

We have 550 members who contribute systematically to missions. Within the past two years a number of the Leagues have either established or increased their missionary libraries. We regret that information is not at hand to show to what extent this has been done and the books used.

In September of last year a missionary rally was held at one of the central churches of the district. This, followed and strengthened by a systematically-planned series of visits by the Missionary Vice-President, as well as by several other officers of the district, has helped largely in knitting the Leagues more firmly together. We believe that no inconsiderable part of this missionary movement is its indirect effect of uniting the Leagues more closely together by a bond of mutual interest and service.

H. C. WRINCH, *District Secretary.*

Toronto West District.

WHAT WE PROMISED TO DO.

COMMENCING with July 1st, 1897, the Toronto West District Epworth League undertook to raise \$500.00 a year for the support of Tong Cheu Thom, a native Chinese layman in British Columbia, who has been in the employ of the Missionary Society for several years.

WHAT WE HAVE DONE.

Up to date we have not raised the percentage of the total which we would need, in order to raise all by the end of the year (June 30th). We are very hopeful, however, of having \$400.00 by that time. The chief reason for our deficiency, calling it by that name, is that our district undertook the support of the missionary before the Leagues were organized for the purpose of raising the money; and hence, for the first six months, only about \$85.00 came into the coffers. The third quarter closed on April 1st, which yielded \$95.00; and this current quarter we expect to get \$200.00.

HOW WE HAVE DONE IT.

In the first place, our President emphatically told the League: we wanted no money from bun-fights, pie socials, Klondike teas, or any other similar enterprises. So that, if we have come short in amount of what some other districts have raised, we can say at least, every cent of ours has been from systematic two-cents-a-week givings of League members. Whatever it may be in districts not engaged in this campaign work, it can be safely said that the offices of President and Secretary in the Toronto West District have been no sinecures. It has meant continual stirring up, continuous stirring up, and stirring up all the time.

In some of the Leagues the envelope system is used, and the givings are collected every week. The more general plan, however, is to collect ten cents each month, either the first meeting or the last. One letter from Tong Cheu Thom was printed, and copies sent to the Leagues for free distribution; and several copies of letters have been read at League meetings. Some Leagues have missionary libraries, consisting to a large extent of books or publications about the field in which they are most interested.

Innumerable small devices have been used in individual Leagues to stir up interest and arouse attention, but beyond doubt the most important factor in our success thus far

has been the fulfilling of the first part of the motto, "*Pray.*" We are only beginning to realize very faintly what God will do for us if we only take the trouble to ask Him, believing that He will answer our prayers.

THOS. H. KROUGH, *District Secretary.*

Facts, not Theory.

THE missionary record of one of the circuits on the Matilda District, in the Montreal Conference, is worthy of note. Since the advent of the present pastor two years ago there have been organized a Woman's Missionary Society Auxiliary and two Epworth Leagues of Christian Endeavor. In 1896 the total missionary givings of the circuit were \$141.06 for the General Society. In 1897 the General Fund was \$181.90, while the Woman's Auxiliary raised \$90. The present year will see a large increase. The Woman's Missionary Society will raise \$90, while it is confidently expected that at least \$240 will be contributed to the General Society's work, of which the sum of \$45 or \$50 will be given by the Epworth Leagues. To sum up: In 1896 there was given to missions \$141.06, while in 1898, \$330. Now, how has this affected the other finances of the circuit? One of the Leagues has purchased a library of twenty-four books, chiefly missionary, while liberally supporting the Educational and Superannuation and general Epworth League Funds, besides taking several special collections, e.g., for Rossland.

Again, instead of taking special collections and subscriptions for each of the many connexional funds on different occasions as in the past, the pastor prepared special envelopes and distributed them several weeks previous to the Sunday following Thanksgiving Day, and asked the congregations to return them on that day with a thank-offering to meet all the circuit claims except the missionary. What was his delight and relief to find that \$6 more than last year were contributed for these funds. This record illustrates several truths:

1. The Woman's Missionary Society does not interfere with, but rather aids the General Society.

2. The Young People's Forward Movement for Missions must also be recognized as a powerful auxiliary factor, and, if properly understood and directed, means much for our own Church missionary enterprises.

3. The liberal support of missions by any church or circuit only enhances and conserves all its other interests and claims. "The liberal soul shall be made fat."

In regard to the collection of League missionary moneys we would emphasize:

1. *Regularity and System.*—On some fixed evening each month each contributor should return his offering. The experience of many societies makes it evident that unless this is rigidly adhered to the work becomes demoralized and both prayerful and studious interest and funds are lost.

2. *Use of Special Envelopes.*—Special missionary envelopes for League purposes can be had from the Methodist Book Room at 10 cents per 100. Only one is used by each person each month. Where they are carefully used they are found of very great advantage in saving time, worry and annoyance for one or more persons in each League. A young lady in one of the Brockville District societies, Montreal Conference, who has charge of between fifty and sixty contributors, writes that she has found the introduction of the envelope plan a great aid, in that