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W. B. M. U. TIDINGS

TWENTY FIVE CENTS PER YEAR.

Vol. 6

Amherst, N. S.; May 1899

No. 63

Motto for the Year.

"Workers together with Him."

Prayer Topic.

For Mr. Sanford at Vizianagram that his health may be continued and his heart be made to rejoice in seeing multitudes coming to Christ.

Suggested Programme for May.

TOPIC VIZIANAGRAM.

HYMN. More love to Thee O Christ.

PRAYER.

SCRIPTURE.

PRAYER. "That we may shew our love by more service for India."

HYMN.

MINUTES of last meeting.

ORIGINAL paper on our work in India.

PRAYER.

Suggested Programme for June.

PRAYER.

HYMN:

SCRIPTURE Josh-6 : 1-4 ves. 20.

MINUTES of last meeting.

APPOINTING delegates to the Association.

READING "Tidings."

PRAYER for our Association gathering.

CLOSING HYMN.

Amounts received by the Treasurer of the W B M U during the month of April:

Hilldale, F M 4 00; Lower New Castle F M 2 64; Port Hawkesbury, F M 1 00; Baillie, F M 3 00; Lunenburg, Mission Band, support of San Yasi at Picnic, 8 00; Florenceville, F M 1 00, H M 4 00; Clarence, F M 18 00, H M 1 00, Tidings 25c; Pennlyn Station, F M 5 00; Campbelltown, F M 1 00, H M 1 25; Pennfield, F M 2 00; Report, F M 6 00, Tidings 25c; Falkland Ridge F M, 5 50, H M 30c, thanksgiving from a friend 25c; Upper Macleod, F M 4 00; West Onslow, F M 7 00, H M 2 75, Special Collection, F M 8 00, Mrs N M, Kings S S F M 1 25; Hopewell Hill, F M 1 00; Greenville, F M 1 75, H M 4 05;

Yarmouth, 1st Ch F M 8 00, Mission Band, toward Mr Morse's salary 18 95; Homeville, F M 3 25; St George, F M 9 86; Windsor F M 31 50, H M 3 50; Hillandale, F M 1 00; Hopewell Cape, F M 4 45; Wittenberg F M 2 00, H M 2 00; Duaktown, F M 3 50, Mitebox F M 4 15; Billtown, F M 6 00, H M 3 30; Murray River, F M 2 00; Dartmouth Sunday School, F M 4 62, H M 4 62; Parrboro, F M 3 50, H M 3 50; Cavendish, Mission Band F M 5 00, to constitute Mattie A Simpson, and Ruby Estelle Simpson Litemembers F M 20 00; Cavendish F M 5 85, G L M 2 00; Murray River, F M 5 00; Fouchie, Mission Band, F M 1 00, G L M 1 00; 2nd St Margaret's Bay F M 2 25, H M 80c; 1st Sable River, F M 9 00; North Brookfield, F M 6 55, Tidings 25c, Reports, 20c; Osborne, F M 3 10, H M 2 75; Berwick, F M 6 00, H M 1 00; Western Branch, F M 1 75, H M 25c; Somerset Branch, F M 2 00, H M 6 20; St John, Main St, F M 14 50, H M 2 00; Port Williams, F M 6 75; Great Village, F M 4 00, H M 3 50, Tidings 25c; Port Greville, F M 4 16; Kingston, Junior Union, Easter Offering, for Mrs Gullison 5 00; Forest Glen, F M 6 00, mite box's H M 2 00; St Stephen, Union St, F M 7 50; Jordan River, F M 2 50, H M 2 00; Jackson-town, F M 6 00; Little Bras Dor, "from a brother," F M 2 00, H M 1 00 G L M 1 25, N W M 1 80, H M deficit 50c; Moncton, F M 35 00, work among the French 80 00; Truro, Prince St, F M 9 00, H M 1 00, deficit 2 00; to constitute Miss Annie S King a Life member, F M 25 00; Jacksonville, F M 5 00; Dartmouth, Mission Band, "to help Mr Morse's Salary" 8 20; Brookfield, Mission Band, F M 7 13; New Canaan, F M 4 50; Mary Smith Amherst, P O B 518.

Treas. W. B. M. U.

Moving the Fence Further Out.

