

LEAVES FROM THE BRANCHES.

Nova Scotia and Newfoundland Branch.

BEAR RIVER.—The regular work of the "Rope Holders' Band" was somewhat broken into during the year by the revival services. Several of the members were converted, and are more determined than ever to work for Christ. All the meetings have been purely missionary; a different field being studied each month. All the money raised goes to help support a child in the "Jenny Ford" Home. Twenty one members are reported.

TRURO.—The "Pleasant Street" Circle, which has been working under difficulties the past year through the illness of the president, is now doing well. Three new members were reported, making a total membership of eleven. Twelve copies of "Palm Branch" are taken. We are much indebted to the Circle for the success of the Mission Band evening at the Branch meeting.

This year there has been an increase both in membership and funds. Two new Bands were formed, one at Granville Ferry and one at Somerset. We also welcome the band in Newfoundland and hope soon to hear from it.

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

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

The basis of competition for the Banner this year is the largest proportionate increase in Band membership.

Bands will understand that a Band of ten members which increases to one of fifteen, has as large a proportionate increase as a band of forty members which becomes one of sixty.

I want to introduce to our family of Bands a new sister, the "The Pansy" Mission Band of Tay, York County, N. B. This Band, numbering eleven, has just been organized by Mrs. William Munroe, of the Tay Auxiliary. The officers are: President, Nellie Young; Vice-president, George Wheway; Cor.-Secty, Ethel Frquhart; Treas., Reeves Munroe.

I feel that I speak for all our Bands when I say that we heartily welcome this latest comer to our ranks.

E. E. C.
Band Secretary.

Hamilton Conference Branch.

Mission Band and Circle work presented such an encouraging aspect at the close of the past year, and was in many respects so gratifying that we thought the Palm Branch readers would like to hear a little about it and about our Branch meeting, which was held in Palmerston in October.

We are glad to report a large increase in membership, having 826 Circle members and 510 Band members, in all 1336, an increase of over 200. There are 20 Circles and 20 Bands. Three new ones were organized during the year. \$912.99 was paid to Branch

Treasurer, of which our Easter thank offering amounted to \$139.26. An encouraging feature of our finances is the growth of the free-will offering principle; this is evidenced in many of the Bands and Circles, especially so in the case of the Circle which raised the largest amount during the year. Every cent was either free will offering, mite box collections or fees, and \$120 was the result. Another very encouraging feature, and one for which we are heartily thankful, was the generous donation from Junior and Senior Epworth Leagues, \$129 having been received from this source, mostly for the Jennie Ford Home.

One evening session of the Branch meeting was devoted to Band and Circle Work; a very interesting programme was well rendered by members of the Palmerston Circle, consisting of music, recitations and a very kind and inspiring address of welcome to the Band and Circle Delegates. Mrs. Crowe, Guelph, gave a very interesting address on the work among the French Canadians, and the annual report was submitted by the Branch Corresponding Secretary for Bands and Circles, which was accompanied by a few earnest remarks upon the work and its important features.

The prize Banner was won by the Guelph (Norfolk Street) Band, having gained an increase in membership of 108.

At the Branch meeting it was thought rather unfair for Bands and Circles to compete for the same Banner, and as an outcome a large amount was voluntarily subscribed by a number of ladies for the purchase of another banner to be competed for by the Circles, the former beautiful banner to be the property of the Bands. We look back upon the past year with a great deal of gratitude and rejoice that the seed sown has already taken root and is springing forth unto an abundant harvest. We urge the necessity of having all our work collectively and individually so firmly and securely built upon the only sure foundation that the whole building fitly framed together may grow into an holy temple of our Lord.

JEWEL M. MCGEARY,
140 Park Ave., Brantford, Ont. Cor.-Secretary.

Bay of Quinte Branch.

To the Editor of Palm Branch:

At the recent Convention of the W. M. S. the following resolution was unanimously passed:

We, the Members of the Bay of Quinte Branch of the Woman's Missionary Society, desire to place on record our appreciation of your valuable work in connection with Palm Branch.

A. B. COPELAND,
Deseronto, Oct. 13th, 1898. Secretary.

(Our thanks are due to this Branch not only for its token of appreciation now, but for valuable help in the past, of which we hope for a continuance through this new year).