

1935. "Twenty-Second Annual Report of the Women's Missionary Society W. D., Presbyterian Church in Canada"

(p. 8) Beginning of the "Summary of the Proceedings of the Council of the Women's Missionary Society (W. D.) of the Presbyterian Church in Canada, May 26th-29th, 1936, Toronto, Ontario"

(p. 13) Excerpt: "We appreciate the attendance of the press, and the courtesy and completeness with which they recorded the proceedings." [This might explain where **Velma Demerson's newspaper article** came from? - because the summary report given at the annual general assembly in Hamilton did not mention points reported on in the article.]

Summary written by (Miss) Elizabeth Forsyth, Recording Secretary

Subheading: Organization

Further subheading: Auxiliaries

Begins on p. 29. Excerpt (p. 30) "From Ontario come many stories of the steadfastness of the women in the lonely places. The three northern Presbyterians all reached their allocations and report sustained interest. In northern Ontario many new towns are springing up, needing the gospel. Are we going to fail them and allow godlessness and indifference to the higher things of life to hold sway? They need deaconesses!"

Report by (Mrs. Donald) Margaret D. Gordon, Corresponding Secretary

Under subheading "Young Women's Auxiliaries"

(p. 32) Excerpt: "One Young Women's group meets jointly with the Senior Auxiliary, for their share of the programme using the book *The Chinese Church in Action*."

Report by (Mrs. J. D.) Fergie D. Holman, Secretary.

(60) Under subheading "Welcome and Welfare" report signed by "(Mrs. A. E.) Mary F. Stevens, Secretary"

Excerpt: "**Miss Mary Murray**, our hospital visitor in Toronto, was assisted from August 1st till the end of the year by Miss Mary Hugill, who visited seven hospitals regularly, endearing herself to all her patients. Miss Murray appreciates the help given her by the W. M. S. in supporting her //- (61) by prayer, and by contributions of clothing, jams and jellies. One cannot, she says, estimate what it means to so many who have gradually let Church connection slip to have this kindness shown them by our women and to have a worker to assist them in their distress of body and mind."

Under subheading "Deaconesses-at-Large" written by "(Mrs. W. H.) Tena A. Mitchell" (p. 61) This report describes "the loving and sacrificial service rendered by nine deaconesses who are working in different parts of our Dominion. The people among whom they are working express appreciation for what is being done for them."

Goes on to describe work in various locations across Canada.

(p. 62) Excerpt: "The problems of those who are working in the cities are different.... [talks about Regina area] When making a survey of the Chinese in the surrounding towns, Miss Macarthur received a cordial welcome from the Chinese women and, particularly, from **women who were not Chinese, but married to Chinese men. ..**"

(p. 63) sub-heading: "**Chinese in Canada**" printed.

Each of these stations has a Mission Band and, although pennies are very scarce, the children send contributions to the W. M. S., besides making articles to send to Manchuria or to children in the distant parts of their own district. Women's Associations are not only helping the work of their own mission, but also contributing towards the work of our Society. A summer camp at Burnt River was attended by twenty-six girls, many of whom through Bible and mission study learned to know Jesus Christ as their personal Saviour.

Mission Bands have been organized in all Miss Todd's fields, except Burnt Lee. At Brownvale, Blue Hawk and Last Lake Ladies' Aid Societies form one of the more important activities of the field. At Last Lake, the women feel so isolated and few of them ever handle a cent of money, but they are interested and raise their money for the Church by knitting mitts and socks to sell to bachelors and others able to buy. Christmas gifts and supplies brought cheer and happiness to children and adults; 265 Christmas gifts were chosen and wrapped with loving care. Dr. Kanawah's visit was a bright spot in the history of these northern fields. It not only cheered the people, but encouraged our workers to continue in their ministry of love to many who often grow lonely and disheartened.

The problems of those who are working in the cities are different. Miss MacArthur in Regina, reports that at Eastview the Sunday School has one hundred and fifty children enrolled. Visiting the homes of these children and others in the congregation is a large part of her work. Through the generosity of First Church many have been made happy by gifts of jam, jelly or fruit and Christmas parcels. When making a survey of the Chinese in the surrounding towns, Miss MacArthur received a cordial welcome from the Chinese women and, particularly, from women who were not Chinese, but married to Chinese men. Miss Helen Ross, who has served five years in Saskatoon, has taken charge of the work at Mayfair and Thornton when a student was not available. A Mission Band organized at Mayfair in June became so large that in September it was divided into two Bands. Presbyterians in outlying parts of the city have been visited and many supplied with clothing. In Vancouver, Miss Roberta Smith has been assisting in general congregational work, especially among the young people. Miss Shirley Scott, who was appointed deaconess at New Westminster, B.C., last summer, has been endeavouring to stimulate interest in all types of work in the three congregations, all without ministration. Miss Hazel Macdonald, deaconess in Winnipeg, reports that her work is connected with Church, home and hospital. She has made a fine contribution to young people's work. The summer camp for young women made a splendid beginning, resulting in a Fall Rally with one hundred in attendance. Miss Margaret Allan continues her work in the congregations of St. Enoch's and St. David's in Hamilton. A house-to-house canvass disclosed an appalling need of evangelism among the many people who attend no Church service. Interest in the young women and children has resulted in active organizations.

