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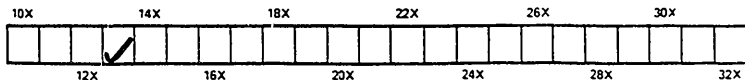
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"The World
for Christ."

Monthly Letter Leaflet

WOMAN'S FOREIGN MISSIONARY SOCIETY, PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN CANADA
(WESTERN DIVISION)

VOL. X. TORONTO, MAY, 1893. No. 1

Subjects for Prayer.

MAY.—The Indians of the Canadian North-West. The French Canadian Missions, and other Home Mission work of the Church. For the Chinese in America.

"For the Son of Man is come to seek and to save that which was lost."—*Luke ix: 10.*

"For there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved."—*Acts iv: 12.*

Names of the Missionaries in the North-West and British Columbia.

Mistawasis—Rev. A. W. Lewis, B.D., 1892, missionary; Mr. D. H. McVicar, B.A., teacher in day school. *Okanase*—Rev. George Flett, 1873, missionary; Mrs. Forsythe, teacher in day school. *Birtle*—Mr. G. G. McLaren, principal of industrial school; Miss A. McLaren, matron; Miss Matilda McLeod, assistant. *Crowstand*—Rev. C. W. Whyte, B.A., 1892, missionary; Mr. W. J. Wright, instructor in trades; Miss M. S.

McIntosh, teacher in industrial school. *File Hills*—Mr. Alex. Skene, principal of industrial school; Mrs. Skene, matron. *Round Lake*—Rev. Hugh McKay, 1884, missionary; Miss McKay, matron; Mr. Wm. McKenzie, teacher in industrial school. *Lakes End* (formerly called Muscowpetungs)—Rev. W. S. Moore, B.A., 1877, missionary; Mrs. Moore, matron. *Stoney Plain*—Mr. George J. Wellbourn, principal of industrial school; Mrs. Wellbourn, matron. *Bird Tail*—Rev. John McArthur, 1888, missionary. *Portage la Prairie*—Miss Annie Fraser, principal of industrial school and matron; Miss Sarah Laidlaw, teacher. *Prince Albert*—Miss Lucy M. Baker, teacher in day school. *Regina*—Rev. A. J. McLeod, B.A., 1891, principal of government industrial school; Mr. Neil Gilmour, teacher; Miss Lilly Russell, assistant teacher; Mrs. Leckie, matron. *Pipestone Sioux Reserve*—Mr. Thomas Shield, missionary. *Alberni, B.C.*—Rev. J. A. Macdonald, 1892; Miss Minnes, 1892, teacher; Miss Belle I. Johnstone, 1892, matron. *Victoria, B.C.*—Rev. A. B. Winchester, 1892, missionary to the Chinese.

HOME DEPARTMENT.

AN EXPLANATION.

We have this month the anomaly of a Letter-Leaflet *without letters*. A number of very interesting foreign letters are held over to make room for the report of the Annual Meeting. We think none of our readers will grudge the space given to it. But lest friends in the Presbyterian Societies of Ottawa, Hamilton, Owen Sound, Kingston, Toronto, and Ormstown Auxiliary, may have some anxiety about clothing and gifts sent by them to mission fields, we may assure them that letters acknowledging these supplies have been received and will appear in the June Leaflet.

Increase.

Presbyterial Society.

GUELPH.....Glenallan Mission Band.

HAMILTON.....Hamilton.—St. John's Church Auxiliary.
SAUGEEN. Cedarville Auxiliary.
SAUGEEN Scotch Block Auxiliary.
OWEN SOUND ... Owen Sound.—Knox Church, Y. W. Mission
Band.
HURON.. Hensall "Golden Band."

Life Members Added in March and April.

Mrs. D. MacLaren, Ottawa Auxiliary.
Mrs. F. P. Bronson, Ottawa Auxiliary.
Mrs. George Hay, Ottawa Auxiliary.
Mrs. John Watson, Kincardine Auxiliary.
Mrs. D. Coulson, St. Andrew's Auxiliary, Toronto.
Mrs. William Graham, Brussels Auxiliary.
Miss Janet Ormiston, Columbus Auxiliary, Ob. 1893.
Miss J. A. Anderson, Goderich Auxiliary.
Mrs. J. Murray Clark, MacLaren Auxiliary, Toronto.
Mrs. A. T. Higginson, Woodstock Auxiliary, Ob. 1893.
Miss. J. S. Anderson, St. Helen's Auxiliary.
Mrs. M. N. Bethune, Gravenhurst Auxiliary.
Mrs. Robert Guthrie, Ayr Auxiliary.
Miss Ethel Brodie, Old St. Andrew's Auxiliary, Toronto.

NOTE.—Through a mistake, Miss Mary F. Cameron's life membership was credited to Motherwell Auxiliary instead of North Mornington.

Treasurer's Statement.

March 7.—Balance in Dominion Bank.	\$12,640 04	
Received since.....	34,827 67	
		<hr/>
		\$47,467 71
Payments made during		
month.....		18 70
		<hr/>
April 11.—Balance in bank		\$47,449 01

E. MACLENNAN, *Treasurer.*

NOTE.—As the Treasurer's Statement for the year will be in the hands of the Society before this leaflet, it is not thought necessary to give the items, either of receipts or expenditure.

A Package of Leaflets.