"Well I'll just tell you all about it," said Mrs. Brookes. "You see we'd been poking along in the same way for a good many years. When we started our foreign missionary society, we agreed to give fifty dollars a year, and for eleven we gave that right straight along. We took great credit to ourselves that we never fell below the mark. In fact, in every annual meeting some of us were sure to remark how faithful we'd been in holding meetings and always raising the fifty dollars, and it never occurred to any of us we might move forward a step or two. Our meetings were very small, generally seven or eight present and we thought twelve a large attendance. Like other societies, we had a good many contributing members who never came near the meetings. We'd sit there and say they ought to come, but didn't do anything to bring them. They'd give their money willingly enough when we went for it, but I declare, there were some who, in all those years, never seemed to get it through their heads what the society was or what the dollar was for. They'd say, 'Foreign Missionary Society? Let me see—there are so many societies in the church. Is that the one Mrs. Benton is president of? Oh, yes, to be sure. Well, how much do I give?' and that's just all they knew or cared about it. 'Bands?' No we didn't do much in that way. We had a sort of Band: one not very much alive, and not dead enough to bury—that kind you know; it needed looking after. That's, the way we dawdled along.

"Well after awhile, Miss Winsted—you know who she is, a real downright smart woman—she began to get restless, and tried to stir us up. She'd keep telling us we might do so and so, but you know how it is to get people out of ruts, when they once get in.

"One winter she went on East to visit her father's folks in New York

and Philadelphia. While she was there she went to some big missionary meetings and talked with the ladies who engineered them, and met some missionaries right straight from the 'front'(as it is called.) and saw the places where the missionary magazines are made. The upshot of it was she got wonderfully stirred up, and when she came home just talked right and left.

"Pretty soon it became time for our annual meeting, and when the treasurer's report was read, there were some of the usual remarks about how well we'd done, and so on, and Mrs. Corey, the treasurer, says she: 'Yes, for eleven years we've never failed to come up to our pledge.' Then it just seemed as if Miss Winsted couldn't keep in any longer. Says she:—

"That's all very well, but don't you think, friends, that eleven years is long enough to be faithful over such a few things? We've cultivated our little plot of ground perseveringly, but isn't it time to move the fence further out?"

"We were all taken aback by that speech, and sat staring with out saying a word, till Mrs. Corey managed to gasp out. 'I don't know what you mean.' 'I mean,' says Miss Winsted, 'we ought to do more in this work.' 'What more is there to do?' says Mrs. Corey.

"'Why,' says Miss Winsted, and her dark eyes just flashed, 'What's a woman's society for, if not to stir up the whole congregation on the subject of missions? We are losing splendid chances. Why I think a society that's contented merely to give some money annually, and holding meetings once a month in the corner of the lecture-room, doesn't live up to its privileges.'

"'Privileges?' says Mrs. Corey. 'Yes,' says Miss Winsted, 'It's our privilege to do everything in our power to interest all the women of the church and the children too. Who's going to look after them if we don't? Instead

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of that poor little dead-and-alive Band, we ought to have all the children and young people enlisted; we ought to be working missionary literature in among the congregation; we ought to encourage our pastor to get up popular meetings, and here we sit not doing much of anything; we don't even help along at monthly concerts.'

"How are we going to help that way?" Miss Aldrich asked. "Women are not allowed to speak in meeting in our church."

"'Nobody wants you to speak,' says Miss Winsted. 'There are other ways of helping. Just sit up in front, and looked awfully interested, and sing out loud, and see if that don't help.'

Miss Aldrich she's a great laugher, and that appeared to tickle her, so she burst out laughing, and the rest of us joined in. That put us all into better humor, for some were beginning to be real vexed with Miss Winsted for taking the wind out of our sails at such a rate. Then, before any one could say anything more, Mrs. Benton said, 'Miss Winsted, you're right, we needed just that said to us—we've not been doing our duty.' 'Dear friends,' says she, 'lets kneel down and pray over it.'

'Such a heart-searching prayer I never heard in all my life. Altor it, we were ready to take hold and do any amount of work.'

"Then we had a great discussion about what to do and how to do it. Suggestions were as thick as blackberries; it made one wonder where they'd been hiding all this time. One wanted to begin with the Band; another wanted to have the congregation canvassed; another thought a 'boom, in the way of a big meeting would be a good send-off. Miss Winsted thought where we ought to begin was right in our own society.

"Let's aim to get our contributing members all interested," says she. "Let's get them all together, just once, to see each other, and realize they belong to the society."

"How are you going to do it?" asks Mrs. Corey. "They won't come together. We've invited them many a time to the meetings." 'Let us try it socially,' says Miss Winsted. "How would it do to have a missionary tea-party—just the twenty-eight women who contribute this fifty dollars?"

