

LEAVES FROM THE BRANCHES.

NOVA SCOTIA BRANCH.

HALIFAX, WEST.—“The Charles St. Mission Circle reports a very successful ha'f year. The meetings are held the last Monday evening of each month, and are well attended. We have thirty annual members and three life members, with an average attendance of fifteen. Last month we held a Japanese Social, the exercises consisting of a March and Fan-drill by twelve young ladies dressed in Japanese costume.

Nearly every one in our Circle takes the PALM BRANCH, and finds it a very interesting paper.

YARMOUTH.—“At the March meeting the “Happy Thought” Band took up the subject of Japan, and had readings on it, a letter from one of the missionaries, and some of the Japanese customs were explained. Five o'clock tea was then served in Japanese style. All the children sat on the floor and had little biscuits, fancy cakes and little cups of cocoa. This was much enjoyed.”

MARCIA B. BRAINE,

124 Tower Road, Halifax.

Band Secretary.

MANITOBA and NORTH-WEST CONFERENCE
BRANCH.

We are glad to report new Bands this year at Carlingville, Moose Jaw, and Macdonald.

Moose Jaw Band, of which little Herbie Bellamy is a member, is doing excellent work. The readers of PALM BRANCH will, in a measure, have become acquainted with Herbie, and will probably remember having seen in the January number, a copy of a letter which he wrote with his foot. This dear child, though weak and helpless in body, uses his active brain in the service of Jesus, and his example has warmed the hearts and increased the zeal of many workers. His efforts to help those who are starving for the “bread of life,” have been attended with wonderful success, and surely the tender light of the Father's love is shed upon him. His mother who has charge of this Band, and who is an earnest worker, reports \$158.55 raised this year. Of this amount, \$11 00 has been contributed to the Jennie Ford Orphanage Fund.

The Cheerful Helpers Mission Band at Macdonald, which to the present time has been our charge, was organized a short time before Christmas. There are twenty-six members, and considering the short time they have been at work, the results have been most encouraging. Our principal aim has been to foster a true missionary spirit, to encourage these cheerful little soldiers to acts of self denial, from gratitude and pure love to Christ who suffered and denied himself for us. We distributed

mite boxes instead of taking membership fees, and the contents of these boxes amounted to \$6.30. A short time before Easter we held an evening meeting. The children who had diligently prepared missionary exercises, readings, music, etc., were somewhat disappointed, when owing to rainy weather a comparatively small congregation assembled. But the Lord was good and the parents and friends who did come were deeply interested and pleased. Three of the younger members passed the collection plates for a thank offering, which amounted to \$6 30. This has been forwarded to Branch Treasurer as a contribution to the Jennie Ford Orphanage Fund.

The work done cannot be measured by our little sum of \$13 00, and with a song of thanksgiving in our hearts we realize that a number of these children, especially the older ones *feel* what the following lines express:

“In a service which Thy will appoints,
There are no bonds for me,
For my inmost heart is taught the truth
That makes Thy children free,
And a life of self renouncing love
Is a life of liberty.”

EMMA SCOTT,

M. B. Cor. Sec.

AN INTERESTING PROGRAMME FOR SOCIALS.

Select the names of twenty-five, more or less, missionaries and their stations. Write the name of each missionary and station separately upon a card, one inch by three, with a loop attached. On a large card or sheet of paper write the entire list of names, with the station opposite each in large characters. A light rod, top and bottom, would keep it in place, hanging on the wall. The smaller cards should be kept in couples (missionary and station) till ready for distribution. Count the number of persons present; then put into a receptacle sufficient cards for each, either station or missionary. Mix the cards well and then distribute. Before going out to tea each “station” hunts her “missionary” to escort her to tea. Should this be too prolonged, the large card may be consulted for information. The name of the missionary or station is retained by the individual not only during the evening, but for the year, and she is thereby constituted a special committee to search out further information on the person or place of her choice and bring it to the missionary meetings from time to time. The secretary during supper, goes round and enters upon a list the persons representing the stations and missionaries. An Information Committee may be appointed to gather scraps of intelligence and forward them to the proper persons. This plan would lead to a deeper study of our missionary papers, and to more intimate and thorough acquaintance with those who are labouring for us in distant lands and in waste places at home.

—Helps for Leaders of Juvenile Mission Bands.