

Foreign Missions

W. B. M. U.

"We are laborers together with God."

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PRAYER TOPIC FOR AUGUST.

For Chicacolet that the good work begun there during the past few months may be gloriously carried on until many shall openly confess Christ.

For our Conventions that the Holy Spirit may direct all our meetings and assist every speaker. That each delegate may receive great blessing.

Report of the W. B. M. U. Convention held in Halifax First Baptist Church Aug. 17th and 18th, 1904.

Tuesday August the sixteenth found our Baptist women travelling to Halifax. There need have been no fear concerning the welcome for it greeted them at the steps of the car and carried itself everywhere. In spite of inconvenience and a great deal of labor the ladies of the churches of Dartmouth and Halifax served dinner and tea in the parlors of the first Baptist church. Heartly thanks and praise must be given to the ladies who prepared these tempting meals for so large a number. The hours between sessions thus became a time for social intercourse and some exhibition of the general good fellowship one toward another.

On Wednesday morning, the many friends gathered in goodly numbers at the church. The prayer and praise service, led by Mrs. D. Freeman, fittingly expressed the heart felt need of the Convention to seek first the help and guidance of our Master and ask for his blessing, for in his name are we serving. The second of Colossians was read and the leader spoke of our deep gratitude to God for the past year and the present urgent call for new missionaries on the fields both Home and Foreign. Prayers were offered by Rev. H. F. Waring and Rev. Mr. Morse, asking for God's blessing on the sessions to follow.

The twentieth Annual Convention of the Women's Baptist Missionary Union of the Maritime Provinces was declared open, the roll called and the appointment of committees for Nominations and Resolutions. The sudden illness of our dear President, Mrs. Manning, was deeply regretted but in her absence the chair was very ably filled by Mrs. Mary Smith of Amherst, treasurer of the Union.

The report of the Provincial secretaries followed, that from New Brunswick being read by Mrs. McIntyre, in the absence of Mrs. S. Cox. There has been marked advancement both in numbers and in the subscriptions, there being seventy-three Aid societies and twenty bands, fifty-six of these having sent in filled forms. An addition of twenty one life members and six new Aids were added. Boundary Creek leads in largest average, \$4.57 per member.

Amounts raised:—	This year	\$2,797.48
	Last year	\$2,458.33
	Increase	\$339.15

The vote of appreciation to Mrs. S. Cox was heartily received.

Miss Hume from Nova Scotia brought in the report of eight new organizations making a total of one hundred and twenty six with fifty five Mission Bands, the life membership increased sixteen making fifty-six in all.

Amounts raised:—	This year	\$7615.53
	Last year	\$6887.81
	Increase	\$727.72

An encouraging report came from Prince Edward Island. Miss Woodman had heard from twenty-one societies, with a subscription of \$842.48, Charlottetown leading with \$140.66.

The work of County Secretaries and Mission Band leaders is so necessary that the vacancies ought to be filled in order that nothing already begun be lost, rather that it may continue to grow.

Miss Era McDorman, Secretary of Bureau of Literature stated that expenses had been met, leaving a small surplus. The sisters do not appreciate sufficiently the value of Literature for information nor its price. About four hundred copies of Miss Gramp's "Retrospects" and other Literature on hand now may be obtained by sending the price of postage. The morning Session closed.

At two-thirty Mrs. W. E. Hall led the prayer meeting, she read the fifteenth of John. Earnest prayers from earnest hearts were offered for a deeper consecration.

We were all touched by the words of welcome from Mrs. Waring. Seven years before she had been heartily welcomed as a stranger and to those present, who for the first time attended the Convention, she passed on the same welcome. In translating a verse, which spoke of free salvation, a Hindu was afraid to leave its universal offer but finally left it so. "Thank God" said Mrs. Waring "that Jesus saves all." This salvation in Jesus Christ extends to the uttermost parts, wherever the message is carried. The speaker

er dwelt on the fact that the delegates were busy women who had dropped the duties for a few days and would return home to perform the greatest task of a lifetime even, the training of children, "perhaps the training of missionaries," "who knows?"

