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W. B. M. U. Tidings.

25 Cents per Year.

Vol 7.

Amherst, N. S., October 1900.

No 79

Motto for the Year.—Workers together with Him.

PRAYER TOPIC.

For a revival of missionary zeal among our pastors and churches in the home land. That the Lord would give us missionaries and the money to send them to India.

Suggested Programme for October 1900.

Singing "Come, Holy Spirit,
Heavenly Dove."
Singing; "Where are the reapers?"
Scripture Reading, Rom. X.
Prayer by two or three sisters
Singing
Roll Call
Minutes of last meeting.
Reading correspondences and ar-
ranging for Crusade Day.
Reading tidings.
Sentence prayer by all.
Doxology.

Suggested Programme for November 1900

Repeat 24th Psalm in concert all
standing.
Invocation by President.
Singing;—"Hold thou my hand."
Prayer
Roll Call.
Minutes of last meeting read.
Communication and reports of
Committee.
Singing.
Paper on "Present crisis of Mis-
sions in China."
Season of Prayer.
Singing at close;—"Bless be the
tie that binds."

Our Mission Band Treasurer for the year is Mrs. Ida Crandall Chipman, Queens Co., N. B. Kindly note change of address for this department of the work.

Among the different monies handed me at Windsor Annual meeting, I find 75c enclosed in an envelope; marked "Mrs. Bancroft," "kindness—Mr. Crandall." Will the sender please inform me where it is from, and for what it is intended.

(Mrs.) Mary Smith

Sec. W. B. M. U.

Amherst, N. S.

President's Message.

To my fellow laborers in the Mission Work.

Dear Sisters;—

The result of another year's work for the Master has been recorded and with great joy and gratitude we remember the pleasant, profitable meetings at Windsor.

The devotional, business and platform meetings were all helpful and inspiring. The conscious presence of the Master was felt by all present. Plans were laid for the coming year, which by God's blessing we hope will bring great glory to his name. What will your society do to make this year more successful than the last or rather what will you do? Until the work becomes personal not much will be accomplished.

Paul has a wonderful way of giving us a portrait of his co-workers, with one stroke of his artist brush, describing their character in one flashing phrase. Phebe "Servant of the Church." "Priscilla and Aquilla helpers in Christ Jesus." Could there be a sweeter summing up of two Christian lives? How precious the privilege that was theirs! They might help the Master builder Paul as he laid the foundations of the Christian Church. They could minister to him as he planted new churches in strange lands. They could see their money used to hasten the coming of the Kingdom. Happy Priscilla! to be joined in such a fellowship, to know the joy of such service!

We have as our motto, "Laborers together with God." Oh, that the scales might fall from our eyes and we could behold the white fields of our own glorious time that each one of us might every day be helpers in Christ Jesus, strengthening the hands of many a Paul.

Today in heathen India, on the great prairies of the Northwest and at Grand Ligne, broad, strong foundations are being laid. Today heroes of whom the world is not worthy are counting all things but loss that they may lift upon darkened eyes the splendor of the cross of Christ. Today men of Macedonia are calling "come over and help us." It is well worth the struggle to be able to feel we are indeed helpers in this great conflict against sin and satan. As old soldiers kindle over remembered battle fields so shall we someday thank God with tears of joy for every dollar we have given, for every effort put forth to rescue the perishing for every prayer we have offered for the coming of Christ's Kingdom.

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FINANCES.

It is gratifying to know that more money was raised last year than ever before and more public meetings held where collections were taken that helped to increase the funds as well as awaken an interest in missions. The appropriations have been increased \$700.00. \$500.00 for Foreign Missions, \$200.00 for Home Missions. Forty-nine Life Members, fifteen more than in any previous year. We have twenty Mission Band Life Members, four more than last year.

The total of monies raised during the year was \$9882.61. Of this amount \$7858.51 is for Foreign Missions and \$2024.10 for Home Missions. The Report showed 254 Aid Societies and 106 Mission Bands. All monies from Mission Bands, Sab. Schools and Junior Unions must be sent to Mrs. Ida Crandall, Chipman, Queens Co., N. B.

CRUSADE DAY.

