

The Woman'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.]

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REV. J. N. BARNES' REPORT FOR JUNE.

To the Corresponding Secretary of the Woman's Mission Society:

DEAR SISTERS,—I spent the month of June visiting Societies and Bands in the First and Second Districts. I had a few special meetings at Connell with the children. The upper part of the First District I shall be obliged to leave to some time in the near future. The balance of the year I shall spend in the Third, Fourth and Fifth Districts, as I have been well over the Sixth and Seventh. I hope to get over the Districts above named by the time of General Conference. It is encouraging to know that our sisters and the children are becoming more interested in this great work of missions. "The field is the world." "The harvest is great." "The laborers are few," and much will be lost unless more laborers are sent. The call is, "Come over and help us." Who will heed the call?

Summary of work for the month: Meetings, 19; families visited, 20; miles travelled, 325; cash collected, \$15.26.

J. N. BARNES.

Jacksontown, July 15, 1903.

CARRIED HIS MOTHER.

Recently, in one of the mission stations in China, a man appeared bending under the burden of a large sack. A wrinkled hand stretched from the mouth of the sack, holding out to the missionary a small string of cash. The man's aged mother had so coveted the joy of bringing the collection to the missionary with her own hands, that he had brought her in a sack. This was the only vehicle he could afford. The happy face of the aged woman was touching to behold when it was learned that her offering was cheerfully given from poverty so severe that she was compelled to mix earth with her scanty food, that it might seem to go further and satisfy the cravings of hunger.

MISSIONARY BIBLE READING.

What are missionaries? 2 Cor. 5: 20.

What great missionary is spoken of in Exodus? Exod. 3: 14-17.

Who was sent as a missionary to the great city of Nineveh? Jonah 3: 1, 2.

What poet and preacher was sent to the people of Palestine? Isa 6: 6-8.

Who was the greatest missionary ever on earth? John 1: 9-14.

Did he make his apostles missionaries? Matt. 10: 5-8.

To what missionary company did Christ speak his last words? Matt. 28: 16.

What was the first great success of the missionary church? Acts 2: 1, 41.

Who was the first martyr for preaching the gospel? Acts 7: 59, 60.

What apostle first preached to a Gentile congregation? Acts 10: 5-8.

What church sent out several excellent missionaries? Acts 13: 1-3.

What woman was the first convert to Christianity on the continent of Europe? Acts 16: 11-15.

What mission church would be a good example for us in Bible study? Acts 17: 10-12.

What mission field might well be an example to us for missionary contribution? 2 Cor. 9: 1-7.

Are there enough missionaries? Matt. 9: 36, 37.

What is our duty then? Matt. 9: 38.

What help has Jesus promised? Matt. 28: 19, 20.

What have missionaries accomplished? Isa. 9: 2.

Has God promised them success? Rom. 14: 11.

What reward has Jesus promised? Dan. 12: 3.

When will missions end? Matt. 24: 14.

What will then be the state of the world? Hab. 2: 14.—Selected.

STEALING A BRIDE IN INDIA.

The *Moulmein Advertiser* tells the story of a remarkable Hindu wedding which lately took place in that usually unsensational town. Among the invited guests at the house of a native medical man on the occasion of his daughter's marriage were Mr. Dramalingum Moodelliar and Miss Dramalingum, his daughter, the unsuspected heroine of the surprise. As the attention of all present was directed to that part of the hall where the sacred knot *thali* was being tied between the bride and the bridegroom, a young and ardent lover of Miss Dramalingum, whose suit to her hand was not successful, suddenly went up to her without attracting any very much notice, and as suddenly, before anyone suspected what his object was, pulled out a *ihali* (the Hindu string and neck jewel which, once tied round the neck of a Hindu lady, notifies her marriage) from his pocket, and quickly tied it round her neck. Of course there was a hubbub, and parental lamentations over this dramatic episode. However, so great is the veneration among Hindus for the *thali* that no one dared to remove it from the neck of the now astonished maiden. All concerned repaired to the "Mariana" temple, where the act was ratified, and the maid who went to a friend's wedding as Miss Dramalingum left the scene as the legal wife of a bold and successful husband.

—The Indian Witness.

—Among the graduates at Princeton Seminary was a Japanese student for the ministry. Converted at home, through the foreign missionary, and educated in America, he is to return to his fatherland as a messenger of the gospel. Thus is being fulfilled to Zion the prediction "And the sons of strangers shall build up thy walls."

Mission Notes and News

—There is to be a Buddhist conference in Osaka, Japan, in April next. The missionaries say it will be useful in stirring up the entire question of religion.

—At the annual meeting of the Japan Mission of the Methodist Protestant Church in April last there were reported 17 pastors with 19 charges and 35 appointments and 722 members.

—The census report of India says: "The principal feature in the last ten years is the enormous increase in native Christians, amounting to almost 200 per cent."

—There are now in Uganda, Africa, 1,070 church buildings, an Sunday-school of over 50,000, a church attendance of over 100,000, and the first baptism occurred about twenty years ago.

—Late estimates give Japan a Christian population of 46,615 converts, with 550 or 600 missionaries in the field. The Presbyterians, Congregationalists are the largest bodies doing missionary work in this promising country.

—The accessions from heathenism to Christianity number about a quarter of a million annually. Competent authorities give the population of the world as 1,544,500,000. Of this great total 535,000,000 are Christians. Mohammedans number 245,000,000; Confucianists, 300,000,000; Brahmanists, 214,500,000. Jews number nearly 11,000,000.

—It is rather pathetic and very encouraging to hear that the negro converts of one of the French missionaries in Africa have sent a contribution to a number of French villagers who have turned away from Rome and are erecting a Protestant house of worship. The native Christians of Madagascar have also sent a contribution toward the deficit in the French Board of Foreign Missions.

—The Livingston mission in Africa of the Presbyterian church of Great Britain was founded in 1875 and the first convert baptized in 1881. Now the mission occupies six chief centres, has a staff of 42 European missionaries, 100 out-stations, nearly 3,000 communicants, 130 schools with 30,000 scholars, the whole knit together in a Presbytery of Nyasaland. The missionaries are taxed to the uttermost with calls for visits and with efforts to occupy the high walls to the west.

—A missionary in India writes: "Hundreds of Hindus to-day are secret disciples of Christ. They have lost faith in the religion of their fathers, and have found in Christ the light of life. We find them wherever we go. Bound by the cruel tyranny of caste to the social organism in which they were born, they are longing with restless and unsatisfied hearts for the hour of their liberation. Sometimes the motives which keep back one who is a disciple at heart are so human and so admirable in themselves—as when they involve leaving home and the little children or aged parents—that the missionary is at a loss to say, and dare not judge and condemn off-hand."

—The exposition now being held in Osaka, Japan, gives an opportunity for the preaching of the gospel to many new hearers. Union services are held daily in a building in front of the main entrance to the fair grounds, continuing for thirty minutes for each service, commencing in the early morning and continuing all day. At the close of each service the audience is requested to leave and give place to those on the outside who are waiting to come in. The first day the preaching place was opened 1,700 people heard the gospel message, and more the next day, and every day from 1,500 to 2,000 people hear short and earnest sermons presenting the most important truths connected with Christianity. The exposition continues till the end of July.

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