

Annual Reports of the Women's Missionary Society

From Microfilm reels. Excerpts and print-outs.

Cite:

The Presbyterian Church in Canada Archives, "First Annual Report of the Women's Missionary Society of the Presbyterian Church in Canada" (1914), page number, reel number. [Section headings and sub-headings not required].

Terminology:

Mission Bands are fund-raising organizations for the missions. It seems that they are a younger age group than the Boys' Christian Service Brigade. (One report mentions children aged 6-9; another mentions 'older boys')

Glad Tidings is church periodical.

Happy Childhood is periodical for children.

Note that the reports on the Chinese in Canada include reports from all areas where the WMS (WD) operates. Many of these little area sub-headings include mention of the women missionaries travelling from their home base (eg. Brockville, in particular) to outlying towns. This work is general mission work and seems to be mostly among Chinese women, not white wives of Chinese men, so it does not look all that useful.

Reel # 1 of 6 covers 1914-1921

Reel # 2 of 6 covers 1922-1930

Reel # 3 covers 1931, 1934-1942

1932 and 1933 are not available on microfilm (Bob Anger, archivist, will work to correct this at some point)

Reel # 4 of 6 covers 1943-1954

Reel # 5 of 6 1955-1966

Reel # 6 of 6 1967-1979

Note: These reels contain notes on Miss **Mary Murray**, who visited hospitals and the Mercer Reformatory. As per Elise's instructions, I have made a note of any mention of Murray and her activities. I decided to keep everything filed chronologically, rather than separating references to Murray, but excerpts or printed pages with references to Murray have a pink tape flag to help find them quickly.

Reports become much shorter after 1948.

1914 "First Annual Report of the Women's Missionary Society of the Presbyterian Church in Canada"

Printed the section on "The Department of the Stranger" pp 47-50 as this introduces the goals of this department and includes a first notice of the work of Miss Murray.

Printed "Report of Work Among the Chinese in Canada" pp 111-113.

Cameron to take the \$3.00 and use it in making some little one happy. She makes down her own clothing for poor children in her spare time. Such are some of the encouragements that cheer the deaconess in her oft times arduous duties.

Miss Adelaide Sutherland was transferred from Cranbrook to Fernie last October. The work in Fernie is of much the same character as the work in Cranbrook. Meetings for mothers, teaching a Chinese class, the members of which are most eager to learn, visiting the sick of the varying nationalities, and sometimes spending a few days in a bereaved home to lighten the burden, administering relief to the poor and addressing public meetings—occasionally taking the regular church service, make up a busy and useful life. Miss Sutherland's zeal and devotion are no less than when she began work in the far West a number of years ago.

Miss Agnes Coutie is deaconess at large in Edmonton, Alberta's northern city. She holds meetings for mothers in three or four sections of the city, and goes to the rest room of one of the churches to meet with working girls at the noon hour. In January of this year she wrote, "we are having lovely bright weather, but cold. There are so many out of work, and so many enlisting, that it is making everything very sad; and so many are needing assistance who never needed it before; but still through it all there is a wonderful spirit of self denial manifested in places where one least expects it." Miss Coutie loves her work and results prove that she has been eminently successful in it. Her sweet story of "The Deaconess Boquet" will, we feel sure, touch many hearts.

Miss Bessie Craig rendered splendid service in Nanaimo, B.C., during the summer of 1914, working under the direction of the Rev. Dr. McLelland. The young girls in that town will not soon forget her efforts on their behalf. In addition to the seven graduate deaconesses, three student deaconesses were supported during the summer of 1914. Miss Emma J. McDougall's labours in Dufferin Ave. Congregation were much appreciated. During a house to house visitation she met with people of fourteen different denominations and made one thousand calls. The Sabbath School and Young People's Society were greatly benefitted by Miss McDougall's services.

In Royce Avenue congregation Miss McKenzie served with much acceptance. Under the direction of the pastor, she made about seven hundred visits, these included sick people and shut ins. A Bible Class composed of young women received special attention.

