

nearly a score of millions; only a handful of gospelers were in the foreign field, while the churches lay in the apathy of utter ignorance. And how changed the situation to-day. More progress has been made in a half-century than in the

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preceding, and more in the last decade than in the preceding hundred years. Every denomination of any note has its heralds of glad tidings abroad, and is judged by the relative size of its missionary receipts and the number of men and women sent out. The signs of the times plainly show that the day is at hand when the same searching test will be applied to the individual disciple. Only by being deeply interested in the world's evangelization, and by being intelligent as touching this transcendent theme, can one much longer continue "in good and regular standing" in the Kingdom. Only so can he be "up to date." If found otherwise he will be esteemed old-fashioned, behind the times, a "back number," a relic of a dreary period which has passed away.

An Interview with Dr. Sutherland.

I am an Epworth Leaguer, and I called on Dr. Sutherland a few days ago. After waiting some time, which, by the way, I did not like to be as particular about as if I had been waiting to purchase a ticket at the railway station, I gave place to a Dr. Somebody who seemed very anxious to gain an audience immediately, but he was told that he would have to wait for, Dr. Sutherland was busy with a contractor who was making repairs on certain mission houses, and wished to catch a certain train. Soon the contractor hurried out and the doctor hurried in. I thought my turn would soon come, as the caller seemed to be in such a hurry; but he must have had a great deal of business to do, for I waited and waited, read the latest *Missionary Outlook*, just off the press, through, so I did not feel that my time was lost. While I was reading several people came in. Some asked if they could see Dr. Sutherland and when told that he was engaged went away. Some did not ask, but went direct to his door, looked in and then turned away. One man with some papers (he looked like a printer) went directly in, stayed a short time and came out. A man with an earnest, anxious look came in and said that he had an appointment with Dr. Sutherland, and that he must see him at exactly half-past four, as the Dr. wanted to see him about taking charge of one of the Institute farms in the North-West, and he had to leave on the five o'clock train; so of course he was announced. Dr. Somebody came out and the farmer went in, and I waited, but not very long. As I entered, Dr. Sutherland had just taken a large file of letters in one hand and was pressing an electric button with the other, in answer to which a stenographer came in with note-book and pencil. Dr. Sutherland looked at me with a kindly but perplexed countenance. I told him that I wanted some information regarding the Methodist Missionary Society, and that as I had waited some time I had jotted down the main questions which I wished to ask him. He said he was glad that I had done this, for he really could not spare another minute, because he had so many letters to get off before the mail closed, but that he would take my questions home, and after tea would either write out the answers or state where I could find them. I thanked him and left. Next day I received a kind note, and the following answers to my questions,

which I send to the MISSIONARY CAMPAIGNER for the benefit of other Leaguers

Q. Who are the members of the Methodist Missionary Society?

A. All persons paying annually five dollars or upward to the fund, and all persons collecting ten dollars or upward. All such are entitled to a copy of the Annual Report *free*.

Q. Who are the officers of the Society?

A. Rev. Dr. Carman is President *ex-officio*; Hon. J. C. Aikins, Treasurer; Rev. Dr. Sutherland, General Secretary and co-Treasurer; Rev. Dr. Henderson, Assistant.

Q. What officers are located at headquarters?

A. The General Secretary and Assistant, but both have to travel frequently and extensively, attending meetings and on the Society's business.

Q. Are there any other persons on the staff?

A. Yes, an accountant and a stenographer and typewriter. The latter has charge of the publication department of the *Outlook* and many other duties.

Q. What is the General Board of Missions, and how are the members appointed?

A. The Board is the governing body, and the members are appointed as follows: The General Superintendent and the officers of the Society are members *ex-officio*. At each General Conference twelve members (six ministers and six laymen) are elected to serve for four years, each Annual Conference elects two members (a minister and layman), except Newfoundland and British Columbia Conferences, who elect one member each.

Q. What regulates this Board?

A. The discipline of the Church and the Constitution of the Missionary Society.

Q. What does this Board do?

A. It meets annually early in October. It reviews the entire mission field of the Church apportioning the fund to the various departments of the work; authorizes the erection of mission houses, churches or buildings for educational purposes on other than Home missions, and provides for the cost if necessary; selects through its responsible officers missionaries for the Indian, Chinese or Foreign work, and fixes their salaries; grants furloughs to or recalls foreign missionaries when deemed expedient; decides when and where new missions may be opened in the Indian, French or Foreign fields; selects and appoints teachers for mission schools and fixes their salaries; selects and appoints principals for Indian or other institutes, and fixes their salaries. In short, it is the duty of the General Board to oversee and control the mission work of the Church, in so far as this is not provided for in the Constitution and powers of the Annual Conferences. The action of the Board on all matters within its jurisdiction is final.

Q. What is the Executive Committee, and how are its members elected?

A. The Executive is a committee of the General Board, and is appointed by it. It consists of the General Superintendent, the officers of the Missionary Society, and eighteen other members, nine ministers and nine laymen. A majority of these must be members of the General Board.

Q. Do all the members of the Methodist Church have a part in the Missionary Society?

A. All who contribute have.

Q. When did the Missionary Society originate?

A. It was organized in 1824.

Q. Has it grown much since then?

A. Yes; the first year there were only two or three missionaries to the Indians of Ontario; now there are 38 missionaries in all the departments, besides 35 teachers, interpreters and other agents. The first year the income was only about \$140; now it approaches closely to a quarter of a million.

Q. What departments of missionary work are carried on?

A. Home, French, Indian, Chinese and Japanese in British Columbia, and Foreign.

Q. What is meant by "Home" and what by "Foreign" fields?

A. By Home missions is meant missions among English-speaking people, chiefly in the newer settlements of the