

But twenty-five years ago, a paper edited and conducted entirely by women was so unprecedented that it is evident the projectors of the Woman's Missionary Society were characterized by remarkable foresight and enterprise. As pioneers in the work of woman's journalism, they have earned a good degree, and we are proud to congratulate them. Success has crowned their work. The evolution from eight to thirty pages, from a subscription list of six to twenty thousand, from a children's page to a separate paper for our little folk, the publication of the *Heiden Freund* for our German work, and an illustrated paper in five dialects for our native Christian societies of India." This is a record of missionary enterprise on the part of women which calls for thanksgiving. It is a demonstration none can gainsay. We rejoice with our sisters of the W.F.M.S. in this, their twenty-fifth anniversary, and from our warm Canadian hearts we bid them "God-speed." May we be stimulated by their noble example.

District Doings.

VANCOUVER, B. C.

THE third annual convention of the B. C. branch of the W. M. S. was opened by a public meeting in Homer St. Church, Vancouver, Sunday, May 13th. As the Conference was sitting we were favored by the presence of the wives of the Missionaries, whose addresses were full of interest.

Mrs. Crosby gave a sketch of their efforts among the Indians, particularly in the way of homes on the northern coast. For twenty long years the struggle had been carried on in loneliness and isolation. In the early days she had been the only white woman in that part of the country, and a brief visit from Mrs. Tate was an event never to be forgotten. At present they have two homes for the children, but there is urgent need for new ones in many places, and she hoped the appeals of the Indians would not be long unheeded. Mrs. Tate traced the history of the Coqualeetza home from its early beginning some years ago, when a few Indian children were received into their own house, down to the present home, but lately opened. The work had been long and not always hopeful, but the results were now no less gratifying than they were beneficial, the efforts bestowed on the squalid Siwashes having induced them to adopt more cleanly habits and abodes, while at the same time raising their tone of life and morals.

There is great need of additional schools. On the west coast of Vancouver Island there are nearly 1,000 children. On the Upper Skeena and at Bella Bella the work is much hindered for want of schools, while at Kitamaat Mr. and Mrs. Raley, the resident Missionaries, have, at their own expense and at much inconvenience, taken twenty-three children into their own home. Mrs. Raley's touching appeal for help, will, we trust, meet with practical sympathy in the shape of a substantial grant, that they may be able to carry out the work their hearts are so set on.

Rev. Mr. Gardner gave an encouraging account of his own work and that of Mrs. Morrow among the Chinese in Victoria. If proof were needed, there is ample to show the beneficial results of Mission work in this Province. The greatest hindrance we have seems to be the indifference of professing Christians. Surely we might with advantage proclaim a crusade against those who neither help nor even bid us God-speed in our work.

On Tuesday afternoon, after a paper on "The Lord's Tenth," there was a short discussion on "The Importance of Systematic and Proportionate Giving." It was recommended that the matter be brought before the auxiliaries.

The paper by Mrs. Coverdale Watson, on "How Best to Interest Auxiliaries in Our Own Work," was so much appreciated that it was resolved to print it. It was a fine suggestion that each auxiliary should be possessed of a library of Missionary literature, and we only wish it could be carried out. Our able President, Mrs. Sexsmith, conducted the meetings with great efficiency. In face of the hard and difficult times affecting the financial ability of our people, a very hopeful feeling was displayed, and all seemed most anxious to push the work more earnestly than ever.

A. NICOLLS *Cor. Sec.*

WELLINGTON DISTRICT.

THE District Convention of the Woman's Missionary Society was held in the Methodist Church, Wellington, on May 17. Mrs. H. Greer presided over the meeting, which opened by singing the 131st hymn, in the Canadian Hymnal, followed by short prayers from several of the members. The President then read the 72nd Psalm, after which the Secretary was elected and the roll called, when delegates from nearly every Auxiliary responded. Gratifying reports were then heard from Rednerville (Centre Church), Rose Hall, Wellington, Bloomfield, Mount Pleasant, Picton, First; Picton, Main Street; Picton Mission Band, Bethel; Extra Cent-a-Day Band, Picton; and Ameliasburgh. The subjects then opened for discussion were:

1st. Use of literature in Auxiliary work, when it was proposed that the District form a library composed of missionary literature, each member contributing one book toward proposed library.

2nd. Bible methods of filling the treasury. Is God's way our way?

3rd. How shall we develop the spirit of self-denial?

4th. How much should we give to missions?

5th. What new methods have been tried during the year, and with what success?

6th. What mistakes have been discovered?

7th. Is it desirable to select special objects of support?

8th. Are we doing all we can to interest the young people of the Church?

After profitable discussion on these subjects the doxology was sung, and benediction pronounced by Mrs. Platt, and the meeting adjourned until afternoon at two o'clock, when session opened with singing and prayer, after which the minutes of morning session were read and approved.

An address of welcome was read by the President, which was briefly but kindly responded to by Mrs. Platt. The suggested programme for May meeting in the Missionary Leaflet was then taken up, and a paper on "Personal Responsibility" was read by Mrs. Noxon. In order to obtain the opinions of the district regarding certain changes in our work the following questions were voted upon:

1st. Shall price of report be raised to ten cents, or remain at five cents? Moved by Mrs. Platt, and seconded by Mrs. Tobey, that they be raised. Moved, in amendment by Mrs. Noxon, seconded by Mrs. Peterson, that they remain at five cents. The first motion was carried.

2nd. Is it better that the expenses of delegates be paid by Auxiliary or Branch Treasurer?

Moved by Mrs. Tobey, and seconded by Mrs. Monahan, that the Auxiliary pay it. Moved, in amendment, by Mrs. Leavens, seconded by Mrs. Bowerman, that it be paid by Branch Treasurer. The amendment was carried.

The appointment of District Organizer was then discussed for a few minutes, after which an anthem was sung by the choir.

The testimony meeting was conducted by Mrs. Thorn, and many rose to testify the benefits they had derived from being associated with this glorious work for the Master. A paper entitled "Claims of Missions on the Young Women of Our Church," was read by Miss Lambly, who had recently been accepted as a missionary to Japan.

A Missionary lecture, delivered at Exeter hall, was read by Mrs. Davidson; when a solo, "Flee as a Bird," was well rendered by Mrs. A. M. Osborne.