

## BRITISH AND FOREIGN SOCIETY.

Extract from address given by Rev. A. F. Newcomb, delivered at Fredericton, January 6th.

*Greatest Institution.*

The British and Foreign Bible Society, with its auxiliary the Canadian Society, is the greatest institution on earth for putting the Bible into the hands of mankind in their native tongues. Its work is universal because the Book it publishes and circulates deals in the basal things of life, the elemental considerations which are the same the world over, and can never become obsolete. The Bible goes down to the roots of man's real needs, his bitterest sorrows. It deals with an assurance not of this world in the things that are of vital concern to every human creature. It thus emphasizes the things that are of common interest and importance, and in this is cosmopolitan. It can speak in every language, to every heart and every home. The Bible Society stands uniquely among all the institutions of the world for its vital ministry, so extensively rendered, of giving the Bible to men in their vernacular speech.

*Society's Marvellous Output.*

The issue for 1914—the returns for 1915, are, of course, not yet available—excelled 10,000,000 copies by 162,213. That was the largest ever reached, and considering the difficulties imposed by the war, is truly phenomenal. For 1913 the figures were 8,958,233, and for 1912 7,899,562. Some details of circulation may be interesting: In Latin Europe 420,000 volumes; the German and Austrian empires, 1,000,000; in the Russian empire, 750,000; in Africa, 300,000; in Canada, 301,000; in South America, 225,000; in Australia, 150,000; in India and Ceylon, 1,191,000; in Japan, 340,000; in Korea, 755,000; in China, 2,660,000. About 2,000,000 copies were published in English. It will be noticed that more than one-quarter of the society's output found circulation in China.

Even despite the serious effects of the war, the number of books sold through colportage last year reached a record mark, and exceeded five million copies.

*Service to Soldiers.*

A remarkable service has been rendered to soldiers. Red Cross organizations have been abundantly supplied with copies of Scripture for free distribution among the wounded, among prisoners of war, aliens interned in camp and civilian refugees. Free copies have been distributed among the contingents from the various sections of the Empire. The Canadian Bible Society distributed thirty-five thousand New Testaments, bound in khaki, to the troops of the first contingent of the expeditionary force, twenty-five thousand among the men of the second contingent, fifty thousand more have been presented, and as many as are needed will be furnished. Our Canadian Society has so far spent \$10,000 on Testaments for our troops. During the first eight months of the war Scriptures were distributed among soldiers to the number of one and a half million copies in twenty languages, and in a dozen countries. Up-to-date figures extend away beyond the two million mark. Isn't that wonderful and significant?

*Nearly 500 Translations.*

The Bible Society has been translated into 487 languages, nine new tongues having been added to the list last year.

## ADDRESS AND PRESENTATION TO MR. AND MRS. WIGGINS.

*Popular Pastor of Reformed Baptist Church and Mrs. Wiggins Kindly Remembered by Congregation.*

At last night's Reformed Baptist Sunday school entertainment, Rev. and Mrs. W. B. Wiggins were presented with a purse of \$60 each, accompanied by the following address:

To Rev. Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Wiggins,—

Dear Brother and Sister: Knowing that this is a time of rejoicing on account of the celebrating of the event of God's best gift to man, we, therefore, wish to take advantage of the festive season to express to you in a tangible way, our esteem and love for you. Just one year ago we met here on a similar occasion, but oh! the changes since then, for God has called many a weary pilgrim home, but we are still on the shores of time, and enjoying God's blessing and favors.

Although the past year has seemingly been the shortest year we have ever seen, yet it has been long enough for us to see where you have been a great help and blessing to us. In times of rejoicing, you have rejoiced with us. In times of trouble and sorrow, you sympathized with us, and your prayers and sympathy together, did much to help us over our difficulties and bereavements, and altogether, we can say it has been a pleasant and prosperous year.

And now in closing, we would ask you each to accept as a small token of our esteem and appreciation the accompanying purses of \$60. And with these, we not only convey to your our heartiest good wishes for the festive season, but that they may continue to go with you during the remainder of your lives. May God's richest blessing never cease to rest upon you both, is our earnest prayer.

