

take a part, the particular subject to be discussed being announced in time to give all an opportunity to study it. The text-book used is "Reapers in Many Fields," issued by the General Assembly's Committee of last year.

It is important that we as Canadians should know something of that great country, which is a part of our Empire, and perhaps there is no better way to study the real life of the people, than to make a study of the Christian missions there. It is worth while quoting the words of a native Prince, Harman Singh, spoken in London some time ago." There are many who ask, 'What good are Missionaries doing in India?' I say, without hesitation, that had it not been for the knowledge imparted by these humble, unpretending men, not English laws and English science, nor British arms, would have effected such changes in the social condition as is evident to all observing men in these days. Do we look back to the work done by such eminent men as our most distinguished statesmen, Lord Dalhousie, Lord Lawrence, Lord Canning, Lord Ripon, or Lord Dufferin, for the new light that has been shed over that dark continent? No, we look back to the time when such men as Marshman and Carey, and pre-eminently that great and learned man, Dr. Duff, just introduced that mysterious little volume, the Word of God, which shows a man the secrets of his own heart and tells him how he can be reconciled to God, as no other book does."

The Kingston Branch of the British and Foreign Bible Society was fortunate in securing Rev. R. E. Welsh,

the General Secretary of the Canadian Branch of the Society, for their annual meeting on Jan. 18th. Mr. Welsh's address on the "Bible as a Factor in Missionary Work" was very interesting and inspiring, giving as it did many facts and figures to show the circulation of the Bible in all lands. To prove that none need say that the Bible is played out, the speaker gave figures as to its circulation. The British and Foreign Bible Society has issued 192,000,000 copies of the Bible, in 390 languages. Last year 6,000,000 copies were issued, which means that every five seconds a copy of the Word of God is issued from the presses. In China alone 1,000,000 copies of the Bible were circulated last year, and it is only a generation since China was opened to Christianity.

Shakespeare has been translated into 27 languages, Thomas a' Kempis into 40, and Bunyan's "Pilgrim's Progress" into a still larger number, but the Bible is now printed in 450 languages. The Bible Society has issued a booklet giving John iii, 16, in 360 languages. At present they are printing the Bible in 390 languages, 12 of these being added during the last year. Of this number 220 had never been written or printed before. Surely there could be no better beginning than the issuing of Holy Scripture in the new language. But think of the work involved. For instance, in a recent translation, that for a part of the Nicaragua Coast, many English words were used. It was found that the natives had no word for God, prophet, priest, king, marriage, holiness, etc., and of course a gap in the language means a gap in thought.