

W. B. M. U.

MOTTO FOR THE YEAR:

"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 OCTOBER.

For our Missionaries going to India, that they may have a prosperous journey and the presence of the Lord abiding with them as they enter upon their work. For our W. M. A. S., that they may be more active and consecrated this year than ever before.

Churchtown.

Tuesday, September 21, our sister and friend, Mrs. Elijah McFane, of East Point, after months of weariness and pain, borne with Christian patience, entered into the rest prepared for the people of God. While we feel sad that such a bright, useful life should be taken, still we know "God doeth all things well."

Our sister was ever foremost in every good work, and especially interested in the mission cause. On the first Sunday in September we organized a Mission Band in connection with the Sunday School in Churchtown, hoping in this way to interest all the school, both teachers and scholars, in this blessed work of giving the gospel to those who have it not. September 17 Mrs. Higgins and I visited Annandale. The sisters of the W. M. A. S. had announced a public meeting for the evening and prepared a very interesting programme, which was nicely rendered. Mrs. Higgins also gave an interesting and helpful address. At the close of the meeting we talked with the sisters and arranged for organizing a Mission Band. We feel sure good work will be done there. Sunday, 19th, we visited Dundas, met with the S. S. in the morning and after the lesson organized a Mission Band. The children all looked interested as we talked to them of the work and gave a short-map exercise. At the close of the afternoon service we met the sisters of the church and Mrs. Higgins gave an earnest address, showing our obligation as women to do all in our power to give the good news of salvation to our less favored sisters in heathen lands. We feel sure those present will long to do more than ever to help onward this good work. Last Sunday your correspondent had the pleasure of meeting with the East Point Sunday School and organizing a Mission Band under most auspicious circumstances. The children listened most attentively as we spoke to them and gave a map exercise. Out of these small beginnings who can tell what blessed results may follow? We also met the sisters of the W. M. A. S. of the same place. After several prayers we spoke a few words of cheer and encouragement. Several questions were asked and we did our best to answer them. We enjoy these meetings and look forward to meeting with other societies in the near future. M. C. DAVIES.

North River, P. E. I.

Our W. M. A. Society met as usual in September and our meeting was of more than ordinary interest. First it served to remind us that the new year upon which we have now entered bids us turn our attention earnestly and expectantly to "the things which are before." The delegates tried to give out some of the enthusiasm, interest and spiritual uplift of our W. B. M. U. meetings at Sackville. The appropriations for the New Year were brought before us, and "We must not fail to do our part" was the universal verdict. Plans for the New Year were enthusiastically discussed. These bore practical fruit in our annual thankoffering service, which was held in the church last Sunday evening. Although somewhat earlier than usual, we realized the nice little sum of twenty-one dollars as an incentive for future effort. The Mission Band aided very efficiently in the truly excellent programme. In some exceedingly sweet music we were told by some juvenile members of the Band, "It is little we can do; but we will give the pennies and leave the dollars to you." We, however, found it true that many pennies make the dollars, when the Band contributions increased the above amount by ten dollars, making a total of thirty dollars for the evening. Our last regular Band meeting was held at the parsonage and was largely attended, over fifty of the children being present. After a very pleasing programme, one of the most interesting features of which was the presentation of the W. B. M. U. Banner to the Band, the pastor's wife was very kindly remembered by the gift of a beautiful celluloid dressing case. This thoughtful kindness from the Band, following directly upon that of the sisters in the presentation of a ticket to the Conventions at Sackville and St. John, is very grate-

Foreign Missions.

fully appreciated. Our October Aid meeting was held at the house of Mrs. Jacob Bain. A missionary social to be held in the near future was arranged for. This was such a success last year we felt it must be repeated. Many praises have been sung of "Tidings," but as we appreciated its contents for October we felt "not half has yet been told." How rich it was, giving timely items of interest from such departments of our work! How the earnest words of our president stirred our hearts, and last but not least, how the hearts of our Mission Band leaders are cheered and helped by the suggestive, instructive and delightful programme! We, of the Aid Society, felt we were not too old to learn and gleaned valuable information from that intended for the children.

We are looking forward hopefully and with increased zeal to the work of the New Year. C. A. HIGGINS.

Amounts Received from September 21 to October 6.

Lower Aylesford, P. M., \$10; Newcastle, contents of mite boxes, F. M., \$3; Baltimore, Tidings, 25c.; Milton, F. M., \$2.50, Sunday School, F. M., \$1; River Hebert, F. M., \$7.88, H. M., \$2, Reports, 12c.; North River, F. M., \$23, H. M., \$3, Tidings, 25c.; Pleasant River, F. M., \$4; Dorchester, F. M., \$7; Amherst, F. M., \$3, Tidings, 25c.; Pennlyn Star, collection public meeting, F. M., \$11; Hampton, F. M., \$4; Parrsboro, F. M., \$8; Wentworth, collection Miss Gray's meeting, F. M., \$4.25.

Amherst, P. O. Box 513.

MARY SMITH,
Treas. W. B. M. U.

Foreign Mission Board.

NOTES BY THE SECRETARY.

Are Christians Responsible?

There are some pastors, and these not a few, who are constantly harping upon the coldness and lukewarmness of the people of their charge. They point to these as the cause of the lack of converting power in their congregation. It is so much easier to see the lack in others than any possible deficiency in ourselves. Sometimes the mote and the beam are reversed. But I submit that conversion is of God and by His grace. True, He uses means, and these are frequently human agents. But there is nothing either in Scripture or in the whole history of God's dealings with man which shows that He withholds His spirit from any who have heard the Word of Life on account of any neglect of duty in the past of His followers. His offers of life eternal are as free one day as another, and under all conditions. We are taught by God's Word that those who have persistently turned a deaf ear to the invitations of the gospel after having heard them shall be given up. When the Jews persistently refused to receive the gospel Paul said to them, "Seeing ye put it from you, and judge yourselves unworthy of everlasting life, lo, we turn to the Gentiles."

