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# W. B. M. U. TIDINGS

TWENTY FIVE CENTS PER YEAR.

Vol. 5

Amherst, N. S., November 1898

No. 57

## *Motto for the Year.*

“Workers together with Him.”

## *Prayer Topic.*

For the North West and British Columbia, for the Indian work, that this year there may be a great ingathering of souls. For officers of our Union and Missionary Societies.

**Suggested Programme for November.** Thankoffering for Home Mission.

OPENING PRAYER

HYMN

SCRIPTURE READING, Rev. 3 : 14-22

PRAYER, remembering the Topic

MINUTES of last meeting

READING—Tidings.

[There are enough reading in Tidings for two or three. Do not let one read all.]

PRAYER

Reading of H. X. Report p. 83 Ann. Report.

Question by President. What is our Society doing for Home Missions?

Ans. by Treasurer

CLOSING PRAYER.

READING. Tidings.

PRAYER.

CLOSING HYMN.

My Dear Sisters :

My Christian greetings to you all !

I wish I could annihilate space and be with you in your meeting this afternoon. What an inspiration it would be to look into your faces and talk about our work on the Telugu field. I have been wondering what particular phase I should bring before you to-day, and have decided to choose one which at present is most on my heart.

One Sunday morning when Marion was too ill to go to Sunday School or morning service in the chapel, I took up “Jessica’s First Prayer” and read it through. I cannot tell you how it impressed me. Here was a little girl who lived in a Christian land and had never heard of God or His Son Jesus, our Saviour. It seemed to me such a sorrowful thing that she should have

**Suggested Programme For December.**

HYMN.

BIBLE READING: Subject “Womans’ Work as found in the New Testament” or if Scripture lesson is prepared Luke 24 : 36-53.

(This is to be prepared before hand.)

PRAYER. For our Mission Bands and their Leaders.

HYMN.

been in sound of church bells and yet knew not of the One who loved her so much that He gave His life for her.

I told the story to Marion, and her heart too was saddened especially when she learned that the child did not live in a heathen land, and was not a little Telugu. All day long the story of that little waif lived in mind and I thought if I were in a city at home how I would hunt out such neglected children.

Then it came to me that perhaps God had some special work like this for us to do among the Telugu children here in Bimlipatam. I did not know how we should be able to reach them, but knew there were hundreds of these little street arabs running about the town from morn till night, and often until midnight.

Miss Newcombe and I talked the matter over. We believed the thought was from the Lord and decided to see what could be done. The next Wednesday afternoon Miss Newcombe went over to the Golla (shepherd) quarter of the town, which is not far from the Mission House. There she saw a few little girls, and asked them if they would like to come and hear some stories.

They were not afraid and gladly came with her. A way had been opened into some of the homes in that part a few weeks before and Miss Newcombe had become quite friendly with some of the women whom she had helped to cure of scorpion sting.

She brought five or six that day. One of them looked respectable with her hair well combed and a red cloth wound about her. The others were so untidy one could almost believe they had never seen soap, water comb

or brush. We divided them into two classes on the front verandah, and brought out one or two of Marion's Bible picture-books to tell them stories. I showed them a picture of Christ taking little children up in His arms. Pointing to it I asked them what they saw. They could not tell me, and when I asked, "Is this a tree?" they, evidently not knowing what to say, replied that it was.

This will give you an idea of their ignorance. They could not with their blind untrained eyes, see anything in particular in the picture.

It seemed rather discouraging, but, when we realized that this was entirely new to them it was not so discouraging. We wanted to teach them to sing, but this seemed a hopeless task. However, when they really opened their mouths and made an effort we were pleased.

When the time came to let them go we gave each one a plantain (a small kind of banana) and with many salaams and many smiles they departed but not before they had been invited to come every Wednesday and Saturday afternoons.

The next Saturday Miss Newcombe again went to their homes and this time instead of five or six there were sixteen to come with her. Some of them showed signs of having attempted to make themselves tidy but were not very successful. The following week there were over thirty, and this number soon increased to more than sixty. Then we could not manage them all and called in some of the Telugu christians to help.

They are very rude, and have had no training whatever, so we have had many trials with them but they are much improved.

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Every time they came it was a part of the programme to talk to them about keeping themselves clean, and many of them have taken our advice and come greatly changed in their appearance. Only a few wear any clothing at all.

They soon became so friendly that it was no longer necessary to go to their houses for them, but half an hour before the appointed time they were waiting outside the gate.

