

St. John Presbyterial

The twenty-third Annual Meeting of St. John Presbyterial was held in Knox Church, Shediac, N. B., on June 4th, 5th, and 6th. The officers in attendance were Mrs. W. B. Logan, of Moncton, Pres.; Mrs. Donald Munro, of Woodstock, Vice-Pres.; Mrs. George McFarlane, of Fredericton, Treasurer; Miss Barbara G. Walker, of Woodstock, Secretary; Mrs. L. A. Maclean, of St. John, Secy. of Y. P. W.; Miss Janet Sinclair, of St. John West, Home Mission Sec'y.

The first session opened at 7.45 p. m. on Tuesday, June 4th. The devotional exercises were conducted by Miss G. B. Stevens, of St. Stevens. Hymn 90 was sung, after which Miss Stevens led in prayer. Psalm 67 was read by Mrs. R. D. Ross, of St. Stephen. Mrs. B. D. Hoyt and Mrs. H. V. Dalling offered prayer. "Lord, what wouldst thou have us to do"—Paul's response to the call of God, giving his all in service, was the theme of Miss Stevens talk, the application coming close to us. Hymn 301 was sung, after which the Pres., Mrs. W. B. Logan, took the chair.

Minutes of last session of Twenty-second annual meeting were read and approved.

Roll call of auxiliaries was responded to by 40 delegates.

The address of welcome was given by Mrs. James Inglis, of Shediac, in a very sweet way, and was responded to by Mrs. Donald Munro, of Woodstock.

The following committees were appointed; Nom. Com., Miss G. B. Stevens, St. Stephen, Mrs. James Ross, St. John, Mrs. W. H. Irving, Moncton, Mrs. R. D. Ross, St. Stephen; Mrs. W. A. Ross, Humphreys; Credential Com.—Mrs. James Stirling, St. John; Mrs. B. D. Hoyt, Debec; Com. on Resolutions and Courtesies—Mrs. A. R. Melrose, St. John; Mrs. Malcolm, Lorneville.

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The Secretary's Annual Report was read and a motion received.

The Field-Secy's report was read, in the absence of Mrs. J. H. Thomson, of St. John-report received.

Reports of County Vice-Presidents were now in order. No report of Victoria Co. was forthcoming. That of Carleton Co. was given by letter from Mrs. M. H. Manuel, of Florenceville. York Co. was unreported. Report of Charlotte Co. was given in letter from Miss E. A. Clark, of St. Stephen, read by Mrs. R. D. Ross. No report from Queens. Kings Co. also unreported. Mrs. Samuel Galbraith, of Lorneville, gave report for St. John County. Kent Westmoreland and Albert reported by Mrs. Annie E. MacDougall, of MacDougalls. All reports given were most excellent in themselves, showing, not only interest and zeal on the part of auxiliaries, but strenuous labor on the part of the Co. Vice-presidents. On motion, all reports were received. Mrs. Galbraith in her report made several suggestions which Presbyterial as a body adopted. They are as follows,— That we set out to increase the already existing friendliness to each other, and devotion to God. That we lay stress on definite public and private prayer for Missions and our Societies. That we try to bring our attendance and giving to a higher standard. That we endeavour to have far more private visitation of Sister Societies. That we remember our auxiliaries are auxiliaries and Missionary.

The President's address was the next feature of the program, and was given by Mrs. W. B. Logan in most lovely sentiment and language. It was moved by Mrs. L. A. Maclean, seconded by Mrs. Purdy, that a hearty vote of thanks be extended to Mrs. Logan for this very excellent address—carried by standing vote.

Revision of Constitution was now up for discussion. A motion was made that we as a body adopt revision as read.

Mrs. E. A. MacDougall spoke to the motion, raising an objection to Article 7. Motion was withdrawn. Motion that we express our approval of revision of Constitution of Presbyterial Societies carried. Motion carried that revision of Constitution if of Auxiliaries be approved, asking that Article 7 be retained as in former Constitution. Constitution of Young Peoples' Societies was a motion approved as a whole.

An invitation to an informal tea on Wednesday afternoon was cordially accepted. Meeting closed with Hymn 180.

