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# W. B. M. U. TIDINGS

TWENTY FIVE CENTS PER YEAR.

Vol. 6

Amherst, N. S., Sept. 1899

No. 67

## Motto for the Year.

“Workers together with Him.”

## Prayer Topic.

Thanksgiving for the blessing of the Lord during the past years and that the influence of the convention just held may result in more devotion and zeal in carrying forward the Lord's work.

## Suggested Programme for September.

HYMN. “Blest be the tie.”

SCRIPTURE and prayer by leader.

SINGING.

READING letter in ‘Tidings.’

PRAYER (thanksgiving.)

READING minutes of Annual Meeting.

SINGING.

PRAYERS, for reconsecration of service and money for our missions.

REPORTS from delegates.

DOXOLOGY.

## Notice.

W. B. M. U. workers will please pay particular attention to the change in their Treasury department. All monies from W. M. A. Societies, which will include subscriptions from Tidings and pay for Annual Reports, will be sent to Mrs Mary Smith, Amherst. All monies from Mission Bands, B. Y. P. Unions, Junior Unions and Sunday Schools to Mrs A. W. Fownes, St. Martine, N. B. Kindly see that no mistake is made in remitting.

## Pedda Penke (Great Mischief).

This is the name of a village about ten miles to the east of Bobbili. Years ago Mr. Churchill bought a piece of land, dug a well, built a house and stationed a native preacher there. For some reason, unknown to me, the preacher was recalled, and then the house tumbled down and the land was rented. And I believe none of the villagers had become Christians.

Before going to the hills, Mr. Gullison decided to distribute our Bobbili tracts somewhat. And with this in view, Sayamma, a Bible-woman, and David, a native preacher, and I, took

our tents and went to Pedda Penke. We spent several days there and everywhere—among low caste and high caste people—we heard loving testimonies to the memory of the Christian man who had once taught them. When we told them that we were thinking of sending another teacher to them, they appeared to be much pleased, and one man offered to allow him to live in one of his houses until our house could be built. With a glowing report the spies returned, and Mr. Gullison gave directions to have the house built. In less than two months, David was located there.

A few weeks later, a message came to me saying that a goldsmith (the goldsmiths are the aristocracy (?) of the village) had professed faith in Christ, and was coming daily to David's house to hear him explain the Gospel of Matthew.

Not long after, the young fellow, who had often visited me when I was in Pedda Penke, appeared at the Mission house. He told me that his people were very angry with him, and that they feared he would break caste—but he believed Christ had saved him, and he wished to be baptized. But as the Missionary was not in Bobbili, he was asked to wait, and assured that Christ would keep His own and not allow them to suffer to their hurt.

After his return to his home, a storm began to gather. The young man's (Krishnamurti) Bible was destroyed; he was forbidden to go to David's house, and when he disobeyed was locked up.

One day the father learned that his son was again talking with the Christians (a Christian from Bobbili had gone to visit David for a week) and in a passion he caught up a stick and called for followers. Soon an angry

party made their way to the scene of the stolen interview—Krishnamurti had seen David returning from another village, and left his work in the field and joined him. Poor David was made to feel the force of their anger, and the next morning he showed me the effect of their cruel blows. Then the question was, "What ought to be done?"

Missionaries were miles away, and I was ignorant of law, but the "Friend that sticks closer than a brother" was near and guided, I believe. The case was put into the magistrate's hands, and a few days later a very humble, apparently gentle group of goldsmiths appeared at my door and begged for mercy. This was repeated for three days, and I found it difficult not to yield, but all persuaded me that I should not forgive too soon. At length the day before the trial came. At our children's prayer meeting Sunday evening we prayed especially that all that would be done, might be according to God's will. Messages were sent around to all the Christians, asking that they make the matter the subject of special prayer, that our action might tend to the advancement of God's work in Pedda Penke. The next morning at prayers, the subject of our hymn was "Peace;" the chapter read contained the words, "If it be possible, as much as in you lieth, be at peace with all men. Avenge not yourselves" After prayer I asked the people to tell me what answer they had received to their prayers. *With one accord* and with glowing faces they said, "Let us make peace before the case is brought up for trial."

