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Missionary Leaflet.

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

VOL. VIII. TORONTO, JUNE, 1892. No. 6.

SUBJECTS FOR PRAYER AND SUGGESTED SCRIPTURE READING
TO BE USED AT MONTHLY MEETINGS OF AUXILIARIES :

JUNE.

For the conversion of the Jews. (1) Hosea iii. 4, 5; (2) chapter xiv. 1, 2; (3) chapter ii. 19, 20, 23; (4) chapter vi. 1-3; (5) chapter xiv. 4-7.

For the success of the Wesleyan and McAll missions in France. Acts xvi. 9, 10; Isaiah xxxii. 20.

That we may not lose interest in our work during the summer vacation. Galatians iv. 18.

JAPAN WORK.

From Miss M. A. Robertson.

SHIDZUOKA, March 16th, 1892.

MY DEAR MRS. STEACMAN,—I have now been in Shidzuoka nearly six months, and I like it very much. I often say to Miss Morgan, I am thankful the Council sent me into the country, and to this particular part.

Miss Hargrave was here nearly three weeks after I arrived, so I was able to get an insight into the work before taking the responsibility. Together, we visited the different places where she had held meetings, and in most of them we have been able to go on with the work without any interruption.

I have an excellent little interpreter, in whose good English and sincere Christianity I have great faith. But often it comes to me as a cross, the inability to speak for myself to the women with whom I come in contact. One sentence right from my heart into theirs, must be worth many passing through a third person. As Hjruiwa San says, "It loses its force in going through me." The longer I am here, the more I realize the insufficiency of the language to express the fullness of our meaning.

I am very much interested in the work in Shimada, a small place seventeen miles to the west. Miss Hargrave started work there, being allowed the privilege of teaching Christianity in return for teaching fancy work and English. It is among the girls principally. The attendance is not very large, and there are not many developments yet. We hold our meetings fortnightly, at two houses alternately. At one, there is a young girl very much interested in Christianity. She is the only one who has continued the English. Mrs. Sato, who also visits there, says she is always ready with her Bible desiring explanation. Her mother listens, if it is convenient, but is not yet sufficiently interested to leave anything else that she may be engaged in. At the other house, the people are very wealthy, parents of one of our girls, Amano O Yusa San. The story of Mrs. Amano's interest in Christianity is rather interesting. O Yusa San had been converted in school. One day she sent her mother a Bible and hymn-book, of which she took no special notice for some time. At last she began to read it, got interested in it, and finally began to understand. Then she told Mrs. Sato, the Bible-woman, that she felt as if she had been walking in darkness all her life, but now a great light had come to her, and she wished to learn more of this wonderful thing. She is anxious for us to continue the meetings at her house, and says her only desire is to bring her friends to hear about Christianity, that they may also learn as she does. Her husband has not been very considerate of her, but lately she has noticed a marked improvement in his conduct, and a short time ago he was heard to confess that his greatest desire now is to have a happy Christian home. Saturday, when we were there, I was very glad to see him stay in the room and listen attentively during the entire lesson. To-day, O Yusa San had a letter

from her mother in which she said they were all sick, but the feeling was quite different from any previous time; though ailing, they were all happy and trusting in the goodness of God to heal the body in His good time.

There is another little woman down there who is an earnest Christian at heart, eagerly seeking the truth, but has not yet been baptized. She has two little children, and every morning and evening teaches them to pray. They have also saved up their pennies and given them to the Bible-woman for some charitable purpose. One day when calling at her house, my attention was directed to three large characters printed on a piece of white paper, and fastened on the wall. I was told that was put there for the benefit of the children, and read, "Remember God sees you." There are a number of others who come, but as yet have showed no evidence of interest beyond the fancy work. Some day I am hoping to see them awakened, I know we never can tell where the seed falls that will bring forth fruit; I only trust we may be faithful sowers. The results are not in our hands.

