

A gaily colored map showed the proportion of the different nationalities scattered over our land.

The railway map of the Dominion, issued by the C. P. R., was marked in blue and gold, with rings of red scattered here and there. Standing before this map, we had a most interesting talk on Indian missions, and the towns for which new men were needed in rapidly growing centres. The little gold stars marked where some of the boys from Old Victoria had gone for a hard summer's work. "You know we follow the boys, and this map shows just how far they are from the railway and the nearest town," the Doctor remarked. We looked at some fine views, also used to study missions.

The exhibit of missionary books was a revelation to me. I never realized before that to be intelligently informed regarding the work being done to-day one must study.

In looking over the books the truth of the saying, "The goal of history is the redemption of the world," was proven. Much of the literature which was for sale dealt with the great social questions which make for a nation's up-building or decay. "Christian missions in the development of a nation toward the highest ideal, the standard of Christ, that the splendid missionary literature of to-day is of real educational value to all who read."

"The people out West go in for the best books," was remarked, as we paid for a copy of the life of James Chalmers, the hero of the Islands of the Sea.

When we looked in on the last day of the Conference only a few books were left.

The Young People's Summer School asked Dr. and Mrs. Stephenson to represent them at General Conference, and gave them a cheque for their travelling expenses.

The spirit of Summer Schools for Missions and Bible Study was continued throughout the Conference, for many scraps of conversation and talks on maps and books could be heard at any hour in the school room.

A VISITOR.

## General Survey of the World's Missionary Problem.

BY JESSIE E. PORTER.

(Continued from September Number).

### ASIA.

Crossing over to Arabia, Palestine, Asia Minor, Turkey, and Persia, we find Mohammedanism flourishing to a greater extent than in Africa, its domain reaching down into India and away across Tibet and China into Japan, though its sway in these last two countries is not so strong as in the others. Mohammedanism acknowledges one God, and allows that Jesus was a good man, but contends that Mohammed, the last revelation of God, is the true Prophet. It teaches that women have no souls, and may never hope for immortality. One missionary asked a Mohammedan to allow his daughter to attend school. "Why, yes," was the sarcastic reply, "and would you mind taking the cow along, too?" Most of the women, especially of the better classes, are secluded in harems. Slaves do the work, so the women are habitually idle, having nothing to do but to please their master, hence jealousy arises, and these harems are the hot-beds of hatred and kindred vices. We believe a nation is what its women are. What is to be hoped of Islam while these conditions exist? Only women are allowed to see these harem-cloistered women, so here is a grand work for the women of the Christian Church. Mohammedans are fatalists—what God has decreed from

all ages must be. By saying many prayers the favor of Mohammed may be obtained, and he will reach down, and, catching the men by the hair, assist them over the hair-like bridge that spans the river of death, else they will fall to the depths below. Safely across, they sit down to a feast, which lasts one thousand years, and are introduced to their one hundred or more celestially beautiful wives. Such is their conception of heaven, the home of the pure.

In Armenia, as most of us understand, from hearing of the recent massacres, there is a primitive Christianity much adulterated, but which still forms an excellent basis for Christian work. In India we find the home of Buddha, whose influence has deepened in other countries, leaving India to Mohammedanism and Hinduism. Buddhism is a great system of morals, teaching self-repression as that which will bring most merit. So we find a devout Buddhist sitting for hours or weeks in an uncomfortable position, trying to think of nothing, and thus endeavoring to keep down and quench all evil passions. Christianity must work on this effort to be saved, and teach the follower of Buddha that Jesus in the heart will make it pure, and rouse him to activity to make this life, too, tell.

Hinduism, of which Brahminism is a branch, really sways India, its caste system being spoken of as Satan's master system. The system presents the greatest barrier to Christianity, as one cast will have nothing to do with another, lest they fall to a lower degree. It is a re-

**D**O not forget that a systematic canvass for subscriptions is to be a special feature of **YOUNG PEOPLE'S DAY, SUNDAY, OCTOBER 12th.** We are asking for an anniversary contribution of five new names from every League.

ligion of life, its temples being centres of immorality.

