

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CORRESPONDING SECRETARY OF THE GENERAL MISSIONARY SOCIETY

Read at Beulah, July 2nd, 1927.

Dear Brothers and Sisters: With the passing of another year, we are granted the privilege of assembling in our yearly missionary gathering, and to present to you the thirty-ninth annual report of our missionary work.

As we look back in review over the past year, we recognize, with grateful hearts, the blessed privilege that has been ours in bringing to others the glad message of a free and full salvation, not only through our earnest workers in the homeland, but also through our faithful representatives on our mission field in South Africa. Another cause for thanksgiving to our Heavenly Father is the fact that our missionary work has not suffered from interruptions, such as have taken place in other lands, particularly in China, where hundreds of missionaries have been compelled to leave their stations, many of whom are returning to the homeland.

Our hearts are cheered as we receive encouraging reports from our dear missionaries, who consider it a wonderful privilege to tell to those who sit in darkness, of Jesus and His power to save them from sin. The work is increasing. The heathen are arousing to see their need. God is softening hard hearts, and places that were impregnable are now asking our missionaries to come and help them. To God be all the glory!

We believe the visits of our returned missionary, Sister Faith Sanders, among our churches, have been a real blessing and inspiration to our work.

As we enter upon the work of the coming year, may we realize more than ever the need of fervent and effectual prayer for the work and the workers, ever remembering that the Master has said, "Without Me ye can do nothing."

From our societies we have reports as follows:

FORT FAIRFIELD—Our church shows a fairly good interest in missions. Our society has a membership of thirteen. We have held six meetings and have raised \$154.08 for foreign missions.

ROYALTON—Present membership, twenty-five. Monthly meetings are held, consisting of missionary readings and hymns, followed by a short testimony service. Amount contributed, \$64.00.

GORDONSVILLE—Number of members, 17. Monthly meetings are held with a fairly good attendance. Amount raised for missions, \$35.47.

PERTH—Present membership, 20. Public meetings held monthly. We had Sister Faith Sanders with us for a few days, which was a great inspiration to us. Our society is small, but we are trying to do our bit in the great work of sending the news of salvation to those who sit in darkness. Amount raised \$54.00.

HARTLAND—Membership, 18. Our meetings are not as well attended as we would like to see, nor the interest as good as in previous years, but we are looking to the Lord, and hope for better things in the future. We appreciated Sister Faith Sanders' messages very much. Amount raised for missions, \$101.25.

LOWER BRIGHTON—Present membership, thirty-five. A good interest is taken in the mission work by both old and young. Our programs are interesting and helpful. We were pleased to have Sister Faith Sanders with us for two meetings. Her earnest talks have given us more zeal for the work. One new member has been added during the year. We are hoping to do more for the Lord in the coming year.

Amount raised by the society, \$85.25, in addition to which Mr. and Mrs. F. R. Brown have contributed \$45.00 toward the support of a native worker, making a total of \$130.25.

MILLVILLE—Number of members, seventeen. Monthly meetings are held, with interesting programs. The services are well attended and our society has raised more money than for several years. The visits of Sister Faith Sanders have been very helpful to us, stimulating greater interest in the work of foreign missions. Amount contributed, \$72.33.

MARYSVILLE—Present membership, twenty-six. Our meetings are very interesting and instructive, and we believe that during the year we have become more interested in missions, and have a greater concern and burden for that part of the vineyard. One family has shown this increased interest by taking up the support of a native worker during the year. Amount raised \$128.24.

FREDERICTON—Our society has now a membership of forty-three. This has indeed been a banner year along missionary lines. Our meetings are well attended and a good interest manifested, not only by increased offerings but by the addition of new members. Amount raised for missions, \$259.00.

GREY'S MILLS—Present membership, twenty-four. Our society is in a fairly good state spiritually. The meetings are always seasons of blessing, though our numbers are few. We usually have a short program, and a good interest is manifested in missionary work. Our returned missionary, Sister Faith Sanders, was with us in two meetings and was a wonderful inspiration, as also are the letters from the Sterritt Sisters. They all encourage us to look to the Lord for greater things in the coming year. Amount contributed \$71.25.

