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Missionary Leaflet.

Woman's Missionary Society of the Methodist Church, Canada.

VOL. VII.

TORONTO, JANUARY, 1891.

No. 51

SUBJECTS FOR PRAYER.

JANUARY.

For the Baptism of the Holy Spirit as a necessary qualification for service. For revivals. Acts i. 8; Ps. lxxxv. 6.

SUGGESTED SCRIPTURE READING TO BE USED AT MONTHLY MEETINGS OF AUXILIARIES.

Acts, chap. i. 1-8; ii. 1-5 and 12-18.

FRENCH WORK.

In connection with the French work in Montreal, there are at present two day schools—one at the west, the other at the east end of the city.

The teachers report an average attendance of sixty scholars at one, and twenty-five at the other of these schools.

In almost every case, one parent, at least, is a Roman Catholic, and belonging as they do to the poorer classes, their children would not attend the public schools, and if it were not for the opportunity afforded by our mission, would be growing up without instruction either in matters relating to this life, or the more important things of the life to come. Here they receive, beside the ordinary branches, which are

taught both in French and English, daily instruction in the Scriptures and in the Catechism of our Church.

The teachers find a marked improvement in the behaviour of those children who have remained longest at the school, and an increased desire to obtain an education.

There are also two Bible-women, who visit the families in connection with these schools, and enter other homes as opportunity offers. They have made three hundred visits during the month of October, have distributed a number of tracts in both languages, and in a few instances have given material help. Their visits are most welcome, and some mothers are already desiring Bibles for their own use, who, at the first visit, dreaded even to hear it read. Thus the Word of the Lord wins its widening way.

One of the Bible-women has a class of French girls, in the evening, to whom she teaches English, hoping through this means to lead them to a knowledge of the truth as it is in Jesus.

JAPAN EVANGELISTIC WORK.

From Miss Lund.

TOKYO, Oct. 17th, 1890.

I - note you about O Rin San* having charge of three meetings. She is very, very much interested in her work, and seems to be looking about for ways and means of improving it constantly. Before she started, I told her what I had been doing to induce the women to read their Bibles at home, viz.: to read two chapters a week, and select some verse or verses to memorize and repeat at the meeting. I had found that it worked well where I had tried it, and so recommended it to her. She said nothing about it to me till the other day when she came full of her work to share it with me. She said, "they not only say their verses (in Shitaya especially), but they tell what they think about them; and the other day one woman told me she perfectly understood the parable of the sower." She felt so encouraged and glad, and so do I.

A week ago last Friday we had our monthly meeting of Kings' Daughters. One new member had been added to the

* Our first English graduate, who is now engaged in evangelistic work under Miss Lund's direction.

ranks since we last met, making eight or nine in all. One woman told how she could do so little outside her home duties because of her children, but that since we had talked one day she had come to the conclusion she could serve God in every act she did. She sends her children regularly to Church and Sunday-school, and both of the girls, who have reached an age of accountability (one not more than ten), are Christians, and the boy is a mere baby. The little girl is in my Sunday-school class also.

Then Mrs. T. — told how she had gone with her husband and children to Osaka and had hoped to do Christian work while there, but that she had been deprived the privilege by the prevalence of cholera in the city.

Another had been passing through temptation from outside. She has been a Christian for years, but latterly her eyes have become bad. Her friends constantly kept at her, saying: "It does no good to serve that God; your eyes do not get better." She said: "All I could say in reply was, 'I do not serve God to get Him to cure my eyes, but because I love Him, and I want eternal life.'"

They all seem almost too full for utterance. Mrs. Inomata, after reading a statement of the membership, etc., went on to say that she had looked around for some special work to do, and had found that the Church hymn-books were mostly in a dilapidated condition and so she mended them all. I wish you could have seen them, they were so neatly done. No less than seven had entirely new covers, while whole pages of torn and missing hymns had been copied and inserted.

Mrs. Hiyama has been ill, and was telling me that the women of the congregation had many of them come to her to be taught, when she could not go to them. They seem to have unbounded confidence in her.

Poor Mrs. Toyama has her cup full in her husband's illness, but she keeps up bravely. He is just a little better. The poor man worked too hard over in Shitaya, where his pastorate lay, and consequently broke his health.

Mrs. Sabashi has gained access to four or five new homes, and is as full of trust as ever. How I do love those women; old and all, they seem almost like my children to me.

Shemada San has gone with Miss Cunningham to Kanazawa and will soon be hard at work in her new field. She went willingly, but, of course, cried a good deal at parting.

