

Monthly Letter.

PUBLISHED BX

he Woman's Missionary Society of the Methodist Church, Canada ROOM 20, WESLEY BUILDINGS.

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TORONTO, DECEMBER, 1897.

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SUBJECTS FOR PRAYER. Medical Missions.

INDIAN WORK.

From Miss Alton.

COQUALEETZA INDUSTRIAL INSTITUTE, CHILLIWACK, B.C., Šept. 10th, 1897.

I have intended writing to you for some time, but the daily duties, with occasional extras, seem to leave very little time for correspondence.

We have spent a delightful summer; the weather has been all that could be desired. Our work, too, with the children has been very encouraging. They continue to be interested and happy in their work and studies, and have been more contented this summer than in previous years. We believe having the brass band has been a great help to the boys in keeping them contented and practising every opportunity during play-hours, while before we had the instruments they were restless, wanting to go to the river ; we were not sure where they would wander off from there.

The official visitors-Mrs. A. C. Wells and Mrs. Ashwell a -were here a few days ago: they intend sending their report to you shortly.

We enjoyed a visit from Rev. Dr. Sutherland, of Toronto lately. It was very pleasant to have him with us, and we believe his visit will be helpful to all the workers in the varions Indian Institutes.

Sept. 20th.

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There are two large hop-fields not a mile from the Institute: over two hundred Indians have gathered there from many places to pick the hops. We are visiting them, caring for the sick, and holding meetings with them, as Rev. Mr. Ιt Barraclough is still away in the east. We enjoy the work amongst them, and in trying to help others have been blessed ourselves.

We were particularly interested in one little sick girl, whose parents sent her to school for a few weeks this summer, but she had heart disease and we let her go home ; her parents had moved to the hop-fields, taking little Maggie with them. There we found her lying on a mat in the tent, looking very ill. We have gone day after day, taking food and medicine ; she lingered longer than we thought. A little while before she died her mother was crying; she said to her. "Don't trouble for me; Jesus is with me all the time," then sang some of our hymns that she learned in Sunday school. Though she was here only a few weeks, yet she learned of Jesus, and was not afraid of the valley and shadow of death.

I will send you the annual report, also some of the children's compositions, copy-books, and kindergarten work 800D.

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From Mrs. Redner.

A NEW WORKER WANTED.

PORT SIMPSON, B.C., Sept. 23rd, 1897.

We have had thirty children for nearly the whole year, and hope to have at least thirty-five this winter. The people are now returning from their camps, where they have been drying salmon for their winter use. There are but few children home yet.

And now I must refer to my furlough, as you will require to secure a new worker. I would like to leave here as early in April as possible, or at least not later than the 1st of May, as home duties are calling very loudly to me just now; were it not so, I would prefer staying another year before going home, as my general health is good, even now after the fever I am quite as strong as usual.

I would suggest that a first-class dressmaker be sent to the home; we have long felt the need of this. What the larger girls require is one who can teach cutting and fitting. They sew very nicely, but not one has been taught to cut and fit or properly finish a dress, and some of them have quite a talent for dressmaking.

We miss Mr. Crosby very much, but find in Mr. Robson a good and true friend. We have already learned to love him very much. We wish you a very successful and profitable time at your Board meeting. May you be blessed and prospered in all your undertakings.

CHINA,

From Miss Killam, M.D.

CLENTU, Sept. 4th, 1897.

After seven months absence from my old home I have at length reached a new one (on Sept. 2nd). It is with a very thankful heart that I write this, for blessings attended me all the way, and a comfortable home and congenial friends awaited me here. What a happy time we shall have together.

For some reason—I .nink because so many spoke of her Christ-liLeness—I had looked forward longingly to the time when I might meet Miss Ford. The dear Lord took her, we know not why, but her influence remains.

It was very pleasant to have Miss Brookes with me all the long journey. She is always the same—a kind-hearted, true friend. Miss Brackbill came to Mount Omei for a much-needed rest, and it did not take long to learn to love her. She is a strong, noble character. I hope I may truly appreciate all she has done as a pioneer. I think of the loneliness of the many months before Miss Ford joined her, of how they planned, and worked, and suffered together, and became as dear sisters—and then of the parting. She has worked to get this comfortable home for us. You could not but admire the careful planning and the result. With Miss Foster I am hardly acquainted, but am sure I shall like her. Her hearty laugh does me good.

