

Woman's Work.

O. C. W. B. M.

President, Mrs. W. B. Malcolm, 620 Church St., Toronto; Cor. Sec., Miss L. V. Riech, 225 Maria St., Hamilton; Treasurer, Miss Jennie Fleming, Kilsyth.

Ontario Christian Woman's Board of Missions.

The following sums were received and payments made, from Dec. 10, 1894, to Jan. 7, 1895:

Receipts—

Auxiliary at Bowmanville... \$13 00
" " St. Thomas... 12 00
" " London... 6 00
" " Evesham... 6 00
Mrs. S. M. Brown, Warton 5 00

Foreign Missions.

Auxiliary at Aurora... 5 00

Payments—

Ontario Co-operation... 50 00
JENNIE FLEMING,
Treasurer.

Kilsyth, Jan. 7, 1895.

Auxiliary Programme for March, 1895.

SUBJECT—"The True Purpose of Life."

Hymn—554, from New Christian Hymn and Tune Book.

Scripture Readings—Phil. i. 12-30; Phil. 3. 7-21.

Prayer—by President.

Hymn—292.

Business—Reading Minutes, Collection, etc.

A few short prayers that we may glorify God in our daily lives and conversation.

Hymn—268.

Closing Prayer.

The subject before us is a beautiful one, but one I fear Christians very often lose sight of.

In considering the subject the thought came to me that surely the Christian's "True Purpose in Life," is, or should be, to "preach Christ and Him Crucified."

We have a beautiful example of such a life in Paul. His whole aim and purpose was to glorify God, and to win for himself a crown in heaven.

Let it be noted first of all, that this most famous preacher did not claim to have reached the goal of Christian perfection. He was still pressing on towards the mark and the crown at the end of the race with all his power and energy, so he determined leaving behind him former aims and ambitions to center all his efforts on the one grand life-task of attaining to the divine life and character as given in Jesus Christ. The goal of all worthy human struggle is the attainment of the likeness of Jesus Christ.

Such a plan was that of Paul "forgetting the things which are behind and stretching forward to the things which are before." He realized that such a purpose involved certain things which many are unwilling to surrender, even for so great a prize as that which he had in view.

One of the problems which confront all sooner or later is, "What shall be my calling or pursuit in life?"

This is a serious question, and one which should be answered only in the light of our relationship to Christ, and yet I fear many Christians choose their life-work without reference to the claims which Christ has upon their redeemed lives.

A disciple is bound to ask with Paul, "Lord, what wilt Thou have me to do?" He should ask himself, "What can I do that will help most in advancing Christ's reign upon earth?" Such questions, prayerfully considered, would scatter many selfish plans and motives, and give in their stead at last a vision of heavenly glory. Our Master himself turned away from tempting offers of this world, to walk the lowly path of

self-denial that he might better serve humanity, so his disciples must often refuse the prizes which Satan offers, in order to walk with their Master in the path of unselfish service to the race.

This "stretching forward to the things which are before" involves endless progress. Christ is the goal. No one who has caught Christ's idea of life could ask the question, "is life worth living?" But Paul's life not only had its purpose and its plan, it had its prize also. "The prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus." It was the joy that was set before Christ that enabled him to endure the cross, despising the shame. It was the prize at the end of life's race that consoled the heart of the great apostle in the midst of his earthly losses. He "reckoned" that the sufferings of this present time "are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed to us," and had learned that our light affliction, which is for the moment, worketh for us more and more exceedingly an eternal weight of glory. Let us adopt Paul's purpose and plan in life, and henceforth with divine aid, press toward the true goal of life in Christ-like service to humanity, until the "prize of the high calling" shall be awarded us by the hand of the glorified Christ. E. F. B.

Lobo Auxiliary.

The Lobo Auxiliary observed O. C. W. B. M. day on the evening of the 8th of January. The day was blustering and cold, but the turnout was good, about one hundred being present. At eight o'clock the president, Miss M. A. Sinclair, took the chair, and the following programme was successfully carried out: The devotional exercises, which consisted of two songs, the reading of three passages of Scripture, and prayer, was followed by the president's address (which is copied below). The history of the Auxiliary for eight years was given by the secretary, which may be interesting to others, and will also be given below. "Christian Work Song" was rendered by the choir, and Miss Hattie La Tour gave a reading entitled "My Prayer" with good effect. Then a very appropriate paper, "The Mission of the O. C. W. B. M. to the Children," written by Mrs. Lediard, superintendent of Children's Work, was read by Miss Lizzie McKellar, after which the McKellar family sang a beautiful piece, "Seeking the Lost," and as it was deemed advisable to take up the offering in the middle of the programme, a reading, "Is It Nothing to You?" was given by Miss Gracie McClurg, which certainly had its influence; for a collection of \$6.72 was taken up. Rev. Mr. Lindsay, the Presbyterian minister of Ivan, came over to help us, and we were much encouraged by his excellent address. Song by the choir, "Is Your Lamp Trimmed and Burning." Then a beautiful solo, "What Hast Thou Done," was sung by Miss Hattie La Tour. A few pointed remarks were made by Bro. Alex. Gray, sr. A very pretty and carefully written paper by Mrs. Brennstuhl (our former pastor's wife), was read by Miss Maggie Sinclair, and a significant solo, "The Workers' Prayer," by Miss Gracie McClurg. Our pastor, Bro. A. Sinclair, spoke in glowing terms of woman's work in the church, and reminded us of the time when he was taught to think very differently on this subject. Then the audience was asked to sing "God Be With You Till We Meet Again." Thus an enjoyable and profitable evening was spent at our first open meeting.

