

Foreign Missions.

W. B. M. U.

"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 JUNE

For our lady Missionaries that they may have the power of the Holy Spirit and lead many of the heathen women and children into the truth. For our Associations that by them the Spirit of Missions may be increased among us and the work hastened during the year.

Notice.

At the Associations, meetings of the W. M. A. S. will be held on the following dates: N. B. Southern, Sussex, (in the vestry of the Baptist church) July 8th at 3 p. m. N. B. Eastern, Elgin, July 15th. P. E. I., at Tryon, Monday, July 3rd. N. S. Eastern, Oxford, July 14th.

The annual meeting of W. B. M. U. will be held in St. Martins, August 16 and 17. We hope the sisters in making their plans for summer will remember St. Martins.

The Woman's Missionary meeting in connection with the Western Association of Nova Scotia was held in the Methodist church at Margareville on Saturday, 17th. The day was lovely and the house was full. We were disappointed in not having Miss Williams. We had counted on her up to the last moment. But the Master was with us and His blessing shown in that at the close of our meeting the Margareville sisters asked to have a Society organized, and the next day several spoke of their determination to be more regular in attendance at the monthly meetings. Our service opened with singing and prayer by Mrs. Foster, then a short Bible reading on "Our Marching Orders" by the leader. Reports were heard and while there had not been as much increase in membership as we had hoped for, yet none had gone back. We had two stirring addresses from Mrs. Burdette and Mrs. Foster. The former told of the needs of heathen women as she had seen and known them, the latter made an earnest plea for more workers especially among the children. We were so glad to have with us our Secretary for Annapolis County after her long and severe illness. Mrs. Brown is recovering slowly and we all pray she may soon be fully restored. We also had a short address from Rev. Mr. Blackadar. We have in this Western Association 54 Aid Societies with a membership of about 930. The reported number of women in the churches is 2172, leaving 1212 women who should be in the work. How shall we reach them? This question can only be solved by each individual member of the Aid Society being so filled with the spirit of the Master in this work that she will work until every woman in her church is a member. We have 16 Mission Bands with a membership of 545.

A. E. JOHNSTON, Sec'y for Nova Scotia.

Cavendish, P. E. I.

Tuesday, June 13, being the day for our Annual W. M. A. S. meeting, we by invitation from Mrs. J. C. Clarke met in the large "Bay View House." At 2 p. m. our usual devotional service began. Our prayer topic being for our young lady missionaries in their work, and for our associational gatherings, many earnest petitions were brought unto the Father for His blessing upon them. One of our members, Miss Margaret McNeil, spoke a few words to us on our Scripture lesson Josh 6: 1-20, bringing forcefully before us some practical helps. We were favored by having with us our Vice Pres. for P. E. I. (Mrs. David Price) who also spoke few words of encouragement. After the reading of letters from Misses Clark and Newcombe we took up our business. Our secretary's report for the year was very pleasing. A social hour was then enjoyed by all, and we repaired to the dining room where the tables were daintily spread and partook of the good things. We enjoyed on this occasion the genial presence of Revs. Price and Raymond, Mr. Jeremiah Clark and our Pastor C. W. Jackson. Eight o'clock found our little church comfortably filled with those who had come out to enjoy a Missionary meeting, and they were not disappointed, for we all enjoyed and were instructed and helped by the able addresses delivered by Rev. D. Price of Tryon; Rev. G. P. Raymond of Charlottetown, also the few recitations nicely rendered by some of our Mission Band girls, and the sweet songs by Rev. and Mrs. Price, and music prepared by the choir. Collection \$5.65.

Foreign Mission Board.

NOTES BY THE SECRETARY.

