

# Canadian Missionary Link

OL. XXXIII.

TORONTO, JUNE, 1918.

No 10

## BATTLE HYMN OF THE REPUBLIC

Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord :  
He is tramping out the vintage where the grapes of wrath are stored;  
He has loosed the fateful lightning of his terrible swift sword:  
His truth is marching on.

I have seen Him in the watch-fires of a hundred circling camps;  
They have builded Him an altar in the evening dews and damps;  
I can read his righteous sentence by the dim and flaring lamps:  
His day is marching on.

I have read a fiery gospel, writ in burnished rows of steel:  
"As ye deal with my contemners, so with you my grace shall deal;  
Let the Hero, born of woman, crush the serpent with his heel,  
Since God is marching on.

He has sounded forth the trumpet that shall never call retreat;  
He is sifting out the hearts of men before His judgment-seat;  
O be swift, my soul, to answer Him! be jubilant, my feet!  
Our God is marching on.

In the beauty of the lilies Christ was born across the sea,  
With the glory in His bosom that transfigures you and me;  
As He died to make men holy, let us die to make men free,  
While God is marching on.

—*Julia Ward Howe.*

Published monthly by  
Women's Baptist Foreign Mission Board  
of Western Ontario.

# Canadian Missionary Link.

EDITOR—MISS JACQUELINE M. NORTON,

50 Howland Avenue, Toronto, Ont.

25c. a Year in Advance.

The address label shows to what date the subscription is paid. Please notify editor of change of address. No subscription is discontinued without a definite request from the subscriber.

Money may be paid to local agent, or sent by Money Express Order, Registered Letter, or Post Office Order, to

Missionary Link, 705 Gladstone Ave., Toronto Ont.

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## A DELAYED SAILING.

We had hoped to have the missionaries taking furlough this year almost at home with us by this time, but word has been recently received that they are indefinitely delayed—Miss Priest, Miss Murray and Miss Blackadar. The delay has been a great disappointment, as they were within a few hours of leaving when word reached them of the change. It may be two months before another passage can be secured, but hopes are entertained for an earlier opportunity.

## A TRIBUTE TO MISSIONS.

### A Letter from a Young Soldier.

Lying in hospital, shattered and broken, just waiting for the end, a gallant soldier writes to his friend, a month before he died: "You know I have been all over the world. It would seem I should have plenty to think about. Strange, isn't it, that my thoughts always go back to the one theme of Foreign Missions—especially as I never before thought them worth thinking about. . . . I do not remember ever giving a penny to Foreign Missions in my life. It was easy to prate about their uselessness—so cheap and popular too; even when travelling in distant lands, sometimes knowing that but for the work of missionaries there would have been no road for me; and after accepting generous help from Mission Hospitals when sick, I failed to own the blessed service they were doing both for the natives of those countries and for their own land. My whole energies were set on trade. Gold was my god. In common fairness, I might have recognized who prepared the way for the markets I found so profitable. But I did not.

Then I came home and joined Kitchener's army. You sent me a New Testament. I have it now. Reading at random one night, for want of something better to do, I was struck by the words of John 17: 3—"And this is life eternal that they might know Thee, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom Thou hast sent." I could not forget these words. They have been with me ever since. They are with me now. How precious I find them who can tell?

I've found a Friend, oh, such a Friend. I realize now that this Friend cares for every living soul just as He cares for me. . . . Would God I had earlier known the new Birth. I envy you fellows who have done so much for the cause. I would gladly die for it now when it is too late. As I think of the loyalty of subject races, so gloriously exhibited in this day of stress, as I picture those splendid Indians now in France, my mind refuses to absorb any but the great central fact—We have here the fruition of the work of the missionaries and of the prayers of the missionary-hearted everywhere.

It is sweet to die for England—sweet the devotion of tender nurses about our beds. A few vagrant thoughts flutter for a moment over these consolations, to pass in the flood of glory bursting in contemplation of what it is to minister and to die for the sake and in the service of the King of Kings. That will never be my part. I am not worthy the honor involved. Perhaps I might have been had someone taken me in hand earlier. Why does our Church keep Foreign Missions so much in the background? Why did it leave me in ignorance so long?

I do not blame any mortal. I am saying that something is wrong with a scheme of things which fails to put the whole world for Christ right in the forefront as the battle-cry of the Christian Church. I do not know how keen you are. It is because you gave me the Testament, wherein I found the words of life, that I tell you something of the great regret that fills my whole soul. My little money will be found to be devoted to this cause. But what is that? We can carry nothing whither I go. O, that all who are wise would work and give in the great service while it is day, remembering the coming night.—From Miss. Review of World.

#### A CONSECRATION HYMN.

"Just as I am," Thine own to be,  
Friend of the young, who lovest me,  
To consecrate myself to Thee,  
O Jesus Christ, I come.

In the glad morning of my day,  
My life to give, my vows to pay,  
With no reserve and no delay,  
With all my heart, I come.

I would live ever in the light,  
I would work ever for the right,  
I would serve Thee with all my might,  
Therefore, to Thee, I come.

"Just as I am," young, strong and free,  
To be the best that I can be  
For truth, and righteousness, and Thee,  
Lord of my life, I come.

With many dreams of fame and gold,  
Success and joy to make me bold;  
But dearer still my faith to hold,  
For my whole life, I come.

For Thy dear sake to win renown,  
And then to take the victor's crown,  
And at Thy feet to cast it down,  
O Master, Lord, I come.