How near these Bible-women seem to God, and how earnest for His cause. I can only commend *all* of our work here, not only the evangelistic but all, to our God, and ask you to pray with and for us, that we may be at all times and in all places *filled* with the spirit.

From Miss Blackmore.

TOKYO, Nov. 11th, 1890.

Since the holidays, we have been trying to think of some means of getting more than a class-room acquaintance with the daily students. First, we thought of inviting them in groups to spend an evening with us; but that would take more of our evenings than we could well spare. So we decided to have all together—dailies, boarders, and as many of the former students as are within visiting distance—and entertain them in the school-rooms. We fixed on the evening of the Emperor's birthday (November 3rd). With the help of the girls the rooms were got ready, and looked really festive with the floral decorations which they are so clever at making. In honor of the day, the chrysanthemum was the only flower used, but we had it in all colors and sizes. The older girls of the boarders were divided off into three committees, the members of which were distinguished by the color of the chrysanthemum which they wore. Those who served the cake and coffee in the refreshment room wore pink blossoms; the set appointed to act as ushers wore white ones; and the committee on games wore red. We opened at seven, with singing, reading of the Scriptures, and prayer. Then a short programme was carried out, including an address of welcome, music, recitations, readings, kindergarten songs, and dialogues. This occupied about three-quarters of an hour, and the rest of the evening was devoted to games, conversation and *the lunch*. Everybody looked so thoroughly happy, that to look at them more than paid for the trouble. At half-past nine all gathered and sang the "National Anthem," in Japanese, then the Doxology, and said "Good night." We teachers felt satisfied that all had enjoyed the evening, and that we had taken a good long step toward our object.

INDIAN AND CHINESE.

A letter from Rev. J. McDougall, of November 26th, brings the good news:—

“The new building at the Orphanage is now about covered in. Yesterday the furnace was delivered and the plasterers came. We feel it is but a matter of a few weeks now when we will be able to occupy it.”

From Miss Cartmell.

VICTORIA, B.C.

With regard to the Port Simpson property, unless two acres were bought we could hardly get suitable ground for the school. Mr. L. will not cut up his land into lots yet, so in order to get the part on the hill where there would be good drainage and pure air, we will, it seems, be obliged to buy the lower piece. I believe one acre would do, if we could buy the upper portion, but the lower one seems very objectionable, below the hill and too near the Indian houses. They say the land can be made productive by bringing up the sand from the shore, but if you saw the children “packing” it up in bags on their backs, you would think it slow and hard work. If a dog-cart drawn by a mule could be obtained, the difficulty would disappear. Such a thing is not in Port Simpson at present. I would be sorry to see our girls kept at this work, or find the sea-shore a play-ground. I felt it was this kind of work taking them through the Indian village daily that caused the teachers so much trouble by keeping them in constant touch with the people and informed of all that transpires. It was while off for sand that the little girl who ran away while I was there learned of her grandfather going away, and she made up her mind to go too. Instead of going to school, she ran off, and was in the boat off from the shore when Miss Hart appeared on the scene.

Every day I am so thankful for the peace that is granted me in the “Home.” Miss Leake is away, yet the girls are doing very well. I believe they try to do right, though the training and discipline of life seem hard sometimes. They

told me stories of sights they saw, when wee ones in China, that makes me shudder to recall. On the Monday previous, a missionary lady from China addressed the Auxiliary of the Baptist Church. We took some of the girls and heard her. She said almost every woman she knew had killed one or more of her little daughters, one as many as five, and was left childless. She told of a missionary lady who had lost a little daughter. Thinking herself entirely alone one day, she gave way to her grief, when she was surprised to hear her sobs echoed from behind her. Going into the next room, she found a Chinese woman crouched in a corner crying bitterly. When asked what distressed her, she said, "Oh, I know how you feel; I felt just as you do when my husband killed my babies." Three had been torn from her, and though she pleaded with her husband to save the last one, he would not listen to her. We ask, "Why? Why?" Sometimes because they cannot, or do not wish to, support so many. Sometimes to save them from a worse fate. Yet this poor woman proves that natural affection will assert itself. I suppose it was partly this meeting that led Carrie to tell me that she had been sold for \$3 when she was four months old. Mary chimed in, "All the same me." Then they went on to say that they had seen babies thrown into the sea or river, or buried under the sidewalk, as they described it, and dogs feeding upon them. Carrie said it used to make her feel sick, and so afraid of a policeman she would run for her life. Oh! It does make me feel so much tenderness to think these girls have witnessed such sights, lived through such terrors, have been rescued from the terrible lives forced upon them. When Carrie saw me wipe away the tears I tried to hide, she said, very gently: "You not too much sorry; you tell Jesus, He help." I know the dear ladies who have prayed so much for this "Home" will "tell Jesus," and *He will* send help. Oh! That He may use these dear girls. I believe He will, in some way we cannot foresee.

