

The Missionary Outlook

is my Parish.
"The World"
"The Field is"

A Monthly Advocate, Record and Review.

VOL. XV.—No. 11.]

NOVEMBER, 1895.

[NEW SERIES.

Field Notes.

MISSIONARY services were held recently at Alliston (Rev. H. S. Matthews, pastor). Our veteran friend Dr. Barrass preached with his old-time vigor, and the results were 20 per cent. ahead of last year. Wouldn't it be grand if such results could be achieved all along the line?

year, another has three times as much now on the list as last year. Cannot say yet what the circuit as a whole may do, but am expecting an increase all round." Let us have any number of such reports, brethren. We can stand it.

At the recent convention of the Epworth League of the Montreal Conference, held in Brockville on September 24th and 25th, the following resolution



THE "RIOT BABIES," CHENTU, CHINA.

LILA STEVENSON. BERTHA HARTWELL. HARRY PEAT. JENNIE STEVENSON. FRANK PEAT.
RALPH CANRIGHT. LESLIE KILBORN. MILLY CORMACK. MARION STEVENSON. CYRIL CANRIGHT. GERALDINE HARTWELL.

It is astonishing how much cheer and encouragement a few words on a post card can give, of which the following is a fitting example. Rev. T. Leonard, of Queensville, writes: "Our missionary service has been held at each appointment. One appointment is already 50 per cent. ahead of last

was unanimously adopted: *Resolved*,—"That the Epworth League of the Montreal Conference, in convention assembled, do recommend the holding of a quarterly missionary meeting in connection with the regular church prayer-meeting, under the direction of the pastor, to be participated in by the

Woman's Missionary Auxiliary, the Young People's Society, and the church generally."

"GETTING better every month" is what one of our subscribers said, in a letter just received regarding the OUTLOOK, and further states that of two friends who had taken the paper together last year, one declined a partnership for the ensuing year, saying she "desired to give her copy to others, and perhaps get some new subscribers."

WE will be glad if our ministers on Home Missions will forward to the Mission Rooms the name and address of any person in their congregations who are not in circumstances to procure reading matter for themselves. Also let any of the young people who have Christmas, New Year, or even business cards to spare, kindly forward them to us, and we will put them where they will be very useful.

MUCH good has been done through Dr. Dowkontt's small but very valuable book entitled "Murdered Millions." Our Woman's Missionary Society has obtained permission to reproduce the work in Canada, and it can now be furnished at 17 cents per copy.

"TRIALS and Triumphs of Early Methodism in the Great North-West," is the title of a 16-page tract by the Rev. John Semmens. The easy and pleasant manner in which this tract is written is characteristic of the writer; and his years of experience in that country give value and force to what he has to say. Price 1 cent per copy, or 10 cents a dozen. Both of the above can be obtained from Room 20, Wesley Buildings, Toronto.

WE have received a copy of the "History of the Second International Conference of the Epworth League," held in Chattanooga, in June last. In this report our Epworth League friends will find a rich store of practical information, from which they can gather numberless excellent suggestions that will be very helpful in carrying on work among our young people. It is a library in itself, containing 152 pages of short, concise, and pithy papers and addresses by those who speak out of a rich experience. The portraits of the three General Secretaries, Rev. Drs. Steel and Schell, and Rev. A. C. Crews, make a remarkably good frontispiece. Published by the Times Printing Company, Chattanooga, Tenn., and will be mailed to any address, postage paid, for 50 cents.

ANOTHER "Miracle of Missions," by Dr. Arthur T. Pierson, opens the *Missionary Review of the World* for November. This article graphically describes what John Williams saw in the South Seas. Rev. W. G. Puddefoot follows with some very helpful thoughts on the "Importance of Frontier Missions" in the United States. Other articles of particular interest in this issue are: "Brazil Through an Evangelist's Eye," by Rev. D. G. Armstrong; "Progress in Brazil," by Rev. W. A. Waddell; "Reforms in China," by Rev. Gilbert Reid; "The Work

of the Spirit in North Korea," by Rev. Samuel A. Moffatt; "The Jews in Persia," by Rev. S. G. Wilson; and "Utility of Protestant Missions in Mexico," by Justo M. Euroza. The articles in this number of the *Review* are almost exclusively from workers in foreign lands, and so have an added interest and value. The seventeen pages of general intelligence are filled to overflowing with nuggets of gold for missionary speakers, gathered from men, women and periodicals the world over. Published monthly by Funk & Wagnalls Co., 30 Lafayette Place, New York. \$2.50 a year.

Editorial and Contributed.

Missionary Anniversaries.

NOTICE TO PASTORS.

IN answer to many inquiries, the General Secretary begs to say that Mr. Cassidy will spend the months of November and December in the Maritime Conferences, and will not be available for work in the Central Conferences till after the holidays.

Dr. Eby's health will not permit him to do any work at present—complete rest is necessary. When he is sufficiently recovered to undertake pulpit and platform duties, due notice will be given.

Correspondence respecting appointments for these brethren should be sent to the Mission Rooms.

The time of the General Secretary is so completely absorbed by business growing out of General Board proceedings, that it will be impossible for him to give any time to outside work for several weeks to come. Numerous applications are on file, and as soon as circumstances permit the brethren concerned will be communicated with.

Dr. Shaw has a number of engagements fixed, and will be prepared to respond to other invitations as the time at his disposal will permit.

The Rev. Charles Fish also informs us that he will be pleased to attend missionary or other services, where his help is desired.

Missionary Income.

THE past year has been a trying one to all missionary societies. The prevailing business depression has seriously affected income, and there is scarcely a society that has not had to lament a serious deficit. Our own Society is no exception to the rule, the income from subscriptions, collections and juvenile offerings (which are the permanent sources of revenue) being some \$14,000 less than the preceding year. The painful aspect of the case is that this deficit has necessitated a corresponding reduction in grants for the current year. Everything in the way of stipends, at home and abroad, had to be discounted, and this will entail no small degree of inconvenience upon the brethren. Indeed, it will

mean positive suffering in many cases, especially on our Home Missions, unless the people come promptly to the rescue. In another column will be found an open letter on this subject, issued by authority of the General Board. We sincerely trust that it will be pondered by the people on all the domestic missions, and that they will respond cheerfully to the appeal therein contained. Let there also be an earnest effort on every circuit to roll up the largest contributions for missions ever reported in the history of the Society.

An Interesting Picture.

A LITTLE over a week ago there came by mail to the Mission Rooms a large square parcel marked "photograph." On opening it we were greeted by what seemed to be "an innumerable company of"—babies. Taking another look we read, "The 'Riot Babies,' Chentu, China." This introduction being satisfactory, we gave ourselves to the pleasure of a closer inspection of the youthful travelers who have had so wonderful an experience. Our next thought was gratitude to the Father of all mercies that amid dangers known and unknown, and experiences of hardship both before leaving Chentu, and afterward during the long journey of two thousand miles down the river, with few of the comforts deemed indispensable in travelling, the parents had been enabled to bring their little ones safely to Shanghai. Our readers will be pleased to have a photogravure acquaintance, at least, with these interesting little friends, and they can be accommodated by turning to the first page.

The Society's Anniversary.

ON the 3rd of last month the seventy-first anniversary of the Missionary Society of the Methodist Church was celebrated, in connection with the meeting of the General Board. A good congregation assembled in the spacious auditorium of St. James' Church, and, with very few exceptions, remained until the benediction was pronounced at half-past ten o'clock. Edward Gurney, Esq., of Toronto, made a model chairman, opening the proceedings with a thoughtful and appropriate address that gave a good key-note to the subsequent proceedings. An abstract of the Annual Report was read by the General Secretary, and the Financial Statement by the General Treasurer, the Hon. J. C. Aikins.

The speaking was of a high order, and held the attention of the congregation without a break. The General Superintendent was in excellent vein, and delivered an address bristling with good points and aglow with intense earnestness. J. A. M. Aikins, Esq., Q.C., of Winnipeg, was the next speaker, and showed himself as capable on the missionary platform as at the bar. His address was appropriate, logical and eloquent, and won unstinted praise. Dr. David Stevenson, of the West China Mission, delighted the audience with graphic pictures of life in

the Flowery Kingdom, touched many a tender chord with illustrations of China's spiritual needs and of the desire of the missionaries for the salvation, not the punishment, of their persecutors, and stirred the missionary enthusiasm of the people by earnest appeals for reinforcements to carry the Gospel to China's waiting millions. Dr. Potts was announced for the closing address, and, had there been time, would doubtless have given a fitting conclusion to a delightful and inspiring meeting; but, as the hour was somewhat late, he contented himself with giving out the Doxology, which was sung with old-time fervor, and the audience dispersed, delighted with all that they had heard. Take it all in all, we have not known a better anniversary in the past twenty years. The excellent choir of St. James' Church added much to the interest of the occasion.

The General Board of 1895.

IT may be safely affirmed that on no previous occasion were the proceedings of the General Board of Missions watched with such keen and absorbing interest as during the recent session held in Montreal. It was well understood that questions of exceptional difficulty had to be dealt with, and there was a general conviction that they must be dealt with in a very thorough way, so that there might be no ground for remaining uncertainty, or cause for further agitation. All this was fully realized by the members of the Board, and they entered upon the task assigned them with a determination to evade no responsibility, but by patient and painstaking inquiry to get to the bottom of every difficulty, and then to render only such decisions as would be justified by the evidence before them. The *personnel* of the Board was admirable, its temper beyond all praise. It would have been difficult to select in the entire Methodist Church a Board of the same number better qualified to deal with difficult questions, or more resolute in their purpose to do justice, in the fear of God, to all concerned. And no one who witnessed the proceedings could fail to be convinced that the Board was under Divine guidance. From first to last there was no excitement, no signs of a partisan bias, but a calm, judicial temper throughout, and a humble waiting upon God that gave promise of the best results. Only on the supposition of Divine guidance, in answer to prayer, can anyone account for the Christian temper manifested, and the unanimous conclusions reached. Looking back over the whole matter we can only say, "It is the Lord's doing, and marvellous in our eyes."

From all parts of the connexion we are receiving expressions of satisfaction with the action of the Board, and the acceptance of that action by the missionaries. In letters and conversations such expressions as the following have been common: "The whole country was watching with intense interest to see what you would say and do," said one, "and there is great satisfaction with the result." "The matter was referred to in our Conference Missionary

Committee," said another, "and profound satisfaction was expressed." "I can now plead for missions with more enthusiasm than ever before," said a prominent city pastor, referring to the Board's action. "The decisions of the Board were just, kind and wise," said another, "and will end all discussion." "Anyone who would attempt to reopen this question," said a prominent layman, "would receive no sympathy. The matter is finally settled in a way of which no reasonable man can complain." "I am proud of our Missionary Board," remarked another, "they have handled a delicate and difficult question with firmness, kindness and wisdom." "Now is the time for a missionary revival," said an enthusiastic brother, and we say—Amen.

