

entering Uganda from the north-east. This way was shorter by a considerable distance than the old route, and also unquestionably more healthy. The only serious difficulty in the way appeared to be the lawless and irrepressible Masai; even the Zanzibarii consider Masai land as a kind of inferno—"All hope abandon ye who enter here"—but Hannington did not believe this to be an insurmountable obstacle by any means, and so his project took definite shape, and soon he was busy making preparations for the great journey. He decided to take with him one native clergyman besides a force of 226 men from different tribes. The march was begun, and though at times there were many hardships and discouragements, yet with a desperate struggle they succeeded in getting safely through the dreaded Masai land, and Hannington supposed that all danger was now over. He never once thought that his entry into Uganda from the north-east would be opposed. He was not aware of the alarm which existed in the minds of the tribes of Central Africa with regard to a European invasion, and that the chiefs were busy instilling into the mind of their young King, Mwangi, the duty of repelling any attempts of white men to enter his kingdom by the "back-door" of Usoga.

When information reached the missionary party at Uganda that their bishop was about to visit them, they were naturally alarmed. They explained to the king the object of his visit with the hope of removing from his mind the suspicion that he was coming as an invader. The king at once summoned a council of his chiefs, who unanimously concluded that the white teachers were only the forerunners of evil, and that they were waiting for their head man to arrive, when they would commence at once to eat up the country. It was finally decided that the Bishop's party should be conducted round to the south of the lake, and there await the pleasure of the king. Hannington's place of imprisonment was a small hut with no ventilation. Here he was kept for eight days, suffering intensely from wounds and bruises he had received in being dragged to the village. At times he would become so weak that he could scarcely hold his Bible. Almost torn to pieces, racked with fever, deprived of every comfort, and with the shadow of an unknown doom hovering around him, never for a moment did his confidence in God waver. Every morning during his hard-fought journey he had repeated his travelling Psalm, "I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills, from whence cometh my help." When at length the message was received from the king, Hannington was conducted, with his men, to an open space without the village. Soon the ground was covered with his dead and dying caravanmen. In this last supreme moment Hannington made use of his commanding mien, which never failed to secure the respect of the most savage; and as they hesitated with their poised weapons, he bade them tell the king that he was about to die for the Ba-Ganda, and that he had purchased the road to them with his life. And as they still hesitated, he pointed to his own gun, which one of them discharged, and the great heart that for love of Christ and his needy ones, had dared and braved and suffered, was forever stilled, for "his eyes had seen the King in His beauty."

His last message to his friends in England was, "If this is the last chapter of my earthly history, the next will be the first page of the heavenly—no blots, no smudges, no incoherence, but sweet converse in the presence of the Lamb."

What did he achieve? With reference to this the chronicles of his life says: "He died at the early age of thirty-eight; he had not time to do many things, and yet we may truly say he did much. Not to mention the deep impress of his own personality, which he has left upon those who were brought into close contact with him, he has given to the mission in Eastern Equatorial Africa an impulse of which we may confidently expect that it will not lose the momentum. He has completed the circle of that great ring of Christian nations of which the signet-stone is the Victoria Nyanza, and, in joining the two ends has welded them together with his death. Future messengers of the Church along the upland stretches of that northern route

will remember who first trod that path for Christ, and by the example of his life many others may step forward to uplift the banner dropped from his dying hands."

What has been said of another we would say of him: "What a life! What a man! These glimpses into the inner regions of a great soul do one good. Contact of this kind strengthens, restores, refreshes. Courage returns as we gaze; when we see what has been, we doubt no more that it can be again. At the sight of a *man* we, too, say to ourselves, 'Let us also be men!'"

M. C. ROWELL.

British Columbia Convention.

THE British Columbia Branch of the Women's Missionary Society has just held its Fifth Annual Convention. It was opened on Sunday, May 12th, by a public meeting in the Metropolitan Church, Victoria, B.C., presided over by Rev. S. Cleaver. Rev. Mr. Woodsworth gave a very interesting address on Indian Missions, and Mrs. Colter, of New Westminster, gave one on Chinese Missions. Her enthusiastic and eloquent address was listened to with deep attention.

Monday and Tuesday, the ordinary business was proceeded with. Reports were received from auxiliaries, and many valuable suggestions obtained therefrom. The workers were encouraged, and whilst we regret more has not been accomplished, yet we are grateful for the manifestations of Divine approval.

Our membership is 212. The treasurer reported the income for the past year to be \$406.80.

