

LEAVES FROM THE BRANCHES.

London Conference Branch.

Miss Webster, M. B. Corresponding Secretary of this Branch, away from home on an errand of love and mercy, refers us to the report for news of this part of the work, and we are pleased to glean from it a few encouraging items.

"Probably never before in the history of Mission Bands have they had so much to work against as in the year just closed. For that reason we are thankful to be able to report an increase of nearly 200 in membership, also an increase in funds of the Circles and Bands, of which there are twenty-four. We hope soon to hear of others. At the first of the year we thought it a good plan to distribute literature in places not organized, so sent to district organizers and obtained a goodly number of names, and forwarded literature, which we hope may yet result in good.

The Easter offering was taken up with great interest, and received generous financial support.

"We are much encouraged, and are looking forward to a grand year. The spiritual side of our work is taking a more prominent place in our Circles and Bands, for we all realize that God cannot and will not work through any but consecrated channels."

Miss Webster also says: The reduction of fees for Bands did not hurt us financially, I think. but, on the contrary, I find we are spreading the interest in many little hearts that otherwise we could not reach.

I have been urging the Circles and Bands to take the Palm Branch, for I find it full of helps, and I hope the subscription list will this year be much larger than last."

Nova Scotia and Newfoundland Branch.

All the bands report an increasing interest in missionary work.

YARMOUTH.—The "Earnest Gleaners" Band, which re-organized last year, has had an increase of fourteen members this quarter. They sent a large box to the Crosby Home for Christmas.

Kingston.—The "Stars of Knight" Band has been busily engaged dressing dolls to send to Miss Foster, Chentu. Last quarter they received a parcel of chop sticks and ribbons from her, which they sold. The interest in missions is increasing.

PORT MAPPLAND.—"We give the children in "Rays of Sunlight" Band a regular drill on the names of our missionaries, their stations, and the habits and customs of the people in those far-away lands, and they are much pleased with it."

MARCIA B. BRAINE,
124 Tower Road, Halifax. Band Secretary.

BAY OF QUINTE BRANCH.—We are encouraged with the report of a new mission circle and band. The former, "Orono M. Circle," organized by Miss Tourgee, with fifteen members, has increased to nineteen. The latter, presided over by Miss Maud Lambly, with Master Clifford Eddy as cor. sec. The good work of the Circles and Bands of this Branch is going forward, and we are expecting a great deal of unprecedented prosperity.

M. G. H.

N. B. and P. E. I. Branch.

We welcome, with pleasure, another new Band, the "United Workers," of Newcastle, organized Nov. 4th. The leader is Mrs. Thomas A. Clarke; President, Miss Lina Clarke; Cor. Sec., Miss Georgie Harrison.

It is encouraging to note that many of our Bands report an increase in membership. In the Sackville District every band has reported, and each tells of new members—total increase for district 48.

Another large increase is in "Dayspring" Band, York, which has twenty-four new members.

Will not the strong Bands in a District do something to help the weaker ones, and so raise the standing of their District?

We hope that the few that who have not yet sent in their report will do so at once.

CHARLOTTETOWN.—The Cor. Secretary of "Coqualeetza" Mission Band began the year's work in November. Since then we have held a five o'clock tea and a Christmas service, both of which were very successful. Our beloved president, Mrs. Goff, spares no pains to make the Band a success.

We take Palm Branch, and like it very much. The amount of money now on hand is \$8.35, and we hope to double it before the winter is over."

FREDERICTON.—The X. L. Mission Band held a special meeting on Dec. 23, when the members gave their Christmas present to Jesus, amounting to \$4.12. They had a good programme, and a few of the older girls had kindly prepared fifty bags of home-made candy and presented one to each member and the few visitors present.

This Band held a public meeting on Dec. 28th. Only members of the Band took part. An excellent programme was well carried out and the collection was good.

We will be glad to hear from other Bands that made a special effort at Christmas.

E. E. COULTHARD,
Fredericton, N. B. Band Secretary.

Story on 5th page.