

It is easy enough to sit back and be entertained while someone else does the work. Anyone with eyes and ears can do that. But what of our voices? I believe that we can use them to advantage in our Circle meetings by taking part in prayer—if only a sentence—for I feel that prayer should have a first place in our meetings, and it means so much to the work, to our missionaries, and to our own inner life.

The world to-day has brought into use the powers of women as never before. Our opportunities to serve in every capacity are great and wonderful, and it will be something to rejoice over if the lesson of service is one of love, and will bear fruit in continued action in the Church.

As your President, I realize the power of our forces, and I have dreamt what it would mean to have these forces given up entirely to the service of the King.

Things are changing in India also, and the women there are stretching out their eager hands for the opportunities which we can give them through education and all that comes through the religion of Jesus Christ.

Dear women, each one of you is needed to help carry the message and all that it means. No one can be excused, and girls, with your bright outlook on life, we want you to join hands with us in giving India's women what they lack, and so help to bring about the vision splendour of a world in which God and right shall reign supreme."

Affectionately, your President,

ETHEL C. AYER.

Westmount, Aug. 14th, 1917.

#### FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE WEST.

Dear LINK:

There has come to hand an urgent and stimulating message from the Committee of Counsel, Foreign Missions Conference of North America, which your readers will be glad to share. Rather too long to appear in full, here-with is an abbreviated copy only. Do let us ponder these weighty facts, and give effect to these suggestions that the reign of our Lord may be more speedily

advanced. The appeal, be it noted, is to every individual follower of Jesus Christ, as well as to missionary organizations.

(1) We are told that the Church is at this hour confronted by such a challenge, and such an opportunity as was never before exceeded.

(2) Recognizing that the call for sacrifice on behalf of country and humanity cannot be ignored, and while some Missionary Boards are afraid to undertake any forward work, we can not escape the conviction that this period of war, with all its exacting demands, may be the supreme hour for aggressive enterprise in the name of the captain of our salvation.

(3) Consider this: The missionary societies of Great Britain were launched during the Napoleonic wars, and America sent out its first missionaries during the war of 1812. At the time of the American Civil War, new missionary societies sprang into being, and the old Boards experienced signal expansion. It has ever been the case that widespread disorder, suffering and need have incited to greater devotion and sacrifice.

(4) Notice also that the Asiatic and African races are undergoing sweeping changes in their thinking, their relations to Western nations, and in their religious conceptions. They are fighting side by side with Europeans in this white man's war, and upon a plane of equality. They will never return to former conditions of contented subjection. Already the Far East is seething with a new life, for which she is seeking a sure foundation. Surely this situation demands, while plastic, the concentration of the forces of Christendom. To day the peoples are not only accessible, but multitudes in those lands are eager for Christian instruction. It cannot be expected that these conditions will continue indefinitely.

(5) Foreign missionaries, those in authority with us, with their prestige and their record; with their message of hope and comfort and regeneration, hold a position unique in history, and, strong with assurance of universal good order, brotherhood and peace for the world. Foreign missionaries can now render, are now rendering, a genuine patriotic