Proceedings of the General Board.

AS the proceedings of the Board in regard to Japan affairs will be published separately, we will not refer to them in this connection further than to give the results as formulated in resolutions. There are other items of business, however, that are of general interest, and we append a few notes so as to give our readers a general idea of what was done.

The meeting was the longest in the history of the Board, occupying eight days, and as sessions were held morning, afternoon and evening, some idea may be formed of the amount of business demanding attention, and of the care bestowed upon it.

In connection with the calling of the roll, a cablegram from Japan was read, intimating that the Rev. F. A. Cassidy had been elected a member of the Board by the Japan Mission Council. This gave rise to a lengthy conversation, which was finally terminated by a ruling from the Chair to the effect that as Mr. Cassidy was not at present a member of the Mission Council he was not eligible to a seat on the Board.

The Rev. T. G. Williams, D.D., was chosen Minute Secretary, Rev. E. B. Ryckman and W. H. Lambly, Esq., Assistant-Secretaries, and A. J. Donly, Esq., Journal Secretary.

The Minutes of the Executive Committee for the past year were read by the General Secretary, who answered a number of questions relating thereto.

An abstract of the Annual Report was presented by the General Secretary, and the Financial Statement was read by the Treasurer, Hon. J. C. Aikins.

After some conversation in regard to appropriations the following basis was adopted :

MISSIONS.	Ordained Married.	Ordained Single.	Probationers.
Ordinary Missions	\$750 00	\$400 00	\$350 00
Cities and Towns	850 00	450 00	400 00
Newfoundland	800 00	450 00	400 00
Manitoba and North-West	850 00	450 00	400 00
British Columbia	900 00	500 00	450 00

Committees were appointed as follows :

1. *Home Work and Appropriations.*—S. F. Huestis, A. J. Donly, W. H. Lambly, Wm. Williams, T. G. Williams, J. Woodsworth, W. F. Hall, W. H. Hartz.

2. *On Indian and French Work, Chinese Work in British Columbia, and Appropriations.*—John Potts, J. F. Betts, J. McLean, W. Kettlewell, Judge Chesley, Geo. A. Cox, J. A. M. Aikins, Geo. Robinson.

3. *Foreign Appropriations (Japan and China).*—E. B. Ryckman, E. Gurney, F. Chisholm, E. Evans, Hon. J. C. Aikins, A. Langford, J. J. Maclaren, J. R. Inch.

4. *On Memorials and Resolutions.*—Wm. Briggs, I. Tovell, T. Nixon, Judge Dean, J. Torrance, S. J. Shorey, W. Swann, J. Shaw.

On motion, the General Superintendent and General Secretary were made ex-officio members of the foregoing committees.

On motion, it was decided that Japan affairs (other than appropriations), be considered in Committee of the Whole.

Information having been conveyed to the Board of the death of a daughter of the Rev. Principal Shaw, the following resolution, on motion of Dr. Ryckman, seconded by Dr. Potts, was unanimously carried :

Resolved—"That this Board has learned with profound sorrow that painful bereavement has occurred in the family of a beloved brother, the Rev. W. I. Shaw, D.D., LL.D., Principal of the Wesleyan Theological College in this city, in the death of a dearly-loved daughter, and desires to convey to Dr. and Mrs. Shaw the assurance of the most sincere and tender sympathy. The Board feels how inadequate words are to express its sense of the grief of the parental hearts thus afflicted, or to convey the consolation it would desire to impart, but prays the mourning family to accept this expression as a testimony that they are not forgotten by affectionate friends in the hour of their trouble. The Board commends them to 'the God of all consolation,' and trusts that Divine love and sympathy will be sufficient for the time, and that the good hope of a happy reunion beyond the grave will brighten for them the remainder of life's journey."

Some conversation took place respecting the admission of laymen at the Sessions of the Board, and in order to prevent any misapprehension, the following resolution was adopted :

"That inasmuch as a misunderstanding has arisen as to the exclusion of laymen from the Board meetings, be it resolved, that the same courtesy be extended to lay members of the Missionary Society as has been extended to ministers."

At the Wednesday morning session a pleasant little episode occurred. Dr. Cochran read a letter which he had just received from the Rev. Dr. Stevenson, of Santa Monica, California. The letter stated that a little Sunday School in the mountains, consisting of six pupils, having heard of the destruction of the property of the Canada Methodist Mission, in West China, took up a collection amounting to \$1.30, and desired Dr. Stevenson to forward the same to the Treasurers in Toronto as a token of sympathy. The Board expressed its cordial pleasure with this kindly deed, and directed that a suitable reply be sent.

The Committee appointed to formulate the findings of the Committee of the Whole in regard to Japan affairs, reported as follows, and the report was unanimously adopted :

"Concerning the request of the Revs. E. Crummy, J. G. Dunlop, D. R. McKenzie, Wm. Elliott, J. H. McArthur, and H. H. Coates to be recalled,

"1. The Board has considered the statements of the General Secretary of the Missionary Society and his remarks thereto, and the documents referred to therein, among others the letters of the said missionaries dated December 6th, 1894, March 28th, 1895, September 11th, 1895, and of the General Secretary, dated February 1st, 1895, and May 17th, 1895, enclosing the letter of the Executive Committee of the same date, and that letter, also the letters of the Rev. Dr. Macdonald, dated December 28th, 1894, and January 3rd, 1895, resigning as a member of the Japan Mission, also the statements of Rev. Drs. Cochran and Eby, Rev. F. A. Cassidy, Mrs. E. S. Large, Misses N. G. Hart, I. M. Hargrave, F. K. Morgan, and I. S. Blackmore.

"2. Concerning the action of the Executive as to the said missionaries and the letter written to them by the Executive dated May 17th, 1895, such action and letter were proper and are approved by the Board.

"3. The Board desires to express its appreciation of the course pursued and the work done by the Rev. Dr. Macdonald in his capacity as representative of the Board and as a medical missionary, and sees no reason why the confidence hitherto so fully reposed in him should not be continued. Should his resignation from the Japan Mission be accepted, his loss to the Church as a missionary and as the Board's representative in Japan would be serious, and much to be regretted. The Board urges him to withdraw such resignation.

"4. Touching the complaints made by the said six missionaries against the General Secretary, the Board does not see that either the correspondence or administration of the General Secretary justifies such complaints and such attitude.

"5. It is quite evident that the said missionaries have been and are dissatisfied and out of sympathy with the administration of the Board, of the Executive Committee, and of the chief executive officers of the Missionary Society appointed by the General Conference, and are not working harmoniously with the representative of the Board in Japan, viz., Rev. Dr. Macdonald.

"6. In order to restore harmony, and induce the missionaries to continue without irritation their work, the Executive Committee wrote on the 17th of May, 1895, the conciliatory letter hereinbefore referred to. The reply of the missionaries to that communication supports their requests to be recalled, indicates a spirit that could scarcely be expected, and leaves no alternative to the Board but to accede to their request and recall them.

"7. It is possible the missionaries, or some of them, may wish to remain in the Japan work, and the Board desires that they should do so, if the Executive Committee come to the conclusion that those desiring to remain can under the circumstances do efficient service, and will work in harmony with the properly constituted authority, General Conference legislation, the Board, the Executive, the General Secretary, and the Board's official representative in Japan.

"8. In coming to this conclusion the Board does so entirely independent of any statement made or evidence given by the returned missionaries of the Woman's Missionary Society on the Japan question, because the Board thinks such ought not to be considered in relation to the recall of said missionaries, as they were not notified that such statements would likely be made or evidence given, and have had no opportunity of making answer thereto, in so far as it might in any way reflect on them or any of them as men or missionaries, and because the Board does not find in such statements or evidence any reason for recalling them.

"9. The Board therefore orders that the request for recall by Rev. Messrs. E. Crummy, J. G. Dunlop, D. R. McKenzie, Wm. Elliott, J. H. McArthur and H. H. Coates, contained in their letter of December 6th, 1895, supported further by the letters of March 28th, 1895, and September 11th, 1895, be acceded to, and that the said missionaries be recalled; such recall to take effect at the end of the present Conference year. Should, however, the said missionaries, or any of them, wish to remain in the Japan work, the Executive Committee is authorized in its discretion to allow such to remain.

In regard to the Rev. Dr. Eby and his relation to the Society, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

Moved by E. Gurney, seconded by Geo. A. Cox,

"That whereas it is impossible to pursue the questions involved in the request of Dr. Eby for the withdrawal of his resignation, owing to the condition of his health being such that he cannot and should not be required to continue his statement, which he has on two occasions within the past few days been compelled for the reason stated to relinquish; and whereas there is no question raised by anyone affecting his character either as a man or a minister; and whereas it is due to Dr. Eby, in view of all the facts and circumstances, that he have employment in the Church, therefore

Resolved,—That Dr. Eby be employed by this Board from the 1st day of July, 1895, until July 1st, 1896, in the interests of our missionary work, at the same remuneration as is given to a missionary on furlough, the Executive Committee of the Board to have power to designate, and if necessary to discontinue the work, as in its judgment shall be to the advantage of our Missionary Society."

The following resolution respecting the Japan work was adopted on motion of J. J. Maclaren, Esq., seconded by Rev. Dr. Potts:

"That this Board is of opinion that the time has come in the history of our Japan Mission when a greater part of the work should be done through native agency, and that in any changes or re-arrangement which may be made during the coming year, the Executive Committee adopt this policy in so far as it can be done consistently with efficient administration."

Touching the relation of the Rev. F. A. Cassidy to the Society and its work, several motions were submitted, and after some conversation, the following resolution was adopted:

Moved by Rev. Dr. Briggs, seconded by Rev. Dr. T. G. Williams,

"That the Executive Committee be authorized to employ in the mission field the Rev. F. A. Cassidy, in the interest of our missionary work, for such time as it thinks proper, and at such remuneration as it may determine. Further, that the Executive Committee be empowered to employ Mr. Cassidy in the Japan or other foreign field when the way to successful work in that field, in the estimation of the Executive Committee, is open."

On the foregoing resolution the vote stood 20 to 8. On a further motion by Rev. A. Langford, to make the vote unanimous, only one member dissented. At a subsequent stage this member withdrew his dissent.