I don't know if you have ever heard of the silk factory in this city. Nearly a hundred girls are employed there unwinding the silk from the cocoons and making it up into skeins for exportation. A year ago last fall, our native pastor was granted permission to go there twice a month, on the only days the girls cease working, there being no Sunday to teach Christianity in their calendar. Shortly after I came, I went one morning, and you can imagine my feelings to see nearly a hundred girls seated in three long rows waiting for the words of life. I felt as if I wanted to get right among them and talk to them, but not one word could I say that they would understand. They have a feeling of half fear for the foreigner, and it takes some time for them to realize our only desire is to be friendly. I was only able to go three times, as the meetings are held when I am busy with my school duties. The last time I went the manager said he would arrange the hour to suit me, and I felt perfectly delighted. Since then the factory has been shut down for the winter, the girls have gone to their homes, and will not resume work till the new cocoons are ready. Then, I trust, the way may be opened up that we may go regularly

twice a month. It is an excellent field, where a woman can work more effectually than a man. Some day, we hope, they will recognize the Lord's day, and cease from their labors to meet Him in His house. The manager told the pastor there is a marked improvement in their conduct and conversation since he began work among them. We do need your earnest prayers constantly, that the hearts of this people may be opened to receive the light of the Gospel. Opportunities for work are developing all around us. The girls in the school are waking to the responsibility of their position, and are asking for work. We have opened one new Sunday School in the lower part of this city, in the house of one of the church members, who kindly offered us the use of it. It is in charge of one of the Bible-women, and the matron and one of the girls from the school assist in teaching. From twenty to thirty children attend. We are hoping it will develop into a good work for the Master. Hiraiwa San and one of the girls go to another house where the attendance is smaller, but we hope for an increase of members before very long. It has been started some time, but frequent interruptions from sickness and other causes have put it back. Our work in Hirono is developing also, and now we find it advisable to divide it into two classes; that takes two more of our girls into the active field. Those who are left behind and are old enough, find plenty to do in teaching the children who gather at the school every Sunday afternoon. It is lovely to see so many bright active Christians among our girls, eager to do work for Christ, and in their small way hasten the evangelization of their country.

Those who have sowed patiently and prayerfully the last two or three years in this city, now see the fruit of their labors. I rejoice with them that the Lord has blessed them so abundantly. The work is progressing, but there is much to be done yet. There are many little things I would like to tell you, but I am afraid I have already tried your patience. We realize fully how much we depend upon the love and sympathy of the dear ones at home. We need all you can give in that line, for the days are not always clear and bright. Here, as elsewhere, the cloudy weather comes, unsatisfied longings, and unrealized hopes bring depression;

but, after all, "behind the clouds the sun still shines," and we enjoy much of the loving presence of our common Lord and Saviour.

Remember me kindly to the other ladies whom I met, you were all so kind, when I passed through Toronto, that I think of you very often.

INDIAN WORK.

From Miss Clarke.

CHILLIWHACK, B.C., April 4, 1892.

DEAR MRS. STRACHAN,— The measles, we so much dreaded, have come, and, to all appearances, gone, having proved not so very formidable after all. Four of the children were attacked, three of whom are completely recovered, while one little girl who has always been rather delicate, does not improve as rapidly as we could desire.

The winter season has been exceptionally mild, even for British Columbia. It has seemed like a long continued autumn, merged into an unusually precocious spring. As a consequence of this, gardening operations have been under way for several weeks, and for some time to come the boys will find, in digging and planting, sufficient occupation for their spare moments.

Little by little, vestiges of the old place are being removed, till, in the not far distant future, but a memory of the house itself will be left to us; yet, thank God, the "living stones" shall remain, to be built into a more enduring structure.

During the quarter, bales of bedding, clothing, etc., have been received from the Barrie, Penville, and Thomasburg Auxiliaries. The contents, in each case, were such as will prove very useful to us, and the splendid quilts, blankets, sheets and pillows, especially so. The way the ladies of the Woman's Missionary Society are coming to our assistance, demonstrates most conclusively how true their hearts are to this Indian work.

Our minds are full of the new institute, and we all feel with increasing force, as the time for final decision draws near, the need of divine guidance, the necessity that God should work through those who have the arranging of affairs. I earnestly hope and pray that nothing may be done to mar the good that is sure to be accomplished, if this undertaking be conducted as the Lord desires it should be. Let prayer, faith, devotion, and common sense be united in this matter, and I am sure we need have no fear as to what the result will be.

From Miss S. Hart.

PORT SIMPSON, March 31st, 1892.

MY DEAR MRS. STRACHAN,— During this quarter, two girls have left the Home. Harriet, who had completed her term here, and Elizabeth, who came to me when the children were ill last fall; she returned to her mother's friends. There have entered, during the quarter, three girls; one a little girl of seven, from Westminster, sister of Nellie Tassuce; another, a Shinshean girl, of eleven; one a Hyda girl, of ten years of age.

