

From the Editor.

DEAR SISTERS,—We are commencing another year of service in our Missionary Society. It would be a strange and pitiable thing if we, profiting by the failures and mistakes of the past, did not make this year the best of our existence. We trust progress and advancement will be the watchword all along the line.

Will you not help us in every way possible to make this year's issues of the OUTLOOK more helpful than ever? In this connection we would like to thank you for the sympathy, support and prayers so freely given during the past, and for the kindly words of cheer received from all the Branches. We cannot tell you how they have strengthened us when almost discouraged "because of the way."

Now, there were a few suggestions contained in the report of your Editor which received the endorsement of the Board. We will have to ask your co-operation in their carrying out. As the first two more directly affects your part of the work, we will copy them in full:

"1st. In view of the lack of space in both *Guardian* and OUTLOOK, we would suggest that there be not duplicate reports in both papers.

"2nd. That all Auxiliary and District reports come under the head of the Branch to which they belong, and, to make the best possible use of our space, empower the editor to condense, if necessary, by striking out all repetition and unnecessary matter."

In view of this last suggestion, please state when sending in your reports to what Branch they belong. It is but natural that one should be more interested in reports from one's own Branch.

Another favor we would like to ask is that Board and Branch officers will, at least occasionally, contribute to our columns. We greatly need the suggestions you are so fitted to give. And will not one and all help by endeavoring to send in large subscription lists? Let us make this year the best in every sense of the term our OUTLOOK has yet known.

S. R. W.

Notices.

WE would like to again call the attention of auxiliaries to the note in each issue of OUTLOOK, that all subscriptions be sent direct to the Methodist Mission Rooms, Toronto. Because of this not being more generally observed, a good deal of extra labor and expense is laid upon your editor. Please do not forward any more subscriptions to her.

Hamilton Conference Branch.

THE first Annual Meeting of this Branch assembled in St. Paul Street Church, St. Catharines, Tuesday, October 1st, at 2.30 p.m. Mrs. T. W. Jackson, Fergus, President, in the chair. Mrs. Phelps, Mount Pleasant, led the opening devotions. Seventy delegates were present, to whom the President spoke kindly words of greeting and introduced the officers.

Mrs. Fairfield welcomed the delegates to the Garden City, and Mrs. Hardy, Hamilton, in reply, recommended the motto, "Every woman in our Church and Society and

every heathen woman for Christ." Greetings were presented from sister societies—Baptist, Episcopal, Presbyterian and Woman's Christian Temperance Union, also by telegram from the London Branch, with Scripture references, Joshua i. 9; Mathew xxviii. 20.

Thirteen members having died during the year, Miss Barker, Guelph, conducted a service "In loving remembrance." An uplifting and helpful pentecostal service, led by Mrs. Van Benscotin, Newark, N.Y., fittingly closed the morning session.

Between the sessions, a reception and tea was tendered the delegates by the St. Paul Street Mission Circle.

EVENING.

The President's address at the public meeting was to the workers, and full of earnest appeal and encouragement. Mrs. Van Benscotin spoke of the Society's fourteen years of work, her subject being, "What of the story of these years?"

The Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. Smith, Guelph, reported 95 auxiliaries; annual members, 1,997; life members, 139. Total, 2,136.

The Treasurer's report, by Mrs. Williams, showed the income to be \$5,124.35; balance on hand, \$38.19.

WEDNESDAY MORNING.

Four young ladies from this Branch had applied to enter the Society's work, two had been appointed—Miss Alton, of Oakville and Miss Bowes, of Milton. The morning was devoted to committee work.

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON.

A memorial from Dundas Auxiliary was received, recommending Miss Whitfield's work in Africa to the careful consideration of our Woman's Missionary Society. Miss Whitfield gave an account of her work, its needs, and how they could be met.

The Mission Band Committee recommends that the names of life members of Circles and Bands be printed in the annual report of the Branch; that an earnest endeavor be made to increase the circulation of the *Palm Branch* among our Circles and Bands.

From the Modes of Work Committee, that the annual report be used in connection with the Watch Tower or monthly programme; that the Scattered Helpers scheme be used as far as practicable; that the *Letter Leaflets* be retained in their present form, and that missionary maps of our foreign fields be placed in Auxiliaries. These were accepted. The Organizer's Committee recommends, that each district appoint their organizers at the district meeting; that a committee be appointed to draft a constitution for districts; that pastors, on unorganized charges, be interviewed personally and the co-operation of the Christian women obtained—pastors might assist, on these charges, in distributing missionary literature. Mrs. Scarff, Conference Organizer, reported district meetings held on all, but one, of the fourteen districts.

Mrs. Nicholas, of British Columbia, spoke of her experiences in work among the Indians.

THURSDAY.

On Thursday morning reports were again taken up. The Mission Band Secretary reported 38 Circles and Bands, six new ones this year, and others ready for work; 1,113 annual and 22 life members. Total 1,135. The amount raised, \$947.42.

The claims of the Japan Industrial work were presented and the Auxiliaries asked to patronize it.

The question drawer proved interesting, answers being given by Mrs. Smith and Mrs. G. N. Jackson.

"Practical Talk" by Mrs. Gayfer was requested to be published in pamphlet form.

A large audience met to enjoy the evening with the Mission Bands. Rev. D. W. Snyder, chairman, complimented the young people for their earnest work.

A paper on "Missionary Work" by Miss Varley, vocal solos by Mr. Abbs and Mrs. Gilmore, and instrumentals by Misses McCordick and Taylor, were well rendered. The choir also gave valuable assistance.