Ten new leaflets have been added to the already large list of the Society's publications. Five of these are of special interest to young people. No. 56, a very concise and practical treatise on "Mission Bands," is one of our earlier leaflets, for some time out of print, but now revised by the author and re-issued. It contains all the information needful to the formation and successful working of Mission Bands, both juvenile and those composed of older girls. No. 67, "Preparing the Way," tells how the Band of "King's Messengers" in a certain "West Church" came to be organized, and how Flossie and Dolly and other little maids were led to become missionary helpers. In No. 54, "Motives for Missions," we are permitted to listen to an animated dialogue of the "Willing Workers" at their monthly meeting, where the remark of brisk Jennie Jones, "Girls, let us do something to make money; I want our Band to be far ahead of the other Bands in raising money" leads to earnest conversation and sound conclusions on the spirit which should animate missionary workers. "What the Children thought about Giving," No. 55, relates some of the ways by which certain little people earned what they called "their own money" for the Lord's work. No. 54, "History of a Roofless House," is a touching sketch of the "power of an endless life," in a child's self-denial for Christ's sake.

"Practical Work," No. 19, will be much in demand. The members of our Society aim at being practical above most things. "The Adjourned Meeting," No. 20, will also give valuable assistance towards the same end, showing as it does, how everybody may have a missionary library. "He hath need of Thee," No. 51, and "Personal Responsibility, or How Mrs. Merriam's Eyes were Opened," No. 30, are two admirable leaflets. One thought is emphasized in both,— "Responsibility, the definition of life,"

No. 66, sets it forth in the abstract ; No. 30 gives it in the concrete. Do not fail to order these two, they are admirably written and well to the point. "Refusals" is the somewhat depressing title of the last on our list, No. 11 ; but what Auxiliary or Band President has not met with refusals when trying to arrange a programme ? They are only too familiar, and a leaflet which deals faithfully with this subject is sure to be useful. No active missionary worker can afford to dispense with the literature of the Society, which has proved itself to be one of the most helpful agencies for arousing the indifferent and stimulating those already interested to greater effort. For further information consult the table of Publications on the last two pages of the Letter-Leaflet.

The Annual Meeting.

The Seventeenth Annual Meeting of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society of the Western Division of the Presbyterian Church in Canada was held on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, April 18th, 19th and 20th, in St. Andrew's Church, London. Nearly 400 delegates were present, representing Auxiliaries and Mission Bands in almost all the presbyteries. The chair was occupied by the President, Mrs. Ewart, at all the business sessions.

DEVOTIONAL MEETING.

The proceedings were begun on Tuesday afternoon at three o'clock with a devotional meeting conducted by the president, assisted by Mrs. Somerville, Owen Sound, who, in a brief address, gave some pointed and helpful thoughts on the words of our Lord contained in the fifteenth chapter of John, at the seventh and tenth verses, dwelling on the necessity of having the words of Christ hid in the heart, and of keeping not merely His easy commandments, or such as might fit into our moods, but also those

which were hard to obey. It was only when prayer was a burden upon our hearts, and we were lifted into such a sphere of sympathy with Christ that His will became our will, that we could expect it to be answered. Mrs. Gray, Brampton, led in the opening prayer. Mrs. Talling, London, closed, several other offering short voluntary prayers when the meeting was thrown open for that purpose. Special prayer was offered in behalf of Miss McWilliams, missionary at Indore, of whose serious illness intelligence had just been received.

CONFERENCE.

In the evening the presidents and secretaries of the Presbyterial Societies, with the presidents of Auxiliaries and Mission Bands, met in conference with the Board of Management respecting matters connected with the working of the Society. After prayer, led by Mrs. Steele, Dundas, discussion took place on a recommendation from Listowel suggesting that steps should be taken to reduce the expense of printing the annual report, both by omitting some details and reducing the number of copies to be printed. It was agreed to recommend to the Society that the abstract of the auxiliary reports be omitted; that the tabulated statements be extended to include names of officers and some other items, that the reports of Presbyterial Secretaries be made fuller, points of interest in Auxiliaries being noted, and that the more detailed reporting of Auxiliary meetings at Annual Presbyterial Meetings be emphasised.

The question of the membership fee was also considered. The President explained that in anticipation of a motion, of which notice had been given last year, looking to the annulling of the dollar fee, the Board had carefully considered the matter, and with but two dissenting voices had agreed that no change was advisable in Article III of the Constitution. A paper setting forth the reasons for this finding was read, which at the request

of many members of the Society is given on page 19. It was agreed, after discussion, to accept the recommendation of the Board.

A memorial from Barrie Presbyterian Society, asking for certain modifications in the Record for Auxiliaries and Bands, was presented and some of its suggestions recommended.

Mrs. Jeffrey, the Secretary of Supplies, called attention to the fact that while for the most part the supplies had been well selected many utterly useless articles had been sent to the North-West, and urged those who had the matter in hand to send only such things as would be suitable, such as warm, strong clothing, cloth and quilts.

The conference was closed with prayer, led by Mrs. McQuesten, Hamilton.

WEDNESDAY FORENOON.

After devotional exercises, conducted by the President, assisted by Mrs. Ross, London, who led in prayer, the President delivered her annual address, which was received with many expressions of approval, and which will appear in full in the Annual Report.