October 11th has been appointed as Crusade Day. If this day is not convenient select some other time, but do not fail to observe the day this year. One most effectual way to double our gifts is to double the givers and a much greater blessing than the money comes to us with increased membership. Every person knows of one other she might enlist in this blessed service with persistent, prayerful effort. It is quite possible to double our membership this year if only the matter is taken up definitely, persistently and as a part of the consecrated business methods of our Society. Do not forget the prayer hour during the morning, no permanent blessing can come to the work that is not commenced, continued and completed with prayer. The visiting and securing members in the afternoon, a public missionary meeting with thank-offering in the evening. The work of the year as given in the Report should be brought before the people

MISSION BANDS.

The prospect for an advance in Mission Band work is encouraging. Three Band Superintendents have been appointed, Mrs. P. R. Foster, Barwick for N. S., Miss Flora Clark, Moncton for N. B., Mrs. A. F. Brown North River for

P. E. I. These are women of ability and experience. We shall hope for a great increase in the number and efficiency of our Bands this year. The lessons will be prepared by Miss Etta Yuill, Wolfville and shall be of special interest. The first one is on India, the others on our Mission Stations with an article from our missionaries to accompany each lesson. Will our sisters take a greater interest in this department of our work and use their influence that these valuable and instructive lessons should be used? We must develop and encourage this work among the children if we would have our mission interest increase and deepen.

TWENTIETH CENTURY FUND.

It has been decided by Convention that the Baptists of these Provinces raise \$50,000, as a thankoffering to the Lord at the close of this century. The money is to be divided equally between Home and Foreign Missions. Shall we not as members of our missionary Societies nobly respond to this call and strive by every means in our power to help raise this offering? Two-thirds of our church members are women and they contain the principal missionary element in our churches. Our training for the past thirty years has just fitted us to do this work. Our study of the past history of missions, our God-given vision of the condition of the heathen world and the purpose for which we were saved, should all inspire us with the courage and zeal to enter upon this undertaking in the strength of the Lord. For such a time as this we were brought into the kindgom. To embrace this golden opportunity and lift our mission work into a higher plane by reinforcement and enlargement.

By personal gifts and sacrifice, by assisting our pastors in the churches, as teachers in the Sabbath School and helpers in the Mission Band we can talk and work and pray until this grand movement becomes a great success. In this way may we best serve the purpose for which we exist. May God help us all to embrace the present glorious opportunity and with the light of a new century upon our brow, the pathetic and heart rending cry of perishing millions in

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our ears, to lift our heads above the past and face the future with new strength and gladness for Jesus leads us on.

Yours in his service

S. J. Manning.

Dear Sisters :—

Once a month you meet together to study about and pray for the advancement of the Master's work. Yours is a work that cannot be estimated, it goes on and on for the "prayer of faith availeth much."

The study of the different countries, people and customs helps you to understand the needs, so that you can pray with more power.

Our duty is to give helpful information and glimpses of Indian life in our letters to "Tidings."

Here are a few encouraging sentences from a converted Brahmin's letter. "You will be delighted to know that my wife and son came forth for baptism on 8th of July in answer to my prayer.

Praise the Lord. Moreover my wife is growing in grace at a wonderful rate. She once feared prayer for she believed that not preaching but prayer might conquer her determination of remaining a heathen, but now she loves to pray, I am glad she is now a christian. The more I experience this life the more shall I be convinced that God never leaves a sincere and honest prayer unanswered." Such a testimony as this ought to strengthen us all and make us more earnest in our prayers for the unsaved.

Wednesday when talking to some women in the hospital I noticed one with such a sad expression so said. "What is the matter?" She burst into tears and said "my husband is dead and my only son who keeps bad company and drinks went away and left me entirely alone without anything to live on."

I told her of the One who never leaves nor forsakes, dwelling especially on the love of God: Before I ceased speaking she was smiling through her tears. Next day after receiving her medicine I invited her with several others to the Mission House. They came and we had singing

reading and I tried to teach her a little prayer. Yesterday she came again and when she met me she said "My body was up in that street all night but my mind was here and I was thinking about what I had heard. I found it very hard to come today for the rains has filled the river with water so I could not come that way but had to dodge through back streets so that no one would see me." She belongs to a caste that never think of walking on the street except when going to the river to bathe or to the temple to worship.

With our lady apothecary to pave the way I have visited a large number of the wealthiest people of the town, people who have enough money to send several new families to India and keep our Board out of debt for years. But I am sorry to say they have no desire to give, their thoughts are all centred on self. If they should give a few rupees towards our hospital they would expect free treatment for a year.

'What are their homes like' you will ask. To a Western mind the bare houses they live in would suggest anything but home. After searching around they generally find two chairs for us to sit on, while they squat on the floor. As this has always been their custom they would feel very awkward on a chair.

