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"Whatever He saith unto you do it."

MONTHLY LEAFLET

OF THE

Canada Congregational Woman's Board of Missions.

MONTREAL, APRIL, 1900.

Price 10c
a year.

SUBJECTS FOR PRAYER.

"We realize our calling"—Gen. 12:1-3; Ps. 67:1-2; Isa. 62:6; John

TOPICS FOR AUXILIARY MEETINGS IN "LIFE AND LIGHT."

1.—What a Century has Wrought for Women in India.

2.—Mission Work through Christian Literature.

Notice.

Mrs. G. A. Gurd, 65 McGill College Avenue, is the Treasurer. Please forward all money to her address, and make all orders payable to Mrs. G. A. Gurd.

The fiscal year of the C.C.W.B.M. terminates on May 20th. The Treasurers please send remittances to the Treasurer of the Board as early as possible so as not to crowd the work into the last days of the year.

Editorial Paragraphs.

Miss Dougall, who was appointed last June at the annual meeting held in Ottawa, as the delegate of the Woman's Board to the Ecumenical Conference to be held in New York, April 28th to 30th, will not be able to be present, as she expects to go to England in March.

Mrs. Nasmith, Toronto, and Mrs. Moodie, Montreal (D.V.) are the representatives of the C.C.W.B.M. A discussion was opened on Tuesday, April 24th, by our missionary, Mrs. W. T. Currie. We trust all have read Mrs. Nasmith's leaflet in March MONTHLY LEAFLET.

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Official Notice.

The Fourteenth Annual Meeting of the Canada Congregational Board of Missions will be held (D.V.) in the Congregational Church, Embro, Ont., on Wednesday and Thursday May 30th and 31st. A large attendance is confidently expected. Let every Branch, and, as far as possible, every Auxiliary, to send at least one delegate. Full particulars will be given in the May LEAFLET.

C. C. NASMITH,
Secretary

From Miss Maggie W. Melville.

CISAMBA, January 17th, 19

DEAR FRIENDS,—It is pouring rain, and has been for the two hours. The women and girls are at the fields, as this is a busy season there. In almost every field there is a small hut which is built for shelter on just such days. Even so, the clothes are wet, and on returning they feel it much pleasant to stay beside their fires than to sit in a cold schoolhouse. I think, would feel so under such circumstances.

I was thinking of a few customs here and how much different American customs they were, only suited to this country :

If a rooster crows in the evening after sunset it must be killed and eaten.

A young girl of about eleven or twelve changes her name if she wishes to, refusing to answer to that of childhood.

When twins are born it is usual for the mother to return to her own people until the children are able to walk well, then she again returns to her husband.

When twins sleep in a strange village, the women of the village will not go to their fields to work until the twins take hold of a hoe a little.

If a mother allows her child to get burnt, even a very small one, the people of her village plunder her, taking her pots, baskets, etc., and even their pigs.

This month is Susu in Umbundu, and if it begins with fair weather, it will be fair weather through the whole month.

When there is a new moon the one who is first to see it is another "okasumbi kange" can demand payment from the other.

The small image seen of oneself in another's eye is called "okamona kiso," i.e., the little child of the eye.

Last week we had another wedding. Kapienje and Nany were married. Nawimbu was intended from childhood.

for Kanjuindu, the Chief of Ciyuka, but when he learned of evil resulting from so many wives, he gave her to Kapienje. This is really a distant relative of the Chief, so that in any case he could have given her in marriage.

The usual ceremony was gone through, she going with one of the other young girls two days before to Ciyuka. I cannot describe what takes place at the village, but on the morning of the marriage here she comes with others from her village, led by a young lad from here who has gone to bring her. It was sad in this case, for during the night before the wedding one of the children died at Ciyuka, so they left the sorrowing parents and friends to come to a merry feast. Such is life.

From "Galene" Philadelphes.

SMYRNA, Turkey, February 10th, 1900.

DEAR MISS COCHRANE,—Your letter reached me just the day before our Christmas, and it helped to make the day brighter.

Thank you very very much for the MESSENGER; it was just the thing I had been wishing for but never hoped to get.

I cannot help remembering you every day when I look for my name in the almanac you sent me. Is it not strange that I got it on our New Year's day? I find much help and comfort

this year we have had much rain and hardly any cold weather. But this last week it was very bright.

We gathered the first daisies on your fourth of January, and the almond trees are already in blossom. I suppose before long we will have orange blossoms, too.

We never have snow here, and I miss it very much.

This year we are very few boarders, only thirteen, and I am the only one that has been here for five years. I feel quite old.

Yesterday I went to visit a little girl who met with a misfortune some years ago. When coming down the stairs one day she fell as if she had been suffering since. We heard of it only a few weeks ago.

Our King's Daughters' Society took the doctor to her, but she can do nothing for her, and that she will probably die next winter.

When I went over to-day I found her dressing her wounds. I am 'dying' Her mother seems to have little affection for her.

She does nothing that is not absolutely necessary for her, but she is so patient. I think she must be about twelve.

We have not yet found the opportunity of telling her of the love of the Lord, of which I am afraid she knows very little. I expect to be able to go again to-morrow afternoon.

I am sorry I cannot write any more, because I have to start for general reviews in literature on Monday. We are very busy just now with reviews and examinations.