Thus through faith and prayer the work of love and devotion continues. Did space permit many interesting stories told by our deaconesses could be given. One deaconess says: "I have had the satisfaction of finally seeing results in persons and in homes where for years it seemed, in spite of my teaching and visiting, there was only indifference and selfishness." Another of our older deaconesses reports similar experience. Surely the seed sown is bearing fruit.

(Mrs. W. H.) TRENA A. MITCHELL,
Secretary.

Chinese in Canada

Place	Staff	Date of Appointment
Victoria, B.C.	Miss Gertrude Scott	1926
" "	Miss Grace Lee	1931
Vancouver, B.C.	Mrs. G. P. Louie	1930
" "	Miss Ruth Yeandle	1931
Toronto, Ont.	Miss Esther Armstrong	1933
" "	Miss Lily Yeung	1932
Brookville, Ont.	Miss H. W. Davies	1926
Montreal, Que.	Miss Agnes I. Dickson, B.A.	1904
" "	Miss Elsie Lee	1935
" "	Mrs. Jean Herman	1929
Part Time Workers		
Toronto, Ont.	Mrs. Ma	
" "	Miss Lambert	
Ottawa, Ont.	Miss Reid	
Windsor, Ont.	Miss Melrose	

Encouragement and gratitude must be the keynote of this year's report: encouragement because of new centres made and new work opened up, and gratitude to our loving Father for giving our workers the strength to carry on their splendid work so willingly and efficiently.

Victoria. Miss Scott and Miss Lee report no outstanding changes in their work, but a steady progress in all branches. The 34 kindergarten children have had a happy year, singing hymns in Chinese and English, with a Bible story every day. They are encouraged to attend Sunday School and Mission Band. Some of the women who are too shy to come to the other meetings enjoy the June and December closings. Four days a week Miss Scott has an afternoon school, twice a week women's meetings are held, and one afternoon is devoted to teaching English. The manual calls have been made. On Friday evening, "The Shining Light," Girl Guides and Y. P. S. meet. The girls served for the supplies, and helped make and fill 200 bags for the Christmas concert, besides making their costumes for a play. The Mission Band, with 34 members, studied "Big Ships and Little People," "Friends Around the World", and stories from "Boys and Girls of India," and *God's Kingdoms*, and were addressed by Mrs. Pessiland and Mrs. Kennedy. Provincial and Presbyterian Mission Band Secretaries. We are proud of the W. M. S. Auxiliary; besides meeting their allocation, they presented a Life Membership to Miss Scott. In December Rev. D. A. Smith and Rev. Mr. Leung addressed them. The Sunday School, with an enrolment of 98, has an earnest, conscientious Superintendent in Mr. Wong Mah. At their monthly meeting the Musical Club study the composers' lives. Two girls and one boy are attending college, and one girl is training in the Vancouver General Hospital.

Vancouver. Miss Yeandle and Mrs. Louie report a year of much encouragement. The 77 kindergarten children have learned Scripture verses and hymns. There was real cause for thankfulness in the return of some children whom we thought we had lost. We are very grateful for the voluntary assistance of Miss I. Bennett. Last fall Miss Yeandle found a family from the interior whose children had never been to Sunday School. A letter sent to each W. M. S. Auxiliary brought them the names of such families, to whom literature is being sent. This new work, we

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hope, will be blessed and grow. Mission Band members received special awards in the Presbyterial memory contest. We would thank Miss Myrtle Sellers, Miss Elsie Potter, Mr. Howard and Ted McPhee for helping with the intermediate and senior boys and girls. The Y. P. S., under Moses Long, is a fine group of Christian young people, actively interested in the Church. Eight girls attended a summer camp in W. Vancouver directed by Mrs. D. E. Smith, and two boys went to Keats Island. Mrs. Louie has as usual visited the people, especially those in trouble. Ships are met, and people returning to China given Bibles and tracts. The W. M. S. Auxiliary of 10 members raised \$17.37. Mrs. Thomson, Miss Pelton, Miss Bennett and Rev. K. H. Yeung addressed them, and Mrs. Thomson installed the officers for 1936.

Saskatchewan. Mrs. Parley reports that Miss MacArthur's survey is very helpful. Literature has been sent out fortnightly, the Primary Department of a Sarnia Sunday School paying for Primary papers for this work (\$14.40).

