

## Woman's Auxiliary Department.

Communications relating to this Department should be addressed to Miss L. H. Montizambert, Provincial Corresponding Secretary W. A., 139 College Street, Toronto.



### Remember daily the mid-day prayer for missions

*"Ask of me, and I shall give thee the heathen for thine inheritance, and the uttermost part of the earth for thy possession." : Ps. ii. 8.*

#### WOMAN'S AUXILIARY.

Tuesday and Wednesday, the 11th and 12th of May last, were red letter days for the Woman's Auxiliary of the Diocese of Rupert's Land. On the former of these days the Auxiliary celebrated the 10th Anniversary of its formation, when there was a large attendance of ladies in Holy Trinity school-house, at which, Mrs. Fortin, President of the Diocesan Society, occupied the chair, and was supported on the platform by Lady Schultz and others. All the leading branches of the Auxiliary were represented. Lady Schultz delivered an address of welcome as well to the members from outside the city as to clergymen (and their wives) who were present in attendance at the Synod. In the course of her remarks, she referred to having been at the first meeting held in Canada, to discuss the formation of a Woman's Auxiliary in connection with the missionary work of the Church of England. It was held in Ottawa, and "was looked upon by many as a very visionary movement; it was a very small gathering indeed, not very many more than enough to fill the necessary offices for organizing." "But," she added, "Now look on this gathering to-day; read the leaflet of the Auxiliary and you will find that it extends far and wide over the Dominion, and is doing a great work in strengthening missions."

The address of Mrs. Fortin, as President, was of more than local interest. We therefore give it as reported in *The Western Churchman*, and almost in full.

Mrs. Fortin said: "We are anxious that our gatherings this week should be of a special character, for we now complete the 10th year of our existence as a Woman's Auxiliary. A decade is a long period in the life of an individual or an organization, and we may well take a very brief review of the past. When Archdeacon Pinkham was superintendent of missions in this Diocese, he was the recipient of many bales and thoughtful gifts from the Woman's Auxiliary of Eastern Canada, sent to aid him in his work among our scattered country missions. When he was about being consecrated to his present See, he called a number

of ladies together, told us about the W.A., (it was a new tale to us then); asked us if we would form ourselves into a committee and receive and look after the distribution of these gifts from the East; in fact, he said we might consider ourselves a branch of the W.A. This we were glad to do. We wrote for instructions to the Eastern W.A., and they, thinking that we knew a great deal more than we did about the organization, only gave us very meagre information, and so we worked on in the dark for a long time. We wrote to the different country clergy with a view of finding out their needs. We were not long in discovering that they were very great, including churches, parsonages, horses, buggies, etc., etc. Of course, such wants as these we could not well supply, but we found how acceptable bales and parcels of clothing were; how they helped to carry the Gospel into homes otherwise shut against it. Well, that was the day of small things. We were in reality only a distributing body, dispensing the bounty of others, adding occasionally some garments brought in by generous members. Our next step was to undertake the clothing of ten children in St. Paul's Indian Industrial School, for which we received very grateful thanks from Mr. and Mrs. Burman, who were then in charge. Later on, after the school was taken over by the government, we made the bold venture of supporting our own lady missionary. We collected \$100 for salary, besides numerous smaller sums for passage, outfit, etc., and we were fortunate in finding a very suitable young woman, Miss Wooster, to go out from Winnipeg. She spent a year with Bishop and Mrs. Young, and proved most acceptable and worthy to become the wife of a devoted missionary, Rev. Mr. White, whom she is now assisting in his work at Lesser Slave Lake. All this time we had only one branch for all the City of Winnipeg. This we were very conservative about, and very loth to break up. We worked together so happily that we could not make up our minds to part company. For this we were found great fault with by two Diocesan officers from the East, who visited the Northwest one summer. They said we could never expect to grow until we broke up into parochial branches; that we ought to make up bales together, and relinquish those sent hitherto from the East. This seemed hard, but I believe it was wholesome for us. Though we did not immediately take action upon their advice, still it simmered in our minds; and we talked it over periodically, and all the while we were ripening for it. At last, during the General Synod last fall and the most opportune visit of Miss Montizambert, Provincial Corresponding Secretary (to whom we cannot be grateful enough for her