In regard to the Financial District meeting schedules, it was

Resolved,—"That all moneys raised on missions for ministerial support, children's fund and horse keep, be included in the schedules under the heading, 'Mission Will Raise,' so that there may be uniformity throughout the whole domestic work."

On motion of Dr. Sutherland, it was

Resolved,—"That the General Superintendent, Rev. I. Tovell, J. J. Maclaren and Rev. A. Langford, in association with the General Secretary, be a committee to edit the Stenographer's report for publication, with power to decide as to mode of publication."

On motion of Dr. Sutherland, the Executive Committee was constituted as follows:

"The officers of the Society, with the following ministers: Revs. Wm. Briggs, Wm. Williams, E. B. Ryckman, Wm. Kettlewell, John Potts, S. J. Shorey, A. Langford, W. S. Griffin, W. C. Henderson; and the following laymen: J. J. Maclaren, W. F. Hall, E. Gurney, A. J. Donly, Geo. A. Cox, Wm. Bowman, W. E. H. Massey, W. G. Smith, John Mann.

Two days before the close of the session leave of absence was granted to Judge Chesley, of Nova Scotia, who was called away by pressing public business. After his departure a telegram was received by Rev. S. F. Huestis, conveying the painful intelligence that two of the Judge's children had been drowned. At a subsequent stage the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

"We have learned with profound sorrow the distressing calamity that has befallen an honored member of the Board, His Honor Judge Chesley, in the accidental death by drowning of two members of his family—a son and a daughter. Our sorrow is intensified, if possible, by the consideration that this great bereavement came while the

Judge was from home in attendance upon the meeting of this Board. We desire to assure him and his sorrow-stricken family of our heartfelt sympathy in this dark, this sore trial; a sympathy so deep, so tender, that words at best can only indicate or convey, but must utterly fail to express it. And we pray very earnestly that the God of all comfort by His sufficient grace may sustain our beloved brother and his afflicted family, and we would say to their grief-stricken hearts 'our hope of you is steadfast, knowing that as ye are the partakers of the sufferings, so shall ye be also of the consolation.'

Before the return of the Rev. Dr. Cochran to his distant home in California, the following resolution, on motion of Dr. Sutherland, seconded by Dr. Potts, was unanimously adopted:

"That it has been a great pleasure to this Board to have had the presence during the session of one of our first missionaries to Japan, the Rev. Dr. Cochran. We remember the valuable service rendered by him for many years in the foreign field, and regret that the state of his health compelled him to retire. We rejoice to know that he is able to render useful service to the cause of theological education where he now resides, and we pray for him many years of happy congenial work in the Church of Christ."

Rev. Dr. Tovell, from the Committee on Memorials, presented the following report, which was adopted:

"1. Resolutions from the Algoma District were considered. (a) The first had reference to grants from the Missionary Society for parsonages. It was recommended that the matter be referred to the Executive Committee, which deals with all such cases.

"(b) The second resolution complains that in the case of the Algoma District missions a serious injustice is done the missionaries in computing their living expenses by inserting in that computation only \$50 for horse keep—that amount being inadequate for the purpose. As this Board deals with the sum total of appropriations to each Conference, it is recommended that the matter referred to be considered by the Missionary Committee of the Conference to which the Algoma District belongs.

"(c) The third resolution calls the attention of the Board to the disparity of salaries between the missionaries of our domestic missions as compared with the missionaries on the foreign field, and asks for a more equitable appropriation.

"Your Committee would remind the brethren of the district that the General Conference fixed the percentage for home mission work at 42½ per cent. of the entire sum appropriated by the Board, and therefore it is not in the power of the General Board to appropriate a sum exceeding that to the home work. Your Committee do not think that the foreign missionaries receive more than they need or deserve, but feel that the home missionaries should receive more financial help; we therefore trust for larger liberality on the part of the Church in order more equitably to remunerate the brethren toiling on our home missions.

"2. Your Committee have had under consideration a copy of a resolution unanimously passed by the New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island Conference *re* reports of missions and criticisms and suggestions by the General Secretary as they appear in the Annual Report.

"(a) Your Committee would emphasize the necessity of domestic missions becoming self-sustaining as soon as possible, and would urge superintendents in charge to aim at that desirable end.

"(b) As to the objection to the criticisms and suggestions interjected by the Secretary into the printed report, your Committee, having learned that the method is not approved by the New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island Conference, would advise the General Secretary to adopt some more effective method of promoting the end intended.

"(c) With regard to the matter of the General Secretary visiting the Annual Conferences, and calling the missionaries together in special convention for the purpose of discussing matters pertaining to their work, we regard the suggestion as a good one, both for purposes of fellowship and counsel, and would recommend it."

A memorial was received from the Stationing Committee of the Manitoba Conference respecting the establishment of an Indian Mission at Moose Mountain. The Board expressed sympathy with their proposal, but could give no help owing to the state of the fund.

When the affairs of the West China Mission were under review, the following resolution was adopted on motion of the General Secretary, seconded by Dr. Tovell:

"That this Board has heard with profound regret the tidings of the riots in the province of Sz-Chuan, West China, by which valuable property was destroyed in the cities of Chentu and Kiating. We express our grateful thanksgiving to Almighty God that the lives of the missionaries were preserved, and we extend to these missionaries our profound sympathy in the dangers and trials through which they passed, and assure them of our appreciation of the Christian courage and devotion which keeps them still in China, waiting for an opportunity to return to the scene of their former labors as soon as the way is open."

It was also resolved that the Executive Committee be instructed to take such steps as may be necessary to support the claim of the missionaries to be recouped for the losses sustained by them; also, the claim of the Missionary Society for loss sustained by the destruction of mission property.

A letter was received from Dr. D. W. Stevenson, of the West China Mission, tendering his resignation on account of the seriously impaired health of his wife and children, which would not permit of their returning to China at the present time. The Board reluctantly accepted the resignation.

After receiving the report of the Committee on Appropriations to the Home Work, the Board adopted the following:

"That in view of the small grants to Home Missions for the present year, and the impossibility of increasing them in consequence of the large decrease of income the past year, it is ordered that the General Superintendent and Missionary Secretary issue a circular letter to the Quarterly Boards of our Home Missions, earnestly appealing to them to make a special effort to raise a larger amount for ministerial support than is set forth in the schedules from the Financial District meetings."

(The letter above referred to has been printed and a copy mailed to the Superintendent of each Home Mission. It is also published in the present number of the *OUTLOOK* and in the *Guardian*.)

An Open Letter.

To the Quarterly Official Boards of the Domestic Missions of the Methodist Church:

DEARLY BELOVED BRETHREN,—Our General Board of Missions, at its recent Session in Montreal, had before it many serious and perplexing problems affecting our missionary work, and not the least trying and serious of these problems was, "What can be done to make up for the deficits that must this year fall upon the laborers on our Home Mission fields?" Their allowances are small enough at the best; to have these small allowances discounted by a considerable percentage the Board felt to be almost beyond endurance, and would entail burdens that none could bear except for the Lord Jesus Christ's sake. The largest possible reductions were made in the grants to foreign and Indian fields, the strictest economy in administration was arranged for, a hopeful estimate was placed upon the increasing liberality of our people, and yet from the great number of dependent fields and the excessive stringency of the times it was found unavoidable to lessen the percentage of our Home Missionaries from even the

former reduced figure of 70 per cent. of their claim to the still lower figure of 66 2/3 per cent. In any case this must bring hardship upon the missionaries; but especially where there are families to provide for must this reduction of the allowance be keenly felt. This is of course a great grief to the General Board of Missions and to the Church at large, but it must be an especial sorrow to the people among whom these ministers labor.

What can be done in so great a trial and emergency? After much consideration the General Board saw no way of relief open but to appeal to the loyal brethren of the Quarterly Official Boards of these missions and to our faithful people on these charges to do their utmost to increase their payments to their ministers, thereby making up for their losses from the Mission Fund, and cheering their hearts and increasing their comfort in their self-denying toil in the name of the Lord Jesus.

The policy of the Board and of the Church has been liberal and enterprising in planting and sustaining missions. It has ever been the effort of our common Methodism to send the Gospel to them that are beyond, and to use the ground we have acquired as a base of extended operations. We must send the Word of Life to them that have it not, and make them partakers of the salvation that has come to our doors. We feel especially we must carry the Gospel to our own fellow-countrymen. Possibly at times, in this conviction and zeal, we have exceeded the bounds of what some would call worldly wisdom and prudence, but we certainly never have even yet come up to the claims of God upon us, or overtaken the demands made upon us by the spiritual needs of our brethren after the flesh. Yet this urgency of effort must often entail upon the missionary much privation and sacrifice, making it necessary in the economy of grace for those whom they serve to come to their help. Especially is this the case in our Canadian Methodism this year; so that while on the one hand we call on all our people for more liberal contributions to the missionary cause, on the other hand we feel it our duty to call especially upon the Quarterly Official Boards of our Domestic Missions and the congregations of our people under their direction, the parties more immediately interested, to take these circumstances into their pious and prayerful consideration, and by the best means in their power increase their contributions and payments to the salaries of their pastors. We urge this upon you in the name of Christ and His Church.

In many cases we feel assured that by careful attention to this important subject, by an intelligent liberality and earnest effort, this noble work can be done. And to such a work gratitude to God, devotion to the interests of our cherished Methodism, and fidelity to our own homes and hearts, invite and incite the brethren and sisters to whom this call is directed.

And it is our sincere prayer that our God may bless you in body and in soul and in every effort put forth for His cause, and make you abound in every good word and work.

Signed, by order and on behalf of the General Board of Missions,

A. CARMAN,
General Superintendent.

A. SUTHERLAND,
General Secretary.

Toronto, Oct. 24th, 1895.

A Liberal Offer.

THE object of the publisher of OUTLOOK is not to make money. If it were, the price would be advanced forthwith. The object is to spread information, increase interest, and awaken enthusiasm throughout the Church on missionary lines. What we want is a large circulation—to get the paper into every Methodist family, if possible. To hasten this

desirable result we offer the OUTLOOK from November, 1895, till the end of 1896 (fourteen months in all), for the regular club rate—TWENTY-FIVE CENTS. This is almost giving the paper away. Furthermore, we will also send a free copy for one year to any person sending us a club of eight NEW subscribers. *These offers are open only until end of December.* Will all our readers who are interested in Methodist missions kindly help in this matter.

