

Canadian Missionary Link

VOL. XXXIV

TORONTO, MAY, 1919.

No 9

Jesus and I.

"I cannot do it alone;
The waves run fast and high,
And the fogs close chill around,
And the light goes out in the sky,
But I know that We Two
Shall win in the end—Jesus and I.

"Coward and wayward and weak,
I change with the changing sky,
Today so eager and bright,
Tomorrow too weak to try;
But He never gives in,
So We Two shall Win—Jesus and I.

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Women's Baptist Foreign Mission Board
of Western Ontario.

Falls? If not, look up your November LINK, and, with that message in your ears, speak to the women of your Circle that they go forward and upward. Lead the women in your Circle close to the Throne of Intercession, and when we have learned to pray aright the problem of giving will be solved.

Our needs this year are greater than last year. Will every woman remember that? Duplicate your last year's offering, add a little more, and begin sending at once to our Treasurer.

The activities of our Board have been affected more or less by the illness which prevailed everywhere. And especially have we missed, and sympathized with, our beloved President, Mrs. H. H. Ayer, who has been a "shut-in" since the early Fall, and has only now recovered sufficiently to journey to the Sunny South, where we hope and pray she may regain her wonted health and strength. Very serious illness has entered the home of our Vice-President, and also the families of many of our Board. Our monthly prayer meetings have brought us very close together, as we have plead in prayer for those dear women, and have realized how dependent we are upon each other.

Our Day of Prayer Service, Board meetings, Quarterly and for prayer, have all been characterized by a sense of our dependence upon God, and in that attitude our women have shown a readiness to discharge all the duties of the Board.

It was counted a privilege for Mrs. George Wall, one of our members, to attend the Special Conference, and we are hoping her inspiration will spread abroad when she gives her impressions on her return.

We are glad to report that Miss Murray has quite recovered from her illness of last Fall, and has been in Toronto for the Conference, and is hoping, if all is well, to be able to visit some of our Circles during the Association weeks.

At a recent Board meeting it was decided that we raise the furlough allowance by \$100.00, in accordance with the action of the other Boards, owing to the high cost of living. Miss Murray has made a most grateful acknowledgment of this increase to her finances.

By this time we believe Miss Hinman to be well on her journey home, having expected to sail from India on SS. Venizelos early in March. It will be a great pleasure to us all to meet with our chery little missionary, and we wish her all joy and gladness in this her first reunion with her family.

According to our principle of maintaining a special fund for our expenses, we arranged a lecture in the Temple Church, January 24th, by Surgeon Sub-Lieut. Griffith, M.M., one of our own Baptist boys, on "Fifty Thousand Miles on Board a British Destroyer," with illustrations. A most enjoyable evening and a large audience resulted in quite a good addition to our expense fund.

So far, no Circle has invited the Convention for this Fall, so that privilege will go to the Montreal or Ottawa Circles.

May we remind our women of the Semi-Annual Day of Prayer, which will occur very soon, Thursday, April 3rd.

HELENA MOTLEY.

THE SECRETARY'S WORD.

March 15th, 1919.

The showers of letters that come from so many places have proved to me conclusively that the LINK has many readers. They come from diversified surround-

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MISSIONARY NEWS.

The influence of the martyrs of the Boxer outbreak has not disappeared yet. A father, mother, brother and sister in one family met death at that time rather than deny their faith. Just now has graduated from one of the American Colleges with the degree of Ph.D., another member of that family. On his return to China he was confronted with the choice of using his education to make a fortune, or of accepting a meagre salary in Christian service. He unhesitatingly chose the latter because of the influence of the ones who died so long ago.

Surely times must be changing in South America. The oldest University—in Lima, Peru—has recently conferred an honorary degree of Doctor of Letters on a young Scotch missionary working there.

A movement which is likely to make vast changes in the progress of education in China is a new system of phonetic writing. Before this the task confronting a Chinese child of learning to read and write his own language was a two years' handicap in the race for an education. Where the conditions of maintaining existence are as difficult as they are there, that meant the vast majority simply never learned. Now, the new system adopted, enables pupils to learn in three or four weeks. Even old people, who seem to be past hope of learning, are rejoicing in the new advantage. It means, for those interested in Missions, the spread of Christian literature, the dissemination of the knowledge of the Scriptures.

While it is being made possible for the Chinese to read, many are awakening to the necessity of finding something suitable for them to read. One Christian newspaper for women is now being published, with an American lady as Editor, and two Chinese girls assisting. It is called "The Woman's Messenger." Mrs. McGill-vray, a Presbyterian missionary, now spending some time in Toronto, gives her time to editing a Chinese "Everyland" for children, called "Happy Childhood." Others are translating such books as "Silas Marner," "The Wide, Wide World," "The Birds' Christmas Carol" and others of like nature, hoping to counteract the influence of the vitiating stories which have been so freely circulated.

One of Japan's great preachers has given as his conviction that Buddhism will die with militarism; that the militarism and imperialism which are essential parts of it, cannot live against the new spirit of democracy born and developed by the alliance of Japan with the nations of the Entente. It is an enticing hope for us to look forward to.

Christianity has not only opened a wonderful spiritual world to new believers in heathen lands, but it has also proved the open sesame to a hitherto unknown material world. One old Korean hatmaker, named Yi, did not know his letters before he became a Christian, but he learned them in order to read his Bible. He

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In Southern Texas, where the majority of people live on large ranches, the difficulty of church attendance becomes great. It has been solved by the institution of the "Sunday house." Each head of a household maintains a meagrely furnished but comfortable house near the church, and thither every Saturday comes the whole family, with food and all necessaries for a week-end stay. The different meetings have their full quota of attendance all day Sunday, and Monday morning may be seen the long procession wending its way homeward.