I was rejoiced, and praised God. All day long my heart sang. Soon the goldsmiths appeared, and before they asked, I told them of our decision, and said that we only asked them to pay the costs. This they gladly did, and offered "compensation" money, but we returned it.

Since then the father visited me, and wanted me to promise not to receive his boy if he came for baptism. He says, "the boy is deluded." Poor deluded father!

Sisters, I have given you this sketch that you might pray for God's blessing upon Pedda Penke.

Lovingly Yours,

Maude M. E. Harrison

Bobbili, July 11, '99.

Plans are being made to open a Reading Room at Bobbili and Miss Harrison would be glad to have contributions of Magazines, with good reading matter; from month to month sent to her address.

Miss Maude M. E. Harrison,  
Bobbili,  
Madras Presidency,  
India.

#### Notes From the Convention at St. Martins.

On Tuesday evening Aug. 16th. the delegates to the annual meeting of the W. B. M. U. arrived in the beautiful town of St. Martins where they were most heartily welcomed by the members of the Missionary Aid Society of that place, who had gathered at the Baptist Church and made extensive preparations for their comfort. A bountiful supper was served in the vestry, which all were prepared to enjoy. The train having been late in arriving, the hour after supper was deemed too late to hold the Executive meeting which had been planned for that evening.

Next morning at 8.30 the Executive met and transacted some business, the most important being the passing of the Treasurer's Report, and the discussion of ways and means of sending out more missionaries this fall, and there was a general feeling of regret that the money is not forthcoming in such a way as to warrant the F. M. Board in sending all the young ladies who desire to go.

At 9.30 a devotional meeting was held led by Mrs. A. T. Dykeman; a number of the sisters taking part, fervently invoking the divine blessing to rest upon all the meetings.

At 10 o'clock the convention proper was opened by the President. The report of the Provincial Secretary for N. S. was read by Miss Johnstone. A discussion arose in regard to the amalgamation of Mission Bands and Junior Unions, when the following resolution was unanimously adopted.

In view of the fact that the W. B. M. U. has always fostered the Mission Band which aims to educate our young people in Mission work, therefore resolved that we urge upon all our societies the urgent necessity of maintaining our Bands, and organizing them wherever possible, always remembering that all monies raised by the Bands must be sent to the Treasurer

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of the W. B. M. U. Band work. The report of the Prov Secretary for N. B. was next read by Mrs Cox concerning Aid Societies and Mission Bands. In the absence of Miss Jackson, Mrs Price read the report from P. E. Island. These reports show good work has been done during the year, and are for the most part encouraging. They were adopted by the union.

A discussion came up in regard to the travelling expenses of our Provincial secretaries which was settled by the unanimous passing of a resolution giving our moral as well as financial support to the Provincial secretaries. The committee on nomination was appointed by the chair as follows: Mrs. Price, Mrs W. V. Higgins, Mrs Dykeman.

On resolutions, Miss Johnston, Mrs. M. C. Higgins, Mrs. Whitman. Tellers, Miss Logan and Miss Blackadar.

At 2.30 in the afternoon Mrs Churchill led the praise service which was a season of refreshing. The business was then taken up Mrs. Fownes of St. Martins giving a short address of welcome to the delegates, responded to by Mrs. Golding of St. John. The President then delivered her annual address which was listened to with marked attention. It contained many helpful suggestions. And we refer our sisters for this as well as many other items of interest impossible to mention in this short synopsis to the Annual Report. Questions are constantly being asked during Convention which would be quite unnecessary if our Annual Reports were read more closely.

The report of the Treas. was read, showing the total receipts for the year to have been, \$8768.49 For Foreign Missions \$7008.83 and for Home Missions \$1759.66.

The Annual Report of the corresponding secretary was then read and adopted clause by clause. The subject of enlarging and improving tidings was then taken up and thoroughly discussed. It was on motion resol-

ved to enlarge Tidings enough to take in the articles sent by Miss Archibald and the Mission Band lessons.

The election of officers then took place. The Treasurer on account of the growth of our work, and the increased financial responsibility asked to be relieved of a part, and Mrs. A. W. Fownes of St. Martins was appointed Treasurer for Mission Bands and Junior Unions, Mrs. Smith remaining Treasurer for the W. M. A. Societies.

