

Preamble.—On November 8th, 1891, we shall celebrate, as a society, our tenth birthday. We beg to present a plan for a birthday celebration, which we hope will meet your approval. We believe that the time has arrived when the needs of the work of the Woman's Missionary Society demand an efficient and adequate presentation to the intelligent sympathy and co-operation of the women of our Church. Such advocacy is not possible in the limited space at our disposal in the *OUTLOOK*; therefore,

Resolved.—"That we respectfully urge upon the General Board of the Woman's Missionary Society, the serious consideration of the establishment of an organ for the Woman's Missionary Society, in which the claims of the Society, its objects and aims, the internal working of Auxiliaries and Mission Bands, together with news from the various fields, both of our own and other churches, may be presented; and all schemes pertaining to the successful conduct of our growing Society and the elevation of woman, both in heathen lands and at home, may be freely discussed.

"We further assure the Board of our firm conviction, based upon figures, that it can be made to pay with a circulation of 5,000 or upwards, which number we believe to be within the immediate reach of the Society."

The financial statement was furnished from the office of a city daily, and can be forwarded to *OUTLOOK* if wished.

After the business part of the meeting came an affectionate and sisterly greeting from Knox Presbyterian Church, presented by Mrs. Ballantyne, and much enjoyed by all.

Mrs. Cosford, President, invited the ladies to remain for afternoon tea, when about 150 adjourned to the lecture-room to spend a social hour. Altogether the nicest and most enjoyable Quarterly Meeting yet, every one said, on separating.

A. G. McMECHAN, *Dist. Organizer*.

QUEEN'S AVENUE MISSION CIRCLE.

The following, by MRS. HAMILEON, London, was read at the Western Branch Meeting, and requested for publication:—

(Continued from page 43.)

THIRDLY, the meeting should be made attractive. This, as far as Auxiliaries are concerned, would refer mainly to the conduct of the meetings, with relation to the order of business, etc., (a subject which no doubt has at previous sessions been elaborately discussed), but in regard to Mission Circles it goes further, because of the stronger counter-attractions which have to be offset. With us, the circle meetings are always held in the evenings; the employment of the time of many of the young ladies during the day necessitates that, and no doubt similar circumstances obtain in the case of many other circles. This brings the circle meeting into direct competition with many other meetings of a social character, in which it rests under a decided disadvantage, inasmuch as its support is confined to the ladies. Suppose a case, to illustrate. Five young men, Christians, and sensible enough to prefer the company of Christian young ladies, want to spend an evening together, and naturally wish to have the company of agreeable female companions. They therefore invite five young ladies who, in their desire to do their Christian duty, are members of the mission circle. It is mission circle evening, hence arises a struggle as to which place shall claim the attendance of the ladies, with the chances strongly in favor of the mixed assembly coming out winner, the ladies meanwhile promising themselves that next month there will be no such occasion for absence, and they will be more faithful to the circle. Or, perchance, they may meantime decide against absenting themselves altogether from the circle meeting, and they compromise matters by attending these for a while, sitting on nettles, while the devotional exercises and part of

the order of business is disposed of, then leaving the business to be completed by a few. Suppose, on the other hand, that the mission circle were open for employment of the time, talent, energy and consecration of the young gentlemen, an extent of devotion on the part of the young ladies equal to that we have already supposed would almost certainly result in the circle claiming the attendance of all. Result:—Ten interested, contented workers, as against none in the case supposed, or at best against five, rendering half service and less than half attention. And what is to hinder the admittance and employment of the young men? The constitution contains only one word which could be construed as excluding them, and that only dimly implies it, and is used only with reference to the sending of a delegate to the Branch meeting. If it were feared that the encroachment, or perhaps, I should rather say the advancement, would result in a loss of the distinctive character of our Society, that point might be guarded by conserving to the ladies say the holding of office, voting for officers, and acting as representatives at Auxiliary or Branch meetings. But this is radical ground, and would perhaps better be abandoned until it has been pronounced tenable, and the subject discussable by the powers that be.

Another method of encouraging earnest labor is the cultivation of a spirit of emulation amongst all the circles belonging to the Society. Discussion of this here would be quite superfluous, as it will shortly be practically illustrated. Two exceedingly active and devoted members of our Society, Mrs. Owrey, belonging to Queen's Avenue Auxiliary, and Mrs. Scream, belonging to our Mission Circle, have requested me, in their behalf, to present to the Western Branch, through you, Mrs. President, this banner. It is given with the request that it be presented to the circle showing the largest membership in proportion to the membership of the church or churches to which it belongs, to be held by it for the year, and then returned to the Branch meeting, to be used in marking a similar distinction for the most successful circle of the succeeding year.

Our Circle has not lost heart; we believe there is a place for us in the work, and at this period in the nineteenth century, with the Master's injunction, which constitutes the charter of our Society, ringing in our ears, "Go ye into all the world!" and with the challenge to emulation which is thrown out to us by the restless energy and strife pervading every avenue of business and social life, leading men and women to invent, engage and develop the most, and the most effective appliances by which their objects may be achieved—we say, with these things in view, no Auxiliary should require urging to mother a mission circle, and no circle should find it necessary to apologize for its existence.

Our salutation to the Western Branch is, "God bless you!" and our desire concerning you, that each may seek with patience the glory of the Lord, until, with every creature of heaven, and earth, and sea, all join in chanting, "Blessing, and honor and glory, and power, be unto Him that sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb forever and ever."

THE acceptance of the Italian protectorate by the king of Abyssinia is reckoned as affording much hope for missionary work in the valley of the Nile.

THE New York *Independent* expects that "General Booth and Mr. Stead" will find the means, to do the work sketched in the volume which has been the sensation of the past fortnight. It regards the success of Mr. Price Hughes' work as an encouragement, and it will be "glad to see London teach New York and the world how to deal with poverty and crime."