In Oakwood, a new district north of St. Clair Avenue, Miss M. McIlwraith served faithfully, working up the Cradle Roll, teaching in Sabbath School, visiting the sick and those in trouble and occasionally lending a helping hand in household work to some poor woman, occupied much of her time. Rev. Dr. Wardlaw Taylor is the pastor in charge.

Truly the work of the deaconess is very varied—it may be to administer relief to the needy, to instruct in the art of washing or house cleaning, or perhaps cutting out garments for the untutored mother, or giving instruction in household economy. She may be called on to address a public meeting in the interests of her work. Above all it is hers by her loving ministry to soothe the sorrowing, bring relief to the distressed, hope to the discouraged, and joy to the grief stricken, in a word to follow in the footsteps of Him, who when He dwelt upon earth went about ever doing good.

She may still hear His voice saying, "For I was an hungered and ye gave me meat; I was thirsty and ye gave me drink; I was a stranger and ye took me in; naked and ye clothed me; I was sick and ye visited me; I was in prison and ye came unto me. Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren ye have done it unto me."

(Mrs. J.) JANET FARQUHARSON,

Secretary Deaconess Work, W.M.S.

The Department of the Stranger

There is scarcely an aspect of Canadian life which is not affected by the inrush, during the last fifteen years, of strangers of every race and tongue, and history will reveal that during these years there has been more assimilation of these elements than is generally realized. Forces are silently at work which so take themselves for granted that no attempt is made to tabulate what is accomplished. Foremost among these are all the branches of the Christian church. Ahead of the railway, and abreast of surveys, missionaries of the Gospel have been sent. There have been organized congregations, with managing boards of men, Sunday Schools, and women's societies for local aid and missionary enterprises. As the settler comes in, Christian influences surround him and his children. In the cities and towns churches vie with one another in recruiting for their schools, Young People's Societies, Brotherhoods, and so forth. Representative men and women meet by districts, and provinces, and in Dominion wide conferences on the work of the church for the stranger, adapting existing organizations to local conditions.

The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church has placed "immigration" under the care of the Assembly's Board of Home Missions. This part of the Board's work is called "the Department of the Stranger," and includes immigration and the migration of both the immigrant and the Canadian, for the immigrant seldom remains at his first destination.

The Board works through its own committees in Synods and Presbyteries and through its Auxiliary, the Women's Missionary Society. Salaried chaplains at the ports, and women workers at Montreal, Toronto, and Edmonton, help to secure necessary information. This, with any additional information which the Board may receive from other sources, is forwarded to the ministers, or missionaries of the church, or to the elected secretaries of the women's society. Here, without additional organization, plant, or expense, the work is done.

Every Auxiliary of the women's society elects what it calls a stranger's secretary, who either alone or with a committee, co-operates with the minister in service to the stranger locally. These secretaries unite under a Presbyterial secretary, and confer with the Home Mission Committees of Presbyteries on questions peculiar to their districts. Above these again, are provincial secretaries, and a committee on the executive of the women's general board which confers with the Assembly's Board.

With this complete organization, the Presbyterian Church offers to visit any stranger, particularly those of Presbyterian tendencies, of whatever race, who may go to any part of Canada, provided the information reaches the head office of the Department of the Stranger, Home Mission Offices, Toronto. In a normal year, between fifteen and twenty thousand names are received at the office from chaplains at the ports of entry, from ministers, secretaries, parents and friends in Canada and the old land. Many satisfactory visits are recorded. With true poetic instinct, the annual reports of secretaries leave to the imagination, the spontaneous hospitality and true service of the visitors. Only in private conversation does one learn of these acts which spring from love to Christ.

Various methods are used locally to discover the unreported stranger, such as house to house visitation, and co-operation with secular and inter-denominational agencies.

