

NOVA SCOTIA DISTRICT CONVENTION.

THE first District Convention of the Nova Scotia W.M.S. was held in the Methodist Church, Bridgetown, commencing Wednesday, 11th April, at 2.30 p.m. Mrs. (Rev.) Strothard, District Superintendent, presided at the meetings. The devotional exercises were led by Mrs. Strothard, opening with hymn 418, after which Scripture reading, John xxi, and a short but telling address by the Superintendent, showing that if we love Christ, we must feed His lambs.

The roll then being called, showed thirty-one delegates present; many more expected to have been present, but the terrible state of the roads prevented. Letters of sympathy and condolence were on motion decided to be sent to three of our suffering members.

An address of welcome was then read by Miss Jennie Parker, of Bridgetown, and very graciously responded to by Miss Beckwith, of Berwick. The hymn, "Jesus, Master, whom I serve," being sung, our President gave an address, showing the object of our meeting together, why this Convention had been called, and urging all to *receive* and *do good* the few days we were together. Then followed a few moments of silent prayer, giving ourselves to Christ and His service.

An inspiring and energetic letter was now read from our President, Mrs. Whetton, hoping that this our first convention would prove a blessing to the entire District. She urged that each Auxiliary watch their contributions and bring up their finances above that of last year. She spoke, too, of our four returning missionaries from Japan for their much-needed rest. Discussion now followed as to ways and means of raising funds, and many fresh hints were given. A paper by Mrs. Newcome, of Annapolis, subject, "Giving," was then read, and we believe opened the eyes and hearts of some to see how they could best give to God. Mrs. Newcome said it was only a consecrated heart that knew how to give.

Reports from Auxiliaries now followed, showing an increase in many. All have held regular meetings. Eighteen Auxiliaries in all in our District; two new Auxiliaries organized, and another just ready to be formed. A Teaching by Miss Beckwith, of Berwick, entitled, "Mrs. Ashbury's Bureau Drawer," and prayer by Mr. Mulhall, closed our first session.

Evening public meeting opened with singing hymn 712; prayer by Mrs. (Rev.) Tuttle; Scripture lesson read by Mrs. J. D. Witt; opening address by Mrs. (Rev.) Strothard, in which she referred to the return of the four missionaries and the death of our faithful worker, Miss Lund, and expressed the hope that some hearts might be led to offer their life to the blessed work for Jesus in foreign fields, that these vacancies may be speedily filled. A hymn in the African language by Miss Young, afterwards a paper by Mrs. (Rev.) Prestwood, "The Missionary Heart," was given, and was well calculated to arouse interest in our work.

An intensely interesting letter was read by Mrs. Gee from Miss Smith, who, two years ago at the Branch meeting held in Amherst, N.S., offered herself for the missionary work, and has since been laboring in Chillawhack. She spoke very hopefully of her work there, and seems well fitted for her position.

"Rock of Ages," as a duet, by the Misses Strothard, and a recitation, "Light Bearing," by Miss Young, were both helpful.

Mrs. (Rev.) Tuttle gave a paper on "Woman's Responsibility," showing her many hearers the great part women of to-day have to take in the evangelization of the heathen. We wish all our W.M.S. could have been privileged to listen to Mrs. Tuttle.

Another song by Miss Young in Hindo, and a recitation by Miss Sadie Young, "My Sister and I," were well received.

The two little daughters of Mrs. (Rev.) Gee sang an old familiar hymn in Chinese, and, while the choir rendered an anthem, the collection was taken up.

The Rev. Mr. Giles closed our very successful public meeting, when we trust many hearts, in the large and appreciative audience, were stirred to a deeper interest and greater knowledge in our missionary work.

THURSDAY, 9,30 A.M.

Morning session, opened with consecration service led by Mrs. (Rev.) Gee. It was a time of much spiritual power and blessing, the time being fully filled with short, earnest testimonies and prayer. God's blessing rested upon all. His power deeply felt, and many testified as to their having received great benefit from the meeting of the Convention, and a greater knowledge of ways to carry on the work among their own Auxiliaries and Bands.

At the close of this meeting, reports from the Bands were heard, and very encouraging they were; the key-note being "forward," and forward we believe they will go, with such a number of consecrated young hearts.

A letter from the Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. Brownrigg, to the Circles and Bands, was read by Mrs. DeWitt, as Mrs. Brownrigg, through family affliction, was unable to be present. The letter gave many suggestions and encouragements to our young people engaged in their loved missionary work. We regret exceedingly that the bad state of the roads prevented so many of our delegates being present to hear the different reports, for those who were able to be at these meetings come home filled with new ideas and ways of working.

Mrs. (Rev.) Prestwood, of Digby, then gave a "Talk on Mite Boxes," showing how she managed on her different circuits to have these useful and beneficial little blessings well distributed throughout her entire field of labor. In her last circuit, she invited all the ladies of the church to a tea, asking each to bring a text of scripture and a contribution, according as they felt they could give to God, and after a missionary talk, in which she enlightened them as to how much there was to do for their sisters on the other side of the globe, and that they were the women to do it, each one cheerfully and gladly took a box. That afternoon she gave out forty-four boxes. A never ending influence started. This paper called out a very pleasing and profitable discussion on the subject, many taking part and testifying to the blessing of their mite box.

Miss Dakes, of Middleton, gave a very excellent paper on "How the Bands May Help the Work in China," showing the various ways the President of a Band or Circle may set her members to work. They cannot all "Go," but all can work.

The President then moved that the full compliment of delegates from each Auxiliary be sent to the Branch Meetings in October, and that special efforts be made to meet their expenses.

In reviewing the work of the past year, there is much to call forth thanksgiving and praise. Increase of membership, and, in many places, increase of finances, lead us to feel encouraged. The question was now asked, "Are there any here who feel drawn to offer themselves to the work in foreign lands?" We pray that the question may have opened in some hearts the desire to say "Here am I, Lord, send me." We pray that, as a result of the Convention, the ranks of our missionary workers may be filled up. May the Lord of the Harvest send forth more laborers. The silver and the gold are His, and He can teach us how to give.

After a talk on the Band paper, *The Palm Branch*, when every Band worker was urged to take it, and this very helpful and successful Convention closed by singing and two earnest prayers by Sisters Anderson and Strothard.

The Lord was present with us, and each delegate went home knowing they had learned and gained much for the year to come.

A. B. S.

NAPANEE DISTRICT CONVENTION.

THE first annual Convention of the Napanee District met in the Eastern Methodist Church, Napanee, May 31st, and was, considering the unpleasant weather, a success. The fact that ten of the twelve Auxiliaries were represented, many of them driving for miles through rain and muddy roads, goes far to prove that the success of a meeting does not always depend on the state of the weather. Miss McHenry, District Organizer, occupied the chair. After devotional exercises, Mrs. Carman was introduced. An address was given by Mrs. Madole, on "How to