FOREIGN MAIL BOX.

SAFELY HOME.

Madras, Feb. 21st, 1919.

Dear LINK,—At last we are here, but it still seems untrue, as we only arrived last night, and this seems but one more strange city where we have to change, instead of Madras. We know that you all at home have been following us with your prayers, and we feel that those prayers have been answered, for the way was wonderfully opened up. The first boat we were on was the "Ecuador" of the Pacific Mail Company. She is certainly a very comfortable boat, but will never hold the record for crossing the Pacific in the shortest space of time. We zig-zagged to Hongkong, for first we went to Honolulu, then up to Shanghai, and across to Yokohama, down to Manila and up to Hongkong. Much to our joy we had only two days and a half to wait in Hongkong before we started out on our travels again. This time we took a coaster, the "Taming" of the Indo-China Company, to Singapore. As she was a coaster, she called at Swatow and we saw a real Chinese city. If it had not been the Chinese New Year we would have had twelve hundred coolies on board, but we did carry garlic, which was had enough. But what garlic and coolies would have been like—oh, my! Singapore was the next stop, and we left the Taming and said good-bye to the jolly captain, who had done all he could to make it pleasant for us. We expected to stay a week in Singapore, but had nine days to wait before we sailed away on another coaster, and our hearts certainly sank when we saw what she was like. She was the "Fultala" belonging to the British India Company. They have some good boats, but the "Fultala" was certainly not one of them, and we carried coolies this time—over a thousand of them. True to our natures, we took a little side-trip to Fort Swethingam. This was to take on coolies; then on to Penang, and at last to Madras. We leave to-night for our different stations, and if the people in them will be as glad to see us as we shall be to see them, we certainly shall be happy.

Yours sincerely,

MARY STILLWEL McLAURIN.

SOME RELIGIOUS AND SOCIAL CUSTOMS IN BOLIVIA.

Although there are many things in the life of the Bolivian people that are very like the things one finds in Canada, there are many social and religious customs that are quite different, and some of these are peculiar to the Highlands of South America. In this paper I would like to tell you of some of these. Until a few months ago we had an Indian servant girl who was very anxious to learn to cook for foreigners. As she stayed with us for the relatively long period of a year and a half, we had some opportunity of learning some of these things.

soon found that reading brought many things to him of which he had before heard only by rumor, and he subscribed for "Christian News," which gave tidings of the great world beyond the seas. What he learned from the paper only whetted his desire for knowledge, and Yi's next purchase was a geography. Over this book he pored for hours, straining his eyes over the maps and descriptions in the evening after his day's work was done. And F. S. Miller of Chongju tells how eager the old hatmaker was to pass on the information he so toilsomely won. Mr. Miller says:

"One day the 'Christian News' told of a war in Colombia. That was interesting. Yi put on his straw sandals and carried the paper down to the village school. 'Here is some news of a war in Colombia' 'Where is Colombia?' asked the school teacher. 'In South America.' 'Where is South America?' 'Wait till I bring my geography.' And in a few minutes Yi had spread out his map and was giving the village teacher his first lesson in primary geography."—The Continent.

India is said to have in factories, at the present time, 15,780 children. The old desire of factory owners and of poverty-stricken parents to make capital out of their children is the reason. The decision has been reached by one religious body to place 1,300 primary teachers throughout India to teach and so stir up a sentiment against this child serfdom.

What the much-discussed subject of self-government for India really means to the great mass of the people is presented by a writer in Asia, the journal of the American Asiatic Association, who says:

"As for what the masses of India want, no one knows. One of the Indian judges of the High Court, a man of great acknowledged leadership, an ardent nationalist, said to me, 'It is very difficult to know the mind of India. At the top there is a very thin layer of people who have received an English education. Even we do not know what the people are thinking about; much less does the government know.' One has to remember that 280,000,000 out of the 315,000,000 people of India live in villages which average only 290 people to the village. These people are engaged in a life and death struggle against starvation, with the odds often heavily against them. They are more than ninety-five per cent. illiterate in the sense that they cannot write a letter to a friend, even in their vernacular, and read his reply. One wonders on going into these villages and seeing the impoverished lives of the inhabitants, whether they even know that there is such a place as India."

There is being made an effort to overcome the tendency which has been discovered, with such hurt, to form in great cities Little Italys, Little Polands, and so on. In the churches which are founded for these immigrants, it is necessary at first to use the foreign language as the only medium of approach. But plans are being laid to use the English language increasingly, and also to use workers from English-speaking churches who have foreign languages at their command.

There seems to be a revival of interest in bringing to public notice the Ten Commandments. The International Reform Bureau has inaugurated a movement, and is meeting with much success in it, to have the wall-chart with the Commandments on it, on school walls, courthouses and the outside of churches. Many are falling into line with it, and even Roman Catholics are approving of it.

determines the length of the wedding feast, as this continues as long as there is anything to eat or drink.

Since the coming into force of the civil marriage law, the parties have to go to the nearest authority and have the civil service first. They go together, but the groom rides home and the bride walks behind and thus early shows the position she will have to occupy for the rest of her married life. Later when the annual feast of the village or community comes round, the priest—for a consideration—performs the religious ceremony. This matter of a "consideration" in the past has been a frightful source of immorality, as the priest often charged such high fees that many were not able to afford them, and so they just lived together without any marriage service. The Indian was usually faithful to this relation, but among the other classes it has produced many complications.