## THE FOREIGN MAIL BOX.

## NEWS FROM AKIDU.

The last quarter of 1917 opened with the Evangelistic Campaign for which we had been preparing for weeks. This year we decided to concentrate on the little Mala hamlet, where, from the very first, Akidu missionaries have spent much time, but have seen but little fruit for their labors. The few Christians there were not very creditable, and we fear often brought shame on the name they bore. The Biblewoman, Miriama, who could not go on tour with the others because of having been ill, went with me each Tuesday afternoon. We gathered the Christian women and those of their neighbors who would come, in the back yard of one home. A glimpse of us seated on a rope woven cot, doubtless otherwise inhabited, surrounded by chickens and calves and dirty crying children, might make missionary visiting more realistic, if less romantic. There we taught women the prescribed hymn and verses. We made much of encouraging them to offer prayer for themselves and for their villagers. Many who had probably never prayed audibly before offered up sincere, if but brief and faltering, petitions. Their interest was so manifest that Miriama began to go each day to teach them all the verses of the Gospel hymn. Meanwhile, our school children were also making the same preparation, and gathered frequently to pray, so that by Sept. 30th we had made a good beginning. For each night during the special week a boarding school teacher or other helper was appointed as the speaker on a subject allied to the main theme of a Saviour and salvation. We allowed those of the boarding school children who had confessed Christ to go with us, and as they marched through the streets singing, the caste people rushed out to hear them. From the first we were struck by the splendid attention and marked interest. It soon became known that some were ready to confess Christ. From then there was scarcely a night when some did not rise to confess their intention of becoming Christians. Our teacher, Yesudas, seemed to be especially used of the Spirit to press the invitation home, and many responded as with earnestness and love he pled with them. The work abroad reflected itself in our school. The converted children spoke to their unsaved friends, so that, on October 6th, when we had a special service for the children, a large number gave their hearts to Jesus. Those were indeed blessed days in Akidu. In all, I believe about twenty-seven in the Malapilly were converted. From then on, in our Inquirers' Class for the school children, over thirty have been in regular attendance.

On October 12th, came a welcome telegram, saying that Miss Selman had arrived in Colombo. A reply telegram failed to reach her in Madras, so she did not get off at the right station, and consequently did not connect with her boat, which had been sent to meet her. I was expecting her on the morning of the 16th, but she surprised me by walking in the evening of the 15th, having travelled by native boat and ox-cart. Needless to say, she was welcome, and I was glad to be able to tell her the good news of the campaign.

November was a month of steady, hard work in the school. We had much sickness, but Mrs. Chute relieved me of much work by taking over as a hospital duty the providing of diet for sick school children. The Evangelistic School Rally, held on Nov. 17th, was quite a success. The half-yearly exams. came the first

week of December. Then, on Dec. 11th, we celebrated "Our Day" by a march through the street, bearing flags and singing patriotic songs. When the children returned we had an interesting programme. Many contributed to the proceeds of the day by purchasing "Our Day" flags.

The Inspector's visit was much later than usual (Dec. 18th and 20th). He seemed pleased, but as the inspection book has not as yet reached us, we can only hope for the best in the way of a report. School closed with 266 names on the roll. Christmas exercises were a success, and the children went home excited and happy. On Dec. 22nd, we learned of an opportunity to acquire some land back of the boys' boarding school. In case this were bought by someone else and used for cultivation, we should have no chance to extend our boys' compound, which is now all too small. We had no prospects of the wherewithal, but didn't dare let the land go out of our reach. We took it, and our grounds can now be extended, and we trust someone can help us not only pay for the land but also with enough money to build a latrine. Miss Selman gave Rs. 100 towards the land, so about \$125 more would pay for it. A latrine is necessary for reason of sanitation, if not for decency.

Miss Selman could not tour as her boat was under repair, so she took the responsibility of Akidu village work. My visits were mainly to the Malapilly. My health has been good, and I have great joy and encouragement in the work.

S. A. HINMAN.

#### A WORD FROM TUNI.

In looking back over the past months, my heart is comforted by Jesus' promise, "Lo, I am with you ALL the days," for all days are not sunny ones. There are some in which the power of the enemy is so much in evidence that one can feel the reality of the unseen forces against which we have to do battle. At such times His promised presence holds and enables one to keep on. There have been such during the last quarter, but we thank God for His grace and for letting us see His working.

I was so sorry not to be strong enough to do much in the way of helping to prepare for the special week of Evangelism, or to go out with the women those days. Part of the week was rainy, but the Biblewomen and some volunteers visited a number of villages that week. Rain and cholera combined to hinder us from doing as much touring as we had hoped to, but we had the joy of spending two full weeks among the villages in one section of our field. We found numbers of the caste women who had not forgotten the message we brought them before and had the joy of meeting with a number of new Christians. There is much need for work among the women. In one village a number of the men in the Madiga pett have become Christians, and we had such a good meeting with them; but their womenfolk are still holding back. Some of the villages I wanted specially to visit were unreachable by cart on account of the water. So I sent three of the Biblewomen to spend a few days among the Christians there. They came back so happy at what they had seen and heard among the Christians, and at the way God had cared for them and opened doors for them.

