

Woman's Work.

Conducted by Mrs. S. M. Brown and Miss Jessie R. Agnew, 372 Shaw Street, Toronto. Everything intended for this column should be sent to Mrs. S. M. Brown, Warton, Ont.

O. C. W. B. M.

President, Mrs. W. B. Malcolm, 89 Church St., Toronto; Cor. Sec., Miss L. V. Rioch, 225 Maria St., Hamilton; Treasurer, Miss Jennie Fleming, Kilsyth.

Bible Reading.

Subject:—"The Voice of Scripture on Missionary Work."

Song—672.

Prayer.

Reading of minutes.

Roll Call—respond with missionary items.

Reception of new members.

New business.

Collection.

Song—712.

Scripture lesson—Ps. 115.

Prayer—For a better understanding of God's word.

"Oh! for a fiery scroll, and a trumpet of thunder might,
To startle the silken dreams of English women at ease,
Circled with peace and joy, and dwelling where truth and light
Are shining fair as the stars, and free as the western breeze."

(To be read by leader, followed by two prayers for a "Better Grasp of the Heathen's Needs.")

Song—two verses of 717.

At the close of the business, distribute among the members all the passages called for in this reading.

"The Voice of Scripture on Missionary Work."

This is an important and profitable subject to consider. As Christian women, we are anxious to act in keeping with God's will, seeking our marching orders from His commands to us. Let us pray earnestly that we may indeed be willing to obey. We shall consider the subject under several heads:

1. *Ground for the work*—John iii. 16, Luke ii. 10, Mark xvi. 15, Matt. xxviii. 18, Luke xxiv. 47, Matt. xiii. 38, Ps. ii. 8. After looking at all these passages, it seems scarcely necessary to make a comment.

The gospel is for all, and must be sent to those who know it not. Belief gives eternal life. If we could but faintly grasp the meaning of eternal life, we would surely be eager to send it. Rom. x. 13-15.

2. *Need of the work*—This brings before us such intensely dark pictures that we almost grow hopeless in attempting to alleviate the sufferings. It would be next to impossible to believe that any woman knowing aught of heathen women's condition, or that of girl children, could withhold sympathy and assistance. Matt. xxv. 40. When a woman silently or openly shows herself uninterested in mission work, it must be on account of ignorance concerning the work, and begin at once to give her facts. "Facts are the figures of God that furnish fuel for missions." "To know the facts of modern missions, is the necessary condition of intelligent interest." The following passages show us their condition from God's view: Eph. ii. 12, 2 Thes. ii. 8, Ps. 14, 1 Thes. iv. 5. Hopeless! Vengeance in store! Governed by lust! As fools! What a sad condition; and there they stand beckoning to us with a Macedonian entreaty. Acts xvi. 9.

3. *Purpose of the work*—Luke xix. 15, Isa. lxi. 1-3. Lost! What a word of terrible meaning. Lost! No hope! Have you ever heard the helpless cry of a little stray child? What a thrill of anguish you experience. The word that a child is lost, will cause a rushing, busy, crowded

street to stand still. Thousands of children alone are calling us—lost, soul and body. Jesus says, "I send thee;" and what follows? Light, instead of darkness; power of God, instead of power of Satan; remission of sins, and an inheritance.

4. *Sin of standing aloof from the work*—We learn that the person who improves the little God has given him, however small, will as surely receive the gift of eternal life as he who has received much and improved all. God has given us all talents, some more, some less. The improvement of the talents we have is the measure of our responsibility. Matt. xxv. 25. God has given us a work to do; are we slighting it? Num. xxxii. 6. If we wilfully neglect to do our part, we shall receive our just punishment. Judges v. 23. We see the inhabitants of Meroz were cursed because they would not comply with the Lord's command; they did nothing when required to put forth active effort.

5. *Motive of the work*—2 Cor. v. 14. The love of God shed abroad in our hearts causes us to love and labor for the salvation of souls. The more we are influenced by His love, the greater our zeal and activity in His work. 2 Cor. viii. 9, Ps. cxvi. 12. If we could only realize our indebtedness to Christ, how much more interested and zealous we would become, ever ready to grasp the many opportunities He is continually giving us to work for Him, especially in this work.

6. *Ways of helping the work*—Isa. vi. 8. A willingness to go and do the best we can—earnest prayer. Matt. ix. 38. Let us be constant in prayer, earnestly entreating God that He will influence those to come out who will become laborers after His own heart, who shall be the means of spreading the gospel over the whole earth. 2 Cor. i. 11. What innumerable blessings do the fervent prayers of Christians draw down on those who are the objects of them. Help with our means. 1 Cor. xvi. 2. Bibles cannot be bought and missionaries supported without money.

7. *Spirit in which help should be given*—Acts ix. 6. This indicates a subdued soul, a humbled spirit. Before Paul had sought to do only his own will, now he says, "Lord, what wilt thou have me to do?" He had been acting under the direction of the Sanhedrim, in opposition to Jesus, now he wants to do His will alone. 2 Cor. ix. 9. The Christian's experience is that liberality does not make poor. God will bless the liberal man; he will receive an increase according to his liberality. The righteous man scatters abroad. Col. iii. 23. All work for the spread of the gospel should be engaged in with the feeling that the eye of our Master is upon us. Act so that we may expect His approbation, and not the praise of men. Mark xiv. 8. If we each do what we can, we will have nothing to regret. Every Christian is to be the Lord's, in all her powers, talents and influence.