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PRAYER CARD LEAFLET.

SUBJECTS FOR PRAYER.

FEBRUARY.

For all auxiliaries, mission circles and bands; executive, supply and literature committees; conference and district organizers—representatives to annual conferences. John xv. 5.

These subjects of prayer form the structure of our Society, the foundation must be made secure or the building will not endure, but the text for the month, "I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in Me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit; for without Me ye can do nothing." if earnestly believed and trusted in ensures all things: God the Father, the husbandmen, the caretaker, the tiller, the receiver; Christ, His Son, the vine, whose love, power and grace proceed out of the Father in all the fulness and strength of the Godhead; we, *me*, all members of auxiliaries, mission circles and bands the branches; *the branches* truly grafted, firmly abiding, bringing forth fruit—all through the love of Christ and that alone secured by prayer.

Eighteen hundred and fifty-seven years ago woman received her commission as a publisher of the good tidings of a risen Saviour, and all through the New Testament history we find her working *with* the disciples; the records of her work during the succeeding centuries almost cease, but the leaven was only hidden, never quite dying out, and in the first quarter of this century the bubbles indicating the life of the leaven began to appear. In 1834 the first Missionary Society of and for women was organized in England, the "Society for Education in the East;" three years later the women of the Wesleyan Churches in Scotland organized; always beginning along the line of secular teaching, and deftly weaving in the Gospel truth as the Master opened the way. This was a dawning of a new day, and now there are over forty such societies and boards.

The first in our own land were those of the Presbyterian and Methodist Episcopal, organized in 1876, the Baptists following the next year; to-day, nearly every Protestant evangelical Church has its "Woman's Missionary Society," held in high honor, trusted with important measures and sharing the grave responsibility of "bringing in the sheaves" from the heathen world. But this state of affairs has not been reached without many heartaches, many struggles, for strange as it may seem, many in the Christian Church could not see eye to eye with these women; but that the work was not of human thought or invention is proved by the rapid overcoming of what would have otherwise seemed insurmountable obstacles. The croakers are not all dead, and the laborers in our work must needs be on the alert, kept well informed, "be instant in season and out of season" in loving, giving, serving and praying, with an eye single to God's glory, in the spreading of this work of rescuing our sisters in darkened lands, bringing them—and through them the world—to the light of Jesus' love.

Prayer, full consecration to God's service, a realization of woman's place in the evangelization of the world, and a willing-

ness to work, sacrifice and suffer were the qualifications of the founders of these Woman's Missionary Societies in all lands, we cannot carry on the work thus begun without these.

The broad field of the whole world is before us, nearly all now open, ready for our work; shall we press on, step out, in, and possess this goodly land?

"God is testing us all continually, as to the measure of our faith, love and devotedness to His Son, by the presence of ONE THOUSAND MILLIONS OF HEATHEN IN THE WORLD. It is a tremendous test! so real! so practical!"

Shall it be said of us: "O woman, great is thy faith, be it unto thee even as thou wilt;" "She hath done what she could," and "She has cast in more than they all."

NOTICES TO AUXILIARIES.

The following resolution was passed at the General Board Meeting in reference to the monthly letter leaflet: "Each auxiliary shall become responsible for number of letters sent, and a uniform price be charged for same, viz., five cents a year." Also, payment for letters to be made through Branch Treasurer, crediting it as one of the sources of income. This payment to take the place of the former remittance made to Literature Fund, through Miss Wilkes. The annual report will be ready in a few days, and auxiliaries would do well to notify Branch Corresponding Secretary as to number required, each auxiliary to be responsible for number sent and for the price, which is five cents each.

Certificates of life membership can be obtained from Mrs. Briggs, 21 Grenville Street, Toronto, at a cost of 25c. each; illuminated, 75c. extra.

By arrangement with the Publishers, the *Gospel in all Lands* (Methodist Episcopal), and *The Missionary Review of the World* (undenominational) will be furnished to the members of the Woman's Missionary Society at specially reduced prices. The *Gospel in all Lands* at \$1.05 per year, *Missionary Review of the World*, \$1.55 per year. These prices include postage and cost of remittance.

The Heathen Woman's Friend (Woman's Missionary Society, Methodist Episcopal Church, United States), can also be supplied. Price, 50 cents per year. All subscriptions strictly in advance. Send orders and remittances to Miss Ogden, 18 Carlton Street, Toronto.

Subscriptions to *Gospel in all Lands* must expire with the December number.