Perhaps it seems very strange that I have written about the members of our household in this way. I am so glad, though, that we can be as sisters—that we are congenial when we have been sent so far from our dear, dear brothers and sisters in Canada.

JAPAN.

From Miss Munro.

Токчо, Sept. 9th, 1897.

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For some time all seems to have been hurry and bustle-First cam., a telegram from Nikko, where Misses Crombie, Belton and Wigle have been spending the summer, caying that Miss Belton was ill. The next morning Miss Blackmore started for Nikko. Of course, this created no little excitement. The day following, Miss Preston left us for Yokohama, and the same day we heard of the arrival of Mrs. Gooderham and Mrs. Large. We had not expected

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them for two weeks, and were greatly surprised and rejoiced. We planned to return to Tokyo as soon as possible. I think Mrs. Large looks very much better than when she

went away. Mrs. Gooderham seems a little tired. It must have been very hard for her to take this step, but I think no one could hear her speak without knowing that her spirit is at rest. She is (in my eyes) a saintly woman. May I grow more like her. It helps me so very much to see her and Mrs. Large, to remember their sorrows and to know that our Shepherd has led them to the green pastures and still waters.

Miss Alcorn left for Shizuoka to day. It seems such a pity that we should lose her. She has been a blessing to us.

Last night we had a very severe typhoon, perhaps the worst for several years. All through the city, trees and feaces are down and many little houses were blown over. It was accompanied by a terrific down-pour of rain. As a result, there are again washouts on the railway.

Misses Cunningham and Alcorn will probably require to go part way by jinrikisha because of these, and we are anxious for the party who are on their way to Kofu. Even if the roads are not impassable, I am afraid some of them may be sick after it. That Kofu trip is appalling to me. Our work at Nagano will be very easily reached.

Our school opened yesterday. The indications are, that we are going to have about the same number as last year. Three new pupils have entered. Tsuru Sakakura, who had consumption last year, is very much better, and I hope may be spared to our work for some years yet.

We have had a very pleasant summer, but have had so few opportunities for teaching the gospel.

Of course, we had our usual little Sabbath school in Karuizawa, and, besides, one of our girls taught a village girl Japanese sewing, giving her three or four lessons a week; while another gave her a Bible lesson once a week, and took her to church with her every Sunday; so we tried to sow the seeds of kindness and of God's word side by side.

I neglected to say that Miss Belton is getting better.

Suggested Programme-January

Subjects for Prayer and Study for the Month.

That increased spiritual power may come upon the membership, missionaries and teachers, and that secret believers in the mission field may be taught of the Spirit.

(To be read at the opening of the meeting.)

- Opening Exercises, "All missionary work is pre-eminently spiritual in its aims. Organizations and methods may be perfect, but results are obtained only by the direct influence of the Spirit. Eliminate the spiritual, and there is nothing left but human enterprise."
- II. Regular business.
- III. Hymn.
- IV. The Watch-Tower.
 - V. Exercise, "Come, now, and let us reason together," Topic: The great need of the Church and the individual that the Master's commands may be carried out, is the indwelling power of the Holy Ghost.

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 Bible-reading, Text, "Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Ghost."—Acts vi. 5.

Stephen, a man, not an angel.

And they were not able to resist the wisdom and the

spirit by which he spake.

They were cut to the heart.

* We suggest that the President take Nos. 1 and 6; let Nos. 2, 3 and 4 be given to as many members. Time allotted to Bible-reading, ten minutes; to Nos. 2 and 3, five minutes each.

WOMAN'S MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

- 2. Short addresses—Do we hunger and thirst to be filled with the Koly Ghost?
- 3. How may we obtain this "Gift of God?"
- 4. Prayer-That the Lord will descend upon the Church in all His power.
- 5. Hymn (sing while kneeling).

"Take my life and let it be Consecrated Lord to Thee."

6. Benediction.

"MISSIONARY GAME OF THE WORLD."

In this game there are fifty-five cards, containing two hundred and seventy-five questions on Missionaries and Missionary Work in all parts of the world. At the top of each card is the name of a country, mission, missionary, or people, which is the answer to the five questions below.

For example :

WILLIAM CAREY.