8. *Reward of a share in the work*—Pro. xi. 25. In trying to do something to bless others, we are also blessed. Our exertions for the furtherance of the gospel will have the happy effect of advancing our own salvation. Job xxix. 13. This recollection should excite our compassion for those nations that are ready to perish, those who are yet without Christ.

9. *End of the work*—Hab. ii. 14. We know from the word of the living God that this enterprise will be successful, that this whole world

will be redeemed from the effect of man's first disobedience. Ps. xxii. 27. Whether we are interested or unconcerned, the cause of missions will live and flourish. It is a cause whose success the prophets foretold, and must prosper. W. B. G.

Song—730.

Prayer—followed by Mizpah, in concert.

Our programme committee has given us a very carefully prepared and instructive Bible reading as a topic for the auxiliary meeting of next month. "The voice of Scripture" is what we all want to hear, and to heed, on missionary work, and on every work that we do in His name. A good sister wrote me lately asking for "interesting notes from the auxiliaries, personal facts in regard to the work that is being done by them, etc." Will not some of our sisters kindly respond to this request? The auxiliaries certainly do not speak often one to another through the EVANGELIST as we hoped they would, and as sundry of them promised to do. We pray you let us hear from you. May I be permitted to suggest also, that our Cor. Sec., Sister L. V. Rioch, shall give us items of news frequently from the dear sister in Japan, with whom she is, of course, in constant correspondence. Anything and everything concerning her is of deep interest to us all, as she belongs to us all. It would seem that we ought not to need constant urging to earnestness and faithfulness and energy in the work that the dear Master has given us to do during the little while that we are here. But we do. We are compelled to acknowledge to ourselves that we need to be exhorted daily. We need to be told over and over that the time is short, for night comes so soon; that precious souls are perishing that we might have saved. And O! dear sisters we cannot plead ignorance of the infinite need there is... every one of us to do our best. The pleading earnestness of the call to Christian women to help their suffering sisters in heathen lands, grows more intense, more agonizing every day. Those who have gone out to the regions beyond, with united voice call back to us to send more help, and to send it now. The one word from all is, "If you could only know, if you could only see the misery and degradation of woman from birth to death, where the light of the gospel has never shone, you would do so much more." Never were truer words written than those by Sister Angle in this month's topic: "We don't think enough about the Lord's work." If we thought more about it we would be compelled to pray more, and do more for it.

S. M. BROWN.

Prayer is not simply a desire that we may have that which in the present hour we may need. It is a sense of our alliance with our heavenly Father. It is an endeavor to be in such converse with Him as a child is during the hour of its joy, or its sorrow, or its burden, in the presence of its earthly parent. It is lifting up the soul out of matter, and out of its poor surroundings, into the presence and sympathy of the spirit of God, the great love and lover. —Bucher.

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TO CORRESPONDING SECRETARIES OF AUXILIARIES TO O. C. W. B. M.

DEAR SISTERS:—In reading over the constitution of the Ontario Christian Women's Missionary Society, I find that among the duties of the Cor. Sec. is that of reporting quarterly to the provincial secretary. Since last June some three reports have been received, two of these being from one auxiliary. Only three reports in a half year! Will not the secretaries wake up? When you accepted the position of corresponding secretary, was it not with the resolve to, as far as possible, perform the duties of that office? Would it not be a good plan for the recording secretary to make a report each quarter to her auxiliary, and then have the corresponding secretary forward it? At present I know absolutely nothing of what is being done in the different auxiliaries, except what may be learned from the last annual report. We ought to keep in touch with one another. When any auxiliary finds a certain plan work well, should not every other one know it? Will you not talk this matter over at your next meeting and begin the year by being one of those who report! Yours in the work, L. V. RIOCH.

Obituaries.

DIED—In Erin township, on Thursday, Dec. 14, Bro. Donald McArthur, aged 65 years. He was born in Erin, and many years ago became a member of the Erin Centre church. He was blind, having lost his eyesight in early childhood. His eye of faith, however, enabled him to look at the things that are not seen, but alone eternal, and to look unto Jesus, the Author and Finisher of our faith; and we believe his days of helpless blindness, now forever past, will enable him to appreciate all the more the glorious light and the endless day of God's presence beyond the dark valley. R. W. B.

TREBLE.—Died of la grippe, on Sunday, December 24th, 1893, Euphemia Clayton, wife of Jas. J. Teeple, Kingsville, in her seventy-sixth year. E. R. Black conducted the funeral service at the Church of Christ, Dorchester. Mrs. L. O. STRIPP.

Married.

LANE-BARDEN.—At the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Barden, the bride's parents, on Dec. 27th, their daughter Elizabeth was married to Henry Lane by R. W. Ballah, all of Erin township. R. W. B.

PEDEN-GEAR.—At the residence of the bride's father, East Garafraxa, Jan. 10th, 1894, by D. Stewart, Robert John Peden to Mary Martha Gear.

On the Platform.

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