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The Moman's Missionary Society.

[This Department is in the interests of the W. M. Society. All communications for it should be addressed to Mrs. Jos. McLeod, Fredericton.]

OFFICERS OF THE SOCIETY.

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SUNDAY SCHOOL WORK IN INDIA.

To Baptists has been given the unique distinction of having established the first Sunday school in India, probably the first in Asia. This was in Serampore, in the year 1803. In the diary of Mr. Ward, one of the famous missionary triumvirate, the following entry occurs under date of July 15th, 1803: "Last Lord's day a kind of Sunday school was opened, which will be superintended principally by our young friends, Felix and William Carey and John Fernandez.". This, without doubt, was the beginning of Sunday school work in India.

With the increase of missionaries and the development of mission work came the increase of Sunday schools. Not however, till 1876 was there any organized effort. In that year the Indian Sunday School Union was formed, a Union which today has a net work of organization which covers India, Burma, Ceylon, and the Straits, and binds together seventeen Provincial Auxil-

Sunday schools in India are conducted in at least thirty vernaculars, and lesson literature is produced in most cases weekly, and in twenty of these vernaculars. Approximately four-fifths of the Sunday school membership of India use the International series of

The Sunday school is having a larger place given to it in missionary thought and activity than ever before, and is rapidly coming to be recognized as one of the important factors in the evangelization of India. On a number of our own mission fields one person has been appointed Sunday school superintendent. While we have not gone so far as to place him in a position to devote his whole time to this work, his special duty is to stimulate interest in and develope the efficiency of the Sunday schools on the field. Some other missions have gone much further in this work than we have as yet. In Tinevelly, where the Church Missionary Society has one of the largest and most successful missions in India, one missionary as well as a number of native agents are set apart to organize and develop the work among the children.

This work among the young is full of promise. In a large sense it is true that "workers among the children of India, are purifying, under God, the very springs of future progress, and deciding the desting an august Empire." India is nothing not conservative. Custom is what rules in any and every department of Hindu life. A man may have

but little faith in a certain ceremony, but he and his forefathers for generations have been accustomed to observe it, and so it is faithfully observed. If in early years we can get the minds of the children so possessed of Christian truth before idolatrous habits become a part of the life what may we not expect in coming years!

The appalling need of the work is apparent from the fact that there are in India one hundred and seventeen million children under fourteen years of age, and of these only a little over a quarter of a million are in the Sunday schools. What about the other one hundred and sixteen and three-quarter millions of boys and girls in that dark land? Have they no claim upon the Sunday schools of Canada? Can the boys and girls in the home land be indifferent to their condition? Must they not rather endeavor to give to them a knowledge of Jesus Christ the one only way of life, the one only hope of heaven?-Canadian Baptist.

BEREAVED PARENTS IN INDIA.

How sad is the lot of bereaved parents in India, the following extract from a missionary's letter indicates: "'They tell me that, since my little boy died he has become a 'bullock,' since my little girl died that she has become a 'cow.' We feel very sad about this. What does your Book say about it? I wish you would read it out to us.' So said a sorrow-stricken father and mother who within the last two weeks lost their two little ones of plague after two or three days' illness. Yes, all that Hinduism can offer to distracted parents is the hope of 'Transmigration'—that maybe even now a few days after death, their little ones are back with them in the form of a dog, a cat, a bullock or some most venomous reptile. If ever I praised the Lord for a Bible which reveals the truth of the resurrection and the mind of Jesus when He said 'Suffer little children to come unto Me' I did this afternoon as I sat in the door-way of a tiny hut in the field, trying with the Word of God to give comfort to those whose hearts were heavy with grief, not only at their loss but also because of the probability of these two little ones receiving maltreatment in the form of some animal."

A CHINAMAN ADORING THE GOSPEL.

I found in Singapore a Chinese Christian who has made a sacrifice for Christianity and for Christian work which is in advance of anything I have yet met. He was converted some years ago, and has suffered much trial and persecution, but he secured an education and went into business as shipping clerk in a European firm. He has been industrious and frugal, and has laid by enough to produce an income that will support himself and family. Goh Cheng Lim offered his service to the mission, with the understanding that he would support himself upon the interest of the money he earned. He resigned a sal-

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ary of \$80 (Mexican) a month, and without salary has given his time to the work of the Lord and received an appointment as a Christian worker at the session of the Malaysia Conference.-Bishop Warne.

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"RING OUT THE OLD."

Continued from page 4.

As a mode, it has a value; as a solution of things, it is a failure. The Book stands. "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth." The Book starts with mind as a cause of things, and that position holds the field of the best thought.

Theology has been in the melting-pot, and the constructive period has begun. Christ and Christian character are first and supreme, the "Alpha and Omega" of Christian life. Then comes service, as an expression of the Christly spirit in loyalty to our one Lord and Saviour, who is "all and in all." That is the Eden of the new creation and the promised land of dawning years.

Space has gone, and secondly is not in sight. Let us "ring out the old," and "ring in the new," in this sure confidence: "He lives!" Yes! the dear Redeemer lives. What hope, what rest, what joy! "He lives," brother, kinsman, friend, to travel with in all the days of 1904. Now, "ring out the old," and God, our God in Christ, bless us all as we "ring in the new" in His

WHAT THEY LIKE.

"I like a man who ain't a grain afeared," wrote Hosea Biglow, and the saying expresses a common sentiment. The fearless preacher—fearless in proclaiming, not political or sociological or evolutionary opinions, but the searching truths of the Gospel-always has been, and always will be, liked, and his preaching will be with power. All men like to be honestly dealt with, especially with regard to the great concerns of the soul, and a preacher can make no greater mistake than to imagine that he will win favor by "prophesying smooth things."-Examiner.

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