

Canadian Missionary Link

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THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

Rise up, my love, my fair one, and come away.—Cant. II.: 8.

Fair weather is smiling upon the face of the earth, and my Lord would not have me spiritually asleep while Nature is around me waking. He bids me rise up, and well He may.

Yes, many a Spring day, as we see Nature putting on renewed life, our souls cry out for more abundant life, too. At Eastertime our spirits are stirred as we follow our Lord through that last week to His atoning death, and then to that first Easter, when He rose victor over death and sin. What glorious hope and assured promise came with that day! That hope and promise have kept hearts from failing through all the years. May the glory which shall be revealed" more and more inspire and uplift us all, but especially those who through loss are bowed down.

The call, "Rise up and come away" to more systematic and regular Bible study, came to us at our last Union Circle meeting in Toronto. We would like to pass that call on. We know we cannot grow in grace, or in knowledge of the Lord, or of His will concerning us, without Bible study. Let us resolve to renewed effort in this. Then shall we learn to rejoice in the Lord.

Then the call comes, "Rise up, my love, my fair one," and come away to fuller service. "Joy in the Lord is the strength of our work for God, but work for God is the perpetuation of joy in the Lord." Yes, to keep our joy we must really work. We women have as part of our service our Mission Circle work. We do not do this for what we ourselves receive. Yet, in proportion to the time and thought we expend, a reward comes. We find our interest grows, our joy in it increases, our vision is enlarged, our sympathy widened, and we awake to some new understanding of the world and God's plans, and of His infinite power to transform the lives of men and women and to satisfy all their needs.

This being so, we should draw the attention of other women to their privilege in mission work. They cannot afford to lose the blessing which follows it. Nor can the world or our Circles afford to be without their influence and help. We must prepare for an awakening or forward movement to enlist the interest of all the women of our churches. At our Board prayer meeting this was made a topic of special prayer. Let it be made so in every Circle, that the women who have done so much war work and striven to alleviate bodily ills, may realize something of the great spiritual war that never ceases, and as nobly do their part, that souls may be reached with the Gospel and lives saved from sin.

Another thing we would just mention now, that you may be ready to hear more later. A great and growing need on our Telugu field in India is a Biblewoman's Training School. When you hear more of it, and consider the matter, you will be enthusiastic and say we must supply that need.

These, then, are just some thoughts that we may rise up, rouse our souls, and with new life and energy set ourselves to study, that we may know, and know that we may serve.

MAUD W. MATTHEWS.