Second Session of Presbyterial opened at 9.30 a. m.—Wednesday, June 5th, Mrs. W. G. King, of Buctouche, leading the devotional exercises. The doxology was sung, followed by a few moments of silent prayer. Hymn 396 was sung, and portions of scripture read showing the God of Love, the God of Peace, the God of Joy. Mrs. Logan led in sentence prayer, followed by Mrs. R. D. Ross, Mrs. McFarlane, Miss Robb, Mrs. MacDougall, Mrs. James Ross, Miss Stevens, Mrs. Murray, Mrs. McMurray, Mrs. Munro, Mrs. King. After the singing of Hymn 617, Rev. Mr. Malcolm offered prayer. The Pres., Mrs. Logan then took the chair.

Minutes of last session were read and approved.

Report of Home Mission Secretary was given by Miss Janet Sinclair, of St. John West, showing splendid effort in preparation of bales for the Northwest, and, incidentally, a great deal of interest and hard work on the part of Miss Sinclair. Report received.

An eye-opening talk on Deaconess work was given by Miss Effie MacDougall under three heads—Congregational work, Rescue work, work among immigrants. The Deaconess is not a female preacher, neither is she to the minister what the suffragette is to the Political party. The questions of the shut in and of the inmate of the lodging house were discussed at some length. The Deaconess can reach individuals who are otherwise shut off entirely from anything like church influence which carries the personal saving touch. A knowledge of the fundamentals of music is a great help in the work, as is also even a small gift of song. Some special duties which the Deaconess finds ready to her hand are the welcoming to church of the lonely stranger and the directing of stranger girls at the railway stations. The rescue work is perhaps the greatest which faces the Deaconess. Some known results show the mighty forces which may be successfully combated by the Deaconess on her own responsibility or under the direction of a Board. Strength of character, health, education and culture seem to be necessary attributes of a Deaconess. Wherever there is a need among women and children, there is the Deaconess work.

Mrs. L. A. Maclean read report of St. Andrews (St. John) Beneficent Society preparing by Mrs. William Angus; this

showed some heart breaking conditions in our own Province, undoubtedly this society is finding a very noble work to do at its very door.

Mrs. James Ross read a letter from Mrs. Hunter-Boyd of Glasgow, treating largely of her personal knowledge of the immigration question, 74,000 have recently come into Canada, and Mrs. Boyd impressed the need of expressions of the love that is charity and friendliness to the stranger within our gates. The Overseas Welcome Department in the British Isles, of which Rev. Mr. Hunter-Boyd and Mrs. Boyd are the leaders, is doing splendid work in speeding the immigrant. Mrs. Boyd suggested the formation of Committees of ladies to look after these upon their arrival among us.

Mrs. Ross was asked to convey to Mrs. Hunter-Boyd the gratitude of the Presbyterial both for her kindly thoughts of us at this time, and for the inspiration of her letter.

In motion it was decided to open session of Thursday morning at 9 instead of 9.30 o'clock in order to get through with all items on program.

Mrs. A. R. Melrose of St. John, then read a thoughtful paper on Home Mission Problems, dealing with the question of the immigrant, European and Asiatic, and his status among us. The needs of lumbermen were also touched upon. Revelations of awful conditions in our Home-land showed the needs of the Home Mission work in men and money. Mrs. Melrose suggested that for H. M. topics at auxiliary meetings, we take up the broader subjects such as Deaconess work, Temperance, moral Reform etc., which mean so much to our Canada.

The subject of Foreign Missions was opened by a splendid paper on 'a birds-eye view of China' by Miss Cora Sinclair of St. John West, read by Miss Janet Sinclair. Mrs. J. H. McVicar, of St. John then spoke on China. Having spent three and a half years in that land, Mrs. McVicar knew whereof she spoke in her all too short address. The ambition of Chinese women to rise large families in order to have due worship after they are dead, was most graphically and touchingly drawn.

Mrs. A. R. Melrose spoke on the subject of Foreign Missions, touching upon the sensitiveness of China, India and Africa to foreign interference in traffic, trade, and religion. They are realizing the inadequacy of their religions to meet modern requirements, and are sending out street speakers and even distributing tracts, in order to pit their Missionary enterprise against ours.

Mrs. R. A. Jamieson followed with a few words of similar tenor laying stress upon the fact that western enterprise is uprooting the old religions in the minds of Eastern students, and unless Christianity speedily throws out an anchor to their souls both sure and steadfast, the drift into atheism is inevitable.

Mrs. L. A. Maclean read a short article emphasizing the sentiment.

Mrs. McFarlane read a paper on "the instructive side of mission work" prepared by Miss Isabel Everett of Fredericton. The contrast between the missionary and the O-missionary societies was brightly and most interestingly presented. The paper was especially for auxiliaries. A missionary library is a necessity, the bearing each of her own part of the program, were points emphasized. A society should serve God with its heart, its money, and also with its mind not one mind or two minds, but its whole mind made up of every mind. The paper was full of practical suggestions.