The reports of Presbyterian Societies, with abstract reports of Auxiliaries and Bands not in Presbyterian order, were then read. It was a matter for congratulation that these reports were all well heard, the various representatives of the Presbyterian Societies speaking in clear, distinct voices.

A message of greeting was read from Brandon. 1 Cor. xv: 5-8.

GREETINGS.

A telegram of greeting (Ps. lxxii., 16-19) was read from the President W. F. M. S., Eastern Division. Letters of greeting were also read from the Montreal Woman's Missionary Society; Woman's Auxiliary of the Diocese of Huron; Philadelphia

Woman's Board ; Occidental Woman's Board ; Woman's Board of the North-West, Chicago ; Woman's Board of Northern New York ; and Woman's Board of St. Louis.

Greetings were presented from the Methodist Woman's Missionary Society, by Mrs. Dr. Fowler, London ; from the Baptist Woman's Missionary Society, by Mrs. Weld, London ; from the Ladies' Prayer Circle for Israel, by Mrs. Christie, Toronto ; and from the McAll Association, by Mrs. McMeechan, London.

ANNUAL REPORTS.

The various Annual Reports were presented on Wednesday afternoon in the following order : Board of Management, by Mrs. Playfair ; Foreign, by Mrs. Shortreed, in the regretted absence of Mrs. Harvie, the Foreign Secretary ; Supplies, by Mrs. Jeffrey ; Publications, by Mrs Telfer ; and the Home Work by Mrs. Shortreed.

There are now 12,564 members of the Society in Auxiliaries ; in Mission Bands, 5,998, and 3,529 members of the general Society. Forty-five new Auxiliaries have been added, and 25 new Mission Bands, during the year. The Foreign Work, as readers of the Leaflet know, has made encouraging progress during the year. Want of space forbids details just now, but these will be found amply set forth in the Report, which will soon be in the hands of all the members.

Mrs. MacLennan, the Treasurer, read the Financial Statement, which showed the total receipts of the year from all sources to have been \$41,792.60. Mrs. MacLennan, in presenting her report, gave the following comparative table, showing the steady advance from year to year in the givings of the Society during the past four years :—

Contributed from all sources in 1889-90, \$32,117.60 ; in 1890-91, \$34,629.09 ; in 1891-92, \$37,661.33 ; in 1892-93, \$41,792.60.

Auxiliaries—1891-92, \$30,105.63 ; 1892-93, \$33,806.24.

Mission Bands—1891-92, \$6,343.54 ; 1892-93, \$6,608.02.

The reports were, on motion of Mrs. McQuesten, Hamilton, seconded by Mrs. McWhirter, Woodstock, unanimously adopted.

After the report of the Nominating Committee was presented and adopted, a solo, "Who will go and work to-day?" was beautifully rendered by Mrs. Cooper, London.

BUSINESS FROM LAST YEAR.

With regard to the Training Home for Missionaries, the President explained that it had been decided, with the approbation of the Foreign Mission Committee, to take no further steps at present, but to wait to see the matured plans of the proposed Deaconess Home to be established on evangelical lines during the coming autumn by Miss Wilson, daughter of the late Sir Daniel Wilson, President of Toronto University.

The recommendation of the Conference of the previous evening respecting Article III. of the Constitution relating to the membership fee, led to a prolonged and earnest discussion, a few urging that the exaction of a fee was not "Presbyterian," that it debarred some Auxiliaries and Bands from representation in the General Society, and that there ought not to be different grades of members, as they claimed was now the case. On the other hand, the reasons for making no change, as set forth in the finding of the Board were reiterated. These reasons were emphasised by Mrs. MacLaren, Toronto, in a brief statement which showed very clearly that the dollar fee was an essential feature of the General Society.

It was moved by Mrs. Cameron, Barrie, seconded by Mrs. Grant, Orillia, that the recommendation of the Board be accepted, and that Article III. remain unchanged.

It was moved in amendment by Mrs. McWhirter, Woodstock, seconded by Mrs. Byers, Gananoque, that Article III. be sent down to Presbyterian Societies to report upon at next Annual Meeting.

This amendment was lost, and the motion was adopted by a very large majority.

The recommendation of the Conference *re* the curtailing of the Annual Report was not entertained. It was agreed, on motion of Mrs. McLeod, Woodstock, seconded by Mrs. McDonald, Ridgetown, to make no change either in the matter or the number of the Annual Reports. Many, including Mrs. Wilson, of Neemuch, India, took occasion to speak of the value of the details presented in the Report as a means of disseminating information respecting the operations of the Society, and of stimulating interest in its membership and work.

The session closed with prayer led by Mrs. Fair, Clinton.

MISSION BAND CONFERENCE.

At the close of the afternoon session an interesting and helpful Conference of Mission Band Presidents with members of the Board was held, Mrs. Shortreed presiding. Methods of raising money and of conducting meetings were discussed, and many interesting points brought forward. Some of these methods were admirably adapted to encourage and train the children, while others would not commend themselves to experienced workers. Some words of caution were spoken against questionable plans of raising money, and leaders were urged to impress upon the children the true principles of giving and to instruct them in regard to the nature and needs of the work.

The delegates and other members of the Society, with their hostesses and the Presbyterian ministers of London and vicinity, were pleasantly entertained at tea in St. Andrew's Church school room on Wednesday afternoon. This opportunity for social enjoyment though short was much appreciated by all present. The kindness and courtesy of the Ladies of St. Andrews' Church and other friends, made everyone feel thoroughly at home.