These lessons were held for about six weeks until we started on this present tour. On our return to the station we expect to continue them. Some of the stories which they have been able to understand best are "The Rich Man and Lazarus," "The Good Samaritan," "Christ blessing the children," and the "Parable of the lost sheep. Several of them can sing one verse of "Come to Jesus" very well and we are much encouraged.

We believe that He who started this work will carry it on to His own honour and glory.

Will you join with us in prayer for these children that the seed sown may take root in their hearts and a rich harvest of souls may be gathered in from among these little Telugus.

Whatsoever ye shall ask the Father in my name, He will give it you.  
Kimedey, Sept. 19th 1898.

#### Home Missions.

The first meeting of our W. B. M. U., Board of Home Missions was held on Thursday evening Oct 6th at Rev. W. E. Hall's. Mrs Hall was chosen convenor for the year. We were glad to have with us our two new members Mrs W. E. Bates and Miss Parsons. The subject of Home Missions was

well discussed and the following conclusions arrived at.

1st That through "Tidings" we ask all our Aid Societies to take a Christmas Offering for Home Missions.

2nd That through the same medium we ask all County Secretaries, and Secretaries of Aid Societies to keep this matter of Home Missions constantly before our Sisters.

3rd That as soon as possible the Board communicate by letter with every Aid Society in the Union.

Each member of the Board to share in the work.

Sec'y of Bd of H. H.

#### From the North West.

The following extract from a letter from our colporteur, Bro. Siemens, will be of more than usual interest:--

"The Mennonites are fallen-away or gone astray-Baptists and it is our duty first and foremost to bring them back to real life. I find in my work that the field is white to harvest and laborers are few. In a single day I found two young people, young man and lady, who lost part of their reason through having been convicted of sin and no one to lead them out of it. I was told two similiar cases were in Brandon asylum and others in the reserve. This young woman had been convicted through reading Bunyan's Pilgrim's Progress. I talked most earnestly to each of them about the love of Jesus but got no response, excepting that on one occasion, when asked if I had offended them, they said, no. Are they not many who are earnestly seeking the way, seeking how to get rid of sin, but know not how. How can they when they are not told, yea, on the contrary are warned against a doctrine which tells

them that they may know they have pardon, that they can know they are saved? And shall we, who know better, remain silent? Shall we let them alone as they want to be let? God forbid. There are those who long to know. How can they when they have not heard, and how can they hear without a preacher, and how can they preach without they be sent? Let us pray the Lord of the harvest to send such forth as will preach glad tidings of salvation to everyone that believeth. Brethren, there is no time for delay! No time for play. No time for amusements nor ornaments nor riches, but that we might be filled with the spirit of Jesus seeking to save perishing souls, to be about our Father's business. The Lord help me. Pray for the Mennonites and the workers there."

Baptists of the East! Will you consider your work in this part of Canada once again?

Those who left you and our now scattered among our fifty churches, call to you for help.

The German Baptists in Winnipeg, at Morden and at Edenwald call to you.

The Scandinavians at Scandinavia, at Norman and in Winnipeg call to you.

The Icelandic Church, with its few earnest workers and its great opportunities calls to you.

The Galicians call to you.

The Mennonites call to you.

The Indians call to you.

The work here is not preaching to settled congregations. It is the hardest kind of missionary work, but it is grand work. Can you respond to the call?

N. W. Baptist.

## Suggested Programme For November For Mission Bands.

HYMN. "Jesus loves me."

PRAYER by Leader.

RESPONSIVE READING. Psalm 23rd.

MINUTES of previous meeting.

ROLL CALL. Each answering by repeating a verse containing the word love.

SINGING. "Jesus bids us shine."

Lesson found in Tidings.

Close by singing "Rescue the Perishing."

Leader. In what zone is India?

Ans. The Torrid Zone.

Leader. How does the climate compare with Nova Scotia and New Brunswick?

Ans. It is much hotter, and the rain only falls at certain seasons of the year.

Leader. How many seasons have they in India?

Ans. Three.

Leader. What are they?

Ans. The hot, rainy, and temperate.

Leader. When does the hot season begin?

Ans. In March, and it closes in June when the rainy season commences

Leader. What is the most healthful period in the year.

Ans. After the close of the rainy season which is in October.

Leader. What is this season called?

Ans. The Temperate, and it lasts during the remainder of the year.

Leader. What is the chief article or food used by the natives?

Ans. Rice.

Leader. What do they usually eat with their rice?

Ans. A hot powder called curry.

Leader. Do they sit at table, and use the same kind of dishes as we do?

Ans. They sit on the floor, and eat from their fingers or with little pieces of wood called chop sticks.