Among the Indians we find many superstitions about the healing of diseases. Since I recovered from smallpox I have had many suggestions for the removing of the marks from my face. Several have suggested the massaging of the face with the small clothes moth; another infallible remedy is to grind the tooth of a pig to powder and mix it with oil and apply the mixture. It is difficult to keep from hurting their feelings, but one has to exercise her own judgment and still be good friends. The Indians have a method of their own for treating quinsy. When the throat gets very bad they get a bottle and break it so that a part of the neck is left. Then they put a piece of wood in the patient's mouth as a gag and insert the bottle and lance the throat with the sharp edge of the neck of the bottle. Knowing nothing of any germ theory, the cure is often disastrous. The servant mentioned at the beginning of this article sprained her ankle. Her friends took her to her grandmother's house, fearing the influence of the foreigner. Here I found her in a small room crowded with three beds and plenty of rubbish. She told me that an Indian woman had treated it twice with herbs, charging her about \$2.00 a treatment. After some persuasion, and waiting a couple of weeks, she returned to us with the ankle not noticeably better. After treating it with hot fomentations and some of our own medicine, she soon began to get around, but friends were horrified to find I was using water. One day the grandmother arrived with an old Indian woman, who applied a poultice of lizards to the ankle, but without apparent result. Then the gall bladder of a cow was tried, with no better success. A few nights later her brother arrived with an old Indian. The door of the room was closed, and we could only hear faint mutterings. After they had gone I went into the room to see what they had done, and found the girl dressed as if she was going out. It being after ten o'clock I asked her why she was dressed in this fashion, and she said she was dressed just as she had been on the day of the accident. The old Indian had brought some water from the side of the road where she had slipped, and had said some incantations to charm away the evil spirit that was causing the trouble. All this in spite of the fact that some weeks of exceptionally heavy rainy weather had passed since the time of the accident. This girl was very devout, according to the local standard for such things, and would often go to Mass at 5.30 a.m. According to the Church of Rome, she is a Christian, as she has been christened and confirmed. It is not difficult to see how far not only the poor deluded girl is from New Testament standards of Christianity, but also the church which, at the end of 400 years, has not produced any higher conception of religion among the people. Surely we have all the conditions

One night we had a very heavy thunderstorm and found that she had shut herself in her room. Later, we asked her if she had done this because she was afraid. She said yes, that she was afraid, as the babies who had died without baptism came back and walked in the river during thunderstorms. (The house in which we lived then had the La Paz River flowing along the back wall.) She also told me that God would judge me for not having the children baptized. I tried to explain the meaning of baptism to her, but she only pitied me.

The favorite saint among the La Paz women is St. Antonio. When a young woman wishes to get a lover, she prays to Antonio, and of course the desired answer is due to the saint, whether she has obtained it by fair means or otherwise. This saint is also the recourse of the childless women, and they will go to all kinds of trouble and do many things that seem foolish to us in order to get his favor. When anything is lost, he is invoked to discover the thief or the lost property. The priests have discovered many ways of explaining the failure of the saint to accomplish the desired end without the poor, deluded people realizing that they are being deceived. Yet it works to our advantage sometimes. The servant we have now is quite an admirer of St. Antonio, and in order to gain his favor at the end of the year she cleaned up everything, so that she might go to confession and declare that she had done her duty.

Some time ago, along with Mrs. Wilkinson and Miss Morton, we were invited to dinner at the American Legation. After dinner, our hostess asked us if we would like to see her cook's room. The cook, with very evident delight, showed us her treasures, including many toys that she had bought for the Nino, as they call the child Jesus. On a little shrine she had a most elaborately dressed doll to represent the child Jesus. Around this were grouped expensive toys and the pictures of many saints. Our hostess informed us that the two trunks that we could see in the room were filled with just such toys and images. Near by was an image of the Virgin, before which the cook stood in adoration while we were examining the various things. Mrs. Wilkinson tried to explain to her that Jesus was no longer an infant, but that he became a man and died, and rose again that we might be saved, and that Jesus and not the Virgin was the Saviour. The cook listened and then said, "I know that, but then the blessed Virgin is the second person in the Trinity." Who could have taught her that? Jesus Christ means very little to these people, and the Virgin has completely taken his place, whatever the priests in Canada may say.

These are examples of beliefs among those who live in the towns. In the country we find some customs that are not practised in the towns. On the shore of Lake Titicaca the courtship and marriage customs are rather curious. The Indian girls wear a large darning-needle in their shawls. When a young man takes a fancy to a girl and finally makes up his mind to marry her, if possible, he steals this needle. If she is not willing to have him, she sends some of her relatives—father or brother—to ask for the needle. If she does not send for it, he knows she is willing, and the parents make the necessary arrangements re date, etc. It is the custom for both bride and bridegroom to borrow as many clothes as possible for the wedding, together with any jewelry that may be available. The parties who are invited to the wedding send in supplies of eatables, and also unfortunately of drink, chiefly alcohol. The amount of the supplies thus provided

teasing them about being hungry; but they didn't mind, as they were very happy, singing and rejoicing generally. The Surgeon-General did not come, and when this glorious news came in the evening, they said, "Oh, we have been celebrating Victory all day, and we did not know it."

As I said above, it was that evening after coming home that I received the news; so, after dinner, I went up to tell them, when lo! the news had already reached them, and they were out in the moonlight, singing and dancing, and rejoicing, and shouting, "Victory! Victory! The King has triumphed! The King has triumphed!" They were glad to hear the news confirmed by me.