"That idea took, and there was such a buzz about whether we ten who were present should club together and give the party to the rest, or whether we'd go around and talk them all into having a kind of picnic. While the rest of us were talking as fast as our tongues could rattle, I saw Mrs. Hirst getting her chair in the face, and fidgeting in her chair as if she wanted to say something. She's a first-rate woman, but not as bright as some, and no talker at all. She never opens her mouth in the meetings, but as she is always there and the only one who gives as high as ten dollars, we elected her vice-president, as then she'd have nothing to do. We were surprised to hear her speak up and say she would like to give that tea party herself.

"'Oh Mrs. Hirst,' says Mrs. Benton, it wouldn't be fair to let you have the whole burden of it. 'O yes it would,' says she, 'I can't talk and pray like the rest of you, but if a tea party is going to help mission work I'll take that for my share. If the good Lord didn't give me smartness and did give me property, I think He means me to serve him with property instead of brains.'

"Now wasn't it humble-minded in her to talk that way, and wasn't it good of her to offer to have the tea party?"

'Well the long and the short of it is in two weeks from that time we went to her house to tea, and she and Mrs. Benton had managed so well that all the members of the Society, old and young, rich and poor, were there.

"Mrs Hirst had just the nicest kind of tea, but it beat me to know how they were going to make a missionary tea of it; but half a dozen of the leading spirits were all primed, and before the tea-cups had got half way round, they began talking about how pleasant it was to see all the members together at once, and Mrs Benton got Miss Winsted to tell about a meeting in New York with one of the teachers from the school in India where our money had been going so long. 'This interest-

ed them all mightily, and some asked questions, and Miss Winstead, she just started in and talked, and Mrs. Benton and two or three others backed her up, so among them the supper was missionary all the way through, from the fried oysters and cold turkey to the preserves.

"In the parlor we found the tables covered with Oriental views and curiosities that some of the ladies had contrived to collect, and the whole evening, except when we were singing some missionary hymns, was spent in looking at them, and as they led on, talking about missions. On one table a lot of missionary magazines and leaflets, and Mrs. Benton told the folks to help themselves, so everybody took something home to read.

"They were all just as pleased as they could be with the party, and when we were upstairs getting on our things, I heard Milly Harmon say, 'Just to think how much I've missed all these years. Here you've been learning and feeling so much and I might have had a share of it if I'd only realized that I belonged! I feel like a long lost sister.'

"You can't imagine what a start that social meeting gave us. We set right to work after it, and now as far as the missionary spirit is concerned, you wouldn't know our church to be the same place it was three years ago. We're only sorry we didn't think of moving the fence out sooner."—*Reprinted, by permission*

Suggested Programme For Mission Bands, May.

Singing. "The whole wide world for Jesus."

Bible Lesson. Isaiah 52nd.

The Lord's Prayer (in concert.)

Minutes of last meeting.

Roll Call. Each answering by repeating a verse in which the word "Go" is found.

Hymn. "Where are the reapers?"

Readings and recitations on missions by several members of the band.

Questions on India.

Map exercise on Bimlipatam, naming the missionaries residing at that station.

Lesson found in Tidings.

Collection for Home Missions.

Ask several members of the Band to write papers on India, Africa and China, handing them in to the leader at the next meeting.

Singing. "Over the ocean wave."

Close with prayer by Leader.

Leader. Can you give me the population of the earth?

Ans. One billion five hundred millions.

Leader. How many of these people are Protestant Christians?

Ans. Only one-tenth.

Leader. Are the different denominations of Protestant Christians sending missionaries into all parts of the world?

Ans. They are.

Leader. Shall we try and find out what the Baptists are doing in reference to missions in different places?

Ans. Yes, while we are interested in hearing about other denominations, we want to know more about our own and take a deeper interest in their work.

Leader. How many mission stations have the Baptists in India?

Ans. 1,270.

Leader. How many mission stations have they in China?

Ans. 450.

Leader. How many in Africa?

Ans. 42.

Leader. How many in Japan?

Ans. 102.

Leader. How many in Siam?

Ans. 1.

Leader. How many in Syria?

Ans. 12.

Leader. Have you heard anything in reference to Siam before?

Ans. Yes. It is a kingdom south of Burmah; its capital is Bangkok and in 1873 Mr and Mrs Churchill and several other missionaries who are now working among the Telugus went to Siam to labor among the Karens.