Mrs. Blackadar, who rose to respond, was only able to say "thank you" for the words of welcome had stirred too deeply for words but never before had Mrs. Blackadar been so glad to belong to this band of workers. The following report was read by the Treasurer:—

By balance on hand	\$2,669.47
Amount received from Nova Scotia Aids	6,164.67
Amount " " New Brunswick Aids	2,797.48
Amount " " Prince Edward Island	719.39
Donations	108.37
Tidings	51.25
Reports	29.88
Leaflets	35.41
Mission Band Treasurer Association and County Meeting	2,323.34
Refund Watson & Co.	56.78
	11.00
Last year	14,967.04
Increase	1,299.71

This increase of a thousand dollars gives us cause for thankfulness and generous applause greeted this announcement. The treasurer would suggest, nay! she would urge that the societies be very careful in sending money, to give all the particulars since the carelessness of some one had caused a change in sixteen sets of figures. It would save expense and labor if moneys were remitted only once a quarter.

The report of Mission Band treasurer:—

Received from Bands in Nova Scotia	\$1,401.16
" " Sunday Schools " "	45.70
" " Unions " "	52.00
" " Bands in New Brunswick	701.59
" " Sunday Schools " "	9.51
" " Bands Prince Edward Island	113.58
Last year	2,323.34
Increase	2003.61
	319.73

The report of the secretary Mrs. C. H. Martell gave further words of encouragement. The Home department was continually enlarging and the growth of a missionary spirit was coming among the women. The death of the faithful helper, Mrs. Allwood of St. John, was recorded with deep sorrow, and the resignation of Mrs. Harding of Amherst. Crusade Day had been generally observed. The leaflets and Tidings were more widely distributed and the united course of study carried on with great profit.

The review of the Foreign Departments revealed cause for gratitude for the Lord has wrought mightily. In December Miss Martha Clarke returned from furlough and at the January conference was transferred to Tekkali while Miss Flora Clarke was sent to Bimlipitan, Mr. and Mrs. Gullison and Mr. and Mrs. Corey had all arrived home. Miss Blackadar has great joy in returning to her work. The missionaries on all the fields are praising God for his goodness, Miss Alberta Parker who was ready to go out has been stricken down by illness. This is a shadow on our sky but we may trust him.

Mrs. Gullison took the platform to explain some matters, we learned that Evangelistic Schools were started out of doors by gathering children under a tree and teaching them. Mrs. Gullison made a strong appeal for more laborers, three lady missionaries are needed that those on the field may have a necessary rest.

We have on the field 17 Day schools, 56 Evangelistic schools, 7 Stations, 8 Churches, 10 Sunday schools, 4 Boarding schools, 1 Hospital, 3 Reading rooms, 3 Missionaries and their wives, 3 single men, 6 unmarried ladies, 20 Bible women, 56 teachers, 46 Baptisms during the year.

The address of the much beloved but absent President was read by Miss Hume. It spoke of the twenty years since the Union, the increase in numbers and in finances. The writer dwelt on the work in India, the crying needs of the women to be delivered from the crime of child marriage the treatment of the widows and the position of girl babies. The religion of Jesus is the only remedy for these frightful evils. If we could see the wife and mother, a partner and helper. Education for women is opening and medical missionaries are a great pushing force but more workers are needed. The advance will come when strong individual effort is put forth at home and abroad, more organizations formed and more united study and more prayers. "Be ye strong, therefore, and let not your hands be weak, for your work shall be rewarded."

Greetings came from the Women's Foreign Missionary society of the Presbyterian church of Canada, eastern division. Mrs. McNab spoke of the identity of aims and purposes of the two societies and the place of women in being a helpmate of man in the church work. Mrs. Beck of Dartmouth brought greetings from the Women's Missionary Society of the Methodist church which was responded to by Mrs. Walter Mitchell. The afternoon session closed.