Miss Robb spoke briefly of her visits to Auxiliaries and Mission Bands, giving amount of contribution received as \$142.49. Her expenses totaled \$49.24, leaving balance of \$93.25.

Mrs. Purdy moved that balance be left exclusively in Miss Robb's hands to be used as she may wish, Miss Robb having absolutely refused to accept it for personal use, motion carried. Meeting closed with Hymn 404.

Third session opened at 2.30 P. M. Mrs. McMurray of Rothesay leading the devotional exercises. Hymn 555 was sung and psalm 137 read. Mrs. Galbraith and Mrs. Melrose offered prayer after singing of a Hymn. Mrs. L. A. Maclean, secretary of young people's work, took the chair. Minutes of morning session were read and approved.

Mrs. Maclean gave annual report of Y. P. W. 38 Bands had reported this year 5 new bands having been, organized 6 were still unreported. There are 1035 members, an increase of 132 over last year. The amount of cash for the year is as follows:—

\$690.91 for F. M.; \$474.44 for H. M.; 48.44 for student fund, total \$1213.79. On motion report was received. Reports of Co. Vice-Presidents were not given. Mrs. Walter Craigs of Sussex reported for Kings Co. in an interesting manner. Mrs. B. D. Hoyt, of Debec read report of Carleton Co prepared by Mrs. J. S. Merrithew of McKenzie Corner, which

was most satisfactory. Mrs. C. T. Purdy of Moncton reported for Kent West. and Albert: Mrs. James Sterling of St. John reported for St. John county, Queens was unreported. York Co. reported by letter from Miss Edna Baird of Fredericton. Charlotte Co. was reported by letter from Miss Minnie Keary of St. Andrews. On motion all reports were received. A paper on "Intermediate work" prepared by Mrs. J. Semple was read by Mrs. W. A. Ross. Master James Stirling of St. John, read a paper on "How to interest the Boys" which was as dear as James himself. Mrs. James Stirling read a paper on "The Boys' Club." This was full of interesting suggestions.

Mrs. McMurray of Rothesay opened Mission Band conference Literature and hand work done at M. B. were passed around for inspection. The virtues of the sand table were spoken of. Mrs. Ross spoke of necessity on bringing up our Mission Band children to be not self-centred in their giving. Giving to the home church that which should be passed along to fill outside needs is dwarfing, and will end in spiritual atrophy.

Miss May Ross of St. John read a very beautiful little paper on "Service." Passing the good things of lives in the sunshine, the cheer, the help in little ways is real service. Our service must cost us something. Miss Jennie Robb then gave a delightful talk on Korean Bible women. Their work is among both heathen and Christian women, visiting these and teaching them to read the scriptures. Some are paid by the Bible Society. Some receive their salaries from other sources. A letter from Miss McCully was read, in which was apparent the need of additions to some buildings, these entailing extra contribution to meet the expense. Thirty-five Bible women are attending the Institute or Bible School, which has a five year course, and gives excellent preparation for this great and necessary work. One of the pressing needs in Korea is more single women. Another medical missionary is also sadly needed.

Meeting closed with Hymn 534. A delicious tea was served by the ladies of Shediac Auxiliary and was thoroughly enjoyed by the delegates.

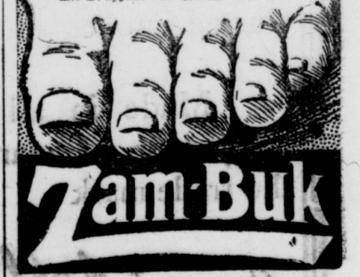
Fourth session was a public meeting which opened at 8 p. m. Rev. Mr. Magner presiding. Psalm 65 was sung, followed by reading of Psalm 61 and prayer led by Rev. Mr. Steel. After singing of Hymn 443 Mr. Magner introduces Rev. Dr. Vicar of St. John. "The Front door of Faith" was the theme of the very graphic address listened to with closest attention and interest. The pioneer work of Missions in China was like unto the opening of the Chinese front door which is a rather complicated proceeding until one understands. The work of such men as Jonathan Gofont shows how mightily moves the spirit of the living God upon the souls of a nation whose only idea of sin was a breach of etiquette or a getting caught and being disgraced before one's fellows. The work of spiritualizing the terms necessary to present spiritual ideas to the Chinese has been of immense magnitude. The way to open the front door in China is not to use force, but to knock, answer the challenge "who" with "I", and if trusted, the door opens and one enters. Even so, the leading of the Chinese to trust the medical men who heal their bodies has done much to lead them to Christ.