EVENING MEETING.

The public meeting in the evening was very largely attended, the galleries as well as the body of the spacious church being well filled. The chair was occupied by Mr. Hamilton Cassels, convener of the Foreign Mission Committee, (W. D.,) and with him on the platform were Rev. R. P. MacKay, Secretary of the Foreign Mission Committee; Rev. J. A. Murray, pastor of the congregation; Rev. Wm. Wilson, Neemuch, India; Rev. J. Macdougall, returned missionary from Honan; Rev. W. S. Ball, Vanneck; Rev. R. Hamilton, Motherwell. The meeting was opened with the singing of "Salvation, Oh the Joyful Sound!" and prayer led by Rev. R. Hamilton. The Scripture, Isa. xii., having been read, Mr. Cassels gave a brief address. The Woman's Foreign Missionary Society was the most important body that the Presbyterian Church convened, perhaps, without even excepting the General Assembly. The impetus, he said, that had been given by this Society to Christian work, a home and abroad, had been simply wonderful. He referred with regret, which he was sure would be shared by the whole Church, to the intelligence just received that Mr. and Mrs. MacVicar, of the Honan staff, were on their way to Canada on account of the ill-health of Mrs. MacVicar. Miss MacWilliams, of Indore, India, might also be obliged to return home through seriously impaired health.

A solo, "Praise ye the Lord," was sung with fine effect by Mrs. Cooper, of London.

Rev. J. A. Murray warmly welcomed the visiting delegates in the name of the five Presbyterian churches of the city. In this age they were just beginning to learn the value of their spiritual weapons. The operations now being carried on by the W. F. M. S. and similar organizations would ere long place the Christian standard in every quarter of the earth. The ladies

had done a great deal in raising money. In seventeen years by the gathering up of the mites they had accumulated and spent in God's service nearly a quarter of a million of dollars. And in this good work they had been blessed themselves and in their homes. They were teaching the congregations, and in their own way had been doing work that the ministers in the pulpit could not do.

Rev. R. P. MacKay expressed his regret that Rev. Dr. MacLaren, through his duties in connection with the Summer Session at Manitoba College, to whom in previous years had fallen the pleasant duty of reviewing the Annual Reports, was unable to be present. He pointed out some of the salient features of the reports. The progress of the Society had been phenomenal. There was but little room now for increasing the numbers of Presbyterial Societies, or even Auxiliaries and Bands; but there was ample room to treble the membership of these Societies, which he hoped would speedily be done. He dwelt at some length on the valuable services of the wives of missionaries, and the importance of the monthly concert of prayer.

"O'er the gloomy hills of darkness," having been sung, Rev. J. Macdougall delivered an address on the work in Honan, and the necessity of giving the Gospel to China. He looked upon the Society as the highest example of Christian worth in the land. His own mother, for many years identified with the W. F. M. S., had very lately been called to her heavenly home, and the last meeting she had attended was that of the Ormstown Auxiliary. Having seen the woes of heathenism in China, his heart burned within him at their remembrance. China was rich in natural wealth, and possessed a fine stalwart race of people. The Chinese that we saw here were not fair specimens of the race. With their physical strength and intellectual vigor they were destined to take a foremost place in the history of the

world. How important then that the Gospel should be early carried to these people whose influence was eventually to be so great. Mr. Macdougall then recounted some of the trials and dangers the missionaries in Honan had met with in their work, and said that the women belonging to the staff had borne their share of these trials with wonderful patience and courage.

A solo, "Who will go?" was exquisitely sung by Miss Gilmour, of London.

Rev. W. Wilson followed with an address chiefly relating to the women of India. No one, he said, could properly realize at home the condition of things as they were in foreign lands, but the progress of the world was bringing the people closer together. The women in that country, he said, had a most powerful influence for good or evil, depressed by their husbands though they were. Woman had her influence, and could not be robbed of it. It had been said that "The hand that rocks the cradle rules the world," and it was just as true in India as in this country. Mr. Wilson aroused much amusement by reading a Buddhist catechism, wherein women were denoted as a great evil to be feared and avoided. A number of idols worshipped by the Hindoos were exhibited. The religious instinct, strongly developed in the men of India, was still more strongly developed in the women. He could count upon his fingers all the women to whom he preached while in India. Often when lost in the jungle, he had inquired of women the way to the village, but they only covered their faces and refused to listen. Everywhere, in their darkness and ignorance, the native women were undoing the work of missionaries. There was no hope for India until the homes had been reached. All honour to the noble women at home and abroad who were labouring to reclaim their benighted sisters in India.

The meeting closed with the singing of the doxology and the benediction pronounced by Rev. Mr. Ball.

The collection taken during the evening amounted to \$66.55.

MEETING OF THE BOARD.

The Board met in the school room at ten o'clock on Thursday morning for the election of officers for the ensuing year. Mrs. Thorburn, Ottawa, Convener of the Nominating Committee, took charge of the election. After prayer, led by Mrs. MacLaren, the President explained that it was the desire of the Board that on account of the large amount of work connected with the duties of the Home Secretary an Assistant-Secretary should be appointed, with a view to the division of the work into that of Auxiliaries and Mission Bands, and that Miss Shortreed be nominated for this office.

While the Board of Management was in session in the school room, a devotional meeting, conducted by Mrs. Ball, Vanneck, was held in the church.