The large body of Presbyterian young women who have sought employment in our Canadian homes as domestics has received particular attention. Bible classes at special hours suited to their duties have been conducted.

Social life has been provided, suitable employment secured, injustices removed and comfort provided in loneliness, sickness, and death. Many are brought into membership in the church, and not a few are now mothers in Christian homes. Toronto, alone, has upwards of five hundred members of these bible classes. This year the Women's Missionary Society is seeking the Presbyterian stranger in the public hospitals from the Atlantic to the Pacific. These institutions are in about three hundred cities and towns. Ontario has seventy thousand, and Manitoba thirty thousand patients annually. Experience is showing that most of the Presbyterians in the public wards are not attached to any church, most are away from home, most have been communicants or are the baptized children of communicants and many would gladly return to the church of their fathers. When the patient leaves the hospital, he can be visited wherever he may go. Here again will be found the unrecorded gift of clothing or nourishment, suitable employment, Christian sympathy. Many of the life stories which are given are too sacred for public recital.

Throughout the whole work the stranger is individualized, and the church seeks to bring him into personal relationship with Jesus, believing in the power of the Holy Spirit in the individual life to reveal the complete Christ. The approach is missionary. The Presbyterian Church, while anxious to serve all, emphasizes the value of definiteness, and the influence of antecedents in church and family life. In the contact with the individual immigrant the members of the church are unconsciously learning that the "problems of immigration" are equally in the immigrant and in our attitude to him. Thus are we coming nearer to solutions of some of these "problems." In receiving the stranger in His name the Church is finding anew Christ Himself.

The past year in the women's department has been one of re-organization following the union of the three societies, and a word of appreciation is due to those Provincial and Presbyterian secretaries who have persistently followed up the work in the face of great difficulties, without a united annual report from which to secure the exact number of Auxiliaries with which to deal. In many cases there have been newly appointed officers following elections which did not take place until the late fall or early winter, and to many societies the work has been an entirely new departure.

In September, a circular was sent out explaining the nature of the department. This was followed in November with another outlining the duties of secretaries in Auxiliaries, Presbyteries, and Provincial Societies. These appear in the "Messenger" of October and December. As information of the appointment of secretaries reached the head office, books of blank forms for the reporting of removals were forwarded. In February a request was sent out that our secretaries should seek the Presbyterian strangers in the public hospitals and to this there has been a sympathetic response. The visitors are finding many who do not seem to know the A B C of the Gospel, and who are unprepared for the life beyond the grave—This in a Christian land.

Following a letter in the Scottish papers by a member of the Assembly's Board of Home Missions, requests have reached us to locate and visit the sons and daughters of Scottish homes. So far in every case these visits have met with success. The Scottish Mothers' Union has also been in correspondence with the committee, and our department has offered to visit the members of the union or their families who have come to Canada. We trust that by co-operation with the churches and societies in the Old Land we may successfully locate many whose addresses have been lost during the period of settlement.

Immigration fell off almost entirely after the declaration of war, hence the total number of visits reported is about one-half of last year. There is, however, a marked improvement in the number of removals reported to the head office. These are intensely interesting, unending in variety, and cover a wide area. There are young people going to school or business, soldiers to the front, families to homesteads or new towns, sick returning from hospitals,

and so forth. Addresses were nearly always correct, successful visits paid, and satisfactory reports sent to the head office. There are in all about one thousand secretaries. In six Presbyteries there has been good team work in Presbyterian committees, visiting farm labourers, caring for the unemployed, in hospital visitation, in work among domestics, and in co-operation with secular and inter-denominational agencies.

The great need this year is for leadership in Presbyteries. Helpful hints for Presbyterian secretaries are now being prepared. The greatest failures have been caused by the fact that, while our church organizations, generally, strive to serve the stranger who is with them, they recognize no responsibility to the one who leaves them; and also by the fact that many feel the numbers they deal with are too small for them to assume a share in the department. Only when we appreciate the value of each individual in God's sight shall we care for the ones and twos. If each Auxiliary cared for one a year we should unitedly care for one thousand.