Mrs. Everett was appointed Recording Secretary, Mrs. J. C. Spurr was elected Provincial secretary for P. E. I. in place of Miss Jackson, who is removing from the Island. With these exceptions the list of officers remains as before.

On Wednesday evening a public meeting was held. President in the chair. Mrs. W. V. Higgins first addressed the audience. She spoke on Personal Responsibility, and willingness to enter into God's plans for us. She was followed by Miss H. Wright our returned missionary from Chicacole who told of the Reading Room also the Hospital at Chicacole, and the needs of the work, giving some of her experiences before the Hospital was opened. J. Hal Smith a returned missionary from Africa was introduced and told of the work in Africa and the unwillingness of Christians to practice self-denial in order that the heathen may be saved.

By this time the train had arrived with the delegates from N. S. who had been detained a day in St. John, Miss Eva D'Prager from India being with them who delighted the audience by telling her experience. This came home to the hearts of all our workers as nothing else could do, and they felt as they listened to the words of this young sister, that if no other trophy had been won for the Saviour through the instrumentality of our missionaries, they were amply repaid for all the money spent, and prayers offered for our Missions.

After a prayer service on Thursday morning conducted by Miss Wright the business routine was taken up, the most important items being the roll call of delegates, the report of the Secretary Bureau of Literature, read by the Corresponding Secretary, and after discussion adopted.

Miss Johnston read the report of Home Missions. The Treasurer submitted the estimates for Home Missions which are the same as last year. These estimates, after Mrs Smith had fully explained to the Sisters, the method of dividing the money pro ratio, were adopted. Mrs. D. Freeman made an appeal on behalf of the work in the N. West. Mrs Mellick also spoke of the needs, and made some suggestions. The following resolution was then passed. In consideration of the urgent necessity for work among the Doukhobors and Gallicians and whereas we are asked to aid in supporting Mr. Burgdorf, therefore resolved that the Presidents of Aid Societies be asked to collect ten cents from every available person for the support of this Missionary. This collection to be in addition to the offering for Home Missions in the estimates. It is urged that special collectors be appointed for this matter. The money to be sent to the Treasurer of the W. B. M. U., and through her to the Treas. of the Womens Board in Winnipeg. The report on H. Missions was then adopted. The Treasurer read the estimates for the Foreign Work, which will be given in Annual Report. Total amount, same as last year \$7,500.

At 2.30 a praise meeting was led by Miss Logan. Mrs Mellick conveyed greetings from the W. E. Missionary Society of the North West. Greetings were presented from the W. C. T. Union by Mrs Fownes, which were briefly responded to by Mrs Manning.

Mrs Cox conducted a model missionary meeting which was highly appreciated. At 4 o'clock an hour was

given to the children. Mrs N C Scott conducted the service which was much enjoyed by adults as well as children. Mrs Churchill gave a map exercise and talked to the children about the Telugland and her work among the children there. Miss D'Prazer held the close attention of the children for over half an hour, as she told them in her pleasing way about her hospital work at Vizagapatam. The public meeting on Thursday evening was largely attended. Mrs Mellick first spoke to us of the Northwest work. Our Missionary from Bobbili, Mrs Churchill, read an excellent paper on "Bobbili then and now." Miss Blackadar followed, telling of her experiences in the slums of New York, and made a strong appeal to the sisters to support her by their prayers and their means, if she is sent to India this fall. Miss D'Prazer gave an account of her medical work in connection with the hospital. A conversation in Telugu between Miss D'Prazer and Miss Wright, also a song in Telugu. The meeting adjourned; delegates remaining for the transaction of business. It is impossible to convey in this short report any idea of the interest and enthusiasm of this annual meeting, which is one of the best we have ever held, although less numbers than some. The delightful weather, the unbounded hospitality of the sisters at St. Martin's, who provided dinner and supper at the church each day and a breakfast on Friday morning, besides opening their houses to the delegates. All this tended to make the convention a great success. Above all, the presence of the Master was felt in an unmistakable way. A business meeting was held on Friday morning, followed by a memorial service in memory of the sisters who have during the year, been called to higher service. After this, all joined hands and sang, "Blest be the tie that binds," and separated, feeling that it was good to have been there.

Secretary.