A large audience assembled in the evening. After the devotional exercises, a paper was read by Mrs. McIntyre on "The Relation of Home Missions to the World's Evangelization." The command came to the disciples to begin at Jerusalem and three thousand were converted. This same awakening may be true to day if we only exert ourselves according to our opportunities. The true development of the home churches will be the enlargement of the horizon and active service because no joy comes to the slothful servant. The Master says "Go work to-day in my vineyard."

We have favorable opportunity for work in these sea provinces and this will tempt us to our Samaria beyond, Grand Ligne and the West. The west offers new attractions for they are bone of bone and flesh of our flesh and what is blessing to us will be blessing to them. Let motives of self preservation and fellow feeling help us to show them a pure and aggressive Christianity. The golden opportunity is now when the heathen are coming to our doors. The cultivation of Home Missions means the sending of our best representatives. Great men have been converted in Mission churches and it is our opportunity to start the forces which bring about great results.

Mrs. Corey, our lately returned missionary spoke next. In the extreme north of the Madras Presidency is the district of Gaujam and within this district lies the parcel of land called Parla Kimeri. In this district of Gaujam are Telugus, Mohammedians, Christians and a few wild tribes. Many of the people speak all three languages but the majority only one. The rains from June to September are needed for the rice fields which extend over all the district. Besides the three hot months when station work is done, the missionary is mostly away touring. When the missionaries go separately the region may be covered in one year, otherwise in two. The government have built mud houses with straw roofs. These lack furniture, so that the missionary must carry all that is needful of food and furniture though he may use these houses on the tours for centres. It is hard to get a hearing but even then they are suspicious and think idols are good for Hindus. Individual work is best and often only one chance may come to one woman to hear of Jesus. Mrs. Corey pled for three new missionaries that the faithful ones may get rest by a home trip.

The Rev. Mr. Gullison took the platform. He compared some men's attitude toward India to the brethren of David who laughed at his suggestion to enter against Goliath but David said "Is there not a cause?" And says Mr. Gullison "there is a cause in India." The moral destitution of the people of India to constitute a sufficient motive. God has gloriously vindicated his power, there are one million protestant Christians. The recent increase in births is only 1.5 that of protestant Christians fifty per cent. Mr. Gullison gave some personal experiences to show the thieving and lying tendencies and explained that their religion pushed them into it. They have nothing to give them peace or a revelation of God and it is our obligation to teach them how to save their souls. The first day of the Session closed.

If it were only possible to breathe into these lines something of the interest manifested, something of the enthusiasm of each officer, speaker and delegate, something of the spirit and love which came from the lips of our missionaries and something of that desire which came into the hearts of each delegate to go home and begin to witness for Jesus at "Jerusalem."

What a responsibility is ours and the wasted opportunities are not oppressing us. Let us learn all we can about the fields of missionary labor and pray with trusting hearts. Let us also believe that we have done a little when we interest one new member into the society.

MARGARET COHOE.

THURSDAY MORNING.

At 9.30 a devotional service was led by Miss Addie Cogswell. After reading verses from John XV. and prayer Miss Steadman sang beautifully "Lord for tomorrow and its needs I do not pray."

At ten o'clock the chair was taken by Mrs. Smith, acting President, who after a few preliminary remarks declared the session duly open for business.

A memorial service was led by Mrs. Chubbuck. After reading Scripture portion the list of names of those who have gone before was read by the Secretaries of the different Provinces. Prayer was offered by Mrs. E. T. Miller. A duet "Gathering Home" was beautifully rendered at intervals during the reading of names of "Departed" by Miss Steadman and Miss Laura Masters. Mrs. Chubbuck gave a short address in which she urged those who still remain to renewed effort in our great work. Special mention was made of the name of Miss Minnie DeWolfe afterwards Mrs. Eaton the first lady missionary to go out from these Provinces. Reference was also made to Mrs. Allison Smith an esteemed member of the First Baptist church, Halifax. This sister is revered for her work's sake having served on our Board, and within a few years of her death a member of the Home Mission Committee. Solo by Miss Steadman (Conclusion next week.)