

Missionary World.

PRESBYTERIAL, W. F. M. S.—
ANNUAL MEETINGS.

PARIS: The tenth annual meeting of the W. F. M. S. of the Presbytery of Paris was held in Knox Church, Woodstock, on the 8th inst., the president, Mrs. W. A. McKay, presiding. There was a brief discussion on the sending of clothing to the same school for three years, it being finally decided that they abide in the meantime by the decision of the Board in this matter. The reports from auxiliaries and Mission Bands were read, and all showed signs of active work among the members and in most cases an increase in the amount contributed. Mrs. Hutt, on behalf of the ladies of St. Paul's, Ingersoll, invited the ladies to hold their next meeting in Ingersoll, which was accepted. Lunch was provided by the ladies of Knox and Chalmers Churches. At the afternoon meeting, Mrs. McMullen, in a few kind words, welcomed the ladies to Woodstock. Mrs. Thompson, of Ayr, reminded those present that this had been the birth place of the W. F. M. S. of the Presbytery of Paris, and she was there to-day to report, "hitherto has the Lord helped us." Mrs. W. A. McKay, the president, addressed the meeting. She spoke of the success of the societies and Mission Bands visited, and of new ones formed during the year. Mrs. McWhirter, corresponding secretary, then read her report showing how the different departments of work had been carried on, and especially mentioning that the freight (\$33) on goods sent to the Northwest schools had been refunded by the department at Ottawa, thus showing how this part of the work is being appreciated. A letter was read from a missionary among the Indians, showing that the life at File Hills is not an idle one. Mrs. Robertson, the treasurer, read her report, showing an increase over last year of \$111.83. After several other important questions had been discussed, the Rev. Dr. G. L. McKay, in an earnest and stirring address, urged upon the people the necessity of employing native women to carry on the work in Formosa. He had seen great changes in twenty-three years, and thought the Church in Canada was being aroused to greater zeal and interest. Mrs. Vincent and Miss McKay sang very sweetly "Faint not, fear not." Rev. Mr. Goforth then gave a graphic description of the climate and customs of the Chinese and expressed his sympathy with the work of the societies of the town. The evening meeting was well attended, Rev. Dr. McMullen presiding, Miss Baily sang a beautiful solo. Rev. Mr. Goforth, in addressing the evening meeting, spoke of the war in China, and said that through the providence of God China would be opened up, for the spread of the gospel, as it never had been before. The field is large and he showed the need of more helpers going forward. The Rev. Mr. Patterson, of Toronto, who is always a welcome visitor to Woodstock then gave an earnest and interesting address. Rev. Dr. McKay, in a few well chosen words, conveyed to the society the cordial greetings and best wishes of the Presbytery, and this brought to a close a most successful and enjoyable meeting of the W. F. M. S. of the Presbytery of Paris.

OWEN SOUND: The sixth annual meeting of the Owen Sound Presbyterial, W. F. M. S., was held in Knox Church, Owen Sound, on the 6th inst. In spite of 35 degrees below zero early in the morning, and the very heavy roads through snow drifts, there was a large attendance of delegates, several having driven fifteen or sixteen miles that morning. Encouraging reports were read from most of the Auxiliaries. It was decided to change the time of holding the annual meeting, on account of the difficulties and hardships of winter travel, and the long distances many have to come. The next annual meeting will be held in Division Street Church, Owen Sound, on the last Tuesday in June of this year, at which it is expected there will be a large representation from all the auxiliaries and Mission Bands. The President, Mrs. MacLennan, reviewed, in an interesting address, the work of the year, and told of the organization of two Auxiliaries and two Mission Bands. The report of the secretary stated that there were at present 18 Auxiliaries, with 303 members; 6 Mission Bands, with 119 members; 3 life members; and that the *Letter Leaflet* is taken by 306 members. The treasurer's report showed a total contribution of \$779.19, during the year. In addition to this, a large amount of warm clothing and bedding was sent to one of the Indian Mission fields in the North-west. The meeting was addressed, in the afternoon, by Mrs. Harvie, of Toronto, whose most interesting account of experiences in visiting the North-west Indian Missions, and vivid descriptions of places and people there, was listened to with the closest attention, and was felt to be as profitable as it was enjoyable. Mrs. Harvie's address, which set forth so clearly the needs and claims of the Indian work, will do much to awaken and stimulate interest in that specially difficult and discouraging field. The delegates and friends from a distance, along with the members of Presbytery, were provided with luncheon and tea by the ladies of Knox Church, whose hearty hospitality added much to the enjoyment of the meeting. The collection was \$13.45.—C. F. FRASER, C.S.