In British Columbia, Mrs. J. M. Brown, of Vancouver, the provincial secretary, has planned to have some Presbyterian woman visit each week in each of the sixty-eight hospitals of the province.

From Alberta there is no provincial report, although good united work has been done in Edmonton Presbytery.

Saskatchewan, under Mrs. Geo. Bayne, of Moose Jaw, is the most completely organized province with one hundred and ten secretaries to date ready for work.

Manitoba sent no report. Mrs. Bowman, of Winnipeg, is the newly appointed secretary.

Ontario, under Mrs. Kenneth Maclean, of Guelph, has about six hundred secretaries. Half of the Presbyteries reported, Ottawa taking the lead for complete Presbyterian organization in visiting and reporting removals, and particularly in hospital visiting. One Presbyterian has sought out the employees on farms.

Quebec provincial, in its two Presbyteries, has taken hold of the work with a will, and we may expect an interesting report next year. Mrs. Macdougall Wilson, of Quebec City, is in charge.

Miss Jeanie D. King

Miss King visits the immigration chaplain, Rev. John Chisholm, at the port of Montreal. He has given her much of the credit for the fact that seven hundred of the seven hundred and ninety Presbyterian immigrants who remained in Montreal were located by the church. Many times one case has required six or seven visits until found. Miss King has very complete and carefully filed records of the Presbyterian immigrants handled at Montreal. She has been of great comfort to hundreds who have passed through to Western points, working long hours on the docks and in the stations on the arrival of passenger-steamers. As the people go through some message from God's word, or a cheery welcome from the church is given, frequently accompanied by some deed of practical sympathy. It has been found necessary to make plans, in co-operation with other churches and the authorities, for the safe guarding of young women, particularly of domestics under assisted passages, from over charges, unsuitable environment, and misunderstandings with employers. In some cases deportation was encouraged, and in some cases unjust deportation prevented.

Miss King has helped the Auxiliaries to understand the work. Since immigration has fallen off, she has given part of her time to the work in the Ruthenian Mission.

Miss Mary C. Murray

Miss Murray visits the Presbyterian women and children in the Toronto public hospitals. Weekly, she reports those who leave the institutions to the Presbyterian Strangers' Secretary, and the patients are then visited by

the Strangers' Secretaries of the different Auxiliaries. Miss Murray has done considerable visiting among the patients in their homes and has helped the secretaries to do successful work. Very few of those met in this way are in connection with our churches, and it has been a privilege to lead some of the wanderers home. Miss Murray's intimate knowledge of Scotland and her Scotch accent have been a great help to her. She has had the joy of finding some of the "lost ones" of whom she had heard from loved ones in the Old Land. Her message is the Old, Old Story, but in little ways she, with the Auxiliary secretaries, has brought comfort, in clothing, nourishment, good literature, postage and stationery, suitable employment, and Christian companionship.

Miss Margaret M. Allan

For the summer months of 1914, Miss Allan was appointed to assist her father, who was immigration chaplain for Hamilton, Ont. Owing to the sudden closing of immigration, her services were given largely to the Wentworth Street Mission in regular deaconess work as a city missionary. Miss Allan is now under appointment in our deaconess department.

Miss Isobel Coutie

Miss Isobel Coutie has had charge of the work for Edmonton and vicinity. She has successfully interested the Auxiliaries in practical work among the strangers coming into and going from that district. During the distress of last winter, and at the Christmas season, cheer was taken to many a home. Two afternoons each week are spent among the suffering in the hospitals on similar lines to Toronto.

Miss Coutie has personally visited between four and five hundred new comers before handing on their names to the secretaries in the Auxiliaries. Often this has meant journeys beyond roads in the deep snow. Many expressions of appreciation of her services and the foresight of the Presbyterian Church in its care for the stranger have been received. This can also be said of the whole department.

