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W. B. M. U. TIDINGS.

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MOTTO FOR THE YEAR

"Lord what wilt Thou have me to do"

An Open Letter on Home Missions

From the Convenor of the H. M. Com.

Dear Sisters

The Annual Reports having been sent you earlier this year than ever before you will have read the report of your Com. on H. Mission, and the action taken on that report by your representatives at that Annual Meeting. By our Constitution (p 4, a b of Annual Report) each A. Society may send two delegates to the Annual Meeting. Therefore as your delegates voted at that meeting, you are bound now to carry out that for which they voted, knowing that they voted not only for themselves but as they felt you would have voted had you been present.

Bearing this in mind will you turn with me to our Report p 20, and read that the Home Mission Report after a few changes had been made was unanimously adopted. In other words, the Union voted that they would carry out the suggestions and carry on the work mentioned in that Report.

There is not space here to go into all those suggestions, but may I ask that the Report be read at your next monthly meeting, and that you will endeavour as far as possible to carry on the work as your Com. have outlined it.

Just here let me say one word. When the claims of Home Missions are urged never let any one think or say, "Foreign Missions are neglected" Not so, but we DARE NOT WORK ONLY for one.

Were we to give ALL our time, all our prayers, ALL our gifts to one would not the Master say, "This ought ye to have done, and not to LEAVE THE OFFER UNDONE."

My Sisters, Our Foreign Missions CANNOT LIVE without our Home Missions. The one is, must be the feeder of the other.

Now here is the sum we have voted to raise before next August.

For North West Missions	\$800.00
Indian Work in Manitoba	100.00
Grande Ligne	100.00
Maritime Missions	500.00
	<hr/>
Total	1500.00

The question is not—"can we raise this amount—but" is it needed"?

Remember Chrst is saying Go YE into ALL the world" and then read the following from the

NORTH WEST.

THE EXTENT OF THE FIELD.

The field keeps continually enlarging. Our actual operations extend now from a point 10 miles east of Emerson to the Sturgeon River, 15 miles north of Edmonton, a distance of 1123 miles. Besides this we work on nearly 1000 miles of branch lines. There are other lines open that we have not yet touched, besides large country districts where they are calling loudly for the Gospel.

INCREASE OF POPULATION.

The Population is increasing at a rapid rate. The country is filling up with people of various nationalities and types of religion. There are Germans and Jews, Scandinavians and French, Icelanders & Poles, Chinese and many other smaller bodies speaking a foreign language. The United States also are taking advantage of the opportunities offered in this country, and large numbers from there are coming here. But the great bulk of the population is from parts of the British possessions, especially from Ontario and Quebec, the Maritime Provinces and the British Isles. About 40,000 of the native Indians still remain. Of religions we have represented Judaism and heathenism, Protestantism and Roman Catholicism and scepticism, and we are threatened with "higher criticism." The Gospel of Christ is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth, and upon its faithful proclamation the destiny of our country hangs.

INDIAN WORK.

Our Indian work abounds with interest, though it is not quite three years and a half since we, as a denomination, put our best thought into action for the poor Indians of the Northwest.

The work had been on our hearts a long time. Our Indian missionary, W. H. Prince, was undoubtedly sent to us in answer to prayer. He was ordained a missionary to the Indians in July, 1891, in pursuance of advice given by the Board to the First Baptist Church, Winnipeg. He has proved himself a "chosen vessel" sent to minister to his brethern. He longs for their salvation, and seeks it with prayerful, earnest efforts. He has shown himself reliable, ready, competent and full of zeal. His love to Christ seems very personal. Pray that our Indian missionary may be eminently successful in winning his people to Christ!

Our efforts thus far, as most of you know, have been directed more particularly to St. Peter's Reserve and the Little Saskatchewan. St. Peter's Reserve is to the far north what Winnipeg is to Manitoba, a distributing point. This mission is about 32 miles from Winnipeg, and has on it 1,500 Indians. The Gospel has wrought a marvelous change in the homes and lives of our converts. Family worship is to them a great privilege, if one may judge from their hearty participation in it, even the youngest being eager to take part.

Last January the first Indian Baptist Church was organized on St Peter's Reserve with a membership of 20.

Some one should be stationed immediately at the little Saskatchewan.

A request came from some of these Northern converts that a teacher should be sent them. Their request has been complied with. Is not a work such as this worth sacrificing for? The small sum of \$250.00 a year would be sufficient to support one of the converts there as a teacher.

GRANDE LIGNE.

Amid much persecution and many discouragements, Mr. and Mrs. Grenier, our missionary and his wife, in Quebec city, are holding the fort. Particularly trying have been their experiences during the last year. Owing to the persistent opposition of the priests, Mrs. Grenier's school was at one time reduced to three pupils. You have all read of the mobs in Quebec city, and how our representatives there have come out from it all,

“more than conquerors.” Let us pray for them, sisters, that they may have grace given them according to their need, and let us urge the children in the Bands to remember that this is their special work for Home Missions—the support of Mr. and Mrs. Grenier.

How glad we were the other day when we read that the husband of that brave woman, who some time ago was baptized at Maskinonge, had been converted, and followed Christ in baptism; and as we read we could not but exclaim: Woman’s influence! woman’s influence! Convert the women of Quebec, and they in turn will leaven the whole lump.

One of the Missionaries writes,—“Dear friends, pray for us, we need courage and wisdom to go on in this work. We are hopeful for Quebec yet—all things are possible with God.

OUR OWN PROVINCES,

I wish that Presidents of A Societies would get the year Book (1894) from the Pastor or Clerk of the church and read carefully the Report of our H. M. Secretary.

Do the women of this Union know that because there were not sufficient funds to carry on this work, some of our Home Missionaries had to be taken from the fields, and no new ones appointed, and that some of the workers in our weak churches have been obliged to endure hardships?

This will be referred to again. In the mean time what is our responsibility in this matter?

What about our influence? Are husbands, Brothers, Fathers giving all they are able to give? Are they giving as the Lord has prospered them? If not, may we not so arouse their interest that they will give? Try at any rate. Then — At our Annual meeting it was resolved that members give one dollar this year to Home Missions. It may be that this is too large a sum when you remember that it is in addition to our other gifts. But it is worth trying for this one year.

Remember women of this Union four cents a week from each of us is what is asked for, for Home and Foreign work.

Let those to whom the Master has entrusted wealth give for three or four who would give but have not the means.

How much owest thou unto my Lord?