We have not the enthusiasm at our Conventions consequent on large numbers, but this is more than made up by coming in contact with the missionaries. We help them by our practical sympathy, and they inspire us with their zeal. Rev. Mr. Beavis addressed us on the desirability of opening a home at Bella Bella, which is the centre of the district. He hoped the Women's Missionary Society would assist, if only by a moderate grant, as it is impossible to do satisfactory work without one. Rev. Mr. Raley pleaded as earnestly for Kitamaat; he thanked us for what had been done, and told us the Indian Home he had started two years since now numbered forty-eight members. Memorials *re* these cases will be sent to the Board.

As the *Glad Tidings* did not arrive till a week past her time, great anxiety had been felt for the safety of our missionaries. Mrs. Nicholas, who had been on board, was requested, when introduced to the Convention, to tell us her experience. Their preservation was another instance of answer to prayer and the guardian care of our Heavenly Father. Miss Paul, who was *en route* from the Deaconess Home, Toronto, to Port Simpson, was among our visitors, and gave us a very interesting account of that institution.

Mrs. Osterhout, from the Naas, and Mrs. Beavis, of Bella Bella, spoke of the work amongst the Indians. Mrs. Morrow, of the Chinese Home, spoke of the good seed bearing fruit, and also of the difficulty experienced in overcoming prejudice. One poor girl refused to eat for fear of poison, and only yielded when weak and faint from starvation.

Mr. Tate and Mrs. Colter testified to the progress made by the pupils, and the efficient management at the Coqualeetza Institute.

A discussion on the "Harmony of Auxiliary with other Church Work," led by Mrs. Nichols, and an address by Mrs. Colter on "How to Interest Auxiliaries," were interesting and instructive. Our gifted president, Mrs. (Rev.) Watson, referred to some who had been with us on former occasions now laboring in distant fields, whilst others had passed away to be "Forever with the Lord." She reviewed the work of the society generally, and the causes for encouragement. Miss Bowes, accompanied by the Convention *en masse*, presented our greetings to the Conference in her usual clear and happy style.

The report of the Supply Committee showed that several boxes of useful articles had been sent where most needed; also a sewing machine to Kitamaat from the Metropolitan auxiliary. A solo by Mrs. Rowlands, and a duet by Misses Tranter and Graham were much appreciated, also the singing of the girls from the Chinese Home.

The following officers were elected by ballot Mrs. (Rev.) Betts, President; Mrs. Watson, 1st Vice-President; Mrs. Pendray, 2nd Vice-President; Mrs. Tate, 3rd Vice-President; Mrs. Newcombe, Recording Secretary; Mrs. Chapman, Corresponding Secretary; Mrs. Gardner, Treasurer. Thanks were tendered to the retiring officers and ladies of Victoria. Sympathy and regret were expressed at the painful circumstances which compelled Mrs. Wilson to resign the treasurership, which she has so ably filled since the formation of the Branch; but we doubt not her mantle of devoted capability has fallen on the right shoulders.

MRS. ELLEN CHAPMEN, *Cor. Sec.*

District Doings.

ST. CATHARINES DISTRICT CONVENTION.

THE Woman's Missionary Society of the St. Catharines District held a convention in the Methodist Church, Niagara Falls South, on Tuesday, May 14th. The weather and the walking were very unfavorable, yet many of the delegates were present with hearts aglow with enthusiasm in the cause of missions. The afternoon session opened with singing "I gave my life for Thee," and prayer offered by Mrs. Palmer. After having appointed Miss P. S. Biggar, Secretary; Miss Fanny Biggar, Treasurer; and Miss Tufford, of Tintern, Secretary of Supplies; several reports of Auxiliaries, Circles, and Band work were given, showing increasing activity and zeal in the different departments. There were four excellent papers read by Mrs. Palmer, of Grimsby; Miss Connor, of St. Catharines; Miss Potter, Niagara Falls South; and Miss Biggar, the latter being a paper of Mrs. Wyatt's, who was not present. Each one evinced prayerful thought and research, and would grace the columns of any of our missionary periodicals. Mrs. Green, of Grimsby, who is a fine soloist, added much to the interest of the Convention with her sweet, sympathetic voice and manner. The pastor of the church, Rev. A. E. Russ, presided over the exercises of the evening session. After singing and prayer, Mrs. Steven, of the "China Inland Mission," was introduced, and addressed the audience, giving an exceedingly interesting account of her experience and work among the Chinese women. She corrected the idea that generally obtains among us, that they are so difficult to reach on account of being so old and conservative a nation, and said they were easy of access by women, and often begged the missionaries to stay longer and tell them more of the wonderful gospel of Jesus. And the native Christians are so eager to tell others of their salvation and to send the good news to neighboring districts, as sometimes to deny themselves in every possible way, even when in extreme poverty, that their friends may share in their joys. Truly, "the love of Christ constraineth them," and shall we not learn a lesson from the Chinese Christians? We are persuaded that the instruction and inspiration given by Mrs. Steven was in the power of the Holy Spirit, and falling upon receptive hearts and minds, will lead us to greater devotion in our blessed Master's service.

