

not to be given work by the city until all the married and single Canadians and Anglo-Saxons out of work are first provided, and at the present rate we would not care to venture a suggestion as to when that will be.

In our relief work our expenditures are much in excess of our receipts. Our poor fund being behind at the present time, about two hundred and fifty dollars.

### British Columbia Marine Mission

"The Thomas Crosby," our large mission boat on the Pacific Coast, was in constant commission for the nine months preceding December 31st, 1914, and rendered splendid service. Dr. J. H. White, Superintendent of Missions in British Columbia, reports in part as follows, concerning the work of the missionary in charge, the Rev. J. B. Lamb:—

"During these nine months at sea the 'Thomas Crosby' made five round trips along the British Columbia coast, steaming in all over 15,000 miles. During almost the entire season we carried in addition to the missionary, a crew consisting of captain, chief engineer, assistant engineer, cook and two deck hands. The captain, the Chinese cook and one of the deck hands, a Japanese, are all missionaries and regularly hold services and distribute literature among the Indians, Chinese and Japanese. On a Sunday in July which I spent with the boat, we held from Saturday evening to Sunday evening nineteen services, and this was quite the usual thing during the busy season, often four services being conducted simultaneously. The boat visits regularly once a month a number of the more accessible lighthouses, while to the more distant ones she goes once in two or three months carrying literature and bringing good cheer and Christian sympathy to these extremely lonely people.

"Besides Indians, Chinese and Japanese, we minister to about 2,500 white people who have no other service of any kind. Mr. Lamb intends this year to carry a church register and enrol such people as he may find have church letters, and any who may be received on profession of faith. During the season the missionaries made 950 calls, held nearly 1,200 services and read and prayed with 800 people. What these figures mean can only be faintly understood by those who have not visited the coast and who do not know how isolated and uncared for these people are.

"During the past year a great deal of work has been done which is not properly under the charge of the Home Department. The record of the people who attended services during the single trip in the cannery season will make this plain. Mr. Lamb's report for this trip of people reached through public services or in their homes is as follows: Whites, 847, Japanese, 825, Chinese, 1,045, Indians at canneries, 637. These people are so needy and receive the Gospel so gladly that it is almost impossible to persuade either the captain or the missionary to pass them by. But inasmuch as the service rendered costs a good deal and the Foreign Department is unable to do anything towards assisting us, we shall be compelled, with deep regret, to give it up for the coming season. The actual extra cost for the Oriental work I estimate as follows: A Chinese evangelist who acts as cook, and a Japanese who acts as deck hand, each cost us \$15.00 per month more than we should have had to pay for men who were not qualified evangelists and who attended only to the work of their respective positions on the boat. They were both excellent men, chosen for us by Dr. Osterhout. The Japanese, especially, was a man of great energy and devotion. In order to enable these men to spend the time necessary in work among their countrymen we had to carry an extra boy whose salary and board amounted to \$40.00 a month. For the nine months and a half that the

boat was at sea the extra cost was therefore \$675.00. The Japanese people contributed something to the support of their own man, but at the very least the additional cost involved was \$500.00. As the Home Department is already heavily burdened, I feel that until conditions improve we must relinquish this most interesting work. We shall still do work among the Indians for it would be simply impossible to compel Captain Oliver to pass them by. As he works for about half wages anyway, we shall not suffer financially.

"Taking things as they are, I submit that the boat furnishes the most economical method of doing work that would have to be done anyway. If the 'Crosby' went out of commission to-morrow we could not abandon the work of the coast. Though we only employed four missionaries, the number actually at work in connection with the boat last year, these, in order to do anything at all would have to be provided with small launches and would then not cover half the ground, while the cost would be as large or larger than the grants now made to the 'Crosby.' The Methodist Church has held this western coast for nearly fifty years and has spent hundreds of thousands of dollars upon it. Shall we now, just as white settlement is being established at a hundred places,



INMATES OF ONE HOUSE IN TORONTO.

abandon it to others? I venture to think the Church at large would not approve of such a course. This is a maritime province and we hear much in these days of 'sea power.' May I suggest that the Church which makes no provision for the scattered settlers along our seven thousand miles of coast line, and the many thousands who make their living from the sea, will suffer an incalculable loss. All the Churches are fully awake to this fact, but none are so well equipped as we are. No man can spend three weeks on our mission steamer and see the work she is doing without becoming an ardent advocate of its continuance. The British Columbia Conference is a unit in the matter. Even such men as H.R.H. the Governor General, the Minister of Marine, the Agent in B.C. of the Marine Department, the Post Office Inspector, all of whom have seen something of the work done, with many others whom I could name, have been profoundly impressed and have expressed warm approval.

"In this year of stringency and trial we may be compelled to curtail much important work, and some may have to be abandoned altogether for the time. But I submit that the work done by the 'Thomas Crosby' on the Pacific Coast is one of the last things which we should give up or seriously reduce. None is more urgently needed, and none will appeal more strongly to the sympathies and liberality of our people."