

**1917 "Fourth Annual Report of the Women's Missionary Society W.D. of the  
Presbyterian Church in Canada"**

Section heading: "Work in Canada" includes sub-sections "The Chinese" (printed pp 61-63),

"Strangers' Department" includes a single line describing work of **Miss Murray**.  
(p. 77) "**Toronto**. Miss Murray in the hospitals." [Report by "(Mrs. J. M.) Ethel West,  
Secretary"]

## Supplies—

**Alberta.**—Supplies were sent to Moose Mountain, Mistawasis, Ahousaht and Alberni Indian Schools, to Vegreville Homes and Grande Prairie Hospital, also reserve bales to Moose Mountain and Pipestone. The supply committee divided this work among eight Presbyterials. Early in June we received an appeal for supplies for the new hospital in Bonnyville. Each Presbyterial cheerfully and liberally responded to this extra call, and a complete list of linen, etc., was provided. Letters appreciative of our efforts have been received from the Supply Secretary of the General Council, and from the matron of the hospital.

**British Columbia.**—The allocation of supplies for the Province of British Columbia included outfits for twenty pupils at Ahousaht Boarding School, clothing for twelve day school pupils at Ucluelet, and warm articles of clothing and quilts for a few old people and young children on the Reserves at Ucluelet and Dodger's Cove. This was divided among the four Presbyterials according to the number of Auxiliaries and Mission Bands. In each case the allocation was accepted and all requirements met.

**Manitoba.**—Besides the regular allotment of sixty-seven pupils in Alberni, Birtle, Swan Lake, and Ethelbert Home and Hospital, bales of clothing were sent to the reserves and ten mission fields, as well as supplies to the three city missions. The outfits sent to the various schools have been improving from year to year, both in quality and value. Our Auxiliaries are beginning to recognize that what is required for those bales is clothing that will wear well, wash well and warm well—the latter being especially necessary to provide against the rigors of the Western climate. The demands and need for emergency bales steadily grows, so, in order that these may give the best satisfaction, it is necessary that we introduce something of the same system in providing for them that we use in preparing for our regular supplies. You will remember that Paul in endeavoring to impress upon the people of his time the necessity of system in their benevolence, gave the following suggestion, "Wherefore upon the first day of the week let every one of you, man, woman and child, lay by in store as God hath prospered him, that there may be no gathering when I come." Each Auxiliary should have a supply box to which clothing could be sent and stored.

In one department of our supply work in particular we believe there is great room for improvement. Hitherto, the work done by the Mission Bands of the province has been rather haphazard. There is great scope for work in this department if it were only utilized. In several of the Presbyterials the Mission Bands have taken part in providing the regular allotment: they have not always got credit for what they have done. A regular allotment of work should be made for Mission Bands in a Presbyterian both for the outfits for schools, where possible, and this supplemented by simple articles of clothing for emergency bales. Then, too, all Mission Band work should be regularly reported to the Presbyterian Supply Secretary. It should be the duty of each Auxiliary Supply Secretary to keep in touch with Mission Band work and help in securing an accurate report.

**Ontario.**—In presenting this, our fourth annual report, it is gratifying to observe a general note of progress. Again, we find that, although the same outside calls have been even more insistent than last year, our supply work has gone on, more than justifying our expectations. There is the same loyalty to the work, the same readiness to respond to any increase in the amounts asked for. Not one Presbyterian has said "We cannot undertake what has been given us," but instead we hear, "If more be needed we shall do our share," and similar encouraging things, all showing the deep interest taken in this branch of the work. Only new clothing was included in the valuation, showing an increase this year of nearly one thousand dollars. Supplies were sent to Cecilia Jeffrey, Swan Lake, Portage la Prairie, Alberni, Cota, Pine Hills, Round Lake, Birtle, Moose Mountain,

Sifton Home, Teulon Home and Hospital, Canora Hospital, Vegreville and Wakaw. Some twenty missionaries' families and their fields have been helped, while nearer home in Northern Ontario bales have been sent to aid specially needy cases, and three bales were sent to Halifax at the time of their great disaster. From many of the schools and homes, letters expressive of appreciation, pleasure and gratitude for the bales sent, have been received.