New Work

The executive board has considered favorably a request from the Presbytery of Montreal and the Assembly's Committee for a lady worker in the city of Montreal to take up the work of visiting in the hospitals there.

We commend all the workers from the least to the greatest, and the immense task to which they have put their hands, to our Heavenly Father, in whose strength alone they can look for success.

"Go out into the highways and hedges and compel them to come in that My house may be filled."

(Mrs. JOSEPH M.) ETHEL WEST,

Strangers' Secretary of the Executive Board.

Report of Jewish Work for 1914

It is a four fold cord which draws our Jewish brethren to the mission house on Elizabeth Street, and which our workers there strive to weave into the web of life as it comes and goes.

The strands are evangelistic, medical, educational and supply work. This last includes much that begins within the mission and reaches out—a chain of helpful influence, or material help rendered—to the homes in which sore need makes its frequent appeal.

Statistics may suggest, they can never quite reveal to us the inner history of work attempted "in His name."

The kindly deed, the word of loving sympathy, the hours spent in patient teaching of those who have to become familiar with a new language, and, who through it, we hope, may also receive a vision of new truth, the helping and healing in clinics, and in the homes of distress and poverty, these are among the efforts which refuse to be tabulated, their record is in higher hands than ours.

So, to some extent, is it with results. We know of increased attendance at meetings, of a wider interest in the truth taught, of one and another brought "into marvellous light," but the blessings received in mind, body and estate, by those whom our mission touches, we can not measure nor estimate. What is done for young mothers alone in making the advent and subsequent care of their little ones safe and comfortable, is of great and lasting importance, not only to the individuals concerned, but also to the community, making possible, as it does, the growing up of healthy, vigorous children, who might otherwise have been weaklings.

TORONTO

Our W.M.S. is responsible, in whole or in part, for the salaries of three workers in the hospital, and for a definite sum towards the maintenance of other work undertaken. The schedules for each member of the staff are arranged by the busy and energetic superintendent, Rev. Dr. Rohold. Of the missionaries who give all their time there are Mr. Bregman, Mrs. E. Kandel, Miss Margaret Burt (a trained nurse), Miss D. McDonald, and Miss Annie Miller. Another nurse, Miss Mitchell, and a band of fifty workers give voluntary service, as do also six medical doctors.

Some work is shared in by all the regular members of the staff, as, for instance, the house to house visitation. One hundred and thirty homes are on the list which is divided among the teachers. There are visits made to hospitals also, and efforts to secure work for the unemployed. Special duties come to some. Mrs. Kandel, through her knowledge of Yiddish, serves as interpreter for the doctors. All have a share in teaching and in evangelistic work which involves many meetings, song services, etc., for old and young, on Sunday and week days. Of these Mr. Rohold in his last report thus notes some encouraging features. "It has been a record year in the attendance of mothers. The Jewesses, as a whole, are rather reticent about speaking in public, because they have no share in the Synagogue services, so it is hard for them to confess their faith in Christ openly, even when they are sure of salvation, but of late the change has been most remarkable."

At our public testimony meetings women stand up and confess their faith in Christ. We have had three such instances during the last few weeks. We have had the joy of admitting into our little Hebrew Christian congregation nineteen Jews, while nine others united on profession of their faith or by baptism. Men and women who before had hated the very name of Jesus have learned not only to love Him but to be ready to suffer for His sake."

China. After the new year we trust the country may be quieter, and so render the extension of the work possible.

The Bible Women have done faithful work amongst patients in dispensary and hospital, and both nurses and doctor have given the Gospel Message.

The year is past with its work, its mistakes, its short comings, we look forward to the coming year praying that we may be more faithful, more acceptable to our Lord and Master.

