

Canadian Missionary Link

Published in the interests of the Baptist Foreign Missionary Societies of Canada.

VOL. XXXI. TORONTO, OCTOBER, 1915

No. 2

MISSIONARY NEWS.

Movements towards temperance are not confined to Europe and America. In Japan there is a growing sentiment in favor of total abstinence. Temperance societies are being organized here and there, and during last year, for the first time, the regular holiday for railway employees was carried through without any intoxicating drink.

The great Presbyterian Mission in Elat, West Africa, is an example of what may come to pass in a heathen community. From a settlement of cannibals, there has come into being in nineteen years a church of 2,297 members. Not only so, but this church has 15,000 contributors by envelope to the support of its 107 evangelists and 70 village schools. The extra contributors come largely from the probationers' class. When a man or woman wishes to become a church member, he or she must go through a weekly instruction for two years; he must pay his debts, and he must become a regular contributor to the church. Surely they will do away with "rice" Christians.

The Eskimo has been considered one of the doubtful problems of missions—some have doubted whether he is worth while saving. Those who live among them speak differently—one who has been among them for forty years says that Christianity has made them as different as light is from darkness. They were thieves, immoral and dangerous—they are now, those who have become Christians, absolutely trustworthy, quiet and restrained in their lives. In one settlement the Christians

so caught the idea of their own responsibility that ten of them offered to go at their own expense for a two years' trip, preaching the gospel to tribes as yet unevangelized.

The Latin-American Congress to convene in Panama next February is not meeting with an entirely smooth path. The Board of Missions of the Protestant Episcopal Church is afraid of antagonizing the Roman Catholic Church. Some think there is no need of evangelization in South America, others that the people should be treated as pagans. Still, the preparations are going on, and it is hoped much good to South America may be the result.

The Japanese are demanding more and more reading matter, and are taking for Western literature especially. Unfortunately, very much of the unhealthiest of our literature is being translated into their language, is being consumed with avidity, and is doing incalculable harm. Many Japanese editors are protesting vigorously against this evil influence from the West, and the Christian Literature Society of Japan is making strenuous efforts to counteract it.

Billy Sunday has his counterpart in Japan. Mr. H. S. Kimura, a Presbyterian Japanese minister and a graduate of Moody Institute, came to America to study Sunday's methods. On his return to Japan he had a tent built near the Parliament Buildings in Tokyo, and has been preaching there with increasing success ever since. He