India's women are, perhaps, the most to be pitied of all women. There are at least 15 million widows, most of them under the age of fifteen, who are devoted to a life of shame, almost nothing being done for them. The population of Canada is five million. There are five times that many widows in India, their misery being greater than we can imagine. Besides these unreached widows there is not one missionary to a million of the women in the zenanas of the higher classes.

A Hindu tract society, which, copying Christian methods, is now waging a vigorous war against Christianity. Cheap and poisonous literature and cheap French novels, are now being circulated as the product of Christian lands, and some Westerns, for the sake of gain, even make idols and send them into the country.

In spite of all these opposing forces, missionaries in India have succeeded in translating the Bible into thirteen languages, with part of it in thirty dialects. Where one hundred years ago Carey was the only missionary, there are now sixty-five missionary societies at work, with a force of 1,700 spread among 287 million of a population. What is done should encourage us, and what is to do stir us to fresh activity.

Buddhism is the dominant religion of Tibet, where every sixth man is a Buddhist priest.

Corea and Mongolia are at present encouraging fields, rapidly opening to the Gospel. Mongolia has now a chain of

mission stations extending across its entire length. This is a Chinese dependency, and illustrates what will be the transformation of China in a few years by God's help.

Siberia, Russia, and Greece are under the domination of the Greek Church, which is very similar to the Roman Catholic, they, however, refusing to acknowledge the authority of the Pope.

### OUR PART.

Now we have briefly looked at the missionary problem. Let us thank God for the members gathered into the fold. Still we may hear Christ's voice saying: "The harvest truly is plenteous, but the laborers are few. Pray ye the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth laborers into his harvest. As his children we all obey his command, to pray that laborers shall be sent forth. What are we doing to answer this prayer?"

If we cannot go ourselves, we can send others. It is very encouraging to note that almost \$25,000 was contributed through the Forward Movement last year. As the average giving in the Forward Movement is \$1.00 a year, this means about 25,000 young people interested in missions. You and I know just how many dollars and cents we personally give to spread the Gospel. The average per member in Methodism all over Canada, according to last published minutes of Conference is 75 cents; of this sum about 11 per cent. goes to the foreign work. The rest we keep for the work at home. Toronto Conference Methodists give an average of 95 cents per member. Collingwood District Methodists give 70 cents a year to this grandest work of the Church. To illustrate what may be done by a church filled with the spirit of Jesus, I wish each one of you would read an article on page 188 of the report of the Students' Volunteer Convention held in Toronto last winter.

May we each see our relation and our responsibility to the world's missionary problem, and do our part, through prayer, study, and action, in realizing the grand watchword, The Evangelization of the World in this Generation.

## Why Some Children are Timid.

How many children have been terrified by stories of the "Bogy Man," of "the wolf that will come and eat them," of "the policeman who will put them in the lockup," till their fear of the dark amounts to positive agony! Bedtime should be an hour inseparably associated with the prayer at the mother's knee, followed by a quiet talk, after which the little one settles down to a restful sleep. But, instead, he is tucked into bed with the admonition: "Now, go right to sleep, like a good boy, for if you don't, there's a big dog over there in the corner that'll come and bite you!" Go to sleep! Sheer nervous terror, keep the child awake. How can he be expected to grow up anything but timid?—Arthur W. Yale, M.D.

## Pay as You Go.

Pay as you go, boys. No matter how earnestly you long for the possession of a gun, a boat, a bicycle, or what not, nor how certain you may be that at the end of the week or the month you will have the money to pay for it, do not run in debt.

Lyman Abbott, the man who occupied Henry Ward Beecher's pulpit in Plymouth Church, says this to say on the spending of money before it is earned: "Hope inspires the man who is earning for future expenditure; debt drives the man who is earning for past expenditure; and it makes an immeasurable difference in life whether one is inspired by hope or driven by debt."