STRATFORD: The Presbyterial W. F. M. S. annual meeting was held in Knox Church, St. Mary's, on the 16th ult. There was a large attendance of delegates from the different societies and visitors. The morning session was devoted chiefly to the welcoming of delegates and hearing the reports of Auxiliary Secretaries. In the afternoon the president, Mrs. Hossack, of Lucan, delivered an earnest and vigorous address. The treasurer reported that \$1,524, an increase of more than \$100 over 1893 had been contributed by the societies during the year. The secretary reported two new auxiliaries organized in 1894, making in all 24 auxiliaries and 7 Mission Bands. The chief feature of the afternoon was an address from Mrs. Goforth, of Honan, China. Her "talk" to the ladies was full of interest. A number of Chinese curiosities were shown and their use explained. A bountiful lunch was served at noon, and tea in the evening by the ladies of Knox Church. A public meeting was held in the evening, with the pastor of Knox Church, Rev. A. Grant, in the chair. Mr. Grant warmly welcomed the ladies to Knox Church. Rev. T. A. Cosgrove read the reports of the treasurer and secretary. Rev. Dr. Hamilton brought the greetings of the Stratford Presbytery. Rev. J. A. Slimmon, missionary to Honan, China, in Chinese costume, was introduced and spoke for over an hour on mission work in Honan. He gave several instances of marvellous answers to prayer. His eloquence and earnestness kept the interest of the audience unabated. Mr. Slimmon has been in the work for 9 years, and is shortly to return with Mr. Goforth to China. The collections at both afternoon and evening sessions were liberal.

SARNIA: The Sarnia Presbyterial, W. F. M. S., held its seventh annual meeting in the Presbyterian Church, Thedford, on Wednesday and Thursday, Jan. 30th and 31st., and was well attended. The society has 15 auxiliaries and 6 Mission Bands with over 500 members. The treasurer reported an increase in contributions making a total of \$658.49 during the year besides clothing sent to the North West Indians valued at \$600. The president, Mrs. Towers, of Sarnia, presided at the afternoon meeting, and, in her address, urged more regular attendance, also systematic giving monthly, if possible, by envelopes. Mrs. Currie, Thedford, gave the address of welcome, to which Mrs. McTavish, of Parkhill, replied. A paper on "How to interest a Sunday School class in missions," was read by Miss Jessie Brebner of Sarnia which was followed by a most interesting address by Mrs. Harvie on her visit to the mission schools in the North West last summer to which all listened very earnestly. After the meeting adjourned, tea was served to all visiting delegates in the school room. At the evening meeting the church was filled, Mr. Currie presided. Revs. Messrs. Elliott (Nairn) and Alyward (Parkhill) represented the Presbytery. Rev. Mr. Goforth, in his usual interesting way, told of his work and life in China. The business session was held on Thursday forenoon. The invitation to hold the next meeting in Watford was accepted and the new officers were elected, Mrs. McTavish of Parkhill being chosen as president, and arrangements re clothing, etc., for the North West were made.