We have visited a number of villages from Tunj. In one of them the big folks there are very friendly, and when we went lately they gave us hearty

welcome. After a good visit with the women the men came near, and how earnestly the old gentleman asked me if there was no such thing as transmigration. What did become of our souls when they left the body? Oh, the pity if it that he has not found out ere this! We had one earnest talk, and I felt God gave a message for him. From there we went to another zenana house, and found two such interesting widows, both of whom could read. And on Christmas Day we had the joy of seeing Veerama, one of our caste widows, baptized. She has been a Christian for some time, and thought long and seriously before taking the step that separates her from her friends. Also a man, for whom we have worked for years, came, and several of our children. For these tokens of His work among us we do thank God, for they bring home His assuring words, "My Spirit remaineth among you, fear ye not."

Yours, in His service,

ELLEN PRIEST.

#### MISS FOLSOM'S BIRTHDAY PARTY.

It is not granted to many to reach the "three-score years and ten" while still in active missionary service and carrying as heavy burdens as in earlier years, but to our beloved Miss Folsom has this honor come, she being the first one in the southern section of the Mission. So Feb. 7, Miss Folsom's 70th birthday, was a day of special interest to all of us, and when a plan was made to have a surprise party and the presentation of a purse of seventy rupees, the response from the whole Mission was most hearty, as all felt it a real privilege to have a part in doing honor to one whose beautiful character has endeared her to all.

A few from near-by sections were able to come in to Cocanada for the evening, these, with the resident missionaries, friends and teachers of the school, making a party of about twenty—and best of all, it was a real surprise—a proof of which was that the front verandah light had been put out "for economy's sake."

Soon after all had arrived, Mrs. Craig said she had a message to give Miss Folsom on behalf of the missionaries, and in a bright little speech expressed our congratulations and best wishes. She spoke of her long acquaintance with Miss Folsom, and of her admiration for all her wonderful talents that had been used so unreservedly in the work. Miss Folsom is the only remaining one in the Mission of the five who were here to welcome them on their arrival in Cocanada, over 32 years ago—those five being the complete missionary staff at that time.

In presenting the gift of seventy rupees, she said it was not in any degree a measure of our love and affection for her, but just one for each year given, with the stipulation that it must be spent on herself (which, in view of Miss Folsom's absolute unselfishness, was a very necessary stipulation).

Mr. Walker spoke of Miss Folsom's 35 years of devoted and faithful service in the Timpany Memorial School, where, from the smallest beginnings, and in the face of many difficulties, she had seen the school develop to its present prosperous condition. Her influence has reached to all parts of India through the pupils who have studied in the school, and whose characters have been moulded by coming in contact with one of such refinement and high principles. He also spoke of her musical and other gifts that had been used so cheerfully in the service of the English Baptist Church, where for many years she has been organist and Sunday School superintendent.

Another spoke of what a charming companion and entertaining conversationist she always is, full of information about everything and never stooping to meanness or unkind criticism of others. The fruits of the Spirit all seem to be so abundantly developed in her character.

In replying, Miss Palsom, in her characteristically self-depreciating way, said she felt most unworthy of all the kind things that had been said, but she did most heartily appreciate the love and confidence that she had enjoyed from all.

We shall be glad if we were able to let her know to a small degree how much we love and admire her, how her faithful work in a most difficult position has helped and inspired others to be brave, and how the beauty of her soul has shone out and made others want to live nearer the Master. May she be spared for many years to make a home for many more Anglo-Indian children, who will rise up and call her blessed, and will go out as evangelizing agents in this great land of India.

L. P.

## THE YOUNG WOMEN.

### WHITBY MISSIONARY CONFERENCE.

One of the most enjoyable and helpful gatherings of the year is the Missionary Summer Conference held each July in the splendid buildings and spacious grounds of the Ontario Ladies' College, Whitby. The dates this year are July 2nd to 9th.

The Conference is held under the direction of the Missionary Education Movement, the movement through which the various denominational Mission Boards co-operate. It therefore presents a unique opportunity for gaining world vision, for studying missions, and for meeting in delightful fellowship leaders, missionaries and workers of all denominations.

The programme is of special interest and helpfulness. The day opens with a period of intercession. Bible Study, Mission Study Classes and Open Parliaments on Missionary Methods in the Sunday School, Young People's Society and other organizations of the Church follow. The afternoons are devoted to rest and recreation. In the evening an open-air vesper service is held, followed by a platform meeting, with messages from missionaries and addresses by outstanding speakers.

The expenses are very moderate. The rate for entertainment for the entire period is \$8, and the registration fee \$3.

Our Circles could do no more fruitful piece of work than that of securing a strong representation at Whitby from the several departments of their churches. All applications or inquiries should be sent to Dr. J. G. Brown, 223 Church St., Toronto.

**Westmount.**—On March 21, 1918, a meeting was held in the parlors of the Westmount Baptist Church for the purpose of forming a Young Women's Mission Circle. After the Constitution, used by the Ontario Circles, had been read, it was moved that this Constitution, with amendments, be adopted by the Young Women's Mission Circle of Westmount Baptist Church. The election of officers followed. The date suggested for the next meeting was April 9th, when it is hoped there will be a large number present, so that the Circle may begin with a large membership.

MILLCENT DYKE (Sec. pro tem.)



## THE MISSION CIRCLE DEPARTMENT.

## EASTERN CONVENTION NOTES.

June is the month for the Association meetings. How many are planning to send delegates? It is worth while to spend some money and time in attending these meetings. We certainly need all the information and inspiration that we can get in this great work that we have to do, and the Association is the place where reports will be given of work done in the district nearest your Circle.