E. P. LEWIS, *Cor. Sec.*

GODERICH DISTRICT CONVENTION.

THE Fifth Annual Convention of the Goderich District Women's Missionary Society of the Methodist Church, was held in Hensall, on Thursday, May 16, the President, Mrs. Leech, presiding. After devotional exercises, reports from the various auxiliaries were given. Goderich, North street; Clinton, Rattenbury and Ontario streets; Seaforth, Holmesville, Varna, Brucefield, Hensall, Dunganon and Nile reporting. Meetings are held regularly, and interest sustained in the society, and awakened in the congregation by holding the general prayer-meeting once a month as a missionary prayer-meeting.

Most of the societies had also sent bales or boxes of clothing and quilts to needy missions. Goderich, North street, and Clinton, Rattenbury street Mission Circles, each reported having raised fifty dollars during the year, also doing home mission work. The North street "Happy Workers," under the management of Mrs. (Rev.) Edge, and the "Wide Awakes," of Rattenbury Street, with Miss L.

Holmes as leader, are keeping the missionary interest thoroughly aroused among the juniors, and developing intelligent earnest workers.

Mrs. (Rev.) Henderson, in a few well-chosen words, extended a kindly greeting and welcome to the convention, from the sister churches of Hensall. Rev. Mr. Edge, on behalf of the District Meeting, then in session, also conveyed to the convention their sympathy and interest with the ladies in their noble work.

Duets were given by Mrs. Wren and Hotham, also Misses Coad and Stoneman. Miss McLeod, of Dunganon, gave a paper on "The Church and her work;" work done unto the Lord is labor glorified, and stamped with the seal that will bring to us the "well done"

The address of Mrs. McMechan, of London, to which the ladies have been looking forward with so much interest, then followed. She opened with a plea for the children. Train them early in the missionary work; help them to learn who were the first missionaries, and what they did. The object of the Mission Bands should be not so much to raise money as to secure knowledge of the great work being done. Every auxiliary should have a library; donations of suitable books might be made. A collection occasionally, or five cent tea, would also aid in purchasing books. Do not allow the spiritual or social part of the meeting to become absorbed by the business. An interesting programme may be given, by illustrating the essays and readings with articles, pictures or drawings of the places described. A president should be a woman who would do nothing that she could get some one else to do for her. We must add our length to the missionary ladder. Our motto—not your money or your life, but your money and your life. Our reward—a broader culture, a wider experience, an over-flowing heart.

After a short consecration meeting, led by Miss Gange, the Convention closed with the benediction.

M. WASHINGTON, *Secy.*

WOODSTOCK DISTRICT CONVENTION.

A CONVENTION of the Woman's Missionary Society of the Woodstock District, was held in the Central Church, Woodstock, on Tuesday, May 7th. The three sessions were deeply interesting and profitable. Mrs. Briden, of Ingersoll, was elected Secretary. The Organizer for the District presided morning and afternoon, and at the evening session the Rev. J. Pickering, pastor of the church, occupied the chair. Mrs. (Rev.) T. Boyd, of Oxford Centre, led the morning devotional exercises. Every Auxiliary and Mission Circle in the district was well represented, and reports given by each showing unwearying efforts to sustain the records of the past, not only in the matter of income, but also in the general interest taken in the work. The Organizer's report showed progress. Eight Auxiliaries and two Mission Circles reported as organized—two Auxiliaries last year and one this. Auxiliary members, 263; Mission Circle members, 67; income of the district, \$425.22; of this amount the Mission Circle raised \$58.98; ten circuits and charges are yet unorganized; women church members in the district about 2,000; of this number 430 are Auxiliary and Mission Circle members. The afternoon session opened with devotional exercises, led by Mrs. Leach, after which Mrs. (Rev.) J. Pickering welcomed the friends in a neat address, gracefully responded to by Mrs. Briden, of Ingersoll. Five-minute readings and music were given by delegates from Auxiliaries and Mission Circles. Mrs. (Rev.) Bowers, of Princeton, took charge of the question drawer. A consecration service led by Mrs. (Rev.) R. Woodsworth, closed the afternoon session. In the evening addresses were given by Mrs. (Rev.) T. W. Jackson, of Caledonia, President of the Branch, and the Rev. J. S. Ross, D.D., of Brantford, also a recitation by Miss Court, of Ingersoll. Music was furnished by the choir and Miss Case, of London. The ladies of the Central Church entertained the visitors, both at their homes and by a reception given in the church. The usual votes of thanks closed a meeting that will give a greater impetus to missionary work in the Woodstock District. An invitation to meet next year at Currie's Crossing was accepted.

MRS. FLETCHER, *District Organizer.*