All have enjoyed real good health, and are longing for moving time, when we can enjoy our beautiful new house.

It has been cheering to have some of the girls who have always refused to pray in public, of late pray with the sick ones, as we visit from house to house together. We usually take two with us when visiting in the village; the children deem it a special privilege to accompany us.

The hospital has been started, and another grant given by the government, so it can be completed without delay.

[Dr. Bolton has secured the services of Miss Spense, of Kingston, a trained nurse, and Miss Caldwell, of Summer-ville, N.S., has been appointed teacher in the new Crosby Home and School. By the time this reaches the Auxiliaries, these ladies will have entered upon their duties]

PRAYER CARD LEAFLET.

SUBJECTS FOR PRAYER

AND SUGGESTED SCRIPTURE READINGS.

JULY.

For the utter destruction of the liquor traffic and the opium trade; that these blights and impediments to the progress of Christianity may no longer disgrace professedly Christian governments and countries.

SCRIPTURE READING.—1 *Thes. v. 5-9, 21-22*; also *Psalm cxlvi*.

It seems impossible to imagine a Christian people, instead of shedding light, making the darkness deeper. Much is said of the progress of Christianity in foreign lands, and we would not detract from, but praise God for all the progress that has been made, and for all the true conversions which have taken place. But the prospect of a truly converted world is almost discouraging, in view of such facts as these given by a missionary in India: "Of some native Christians it may be said that the only mark of their Christianity is their drunkenness. I remember one Rajah in the Punjab who built and endowed churches and mission buildings, and died of *delirium tremens*. That man was but a type of what a *Christianized* India threatens to become." And the responsibility of this terrible evil falls upon Christian England, whose laws and treaties have forced it upon the poor oppressed nations.

In one year 10,000,000 gallons of the cheapest, vilest liquors were poured into Africa by nations calling themselves Christian, thus developing in the natives an alcoholic passion almost without a parallel. Archdeacon Farrar declares that commerce is doing far more for the destruction of African tribes by carrying to them the worst kind of spirituous liquors, than Christendom has done for the salvation of Africa by stopping the slave trade. For every African who is influenced for good by Christianity, a thousand are driven into deeper degradation by the liquor traffic. The march of commerce is fast bringing the rum traders into communication with over 50,000,000 of savages in Africa. Should not the humane and Christian sentiment of the world unite for the protection of these ignorant people?

There seem no words pitiful enough to describe the awfulness of the drink curse introduced by Christian nations into heathen countries.

OPIUM.

The women of India have long suffered in silence in consequence of the opium vice. But at last they have found a voice—a messenger—in the person of an Indian Christian gentilewoman, Miss Soonderbai Powar. She has left her native land to plead the cause of her country with the people of Great Britain.

At Lucknow, on October 6th, 1891, the extraordinary spectacle was presented of Mohammedan women coming together in a semi-public meeting to express their hatred of the opium traffic. One after another these women, accustomed only to the seclusion of zenanas, stood up to charge Soonderbai Powar with their messages on the misery caused by opium. One woman said that her brother had a wife and four children to support. He earns two annas (threepence) a day. He spends one anna in opium, leaving one for food for five people. They have one poor meal a day. Another woman said that such families could be found by thousands, and that no human being could describe their sufferings.

It is not too much to say that the opium traffic, forced upon the unwilling Chinese, is the most flagrant crime of which the British nation has ever been guilty. How can God's blessing rest upon England while this great national sin is continued? It is estimated that 10,000,000 of Chinese are slaves to the opium pipe, and the deaths from opium suicide are put down at the frightful total of 160,000. Physically, mentally and morally, the effects of opium smoking are degrading; so paralyzing indeed, that all sense of truthfulness soon disappears. The Chinese see in this evil no degradation and ruin of their people, and there is every reason to believe the Chinese government is honestly in earnest in endeavoring to suppress the evil.

Enormous quantities of opium are being smuggled into the United States through the English colonies; and from America opium is largely imported to England in the form of cigarettes strongly impregnated with the drug. Millions of these are being sold with the result that the purchasers of these cigarettes are gradually getting not only addicted to the tobacco habit, but are also in the grasp of the opium fiend.