The "Fairies" also were rejoicing together, and the women in their compounds. I heard later that the men lepers kept up the rejoicing all night; one and another had some coffee powder, one and another some bits of sugar, and others some extra fuel, so they themselves made coffee for all, and sang and danced and rejoiced all night long.

That evening I asked Mrs. David if she could get a feast ready on short notice, and she said yes. As it happened, there was curry powder and dahl and fuel in hand, and other things, and further purchases could be made early in the morning; so a feast was ordered by the next day. When the Doctor heard, he said, "Oh, yesterday it was 'meeting,' to-day it is 'eating,' is it? There were quite a number who could appreciate this joke in English.

So November 13th was also a very happy day for them, and they thoroughly enjoyed their truly good meal of rice and meat curry and dahl, vegetables and pepper water. Again there was waving of hands and Hip! Hip! Hürrahs and praises to the Great God, the bountiful Giver of all.

The lepers also took part in the great rejocings of December 12th. Victory! Victory! Victory! To Him be all the praise!

Later.—News has now come from the out-villages concerning the celebration of Coronation Day, Dec; 12th, and of victory to our Emperor and his Allies. One rupee to each school has helped to make a wonderful impression in all the villages, for the boys and girls and their teachers, together with many Christians, sallied forth, marching through all the principal streets, holding aloft their banners, with such texts as "God Maketh Wars to Cease," "The Just Lord Is in 'the Midst of Thee," "Sing, Be Glad and Rejoice with All Thy Heart," "The Lord Hath Cast Out Thine Enemy," "The Lord Thy God in the Midst of Thee Is Mighty," "Long Live the King," "The King Ruleth by Righteousness," and so forth, and singing of patriotic songs, with drum-beating and great rejoicing. One and another reported that Munsiffs, and Kernams, and Supervisors saw the processions and came out to ask about it all, when the answer would be shouts of "Victory! Victory! This is the Empire's Coronation Day, and we are celebrating Victory," and they would approve and applaud. If there were any who did not know before that victory had come to our arms, they would know now. In Kotipalli, although the school only numbers about 20, they mustered to the number of 100 boys and girls, and had games and races and a very happy time, and others added something to make a good treat of sweets and fruits to all.

I truly wish some of you readers could have heard some of the reports given of the day. They would have rejoiced your hearts.

And I want to tell here how very much the beautiful pictures and cards from home, and the pretty bags, helped in the enjoyment of the day, especially

of heathenism here, complicated with a false form of Christianity. The field is not white to harvest, but the need for laborers is nevertheless great.

MRS. A. HADDOW.

PATRIOTIC REJOICINGS.

Ramachandrapuram.—A Grand Day—Thursday, the 12th December, being the anniversary of the Coronation, it was thought a very good day for celebrating in still another way the Great Victory. So, all the schools of our field, numbering about thirty, were supplied with a little of the wherewithal and told to parade each its own village with hymns and banners and patriotic songs, ending up with a treat to each pupil. In this way the good news may spread and may really take hold of the people.

In the station itself we had a glorious time, for there are twelve outside Sunday Schools, and this was made a Rally Day, a patriotic day, a concert and a picnic, all rolled into one. The spacious clear spaces in the larger Mission compound lent themselves beautifully to both an open-air concert and to games and races afterwards. Miss Jones led the grand procession from the town, headed by a boy holding aloft a fine red ensign, and followed by crowds and crowds of girls and boys with Canadian flags, Star of India flags, Union Jacks and banners with loyal texts chosen specially for the occasion. It was indeed a fine sight. Marching around the bungalow in order of schools, they wheeled into lines and took their seats on the grass, looking indeed like an immense garden of flowers suddenly sprung up in that hitherto flowerless compound (not to be flowerless much longer, we are thinking).

Teacher John, superintendent of the schools, helped the Missionary marshal the hosts and deserves great credit. A war address, referring principally to the awful things done by our enemies, and to our Emperor's rule as a rule of righteousness, by the doctor, a drama, a dialogue, reciting and singing, made up a most interesting programme. Prizes were given for best attendance during the year, and all went away happy, each with some token of remembrance of the great day.

In writing of the rejoicing amongst the children, I must say that the most spontaneous burst of joy came from the lepers. Other rejoicings in these out-villages were more or less inspired by the missionaries, though entered into heartily when once the lead was given, but the lepers all of themselves spent the whole of the first night in special rejoicing. It was on Tuesday, November 12th, in the evening, about seven o'clock, that the word reached us at the bungalow. I hastened down town to the doctor's to hear it confirmed, spread the news to the various compounds, then came back to dinner. Then I bethought myself that I could not rest without telling the lepers. It so happened that we had spent the whole afternoon up there, awaiting the arrival of the Surgeon-General, who had sent word he was coming. To welcome such a great man the place had all been decorated with plaintain trees and fruits, with flags and bunting and all sorts. The hour of coming was not known, so the poor lepers, in order to be all ready to welcome him, had attired themselves in their best, and had not had time, after putting up the decorations and all, to have their meal. After my arrival, I had pitied them for being without their meal, and some of them were excused to hurry off and eat. These, who had something prepared, went, but the others went without. However, we passed the time pleasantly, the Doctor joking with them and

A vocal solo by Mrs. F. C. Elliott and a vocal duet by Mrs. P. W. Brown and Miss N. Morgan added to the pleasure of the evening.

The Thank-offering amounted to \$31.00.

A reception was given to Mrs. F. C. Elliott on the following afternoon at the home of Mrs. Norman Phelps, when a most enjoyable time was spent, Mrs. Elliott adding to our pleasure with her delightful singing.

In the evening a Young Women's Mission Circle was inaugurated, twenty members being enrolled.