Toronto. Work here is progressing steadily under Miss Armstrong. Miss Yeung and Miss Lambert. Miss Armstrong's car is kept busy taking children to kindergarten, mothers and children to clinics, doctors' and dentists' offices and elsewhere. Eighteen children have received toxoid treatment. Miss Yeung has often acted as interpreter. We wish to thank Dr. Stenhouse for continuing to give advice and time. St. Andrew's Church and the Supply Department furnished needed Jayettes; St. Andrew's gave cut-out garments for the ladies to make, and granted the young people the use of their gymnasium one evening a week. Mrs. Ma's Sunday class has been well attended and we are grateful to Miss Gunn for her assistance. The annual bazaar of the Ladies' Auxiliary was very successful; of the proceeds \$30.00 was donated to the W. M. S. and \$10.00 to the Y. M. C. I., the balance going to Christian work in China. The Y. P. S. visited Rogers, Wychood and Todmorden Churches, and three members accompanied Miss Armstrong to the Galt Convention in October. Miss Jean MacKurely is still carrying on the C.G.I.T. work, and this group helped in the Christmas concert. The Scouts and Cubs are doing splendidly under Mr. Haines and two other young men from Chalmers Church. The Mission Band with 40 members contributed \$2.00 to the W. M. S. A very fine Vacation School was held with the older children under Mr. Love in the Chinese School and the Junior Department under Miss Nan Kelman, for whose assistance during Miss Armstrong's absence we were very grateful. Mr. George Mark presided at the closing. Mr. Love's Chinese School is a great asset to our work: it helps the discipline greatly and centralizes the work in our Mission. Several of the young women and children took part in the pageant at the Ontario Provincial. On Mother's Day two babies were baptized. In October we lost one of our most devoted helpers, Mrs. C. E. Gilbert; so far we have found no one to take her place. The Christmas concert was the best we have had, and the gifts from the Supply Department were splendid. The Sunday School at Cooke's Church is well attended, but needs more teachers. Miss Armstrong addressed the girls of Calvin Church twice and the Auxiliaries of Parkdale and Chalmers Churches. The kindergarten children sang at the Sunday School anniversary of Victoria Church.

Brockville. Miss Davies, with her God-given zeal, is still working early and late among our Chinese friends, distributing literature, Jayettes, and supplies of all kinds. She visited Kingston, Ganaroque, Perth, Christon Place, Smith's Falls, Montreal, and Morrisburg, and spoke at Mountain, Merrickville, Fairfield, Moncep, and Lansdowne. Chinese people come to her from all over Canada for advice.

Ontario. Miss Reid visits the Chinese women regularly. The Christmas concert was a happy event. Irene Jue and her three-year-old sister won a prize, singing "Away in a Manger" in Chinese and English over the

radio. When Lord Baden-Powell visited Ottawa last year a Chinese boy was chosen to carry the flag. Miss Reid secured the services of a teacher for a Chinese boy who had to leave school so that he got his McGill entrance.

Windsor. Miss Melrose's class meets fortnightly for Bible study. They had Halloween and Christmas parties for 25 children. Hon. David Croll, a good friend of the Chinese people, sent each child a bag of candy. Montreal. Owing to a change of policy, all our activities are now centered in the Y. M. C. I. Miss Dickson reports 42 women in her district. They are interested and have attended the monthly meetings regularly. Over 300 visits have been made and women and children taken to clinics. Ten of the 34 kindergarten pupils passed to the public school. Miss Hattie Jue, who was granted a year's leave of absence to return to China, was greatly missed. She had not been absent one day in her eight years of service, and her gentle understanding of the children and her faithfulness to duty made her invaluable. We have been fortunate in securing as her substitute Miss Elsie Lee, a most promising Canadian-born Chinese girl with three years' High School training, who seems to have the same loving tact in dealing with children. Mrs. Herman has cheerfully given invaluable service as usual, not only in teaching, but in watching over the children's health. The "Light Bearers" Mission Band, with 28 members, is under the leadership of Miss G. Aitken. Mrs. David, Miss Louise and Mrs. Kellier, and the boys' handwork under the able supervision of Solomon Leung. They sent some of their toy furniture to the Peace River District and contributed \$2.35 to the W. M. S. Mr. Leung supervised the Traxis Boys and, assisted by David Lem, conducted a very successful summer school. He also did extensive visiting and directed an afternoon recreation period. In May Miss Dickson organized a Girls' Bible Class with six members. They studied St. John's Gospel and helped to make Christmas supplies. Addresses were given to W. M. S. and Y. W. A. meetings and Sunday Schools. Fifteen children have been given splendid assistance. We are grateful to Mrs. A. W. Pae for a piano on which the children practice in Miss Lee's home. Again we wish to thank the Presbyterial and friends for the abundant provision made for the workers, mothers and children. In June a picnic was given for the mothers and children and the Mission Band had a special outing. An outstanding event of the year was the baptism of a University student who returned to China on finishing her course. Another University Graduate, trained from childhood in Knox Crescent Sunday School, also returned to China, where she joined the Church. Few outside points were visited this year, but Miss Dickson was in Toronto in March and in Ottawa in May.

(Mrs. J. C.) MARGARET E. B. WOOD,
Secretary.