

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF THE JAIL MISSION.

The work in connection with the Toronto Prisoners' Aid Association in the Toronto Jail for another year having been completed, it is our duty to report the results as far as possible. There has been nothing of special importance calling for particular notice, and the unchanging character of the work leaves little else than mere statistics for mention.

The Sabbath morning service in the chapel of the jail has been regularly held, and the average attendance of male prisoners was 31, and of female 20. The average number of teachers for the same period of time was, gentleman, 6; ladies, 2. It will be readily noticed that the number of ladies and gentlemen who have attended has been much less than is needed for the accomplishing of efficient work, and it is our earnest wish that additional interest will be taken and our staff of regular teachers increased during this year.

The prisoners who are confined in certain corridors not being allowed the privilege of attending the service in the chapel, owing to the rules of the jail, have been regularly visited, and much encouraging work has been the result and many cases of conversion could be mentioned; and while there is often great discouragement, we have reason to be thankful for the good accomplished.

We would express the hope that the Ontario Government will, at an early date, make some arrangement whereby the unfortunate lunatics who are now confined in the jail may be removed to a more suitable place. It is painful to see week by week many of these cases under no better care than can be given them while thus confined with criminals and vagrants.

We would also express the hope that increased accommodation in the jail will soon be provided, in order that a better classification of the prisoners could be possible.

It gives us much pleasure to report that the Governor and other officials of the jail have by their kind attention enabled us to prosecute the work with comfort and every convenience.

One of our most earnest workers, Mr. Hall, the efficient missionary of the Christian Temperance Union, has under the auspices of that society, established recently a lending library amongst the prisoners, which has met with very liberal support, and has assisted all Christian work in the jail to a considerable extent, and we trust the Prisoners' Aid Association will not be forgetful of this effort and give it all the support it merits.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

C. JOSELIN,
Superintendent.