

and others, who would oppose Christ-like lives to the wickedness of the world. All such movements must run the gauntlet of criticism, but consecration to God and consistency therein, on scriptural lines, will hold the field against the shafts of controversy. More spirituality in the church should be aimed at, therein lies the hope of the present and future. Formalism, intellectualism, elegance of form and want of soul have been burdens on the church too long; let sound doctrine and sane religious zeal resume sway.

#### CHINESE MISSION WORK.

**REV. F. M. Dewey**, Montreal, has done good service by defending Dr. Thomson the Chinese missionary in Montreal. Mr. Dewey states that the mission is in a satisfactory condition, and that the adverse criticism in the press had its source in the opposition of certain Chinese residents who object to all christianizing work among their countrymen. The ventilation of the case will, it is expected, bear good fruit.

#### FRUITFUL LABORS.

**THE** reports of the 27th annual meeting of the W.F.M.S. for the Eastern Section, held at New Glasgow, show the work in the Maritime Provinces to have been actively and successfully prosecuted during the past year. We rejoice to note that the young people are influenced by the Society to systematic giving, but how is it that the congregational "leaders do not devote more attention to this phase of the work." Systematic giving will prove the keynote of success.

#### THE ONTARIO LORD'S DAY ALLIANCE.

Following is a special appeal issued by the Committee of the Ontario Lord's Day Alliance, to which the careful attention of our readers is earnestly directed.

If subscribers will mention this paper as the medium through which the appeal reached them, their subscriptions will be acknowledged by the Treasurer through these columns.

**WORK ACCOMPLISHED**—1. Active Branches have been formed in many centres. A growing interest in the subject has been called forth. The foundation for a strong and thoroughly provincial organization has been laid.

2. The opinion of the Court of Appeal upon the meaning of "Conveying travellers" in the Lord's Day Act, so far as expressed, is strongly in favor of the contention of the Alliance that the Legislature intended to except only through traffic from the general prohibition of the Act.

3. Legislation secured in 1895 and 1897 has prohibited Sunday cars throughout the whole Province excepting in Toronto and those few places in which a regular Sunday service had been operated. The legislation of 1897 would appear also to apply so as to prohibit the Toronto Railway Company unless it should be found that the Company have under previous legislation acquired the right or franchise to operate a Sunday Service. According to Sir Oliver Mowat's opinion no such right had been conferred.

4. Applications made to the Legislature by Railway Corporations for power to operate on Sunday have been successfully opposed.

5. The closing of the Welland Canal for the whole of the Lord's Day has been secured.

**WORK TO BE ACCOMPLISHED**:—The prevention of street railway and local passenger traffic and all other forms of unnecessary Sunday labor everywhere in Ontario and reducing to a minimum all necessary Sunday labor.

**FUTURE PLANS**:—1. Organization—Vigorously to push the organization of the Alliance in all parts of the Province.

2. Education—To issue and widely circulate such special literature as shall inform and arouse the public mind regarding the present crisis.

3. Co-operation—While not swerving an inch from the position that the Lord's Day is a Divine Institution

and the right to enjoy it a Divinely bestowed right, we shall invite the co-operation of every organized body of citizens desirous, for whatever reason of preserving for this country the Day of Rest.

4. Protection—The position gained by past effort we shall energetically defend against all attacks which may be made upon it.

5. Legislation—We shall ask that the defects which from the judgment of the Court of Appeal would appear to exist in the Lord's Day Act be remedied by amending legislation so that the Act may beyond doubt apply to all classes of persons without limitation and to corporations.

6. Interpretation—From the year 1845 there has been an exception in favor of "Conveying travellers." The true meaning of this expression we shall ask the Government to ascertain at the expense of the Province by reference to the Court of Appeal and if necessary to the Privy Council under the Statute for determining constitutional and other provincial questions.

**THE CRISIS**:—The once proudly boasted American Sabbath is now almost a thing of the past. Gradually, gradually, each step being claimed to be a harmless encroachment, it has been allowed to slip from the grasp of the toiling masses of the United States, until now the wage earners of that country are crying out against the tyranny of Sunday labor, and Christian citizens are banding themselves together to "rescue the Sabbath." Precisely what happened in the United States is now happening in Canada but has not yet gone beyond remedy. Our part it is to awake at once to the gravity of the issue now being wrought out and to let history teach us its lesson before it is too late. Doing so we shall surely hold fast the old fashioned Canadian Lord's Day and hand it down unbroken to our children, and it will continue to be our proud boast that under the protection of Ontario's laws every wage earner in the land enjoys the one universal Rest Day.

**OUR REQUESTS**:—For the carrying of these plans to a successful conclusion the Alliance most earnestly appeals for the sympathy and active support of all who are interested in preserving a Sunday Rest for the Province.

A large amount of money is urgently needed. For the past eighteen months by care and economy the expenditure has been kept within the income, but the Alliance has a deficit of about \$800, the results of the first year's work. In order to pay off this deficit and carry on the work for the coming year at least the sum of \$3,500 is absolutely necessary, while a much larger sum might most profitably be devoted to advancing the interests of the cause at the present crisis.

From our plan it will be evident that so far as possible litigation will be avoided and our definite aim will be in the direction of organization and legislation. We also desire to point out that the above estimate covers not only office expenses but also travelling expenses, literature, printing and a number of other expenses which the aggressive work above sketched absolutely demands.

We would remind those to whom this appeal is made of the great and most commendable liberality shown in response to appeals for the Armenian Fund and Indian Famine Fund and would ask for a measure of the same liberality for the preservation of the Lord's Day which is an object certainly not less important, involving as it does all that is of most value in man's life, and affecting most vitally the happiness of our own children and the true greatness and prosperity of our own country.

Both individual friends and also organizations desiring to help financially are asked to send subscriptions small or large either to the treasurer of any branch or directly to the Provincial Treasurer, John C. Copp, Esq., 21 Leader Lane, Toronto.

It is also particularly requested that the subject be brought up for discussion by organizations so that some definite action may be taken by organized effort, by financial help or otherwise, towards dealing with the crisis which is now upon us.

The work undertaken is for the entire Province, and therefore this appeal for support is made to the people of all parts of Ontario.

All communications regarding organization, literature, etc., should be addressed to the Secretary, Mr. A. E. O'Meara, Room 77 Confederation Life Building, Toronto. On behalf of the Executive Committee.

J. K. MACDONALD, President.

TORONTO, September, 1897.