Then, missionaries home on furlough will be present, and messages from your Home and Foreign Boards given, not to mention the other items of interest on the well-filled programmes.

The Foreign Board has asked Mrs. W. M. Weeks to be their representative at the Ottawa Association, which is to meet June 18-20 at McPhail Church, Ottawa.

Mrs. Victor Collins will be their speaker at Brockville, June 17th, where the Canada Central meetings are to be held.

At Temple Church, Montreal, which entertains the Eastern Association, June 11-13, and at the Grande Ligne Association, which meets at Grande Ligne, June 25th, Miss K. Marsh will speak of her work in India. That the services of this lady, so well known to our Quebec Circles, have been appreciated by her fellow-workers, is attested by the following resolution which was passed by the January Conference:

"In view of the splendid work done by our Honorary Missionary, Miss E. Marsh, Resolved, that we send her an expression of our appreciation of her helpfulness to us and of her value to the work of the Mission. We sincerely hope that we shall soon have the privilege of welcoming her again to the work in India."

We regret that her health will not permit Miss Marsh to return to India this fall, but rejoice in the knowledge that her presence here will do much to stimulate and enthuse our Circles.

At the Monthly Board prayer meeting, led by Mrs. Motley, and held Friday, May 10th, in Olivet Church, Montreal, the announcement was made that the passages of Miss Murray, Miss Blackadar and Miss Priest, who had expected to sail from India, March 5th, with Mr. and Mrs. Gunn, had been cancelled by the Government, and as travelling is so uncertain, it is doubtful if they will be able to return on furlough this year. Our hearts went out to our missionary in her disappointment, and earnest prayer was offered that she might be kept in health and strength until the way is open for the well-earned rest for herself and her companions.

In a recent letter to our Cor. Secretary, Miss Murray writes: "Let me tell you for your encouragement that your prayers and those of the Board and their supporters are being answered. Indeed, we have been having quite a revival in our midst during the past three months—nothing striking, but a quiet work of the Spirit among the Christians particularly in Yellamaachili itself, which has in turn acted upon the Hindoo community to some extent.

"The presence and power of the Holy Spirit has been most marked. We all recognize this. The pastor and members have been quickened and souls—a few—

have been saved. It seems as though the "break" has come—has BEGUN. The Lord seems to have lifted the veil as He did to Elijah, and shown us a number who are His, but who lack the courage to confess Him. Souls—a few have accepted Christ as we spoke and prayed with them. Personally I have experienced more victory and power than for years. The Word of God has opened up to me something as of old. The Lord is blessing Miss McLeish and the work is developing particularly among the children of all classes, among whom she is opening humble little schools—nothing pretentious, but effective. New and efficient workers have been provided. It is all so encouraging. Of course a casual observer might not detect all this, but it is a fact. The Lord has begun to work—or at least His work is becoming more manifest. The Holy Spirit is here, particularly since you met in Convention. Please pray down the showers of blessings."

Those who were at Kenmore will understand Miss Murray's reference to the Convention, for there a very earnest plea was made for special prayer for Yellamanchilli and Miss Murray, during her last months of work. Is this not enough to stimulate us all to keep on praying?

E. C. A.

#### MISSION CIRCLE NEWS.

**Walkerville.**—The Walkerville Mission Circle, though silent for a long time, has by no means been idle. It is only two years since we organized a Circle here with twelve members. We held a Thank-offering meeting on the evening of March 9th. The President, Mrs. Buhner, presided, while the devotional was carried on. Rev. Mr. McDiarmid, assisted by Rev. Mr. Ashmore of Bruce Ave., gave an illustrated lecture on the Northern Ontario mission field, which was very interesting.

During the evening a splendid musical programme was given by the Orchestra, also the Male Quartett. Mrs. Berry favored us with a splendid reading, and Mr. Russel with a beautiful solo. A Thank-offering was taken, which amounted to \$17.13. At the beginning of the year our Circle took for its "objective" "every eligible Church member an active Circle member, and at this Thank-offering meeting we had the joy of having fifty members on our roll, making an increase of thirty-eight during the two years. But we are not stopping here. We are still pressing on. During this quarter, up to April 1st, we have sent \$27.35 each to Home and Foreign Missions. We, as a Circle, have every reason to thank our Heavenly Father for His goodness to us, and especially that we have been able to secure such an able leader as our pastor, Mr. McDiarmid, together with his dear wife, as our much loved Honorary President.

MRS. W. KOHL, Secy. Treas.

**Caledonia.**—A special meeting of the Caledonia Mission Circle was held on Good Friday afternoon at the home of Mrs. J. Horden. Mrs. Britton presided, and opened the programme with a Bible reading. Mrs. Albert Jones and Mrs. H. Dewett gave interesting papers on the life of our martyr missionary, Mr. J. E. Davis, after which a generous offering was taken for Leper Missions.

As several members were leaving to make homes in other places, an address of appreciation was read, expressing sorrow at parting and bidding them God-speed in work elsewhere.

Mrs. John Cowie, being present, was also remembered. She is the oldest and a very much esteemed member, and an enthusiastic reader of the LINK and Visitor. A Farewell Cake and a social cup of tea brought the meeting to a close.

**Note.**—Almost immediately after this meeting, Mrs. Cowie, who is spoken of so kindly, died suddenly. Her daughter writes that the Circle's action was a great joy to her mother.—J. M. N.