Mrs. E. McClurg, Sec.

Ivan, Jan. 24, 1895.
PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS.
CHRISTIAN FRIENDS: We are glad to see so many out this evening. Your presence indicates an interest in the cause of missions. This is as it ought to be. We cannot conceive of such a thing as a Christian without the missionary spirit. Christ himself was the first great missionary, who came down to this sinful earth, laying aside all the honor and glory which He had with the Father before the world was, to become a "man of sorrows and acquainted with grief," and finally to give his life a ransom for all. The missionary spirit, we believe, to be pre-eminently the spirit of Christ; and we read that "If any man have not the spirit of Christ, He is none of His." During His earthly ministry Jesus "went about doing good," healing the sick, casting out the devils, raising the dead, thus attesting the truth of the declaration, "I am the Way, the Truth and the Life." His life was the one perfect example of the missionary spirit.

The great object of the C. W. B. M. is to cultivate a missionary spirit, to encourage missionary effort in the church, to disseminate missionary intelligence, and to secure systematic contributions for missionary purposes. There is no intelligent, earnest Christian worker, who has weighed the subject carefully, who could possibly object to such an object, fraught, as it is, with the best interests of the human race. When we contrast the condition of women in Christian lands with her depressed and down-trodden sisters in heathen countries, it should induce us to use every means within our reach to send the light of the glorious gospel, which has done so much for us, to the remotest regions of the earth. In working, earnestly, faithfully and persistently for this object, we are helping to carry out the commission of our Blessed Master, "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature." This is a trust committed to His followers till the end of time. Who would dare to neglect it, and hope to hear the plaudit, Well done I good and faithful servant, enter into the joy of thy Lord. One cause of the apathy shown by professed Christians in regard to missionary effort, consists in their not reading missionary literature and informing themselves on the subject. We cannot feel an interest in what we do not know. It would be well for us all to remember that we shall be held accountable for what we might know, as well as for what we do know. To each of us the Master has given some talent, to be developed and cultivated in His service. If we ponder the fate of the servant who hid his talent in the earth, it may help to arouse us to our duty and privilege of becoming co-workers with the Saviour in the salvation of souls. How can we listen to the bitter wail of our sisters in heathen darkness, and sit with folded hands and unfeeling hearts, doing nothing to uplift them and bring them to a knowledge of the Saviour who died for them?

Systematic giving is a wonderful economizer of small change, as we, who are engaged in the C. W. B. M. work can testify. Knowing that our fee of ten cents per month must be paid as the month comes round, we lay it aside for that purpose, instead of expending it for some trifle with which we can dispense. This little act of self-denial is a training which grows into a habit.

Sisters, let us be faithful in our work for the Master. Make a point of attending every meeting, unless some circumstance that is absolutely beyond your control prevents your doing so. We do not properly realize our individual influence, or our individual responsibility in these matters. The crown is promised not to those who begin the Christian race, but to those only who continue faithful unto death. To those who have not yet engaged in this work we would say, Would you not wish to take part in extending the cause of Christ, and thus showing your love to Him who gave His life for you? Come with us and we will do you good.