STILL ANOTHER OFFER. We have a large map of Japan, four feet square, prepared by the Rev. J. W. Saunby, B.A., showing the location of all our missions. Just the thing for Missionary Auxiliaries, Sunday-schools and Epworth Leagues. For eight new subscribers we will send a copy of this map on paper. For twelve new subscribers the same map mounted on cotton. For twenty new subscribers the same map mounted on cotton with rollers. Who will be the first to claim one of these fine maps?

Missionary Tracts.

RECOGNIZING the fact that in order to keep missionary zeal burning it is necessary to provide the right kind of fuel, we have had a number of tracts printed and put up in envelopes, which the friends of missions will find very useful and convenient for distribution. These tracts are all good, care having been exercised in their selection, and are also cheap—ninety-two pages for ten cents, including postage.

Series A. **MISSIONARY TRACTS.** Price, 5 Cents.

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	PAGES.
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2. An Appeal from Student Volunteers....	8
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5. Do Foreign Missions Pay? ..	6
6. Put Yourself in His Place	6

Any of the above Tracts can be had in quantities for distribution at prices printed on bottom of first page of each Tract.

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Series B. **MISSIONARY TRACTS.** Price, 5 Cents.

THIS ENVELOPE CONTAINS THE FOLLOWING:

	PAGES.
1. A Tithe for the Lord.....	4
2. The Brown Towel	4
3. The Man that Died for Me	8
4. China's Millions	12
5. A Penny a Week and a Prayer	8
6. The Deacon's Tenth	8

Any of the above Tracts can be had in quantities for distribution at prices printed on bottom of first page of each Tract.

Address, **METHODIST MISSION ROOMS, TORONTO.**

Along the Line

The Indian Work.

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

Letter from REV. B. C. FREEMAN, dated SKIDEGATE,
Q. C. I., B. C., September 3rd, 1895.

I HAVE recently returned from an evangelistic trip on *Glad Tidings* around the west coast of Vancouver Island. My people had gone to Skeena River for salmon fishing; so I volunteered to the chairman for a trip on *Glad Tidings*, and was readily accepted.

Our first call out of Victoria was at Neeah Bay on the American side, and from there we ran to Nitinat, where we found Brother and Sister Stone well and busy on their new mission. A comfortable mission house is nearly completed, and the government has erected a neat and commodious school-house. We spent in all sixteen days on the coast, holding a service wherever we could find a company of people.

Three Oiat villages in Barclay Sound are without other spiritual help than the brief annual visit of a Roman Catholic priest. At Ucluelet, to the north of the Sound, the Presbyterians are opening work. In Clayognot Sound there is no Protestant missionary at any of the four populous villages on this sheltered water. A-housett village, with a population of about four hundred, and anxious for a teacher, seems a particularly inviting field. North of this are Nootka, Noochatlet, A-hatchet and two other villages, with a population each of from one to two hundred, all desiring teachers to be sent to them. Kyuquot, population over four hundred, is a Roman Catholic mission, but the people turned out almost unanimously to our service. At Quatsino Sound the Indians do not number much over one hundred, but the place demands special attention because of the numerous white settlers coming in along the Sound. Then there is the long standing appeal of Nahwittie for a teacher still unanswered. Surely the cry of these places comes up before the Lord and demands a response from His church.

We reached Skidegate August 20th, and found all well under our Heavenly Father's care.

The Foreign Work.

JAPAN.

PROGRESS IN YAMANASHI KEN.

BY REV. WILLIAM ELLIOTT.

NOTHING has appeared in your columns this year from the Yamanashi District, Japan. Though somewhat late, I send a copy of the District Report presented at our last annual Conference by the Rev. N. Kobayashi, Chairman:

"Though we are unable to report any remarkable progress in connection with this district, still we are thankful to God that our Methodist work in this field has met with some degree of substantial success. . . . The increase in membership is thirty-eight, in contributions, 173 yen.

"It has been, especially since the beginning of the year, a period of disquietude. Perhaps our Lord's words, "Let him that hath a cloak sell it, and buy a sword," would not be altogether inapplicable. Still we have not been able to turn to account this very feeling, and the meetings we have held throughout the district, with a view to inspiring the people with Christian patriotism, and to relieve their families at home from want, have had a good influence in setting forth the real nature of Christianity, and the relation it bears to the State. As a consequence, much of the misconception and prejudice which has existed in years past has been removed.

"This year we have begun work in six new places, namely, Matsushima, Momozono, Oi, Aoyagi, Kuraichi, and Saruhashi. At these points we have held regular services, and have found the work encouraging.

"During the year we have held throughout the District some fifty or sixty special meetings. For doing this work we divided our staff of workers into groups of two or three, and these went about the district preaching the Kingdom of God. We continued this kind of work for about six months, expending on it much labor and money. But we had the satisfaction of seeing large audiences everywhere, and found the work exceedingly interesting.

"Last year, with the consent of Conference, we made a request to the Mission Board for a subsidy to enable us to start a boys' school in Kofu. But the amount was not granted, on the ground that there were large extra expenses incurred on the Tokyo District because of the damage done by the earthquake. The members of the Kofu Church, however, feeling that the necessity for such a school must be met, and that the opportunity offering must be taken advantage of, started the school last October on a small scale themselves. It has gradually grown until we have now, in the day and night classes together, seventy scholars. The course of study consists of Chinese, English and Mathematics. Half an hour is spent each day in Bible study, and every opportunity is taken advantage of to inculcate Christian principles. Since January last Misses Preston and Cartmell have kindly aided in the English teaching, and have thus in no small degree contributed to the success of the school. We cannot be too grateful to these ladies for their assistance. This year we have again presented our request for a grant, and we have full confidence that the Board will give such assistance as shall put the school in a position to effectively supplement the work of the Church in accomplishing the glory of God and the salvation of the people in this district."

To this I may add that, according to the *Gokno* (publication of the three leading Methodist Churches in Japan), most interesting and encouraging lecture-meetings were held in Yamura, Katsunuma, Kutsukaki, Ichekawa, Ooe, and various other places in Yamanashi Ken in the spring. The principal speaker was S. Abara, M.P., who was assisted by the leading pastors of the various fields. It was stated that about two thousand people heard these lectures, that they were the most successful that had been held for many years, and that several churches were greatly quickened as a result. A number of baptisms followed shortly after, and young people's Christian associations were organized.

Mr. Abara is a simple, earnest Christian, faithful rather than brilliant, emphatically an everyday worker. As president of our school in Azabu, a member of nearly every annual Conference, and associated in a wide range of activities, besides he is a most useful and deservedly popular man. The people were naturally eager to hear what this Christian M.P. had to say about "The War and Christianity," and "The Relation of Religion to the State." And he did them good, and helped them much to pave the way for the chariot of the Gospel. May it roll on unceasingly and more rapidly.

COMPANIES of priests and nuns have arrived in New York from Ecuador, South America. They call themselves exiles, driven out by persecution. They are nothing of the kind. All travellers for years have represented Ecuador as the most priest-ridden country in the world. Education was limited, enterprise hardly existed, a low state of public and private morals prevailed. There has been a revolution, of which very meagre reports have been made. As far as they go, they indicate that Ecuador has thrown off the yoke of the Roman hierarchy, as Mexico, the Central and South American Republics generally have done, and it is possible that some of the chiefly obnoxious orders have been banished from the country. No country in North or South America has been so far behind the times in desirable attainments as Ecuador, and the fact has been due to the supremacy of Roman Catholic priests and sisters.

1881



1895

Woman's Missionary Society

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" Preston, Kofu.
" Munro, Tokyo.
" Hargrave*, Kanazawa.
" L. Hart*, Tokyo.
" Blackmore*, Kofu.
" Nellie Hart*, Tokyo.
" Robertson, Shizuoka.
" Morgan*, Shizuoka.
" Veazey, Kanazawa.
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Miss Maggie Jackson, West End
School.
Miss Matthieu, East End School.
" Anderson, Bible Woman.
Madame Morin, " "

* On furlough.

"THIS IS THE VICTORY, EVEN OUR FAITH."

N.B.—Communications for this Department post-marked after the 18th of the month will appear in following month.

N.B.—All subscriptions for the OUTLOOK must be sent to the Methodist Mission Rooms, Toronto.

N.B.—Certificates of Life Membership may be obtained by addressing Miss Ogden, Room 20, Wesley Buildings.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

Thanksgiving, Thanks-Living, Thanks- Offering.

Mal. iii., 10.

THANKSGIVING and discontent cannot dwell in the same heart, for "out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh." And before there can come the exultant note of triumphant

thanksgiving there must be content and peace—that perfect peace which results from having the mind and heart stayed upon Him, who is the Prince of Peace. There must be the conscious resignation and obedience to the will of Him, into whose hands we commit ourselves, knowing we are not our own, but are bought with a price. Thanksgiving, then, is but the expression of the grateful love of a happy soul. If we truly love Him it will find expression in caring for "one of the least of these," so thanks-offering is but the natural outcome of thanksgiving. Were it not so our thanksgiving would be little more than a "sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal," or incense offered by sacriligious hands.

"Bring ye all the tithes;" God did not ask the people of the olden time to bring their goods, but His. The tithe was the Lord's. Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse—the tithes of which ye have robbed me, So God asks of us to-day to bring His goods into the storehouse; not simply the Old Testament tenth, but commensurate with the greater opportunities and the greater blessings.

As we look out upon the vast sea of human existence and note the darkness and crime, the ignorance and superstition, the poverty and the disease of such vast masses of our humanity, and think how little have these other children of our Father as compared with us, we bow in humble gratitude before Him, who, by His death, has given us this life, and with the vow of consecration in our hearts we say, "Take my life, my time, my love, my means—we give all freely, Lord, to Thee."

As we begin to number the blessings of this passing year we find they are countless. Yes, even though there have been days when heart and flesh failed us, when the furnace of affliction seemed heated "seven times hotter," and the touch of the Refiner's hand meant keenest heart agony; yet, despite all this, we are compelled to exclaim, "Goodness and mercy have followed us all our days." "Bless the Lord, oh my soul, and all that is within me, bless His holy name."

If in this spirit we pass our days, we know the joy, the supremest joy, this side the Glory Land. Each day a hallelujah chorus; His name written upon our foreheads, and on our brow will shine the glory of the Divine, and in thought and in word and act will men and women see Christ in us. How we shall be blessed! With the in-brought tithes will come the down-poured blessings; yea, so that there shall not be room enough to receive them!

Echoes from the Board.

TORONTO, the city of churches, of well kept Sabbaths, and of conventions manifold, was the appointed place of meeting of the Board of Managers of our Woman's Missionary Society. Fortunately, the people of Toronto have large hearts, else the strain of such a protracted series of conventions might prove too great. The Board representatives had certainly no grounds for complaint; our kind hosts and host-

esses treated us to the best of everything—except water,—and of this last essential they gave us of their best—even North Toronto water.