**Port Hope.**—There are 45 members in our Mission Circle. Eleven meetings have been held during the year, with an average attendance of 28, which is an increase of 4 over last year. Six new members have been added. One valued member has gone to her great reward, and two have left town.

The work covered during the year includes: Study of Mission work in "the great West." Educational work in India, also Bolivia. French evangelization and Grande Ligne. The work among the Lepers and the Bigness of Missions. Also, at each meeting Miss Hume reads to us a portion of Mrs. Churchill's splendid book, which has proved most interesting.

For our Home Thank-offering meeting last November we had with us at an open meeting the Rev. Mr. Coumans, our General Home Superintendent, whose address was inspiring and instructive.

For our Foreign Thank-offering meeting last February we had the pleasure of listening to the Rev. J. B. McLaurin. Mr. McLaurin's address was full of interest and startling facts, and gave to the many who had the privilege of hearing him a much clearer vision of the "greatness of missions."

Our calls for money have been wonderfully well met, there being an increase in almost every department.

Our incidental fund, which covers all the expenses of the year, and is taken up at each regular meeting, amounted this year to \$19.67, which amount is not, of course, totaled in the regular givings. Home Department, 32 members giving, \$76.65; North-West Indian Fund, \$9.00; Foreign Department, 36 members giving, \$153.75; Leper Fund, \$12.25; through the medium of the gift boxes, \$9.00; making a grand total of \$260.65, which is an increase of \$55.35 over last year.

We feel that the increased interest in our Circle is due largely to our splendid and efficient President, Mrs. Hamilton, who is an indefatigable worker in the interests of our Circle.

Our "Circle Mother," Mrs. John Hume, is a regular bureau of information along lines missionary, and in her sweet, gentle way, keeps us interested and alive to all phases of this grand and noble department of our Church work.

Indeed, our God-given blessings and inspiration are altogether too numerous to begin to enumerate.

JULIA AFFLECK, Secy.

**Victoria Ave., Hamilton.**—We have just lost one of our oldest and dearly beloved members in the person of Mrs. L. Sherk. For thirty years she had served in the Circle, and was active in all church work. Her last act was to give \$25 for the support of a native teacher in India.

**Alvinston and Brooke.**—On Sunday, March 10th, Miss Baskerville visited the Alvinston and Brooke churches. The evening service at Alvinston was in charge

of the ladies of the Mission Circle, the President, Mrs. (Rev.) Pollock, presiding Mrs. B. Zavitz, a former president of Brooke Circle, read the Scripture lesson.

Miss Baskerville gave a very instructive and inspiring address, after which the envelopes were collected and the Scripture texts or clippings enclosed were read by the Secretary.

The music, which was very appropriate, was furnished by the girls of the Mission Band.

The offering, which amounted to \$10.65, goes toward the support of the Medical Missionary sent by the Middlesex and Lambton Association. The meeting was closed with prayer by the pastor.

MRS. JNO. CHALK, Secy.

**Burlington.**—The Women's Mission Circle held their annual meeting in the Burlington Baptist Church on Monday evening, April 7th. The chair was taken by the President, Mrs. Chapman. The meeting opened with singing and Scripture reading by the President, followed with prayer by Mrs. Beck. Mr. Frayer of Hamilton then gave us a solo, after which the President introduced Mrs. Mc Laurin, a returned missionary, who gave an address on India and its customs. Mrs. Beck gave a solo, and the meeting closed with prayer by President. Collection (including Blessing Bags), which amounted to \$18.48, will be donated to missions.

K. FIDDAMENT, Secy.

### GURU SYSTEM AMONG THE HINDUS.

Reprinted from "The Epiphany," a Calcutta Paper.

Dear Sir,—Will you kindly publish the following in your most esteemed paper, The Epiphany, and oblige:—

In the days of yore the Hindus ascended in the highest peak of civilization. Their arts, science, literature and philosophy became the ideal of the whole civilized world. The Hindu sages of the old were blessed with uncommon genius and wonderful spiritual power. They sacrificed their whole lives for welfare of the humanity. Peoples of those days regarded them as gods. Some of the sages had some disciples who were taught spiritual lessons. Thus the Guru (spiritual-guide) system was formed among the Hindus. Those Gurus of the old were indeed very great men, for they used to strain every nerve for the spiritual culture of their disciples. But it is not possible that their sons and grandsons should be like their fathers, but they are still regarded as spiritual guides. Some of the Gurus have no literary knowledge. They could get by heart some verses from the scripture, whose meaning they do not know. The Mantras, which they used to whisper in the ears of their disciples for their salvation, neither the Gurus nor the disciples have any knowledge of their meaning. But what of that? The disciples (specially females) think that they have been sanctified and the gates of Heaven are unbarred to them. This is our present Guru system. All our good customs are on their last legs, and the evil ones are gradually taking their places. Now let me say how these worthless Gurus are respected by the family men of our country. When a Guru will make his appearance at the gate, the whole members of the family will go to him one after another and fall themselves on his feet like a staff. All of them will wash his feet with water which they drink to purify their bodies and souls. Hark! nor is this all. The female members of the house will not

only wash his feet with water and drink the same, but also make his feet clean by rubbing with their long hairs.

All these, of course, are taught by the spiritual guide himself, who has instructed them that by doing so they will get an eternal residence in the Heaven.