At the close of the Board Meeting a practical paper on "The Duties of officers of Auxiliaries and Mission Bands," prepared by Miss Agnes Drummond, of Newcastle, was, in the absence of the writer through illness, read by Miss McColl, of Westminster. By special request of the Society this paper is published the Letter Leaflet and will be found on page 21.

A discussion into which a large number of the delegates entered heartily, followed the reading of this paper. Among the points emphasized were : The duty of Presbyterian Presidents to visit the Auxiliaries, especially those newly organized, either in person or by deputy : The duty of Vice-Presidents to assist in visiting ; in large Presbyteries especially the faithful co-operation of the Vice-Presidents in this part of the work was most important, much might be done in this way towards keeping down the expenses of Presbyterian societies : The duty of Auxiliaries and Bands to invite the President and arrange a day for her visit where such visit was desired : The duty of members to share with officers in the responsibility of conduct-

ing meetings ; and that the Letter-Leaflet should never be overlooked in the monthly meeting.

NEXT ANNUAL MEETING.

Mrs. Thorburn presented an invitation that the next annual meeting be held in Ottawa, and Mrs. Cooper proffered a similar request in behalf of Chatham. A vote being taken it was decided by a considerable majority to hold the next annual meeting in Ottawa.

VOTE OF THANKS.

On motion votes of thanks were passed to the Trustees and Managers of St. Andrew's church, to the organist and choir, the soloists being specially mentioned — to the members of Auxiliaries and Mission Bands and other friends in London for their kind hospitality, and to the Rev. Dr. Reid for auditing the books of the Society.

The session closed with prayer led by Mrs. Cameron, Barrie and the doxology, "Lord Bless us Still."

AFTERNOON.

The afternoon session was begun with the singing of Ps. 103, "O Thou, My Soul, Bless God the Lord," and prayer led by Mrs. Baty, Westminster.

THE NEW OFFICERS.

The names of the officers of the Society as appointed by the Board in the forenoon, were announced. These are, President, Mrs. Ewart ; Vice-Presidents, Mesdames MacLaren, G. H. Robinson, Harris, McMurrich ; Foreign Secretary, Mrs. Harvie ; Home Secretary, Mrs. Shortreed ; Assistant Home Secretary, Miss Shortreed ; Secretary of Supplies, Mrs. Jeffrey ; Publications, Mrs. Telfer ; Corresponding Secretary, Miss Haight ; Treasurer, Mrs. MacLennan—all of Toronto.

After the announcement of the new officers and the appointment of the nominating and executive committees, the President acknowledged her deep sense of the honour conferred upon her

by her re-election to office, and assured the Society of her determination to devote her time and strength to promoting, as far as it was in her power, its continued welfare and success.

Mrs. McQuesten, of Hamilton, in fitting terms, expressed th appreciation the Society felt for the great and long continued services rendered by Mrs. Ewart, and trusted she might be spared for many years to work for the Master, in connection with the W. F. M. S.

The Society then had the privilege of hearing an address on "Native Christian Life in India," by Mrs. Wilson, of Neemuch. Among the obstacles to the acceptance of Christianity, said Mrs. Wilson, was the timidity of native character. No one wished to cut himself off from family ties, which, on account of the patriarchal system, were particularly strong in India. Often, too, this timidity was increased by the fact that persons making profession of Christianity unaccountably disappeared and were never heard of again. The character of native Christians was neither so good nor so bad as was sometimes represented. A fair proportion of them were thoroughly good. The remark was common among English residents that they would prefer a heathen servant to a Christian. This could easily be explained by the fact that very many natives were Christians only in name. Especially was this true of Roman Catholic converts, many of whom had never heard even the name of Christ, who knew nothing but that water had been poured upon them. A great number had become Christians from other than the highest motives, but some of these had afterwards been so taught and trained that they had developed a consistent moral life. There was no healthy public sentiment in India, the moral atmosphere was thoroughly impure. But in spite all contaminating influences many examples of the highest Christian character were to be found, and some of these she had personally known and felt it an

honor to know. She concluded with an earnest appeal to the Society to make a special effort to assist in winning India for Christ, as the present time and opportunity were most favourable.

Miss Adam of Edinburgh, Scotland, who had been a delegate from the W. F. M. Society of the United Presbyterian Church to the Woman's Conference at the Pan-Presbyterian Council, was invited to the platform and addressed the meeting briefly, expressing her great pleasure in being present. She had visited many of the American cities and had been privileged to meet many women engaged in missionary work. What she had seen and learned of the work in America would be an inspiration to take home to Scotland. The different branches of the Church in Scotland were being drawn more closely together through mutual interest in each other's work.

Miss Adam was asked by the Society to convey cordial greetings to the annual meeting of the Society with which she is connected, to be convened shortly in Edinburgh.

ALLOCATION OF THE MONEY.

The meeting then proceeded to allocate the money contributed during the year.

1. Moved by Mrs. MacLennan, Toronto, seconded by Mrs. MacLaren, Toronto, and agreed to. "That the sum of \$39,968.70, being the amount of estimate for the year, \$45,287.25, less \$5,318.55 already paid to Dr. Ried, be paid to the Foreign Mission Committee."