The lecture-room of Carlton Street Methodist Church was prettily adorned with flowers of richest shade and coloring, and palms and ferns that had a stately gracefulness all their own; they cheered and helped us many a time when grave and perplexing questions pressed heavily; bearing to our ears, perchance with variations, the old but ever sweet message of "Consider the lilies."

We are not going to attempt a detailed account of this Board meeting. In the next issue will appear the official report from the official source, and we have no wish to trespass; but there are many little items that, for lack of space, could never be embodied in any report, but which may be quite helpful and interesting to the workers at large.

It is well-known that the deliberations of this convention promised to be more than ordinarily serious and important. Each delegate seemed so impressed with this fact that she did not venture to attend without much thought and preparation—the preparation which one gets from being often in prayer, and from disabusing one's mind from former prejudices—need you wonder then at the outcome?

Peace and quietness prevailed. Matters were adjusted as far as possible, that for a year or so has shaken our entire Missionary Society from centre to circumference. No auxiliary was so remote as not to be directly or indirectly affected. We trust, as a result of the settlements of the difficulties, such an impetus will be given to the work as will fill our Treasury to overflowing, as will send more missionaries into the foreign field and swell the ranks of our home workers into a vast and impregnable force. What we wish for ourselves we desire in equal manner for the parent Society.

The first evening we heard the report from the Supply Committee. Touching incidents were given of the great, yet comparatively silent work, accomplished through it. Poverty, sharp and biting, was in many instances robbed of its keenest sting because of the sympathy and help afforded. Could those contributing but have heard, they would have realised that their gifts were indeed unto Him, because bestowed upon His needy ones. In Nova Scotia a branch has been started to supply the wants there. Auxiliaries and Mission Bands, in all one hundred and fifty, had during the past year lent a helping hand to this most deserving branch of our work.

Two of our returned missionaries from Japan gave vivid descriptions of the necessities and possibilities of the work in that Empire, stating that the most effective work could be accomplished through the schools and through the instrumentality of converted and trained natives. Their words struck a responsive chord in many a heart, and as we listened we fancied we caught glimmers of a brighter day-dawn than Japan has yet known. The claims of our Indian work were ably championed by Miss Clarke, of the

Indian Institute, Chilliwack, B.C., who is now home on furlough after six years of labor in the Institute. "The right woman in the right place" could not but be the mental verdict of all, as we listened to the graphic recital of everyday life in the Home and noted how the spiritual was intertwined with the physical in the life of the Indian children sheltered there.

The Treasurer's report showed the gratifying increase of \$571 over last year. This is but in keeping with the past record of our Society, for from the first hour of its inception, advancement and progress has marked its every step.

What the outcome of this next year will be rests with ourselves. God grant that with singleness of purpose and with unity of heart we, as a society, will work and pray for still greater results, still grander achievements, ever keeping before our eyes the goal of all our hopes and prayers, when "the kingdoms of this world shall become the kingdoms of our Lord and of His Christ."

Gleanings.

WE greatly missed from this Board Meeting the presence of some of our most efficient workers. They will receive a double welcome next year.

THE *personnel* of the Executive remains unchanged, with the exception of Mrs. Willmott, who for many years has so ably filled the position of our Recording Secretary, but on account of other duties declined re-election. Her place will be supplied by Mrs. Kerr, the efficient secretary of Toronto Conference Branch. We are pleased to state that Mrs. Willmott, by virtue of her office as President of the Toronto Conference Branch, still remains a member of the Board Executive.

Six of our returned missionaries were present, and were given a cordial welcome by the Board, of which they were at once made members, accorded all its privileges, with the exception of voting. Everyone was pleased to see them, and we could not be other than impressed with how much they loved the work to which God had called them.

A LETTER was read from some dear sister, name unknown, stating that she wished to bequeath her little property to our society. Cannot some more of us, stimulated by her example, "do likewise;" or better still, give a donation *now*, if possible, instead of a bequest later.

THE words "in harmony" and "out of harmony" have become such a thrice-told tale that some of us have decided to expunge them from our vocabulary, and just *live* out the former phrase without note or comment. "Blest be the tie that binds."

THE conclusion of the whole matter is this, we had a good convention, honored by the presence of the Master at every session, and more than once "our hearts burned within us as He talked with us by the way."

Fireside Chat with Discouraged Workers.

"FEAR thou not, for I am with thee; be not dismayed, for I am thy God; I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness."

We had intended to use the above promise merely for the year, but so many of you have told us how you have been helped and strengthened as month by

month your eye fell on it in our "Chats," that we dare scarcely assume the responsibility of withdrawing it. We had also purposed letting the "Fireside Chats" expire with the year, but you have made this, through your kindly words of appreciation, too difficult a task for us to undertake; so for this year our "Chats" will continue as formerly. But we must tell you frankly that we have almost exhausted subject matter. Unless you supply it, what *are* we to do? You know we have discussed almost every point connected with auxiliary work, and as for Branch and Board work, we feel as if that were lying too far outside our province to undertake. This month, of course, there is an abundance of material, for we want to tell you all about the Board which convened in Carlton Street church, Toronto.

Let us widen the circle, for we want every auxiliary member present. We will draw the curtains on the outside world, shutting out the chill and gloom of this November evening, and add an extra bundle of faggots to our fire. We want the memory of this, our first Fireside Chat for some months, to be as bright as possible. How the fire glows and sparkles! And how the banks of flame lighten every corner as they send forth to each one a right, royal welcome! Let us give our seats of honor to that delegation from the "Provinces by the Sea," who to-night cheer us with their presence. Tried and true workers, how you seem to bear with you, the strength and vigor of your native air! How you love the work of our beloved Society, travelling cheerfully the long distance intervening between your home and ours to be present at the deliberations of the Board of Managers, which would be so incomplete without you. And now, though you would fain turn your faces homeward, you tarry for an evening to join us, and, with gracious words of encouragement on your lips, help us to take up another year's work—how much only God and our own hearts know, for we dare not trust ourselves to voice our thanks.

To-night we know you will allow us to repeat the tender story, gleaned from the report of the Nova Scotia Branch, for the benefit of those who were not present.

We know how familiar you all are with the name of Mrs. McCoy, the beloved President of that Branch until something over two years ago, when she was promoted to higher service. During this year her son, Ernest Langford, joined her. The impressions ingrafted upon his mind by that mother, of love and devotion to our Woman's Missionary Society were so deep that for all time their indelible impress will be felt. After his death the sum of fifty dollars was found among his belongings, with a little note appended, stating it was his legacy to "Mother's Society." Those of us who were mothers found our eyes growing misty as we listened, and we mentally registered a vow that we would so try to uphold the claims of this cause in our homes, so live and work for it, that it would become such a part of our life

that our children would know it as "Mother's Society." We pass this simple, touching story on to you. Tell it to your auxiliaries, your mission circles, your discouraged workers; but, best of all, tell it to your children as they gather around you in the twilight hour—their hour it should be in every home. Let them know of the one who heroically bore his sufferings and saved and gathered for "Mother's Society." Who knows, perchance, some day, because of this story, some one of your little flock will feel called upon to give his or her *life* to "Mother's Society."

We feel as if this story especially belongs to those mothers upon whom family cares and responsibilities press so heavily that they seldom get beyond the four walls of their home. They have never attended a Branch meeting, never expect to be present at a gathering of the Board—indeed, find it most difficult to attend even their own auxiliary meetings. Courage, dear sisters! You in your home, among your children, may be doing a greater work than "this world dreams of." Some day they may be found among the leaders in the ever-increasing phalanx of missionary toilers. Then will be recognized your life's quiet devotion to missions, reproduced in their lives. But how comforting the thought that One above has been noting your unnoticed labors, and is not waiting for results before bestowing upon you His approving smile!

We would like to tell you of a testimony meeting that was held the last afternoon of the convention. Though there was a place on the programme for this meeting, the pressure of business was so great that all feared that for this year we would have to dispense with it, as we had already taken another day than was previously arranged. Insensibly we glided into it. There came a lull in the routine of putting an amendment after the amendment, followed by the amendment, then the main motion, which, after all, carried, when our Vice-President rose "to a question of privilege," stating she had an explanation regarding the work to give, but before stating it would like us all to join in singing "Blest be the tie that binds." How heartily and fervently we all joined in the singing only those can imagine who know how much we all longed—Board and missionaries—to be united more closely than we had ever been. As the hymn proceeded, the words took on a deeper significance, and the subdued cadence, so plainly visible running through it, told how the song came from the singers' hearts. At its conclusion it seemed the most natural thing in the world to drift into a testimony meeting. And when, because of fast-speeding time, our President had to announce the resuming of business, we each felt we were better fitted to deal with the grave problems confronting us, because of that brief space spent in testimony.

We have told so little, yet enough, perhaps, for this one evening. "God be with you till we meet again."

S. R. W.

From the Editor.

DEAR SISTERS,—We are commencing another year of service in our Missionary Society. It would be a strange and pitiable thing if we, profiting by the failures and mistakes of the past, did not make this year the best of our existence. We trust progress and advancement will be the watchword all along the line.

Will you not help us in every way possible to make this year's issues of the *OUTLOOK* more helpful than ever? In this connection we would like to thank you for the sympathy, support and prayers so freely given during the past, and for the kindly words of cheer received from all the Branches. We cannot tell you how they have strengthened us when almost discouraged "because of the way."

Now, there were a few suggestions contained in the report of your Editor which received the endorsement of the Board. We will have to ask your co-operation in their carrying out. As the first two more directly affects your part of the work, we will copy them in full:

"1st. In view of the lack of space in both *Guardian* and *OUTLOOK*, we would suggest that there be not duplicate reports in both papers.

"2nd. That all Auxiliary and District reports come under the head of the Branch to which they belong, and, to make the best possible use of our space, empower the editor to condense, if necessary, by striking out all repetition and unnecessary matter."

In view of this last suggestion, please state when sending in your reports to what Branch they belong. It is but natural that one should be more interested in reports from one's own Branch.

Another favor we would like to ask is that Board and Branch officers will, at least occasionally, contribute to our columns. We greatly need the suggestions you are so fitted to give. And will not one and all help by endeavoring to send in large subscription lists? Let us make this year the best in every sense of the term our *OUTLOOK* has yet known.

S. R. W.

Notices.

