

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CORRESPONDING SECRETARY OF THE GENERAL MISSIONARY SOCIETY READ AT BEULAH, JULY 4TH, 1925.

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

After the lapse of another year it becomes a duty, as well as a privilege, to present to you the thirty-seventh annual report of our missionary work.

In looking over the years since our organization as a denomination, on Nov. 3rd, 1888, we are pleased to note that the work of missions has ever received our earnest attention and support. While the beginnings were small, yet we thank our Heavenly Father that, with the years, we have, by His help and guidance, been enabled to lengthen the cords and strengthen the stakes in both home and foreign work.

In September, 1901, Dr. and Mrs. Sanders, with their two children, Faith and Paul, left the homeland, in obedience to the call of God, for distant Africa.

The task of undertaking the sending and supporting of these workers was considerable, but, He who said, "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature," also said "Lo I am with you always," and we have proven the immutability of His promise. As the urgent call came for more workers, there were always those who were ready to cheerfully respond to the call of God; and the expenses necessary for the carrying on of the work were also amply met. With grateful hearts we recognize the blessing of God upon our efforts.

We praise God that during the past year our missionaries have been enjoying the special blessing of God upon their work, and their cheerful and interesting letters, from time to time, tell us that the Lord is giving many tokens of His working on the hearts of the people. To enlighten the heathen mind takes much time and patience. Often the same message must be repeated over and over again. Let us earnestly pray that these people may see sin so exceedingly sinful that they will separate from it, and that heathen customs, superstitions and habits may no longer hold them captives.

We deeply sympathize with our dear sisters Alice and Helen Sterritt, in their bereavement, and our prayers have been that they may feel the strengthening presence of the Everlasting arms.

We are glad that Sister Keirstead, who with her husband, Rev. I. F. Keirstead, spent eight and a half years at our Mission Station in South Africa, has improved in health, and has thus been able to make several missionary tours during the year, which have proved a blessing to both home and foreign work.

In entering upon the work of the coming year let us do so with an increasing confidence and trust in Him who has said: "Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it."

The following is an account of the various societies as reported:

Saint John

We have held nine meetings during the year, with a number of interesting programmes, consisting of songs and readings calculated to quicken interest in missions. We have been kept in touch with our own missions in South Africa by several very interesting letters from the Sterritt Sisters. Our President has done her work faithfully all through the year, and the attendance has been fair. We hope to do still better in the year to come, and desire the prayers of all our sister societies to this end.

Moncton

We have held regular monthly meetings during the year, and while the attendance has not been very large, we have always had a good programme and the Lord was with us. The sum of \$113.64 was raised during the year. May the Lord bless us as a society and people that we, in the coming year, may be able to do more for Him.

Fort Fairfield

This Society has a membership of 19 and has held seven meetings during the year. The Church, as a whole, shows a very good interest in missions, and is hoping to accomplish more during the coming year.

Hartland.

Our society is in a fairly good condition at present. Our meetings are good and interest good. The membership is not as large as last year, as so many have moved away; but we have quite a number of children attending our meetings.

Royalton

Our society holds monthly meetings and we enjoy them very much, as we always have a programme consisting of readings and songs. Our President usually has a letter from one of our missionaries in South Africa to read to us. At the May meeting she read one from Sister Alice Sterritt, written especially to our society, telling us of the revival going on there, and we responded in joy and praise over the glad news, by singing the Doxology. Our prayer is that the interest may grow, and we may be willing to sacrifice more in the great cause of missions.

Grey's Mills

This society is in fairly good condition. They are much encouraged by the letters from the Sterritt sisters, and are looking forward to better things in the homeland. Our meetings are small but good interest is shown by the few who attend, and our trust is in Him, who said He would do far more than we ask or think.

Fredericton.

Our Society has been much handicapped on account of sickness, but have done their best, and God has blessed their efforts.

Milville

This society has a membership of thirty-one and have raised \$68.61 for missions.

Head of Millstream

Our Society still stands without membership roll as last year. Some meetings were missed during the winter months on account of the weather. Meetings are fairly well attended.

North Head

The interest in the mission work is good, and the meetings are well attended. Seal Cove.

This society is in good condition with a membership of 60. Regular monthly meetings are held which are devoted to home and foreign work.

Wood Island

This society sends a contribution of \$93.62.

Beals.

Our missionary society is in a fairly good condition. Our meetings are quite well attended, and there is a good interest shown. We feel the Lord's blessing upon us each time we meet. We hope to meet more regularly during the coming year.

Jonesport

This society has a membership of 15 and sends a contribution of \$25.48.

Port Maitland

Regular monthly meetings have been held during the year, but because of sickness among our members it has been hard to keep up the interest, but we hope that things will be brighter during the coming year.

Sandford.

This society sends an offering of \$74.50 for missions.

Lower Brighton

This society has a membership of 28. Seven meetings have been held, for which special programmes were prepared, which were both helpful and inspiring, the music furnished by the choir being especially appreciated.

Woodstock

The membership of our society is not as large as it should be when we consider the membership of the Church; but what members we have, as a whole, are active. Our church is greatly in favor of a home missionary being placed in the field, to visit the pastorless and weak churches of our denomination. If this were done we feel that the missionary interest in our church would increase.

Victoria

Our society has been inactive during the past year until the past two months, on account of removals and other things that hindered us from holding our regular meetings, but we hope to do better during the coming year.

Marysville

This church has no society at the present time, but in the Sunday school the offerings on the first Sunday of each month are devoted to missions. They send an offering of \$85.25.

Respectfully submitted,

MRS. W. B. WIGGINS,

Corresponding Secy.

ONLY ONE CHANCE.

There lived in our neighborhood a farmer who was uncommonly upright in his dealings. When he had any of the produce of his farm to dispose of, he made it a rule to give good measure—rather more than could be required of him.

One of his friends, questioned as to why he did, told him he gave too much, and said it would not be to his advantage.

He replied, "God Almighty has permitted me but one journey through the world, and when I am gone I cannot return to rectify mistakes."—Sel.