

Woman's Auxiliary Department.

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THE WOMAN'S PAROCHIAL AUXILIARY.

WE wish that we could persuade every clergyman to form a Woman's Auxiliary in each of his congregations or stations. No congregation, however small, can fail to have amongst them at least two or three devout women—quite sufficient, if rightly directed and favorably placed, to leaven the community in which they live. Let them meet and organize as a Woman's Auxiliary by appointing officers, etc. Then assembling together at such intervals as may be agreed upon—to say together the litany and collects printed for this purpose by the Board of Management of our Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society, and to read together OUR MISSION NEWS and other missionary papers—will be of the greatest service in many directions.

First of all, the effect of their prayers cannot fail to be of large and extended importance to all our missions, whether diocesan or domestic or foreign. Has not God the Holy Ghost appealed to the Church in such encouraging terms as these, "Desire of Me and I shall give thee the heathen for thy inheritance, and the uttermost parts of the earth for thy possession?" Faith in the efficacy of prayer apart from any other inducement, ought to suffice to move every clergyman to have a Parochial Auxiliary in every village. Then, those who unite in prayer for that which we know to be according to the will of God Himself, cannot fail to receive rich and large spiritual blessings. Their own souls will be greatly benefited—they will grow big with love and faith and hope and every Christian grace, and who can doubt that just as surely as salt preserves, and leaven alters the character of, that with which it mingles, so surely will the presence of even a few devout women in each congregation, praying for spiritual blessings for the whole world and receiving large blessings from God in their own souls, influence and improve the community in which they live. Moreover, the interest in the Church's missionary work everywhere, which will be extended and quickened by such gatherings for prayer and reading about missionary work, is the greatest need of all our congregations.

It must be admitted that there is a grievous lack of real interest in the work of evangelizing the vast heathen population of the earth as well as in establishing the kingdom of Christ in our own Dominion. It is most painful to observe how very little interest even our church-going people feel in that work for which the Son of God came from Heaven and became one with the family of man, and died upon the cross. But what are we doing to correct this painful and distressing feature in our Christianity in the religion of our congregations and people?

We are all so constituted that we cannot take or exhibit an interest in that to which our attention is seldom drawn and about which we hear and know very little. Let us make a beginning by getting a few in every congregation to assemble regularly for the purpose of reading and hearing about missionary work, and uniting in the prayers set forth for the use of all in imploring the inspiration and guidance and blessing of God upon all missionary work.

We would very respectfully, yet most earnestly, urge upon every clergyman to obtain from the Secretary of the Board of Management of the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society, 156 McNab St. N., Hamilton, Ont., copies of the constitution and prayers for Woman's Auxiliaries, and to begin a movement in his parish at once which will certainly tend to deepen spiritual life amongst his people, and to draw down out of Heaven showers such as will cause even the hard and barren soil (as it may appear), of the most discouraging parish to bear fruit abundantly for the glory of God in all their own local enterprises, and in their contributions to the missionary work of the Church.

We have said nothing of the work in which Parochial Auxiliary Committees may directly engage. We are satisfied to leave this to each Committee. The love and interest begotten of prayer and reading about missions will speedily prompt the desire and suggest the means of doing all that the circumstances of each auxiliary may render feasible.

Of the three barrels of clothing, etc., sent to Algoma by the St. Catharines Woman's Auxiliary (mentioned last month), two were sent to Baysville and one to Rosseau.

THE Woman's Auxiliary of St. Mark's Church, Parkdale, Ont., are supporting a Bible woman in Zenana work in India.



SOW ye beside all waters,
Where the dew of heaven may fall,
Ye shall reap if ye be not weary,
For the spirit breathes o'er all.
For a little scorn and wounding,
Oh I weak one, do not flee;
It is the hour of labour,
And the Master works with thee.
Sow ye beside all waters
With patience and with prayer,
For God shall give the blessing;
Go I sow thou everywhere.

Work I in the wild waste places,
Though none thy love may own;
God guides the down of the thistle
The wand'ring wind hath sown.
Will Jesus chide thy weakness,
Or call thy labour vain?
The word that for Him thou bearest,
Shall return to Him again.
On!—with thine heart in Heaven,
Thy strength—thy Master's might—
Till the wild waste places blossom
In the warmth of a Saviour's light.

—Selected.