**Quebec.**—The Secretary is pleased to be able to state that the supplies allocated to the province were all provided, as well as a good part of a supplementary allocation received. This consisted of outfits for twenty-five pupils at Cecilia Jeffrey Boarding School, Vegreville Hospital, the French School Homes and Pointe-aux-Trembles Schools. Bales of clothing were sent to Namur, St. Philippe de Chester, Tourville, and the Jewish Mission, Montreal, all of which were duly acknowledged, stating what comfort would be brought during the cold season to those who would otherwise have had to go without. Experience is a great teacher, so in connection with the outfits it is gratifying to be able to report that Auxiliaries are learning to know just what kind of supplies are required. A sum of money was contributed by Montreal Presbyterial to Miss Hall, Strangers' worker, to supply dainties for the patients she visits in the hospital at Christmas time.

**Saskatchewan.**—Our province, in common with the whole Dominion, has been called on to give time, money and service to the great needs of our Nation and Allies. It was feared our missions and Church work would suffer, not so in the supply work, as 1917 shows an increase of about 500 lbs. We are indebted and grateful to each and every Auxiliary in the province which kindly gave of their time and means. Last year we clothed fifteen girls for Vegreville, eighteen school children for Hurricane Hills and ten children for Round Lake. Bales were sent for old people and young children to Round Lake, Hurricane Hills, Lizard Point and Qu'Appelle Reserves—six bales of hospital supplies. We very much appreciate the splendid work done by the Mission Bands; their Christmas gifts and hospital help add cheer wherever they go.

God's gift to us was His only Son. Shall we not continue in His service and leave the results of our efforts in His care?

(Mrs. D. B.) MARGARET HANNA,  
Secretary.

## WORK IN CANADA

## The Chinese

Early in the year we were deprived of our missionary in Vancouver, Miss Pyke, who found the way open for her return to her former field of work in Howrah. She left Vancouver in April. For six months we had no missionary there. The Board was seeking one to carry on the work in Vancouver, and also one for Victoria, B.C.

We were fortunate in securing the services of Mrs. W. R. McKay, wife of Rev. W. R. McKay of South China. She had come with her family to live in Vancouver for a time, and was willing to give part of her time to our work there. Her knowledge of the Cantonese language, and her experience in China, make her especially well fitted for the work. She was appointed in September. In a recent letter she says:

"Last week I went to see a woman whose husband died not long ago. She is going back to China, and I am giving her a letter to our ladies, as



she will be going right past our home. Is it not wonderful how our work here connects with the work in China?"

A suitable candidate has been found for the work in Victoria, and it is expected that she will be appointed early in the new year.

**Toronto.**—The work goes on under the faithful and effective care of Mrs. John MacMillan, who also is able to speak to the women and children in their own language. Mrs. MacMillan is only able to devote part of her time to this work.

**Winnipeg.**—Much good work is being done by voluntary workers, with the co-operation of our W.M.S. members there.

**Montreal.**—There is a prospect that we shall soon have the part time services of a worker who at present is giving all her time to another department of our work, and surely such service is needed, when we hear that the Roman Catholics have some Chinese nuns at work amongst the Chinese women and children there!

We have had the pleasure of welcoming to Toronto our first Chinese woman medical student, Miss Victoria Chung, of Victoria, B.C., whose coming was the result of the visit of our President to that city last August. Miss Chung entered Toronto University Medical College in October. Her expenses will be borne by our Society. She is taking the course preparatory to becoming a medical missionary in China.

**Vancouver.**—Miss Pyke.—A monthly average of one hundred and eight visits were made to the Chinese homes and to the women and children in the hospital.

Each Tuesday afternoon, instruction was given at the Mission to the larger girls, and on Wednesday the children met for the sewing class. The number increased, and those who were not already members of the Sabbath School, took part in the Scripture memory work, and in learning the Gospel hymns and Easter songs.