The address was intensely interesting and inspiring. After singing of "Onward Christian Soldiers", Rev. D. MacOdrum, of Moncton, was introduced who, in opening, spoke of the place of women in church work. To the work of our women is largely due the marked increase in Missionary Contribution and Missionary zeal, in the church today. In the last twenty years the women themselves have increased their giving from \$5,000 to \$22,000. (Of course, we agree with Mr. MacOdrum that at least one woman is behind every good movement). Mr. MacOdrum spoke of his trip to Trinidad, painting in glowing colors that lovely land. In his account of the Morton Jubilee services he made special mention of the pleasure of Mr. Morton in the gift of the women of the Maritime provinces to Mrs. Morton, a bell for the church. The work in Trinidad is magnificent, well worth the money put into it, well worth the lives put into it. The charges of the past fifty years have given a better educated people to be reached. The hope of having an entirely native church to evangelize the natives is ever before the native Christians. The very successful work of the schools, conducted by Miss Blackader and Miss Archibald was touched upon. Mr. MacOdrum gave also a brief glimpse of the work in British Guiana. The population numbers 296,000, of which 126,000 are East Indians. Four per cent of the whole

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are white, and nine per cent call themselves Christian. Two enthusiastic missionaries are doing all that is being done among the people. The blacks are aggressive and hold the strings of government. Out of 25,000 children, only 6,000 entered the school last year, because the blacks will not allow East Indian teachers, and East Indians will not send their children to black teachers. The situation is critical. If the mission is to amount to anything, the school system must be remodeled and pushed to a high pinnacle as it has been in Trinidad. If this cannot be done, it were better to withdraw from British Guiana entirely. The success of the Trinidad Mission is largely due to the excellence of the school system. Mr. MacOdrum's address was above praise, as was also that of Dr. McVicar. After the offertory, Hymn 451 was sung, and meeting closed with benediction.

Fifth session opened at 9.00 a. m. on Thursday, June 6th, Mrs. Walter Craig, of Sussex, leading the devotional exercises. Psalm 97 was sung and prayer offered by Mrs. R. D. Ross, and Mrs. R. A. Jamieson. Psalm 2 and Isaiah 35 were read. After singing Hymn 456, Rev. Mr. Malcolm offered prayer. Mrs. Logan then took the chair. The matter of allocating a Home Mission surplus of about \$300 was brought up. The motion carried that this money be applied to the support of a Deaconess either in St. John or Moncton, or to the training of one.

Mrs. McFarlane now gave the Treasurer's Report. Cash received amounted to \$2372.79 for F. M., \$1477.22 for H. M. Of the H. M. Contribution, \$1139.61 was for Student Fund.

The total contribution was \$3850.01 an increase of about \$140.00 over that of last year. On motion report was received. Dedicatory prayer was offered by Mrs. R. A. Jamieson of St. John. On motion Mrs. J. H. McVicar, Mrs. L. A. Maclean and Mrs. R. A. Jamieson were chosen committee to bring matter of Deaconess before H. M. Board of St. John Presbytery, and with them to put matter into effect, arranging all details. The Treasurer announced the amount of collection at public meeting to be \$7.49.

Reports of Committees were now in order, Miss Stevens gave report of nominating Com. as follows:—Hon. Pres. Miss G. B. Stevens, St. Stephen, Pres. Mrs. Donald Munro, Woodstock, Vice Pres. Mrs. J. H. McVicar, St. John.

COUNTY VICE PRESIDENTS
Mrs. J. S. Merrithew, McKenzie Corner, Carleton Co.
Miss E. A. Clark, St. Stephen, Charlotte Co.
Mrs. McPhail, Perth, Victoria Co.
Mrs. W. S. Morrison, Hampton, Kings Co.
Mrs. W. W. Smith, Harvey York Co.
Mrs. A. R. Melrose, St. John, St. John Co.
Mrs. A. E. MacDougall, MacDougalls Kent, West. and Albert Cos.
Secretary Miss. B. G. Walker Woodstock, Treasurer, Mrs. George McFarlane, Fredericton; Field Secretary Mrs. J. H. Thompson, Rothesay, Secretary Y. P. W. Mrs. L. A. MacLean, St. John