

against eighty-one last, but the total given is about \$40 less. This is very disappointing, for we always expect an increase, and the number of Bands being greater than ever before, the monetary result should have been in proportion. It is sometimes profitable to be brought face to face with our shortcomings, as would be the case were the thought of this lost forty dollars to bury itself like a good seed in the heart of every Band worker, and spring up, bearing fruit one hundredfold. Of the fifty-three Samulocotta students, twenty-nine are supported by Bands, twelve by Quebec and the Maritime Provinces, twenty-seven by individuals, Churches and Societies, leaving fifteen unsupported.

Of the thirty-five Cocanada girls, nineteen of our Bands, one Quebec Band and ten individuals, are responsible, each for one, and five are unappropriated.

One hundred and eleven Bands—twenty-two of them new ones—report this year, while six have sent no account of themselves. The number of members last year was 8,217; this year it is 3,274. The total amount raised is \$1,730.63. Our Home Treasurer has received of this \$471.73, of which \$400.63 is towards the salary of our missionary in Quebec City, whom the children call their missionary.

As already intimated, the amount given to Foreign Missions is less than last year's, being \$1,211.67 this year, and \$1,250 last year. The totals reported by the Secretaries and those of our Treasurers do not agree. The difference is presumably made up of balances, still in the hands of Band Treasurers.

The Banner Bands of each Association are as follows.

	Per Member
Heart—Brantford Ist.,	average \$2 83
Whitby and Lindsay—Lindsay	" 2 35
Norfolk—Waterford	" 1 58
Peterboro—Lakefield	" 1 40
Niagara—Lyman Street, St. Catharines	" 1 25
Middlesex and Lambton—London South	" 1 13
Toronto—Dixie	" 1 13
Western—Leamington	" 90
Elgin—Malahide and Bayham	" 82
Northern—Collingwood	" 73
Woodstock—Gables	" 70
Walkerton—Tecumseh	" 64
Midland Counties—Brampton	" 60

HATTIE R. WEST.

Report of Secretary of Mission Bands for Eastern Ont. and Que.

The Mission Band report for the past year is very incomplete, as your Superintendent cannot lay claim to having performed the duties of her office since the earlier part of the year. She has, however, in all cases, when appealed to for advice or help, given such aid as was within her power, and sent literature where it was likely to be useful.

Few of the Mission Bands have reported to date: those which have done so show marked progress, and are evidently doing good work. Several Bands have been organized this year—one in connection with Concession Street Baptist church, Ottawa, and another has been organized at Olivet Baptist church, Montreal. Eaton Mission Band held its fourth annual meeting on the fourth inst., and rejoiced in having been able to adopt Jomima Pantakain, at present a pupil at Akida.

Your Superintendent rejoiced over the receipt of a very concise report, in the form of a copy of the balance sheet of the Girls' Mission Band of the Brookville Baptist church, and would be glad if every Mission Band Secretary would do the same, as it would save much time and be most satisfactory. The amount collected and expended was \$38.64.

The Mission Band of the First Baptist church, Montreal,

has a roll of forty girls and thirty-five boys, with an average attendance of thirty-three. The Band is divided into graded classes, for alternate instruction in Missions and scientific temperance. Text-books and blackboard are used, and the members pass an examination in these subjects at the close of the season. The proceeds of a concert, given by the members of the Band, together with fees and collections, amounted to \$63.13; expended in current expenses, literature, and the adoption of two pupils in India.

Your Superintendent cannot close this meagre report without offering a few suggestions for consideration, and an appeal to all to consider the responsibility resting upon each, collectively and individually, to train up the young in the way they should go.

In forming a Mission Band, the first step is to clearly define and decide what its object shall be. Shall it be simply a money-making centre, or shall it be an educational one—a sowing ground for the seeds of knowledge, love, faith, patient labor and sacrifice? The object being clearly understood, the next point will be to systematize the mode of work, apportioning the lessons to be given during the session and arrange the staff of teachers. It is unnecessary to enter into details of officers to be elected, etc.

The plan of work which suggests itself to your Superintendent's mind as best, is for the denomination to accept uniform mission lessons for the entire year, so that all Baptist mission Bands would be studying the same field at once, and examination papers could be prepared by a committee appointed for the purpose, and issued to any Bands desiring them. These, having been filled up, should be returned to the committee, who would correct them and give certificates in order of merit. This, of course, means work, but, has any great end ever been attained without it? It cannot be considered creditable when a Baptist young lady asks, "Who were Marshman and Carey?"

It would be best to inculcate in the young that they should earn the money they give by the regular performance of some duty, pleasant or otherwise, and parents should stimulate and encourage them to give only that which is their own. Time will not permit to reference to the many excellent qualities fostered by this mode of training, a few only can be cited—honesty, giving their own, industry, perseverance, patience, sympathy, love, the love of Christ constraining them. Another important factor in the education of the young in things spiritual as well as secular, is regularity in attendance. Parents and guardians should insist upon this, both in fairness to the teacher and the taught.

Another point upon which your Superintendent cannot lay too much stress, is the importance of reaching and holding the boys. Graded classes have been found helpful to this end—as lads of a certain age do not like to be classed with very young boys—and physical drill has been also found attractive; and, when they have been induced to attend the meetings, the opportunity is given to lead them to Jesus, and to a love for His cause. Foreign Missions should share and not monopolize the funds collected, as our North-West and country places are many of them barren of spiritual life. There are many phases of the work, which, had time permitted, should have received mention; but one, because of its vast importance, cannot be omitted, that is the circulation of missionary literature. It is read not by the member only, but reaches the household, and who dare say how far its influence reaches or whether it shall ever end?

In closing this report, your Superintendent would convey to all the dear sisters present, the great disappointment it has been to her not to have met them at this time, and to have looked into their faces while speaking on that which is second to no branch of the Master's work, whose command was to His people, "Feed my Lambs." Dare any neglect to obey this command?

Respectfully submitted,

JANE RADFORD,

Supt. Baptist Mission Bands.

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