Westmount, Que.—The number of subscriptions which the LINK receives from our membership would suffice to prove that we are alive, the total being 56.

As our general study this year we are taking up "Women Workers of the Orient," two ladies being responsible for the programme of the day, and the meetings have proved most interesting.

Recently we held a special meeting, when our Slavic work was discussed, and a Treasurer appointed to receive subscriptions for the Parson Memorial Fund.

A new system of monthly collections has been instituted by our Treasurer, which has resulted in substantially increasing our funds, a total of \$83.60 having been collected since Jan. 1st.

ROSA A. HAMILTON, Secy.

Osnabruck.—The Mission Circle held their annual business meeting at the home of Mrs. Isaiah Neville, with the President, Mrs. Nelson Warner, in the chair, on Thursday, March 6th. All the former officers were re-elected. Owing to the prevailing epidemic we were unable to hold our open Thank-offering meeting, but notwithstanding this our financial report showed that we had contributed \$57.00 to the various missions, which included a Life Membership to the Home Society, the latter being presented to Mrs. Steedman, Vice-President. A new feature of our work this year has been our "Thank-boxes," which raised the goodly sum of \$25.00. Our meetings have been held regularly in the various homes. We use for our study book the "Life of John Davis," which we all feel is helpful and inspiring.

As we commence another year we do so with fresh courage, thanking God for the past, and looking for still greater things.

J. S.

Bentnick.—A very successful Thank-offering meeting was held by our Mission Circle in the church on the evening of March 12th. The Pastor, Rev. F. Ashton, took the chair, and opened the service with the usual devotional exercises; then he gave us a very short, but very interesting and instructive, address. This was followed by a very good programme of solos, duets, and selections of a literary character, which were very much enjoyed. We were delighted to have with us also the Rev. E. J. McEwen, of Durham, who gave an address of great inspiration and power. Mr. McEwen's subject was the "Great Commission," and he spoke of the great glory that accompanies sphl-winning. He gave us several touching instances of personal evangelism which made us all feel how precious it must be to win a soul for God. It was a "Great Commission," but we had Great Resources in the Great Eternal God. We hope to have Brother McEwen to visit us again. The offering amounted to \$14.45 which will be divided between Home and Foreign Missions. After a vote of thanks to all that had helped, the meeting closed with prayer by Mr. McEwen.

MRS. FULTON, Secretary.

in the Station. Records of the attendance at the various street, "pial," hamlet and tree-shade Sunday Schools had been kept, and large pictures—about 80—were given to those who could show a fairly steady attendance, while every other child who came received a small card, and no less than 300 were given out here that day. The beautiful cards, hung with ribbons, were given out as prizes, also the bags. These all were very much appreciated.

Our cupboards are now just about empty of pictures, but we look forward to you people at home for a good big supply again, especially as we are not now afraid of the torpedoes any more. They will be all looking forward to next year's Rally, and we do not wish to disappoint them.

Will you all remember in your prayers the hundreds of children being reached by Sunday School work on this Ramachandrapuram field.

S. I. HATCH.

MISSION CIRCLES.

THE UNION CIRCLES.

The Sunday School room of the Bloor St. Church, Toronto, was well filled at the Spring meeting of the "Mission Circle Union." This meeting was of unusual interest, in that we had as speakers Miss Murray of India, Mrs. Armstrong and Miss Armstrong of Burma. Mrs. Armstrong was introduced by Mrs. Trotter, as it was in Mrs. Trotter's father's church, in Nova Scotia, that Mrs. Armstrong made her appeal and started the first Women's Missionary Society of Canada. We will not soon forget the frail speaker and her earnest message, which was as follows:

"I praise the loving Father in Heaven for bringing me back here to-day to add a word to the message given me to speak fifty years ago. I was little more than a child when the Holy Spirit laid upon my heart a burden for the women of India. My answer was, 'Here I am, Lord; provide the means, and I am ready to go and speak whatever Thou givest me to say.'

"One day as I knelt before the Lord, the word came to me, 'Stretch forth thy hand and take what the Lord will send.' So I wrote to the Secretary of our Foreign Mission Society, telling of my earnest desire, and received an answer that they had not sufficient funds to support the ones already sent out, and could not divert anything to a new venture. I then asked if they would sanction my asking the women of our churches to send me. The result you know. All the Women's Societies in Canada sprang from this movement. How many souls have thus been won for Christ only eternity can show.

The one word I want to lay upon the heart of everyone listening to me to-day is this: Grieve not the Holy Spirit of God. Whatever He lays upon your hearts to do, go forth in simple obedience and do. Leave the results with Him."

E. H., Secy.

HERE AND THERE.

North Bay.—The Annual Thank-offering meeting of the Women's Mission Circle was held on Wednesday, January 29, 1919.

The opening exercises were conducted by the President, Mrs. (Rev.) H. Edgar Allen. Mrs. F. C. Elliott, of Haileybury, gave a very interesting address on India and the needs of the women of India, describing to the meeting their life in their homes, and the great need of Christian missionaries to educate them.