Statistical

Dispensary Patients.....	7,357
In-Patients.....	94
Obstetrical Patients.....	—15

Report of Work Among the Chinese in Canada

VANCOUVER

Lady Missionaries

Miss Elizabeth Stuart—Miss Minnie A. Pyke

Miss Elizabeth Stuart.—The year has passed very quickly and has been a very busy one. At the mission the work has increased steadily. The evening school was kept open all through the summer with a very steady attendance; since then the number has scarcely gone below 70.

Early in the year the Chinese Christian men formed a Y. M. C. A. for the purpose of trying in every way to improve themselves. From 8 to 9 p.m. they take up English branches such as spelling, reading and composition and much interest has been shown. At 9 o'clock the night school is dismissed and those wishing to study Chinese remain and spend an hour with a good teacher trying to improve themselves in their own language. Every Wednesday evening they study Mandarin under Miss Pyke's direction, and it is wonderful to see the interest they take in the study of another dialect of their own language. Miss Pyke has accomplished wonders with the music and singing and the boys did some splendid singing at our Christmas entertainment and three boys played the organ.

About the end of October Rev. Mr. Ngg met with an accident and was in the Hospital for many weeks and all that time the Christian men kept the work up with great earnestness and skill. Many of the Christian men have had to go out of the city to seek work and others have returned to China, but as of old when the Christians were scattered the Word was carried abroad. One old man who lives outside the city and cannot always get in on Sunday told me that he gathers in some of the Chinese near his home and tells them of Jesus.

The Sunday School has made steady though not rapid progress. Average attendance about 55. There are two boys' classes, the older boys are mostly boys from our Stand Fast Club. These classes vary in size from four or five to 16 or 17. This is because many of the boys have to help at home or in the stores on Sunday to let the men off. There are also men's classes. There are 22 on the roll of the class for the younger men with an average attendance of 15.

My boys' Stand Fast Club is smaller this year, so many boys have gone away to work but we still stand in God's name for the right and do what we can to help others. Every communion at least one of its members has been baptised. The men in my class in the evening school have done fine work. When a man or boy works hard all day and then studies from 8 to 10 p.m. there is some good material on which to build a strong character and China needs as the strong men as she can get. What a privilege to have a hand in this building of men to do great work in their future country.

On Wednesday afternoon is a kindergarten class of little boys and girls. We do some work first and then a Bible story is told and they always know just where I left off the preceding Wednesday. Then Miss Pyke plays a hymn and we sing it over and over to learn it, and then we repeat together a little prayer before separating. Some of these little ones have carried the story of Jesus' love into their homes.

A number of older girls come to my own little home on Thursdays to sew. These are the girls in whom I am so much interested. Some of them work all night in the restaurants and their lives are very sad. There are 17 of them with whom I am in close touch, others to whom I cannot get so near. The

mission house is better than our former one but it is not suited for women's work, they will not come where the men are and as we have no separate entrance they must pass through the main hall to reach our little room at the back. That is one reason why I have my three little rooms near the mission.

Much of the time is given to visiting in the homes of the women and more homes are opening to us all the time. In some homes we visit regularly, sometimes teaching a little English or sewing, or any little thing which will open their hearts to love and so prepare the way for the Gospel Message. Two young women have told me of their belief in the Lord Jesus. One of these died in the hospital on Christmas day. Her story was a very sad one. We visit also in the Hospital when Chinese women are there, and in the Detention Shed—that miserable place where some of the women are kept for weeks and even months. They are always glad to hear a kind word, even though it is from strange lips. Human sympathy needs no interpreter. Very earnestly do we ask your prayers in the Master's great work.

Miss Minnie A. Pyke.—Night School.—The year was begun by teaching one night a week but gradually I was able to attend more frequently. The classes were continued throughout the usual summer vacation and more assistance was given to meet the demand then made and afterwards instruction was given each evening. At the request of the members of the Y. M. C. A. one evening each week a class in Mandarin was taught.