A SYNOPSIS OF THE MISSION WORK DONE BY THE SISTERS OF THE CHURCH IN LOBO.
The Band of Christian Workers in connection with this church was organized June 28, 1886. At the first meeting fourteen sisters enrolled, and others were added from time to time. The object of the society was to cultivate a missionary spirit, to encourage missionary effort in the church, to disseminate missionary intelligence, and to secure systematic contributions for missionary purposes. For the advancement of these objects several committees were appointed, viz: Tract committee, visiting committee, etc., etc. A number of tracts were distributed and kept in circulation during the first year. Much good work was also done by the visiting committee. During the year \$30.80 was collected. Of this \$25 was sent to assist the West End church, Toronto, the remainder was sent to A. McLean for Foreign Missions. Up to this date we were working alone. Knowing that "in union there is strength," we felt that it would be well to have the sisters throughout the province united in this work. To this end a motion was passed at the meeting on May 18th, 1887, that a delegate be sent by us to the annual meeting of the Ontario Co-operation, to be held at Guelph in June, so as to agitate the question. The secretary (who was appointed delegate) was requested to write to the secretary of the Co-operation to bring the subject before the meeting, which he did, and as a result a provincial work was inaugurated known as the Ontario Christian Woman's Board of Missions. Our little band of "Workers" became an auxiliary to this Board. Our meetings were conducted pretty much on the same principle as heretofore. During this year two of our charter members were called home. Our contributions amounted to \$21.59, of which \$20 was sent to the provincial treasurer. From June to June constituted our missionary year. In the following year no change of importance outside of our regular work, save the death of one of our beloved sisters. Collections from all sources were \$41. The following year was marked by the organization of the Children's Mission Band, which was carried to a successful issue by Mrs. Lediard. The little ones became enthused, and their zeal in the Master's cause was manifest in the happy gatherings from time to time, and their pennies being gathered together counted \$20. Our pledge of \$30 was sent to the provincial treasurer. Again we were called upon to part with a dear sister. As a part of our mission work in the next year ('90 to '91) a box of clothing was sent to the poor in Muskoka in care of Bro. Crewson. A number of sisters, who are not directly connected with this organization, very generously and liberally helped in the making up of this box. In this year the oldest sister in our Auxiliary had fallen asleep. She was ninety years at the time of her death. It was found from the treasurer's report that \$17.25 was raised, \$32.25 was given for the provincial work and \$5 for the Minnedosa building fund. At this time the children's money was also sent to the provincial treasurer. We find that the spirit of missions is broadening, for in the year 1891-2 it seemed imperative that we take up the work in the foreign field. At the convention of that year every delegate was so enthused that she went home bent on doing her utmost to reach out to those who are in heathen darkness. Our Auxiliary raised \$35.75 for this work and \$11.65 was raised by the children for the same work, and \$30 (our pledge for the provincial work) was easily raised, making a total of \$67.39. We also prepared a box of clothing for the poor in London, sent to the care of Miss Mason. Right here we want to thank the brethren and sisters, who are not actively identified with this work, for their generous offerings from time to time. In this year

our first recording secretary passed away. In 1892-3 the work moved along steadily, and through the combined efforts of the Ontario Christian Woman's Board of Missions—of which we are a part—and the Children's Mission Bands and the sisters of the Maritime Provinces, we were enabled to send out our first foreign missionary. Our Auxiliary sent \$38.25 to the provincial treasurer, besides helping the missionary in her outfit. Near the close of the following year we were called upon to part with the youngest member of our Auxiliary; \$23 of our pledge was paid, also the children's fund, amounting to \$3. Our membership at present numbers eighteen. From the time of our organization we have lost seven members by death and four by removal. In money we have raised about \$300. While it is a small amount it is not a bad showing, considering that it is but a minority of the sisters who have taken part. Owing to the fact of trying to make the history as brief as possible, we are giving little besides the figures. Being auxiliary to the O. C. W. B. M., it is only those who are conversant with our provincial work that can understand in full what has been done. For instance, we have helped the work in Toronto, Hamilton, Guelph, Owen Sound, Collingwood and Muskoka, besides largely supporting a missionary in Minnedosa from 1889 to 1893, and supporting a missionary in Japan. Since the organization of the O. C. W. B. M., seven years ago, there has been gathered together in money from all sources \$5557.95. Apart from all money considerations, the wealth of soul culture to be derived from this work can only be estimated by those who are actively engaged in it. How we wonder that so many of our sisters can be disinterested in the missionary work, when the command of our Elder Brother is, "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature."

Mrs. E. McClurg, Sec.

Expression of Gratitude.

A farewell social to Rev. Dr. Stewart was given at the residence of Mr. F. J. Marshall on Tuesday evening, Dec. 25th. A number of the young people of the Disciples' church were present, and a very enjoyable time was spent. During the evening Rev. Mr. Stewart was made the recipient of a well-filled purse of money as an expression of the appreciation of his services among the young people here during the past year. The following address was read by Mr. T. E. Simpson:

DEAR BRO. STEWART: At this farewell gathering of your brethren in Christ, we think this an appropriate opportunity to tender you, in our feeble way, our regret at your having to remove from our midst. Although we are losing one whom we have learned to love from your earnest Christian zeal and timely care and advice in the formation and upholding of our society, yet we trust that your leaving for study to further prepare yourself for the work in our Father's vineyard, is by Him approved, whose we are and in whom we live. We therefore request you to accept this small gift as a token of our appreciation of your kind labors in our behalf for the cause of Christ, and trust that you may be spared many useful days to serve the Good Master, and that in His wise providence you may return to again labor with us; but while absent the one from the other we can say,

"There is a scene where spirits blend,
Where friend holds fellowship with friend;
Though sundered far, by faith we meet
Around one common mercy seat."

Signed on behalf of the Y. P. S. C. E. ALLIE KING, President.
ORPHA KING, Secretary.
—Grand Valley Tribune.