2. Moved by Mrs. Thorburn, Ottawa, seconded by Mrs. McAllister, Iroquois, and agreed to, "That the further sum of \$600 be paid to Dr. Reid for transmission to the Foreign Mission Committee (E.D.) to be applied by them to the following objects; \$300 to Mrs. Morton, and \$300 to Mrs. Grant for their respective schools in Trinidad."

3. Moved by Mrs. Ball, Vanneck, seconded by Mrs. Cooper,

Chatham, and agreed to, "That the further sum of \$600 be also transmitted through Dr. Reid to the Foreign Mission Committee (Eastern Division) to be applied as follows : \$100 each to Mrs. Annand, Mrs. Robertson and Mrs. McKenzie for school work in the New Hebrides, and \$300 for Mission work in the New Hebrides, at the discretion of the Committee.

The dedicatory prayer was then offered by Mrs. Ball, Vanneck.

INTERNATIONAL SECRETARY.

Miss Caven, Toronto, was appointed Secretary of the International Missionary Association of Women in connection with the Council of the Presbyterian Alliance organized at the late meeting of the Council in Toronto.

DELEGATES TO ANNUAL MEETING.

A notice of motion was presented by Mrs. Fisher, West Flamboro, to reduce the number of delegates to the annual meeting, on account of the increasing difficulty of billeting so large a number as now attend, and the difficulty of arriving at an intelligent decision without loss of valuable time when so many have the right to speak.

Mrs. Needham, Orillia, supported the memorial from Barrie Presbyterial Society, asking for certain changes in the Record for Auxiliaries and Bands. The changes proposed were adopted in part.

Mrs. Fletcher, Thamesroad, gave a most delightful address on "The Poetry as contrasted with the common-place of Mission Work," both at home and abroad.

CLOSING WORDS.

Mrs. MacLaren, First Vice-President, spoke a few earnest and impressive words at the close of the meeting. In looking back upon the seventeen years of the Society's history, and the great success which had attended its efforts, she attributed it all to the good hand of God upon them. The first essential to the success

of a missionary worker was to be wholly consecrated to Christ. Had Christ ever commanded women to preach the Gospel? Yes at the well in Samaria and on the morning of the Resurrection, when He bade them "Go tell." She closed with an earnest appeal to the younger members to give themselves to the work of missions.

Mrs. Hossack, of Lucan, led in prayer, and the One Hundredth Psalm was sung, and the seventeenth Annual Meeting was over.

As the delegates dispersed to their homes, each one, we are sure, carried with her the feeling that it had been a time of privilege and of delightful Christian fellowship. In some respects this meeting was more satisfactory than any that had been held for many years. The extra day was felt to be a good feature. There was sufficient time for every item on the programme, which was pleasantly varied by helpful addresses and discussion. It was evidenced in many ways that a spirit of love and loyalty and devotion pervades the Society, and at the same time the practical side of the work was kept well in the foreground. Will not the fruit of this gathering be seen in the coming year in more earnest, wisely-directed effort towards the great end we all have at heart—to win the whole world for Christ?

Reasons Agreed Upon by the Board Why Article Three of the Constitution Should Remain Unchanged.

"Each woman paying one dollar annually, through an auxiliary or direct to the Treasury, shall become a member of this Society".—*Article 3, Constitution.*

This Article in the Constitution—based upon a similar provision in the constitutions of woman's missionary societies in the United States—was recommended as a part of the organization by the Foreign Mission Committee of our Church at the forma-

tion of the W. F. M. Society. It was adopted without question as one of the means of raising money for the objects of the Society.

In looking into the subject it is easy to perceive that there were good reasons for its adoption as a feature of the W. F. M. Society.

1. The amount contributed annually for membership is not a mere formality. There is a foundation principle underlying it, and it should be looked upon as a *guarantee* of interest in, and *support* to the work. One of the objects of the Society is the raising of money. By paying one dollar yearly each member gives a tacit pledge of her intention to support the work by stated contributions.

2. It is also a tangible guarantee to the Foreign Mission Committee, to which the W. F. M. S. is auxiliary, that the number of members who give this pledge represent an equal number of dollars, a sum of money, (less the amount required for the running expenses of the Society,) on which the committee can with certainty depend, and the money itself is to the committee an earnest of further contributions to be given as the Lord shall prosper each member.

3. The payment of one dollar constituting the basis of membership, is also a protection against the possibility of the votes of local societies unequally influencing the legislation of the general society in the place where the annual meeting is held.

4. The sum of one dollar is convenient and reasonable because it is within the ability of almost every contributor. If any member of an Auxiliary or Mission Band who might be thought to be well-fitted to represent the Auxiliary or Band at the Annual Meeting should be unable to pay this sum, she would in all probability not be able to afford the journey to the place of meeting, and if, in such a case, she would not hesitate to accept travelling expenses there could be no reasonable objection to her

own society paying the amount necessary to constitute her a member of the General Society for that year. Life-memberships are frequently presented by friends in token of love and appreciation. It might in some circumstances be equally appropriate to present an annual membership in a similar way.

5. As to the payment of one dollar being a barrier against women joining the society, that, in the opinion of the Board, can surely be the case only when the dollar is unduly emphasised. The auxiliary member is as truly a member of the society as any one, and has a voice in the Annual Meeting through the delegates she helps to elect annually. She is also a member of the Presbyterian Society and has a share in all its deliberations. Connection with the General Society ought to be considered and set forth as a privilege rather than as an exaction. Those organizing new societies should bear this specially in mind, and it should be emphasised by all loyal members of the society at every suitable opportunity.