MONCTON—Number of members, twenty-six. We are thankful to the Lord for His blessing upon us during the past year. Our numbers are few, but we are trusting the Lord for victory. Amount raised for missions, \$57.28.

WESTCHESTER—Present membership, 11. Our society is small in numbers, several sisters having gone away during the past two years. We enjoy our little meetings, however, each month, **and trust God for greater victories.** Amount contributed, \$49.50.

WOOD ISLAND—Though not having any organized society at present, they report a contribution of \$116.15 for missions, which is a good evidence of their interest in the work.

SEAL COVE—Present membership, fifty-five. The interest is very good, and of late seems to be increasing. We are trusting the Lord for a better year in this part of the work in the coming year. Amount raised for missions, \$155.00.

JONESPORT—Number of members, 10. Our membership is small, but we are carrying on this branch of the work, and trusting the Lord to add to our numbers that we may be able to raise much more for His work. Amount contributed, \$16.67.

SANDFORD—Present membership, fifteen. After remaining inactive for a number of years, our society has awakened. In March a meeting was held, officers appointed, and ideas exchanged about making our society a real help to the darkened souls in Africa. Three meetings have been held since, and we hope, during the coming year, to help gather wheat in the broad harvest field. Amount raised for missions, \$116.06.

PORT MAITLAND—Number of members, fourteen. Monthly meetings are held, with a good attendance, usually. Amount raised during the year, \$94.25.

BEALS—Present membership, 37. Our society is in a fairly good condition. Our meetings are well attended, and we plan to hold them monthly during the coming year. Our society has raised \$48.85; the Sunday school has contributed \$100 for the support of a native worker, and Brother C. H. Beal has also given \$100 in support of a native worker, making a total of \$248.85.

NORTH HEAD—Membership, 23. Our society is in a fairly good condition. It is sustained by the faithful few who manifest good interest and take pleasure in supporting it. A program is sometimes prepared, which is much enjoyed. Amount contributed, \$48.45.

SAINT JOHN—Present membership, 28. We send our report this year with grateful hearts. Our meetings have been increasing, both in attendance and missionary interest during the year. Many times our hearts have been stirred as we have read of conditions on the various mission fields, including our own in South Africa,—stirred with rejoicing over revivals in heathen lands, and with sadness because of the millions yet unreached. The many needy places in our own land also need our prayers and claim our interest, and as we look toward the coming year our purpose is this, while "The Son of God goes forth to war, we'll follow in His train." Amount contributed \$100.37.

WOODSTOCK—Number of members, fifty-two. Our meetings are well attended. Programs, which are given by members of the Sunday school, are very interesting. Several new members have joined our society of late. Amount raised for missions, \$330.50.

Respectfully submitted,

MRS. W. B. WIGGINS,

Corresponding Secy.

BE NOT CONFORMED TO THIS WORLD.

H. L. Hastings, Sr., for many years Editor of "The Christian," published in Boston, Mass., and now gone to his reward in the Glory World, was responsible for many utterances which have greatly stimulated the faith of God's people. He was true to the "faith once for all delivered to the saints." From his writings we quote the following paragraph:

"We must influence the world or the world will influence us. We must act or we shall be acted upon. If we do not try to straighten the world to the standard of right, the world will bend us to the standard of wrong. The fashions, the follies, the maxims, the customs, the practices of the world exercise a molding influence on all who yield to their power. If we are to withstand these influences, we must oppose the current of worldly influences, even though we resist unto blood striving against sin; and we must be steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord. If we are passive and listless we shall be overcome; we must actively oppose those influences which seduce us or assail us; we must neither be beguiled by earth's blandishments nor swept away by its rushing tide. We must stand fast in the faith."—Wesleyan Methodist.

O Lord, our God, grant us grace to desire thee with our whole heart; that, so desiring, we may seek and find Thee; and so finding Thee, may love Thee; and loving Thee, may hate those sins from which Thou hast redeemed us.—Anselm.