WE would like to again call the attention of auxiliaries to the note in each issue of *OUTLOOK*, that all subscriptions be sent direct to the Methodist Mission Rooms, Toronto. Because of this not being more generally observed, a good deal of extra labor and expense is laid upon your editor. Please do not forward any more subscriptions to her.

Hamilton Conference Branch.

THE first Annual Meeting of this Branch assembled in St. Paul Street Church, St. Catharines, Tuesday, October 1st, at 2.30 p.m. Mrs. T. W. Jackson, Fergus, President, in the chair. Mrs. Phelps, Mount Pleasant, led the opening devotions. Seventy delegates were present, to whom the President spoke kindly words of greeting and introduced the officers.

Mrs. Fairfield welcomed the delegates to the Garden City, and Mrs. Hardy, Hamilton, in reply, recommended the motto, "Every woman in our Church and Society and

every heathen woman for Christ." Greetings were presented from sister societies—Baptist, Episcopal, Presbyterian and Woman's Christian Temperance Union, also by telegram from the London Branch, with Scripture references, Joshua i. 9; Mathew xxviii. 20.

Thirteen members having died during the year, Miss Barker, Guelph, conducted a service "In loving remembrance." An uplifting and helpful pentecostal service, led by Mrs. Van Benscotin, Newark, N.Y., fittingly closed the morning session.

Between the sessions, a reception and tea was tendered the delegates by the St. Paul Street Mission Circle.

EVENING.

The President's address at the public meeting was to the workers, and full of earnest appeal and encouragement. Mrs. Van Benscotin spoke of the Society's fourteen years of work, her subject being, "What of the story of these years?"

The Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. Smith, Guelph, reported 95 auxiliaries; annual members, 1,997; life members, 139. Total, 2,136.

The Treasurer's report, by Mrs. Williams, showed the income to be \$5,124.35; balance on hand, \$38.19.

WEDNESDAY MORNING.

Four young ladies from this Branch had applied to enter the Society's work, two had been appointed—Miss Alton, of Oakville and Miss Bowes, of Milton. The morning was devoted to committee work.

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON.

A memorial from Dundas Auxiliary was received, recommending Miss Whitfield's work in Africa to the careful consideration of our Woman's Missionary Society. Miss Whitfield gave an account of her work, its needs, and how they could be met.

The Mission Band Committee recommends that the names of life members of Circles and Bands be printed in the annual report of the Branch; that an earnest endeavor be made to increase the circulation of the *Palm Branch* among our Circles and Bands.

From the Modes of Work Committee, that the annual report be used in connection with the Watch Tower or monthly programme; that the Scattered Helpers scheme be used as far as practicable; that the *Letter Leaflets* be retained in their present form, and that missionary maps of our foreign fields be placed in Auxiliaries. These were accepted. The Organizer's Committee recommends, that each district appoint their organizers at the district meeting; that a committee be appointed to draft a constitution for districts; that pastors, on unorganized charges, be interviewed personally and the co-operation of the Christian women obtained—pastors might assist, on these charges, in distributing missionary literature. Mrs. Scarff, Conference Organizer, reported district meetings held on all, but one, of the fourteen districts.

Mrs. Nicholas, of British Columbia, spoke of her experiences in work among the Indians.

THURSDAY.

On Thursday morning reports were again taken up. The Mission Band Secretary reported 38 Circles and Bands, six new ones this year, and others ready for work; 1,113 annual and 22 life members. Total 1,135. The amount raised, \$947.42.

The claims of the Japan Industrial work were presented and the Auxiliaries asked to patronize it.

The question drawer proved interesting, answers being given by Mrs. Smith and Mrs. G. N. Jackson.

"Practical Talk" by Mrs. Gayfer was requested to be published in pamphlet form.

A large audience met to enjoy the evening with the Mission Bands. Rev. D. W. Snyder, chairman, complimented the young people for their earnest work.

A paper on "Missionary Work" by Miss Varley, vocal solos by Mr. Abbs and Mrs. Gilmore, and instrumentals by Misses McCordick and Taylor, were well rendered. The choir also gave valuable assistance.

Mrs. G. N. Jackson's "Plea for Mission Bands" was an earnest appeal for the faithful mothering of these nurseries by our Woman's Missionary Society. Miss McAllister followed with an address on Africa, full of stern truths and a vigorous call for consecrated silver.

The prize banner, presented to the Branch, by Mrs. (Senator) Sanford, Hamilton, was awarded to St. Paul Street Band, St. Catharines.

The election of officers resulted as follows: President, Mrs. T. W. Jackson, Fergus; 1st Vice-President, Mrs. Phelps, Mount Pleasant; 2nd Vice-President, Mrs. Hardy, Hamilton; 3rd Vice-president, Mrs. Sharp, Brantford; Corresponding-Secretary, Mrs. W. G. Smith, Guelph; Recording Secretary, Mrs. Gayfer, Hamilton; Treasurer, Mrs. Williams, Galt; Mission Band Secretary, Mrs. G. N. Jackson, Hamilton; Auditor, Mr. Cober, Galt. Conference Organizer, Mrs. Scarff, Guelph; Conference Representative, Mrs. Mitchell, Milton.

The next year's Convention will be held in Hamilton. The delegates elected to the General Board were: Mrs. Mitchell, Milton; Mrs. Gayfer, Hamilton; Mrs. Phelps, Mount Pleasant; Mrs. G. N. Jackson, Hamilton; Mrs. R. T. Williams, Galt. Alternates—Mrs. Hardy, Hamilton; Mrs. Scarff, Guelph. The district organizers remain unchanged until their respective district meetings.

The Committee on Courtesies, through Mrs. Crawford, expressed their appreciation of every favor and kindness shown to the Convention.

London Conference Branch.

FIRST ANNUAL MEETING HELD IN CENTRAL METHODIST CHURCH, ST. THOMAS, OCT. 1ST, 2ND AND 3RD, 1895.

The First Session opened at 2.30 p.m. Mrs. Burns, St. Thomas., President, in the chair, and an attendance of 88 delegates and a large number of visitors from the outlying districts.

After devotions and routine business a tender and solemn memorial service was conducted by Mrs. Chown, of Wyoming. The following members have been called to their reward, the fragrance of whose life and work still lingers with us. Mesdames C. Snell and R. Manning, Exeter; F. Somers, St. Mary's; J. Fleming, London; J. Leech, Gorrie; S. Hunt, Westminster; A. Sinclair, Ridgetown; Haywood, May, and Scarlet, Clinton; McKee, West and Meyers, Listowel; Thompson, Dunham and Rosevear, St. Thomas; Miss Bertha Heritage, London West.

The Afternoon Session closed with the communion, administered by Rev. Dr. Hannon and Rev. C. T. Scott, of St. Thomas, and A. Cunningham of London.

The Evening Session was well attended, the programme being in the hands of the ladies.

The Rev. J. E. Hunter and R. McNair opened the session with Bible reading and prayer, followed by the President's address. This was a thoughtful and practical review of the Woman's Missionary Society, its operations, aims and rewards. Mrs. Burns closed with an earnest appeal for co-operation from the women of the Church at large.

Addresses of welcome and greetings from sister societies were showered down upon the delegates in such profusion and with such affectionate intent, that it is impossible to touch individually upon those presented. All denominations vied with each other to express to the Convention their pleasure that St. Thomas had been honored by the presence of the delegates in their midst. Suitable and kindly responses were made.

The report of the Cor. Sec., Mrs. Cunningham, was given briefly as follows: Number of auxiliaries, eighty-six; annual members, 1,887; life members, seventy-seven, total 1,964; Mission Bands twenty-two; amount raised, \$5,169.89, sent to General Treasurer \$5,028.09. Report adopted.

Mrs. Edwards, of the St. Clair Reserve, followed with a graphic recital of work among the Indians who are of the Ojibway tribe. The audience manifested their interest by frequent applause, while laughter and tears followed in quick succession at the touches of humor and pathos.

Wednesday morning's session was occupied with com-

mittee work. As the memorials will reappear in the proceedings of the General Board Woman's Missionary Society, the decisions are summarized.

Notices of motion *re* Mission Band Constitution. These have already been published in the OUTLOOK. The vote was affirmative in each case.

Notices of motion to change the basis of representation to Branch and Board meetings were rejected.

Notice of motion to establish a Superannuation Fund for missionaries was rejected.

The following emanating from this Branch was carried:

Resolved,—That in view of the fact that a memorial will be sent from a sister branch, asking the Board of Managers—with the approval of the General Society—to open work in Africa, this Branch supports the prayer of the memorial. Moved by Mrs. Dickson, seconded by Mrs. Fowler.

In response to a letter from the Literature Committee, asking for an expression as to continuing the publication of the programme in the *Monthly Leaflet*, the following resolution was received, being a re-arrangement of one presented by the First Methodist Church, St. Thomas:

Resolved,—That this Branch petition the Board to continue the suggested programme and favor its publication in yearly form, as recommended by St. Thomas First Methodist Church. A resolution from the same church asking for a financial share in the OUTLOOK was rejected, but a committee, consisting of Mesdames Cunningham and Daly, was appointed to ascertain the number of members in this Branch who are subscribers to the OUTLOOK.

A letter from Miss Smith regarding the *Palm Branch* received favorable attention; it was also resolved to do all in our power to favor the sale of the work sent from the Kanazawa Industrial School.

The following were ordered as by-laws of this Branch:

1. That District Organizers be *ex-officio* members of the Branch Meeting, and have all the privileges of delegates and expenses paid by the Branch Treasurer.

2. That any General Board Officer of the Woman's Missionary Society resident in the Branch be a member of the Branch meeting, with all the privileges of the Convention and expenses paid by the Branch Treasurer.

3. That the Conference Organizer's expenses be paid by the Branch.

A letter from Faith Fenton, editor of the *Home Journal*, was read, requesting a monthly report of our Society's work; Mrs. John Chapman, London, was appointed correspondent.

On Wednesday afternoon Mrs. Bond, Seaforth, Conference Organizer, gave her report, the following being a summary: In the London Conference there are 158 Stations and Circuits, and 25 Missions. On 86 of these we have one or more Auxiliaries, leaving 97 unorganized. Eight Auxiliaries have been organized, viz.: Ridgetown, Wesley, Centenary, Alvinston, Thedford, Sparta, Yarmouth Centre, and Clandeboye Nursery; two have disbanded—Luton and Tuckersmith. Seven districts have held conventions. Adopted.

This report was followed by a paper on Auxiliary work by Mrs. Lawrence, Sarnia. The discussion ensuing elicited many valuable suggestions as to methods, etc.

