

W. B. M. U.

MOTTO FOR THE YEAR:

"We are laborers together with God."

Contributors to this column will please address MRS. J. W. MANNING, 178 Wentworth Street, St. John, N. B.

PRAYER TOPIC FOR APRIL.

For our Grande Ligne Mission. For brother and sister Grenier that they may not grow discouraged but see the good results from their labor.

W. B. M. U. Convention.

At the last meeting of the W. B. M. U. at Berwick, it was decided to hold our next annual gathering at some other place than where the Convention was held. This change has been thought of and discussed several times. On one occasion when the vote was taken a majority were in favor of making no changes. The next time it was brought up resulted in a tie. While this plainly showed a growing feeling in favor of the change, it was not thought desirable to take such an important step without a more unanimous vote. Last year after considerable discussion on this subject the vote resulted in a large majority in favor of the change.

The following reasons were given:—1st Our meetings have been unavoidably interrupted as other things were going on at the same time. We have never been able to have an evening 'session,' which is most desirable as the B. Y. P. U., had their meeting on Friday night and all ladies wished to attend. 2nd. Many of our delegates were also sent to represent their churches in Convention so conscientious scruples took some sisters away from Saturday morning and afternoon sessions. 3rd. We can now meet in smaller towns and villages, thus coming in contact with a much larger number of our societies in different parts of the Province. 4th. More especially do we hail with delight the change, for the reason that the numbers attending Convention were so large that we hesitated to urge our societies to send all the delegates they possibly could. We felt uncomfortable because it seemed like imposing upon our good friends where the Convention was held. 5th. A very few of the sisters living in the place were able to meet with us because their duties at home would not permit. All these difficulties will now be removed and with no uncertain sound we send forth the invitation to our societies to make all necessary arrangements to attend our next annual meeting in August.

The Sackville W. M. A. S. have sent a most cordial invitation to the W. B. M. U. to meet with them, which we gratefully accept. The time will be a day earlier than usual so that any one wishing to attend Convention will have time to get there. Let us show our devotion and enthusiasm for the cause and our appreciation of the invitation from Sackville by a large delegation.

We need have no fears about entertainment or a hearty welcome. The hospitality of Sackville will be more than sufficient. Further particulars concerning the meetings will be given later.

Work Among the French of Digby Co.

I can hardly realize that it is almost two years since we began work here. During that period of time, a large number of Catholics have heard the gospel and have been favorably impressed. The good seed has not all fallen on barren ground and many a heart has been touched. Only the other day, an old woman walked three miles to attend our meeting, and after hearing the sermon on Conversion only by accepting Christ, she almost broke down with emotion and said: "I love religion and the gospel or else I never would have walked that long distance to-night." Her heart was full and tears filled her eyes. We told her we would go and see her and pray with her; her face brightened as she said: "Yes come as soon as the roads will permit." Many a young man and a young woman has heard the Truth proclaimed. We sing in the French language, and as the French people are all very fond of singing, it pleases them to hear the hymns in their native tongue.

We have organized a Sunday school which is quite encouraging. I have a class of several Roman Catholic children, who come as regularly as they can; sometimes they have no shoes, and the roads being very bad, it is not possible for them to be present, this is to be expected, but we do not get discouraged for all that.

Every Wednesday we hold prayer meetings which are of an encouraging nature. During the year we organized two concerts which were quite a success considering the circumstances in which we are placed. We realized enough to repair our church at Plympton Station and buy a few lamps. Friends will remember that last year we had the most acceptable gift of an organ which is a great help and a great comfort to us. After that we bought 40 chairs and paid for them. Little by little we have made ourselves quite comfortable.

We find the people most accessible. In our visits we have been enabled to offer prayer in a few houses, and in some cases we were surprised to see the Testament.

We held revival meetings for three consecutive weeks, and had the pleasure of seeing several Catholics stand up for prayer, and in talking with them privately they ex-

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pressed a desire to live better lives. We try and keep Christ continually before their eyes, not a dead Christ such as they have been accustomed to worship, but a living Christ, one who is a God of love and anxious to save them and make them eternally happy.