In this world only that man is worthy of reverence who has some extraordinary power, and by whom we can see some new light to brighten our souls.

But how can we regard these professional Gurus who are no more than ordinary persons? Moreover, how one blind man will conduct another blind man?

Most of the Gurus are family men; they have more than one wife, children and large estate. They do not know what is salvation; then how they will show others the way of salvation?

Are these the descendants of the old sages? Oh! what a horrible change!

Yours faithfully,

Calcutta.

DEBENDRA NATH ROY.

## GIRLS AND BOYS.

### BABY CRADLES IN AFRICA.

I see people coming up the path now—some women who want to sell grain, pumpkins, and eggs for a cloth or a blanket—and with them are several children. Some of the children are so small that they are carried on their mothers' backs. One baby is carried by her sister because the mother has a heavy basket of corn, which she has brought a long way to sell. The older children have brought baskets of meal or grain of their own to sell.

While the women are selling their grain the babies are often taken out of their queer little cradles and put on the ground to find what they can to make themselves happy. Baby likes the cosy place in the pocket on mother's back, but is glad to get down and play with the baskets, or, rather, what is in them, or whatever may be near him, as he is not hard to suit. When he is hungry, there is something for him to eat in the basket; it may be a cold sweet potato, some cooked hulled corn, or some "saza," a kind of stiff porridge.

Let us have a look at baby's cradle—or pocket, as we call it sometimes. You will find that it is made of the skin of an antelope sometimes, but oftener of a goat-skin. Strong strings of skin are fastened to the four corners. Two of these are tied around the mother's waist, then baby is put in the pocket that the skin makes with the help of his mother's body. Then the skin is drawn up until it reaches baby's neck, and the other two strings are drawn under the mother's arms and tied in front. In this way he rides about.—Selected.

**Westmount, Que.**—The girls of the Westmount Mission Band are dressing a doll to send to the girl supported by them at Akidu School. Each girl makes one article for this doll. The Band meets every Wednesday for Red Cross work. The boys make scrapbooks for the sick soldiers while the girls sew and knit.

Picture-cards are asked for by Miss Hinman—Sunday School or old post-cards, which can have paper pasted over the writing on the back.

The Band is also selling five-cent mileage tickets to help pay Miss Murray's passage home.

MRS. J. H. RAMSAY.

Owen Sound.—Monday evening, April 1st, the Mission Band of the Baptist Church gave an excellent entertainment, all of a missionary character. The S. S. Hall was charming with baskets of mignonette and daffodils, vases of carnations, Easter lilies, potted ferns, also clusters of pussy willow.

The first part of the programme, which consisted of piano and vocal solos, was well rendered, and all given by members of the Mission Band. A few words from Rev. Judson Macintosh, who acted as chairman, was followed by the address which advertised the meeting, "The Fascination of the East," by Miss Edith Craig of Toronto, recently returned from India, where her parents are now missionaries of the Baptist Church. Miss Craig was born in India, coming some years ago to Toronto, where she fitted herself for kindergarten teacher, returning later to the East in that capacity, where she assisted her missionary father. She is now engaged in kindergarten teaching in Toronto. Her manner is charm and simplicity combined, and her style of address is most inviting, producing a favorable and lasting impression on her hearers. What constitutes the fascination of the East is the work one finds there to do to raise that fine type of people, who form an important part of our British Empire, to the same status as ourselves. The people are most loveable, and the British Government is most wise in her methods of dealing with them. No other government under the sun could have brought about the favorable and promising conditions now existing in India—uprightness and righteousness! Infanticide and suicide of widows have been done away with and an endeavor is being made to prevent child marriage.

All encouragement is given to missionaries, for their influence prevented the uprising of the natives at the beginning of the present war, and Britain recognizes this. Miss Craig was beautifully dressed in high-caste Indian costume, which, in material and drapery, was effective and artistic. The entertainment was concluded with the hymn, "O, Zion, Haste," in pantomime by several young ladies, followed by the National Anthem. A splendid offering was taken, this being equally divided between Home and Foreign Missions.

COMM.

The Northern Association has been our largest Association,—of such generous proportions that it has been impossible to get together in Associational gatherings. What we believe to be a real forward step, has been taken in dividing it into three parts, to be known hereafter as the Collingwood Association, with Mrs. Dennis as Director of Women's Circles; the Northern, with Mrs. F. C. Elliott in charge, Thunder Bay, with Mrs. Renaud at the head.

The Treasurer's statement was very encouraging. The total receipts are over \$1,000 ahead of any other year in our history. This, however, is not true of our regular giving, and until that shows a safe increase, we should not be justified in undertaking obligations which would involve us for the future.

The Literature Committee has been busily at work and now has ready two more sketches of lives of missionaries—that of Miss Selman of Akidu and that of Miss McLaurin at Avaniigada.

**BUSINESS DEPARTMENT.****ASSOCIATIONAL NOTICES.**

**Collingwood-Burk's Falls.**—The first annual meeting of the Circles and Bands in the Simcoe, Muskoka and Parry Sound districts will be held at Stayner, June 18, 19, 20.

Let every Circle and Band be represented by one or more delegates, so as to plan and arrange our share in our missionary activities.

Miss A. M. Tapscott will address our meetings in the interests of Home Missions, and Mrs. W. C. Denniss in the interests of our Foreign work.