In an address delivered in Exeter Hall some few years since, Mrs. Isabella Bishop said: "I came home full of the needs of the heathen world, and to some extent amazed at the apathy and callousness of the Christian church at home. I have visited the Polynesian Islands, Japan, Southern China, the Malay Peninsula, Ceylon, Northern India, Cashmere, Western Thibet, and Central Asia, Persia, Arabia and Asia Minor. I have avoided European settlements and have not lingered at mission stations as long as I could have wished. My object was to live among the people, and I have lived much in their own houses and among their tents, always with a trustworthy interpreter, sharing their lives as much as possible and to some extent, winning their confidence by means of a medicine chest which I carried. Wherever I have been I have seen sin, and sorrow and shame. I cannot tell of fields whitening unto the harvest, nor have I heard the songs of rejoicing laborers bringing the sheaves home. But I have seen work done, the seed sown in tears by laborers sent out by you, honest work, work which has made me more and more earnestly desire to help the cause of Missions from a personal knowledge of work in the Mission field, but not among the lower races, or the fetish worshippers, or among the simple systems that destroy men's souls. The reason, perhaps, why I have seen so little missionary success is because the countries in which I have travelled are the regions of great, elaborate, philosophical, religious systems, such as Buddhism, Hinduism and Mohammedanism.

Naturally among those at home there is a disposition to look at the work done. We sing hopeful and triumphant and hymns, we hear of what the Lord has done, of encouragements which a merciful God gives to inadequate and feeble efforts; and some of us, perhaps, think that little remains to be accomplished and that the kingdoms of this world are about to become the kingdoms of our Lord and of His Christ. But such is not the case, and I think that we may instead of congratulating ourselves upon the work done, though we are thankful for what God has enabled us to do, bow our heads in shame that we have done so little and served so little. And I would like that we should turn away from these enchantments, for enchantments they truly are, and set our faces towards the wilderness, that great "waste, howling wilderness" in which one thousand millions of our race are wandering in darkness and the shadow of death, without hope, being "without God in the world."

A Note from London.

Now that the war scare is over hosts of Americans and Canadians have crossed to Europe and no doubt hosts are coming now. It is rather difficult to distinguish between the American or Canadian and the Englishman so far as exterior goes. The American soon buys a silk hat and a fashionable English suit of clothes and then, who can tell? But then let him speak and he soon betrays the land that gave him birth.

London is so near to us and we all know so much about it that to attempt a description of the great metropolis with its great buildings and mighty stretch of history behind it, would be a waste of time. And yet there are certain features of the great city's life that are always fresh because they are life.

A visitor is at once struck with the English love for antiquity. The Londoners are not "the first by whom the new is tried" and they seemed destined to be "the last to lay the old aside." They still love the old omnibus, and nowhere in the precincts of the city proper can one find an electric car. They love to preserve the old armourment, the old weapons of warfare, the old prisons, courts, cathedrals and the great productions of art from the masters. And herein London shall always preserve a charm and a freshness for her visitors. London can be a university for the wideawake observer. Yes, London loves the old in custom and in art, but too many of her population love old ruins: a fault not wholly confined to this British city. Yet it is alarming to note the fact that so many women drink at the open bar. It is a sad spectacle to see young girls taking their stand with the men in the saloon, and thus male and female degraded alike to the same drink-hell.

The visitor is also struck with the religious life of London. "You have no established church in America," said a minister to me not long since, and he said it as if his heart were breaking because of the barriers which such a church is capable of erecting. I have no disposition to criticize the established church but I think the present religious status of London could cry out and say that, this church is a poor friend to evangelical religion in England.

The Baptists of London, while they are not within the fold of the social aristocracy, are in the fore-front in the

battle against sin and in bringing London's lower and middle classes into the Kingdom of God. I think so far as popular preachers are concerned, Dr. Joseph Parker leads the host. He is strong in more ways than one. He is strong in his eccentricities. Most preachers go from their studies to the pulpit; Dr. Parker goes from the bath tub. His conduct through the preliminary service might be called strange and yet withal unique. He does not read a hymn, does not even announce the number. He never rises with the congregation and sits as if oblivious to all surroundings. He is exceedingly dramatic from start to finish, and this quality has given him a vast deal of fascination as a preacher. His voice is musical and there seems to be no end to its capacity. But best of all, the doctor is of the old school in his allegiance to the fundamentals of Christianity. In his sermon of last Sunday morning he deplored the fact that so many of the younger preachers go to the poets or the most recent novel to get a text upon which to hang a sermon. May the church of the Living God never want for such men as Parker. Of his life it can be said, "Ye are the salt of the earth."

N. E. HERMAN.

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