

some idea of the difficulties experienced by organizers of mission work in that far-away field of labor. Devotional exercises opened the afternoon session, which was occupied by an address of welcome by Mrs. Madill, and reply by Mrs. (Rev.) Locke, and the reading of interesting and helpful papers on "General Outlook of W. M. S. Work," by Mrs. Carlisle; "Duties of Auxiliary Officers," Mrs. Lightfoot; "Hindrances to Juvenile Work and How to Meet them," Miss Madden; "Dr. Bolton's Work Among the Indians," Mrs. Taylor. Testimony meeting and Question Drawer were part of the exercises. In the memorial service tender reference was made to the loss of a loved member of the Society, Mrs. George Hilliard, whose beautiful character and saintly life bore testimony for the Master whom she served. Several choice songs added to the enjoyment of all present. In the evening a musical and literary programme of great excellence was given. Mrs. Andrews' address on "Indians of the North-West" contained much valuable information and numerous amusing incidents. The delegates will have very pleasant memories of the extreme kindness and hospitality of their Lakefield friends.

MADOC DISTRICT.

THE Annual District Meeting of the W. M. Society was held in the Methodist church, Madoc, on the 15th March. Mrs. A. C. Maybee, of Belleville, District Organizer, presided. Notwithstanding the inclemency of the weather, and almost impassable condition of the roads, a greater part of the Auxiliaries were represented. The afternoon meeting was one of unusual interest. After the regular business routine, the meeting assumed the form of Bible readings, singing, etc., followed by a number of five-minute prayers for our "Indian Work," which was the subject for the day. Several pointed addresses were given, which closed one of the most inspiring sessions that we have ever held. The evening session was very largely attended; the spacious lecture room was crowded. After refreshments were served, Rev. J. P. Wilson, B.A., the pastor, was called to the chair, and introduced an interesting programme. A cordial address of welcome was given by Mrs. (Rev.) J. P. Wilson, to which Miss Harvey, of Ivanhoe, made a most pleasing response. Our pastor, Rev. J. P. Wilson, gave a very interesting speech on "Our Mission Work in the North-West and British Columbia." Miss Agnes Sanderson gave an excellent paper on "Our Indians; their Number, Condition, Needs, etc." Mrs. (Rev.) A. C. Maybee, with her wonted ability, then gave a very cheering report of the work being accomplished by the Society. Appropriate music was furnished by Mrs. G. Barnum and Mr. Maybee. A silver collection was taken up, which added \$10 to the funds of the Society. The most pleasing feature, perhaps, of the meeting was the increase of names in our Auxiliary membership roll. Each delegate and visitor, we feel assured, returned home feeling the convention had been one of profit.

The Madoc Auxiliary is in active operation. The monthly meetings are well attended. Membership is constantly increasing. Six quilts, and other necessary articles of clothing, have been sent to our mission fields during the winter. We have also twenty-seven subscribers to the OUTLOOK.

IDA E. MAYBEE, *Cor. Sec.*

HAMILTON DISTRICT.

THE first convention of Mission Circles of the Hamilton District was held in Centenary Church, April 27th. Mrs. Hardy, President of Centenary Circle, conducted the afternoon session. The reports from Hamilton, Dundas and Caledonia showed an increase in funds and interest. The Question Drawer was in charge of Miss McGuffin, of Toronto, the questions chiefly bearing on the affiliation of Circles and Leagues. A very helpful consecration service, led by Mrs. (Rev.) Jackson, closed the session. Rev. James Allen presided in the evening. Missionary readings, vocal music and words of cheer from the pastors present were given, also an excellent paper by Mrs. (Rev.) Jackson, on "Our Duty to Missions," and an earnest address by Miss McGuffin, on "To the Work."

B. GAYFER, *Sec.*

Official Letters.

NOTES FROM KANAZAWA, JAPAN.

THE Buddhists in this city are very active just now. They seem to be making a last effort to stir up and increase the feeling against Christianity. To accomplish this they are resorting to all sorts of ignominious methods to deceive the people.

Lately they have been holding lecture meetings all over the city. Subject as announced in the halls, "Yaso Koroshi" ("Kill Christianity"). Crowds attend, and there seems to be great excitement among all classes.

To slander the foreigners and the Christians seems to be the policy of the priests at these meetings. They teach that the missionaries have come to Japan for political conquest. Not being able to take Japan by force, it being such a strong country, we bring in our religion and seek to win the hearts of the people away from their Emperor. Also, that it is very disloyal for a Japanese to become a Christian, because then he no longer worships the Emperor.

At a meeting held in a temple near our Nagamashi church (it was said five hundred people were present), the priests used very opprobrious language. Among other things said, they ought to spit all the phlegm from their throats on the Christians, whether Japanese or foreign. This brought great applause, when he dared to say, "If they could kill Rev. Mr. —, Rev. Mr. —, and Rev. Mr. — (the former a foreigner, the two latter Japanese), it would be a good thing." Here a peaceful and law-abiding non-Christian stood up, and raised his voice in opposition to that statement; several joined him, while others took the side of the priest. A wild scene followed, which broke up the meeting.

The next means they resorted to was, to publish in the paper some cruel slander about the foreigners, thus trying to "kill their influence."

At a meeting held in a temple near our charity school, the priest both warned and threatened the parents not to allow their children to attend the school; if they did, some curse would certainly befall them. He said the missionary had a very deep and secret motive. In our own country we had many poor people, but charity schools were not known, so if we had a pure motive, why did we not remain at home and help our own people. Because our motive was evil we came to their beautiful country, and started what we called charity schools, but the true object was not to benefit the people. If they could see inside at the secret teaching, they would see our object was to win the hearts of the people from the gods of their ancestors and from their Emperor. Japan had a national religion, as they knew; and if they listened to the teachings of any foreign religion they would be exceedingly disloyal to their Emperor and to their country.

These priests employed boys to persecute the children who came to the school. Our pupils were struck, knocked down, pelted with snow, and called all sorts of contemptuous names.

Notwithstanding all this, the children kept up pretty well, until the priests went round to all the houses, and gave out slips of paper, on which they had the parents' promise they would be faithful to the Buddhist religion, would not listen to Christianity, nor allow their children to attend our school. This paper the priest pasted at the entrance, and told the parents if any Christians came to visit them, to point to it, and not allow them to enter.

Yesterday afternoon, when I went to Sunday School, I was handed a piece of paper, which had been pasted on the outside of the entrance door. The following is a literal translation: "Blue eyes, mean, useless person, while you would wink your eye, you must knock that person down, if you do not, you are not a true Japanese." As my associate and I are both the happy possessors of blue eyes, and both frequent that place, we wonder (?) which one will be attacked first.

We ask an interest in your prayers, that we may have wisdom and an unwavering faith in God, whose promises have never failed us in the past.

I. M. HARGRAVE.

Kanazawa, February, 1893.