CHATHAM: The tenth annual meeting of the Chatham Presbyterial, W. F. M. S., was held in St. Andrew's Church, Windsor, on Jan. 31st and Feb. 1st. The reports of the different auxiliaries show the society to be in a very satisfactory condition. The interest seems to be increasing as well as the contributions. The latter amounted this year to \$1,087.00 which is an increase over last year of \$150. The officers, who so very efficiently acquitted themselves during the past year, were re-elected. The meetings throughout were exceedingly interesting. Special mention might be made of the evening meeting, which took place on Thursday 31st, the programme of which contained the following well known names. Mr. Jonathan Goforth, Honan, China; Mrs. Harvie, Foreign Secretary, Toronto; Mr. Larkin, Chatham. Mr. Tolmie occupied the chair. On Friday luncheon was served to all the delegates by the ladies of St. Andrew's Church in the lecture room. The meetings closed on Friday afternoon, every lady feeling that it had been a privilege to be present.

WOODSTOCK: The annual meeting of Knox Church's W. F. M. S. was held Thursday, Jan. 17th. There was a good attendance. The secretary reported the amount contributed during the year as \$323.96. An encouraging report from the Young Ladies' Mission Band was also received, showing the total amount of their contribution to be \$123.61. Two bales of clothing valued at over \$100 were also sent by the two societies to the school at File Hills Reserve.

PULPIT, PRESS AND PLATFORM.

Lutheran Observer: Many, like the foolish prodigal, while facing coming years of want, hunger and remorse, clamor for the possession of their good things now.

Cumberland Presbyterian: Do not imagine that a sermon is profound because it is hard to understand. Obscurity of language generally grows out of muddiness of thought.

Rev. James Barclay, D.D.: Our sports should not only mould the human form, but should do much to make up the character. Sports that do not tend to do this should be abandoned.

Bishop Potter: Believe me, there is no nobler work, no diviner work, than the work which teaches a young man a reverent care for his own body, and a scrupulous and tender care for those divinely instituted laws of health which shall make that body more and more a weapon for God and for good in the service of God and his fellow-men.

Rev. John Nicholls, Montreal: Close your theatres, your whiskey shops and your gambling dens, by the force of law—raise women's wages to a level with men's, break up your iniquitous "combines" by force of law, give us honest government and send your bootlickers to the penitentiary, then, at the end of the year, take stock and tell us the results.

United Presbyterian: We sometimes think that Christ's disciples, who were with him constantly during the period of his earthly ministry, were peculiarly favored. No doubt they were; and yet our opportunities for becoming acquainted with the Lord Jesus, of working for him, witnessing for him, and growing strong in him are better than theirs.

N Y. Evangelist: One of the saddest duties a pastor ever has to discharge is to sit by the bedside of some Ahithophel who has taken his chances in all desperate games of ambition, only when the inevitable failure comes, to be eager to set his house in order when he dies. Even the most wicked men are seldom fools in their inmost souls, though the recognition of their folly may come to them with the turn of the last card.

Philadelphia Presbyterian: A church service does not dispense with a home service. Our Lord attended the synagogue at Capernaum, not only teaching and worshipping there, but expelling an "evil spirit," and restoring the victim to mental and physical soundness. Thence Jesus entered the house of Peter for rest and refreshment, but upon being told that Peter's mother-in-law was in the last stages of a burning fever, he at once exerted his healing virtue in her behalf, and gave joy and comfort to loved and tried friends. Be true and faithful in the discharge of church duties, but neglect not home ministries of love and kindness.

Presbyterian Witness: The only practical question now is this: Shall the Federal Government undertake to force Manitoba to change her policy? Shall the Government of this Dominion become the champion of Sectarian schools? We think the Government of Canada will hesitate long before taking such a step. The people of Manitoba are quite competent to deal with their own Educational System. As to the conscientious objections and difficulties insisted upon by Roman Catholics, there is surely a short and easy method of solving them. Delegate Satolli can tell the aggrieved people that they are not at all censurable—that they are at liberty to avail themselves of public schools—that attendance on sectarian schools is not a matter of life-or-death but a matter of expediency.

Teacher and Scholar.