What noted missionary, born in England (1761) began life as a poor shoemaker?

Who went as the first English missionary to India and translated the Bible or portions of it into forty different dialects?

Through whose influence were efforts first made to educate women and girls in India?

What great missionary was one of the first professors in Fort William College, Calcutta, and retained that position for 30 years?

What Baptist missionary labored 41 years in India, taking this for his life motto: "Expect great things from God; attempt great things for God?"

To play this game successfully requires a general mission-

ary knowledge, and it will be found very profitable for the home, small gather ngs of a missio ary nature, or missionary committees of Epworth Leagues.

Rules for playing with each game. Price, 50 cents.

NOTICES TO AUXILIARIES.

COLLECTION ENVELOPE.-We recommend to all our auxiliaries the new envelope plan for systematic giving. The plan is a very simple one: A packet of twelve small envelopes is enclosed in a larger envelope, each packet having a different number. The Secretary in distributing the envelopes will keep a record of the numbers only. Those holding envelopes will place each month in one of the twelve envelopes the amount they may be led to give-not neces sarily the same amount each month. At the close of the year the Secretary may read out each number with the amount contributed. By this means no one will know what has been given by any other number than their own. The object is not to take the place of the useful little Mite-box. but to "gather up the fragments" systematically. Price per packet, 1 cent.

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OUR W. M. S. PIN.-A fresh supply of our W.M.S. pins, a silver star encircling the world, will be ready about the middle of December. These stars will be attached as pen dants to a small pin, and will make an acceptable and appropriate Christmas gift for a member of our Society. Price 25 cents. May be ordered from Room 20 and the Branch Depots.

A NEW FREE LEAFLET.—The Literature Committee has just placed in the printer's hands a free Leaflet, part of which is reprinted from a recent number of the MONTHLY LETTER, and entitled " The Missionary Standard of Living." The second part, "What it Means to be a Foreign Missionary," may well be read with earnest heart-searching by all pos who feel the divine impulse to enter the mission field.

A PIN FOR MISSION BANDS.—The Literature Committeee is preparing a Badge for Mission Bands, which, it is expected, will be ready about the middle of December. It s to be a tiny silver star, bearing a pretty design, and the words, "Shine for Jesus." The price will be ten cents each for any quantity. Will be for sale at Room 20 and the Branch Depots.

The Literature Committee at Room 20 and the Branch Dopots in St. John and Winnipeg (for addresses see foot of last p.ge) are prepared to receive deposits of \$1.00 for the iterature to be used in connection with the Suggested Programme, and will send the necessory literature whenever called for by the programme as long as the money lasts. The usual charge of two cents, for wrapping and postage, will be deducted for each parcel. Subscribers will be notified when their deposit is expended.

THE BENEFIT OF THE "CYCLE OF PRAYER."-Does every member of our Society possess a "Cycle of Prayer?" We ear not, and yet this Leaflet, used intelligently and prayerfully, can be made a real means of grace. The "Cycle" contains the subject for prayer and study for each month of the year, with a special list for one month, covering the Forld's missionary work it greater detail, also a space on lternate days for the ing tion of the name of a person or an object in which the user has a particular interest. The limit of one's knowledge of a mission field is soon eached when definite prayer is attempted, and the felt need or fuller information leads to a diligent search in missionry magazines, books and the secular press. This, in itself, s an education. When to this search for information is dded frequent prayer for missionaries on the fields, the esults are not far to seek in enlarged knowledge, broadened ympathy, and increased delight in prayer and communion with the God of missions.

The Sixteenth Annual Report is now ready. Price 10 cts., postpaid. To be ordered from Room 20 only.

INCREASE.

Hamilton Conference Branch, Bethel Auxiliary.

Subscriptions for the following missionary periodicals will eccived and forwarded by MISS OGDEN:

Missionary Review of the World, per year \$2.25; Gospel in I Lands, 80 cents, beginning with January number; Illustrated Christ World, 75 cents; Message and Deaconess World, 50 cents; The Dou Cross and Medical Missionary Record, \$1.00 - to missionaries a student volunteers, 50 cents.

LEAFLETS AND OTHER PUBLICATIONS FOR SALE,

Please Send Remittance With Order.

Those Leaflets marked thus * have just been added to the list.

(A signifies Adult; J, Juvenile.)

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