On the other hand there are many instances in the Word that Christians may and will be held responsible for the fate of those who have not heard the gospel. "When I say unto the wicked, thou shalt surely die, and thou givest him not warning, nor speakest to warn the wicked from his wicked way, to save his life, the same wicked man shall die in his iniquity, but his blood will I require at thine hand. Yet if thou warnest the wicked and he turn not from his wickedness, nor from his wicked way, he shall die in his iniquity, but thou hast delivered thy soul." (see Ex. 3:18, 19; Ex. 33:4, 5, 6).

Now, if the heathen who know not the gospel, but who might have heard if Christians had been more earnest and active in sending it to them, should die in their sins, then how can Christians escape the responsibility? These heathen have not believed because they have not heard, and they have not heard because the gospel has not been preached to them; and it has not been preached to them because those who knew of it did not tell it themselves nor send any body else to tell them. The heathen certainly are not responsible in this case. God is not responsible; His people alone are responsible. But they are not responsible for those who have heard the truth over and over again and persistently refuse to receive it. This puts a different face on the question. In the light of God's Word missions—and especially missions to the dark places of earth—is the first business—first in every sense of the word of the churches of Jesus Christ. Oh, when shall all men, everywhere, hear and know for themselves the glad story of redeeming love.

J. W. M.

Special Offerings to Foreign Missions.

Rev. S. W. Keirstead, \$10; Evelyn Cox, \$5; a friend, \$1; O. P. Goucher, \$3; S. E. Frost, \$5; Mrs. Mary Smith, \$5; H. A. Stuart, \$5; Rev. G. J. C. White, \$5; Mrs. John Nalder, \$5; Bessie M. Eaton, \$5; Hon. G. O. and Mrs. King, \$10; H. Hugh Brown, \$5—\$64, (support of R. E. G.); John McKinnon, \$10; Robt. Marshall, \$5; Mrs. H. Van Lewen, \$2; Mrs. J. C. Clark, exp. on box to India, \$1; History of Baptists (sold), \$1; Mrs. Wm. A. Bradley, \$1; Rev. W. A. Allen, \$5; C. N. Barton, support of lady missionary, \$5; collected by W. V. H., (Aylesford, \$5.22; Acadia Mines, \$3.45; Debert, \$6.65; Great Village, \$4; Truro, \$2.60; Springhill, \$2.41; Amherst, \$7.91; Sackville, \$12.38; Sussex, \$6.41)—\$56.03. Total to October 1, \$150.03.

St. John, October 1,

J. W. MANNING, Sec'y-Treas.

C. B. Quarterly Meeting.

The C. B. quarterly meeting met with the Fourchor church on Wednesday evening, 29th ult. The following delegates were present: Revs. D. G. McDonald, F. Beattie, Simeon Spidle and H. B. Smith, Deacon Nichol, Thos. Holmes, Mrs. F. Beattie and Mrs. Spencer. On our way we spent the first night at Mira, at the home of Bro. Jonathan Martell, where we were most kindly entertained. By pre-arrangement we held a service in the Mira church, led by Bro. McDonald, where the power of the Holy Spirit was greatly felt. This church, under the leadership of Pastor Spidle, is in a most hopeful condition. The next morning Capt. Phillips conveyed us on his little steamer up the Mira river, thirty miles, to Victoria Bridge, where we secured teams from Roman Catholics to convey us to Fourchor, a distance of twelve miles. The owners of the teams endeavored at first to take advantage of us by asking an exorbitant price, but the keen ear of Bro. McDonald detected the Gaelic accent, and he addressed them in their mother tongue. There was a quick response and a sudden drop in price. Thanks to Bro. McDonald's Gaelic for a cheap transit. At the first meeting we found the little church building comfortably filled. We had a most soul stirring service, as a result of previous prayer. After Bro. McDonald had spoken some practical words on "Behold, Lstand at the door and knock, etc.," a few remarks were made by the delegates on the same subject, which seemed to be highly appreciated. At the close of the service several rose for prayers. So deep was the interest from the beginning that we concluded to give all our meetings an evangelistic turn. Our chairman, Bro. Beattie, conducted all the meetings through Thursday and spoke words of beauty and power. At these services the church members were encouraged to participate. The evening meeting was one of marked interest. Bro. Spidle preached a well-received sermon from the words, "Wilt thou be made whole?" We all did that we could to hold up the Divine Healer, and then those who had decided to accept Christ were invited to make it known, when a number arose. Bro. McDonald is thinking of returning and continuing the meetings for a fortnight. Collections were taken for Convention Fund and will be forwarded to the treasurer. On our return trip we held a prayer service on board the boat, and carried the friends of Fourchor on our prayers to our loving Father. Capt. Phillips, a good staunch Baptist, was most cordial in every respect. If many knew of the conveniences on the Mira river and the natural scenery it affords, they would avail themselves of the opportunity and enjoy an outing with the genial captain. Our next meeting will be with the Glace Bay church the latter part of December. We are praying the Lord to send the Fourchor church an undershepherd who will break unto them the bread of life. He will be as kindly received and hospitably entertained as we were during our short stay. H. B. SMITH,
Sydney, October 4. Sec'y pro tem.

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