After lunch we went ashore in the launch provided by the company. Elderly folks were not very spry climbing over the barges and tugs to get to the steps, but all were glad to get foot on land once more. We three started off quite bravely to walk over to Cook's, at the Manila Hotel, but before we reached there the little sprinkle of rain turned to big drops, and we ran for shelter to a jetty, where three white men and a number of Filipinos were gathered. Soon the rain was coming in sheets, and though we had a roof over our heads, as there were no walls to our shelter, it had no mercy on the three luckless travellers, and soon we were soaked, in spite of moving about. When the rain slackened somewhat we made a move to get back to the ship. One of the Americans was an officer on a troopship, so we understood, and he kindly called a *caramata*, a Manila buggy, and changed some money for me to pay the driver to take us to the pier. It was a bedraggled-looking trio who piled into that vehicle, and a dismayed one when we found there was no way to get back to the ship until 6.30! So we decided to get on the street car and go to the Post Office and ride around until time for the launch. A gentleman from whom we made enquiries about the second car told us which one to take so that we could go through part of the old Fort. It was very interesting to see the old Spanish buildings and the narrow streets. Everywhere our eyes were rested by the luxuriant foliage and green grass. The folks on the car had their fun out of the luckless strangers, but we were treated so kindly. We got our letters safely posted, and then took another car and went as far as it would take us. This gave us a good chance to see the town. We came back on the same car, and on our way saw three funerals. Autos were used both for hearse and mourners and lovely wreaths of flowers were fastened to them.

The next morning we got away on the launch at 9 o'clock and secured a motor (Ford) for \$1.50 an hour for three of us, and away we went—first, out to Fort McKinley. This gave us a chance to see a lot of the country, as well as the soldiers out there, busy with their signalling, marching, etc. The houses were pretty, homelike cottages, but looked odd to us, being set up on posts, leaving an open space underneath. The Filipino houses interested us much. Many of them had walls of matting over the framework, and grass roofs, and we were interested in seeing the lines of washing out at so many places. Evidently we had struck their wash-day!

On our way back we had a peep into some of the shops, purchasing hats and postcards. Mine is the kind they call *Baliwag*, a double one, for which they wanted 8 pesos, or \$4.00, but took off one peso, making it \$3.75. The making of these hats is one of the special industries of Manila. There are several varieties.

We went into the Cathedral, and one thing that impressed us was the absence of any tawdry trimmings, such as one sees in so many Roman Catholic churches in Rome. It must be a very old building, and was very solidly built. We would like to have found out its history, but had no way of doing so. People were gathering for a service, and one thing that interested us was that the women covered their heads with a handkerchief on entering. We could hear a kind of sing-song that sounded very much like a gramophone. On the broad steps in front the sweetmeat vendors were doing a good trade. On pillars stood large figures with an open book in one hand and a quill in the other. It did not seem consistent, for the Roman Church is not one of an "open book." In one church we looked into there were

THE YOUNG WOMEN.

WHITBY MISSIONARY CONFERENCE.

June 30th to July 7th are dates of the fourteenth annual Whitby Missionary Conference. The programme promises a Conference for this season of very special interest and helpfulness. It will contribute as largely as possible to furthering the ideals of the Forward Movement. The intercession period, with its quiet and hallowed influence, will begin each day. Our own Dr. John McNeill, of Walmer Road Church, will conduct the Bible Hour. His leadership will mark this as one of the outstanding features. This with groups for Mission Study, under the guidance of those in vital contact with the various fields and problems, and Open Parliaments on missionary methods in the Sunday School, Young People's Society and other organizations of the congregation, will occupy the morning.

The afternoons are given over to outings and recreation, including pageants of life on the mission fields. In the evenings the lawn service, with talks on life's problems, and the platform meeting, with addresses by outstanding leaders and missionaries, fill full these delightful days. The large number of missionaries present representing the various denominations and from so many mission fields makes possible an inspiring world vision and a most delightful missionary fellowship. All who have ever attended are enthusiastic over the Conference.

The charges are extremely moderate, the rate for entertainment for the entire conference period being \$8.00, and for registration \$3.00.

For information or registration apply as early as possible to Rev. J. G. Brown, D.D., 223 Church St., Toronto.

GIRLS AND BOYS.

MISS PRIEST'S TRAVELS.

Manila.—With what interest we watched the approach to this harbor, trying to imagine the war vessels busy on these waters some years ago. So many small islands are dotted about and we could see lighthouses on different points. As we came near Manila, we could see a large wireless station, which one of our Marconi boys told me cost one and one-half million dollars to instal. We came to anchor some distance out from the wharf, and were first passed by the medical authorities and then had to hand over our passports to another officer, who gave us a permit to go ashore. It was not long before barges and little tugs came alongside. We were much interested to see the cows and buffaloes transferred to a big barge. Some of them went very meekly, but some showed a strong will of their own. One of the buffaloes found out the trick of slipping the rope over its head, and gave plenty of trouble. A big negro was tugging away at the rope of one, trying by main force to compel the buffalo to take the first step on to the gangway, when the rope broke, and over he went, amid the laughs of the onlookers. However, patience and perseverance won out, and all were safely transhipped. Many barrels of coconut oil were taken on, and also a big tank was filled by means of a pump and hose. I heard 550 tons were taken on and such a lot of planks—some kind of Filipino wood called lanau (Filipino red mahogany) yet not related to our wood of that name.

When Peter from the prison went,

Delivered by an angels' hand,

The house of one he quickly sought,

Who entertained a praying band.

Her name was Mary. (Acts 12: 12.)

—Sel.

BUSINESS DEPARTMENT.

Norfolk.—The meeting of Circles and Bands will be held in the church at Boston, Tuesday, June 10th, at 1.30 p.m. Mrs. C. J. Cameron, Editor of "The Visitor," will speak on Home Missions, and Foreign Missions will also be represented. F. M. PEARCE, Director.

ASSOCIATIONAL NOTICES.