It is certainly fitting, in the judgment of the Board, that those members who show their interest by the payment of a *fixed sum*, either year by year or as Life-members, and who are thus pledged to sustain the society and advance its welfare, should have a *direct* voice in the transaction of such business as may be brought before the annual meeting, and that the other members should have a voice through their representatives.

The Duties of Officers of Auxiliaries and Mission Bands.

By Miss Agnes Drummond, Newcastle.

In considering this subject, it has been assumed that all officers have consecrated themselves and all that they have and are to God, and that they are desirous to trade with their talents and to make the most of their powers for the glory of the

Master whom they serve. From this stand-point we will look first at the general duties ; then at the special duties of each ; remembering that in the service of such a Master, duty is a privilege, sacrifice a gain, and labor a delight.

I. The first duty of an officer is to acquaint herself with all the duties of her office, conscientiously resolving to perform them all, so far as lies in her power.

No matter how wisely a constitution may be planned the success of the society depends largely on the efficiency of the officers. The officers cannot do everything, but let them not rest satisfied till they have done all they can. No officer has a right to be satisfied with the performance of only the simple obligations, with the least possible labor ; it is her duty to “ seek to excel ” in her special department ; less than *that* is to come short of duty. There are thirty, sixty, and one hundred-fold degrees of attainment. We have no idea of the waste of power there is in our lives, but the fact that the Master is ever unfolding more and more for us to do, proves that He is working in and by us.

Each officer should feel and work as if the success of the Auxiliary or Mission Band depended on her alone, and work on cheerfully, needing no other encouragement than the approval of her Master.

II. It is the duty of each officer to derive spiritual benefit for herself and others, as well as stimulate a missionary spirit. The secret of success is to abide in Jesus Christ and draw all grace, and strength and power from Him. It is well to “ tarry at Jerusalem,” till endued with power for the work, by being filled with the Spirit.

III. Another duty of the officers is to draw out the resources of the members of Auxiliary and Mission Bands, with a view to train them to fill their places. The undeveloped resources to be found in our society, if called into requisition, would cause a mighty revival in missionary enterprise. Mr. Moody has said,

“It is better to set ten men to work, than to do ten men’s work.”

Mrs. Nind, a noted missionary worker was sometimes called a “Missionary cyclone.” If more of the officers of Auxiliaries and Mission Bands acted in this capacity—either individually or in combination—there would be fewer sitting at ease in Zion, while the call for help is resounding through the land.

IV. Before passing on to consider the special duties of each office, we would emphasize the necessity of all officers speaking clearly and distinctly, that there be no strain on those listening. It is better to speak five words, which can be heard and understood, than ten thousand words in an unknown tongue—or one which cannot be heard without difficulty more than a few feet away. Is not the *voice* a talent to be traded with for the Master? Then why is it so often wrapped up in the napkin of diffidence, or indifference, when a proper use of it would bring pleasure and profit to so many others?

I. THE PRESIDENT.

The President on taking office will naturally (to use a business term) “take stock” of the Auxiliary or Mission Band, recounting its past attainments, its present condition and future prospects, also the present members and prospective recruits. The field is the congregation; the aim, to enlist the sympathy and secure the co-operation of every Christian woman in the Church. It is her duty to open and close each meeting promptly to the hour, and always with devotional exercises, which should be brief, earnest, and breathing of the spirit of Missions. The subject of prayer will be announced, and special attention given to the selection of the passage of Scripture, (which will bear on the subject) and the hymns, varying the exercises from time to time.

The President will carefully follow the rules of business, and listen attentively to be able to make a clear statement of any case presented. She will keep herself acquainted with the state

of finances, and the general standing of the Auxiliary or Mission Band, and see that the other officers attend promptly to their duties, and give hints to those who are not familiar with business details. It is her duty to take a note of any items of news which may come to her notice during the month and briefly refer to them at the meeting, such as the setting apart or sailing of new missionaries, news of encouragement or trial from those on the field, or glimpses of their home life; all of which tend to deepen a personal interest in them. If any member of the Auxiliary or Mission Band is in trouble or sorrow, she will not be forgotten though absent.

Especially in Mission Bands is it necessary that the President should see that the foundations of missionary intelligence be laid broad and deep, that the children be trained to take a comprehensive view of the work, and a personal interest in our own missionaries, that when in future years calls are made upon them, they may have sound principles to fall back on and not mere sentiment or impulse.

It is a duty to make the meetings attractive, and as much care should be exercised in preparing for a meeting as is required to make a reception or afternoon tea a success. The social element will not be forgotten in Missionary work. Besides transacting business it is the work of the Auxiliary to extend information and strive to deepen the interest taken in the heathen sisters and those laboring among them. All these things the President will keep before her.

II. THE VICE-PRESIDENT.

This is not merely an honorary position. It is the duty of the Vice-President to feel her responsibility for the prosperity of the Society, to stand with armor buckled on ready to fill the President's place at any time she may be called upon to do so, that there be no halt in the work. She must be interested, well-informed, and in touch with the work.