Signed on behalf of the Reformed Baptist Church, Sunday schools and friends.

MOSES L. SOMERS,  
A. G. GOOD.

Rev. Mr. Wiggins and Mrs. Wiggins each made a suitable reply, thanking the congregation for their handsome remembrance.

Class "Mizpah," of which Mrs. Wiggins is the teacher, also presented her with a beautiful silk umbrella with monogram engraved and the following address:

Mrs. W. B. Wiggins,  
Moncton, N. B.

Dear Teacher: At this festive season of the year when friendships are being renewed, and good cheer abounds everywhere, we, the members of your class desire to express our sincere appreciation of your untiring labors throughout the past year, and as a slight token of our love and esteem for you we ask your to accept this little gift and with it our best wishes for a happy and prosperous New Year.

Signed on behalf of Class Mizpah:

MRS. W. B. MADDISON,  
President.

The Word has been put into thirty-five languages in Braille type for the blind. Think of the fact that a Bible in the Braille type contains 5,836 pages, costs \$25 to produce, fills thirty-nine volumes, occupying a shelf seven feet long. Each volume costs the society between two and three shillings to produce, and they are sold at one shilling a piece. During 1912, 2,675 volumes were distributed gratuitously. The total circulation since 1804 has been over 263,000,000 copies, of which more than 90,000,000 have been in English.

—Daily Times, Moncton.

At the same time Mr. Edgar M. Tingley, teacher of Class "Volunteers" presented a Bible to each of the boys in his class, with an address. And the boys in return presented him with a nice pair of winter gloves, together with an address.

Also Mr. A. G. Good, the teacher of Class "Gleaners," a class of girls, was presented with a beautiful silk muffler, with an address.

Both Mr. Tingley and Mr. Good made suitable replies to the addresses, kindly thanking the donors for their excellent and appropriate gifts.

The annual entertainment was in every way a success. The children recited and sang finely and the orchestra of 7 pieces acquitted themselves well. Mrs. W. A. MacCallum presided at the piano. The church was crowded.

## McKENZIE'S STOP-OVER PRIVILEGES

Miss McCully, in her life of McKenzie, says: "It was Saturday night, somewhere in the Rockies. The train was hurrying along, the passengers were preparing for the night's rest. Among the latter was the Rev. William McKenzie, the first Canadian missionary to Korea, who, after fifteen months of devoted and unceasing service, laid down his life in that far-distant land. McKenzie was seen folding his travelling bag, evidently intending to leave the car at the next station. His fellow-passengers urged him to remain. He could not and would not travel on the Sabbath. So, bidding all good-night, he stopped off at the next depot. A more lonely spot would be hard to discover. Besides the small station house, only one light glimmered in the distance. Thither he directed his way, and found it the scene of a drunken revel. Nothing afraid, he entered, and was received with great surprise. He might remain if he accepted a couch upon the floor. For a time the revelry continued. Before retiring, he informed them that he was in the habit of reading the Bible and praying, and requested them to listen while he did so. The scene was changed; the gambling and drinking ceased. In the morning, being told that he usually preached at 11 o'clock, they agreed to give him audience. Ere long God's Spirit touched and melted their hearts. Tears trickled down their brawny cheeks. Memories of former days revived, and for an hour these men gave rapt attention to the Word of God. The day following, the company, among whom were the rumseller and hotelkeeper, followed the missionary to the depot, bidding farewell in tears, and promising henceforth to lead a better life."—Classmate.

That condemnation is not one whit too severe which Dr. Richardson, of Boston, and Professor Munsterberg, of Harvard, are said to have pronounced on the dance. We have never yet been able to find words too severe with which to clothe this lustful and debauching practice of the rich and the poor folks alike. The two gentlemen are reported to have said: "It is war on physical health; a menace to men's moral nature; the avenue through which thousands pass to the brothels. The dance hall is the nursery of the divorce courts, the training ship of prostitution, and the graduation school of infamy."—Herald of Holiness.

Thanks for a considerable number of renewals; many more should respond.