, being widely scattered, scarcely ever see each other except on Sunday, and to get acquainted with persons you want to sit up close to them and look into their eyes while exchanging ideas. It was decided to charge the small sum of ten cents for supper, and that the supper be abundant but plain, for if we went to any great expense in getting it up, one part of our object would be defeated. It was also decided to hold two of the socials in town and one or more in the country, and that the labor of preparing for each be divided among a certain number so as not to fall too heavily on a few. We held our first on the night of the 24th of Oct. One of the sisters and an active member of the C. W. B. M., offered her large and commodious house for the occasion. The evening was fine, and there had been quite a fall of snow the day before, enough to make sleighing, so that the people in the country had no plausible excuse for not attending, and they made a very creditable turnout. Some of the acquaintances in the town who felt friendly dropped in in the course of the evening to swell the number, and altogether it was a very enjoyable affair, a great success socially and financially. The little debt was annihilated early in the evening and such a nice balance left to go into the treasury that it made us feel quite rich. I think by the way the funds counted up that some of the good brethren went considerably deeper into their pocket than the ten cent layer. You see that is one advantage of having a social—you get the benefit of the men's pocket-books and they always seem to have more in them somehow than ours do.

Some of us had a little talk about the subject for our next meeting, "Christmas gifts: to whom shall we give them?" and we intend to discuss the subject more fully at the meeting, and we will have ample time after that to prepare our gifts. We had plenty of good music and singing during the evening, and a great amount of pleasant conversation, and some of us renewed old and valued friendships, and I think we all left thoroughly satisfied that, take us all round, we are a pretty fine sample of people. There was likely a good deal of enjoyment after we left, for we had to go early on account of having some distance to drive, and as we drove through the gate I heard a brother in-

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side giving way to such whole-hearted and infectious merriment that I laughed too, and I believe kept smiling all the way home. In all likelihood we will have another social gathering some time in the beginning of the New Year, unless we become afraid that such a sudden increase of funds will disagree with our treasury after it being in a state of collapse so long. But I think we can find numerous and profitable ways of emptying it, no matter how fast it fills up.

W. A. S.

He Quit the Doctor.

GENTLEMEN,—I was troubled with dyspepsia for about four years and tried several remedies but found them of little use. I noticed an advertisement of Burdock Blood Bitters, so I quit the doctor, and started to use B. B. B., and soon found that there was nothing to equal it. It took just three bottles to effect a perfect cure in my case, and I can highly recommend this excellent remedy to all.

BERT J. REID, Wingham, Ont.

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