They have no carpets and it is just as well, for the white ants would soon ruin them. No tables, for they eat from brass dishes placed before them on the floor, no cutlery or extra plates, so washing dishes is reduced to a minimum. The pictures on the walls are few and generally represent some household idol.

House keeping is very little trouble for very few can either read or sew, so they have nothing to do but gossip.

Jewels is a subject that never wears out. Every new purchase in the street has to be priced and tested.

Very few wear all their jewels every day, but on feast days many will be loaded down with thousands of dollars worth of gold and gems.

Wealth is no sign of cleanliness, for often the women will be dressed in old dirty clothes, and never think of apologizing for their looks.

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The Hindoos live what is called the joint family system from the old, old grandparents, sons, sons' families down to the fourth generation. The women are ruled by their husbands, they in turn by their old superstitious mothers, who attend to all the religious ceremonies and make all do according to their wish. The children with so many to reprimand, pet and scold them are spoiled, and obey no one. There is much more I could write on this subject, but I know my letter is long enough, so close with best wishes.

Yours very sincerely

Martha Clark.

My dear Mission Band Presidents ;—

My sympathy and love is with you. Will you not picture out the scenes described in each paragraph, until the children grasp the details and will you not *persevere* until they can readily answer the questions? May you have great joy and success in your work this year, and be enabled to be faithful in teaching the children the gist of *every* lesson.

Yours for Jesus pleasure,

Mabel E. Archibald.

Chicacole, India

July, 10th 1900.

Mission Band Lesson.

INDIA.

Question. Where is British India? Ans. It includes the central peninsula in the south of Asia, extending northerly to the Himalayas; and also Burma on the east of the Bay of Bengal.

Q. Describe the climate of this country? A. It is tropical. The year includes three seasons,—the hot, from March to June; the rainy, from June to October; and the temperate, during the rest of the year.

Q. How many people live here? A. Nearly 300 million.

Q. What is the prevailing religion? A. Nearly three fourths of the people are Hindus.

Q. What are some of its features? A. Hinduism or

Brahminism is a superstitious worship of idols, and divides the people into four great casts, thus preventing liberty and advancement.

Q. What is the chief food? A. It is rice, usually eaten with a hot sauce called curry.

Q. Are the trees like those of our country? A. Instead, one finds teak, sandal-wood, ebony, bamboo, banyan, and many kinds of palm.

Q. Name some other things cultivated besides rice? A. Cotton, sugar-cane, indigo, wheat, millet, coffee, tea and many kinds of fruit.

Q. What animals are found? A. Elephants which are used as beasts of burden, tigers, leopards, panthers and many others. Besides these are found very many snakes, scorpions and insects. Even the birds are strange to us.

Q. In what part of India are we particularly interested? A. In the Madras Presidency which lies on the west coast of the Bay of Bengal.

Q. Why are we interested? A. Toward the northern part of this district our own missionaries are laboring to teach the people about the living Christ and His love.

Q. Do those people have modern improvements? A. Year by year telegraph, telephone and railway lines are being opened up, and these things are helping to enlighten the minds of the people.

Q. Describe a Hindu candy and jewelry store? N. B. For answer to the last question and other information on which to base questions and answers, please use the accompanying paper on "India" by Miss Archibald.

Suggestive program for Mission Band—Oct.

Hymn.

Prayer by Leader.

Scripture Lesson—Ps. 96.

Hymn.

Minutes of previous meeting.

Roll call, responded to by Scripture verse.

Lesson found in Tidings.

Collection.

Lord's Prayer (in concert.)

India a Queer Country.

BY MABEL E. ARCHIBALD.

“Here in this mystical India,
Where deities hover and swarm
Like the wild bees heard in the tree tops
Or the gusts of a gathering storm,”—

Here we are. A journey of four weeks—across the rolling Atlantic, overland to Marseilles, through the Mediterranean, Red and Arabian Seas—brings us to India. We are greeted with a “gallery of strange faces, a buzz of strange voices, a rainbow of strange colours, a garden of strange growths” and an array of strange gods. “Why, this is a new world,” we continually exclaim. Different beasts and birds in the street, different food to eat, different clothes to wear, different meal times—the very commonest things seem different.