**BARBARA MOULD DENNISS, Director.**

**Toronto.**—The women's meeting in connection with the Toronto Association will be held in the Boon Ave. Baptist Church, Toronto, Tuesday, June 4th. There are to be sessions in the morning, afternoon and evening—the evening one being devoted to young women's work.

**M. B. BAGSLEY, Director.**

**Peterboro.**—The annual meeting of Circles and Bands will be held with the Gilmour Church on June 11th at 2 p.m. Will all Circles and Bands send delegates; also a report of the year's work. Delegates from churches having no Circle will be welcome.

**MARY A. NICHOLLS, Director.**

**Whitby and Lindsay.**—The annual meeting of the Circles and Bands of the Whitby and Lindsay Association will be held with the Lindsay Church on June 12th. All Circles and Bands are requested to send delegates. Churches where neither Circle or Band exist are kindly invited to send a representative.

**H. A. MADILL, Director.**

~~Middlesex and Lambton.~~—The annual meeting of Circles and Bands of Middlesex and Lambton Association will be held at the Wortley Rd. Church, London, June 11th, commencing at 1.30. A splendid programme has been prepared. Will all Circles and Bands keep this date free, and send along as many delegates as possible. Pray for our meetings, and plan to be there. All who require billets kindly notify Mrs. Clarke, No. 1 Belgrave Place, London.

**MRS. J. BALDWIN, Director.**

**Norfolk Association.**—The annual meeting of Circles and Bands will be held in the church at Simcoe, Tuesday, June 11th, at 1.45 p.m. Churches where there are no Circles are invited to send delegates. Mrs. C. J. Cameron, Editor of our "Visitor," will speak on "Home Missions," and Mrs. P. K. Dayfoot, on "Our Bands." Foreign Missions will also be represented.

**F. M. PEARCE, Director.**

**Niagara and Hamilton Association**

at

Hamilton, June 4th, Victoria Ave. Church.

A full and varied programme, inspiring a new love and purpose for Missions—Home and Foreign.

It is hoped all will be present at Roll Call in the morning at 11 o'clock.

Luncheon—Basket Party—at 12.30.

Three sessions.

Our Conferences, Discussions, Addresses, Band Assembly.

No one can afford to miss.

**MRS. J. C. DOHERTY, Director.**

Canada Central.—The annual meeting of Mission Circles and Bands of the Canada Central Association will meet with the Church in Brockville on Tuesday, June 18th, at 1.45 p.m. We hope every Circle and Band will send, at least, one delegate.

JESSIE H. McLAREN, Director.

#### ITEM.

Attention, please. Some years ago, at our request, Miss Baskerville prepared a careful and beautiful sketch of the late Miss Simpson. After circulating among the Circles for some time, this has now dropped out of sight. It is wanted now for re-printing. Anyone who can and will send this Mss. to Mrs. E. J. Zavitz, 15 Glenholm Ave., Toronto, will render a valued service and receive grateful acknowledgment from the Literature Committee.

#### TREASURER'S CORNER.

I am sure every one of our Circle members—and our Band folk as well—will be glad to know that our Treasury is in a satisfactory condition. We are giving more to Foreign Missions than ever before. Now that won't make anybody relax efforts, will it? You see that word "satisfactory" means that the work we undertook at the beginning of the year is being properly supported. But oh! there are so many nice things we are just longing to do in India and Bolivia. We want to send someone to help Dr. Hulet, as she works alone in Vayyuru. We want to give Miss Pratt, Miss Folsom and all the teachers the school equipment they need to make their work efficient. We want to give all our missionaries all the Bible-women they can use. We want to send to Miss Mangan, in Bolivia, a Canadian nurse or Biblewoman to help her in her big work. Why, as we watch the work open up and expand, it fairly makes us dizzy and breathless! How wonderful this Foreign Mission work is, anyway!

Now just one word for our Associational meetings. Your Circles and Bands have advanced. Has your Church giving to Foreign Missions been keeping pace?

During April we have had two new Life Members in our Circles—Mrs. Wm. Courtenage of Brantford, Calvary Church, and Mrs. J. Oatway of Oro Station.

M. C. CAMPBELL.

#### OUR BUREAU OF LITERATURE.

Sketches of Miss Selman and Miss McLaurin, advertised in the new Catalogue, are now out of the press and in the Bureau. Remember that five of these sketches are now available. Each is 5 cents. The other three are Miss Hatch, Miss Folsom, and Miss Baskerville.

"Patchwork," a poem, often asked for, but out of print for some time, has been republished, and a good supply is on hand. The price is 2 cents.

"Addepalle Mariamma," a true story, by Miss McLaurin, may be had for 2 cts.

"One Day in India," price 15 cents, has been used by some Bands with great success. It is a missionary play.

There is still one cloth copy at 75 cents, and two paper copies at 50 cents, of "The Life of Mr. Davis." Every Baptist family should have this book.



Articles and papers have often been loaned from the Bureau of Literature. Many times these are not returned. If anyone has any such paper in her possession, will she kindly see that it is placed again with Mrs. Moor, in order that someone else may have the opportunity of using it. Always add money for postage.

517 Markham St., Toronto.

Address Mrs. Moor, 517 Markham St., Toronto.

### QUARTERLY MEETING OF WESTERN BOARD.

May 10, 1918.

The Quarterly Meeting of the Board, which met on the above date, was presided over by Mrs. J. J. Ross, of Hamilton, 1st Vice-President, who brought a farewell message from Acts 10, on the power of prayer to overcome insurmountable difficulties.