Miss Wigle, our Missionary designate, Mrs. Wright, our Editor, and several ministers were introduced to the Convention, and expressed their interest in the work, and kind wishes for future progress. Miss Wigle gave a Bible reading from John xv.

On Wednesday evening a delightful reception was tendered the delegates by the Principal and Faculty of Alma College. The spacious building was thrown open for inspection, and a short and sweet programme of music and recitations rendered by the students in the college chapel, refreshments being served in the class-rooms.

Thursday morning's session included the Corresponding Secretary's report in detail, and that of the Treasurer, Mrs. Gardiner, of Chatham. The amount received during the year was \$5,169.59. Remitted General Treasurer, \$5,028.09. Adopted.

Mrs. Daly, Corresponding Secretary of Mission Bands, reports as follows: Twenty-two, six being new ones; number of members, 818. Amount sent through auxiliaries, \$1,086.18. Details were also given. Report adopted.

A short but suggestive paper on "Mission Band Work," by Miss Trebilcock, London, drew from Mrs. Daly a sketch of a programme for Mission Bands. The following resolution was moved by Mrs. Daly, and seconded by Mrs. Rae, That this Branch memorialize the Board to instruct the Literature Committee to keep in stock "Fuel for Missionary Fires," by Miss Belle Brain. Carried.

An invitation from Dundas Centre Church, London, to hold the Branch meeting of 1896 was accepted, that from Ridgetown being held over for a year.

During the sessions greetings were received from the Hamilton and Toronto Branches, the latter too late for a reply.

An explanation of the Watch Tower, as conducted in the St. Thomas Auxiliary, was given by Mrs. Graham, at the request of the Convention.

Officers were then elected as follows: President, Mrs. Burns, St. Thomas. Vice-Presidents, Mrs. Dr. Fowler, London; Mrs. Dickson, London; Mrs. A. Wood, St. Thomas. Recording Secretary, Mrs. McMechan, London; Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. A. Cunningham, London; Treasurer, Mrs. T. W. Crothers, St. Thomas; Mission Band Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. Daly, London. District Organizers—London, Mrs. McMechan; St. Thomas, Mrs. John Risdon; Aylmer, Mrs. Treleaven; Chatham, Mrs. McIntyre; Windsor, Mrs. Gundy; Ridgetown, Mrs. Scatcherd, Newbury; Exeter, Mrs. Paisley, Ilderton; St. Mary's, Mrs. Rice; Stratford, Mrs. Flagg, Mitchell; Goderich, Mrs. Leich; Kincardine, Mrs. Cuyler, Whitechurch; Wingham, left with Conference Organizer; Listowel, Mrs. Hampton; Strathroy, Mrs. Chown, Wyoming; Sarnia, Mrs. Edwards. Conference Organizer, Mrs. Bond, Seaforth. Representative to Annual Conference, Mrs. McMechan. Delegates to General Board of Woman's Missionary Society, which met in Toronto on October 15th: Mesdames Dickson, Daly, McMechan, London; Mrs. Bond, Seaforth, and Mrs. Fowler, London. Alternates, Mrs. Edwards, Sarnia, and Mrs. Beal, London. The Convention closed Thursday evening, when a musical programme and addresses were given in the Duncombe Opera House, which was so crowded that many were turned away.

The Mission Band of the First Methodist Church during the evening received the prize banner for the largest percentage of increase, sixty-nine, during the year.

The usual votes of thanks, with special mention of Principal Austin and Prof. Ayers, for his careful training of the children, were passed with enthusiasm.

Dr. Hannon pronounced the benediction, and the first annual convention became a thing of the past.

A. G. MCMEECHAN, *Rec. Sec.*

Twelfth Annual Meeting of the Nova Scotia Branch.

FIFTY-FOUR delegates gathered together in the pretty town of Yarmouth, to pray and plan for another year's work for our beloved society.

Without exception, our delegates were earnest, interested women, and our proceedings, from beginning to close, were marked by spiritual fervor and an earnest desire to do the best and the right. And, best of all, God was with us, and there was not a jarring note.

The ladies of Yarmouth tendered us a hearty reception on the first evening, and we enjoyed a varied programme of music, recitations, addresses of welcome and refreshments, and the meeting of old friends and the making of new ones added to a delightful evening.

Our public meetings were not as well attended as usual, owing to the Woman's Christian Temperance Union Convention having been held just before ours—and the friends were tired; but, the programmes were good and interesting. We had the honor and privilege of having with us two of our late missionaries, Mrs. Tuttle (née Miss Leake) and Miss Clarke, lately returned from the Coqualeetza Home, British Columbia. Both ladies spoke to us with much earnestness and acceptance, and from Miss Clarke we gathered much information regarding the life of the

"Home." We had also a thrilling address from Miss Hooper, a member of the Salvation Army, who has spent many years in India among the child-widows. Her story, so pathetically told, made us all feel we knew not the meaning of the words "self-sacrifice," and that we had only touched the fringe of real mission work for Christ, and

"Others are up and doing
While we are slumbering here."

We report 53 Auxiliaries, 80 life members, 53 Mission Circles and Bands. Total membership, 2,026. Amount raised, \$3,909.15.

Our officers were re-elected, with the exception of corresponding-secretary and two vice-presidents. Our meeting closed with a most solemn memorial and consecration service, in which nearly all took part. The testimonies were given without pre-arrangement, mostly by a verse of a hymn, and made a most effective and beautiful closing. We all feel that God's promise *will* be fulfilled in the coming year if we only are faithful to our trust,

"My presence shall go with thee, and
I will give thee rest."

S. JENNIE SMITH, *Cor. Sec.*

Montreal Branch Annual Meeting.

AMID pleasant surroundings, the Montreal Branch of the Woman's Missionary Society began its work in Iroquois on Tuesday, October 1st. President, Mrs. Ross, in the chair. Sixty-two delegates responded to the roll call. The memorial service for promoted members was very impressive, many loving words were spoken of those who had moved forward and entered into rest.

Reports from auxiliaries showed a deeper interest in the work, seventeen new ones have been formed during the year and our membership increased by seventy-four.

Mrs. (Dr.) Williams, Corresponding Secretary, is an indefatigable worker, and during the last year visited Gaspe, and there, travelling from house to house, succeeded in establishing new auxiliaries and arousing an interest in mission work.

Mrs. Atkinson, Recording Secretary, having been detained by illness in her home, Mrs. (Rev.) J. E. Mavety was appointed Secretary *pro tem*.

Cordial greetings from the Presbyterian Society, Iroquois, were given by Mrs. (Rev.) McAllister, who expressed pleasure at being able to take part in the meeting.

A paper, "On Holiness, in Relation to Mission Work," by Mrs. John Ross, was read by Mrs. W. E. Ross, and listened to with great interest, as the writer is an invalid shut in from active service.

The chair was occupied by Mrs. (Dr.) Williams during Tuesday evening's session, Mrs. Scott, of Ottawa, leading devotional exercises. During this session the Mission Band favored the audience with several selections.

If the visitors had any doubts of a hearty welcome, the address of Rev. F. G. Lett dispelled them. This address, which was given in Mr. Lett's own inimitable manner, was replied to by Mrs. Robinson, of Montreal.

Mrs. Bannell Sawyer, of Montreal, gave an address on "The Possibilities of Christian Girlhood, in the Home, in Society, and in the Church." This was an excellent address, bristling with good points and must have an influence for good.

Mrs. Ross, President, favored the large assembly with a solo, "Oh, Happy Day." The singing and the song were calculated to lift the soul nearer to God.

Conference organization, conducted by Mrs. Bigelow, was much enjoyed by the delegates. Some progress has been made, more is hoped for next year.

Mrs. McRossie, the Treasurer, gave the ladies some broad hints to do business in a business-like manner.

The President's address was inspiring, helpful and full of hope for the future.

Mrs. Gooderham, of Toronto, Dominion President, was here introduced to the Convention. This is the first time our Branch has had this pleasure.

A Question Drawer, conducted by Mrs. Sawyer and Mrs. Bigelow, gave pleasure and profit.

The report of the Supply Committee, read by Mrs. (Dr.) Sparks, of Kingston, showed good work done in that department.

The address of Mrs. (Dr.) Williams was most interesting. She urged greater zeal and activity during the coming year.

The audience were delighted to meet Mrs. Gooderham, our Dominion President, and as she told us of the exact state of the work in foreign fields, which she had visited in person, a deeper interest was aroused in mission work and workers.

Mrs. Ross, President, sang again (by request) the solo, "Happy Day." It was a rare treat. Miss Libbie Beach, of Iroquois, in a very pleasing manner, rendered "Hear, Us, O Father," and received a hearty vote of thanks. Miss Carrie Moore also sang "Come unto Me."

Papers were furnished by Miss Mills, of Montreal, "On Ideal Reports;" also "A Message to Young People," by Mrs. (Rev.) A. M. Phillips, of Montreal. Both these papers were excellent, as was the recitation of Miss Tennant Cornwall.

On Thursday morning, the Superannuation Fund was discussed, and resolved, That this Convention, with the approval of the Board, recommend its adoption.

Moved, seconded and carried, that Mission Bands pay \$25, as before, to entitle them to representation.

Recommended that missionaries be required, while drawing salaries, to pay into the Superannuation Fund, and draw from it according to length of service.

Reports from Supply Committee of French schools gave great satisfaction.

Report of Mission Bands and Circles by Miss Bailey gave the number of Bands and Circles, thirty-nine; increase, seven.

After prayer by Mrs. Gooderham, election of officers took place, resulting as follows: President, Mrs. Ross; 1st Vice-President, Mrs. McRossie; 2nd Vice-President, Mrs. Bigelow; 3rd Vice-President, Mrs. Sawyer; Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. Dr. Williams; Recording Secretary, Mrs. Dr. Atkinson; Treasurer, Mrs. Dr. Sparks; Mission Band Secretary, Miss Bailey. Representatives to Board—Mrs. Bigelow, Mrs. Dr. Sparks, Mrs. McRossie, Mrs. Sawyer, and Mrs. Scott. Alternates, Mrs. Hughes and Mrs. Timberlake.

The Convention, with very great reluctance, received the resignation of Mrs. McRossie, Treasurer, whose reports have always been a pleasing feature of our Branch meeting, and it was unanimously resolved, "That the heartfelt thanks of the Montreal Conference Branch are due to our retiring Treasurer for her long years of faithful, efficient service, and that it is with deepest regret we have received her resignation as a necessity, and only accepted it when assured by her that it was a necessity."

It was decided to hold the next meeting at Smith's Falls. Invitations were urged from Athens, Sherbrooke and Cornwall.