BOMBAY

is a city of contrasts. Along the sea-front one splendid building follows another while at their feet huddle huts which a days rain would reduce to mud and pulp. From the grand Hotel with its marble paved halls and spacious apartments we look out upon a tumbled-down region where half-naked idolaters walk back and forth bearing on their heads huge baskets of brick, stone or lime. In the open spaces the educated Hindus playing ball cry, “Tanks, tanks,” while near at hand squats a Bramin who would like to marry babies and burn widows.

A three days journey from Bombay brings us to Chica-
cole. What confusion at first. One cries,

“BE CAREFUL

of this” and another, “Be careful of that.” Why, my dears, it is not safe to shut or open a door in the dark as a deadly carpet snake might fall at your feet.

We are standing on the back verandah getting a drink from the earthen *Kuja* which is covered with a wet cloth and placed in the wind to get cool.

Mr. Gullison commandingly says,—“Just see here! Wait a minute! don’t move!” “Oh what is it?” I trembling-

ly cried. "Never mind! Don't move!" Then came a brush down my back with a heavy hand. "What was it?" Bring the lantern closer!" Coats are taken off and shaken. There it is in the corner a big, big scorpion.

"How excellent is thy lovingkindness, O God! therefore the children of men put their trust under the shadow of Thy wings."

After two years and a half in India what do we say,—

"INDIA IS A QUEER COUNTRY."

See the Hindu as he rapidly shakes his hands from left to right to express "no." See him clapping his hands as he wishes to gain your attention. One time there was a stubborn child at a hotel in Calcutta. Whenever the mother would slap the child a dozen servants would run in answer to the supposed call.

See the Hindu as he picks up sticks with his toes and bears straw, water, and all kinds of bundles either on his head or shoulder. See him, with his bead encircled wrists and neck, his ash-marked arms, chest and forehead—clad in a loose cotton cloth below and nature's robes above. See him with shaven head before and ragged lock of hair flapping behind as he runs from side to side to avoid a widow or a donkey or a pig—the very sight of which would be defilement.

A mala woman is at the door. A basket of fruit is on her head. What does my lordly Bramin munshi say to her? "Now it will be great merit for you if you give me one of those mangoes. If you don't I'll curse you!"

The climate of India?—There are three seasons of four months each—the season when the days are cloudy, steamy, rainy, murky; the season when the days are scorching, glaring, cloudless, panting; and lastly the season when the cooling zephyrs blow and one exclaims, "How lovely is India!"

Stoves are there? No not one. The Hindu places an earthen pot upon the two stones between which a fire has been lighted—thus he does his cooking by the roadside or

wherever he happens to be. He rolls the rice and curry in to little balls and throws them into his mouth.

Candy stores are there? Why yes. There is the candy man seated on the floor in front of the candy spread out on a board. See, he now scratches his bare back adown which the perspiration flows; then he pats the candy balls: now he blows his nose with his fingers and again he rolls the candy. Do you want some of this sweetmeat? "*No No!*" I hear you say it is too dirty and greasy."

A ring you wish to buy? Do not think that you will go to a glass windowed store and peer at jewelled gold arranged in plush. Ah, no! You will approach a fat man leaning against that mud wall. He will lazily open his bag and weigh with sticks and shells the required amount of gold leaf. The man across the street who is blowing the coals through a hollow stick, will melt and mould the gold into the required shape.

Yes, India is indeed a queer country. Here the man who with his head enclosed in an iron frame lies on sharp thorns, is regarded as the most holy of persons. Here the life of an ant is regarded as sacred as that of a man; yet animals are cruelly treated and permitted to live out lives of intense suffering.

Here in India the river or tank is the bathroom the sun the towel and a stick the tooth brush. Here a hole in the sand forms a wash tub and the article to be washed is heavily beaten on a hugh flat stone.

My dear friends, what more can I tell you about this strange country with its 300 million inhabitants, its 140 nationalities, its 40 languages and more than 20 millions of wretched little widows. India! wonderful India! Its splendid mosques, fine temples, wealthy princes, beautiful and varied scenery render it one of the most interesting of countries. Good roads, railways, post regulations and many of your modern conveniences are to be found—yet here we behold the heathen in his darkness bowing down to wood and stone, we see poverty, misery, famine, plague and death on every hand. Night, night, how dark the

night! Will you not, dear boys and girls, work and pray
to send the light to the two million Telugus who belong to
you.

“Let us not grow weary in the work of love. -

Send the light! Send the light!

Let us gather jewels for a crown above,

Send the light! Send the light!”