By request, five boys received weekly lessons in instrumental music. These lessons were given in the evening preceding the teaching of English in the night school.

Assistance was given in the preparation of a programme for the public meeting of the Mission Y.M.C.A. in Feb., when twenty-five new members were received. A special Easter programme was also given in April, on the anniversary of the Association. The girls and the boys of the Sabbath School, as well as the young men, took an active part.

Miss Esther Dong continued to be associated with work among the children of the Sabbath School, and in her sweet, gentle way, offered cheerful, helpful service whenever possible. Had many a warm friend among Chinese women, and was of real assistance to some of the many sad cases of unprotected womanhood.

**Vancouver.**—Mrs. W. E. McKay.—I am very thankful that, when circumstances made it necessary for me to remain for a time in Vancouver, I was permitted to have some share in the work which had become so much a part of my life.

My work only began in September, so my report will naturally be short.

The greater part of my time has been given to visiting the women in their homes. Of this work it is hard to report results, but we feel that not only is the good seed being sown, but also that the way is being prepared for more organized work.

The Sunday School now has its officers appointed by the Chinese Mission. The supplies are also paid for by the Chinese. Members of the Chinese section and others still come to teach classes of young men, and I assist in the children's department, which has now about 40 members enrolled.

These children receive gifts at Christmas from many of our Mission

Bands, and we are sure that their loving work and generous giving has helped the Chinese to feel that some white people care for them.

The older girls of the Sunday School have formed themselves into what they call the "Sunshine Club." They meet on Saturday afternoons to sew and sing.

It has been a pleasure to me, and, I trust, a help to the work, to entertain the "Standfast Club" and many others in my home.

I also give one evening a week to teaching in the night school. I aid them in securing teachers, and in various ways help in the general work of the Mission.

A very pleasing incident was the sending of a Christmas box to the Chinese lepers, who are kept by the British Columbia Government. It must have made the poor men happy to be remembered by the Christian Chinese.

We are waiting anxiously for the appointment of a Chinese pastor, and hoping that he may have "a good wife."

I have many plans which I hope will be working before the time for another report, by which time I hope there will be a permanent worker here.

With gratitude for all the mercies of the way by which we have been led, we pray for wisdom and strength for the way to come.

**Toronto.**—Mrs. John MacMillan.—The year closes with forty Chinese women in our city and outskirts, and something over seventy-five children. The number of women includes Miss Chung, our medical student, also Miss Ding, who is attending Victoria College.

As much visiting as possible has been undertaken during the year, and, until the very severe weather set in, each Sabbath found an average attendance of ten at the women's class in Knox Church.

With the exception of one month, a monthly meeting has been held in my own home. The object of this gathering was to give the women some further help in Bible study and to take part in prayer. The increased interest is manifested by the fact that each regular attendant at Sabbath class, by her own desire, possesses a copy of the New Testament in Chinese. Our lesson each week is read in concert, or verse by verse.

Mrs. Ricketts, a South China missionary, who is now identified with our Chinese work in Winnipeg, was, during her stay of some months in Toronto, an immense help and encouragement to us.

Mrs. Ma Wou, our missionary's wife, has been, and is, a very real centre of life in the work in Toronto.

Miss MacQuerrie's unceasing and varied ministry continues among our women and children.

The need of the work could more easily be reported than that which one has attempted or seen attempted. One again looks to the Christian women of our church for their continued intercession. He is able to do—abundantly—is waiting to be entreated that He may do for these strangers in our midst and for those who seek to serve among them.

(Mrs. G. L.) JESSIE A. JOHNSTON,  
Secretary.

## Deaconess Work.

In Toronto Miss K. Macdonald serves in the Davenport Church and Miss Annie Miller in St. Giles. Each of these congregations is situated in a large Home Mission district. Reports indicate that our deaconesses are proving good missionaries; this is especially true of the work in the Sunday School.