During my work as a Bible woman in Quebec I had occasion to meet a large number of women, some liberal, independent, but many were allowing the priest to rule their households, thus causing a discord between husband and wife. As a rule the women are more bigoted and do not neglect confession, but the men are not so eager.

During one winter I gathered up quite a class of children and had just got them interested in their work when gradually one after the other left me, but I managed to give each of them a New Testament. The priest had commanded them not to come near us, therefore he must be obeyed or else they will never see Heaven. With them it is "The Church"—with us it is "It is better to obey God than man."

The Church of Rome is pretty much the same everywhere; the system is a very poor one, it is very hard for those ignorant, superstitious people to give up the religion of their forefathers. Nothing but the wonderful power of God can work a change in those poor hearts. When they do get converted, then we see the wonderful power of God. Two young ladies (who accepted Christ during our stay in Quebec) often repeated to me: How different our lives are since we belong to Christ! Oh! if our friends would only accept Him and His work! They feared no one, they read their Bible daily, no matter who was there, and they never missed a chance to speak of their new found joy to their Catholic friends.

Oh! the joy of bringing souls to the true knowledge of the scriptures! It is a great privilege to be servants of God I think. May all we do be done to His honor and glory. We ask the prayers of all the Christians.

MRS. C. W. GRENIER,

Plympton, Digby Co., N. S., March 22nd.

Foreign Mission Board.

At the meeting of the Canadian Baptist Conference, which was recently held in Chicacole, India, the following resolution with reference to the famine in India was passed. To this the special attention of all the friends of missions in that great country is called.

Whereas, the stress of famine seems daily to be growing more severe; that multitudes of men, women and children in the three districts, Ganjam, Vizagapatam and Godavari, in which our missions are situated, know not where to look for food; that long, weary months must pass before any food supply can reasonably be looked for from the next monsoon rains; therefore,

Resolved, that we request our Christian brethren in Canada to help us at once in our efforts to relieve the distress that comes within our sphere, and appeals especially to our sympathy. All funds for this purpose should be sent to the treasurers of the Foreign Mission Boards.

And we unite in requesting that special and earnest prayer be offered by our churches at home that in this time of extremity the hearts of the sufferers in India may be moved to seek the true and living God.

It is said that the estimated tithes of the Baptist denomination alone in this country (U. S.) are fully \$80,000,000 a year. We paid less than \$12,000,000; we withheld \$68,000,000 of our tithes last year to say nothing of the offerings. What would \$80,000,000 a year not do for our denomination if wisely expended in the Master's work? How soon would it evangelize the nation! There is no lack of persons to go, but a lack of funds to send them. It is a fair question, whether a similar lack does not exist in this country, and a proportionate amount of the Lord's tithes withheld. If it be so showers of blessing cannot be expected upon the Home churches. Where there is the withholding more than is meet, it is sure to tend to poverty.

The question above all others which should press upon all Christian hearts is, "How much owest thou to my Lord?" It is a question that is constantly knocking for answer, and it is being answered in various ways. Some, no doubt, have answered it conscientiously to the Lord Himself and find themselves in happier relations to Him personally as a result. They are enjoying a fuller assurance of faith, their hope is brighter and their love stronger. Others are waiting for something, they know not what, and are excusing themselves from giving an answer to this important question in a way that is not at all in harmony with the principles of an enlarged and enlarging Christian life. No man can or will grow in grace except by individual consecration. Let the question, How much owest thou to my Lord? be pressed with all the persuasive energy possible to every Christian conscience. It is hard when the battle against selfish indulgence is to be fought and won. In the light of God's great gift to us and the infinite cost of redemption must the question be settled. There is no other way. And when it is settled here there will be no lack in God's Treasury of men or means.

There are now some 1900 Protestant missionaries in China, but there would have to be over 500,000 more in order to give to China the same proportion of ordained ministers that are in the United States and Canada. If these countries were supplied in the same proportion as China now is, there would be only 140 ordained ministers where there are now 80,000. And yet we hear sometimes the cry, Hold, now, you are doing too much for the work of the world's evangelization!

Delightful Studies in the Word.

THE THREE HARKENS, Isa. 51:1-8.