It is stated that hundreds of thousands of dollars' worth of prepared opium has been smuggled into the United States since the passage of the McKinley Bill. The opium is brought in its crude form from India and China to Vancouver, B.C., and consigned there to Chinese merchants and opium boilers. There are twelve or fifteen extensive boiling establishments in Vancouver, and several down the line of the Canadian Pacific Railway, engaged in reducing great quantities of opium to a prepared state for smoking.

Let the prayer of our united Israel be, that Christian nations will speedily abandon this complicity in evil, and that the universal Church may awake from its dreams of security, and look about for advance steps to be taken for the "utter destruction of the liquor traffic and the opium trade."

Reviews of Useful Leaflets.

"What my Becky thinks about the Chinese." Becky, who has spent two years in Peking, realizes that the Chinese are "*folks pretty much like ourselves,*" and is full of loving zeal on their behalf. As she moralizes on the subject, and endeavors to arouse Zedekiah's enthusiasm, she deals in her homely fashion with many of the objections we so often hear raised by those who are not in true sympathy with foreign work, and who believe that "*charity begins at home.*" The leaflet would be found very useful by those preparing a programme on China.

Those who are attracted by the title of "*The Wilful Gifts and Disconcerted Deacons,*" will not be disappointed in the contents of the leaflet. It is a fanciful sketch, telling of the very queer way in which the money acted one Sunday in a certain church, when a missionary collection was unexpectedly taken up. It teaches that God not only "*loves a cheerful giver,*" but that *He does not want,* and will not bless the money that is given grudgingly, or from any unworthy motive. If our offerings are to be acceptable, they must be given with *love,* with *prayer and consecration,* and with *faith.*

"*A Partnership.*" This is a leaflet that will be particularly welcome to our Mission Band workers. The story is prettily told of how two little children respond to the appeal made in their Sunday-school, by a returned missionary, for "*a penny-a-week and a prayer.*" They have nothing of their own to give, but enter into a business partnership, the proceeds of which are to be devoted to the children in Japan. Maisie undertakes to earn the pennies by caring for the troublesome children of a neighbor on wash days, at 10 cents a week, while Johnnie, her cripple brother, is admitted as a member of the firm, on condition that he contributes the prayers, without which the pennies are useless. Needless to say that under such circumstances the partnership flourishes, and the box is growing almost too heavy for the hands of the praying partner; when, owing to an accident, trouble comes to the family, and the serious question has to be decided by the children, as to whether the contents of the precious box should not go to buy the needed coal and food. But for their decision in the matter, and the further lessons of faith and love taught by these mission-workers, we must refer our readers to the leaflet itself.

Report of Supply Committee.

Mr. Butler, principal of McDougall Orphanage, acknowledges the receipt of large case from Orono Auxiliary, two bales from Ottawa Auxiliary, one case and sewing-machine from Davisville, and a new stove from Eglinton. He says: "Amid anxieties and discouragements, cheer comes sometimes from unexpected quarters. Words fail to express our gratitude. The cases were *good* in every respect, and how exceedingly kind it was of the ladies of Orono Auxiliary to take so much trouble in putting up the pails of preserved apples for us; they were superfine. I can assure you they were greatly appreciated. The sewing-machine is doing good work, and is running full time; so is the stove, which is a very fine one, and was what we greatly needed. The pants from Mr. Fred. Walker, of the "Golden Lion," Toronto, and from the ladies of Ottawa, just came at a time when we greatly needed them. Kindly convey our thanks to our old friends of Carleton St. Mission Band for flannel underwear. Our girls are employing all their spare moments knitting since we have received such a good supply of yarn."

Accompanying Mr. Butler's letter were several written by the Indian children, the following is a sample:

DEAR MRS. BRIGGS,—I am very thankful that you sent us boots. The boys and girls are writing a letter to you for sending us the boots. We are having snow out here. We catch gophers with a snare, and we give the tails to Mr. Butler, and he gives us candies for them. We like to go to school every day. We like the school-teacher. The house is large and I like to stay in the Orphanage. I think I get more clothes to wear here. I like Mr. and Mrs. Butler and Miss Mackie, they are all kind to the boys and girls. We sang on Monday night in McDougall Church. I think you are very kind to us all.

FROM BECCA SALTER.

Boxes or bales weighing 100 pounds can be sent direct to the North-West, or British Columbia. Smaller boxes and parcels can be sent to the Methodist Book Room, Richmond Street West, Toronto, addressed to

21 Grenville Street, Toronto.

MRS. W. BRIGGS,

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