Western.—The annual meeting of the Circles and Bands will be held with the Church in Walkerville, on Tuesday, June 3rd, commencing at 10.30 a.m. A splendid programme has been arranged. Miss Priest of India will give an address on Foreign Missions, and Mrs. C. J. Cameron will also give her masterly address on "The Aggressiveness of Roman Catholicism in Canada." Will all Circles and Bands send as many delegates as possible and bring report of year's work.

Delegates who may find it impossible to reach Walkerville in time for the morning session will be made very welcome by coming the previous evening, and get billets at the Church, Windermere Road.

JANE RITCHIE, Director.

THE LORD'S REMEMBRANCERS.

O sing unto the Lord a NEW song. Be definite in your thanksgivings as well as in your prayers. Bring your praises up to date. That, all may well suppose, is being done in Avinigadda, the station about which our thoughts and requests before the Lord will gather this month. Mr. and Mrs. McLaurin, who have been on furlough, have safely returned, strengthened in body and spirit by their visit to the home land, and are eager for service. So burdens which, during their absence, were almost overwhelming sometimes, are now divided, new plans for a greater work are formed, a great impetus and very hopeful spirit prevails.

Avinigadda is the latest addition to the sisterhood of stations in our Mission, and belongs to that great more definitely evangelistic part of the field to which Akidu and Vuyuru belong. Opened only about five years ago by Mr. McLaurin, the work is shared by his wife and sister. They have a parish of 200,000 to evangelise and shepherd; at least they are alone in the attempt to compass this mighty enterprise, assisted by a band of 37 helpers—Pastors, Teachers and Bible-women. Already there are four churches, almost one for each year the station has been occupied. The membership is 796, and there are 258 Sunday School and evangelistic schools, and 25 day schools. A Boarding School for boys is to be built—this the gift of the Brantford S. S. Circle. It will meet an urgent need. Work

several figures, and one's thoughts would turn to Hindu and Buddhist temples, and wonder at the similarity! The dress of the Filipino women was very interesting to us; their jackets made of pineapple silk, etc., were so odd. We got back to the pier in good time and felt that we had enjoyed good value for our money. We expected to pay for three hours, but our boy counted off the quarter hour, so we gave him a present.

Among the pleasant memories of Manila will be the courtesy shown us. It certainly added to our pleasure. And now we are off once more, this time on the longest stretch of our journey, for Honolulu and Manila are farther apart than any other of our ports of call, and our hearts are at rest in the assurance that when Jesus told His disciples to go to the uttermost parts of the earth, He said, "Lo, I am with you all the days."

Your loving friend,

ELLEN PRIEST.

THE MARYS OF THE BIBLE.

Among Judea's vine-clad hills

In olden times once dwelt,

The mother of our blessed Lord;

No tongue can tell the joy she felt.

Her name was Mary. (Luke 1: 30, 31.)

In Bethany two sisters lived

Who with the Saviour loved to meet;

But one especially desired

To sit with reverence at His feet.

Her name was Mary. (Luke 10: 39.)

When on the Cross the Saviour hung,

Among the mourners gathered there,

The wife of Cleophas was one

Who raised to heaven an earnest prayer.

Her name was Mary. (John 19: 25.)

When on the third, the appointed day,

The Saviour from the tomb went free,

One who was last beside the Cross

Was first our risen Lord to see.

Her name was Mary. (Mark 16: 9.)

When up to heaven our Lord had gone,

And men went forth to preach the Word,

Among the "helpers" of this work

Was one who labored in the Lord.

Her name was Mary. (Romans 16: 6.)

appointed to act with the Executive in arranging the programme for the Convention next October.

It was moved and seconded, that Miss Murray be asked to represent this Society at the different associational meetings this summer, and to visit as many Circles, as her strength permits.

A very interesting letter was read from Miss McLaurin, giving an account of the Biblewomens' work in Avanigadda, and the great suffering of many of the people through disease and poverty.

Miss Mason's quarterly report was also read. Twenty-one answered to the roll call.

EDITH C. BENTLEY, Rec. Sec.

FEAST OF CANDLES—FIRST CHURCH, MONTREAL.

On Thursday, April 3rd, the Mission Circles of Montreal observe the semi-annual Day of Prayer by holding an unusual service, entitled "The Feast of Candles."

First of all, about one hundred and fifty ladies sat down to a daintily prepared supper, the color scheme of which was yellow and white, with brass candlesticks on every table, and on the centre-table one of seven branches, which formed the keyword for the evening.

After the opening exercises, the President, Mrs. F. L. Orchard, directed our thoughts to the seven-branched candlestick made by Moses to give light in the Tabernacle—"of pure gold and according to the pattern given on the Mount"—and proceeded to explain that we would, on this occasion, obtain light from seven sources on our own missionary work and problems.

As the leader lighted each candle, one by one, seven ladies spoke on various points of spiritual enlightenment.

The following are but a few of the many helpful thoughts given:

1st Candle—Information—Mrs. Chas. G. Smith.

— The missionary spirit is the greatest asset any church can have, and to have this it is necessary to be informed. Many splendid missionary magazines can be obtained, telling us what God is doing in the world. And news of our own work is found in "Canadian Baptist," "Visitor" and "LINK." If we make the necessary effort to become well informed, we shall not lack inspiration or consecration.

2nd Candle—Training—Mrs. E. H. Findlay.

There are several levels upon which we may live our lives. The lowest is the life undetermined, untrained and easily carried along by circumstances. The highest is the life guided and controlled by the will of God and trained to run parallel to His will. We should seek to train our thoughts and opinions. The greatest work is done by those who have a trained purpose, and who shape their time, will, study, and methods of work in that direction. We have all facilities to make us efficient in God's service. If each Circle member would begin with herself, our churches would soon show a marked advancement. If we would have our lights shine to any purpose, we must train our lives to live above the level of the world.