- I. "Harken," for the seeker. 1. Seeker after righteousness. 2. Seeker after the Lord. 3. Neither can be found in the "rock" or the "hole of the pit." Vs. 1. 4. Look to Abraham, example of righteousness. Vs. 2. 5. Look to Sarah, a subject of the Lord's miracle. Vs. 2. -6. In the Lord may be found "comfort" an "Eden," a "garden of the Lord," "joy," "gladness," thanksgiving, a "voice of melody." Vs. 3. II. "Harken," for "my people," (who have recently been enrolled). 1. You will find my law proceeding direct from me. Vs. 4. 2. My judgment is at rest, never to be set aside, always the rest and light of my people. Vs. 4. 3. My righteousness is near. Vs. 5. 4. My salvation has gone forth. Vs. 5. 5. My strength shall judge the people. Vs. 5. 6. The isles shall wait upon me. Vs. 5. 7. On my arm shall they trust. Vs. 5. 8. Consider the heavens and earth. Vs. 6. 9. They shall disappear like smoke. Vs. 6. 10. The dwellers therein shall also pass away. Vs. 6. 11. My salvation shall be forever. 12. My righteousness shall not be abolished. Vs. 6. III. "Harken," for those who know. See Isa. 40:31 last clause, and 1 John 2:14, first clause. 1. Fear not reproach of men. Vs. 7. 2. Fear not man's revilings. Vs. 7. 3. The reproach of men shall disappear like cloth before the moth. 4. The evil men shall be eaten as the worm destroys wool. Vs. 8. 5. But my righteousness shall be forever. Vs. 8. 6. My salvation from generation to generation. Vs. 8.

NOTE: Each of these three classes who are called upon to "harken," received a command, a warning, and a precious promise. M. B. S. Fallbrook, Cal.

Evil Words.

"I don't want to hear naughty words," said little Charlie to one of his school-fellows. "It does not matter," said the other boy; "they go in at one ear and out at the other." "No," replied Charlie; "the worst of it is, when naughty words get in they stick; and so I mean to do my best to keep them out." Dear boys and girls, my advice is, do not speak bad words and do not listen to them. Bad words have done more evil than battle, murder, and sudden death all put together. They creep through the ear into the heart, call up its bad passions, and tempt it to break God's commandments. A few bad words got into the ear of Eve, and they led her to eat the forbidden fruit and thus to bring death into the world. Then, just think of it, you can never stop the progress of a bad or cruel word which you uttered carelessly perhaps; it will go on, and on, spreading evil on every hand. But a good word! It is like sunshine—it scatters blessings wherever it goes. Let us love pure words; clean words; loving words. And don't forget "that every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment."—Sel.

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Notes by

Prayer Meeting beginning April 11 Gal. 6. Natural laws a "is not mocked." though God is m laws that cannot ity. We rejea much about forgi Christ, we are pu we did upon the comes, not throug but through the is "sowing to the 'eternal life." T the flesh" and "e own load" of re direct effects. David carried s time of his great death, the consequ nightmare haunte ture, sweet to the tasted, it imparted all the sweets th harmful weed it se throughout his life, extent of its capac fruitful plants of plo ang it returned upo his children, Amm as he writhed in pai his pain increas brance that it was h it forth and like a burst forth from his "I have sinned." No wonder the Pr member not the sins deeds cannot atone God's forgiveness ca results. "Can a ma bosom and his clothe one go upon hot co burned? No matter our sins by ourselv remain. Bitter mem filthy images the hea ment in Italy led secret societies that a curse to Italy thou was improved. The formed while we were erment of a sinful y youth and come to hours of holiest comm According to an old B of lead was fitted to th dered bishop and the murder was the weigh How true that the lead rounds the sin in the e so much golden joy! Because sins are not rhinoceros which is sin of the skin, because of prickles that peel off because they are thorn the centre of our being more for early conver male or female, must mischief making notio ed seed we have a stum damaged sapling a stum oat sowing, with wild o whose experience is th There are things of whi There are dreams that There are thoughts that heart weak And bring a pallor int And a mist before the ey And the words of that Come over me like a win A boy'd will is the win And the thoughts of you thoughts. In a sermon on Samson claimed: "A bird with never soars as high as strictly true, when appli or suggests an awful tru sin deeply and yet Christian after his sin th a sad truth that, as far as