

sionaries and all associated with them. At the same time we notice with regret that much of the good work which might be done is spoilt either by the incapacity or the unwillingness of some of those closely connected with the work, to learn the Indian language. More than a year ago, at a conference held on the Blood Reserve, MacLeod, it was agreed that the missionaries should give their serious attention to this question, and two of the more prominent clergy present promised to do all in their power to teach either personally or by correspondence those who were in need of instruction. It is a grave reflection on the authority of the conference and a strange neglect of duty that no advantage seems to have been taken of this helpful offer. The work and duty of a missionary would seem to be the teaching of the Gospel and it is with great bewilderment that we attempt to understand his expectation of doing so, so long as he cannot converse freely with those who come under his pastoral care.

We are dissatisfied too with the *locus standi* for the conferences. In our opinion it would be advisable for the Synod of the Diocese to appoint a committee, consisting entirely of the Indian missionaries with the Bishop as their head, to investigate closely into the conditions prevailing at the different missionary centres and at the schools. This committee should be given the power to enforce its resolutions, and should be required to make a report to the Synod.

We are aware, of course, that the C. M. S. requires its missionaries to abide by its rulings as opposed to the rulings of the

Diocese, but while we may readily acknowledge the Society's right to this claim we feel sure that on matters of local discipline no unnecessary obstacles would be placed in the way of a committee such as we suggest.

All honor and praise is due to those devoted workers who give up their time and their talents towards evangelizing the heathen; but though we would be the first to recognize the purity of their motives and their zeal for souls, we cannot divorce ourselves from the opinion that were all to surrender their private fancies and to submit to the ruling of their officers, the progress of Indian work would be immensely improved.

May we call the attention of our readers to the earnest words of the acting Secretary of the Diocesan Indian Missions: "No amount of civilization will do for the Indians what only the grace of God can do. It is necessary, therefore, that all who are anxious for their true advancement should see that everything is done that can be done to put the truth as it is in Jesus before them, and to press it home in all its practical bearings."

The Secretary of Synod in the Ontario Dioceses.

[COMMUNICATED.]

It may interest the readers of the Magazine to know of some of the Secretary's experiences in Eastern Canada, where he has been for some months giving information as to the condition and needs of the Church's work in this Diocese and that of Saskatchewan, with