March 24th } PURITY OF LIFE. { Rom. xiii. 18,5.
GOLDEN TEXT.—I. Thes. v. 22.
MEMORY VERSES.—10-12.
CATECHISM.—Q. 14.

Home Reading.—M. Rom. viii. 1-14. Tu. Mat. vii. 7-12. W. Lev. xx. 13-18. T. I. Cor. viii. 1-13. F. Eph. vi. 10-18. S. Gal. iii. Sz. I. Tim. vi. 6-21.

Our lesson for this week is the quarterly lesson on Temperance selected by the International Sunday-school Committee. Needless to say, however, the applications of these verses is much broader than to that one particular form of "purity." Paul deals in the opening chapters of his epistle to the Roman's with the fundamental truth that salvation is all of grace and in the remainder of the epistle he sets forth what manner of men we will certainly be, if only these truths he has demonstrated have their proper place in our lives. Here he is pointing out what is proper for "sinners saved by grace" in the matter of their duties as citizens. They must first be obedient to those in authority, and, secondly, be faithful in the performance of all social and relative duties.

V. 8. "Owe no man anything," etc. The main reference is not to the contracting of debt, as a cursory reading might indicate; but the command is: "Acquit yourselves of all obligations, tribute, custom, fear, honor, or whatever else you may owe, but remember that the debt of love is still unpaid and must always remain so; for love includes all duty, since he that loves another fulfils the law."

V. 9. "For this," etc. Only the commandments referring to man's duty to man are quoted, for this is the subject under discussion—this verse confirms v. 8.

V. 10. "Love worketh no ill," etc. Proof of v. 8, 9. Love implies delight in the happiness of the object loved, hence love must effectually prevent us from injuring those we love and lead us to fulfil all the law requires—whatever is conducive to the best interests of our fellow-men. He who treats his neighbor as he would wish himself to be treated under similar circumstance will fulfil all that the law enjoins.

V. 11-14 contain the motive for enforcing this duty together with a statement as to how these duties can best be performed, viz., by putting in Christ.

V. 11. "Knowing the time"; that is, the nature and character of the period in which we now live. "It is time to awake," etc. It is time to arouse to earnestness in the matter of Christian duty. "For now is our salvation," etc. Reason for activity—eternity is just at hand. "Salvation" as here used seems to mean the consummation of the work of Christ in their deliverance from this present evil world, and their introduction into the purity and blessedness of heaven.

V. 12. "The night is far spent," etc. The time of sin and sorrow is nearly over; that of holiness and happiness is at hand. "Therefore, let us cast off," etc., and "put on," etc. If heaven draws near then let us put off unheavenly things, and put on heavenly armor. Let us walk worthily of the hope set before us.

V. 13 classifies the works of darkness: intemperance, impurity and discord.

V. 14 specifies the armour of light we are to put on—"put on the Lord Jesus Christ," be so intimately united with Him that He and not we may appear (Gal. iii 27). "And make no provision," etc. Do not indulge the desires of your corrupt nature.

SUMMARY.

1. Love to our neighbour is a debt which can never be discharged no matter how much we pay on that account the debt remains. To love our neighbour as ourselves requires us to work no ill to our neighbor, either directly or indirectly; and therefore to refrain from that which might work ill to our neighbor through our example. And there can be no question that intoxicating liquor does work immeasurable ill to our neighbor as defined in our Lord's parable of the Good Samaritan.

2. The fact that the end of our salvation, conformity to Christ's image, is daily drawing nearer, ought to stimulate us to greater earnestness in the practice of the law of love. It is promised that we shall be presented faultless before the presence of His glory. God's Word teaches us that that faultlessness is not to be attained at a single leap, but is a "growth." To grow into the likeness of Jesus Christ requires on our part setting up an ideal of holiness and striving earnestly toward the attainment of that ideal, a ceasing to do evil and learning to do well.

3. To this end we must put on the Lord Jesus Christ. Take him as our King who rules over us and subdues all our enemies, as our Saviour who sanctifies as well as redeems us, as the Christ, the Anointed of God for these very ends.