Music.—Eight boys and one girl were given lessons on the organ or piano. Three of the boys who were the first to receive instruction rendered organ solos at the Christmas closing. Special choruses were prepared for this closing. Hymn singing practice held at the close of the Sabbath School developed into a daily rally from 6:30 to 7:30, the hour preceding the night classes. Hymns were learned and sung in English and in Chinese.

Sabbath School.—Taught a class of young men using the International lessons. The interesting feature of this was, that following the teaching in easy English, the application of the lessons was given in Mandarin, which sentence by sentence was translated into Cantonese by one member of the class. The second half of the year I had also a more advanced class in English studying the Gospel of St. John. This was in connection with the newly organized Chinese school held in First Presbyterian Church between 4 and 5 o'clock.

Home Visiting.—Regular instruction has been given in two Chinese homes. Teaching was appreciated and in some measure fruitful. Visits made to houses where Cantonese was the only medium of communication were of a social nature. Ten missionary meetings were addressed.

TORONTO

Lady Missionary

Mrs. John A. MacMillan

As one seeks to record something of another year's work among the Chinese women, there is the desire to state that which is in accord with the record written by Him Who "seeth not as man seeth." With Him remains that alone which has been wrought in the power of the Spirit—only that which has been built upon the foundation, "Jesus Christ and Him crucified," will abide.

A token of advancement in the work has been the organization of a class on Sabbath afternoons. A "door" for this was opened in Knox Church and it began toward the end of June. The largest attendance has been eleven women—the smallest (on a very wet day) two. Sometimes there have been as many little people as grown-ups. Increased interest is being manifested. Hymns are sung in Chinese and English. New hymns are being selected by the women themselves. The majority of those who attend the class have purchased their own Chinese Hymn Books. A verse of Scripture is memorized

each Sabbath. The verse is chosen with reference to some promise, command or fundamental truth of the Gospel.

Through the marriage of one of the Chinese girls in the city a new home has been established. The return of Mr. Ma Wou, our missionary, with his bride, also means another home; one, which, with God's blessing, will prove a centre of light and helpfulness to the work among the Chinese women in Toronto. Mrs. Ma Wou is one of three women who have come from China during the year. The other two know not the One "Who loved them and gave Himself for them."

In all, there are thirty-seven women in the city, and thirty-four homes. Of the three extra women, one is a daughter in one of the homes; another, a widow who lives with her brother-in-law; and the third, a student who, in 1915, will graduate from Victoria University, and sail (D. V.) for China in May, to take up teaching in the Province of Fukien, in a station where she is one of the third generation of Christians. Seventy or more children can be counted in connection with these homes, and of these, something over a third can be found in our schools and Sabbath Schools. Much prayer is needed that the truth of John III,—"Ye must be born again,"—be early impressed upon the hearts of these boys and girls who are growing up in our midst.

Apart from the visits made and the class held on the Lord's Day, three and sometimes four afternoons a week have been devoted to the work of visiting the homes of the women, or to entertaining them in one's own home. Times of perplexity, sorrow or illness, also, have proved seasons for strengthening the cords of friendship, and served as extra opportunities for service.

We commit the past months to Him Who is able to perfect and purify the imperfect efforts made. Anew we seek from Him the grace of faithfulness to "buy up" the privileges and opportunities which are stored in the days of the year that is opening. "Of Him, to Him, and through Him are all things."

(Responsibility for the direction of mission work among the Chinese in Vancouver now rests upon a session appointed by the Foreign Mission Board in the autumn of 1914. Rev. Robert Duncanson, of our South China Mission, is Moderator; Judge Grant is Clerk, and seven men, representing the seven leading congregations in Vancouver form the membership. Mr. Ngg Mon Hing is also one of the session. The session reports to the Presbytery of New Westminster. All matters relating to the mission are now referred to this session and are under its control subject to the Foreign Mission Board.

All reports received are encouraging as to this mode of administration. It has unified the work, and the interest of members of the congregations represented on the session has been enlisted.

L. E. HENDERSON,

Secretary.