III. THE SECRETARY.

It is the duty of the Secretary "to record the proceedings of the Society." She will select interesting details, and record them in a bright manner fitted to recall pleasant memories of the meeting to those present, and fill those who were absent with a sense of what they had lost. As the minutes are a journal of the Auxiliary or Mission Band, great care should be taken to have them correct, and have the resolutions and motions recorded accurately. It is the Secretary's duty to give notice of meetings, furnish information of interest to members, collect items from the Mission field, give intelligence on all business of the Auxiliary, and help to mature plans for the well-being of the Society. She also conducts necessary correspondence in connection with the literature, North-West supplies, appointment of delegates to Annual or Presbyterian meetings, and matters of local business. She prepares the Annual Report and forwards it to the Presbyterian Secretary with that of the Mission Band, if Auxiliary to it.

At the close of each meeting the Record will be accurately filled out. Directions sent to the Secretary should be carried out to the letter, and with business-like promptness, (unless when hindered by insurmountable obstacles, even then there is time allowed to go around the obstacles, if she starts in time). All questions should be answered and reports and orders sent in by the time specified. A sense of loyalty to the officers of the Board who bear the burden of the work demands this. If special methods have been adopted and found successful in any Auxiliary, let the Secretary inform the Presbyterian Secretary of them, perhaps some other Auxiliary is waiting for that suggestion to give them fresh impetus.

IV. THE TREASURER.

The duties of the Treasurer as well as those of the Secretary call for promptness and system. She will receive all the moneys, and report monthly to the Auxiliary or Mission Band as

to the state of the funds ; this duty may seem unimportant but if it were always performed, it would do away with many a rush at the end of the year, or a resort to questionable means of raising the funds.

It is desirable that the Treasurer be a specialist in her own department ; that she fully understand business details ; keep the books in order, on business principles, and be well informed of the needs of the work and of what has been done. It is her duty to feel responsible for the cultivation of the spirit of liberality in the Auxiliary. She will also make a study of the principles and methods of systematic giving, striving to persuade as many as possible to adopt this mode of giving.

After having done all in our power, we must lay our services upon the altar and pray God to pardon all errors which *He* cannot but see in our methods and teach us how to remedy them that we may not hinder the progress of the work.

“The work of our hands establish Thou it,
Often with thoughtless lips we say ;
But the Lord who sits in the heavens shall say,
Is the work of your hands so fair and fit
That ye dare so pray ?

Softly we answer, Lord make it fit—
This work of our hands—that so we may
Lift up our eyes and dare to pray,
The work of our hands establish Thou it,
Forever and aye.”

NOTICES.

THE Board of Management meets on the *first Tuesday* of every month, at 3 o'clock p.m., and on the remaining Tuesdays of each month at 10 a.m., in the Board Room of the Bible and Tract Societies, 104 Yonge Street, Toronto. Members of Auxiliary Societies, or other ladies interested in the work and desiring information, being introduced by a member of the Board, are cordially invited to attend.

Letters concerning the organization of Societies, and all matters pertaining to Home work, are to be addressed to Mrs. Shortreed, 224 Jarvis Street, Toronto. The Home Secretary should be notified *at once* when an Auxiliary or Mission Band is formed.

Letters asking information about missionaries, or any questions concerning the Foreign Field, as to Bible-readers, teachers or children in the various Mission Schools, should be addressed to Mrs. Harvie, 80 Bedford Road, Toronto.

Letters containing remittances of money for the W. F. M. S. may be addressed to Mrs. MacLennan, Treasurer, 10 Murray Street, Toronto. All requests for life membership certificates should also be sent to Mrs. MacLennan, accompanied in every case by a certificate that the fee has been paid.

All correspondence relating to the sending of goods to the North-West, or other Mission fields, will be conducted through the Secretary of Supplies, Mrs. A. Jeffrey, 142 Bloor Street West, Toronto.

All letters to the Board not directly bearing upon work specified in the above departments should be addressed to Miss Haight, Corresponding Secretary, Morvyn House, Jarvis St., Toronto.

The President's address is, Mrs. Ewart, 66 Wellesley Street, Toronto.

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11.	Refusals	"
8.	Why and How	"
6.	Preparation for the Master's Work	"
4.	The Importance of Prayer	"
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3 ⁷	Scattered Helpers—Card including Leaflets	per doz. 6 cents

MAPS.

	<i>Cotton, unmounted.</i>	<i>Painted linen, mounted</i>
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Large Prayer Cards 1 cent each. Small, free.

Envelopes, one large containing 12 small, 1½ cents each.

Mite Boxes, 1 cent each.

Receipt books, for membership fees, for the use of treasurers of Auxiliaries and Bands. Price 8 cents and 5 cents.

For above apply to Mrs. Telfer, 72 St. Albans Street, Toronto
Postage and express paid.

Applications for Reports to be made to the Home Secretary, Mrs. Shortreed, 224 Jarvis Street, Toronto.

PUBLICATIONS.

No.		
29.	The Mother at Home, by Pansy	each, 3 cents.
30.	Personal Responsibility(15 cts. per doz.)	" 2 "
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54.	Motives for Missions	" "
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For above apply to Mrs. Telfer, 72 St. Albans Street, Toronto.
Postage and express paid.

Directions about the Monthly Letter Leaflet.

1. The year begins with the *May* number. 2. Subscription, 12 cents a year, *payable in advance*. 3. Subscriptions may begin at any time (one cent a copy), but must end with the *April* number. All orders and money to be sent through the Presbyterian Secretary to Mrs. (Agnes) Telfer, 72 St. Albans Street, Toronto.