Treasurer's Acknowledgments from Feb. 20th to March 20th, 1901.

TORONTO BRANCH.—Parkdale Hall, 15 subscriptions M.L. \$1.50; Toronto, Olivet Auxiliary, 15 subscriptions M.L., \$1.50; Thank-offering, \$2.60; Toronto, Northern Auxiliary, for forward movement in the North-West, \$20; Bowmanville, 15 subscriptions M.L. (additional), 40c.

OTTAWA BRANCH.—Roxetta, 10 subscriptions M.L., Kingston, First Church "Mission Band" (The Girls' O. Auxiliary fee, \$5; Maxville Auxiliary, India Famine Fund, \$10.

PARIS AND HAMILTON BRANCH.—Hamilton, First Church, 50 subscriptions M.L., \$5.

LONDON BRANCH.—London, First Church, 25 subscriptions M.L., \$2.50.

GUELPH BRANCH.—Guelph Auxiliary, undesignated, \$2.50; 50 subscriptions M.L., \$5; Fergus "Ladies' Aid," 9 subscriptions M.L., 90c.

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UNITED STATES.—Mariner's Harbor, Staten Island, N.Y., 1 subscription M.L. and postage, 25c.

Total for Ontario, \$78.30; Quebec, \$94.45; Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, \$2.60; United States, 25c.; grand total, \$175.60.

(MRS.) G. A. GIRD, *Treasurer pro tem*,
65 McGill College Avenue,
Montreal,

Mrs. CURRIE wrote: "There is one item I wish were in the prayer list, viz., prayer for means of transport of our goods to the coast. It is getting more serious than ever. The natives are getting such good prices for their rubber that they do not badly enough off to want to earn cloth by carrying the white folks' load. Mr. Currie thought of getting a waggon from America and purchasing more oxen, as the rhinder pest has to have died out, and yet we hear that on the waggon road between Benguella and Cacinda, south east, the tsetse fly is so bad that the Boers do not wish to take their cattle there. Some of the Portuguese trading firms tried mules, but they also died in great numbers. Of course, we can send some of our boys down to the coast, but it unsettles them to be so much on the road, and they lose their school studies and training in various kinds of work. It is reported that a bill to build a railroad from Benguella to Cacinda has passed through the Portuguese Parliament. But, even if true, it will be some time before they can start to build and (unless they are prayed into it) many a long day before it will be finished."—From "A Call for Prayer," by Miss F. M. Rawlings in *Canadian Congregationalist*.

WHEN Samuel J. Mills and his fellow-students drew up the constitution of their society, public opinion was so opposed to them that they wrote it in cipher lest they should injure the cause. Contrast their little meeting held not 100 years ago, with the coming Ecumenical Conference, and we gain some idea of the progress which has been made.

There were missionary societies before Carey sailed for India in 1793, but the great heathen world had hardly been touched. More missionary interest was aroused in the last ten years of the eighteenth century than had been felt in the ten centuries preceding. Missions are not the life of the church, but they are an inevitable expression of the divine life in it.

The seven foreign missionary societies which existed in 1800 have now multiplied into over 500. Less than ten heathen lands had been entered by heralds of the Gospel; in fact, only a few square miles had been claimed as parishes in Asia, Africa, and South America. To-day the world is practically occupied by Christ. The less than 100 stations of 1800 have increased to over 25,000; the 170 missionaries have become an army of 10,000. In 1800 the annual income of the seven societies amounted to \$50,000; last year the total receipts of all societies were over \$15,000,000. Upwards of 500 medical missionaries, a fourth of whom are women, are seeking to save bodies and souls. Over 200,000 patients are treated annually. The tools are scarcely less potent than the hospitals. There are

20,000 of these under missionary supervision, and in the 1,000,000 youth study the Bible. To-day the native help number nearly 65,000, of whom one-tenth are ordained and licensed preachers. In 1800 only one-fifth of mankind had the Word of God; now it has been brought within reach of nine tenths of the human race. Practically all closed doors in heathen lands have been opened, and men and women in the lands converted at the rate of over 50 a day.

No honest man can know the facts without being convinced that foreign missions *do* pay. But only He who gave the command to "disciple all nations" has a right to estimate the cost and returns. Statistics can never tell the whole truth even when they do not give a wrong impression. No achievement of the past can justify a relaxation of energetic effort. The need of the world seems as great as ever. Only one-third of the population of the world are even nominal Christians. Missionaries, if evenly distributed, would each have a parish of 10,000 people. The forces at the command of the Church are vastly greater than they were a century ago. One cent or a dollar from Protestant Christians would bring in an income of \$350,000,000. Among the problems which face us are: How to increase the spirituality of home churches; how to increase the efficiency of mission boards and societies; how to bring about more co-operation at home and abroad; how to unite Christians more effectively on foreign fields. Hope in the future lies not in the achievements of the past, nor in the forces of the present, but in the power and faithfulness of God. His promises leave no room for the possibility of failure. The world has yet to see what the Lord can do through a wholly consecrated church.—From "The Progress of Foreign Missions during the 19th Century," by D. L. Pierson, *Record of Christian Work*.

MINNEHAHA MEMORIAL LIBRARY.

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