There were 34 members present and two of our Missionaries—Miss Baskerville and Mrs. J. B. McLaurin. Eight members from out of town were present: Mrs. J. J. Ross, Hamilton; Mrs. Madill, Stouffville; Mrs. Geo. Pearce, Waterford; Mrs. J. C. Doherty, St. Catharines; Mrs. R. D. Lang, Kitchener; Mrs. Jas. Wood, Peterboro; Miss G. Dayfoot, Georgetown; Miss A. Moyle, Richmond Hill.

A communication from Mrs. Wilson Fenton, our former Secretary, expressing her hope to be able soon to meet again with the Board, was received with pleasure.

The Candidate Committee of the Board brought in the following recommendation: "In our judgment, an educational standard of qualification for all our future missionaries is desirable."

The committee wish it to be understood that this does not reflect in any sense on our missionaries already on the field. But, since the opportunities now for obtaining an education are within reach of anyone desirous of being equipped in the best possible way for the work, the committee think this a wise step to take.

The committee were asked to consider the matter further, and suggest a standard of qualification.

The Treasurer's report was very gratifying, showing a substantial increase in the treasury, as a result of Circles, Y. W. Circles, and Bands all having increased in their regular giving.

A special Thank-offering, in the form of two War Loan bonds, came from one of our Board members.

The Secretary of Directors has had a strenuous time securing speakers for all the Associations making such request, and just as plans were about completed, word came that the party of lady missionaries on whom she had depended to help in this work had been delayed in leaving India, and might not arrive home in time.

Mrs. Mitchell has arrived home from Bolivia, and is at the Mission House, 103 Ellsworth Ave.

Gifts to the amount of \$31.62 have been received towards the up-keep of the Muskoka Rest Home for our missionaries.

Very interesting reports from six of our missionaries and two of the Zenana Biblowomen were read by the Corresponding Secretary.

Miss Hatch's health is slowly improving. On her field eleven lepers have been baptized during the quarter.

Miss Priest and Miss McLeish have been hindered in touring work by heavy rains and cholera.

Miss Jones asks special prayer for two of her Biblewomen, who are causing her some anxiety.

Miss Robinson also asks an interest in our prayers for her school of boys. She closed the year with 100 on her roll, 27 having dropped out during the year.

Miss McLeod reports that the *State* has granted land for a house for the native preacher and his wife.

THE LINK reports an increase of 186 subscribers during the quarter. Most of these, however, come from the West.

The "Bureau" has had a busy month, supplying 994 books, pamphlets, leaflets, etc. There is a balance in the treasury of \$2.96.

Arising out of a request from Mrs. Pearce that the "Bureau" loan literature be sold at the Association meetings, the following motion was carried: "That Associations, on applying to the 'Bureau' for literature which they desire to sell at their Associational meetings, be required to pay for the same; and, for all that is not sold and is returned to the 'Bureau' in good condition, they be refunded the money."

The Lecture Committee reported failure thus far to secure a speaker for the Annual Lecture, but they have approached Dr. Jessie Allyn.

The Literature Committee have placed in the "Bureau" a sketch of the life of Miss Selman. One of Miss McLaurin is in the press and will be ready in a few days. The Committee hope to have one or two more ready before Convention.

A very cordial invitation has been received from the Egerton St. Baptist Church, London, to hold our next Convention there.

E. M. INRIG, Re. Sec.

#### THE SECRETARY'S WORD.

May 14th, 1918.

Dear LINK:—

The Young Women's Auxilliary of Stanley Ave. Church, Hamilton, have eighteen linen tea-towels ready for the Muskoka Home. How these will be appreciated by the occupants!

Some unknown friend sent me a dollar to go towards the running expenses of the Home.

We thought our plans for speakers for Foreign Missions were about completed, but find from a recent cable that our lady missionaries who were to help us may be in Iddia still.

Some members of the Board, and others, are offering to take the places in case of an emergency. For this we are deeply grateful.

Let us be much in prayer for the great success of these gatherings.

Yours sincerely,

L. LLOYD,

Secy. of Directors (Foreign).

Miss Priest reports three new village schools formed on her field. Two of them have as yet no shelters, and have to be held under the trees.

## MISSIONARY DIRECTORY.

**AKIDU, KISTNA DIST.**—Rev. J. E. and Mrs. Chute, Miss S. A. Hinman, Miss Mary E. B. Selman.

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**YELLAMANCHILI, VIZAGAPATAM DIST.**—Miss A. C. Murray, Miss Eva McLelan.

**RAYAGADDA AND SOMPET.**—No resident missionary.

**ON FURLOUGH.**—Rev. J. B. and Mrs. McLaurin, 103 Ellsworth Ave., Toronto; Miss Agnes E. Baskerville, 223 Church St., Toronto; Dr. E. G. and Mrs. Smith, 106 Ellsworth Ave., Toronto; Miss Jessie M. Allyn, M.D., 11419 100th Ave., Edmonton, Alta.; Rev. M. Orchard and Mrs. Orchard, Fredericton, N.B.; Miss K. H. Marah, Quebec, Que.; Miss M. L. Knowles, Lower Wood Harbor, N.S.; Miss W. A. Eaton, Lower Canard, N.S.; Mrs. J. R. Stillwell, 295 Clemow Ave., Ottawa, Canada.

**ON ACTIVE SERVICE.**—Rev. E. E. Smith, Mesopotamia.

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