3rd Candle—Enthusiasm—Mrs. A. E. Patterson.

We must get a vision of the task God has set us, and according to our faith power will be given for the task. His vast reservoirs are at our disposal, but we

among high-caste women is most interesting and inviting, but Miss McLaurin is constrained to concentrate effort on the Christian women of the churches this year, that they may more efficiently help in the work, and more worthily commend their Master. With all the urgency possible the blessed news of salvation through Christ is being published all over that district. Let us be fellow-helpers by our prayers. Pray for the missionaries, that the strain and stress, which is so very real, of WORK UNDONE, which it is impossible to do for lack of time and strength, may not hurt too much. That the Telugu workers may be good and faithful witnesses to the Lord Jesus Christ; that the poor Christians at large may stand fast in this time of almost famine, and that the hearts of the great mass of the yet unsaved may be opened, as was Lydia's, to receive the Truth that will make them glad.

M. B. McL.

Stouffville.—The Busy Bee Mission Band of the Baptist Church gave their entertainment on January 31st to a full house. Each number was well rendered. The offering amounted to \$25. We have over forty members, and hope to add more.

MURIEL MADILL, Secretary.

SECOND QUARTERLY MEETING OF WOMEN'S BAPTIST FOREIGN MISSIONARY SOCIETY OF EASTERN ONTARIO AND QUEBEC.

The 2nd Quarterly Meeting of the Executive Board of the W.B.F.M. Society of Eastern Ontario and Quebec was held in Olivet Baptist Church, Montreal, Friday, March 14th, at 3 o'clock.

In the absence of the President, Mrs. H. H. Ayer, and the two Vice-Presidents, also being absent on account of illness, Mrs. B. P. Mavity presided. After devotional exercises, the minutes of the 1st Quarterly Meeting and a special meeting of the Executive, held Jan. 17th, were read, and, on motion, adopted.

The Treasurer, Miss Russell, presented her report for December, January and February. The total amount raised was \$1,175.52. After discussion, this report was, on motion, adopted.

It was a pleasure to welcome one of our out-of-town members, Mrs. Reynolds, of Brockville, to the meeting.

The following ladies were received as life-members, the requisite amount of \$25.00 having been paid to the Treasurer in each case: Miss Caroline, McFee and Mrs. H. W. Wright, Smith's Falls; Mrs. Collins Sinclair, Ottawa, 4th Avenue; Mrs. D. Derbyshire, Brockville, 1st; Mrs. Harry Hollister, Cornwall; Mrs. A. Fisher, Brockville, 1st.

Miss Dakin, Superintendent of Bureau of Literature, reported:

Balance from last quarter	\$10 59
Sold during quarter	10 49
	\$21.08
Paid for Literature Postage.....	17 61
	\$3 47
Balance	\$3 47

On motion, this report was adopted.

A Committee consisting of Mrs. Wills, Mrs. Findley and Mrs. Colpitts, was

must put away the hindrances which are the leaks in the reservoir, causing lack of power and lack of joy. War work brought great enthusiasm, and people were willing to give it first place, so much was done for King and Country. How much more enthusiastic we should be in service of the King of Kings, for ours is the greatest task in the world, with the promise of unbounded power and wonderful reward.

4th Candle—Giving—Mrs. Pequegnat.

In particular ages people gave tithes and thank-offerings upon special occasions. Later, we read of the gift of two mites, which represented one of the greatest recorded gifts. Greater gifts are expected of us, for we have the example of the Perfect Giver. Giving our talents will not make us barren. "Give to the world the best you have, and the best will return to you."

5th Candle—Transformation—Miss Barker.

Be ye transformed, we are commanded. This must be accomplished by a power outside ourselves—the Spirit of God. In Him was life, and the life was the light of men. This life may stream forth from our lives, transforming us to the likeness of God, through, and by, the law of influence. If we live with people we look and admire! We grow like them. So if we love and commune much with our Lord, we shall be transformed, and attain to the measure of the stature of Christ.

6th Candle—Steadfastness—Mrs. Kipp.

Steadfastness is the first essential of success. We may have any number of good qualities, but if our efforts are spasmodic, our work will never amount to much. The words, "They shall not pass," in connection with the awful struggle at Verdun, will always remain in our memories, signifying the determination of our soldiers to stand firm, even unto death. Our steadfastness in service depends on our realization of the importance of the work. The entire world to-day is in a state of unrest and it behooves every Christian in this testing time to stand true.

7th Candle—The Great Pattern—Mrs. W. W. Wilson.

Christ, the pattern of a perfect life. The candlestick was made of pure gold. So we must see that our lives are pure, free from dross. The pattern is one of beauty. Christianity is not dull and drab, but winsome and attractive, for beauty and harmony are inseparable from God. Our candles must be kept supplied with oil, which is the Spirit of God. We must burn with a steady light. If we are not giving out a clear and strong message perhaps it is because we are not well enough acquainted with our pattern, and unable to disclose the beauty of holiness. Moses, when he received the pattern, went into the mountain to commune with God, and his face shone with His glory. We must be much in prayer if our lives are to resemble the Great Pattern.

"Lead, Kindly Light," and "Let the Lower Lights Be Burning" were sung during this service, which was listened to with intense interest.

We then had a short season of prayer, when all the branches of our Home and Foreign work were brought closely to our hearts and to the Fathers' Throne.

The meeting closed by all standing and repeating the Lord's Prayer.

EDNA COLPITTS,

Sec., pro tem.