It was moved and seconded that an Easter programme be provided by the Literature Committee.

A vote of thanks was tendered to Rev. Mr. Lett, for his help and sympathy during the Convention; to the Iroquois choir, for the music furnished; to the trustees, for the use of the church; to Miss Beach, for her solo; to the ladies of Iroquois, for their kind hospitality; to the Mission Band, who during the first evening did the singing; and to Mr. Tindale, who had been so courteous to the delegates.

This closed one of the best Conventions it has ever been our privilege to attend—helpful and inspiring. May this year be one of great ingathering for the Master.

"Our Annual Report."

*Read at the Nova Scotia Branch Meeting in Yarmouth, N.S.,
September, 1895.*

(Printed by desire and resolution of said Branch.)

MY subject this morning is rather an unusual one and difficult to handle, but as it has been given me, I must try to say a few words, if only to open the discussion. If we can judge from the number of "Reports" sold, it is not

a popular or interesting theme, as we have 20,000 members in our Auxiliaries, and only three thousand copies of the "Report" were printed last year—only one in seven can have one. The Dictionary says a report is "a statement of facts or statistics," and we are told elsewhere that "facts are stubborn things," and that "figures cannot lie;" therefore, our "Report" ought to be strong, reliable and true. In this utilitarian age we cannot afford time or space to publish all the minor details, but the ever-increasing cry is for short, practical and condensed literature in every form—even sermons have to be shortened nowadays.

Each year has made our "Report" larger and more bulky, thus increasing expense. It is necessary that a full report of one year's work should be printed, for only a small percentage of our members attend the Branch and Board meetings, and all the information received there cannot be gathered up or kept in mind even by those who are present.

It is also due to our societies that a public receipt, as it were, should be put into their hands, vouching for the work done and moneys expended. But the problem before us to-day is, how can we reduce the size, and thus the expense, of our Annual Report, and also increase the interest so that more of our Auxiliary members will take it?

We find that the printing of three thousand reports last year cost \$551.30, and the receipts from sale of same were only \$280.85. The printing of the names of Auxiliary members alone cost over \$100.00. If those of you who have your report with you will turn to page 70, and look at the thickness of these seventy pages, you will see how much extra space is required for this item alone. There are in last year's issue seventy pages of members' names.

In all the reports of other societies that I have been able to look into, only the names of officers and life members are printed. This would take about one-third, or less, of the space now used—say about twenty pages. The loss has been such, that last year at the Board meeting it was decided that the price be raised (doubled) to 10 cents; and yet at that sum it is said it will not pay expenses.

Someone suggested that the reports from the fields, such as Japan, be condensed, and thus help to reduce the size of the whole. Those who were at our last Branch meeting will remember a resolution was passed to the effect that the Auxiliary members' names be dropped, but this did not carry at "Board," and unless all the Branches unite in a similar course it will not be of any real benefit.

Some of the bright minds before me may be able to evolve other ways and means by which to reach the desired end, and yet that our Report may contain everything essential to show the state of the work of our Society, and also to bring it within the reach of all.

Most of us know how severely some of our sisters in small Auxiliaries, and in country places, are already taxed to take all the literature that seems needful to keep up the interest and provide for their monthly programmes.

This is not written, dear sisters, in the spirit of fault-finding, but with a sincere desire for the greatest good to our loved society.

In closing, I should like strongly to urge the necessity for all the officers of Auxiliaries and leaders of Mission Circles, at least, to feel it their duty to take the Report each year. They cannot successfully work without it, nor keep pace with the new developments and rules which may be added year by year. If all Presidents would make it part of their programme at the beginning of the missionary year to remind the members of the "Report," and urge as many as possible to take it, I think the circulation would thereby be materially increased.

A good plan would be to have a "Drill" on the "Report," as the programme of one meeting, assigning the several parts to different members beforehand; then these would be obliged to read up, and the information would be diffused.

Our constitution and rules are not well enough known by our members, and these might be included in such a programme as I suggest. No doubt more light will be thrown and some valuable points will come out in the discussion which is to follow this imperfect paper, which is humbly submitted as a starting point.

S. JENNIE SMITH.

In Memoriam.

BATH.—Death has visited our Auxiliary the second time during the year, and to our sorrow and loss removed from us Miss Lizzie Phippen, who had been a member since it was organized—ten years ago. She had filled the office of both recording secretary and treasurer repeatedly. Her life was devoted to her Master's service, and she was a true friend to missions, which was shown by provision being made for the annual payment of her fee. A faithful Sabbath-school teacher and co-laborer is at rest, after much suffering borne with patience. As we continue the work laid aside by her, may we hold in memory her example, and strive to meet her in that home above and be with Jesus evermore.

"Asleep in Jesus—peaceful rest,
Whose waking is supremely blest,
No fear, no woe, shall dim that hour
That manifests the Saviour's power."

H. S. AYLSWORTH, *Cor. Sec.*

Notes from Workers.

ILDERTON.—On September 3rd another year's work of the Littlewood Auxiliary passed into eternity, but as we look back over the year we can sing from the heart,

"Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise Him all creatures here below."

Our members have worked with renewed zeal, and despite the stringency of the times our financial standing is higher than any previous year. We have held ten monthly and four public meetings, viz., in October we were favored with an instructive address from Rev. F. A. Cassidy; in March our Thank-offering meeting was held, at which Mrs. Mc-Mechan and Mrs. Douglas, of London, gave short addresses, and instead of our regular May meeting an "At Home" was held at the residence of the first Vice-President. In August a similar meeting was held at the house of one of the members. Our members now number thirty-two. Fifteen are subscribers to *Leaflet*, sixteen to *Palm Branch*, thirteen to *OUTLOOK*, fifteen to *Annual Report*. We also have thirty-six mite boxes distributed among members and friends. Have sent to Branch Treasurer \$130.42, an increase over last year of \$33.17. In December a box containing quilts, pillows, clothing, etc., valued at \$50, was sent to the Muncey Mission. May we ever remember Paul's exhortation to the Colossians: "Whatsoever ye do in word or in deed do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him."

TRESSA V. HODGIN, *Cor. Sec.*

WOODSTOCK.—A very successful missionary meeting was held Monday afternoon, September 2nd, in the Norwich Avenue Methodist Church, Woodstock. The pastor, Rev. W. I. Sipprell, occupied the chair and gave the opening address. Miss Morgan, of Brantford, returned missionary from Japan, gave a pleasing and profitable address on her work in that country, after which the District Organizer, Mrs. Fletcher, formed an Auxiliary of the Woman's Missionary Society, with twelve members and the following officers: President, Miss Brown; Vice-President, Mrs. Shaver; Recording Secretary, Miss Sweet; Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. Thompson; Treasurer, Mrs. Dickert.

OAKVILLE.—Our meetings during the past year have been seasons of spiritual profit and interest. We use the programme suggested in the *Monthly Letter*. The success of our meetings is due to the devotion and tact of our President, Mrs. C. W. Coote, and also to the willingness of each member to do her part to increase the general interest. We have thirty annual members and three life members, thirty *Monthly Letters* are taken and twenty-nine subscribe for the *OUTLOOK*. Ninety-seven dollars was sent to the Branch Treasurer, and supplies of bedding to the McDougall Orphanage and the Chilliwhack Home, B.C. One of our number, Miss S. A. Alton, left us last May for a position in the Chilliwhack Home, B.C. We pray that we all may ever have the presence of the Divine Guide, and that we may do what God wills to hasten the coming of our Master's Kingdom. M. E. JEFFERIS, *Cor. Sec.*

ROCKWOOD.—Although we have sent no report for some time our auxiliary is still working. There has not been the progress in the work we would like to see, yet we know the work is the Lord's, and by His presence and precious promises we are encouraged. We have held twelve monthly, and one public meeting, the latter in September. We had speakers from Guelph and the ministers of Rockwood. Mrs. Watt, from Guelph, spoke more particularly to the women. Her talk was encouraging and profitable, inciting us to more earnest work. The free-will offering was very good. At the close the members of the auxiliary furnished fruit. We meet first Thursday of every month at the homes of the members, and use the suggested programmes. The members attend regularly, and are much interested in the work. During the past year we had eight subscribers to the *OUTLOOK* and twelve *Leaflets*. We sent a large box of clothing to the Oneida Mission the last two winters, and judging from the letter received, it was much appreciated. We have thirteen annual members and two life members, we have lost some of our number by removals. We owe very much to our worthy President, who has so faithfully filled the position for eight years with untiring zeal—seldom absent. And as we have met together and learned of the needs of our heathen sisters, our own spiritual life has been quickened, and I trust made us more humble and grateful to our Heavenly Father for the many blessings of a Christian land. MRS. GEO. CLARKSON, *Cor. Sec.*

ARVA.—On the evening of August 28th, the Arva Auxiliary held a successful missionary tea, at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Sifton. Refreshments were served by the members, and a very pleasant evening spent by all. A good programme was rendered. Receipts of evening, \$5.40. M. W. H., *Cor. Sec.*

MINNEDOSA, MANITOBA.—Organized May, 1895. Annual meeting held September 26th, 1895. Last year's officers re-elected. Raised during the year, \$28.20; remitted to Treasurer, \$26.00. Thirteen members on roll; lost two by removal, and one by death. Mrs. J. Frank Boyd, our first Vice-President, was taken from us last March. Not only in our society, but in every part of our Church work we miss her. She was Vice-President of our Epworth League, Treasurer of the Ladies' Aid Society, a willing worker in any need. Months pass, but her loss is still keenly felt by us all. E. A. STURGEON, *Sec.*

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
FIELD NOTES. By the Editor	161
EDITORIAL AND CONTRIBUTED:—	
Missionary Anniversaries—Notice to Pastors.....	162
Missionary Income.....	162
An Interesting Picture.....	163
The Society's Anniversary.....	163
The General Board of 1895.....	163
Proceedings of the General Board.....	164
An Open Letter.....	166
A Liberal Offer.....	167
Missionary Tracts.....	167
ALONG THE LINE:—	
The Indian Work—British Columbia.....	168
The Foreign Work—Japan.....	168
WOMAN'S MISSIONARY SOCIETY:—	
Editorial Notes: Thanksgiving, Thanks-Living, Thanks-Offering—Echoes from the Board—Clean- ings—Fireside Chat with Discouraged Workers— From the Editor—Notices—Hamilton Conference Branch—London Conference Branch—Twelfth An- nual Meeting of the Nova Scotia Branch—Montreal Branch Annual Meeting—Our Annual Report—In Memoriam—Notes from Workers.....	169-176

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