

# OUR HOME FIELD

VOLUME XII.  
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ATLANTA, GA.  
JUNE 1901.

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## Editorial Notes.

### PROPOSED CHANGES IN CO-OPERATIVE WORK.

The following report of the Convention committee on proposed changes in the work of co-operation is taken from the proceedings of the Convention:

Your committee recognizes the fact stated in the report of the Home Mission Board that "it is the organized agency of the Southern Baptist Convention, which has committed to it, so far as the Convention is concerned, the entire religious destitution of the Southern States."

The Convention in by-law No. 1 prescribes that "the Boards of this Convention be directed to form the closest possible connection with State Boards, where such exist, in such a way as shall be mutually agreeable."

Your committee, acting within these limitations, present the following recommendations:

1. That the work to be undertaken by the Home Mission Board in any State should be a co-operative work as far as practicable, the terms of co-operation to be such as may be mutually agreed upon between the Home Mission Board and the State organization. The Home Board shall enter the names of all its missionaries on its own books, defining their fields of labor and the terms of their employment.
2. That the Home Mission Board "shall require from each missionary engaged in this co-operative work an exact duplicate of every report made out to the other co-operative body or bodies."
3. That the Home Mission Board "shall have all reports properly tabulated in its home office, so that its own reports may show the work being done by its own missionaries."
4. That "where co-operative work is done with any State or local organization, such organization shall be expected and requested to make full recognition in their reports of the part or proportion of this work which is done by the Home Mission Board, and, *vice versa*, that the Home Mission Board shall make full recognition of the part or proportion that is done by any other organization."
5. That should any additional clerical help be needed by the Home Mission Board in order to carry out the provisions of these co-operative measures, the Board be fully instructed to employ such labor as may in its judgment be compatible with efficiency.

By the adoption of these recommendations your committee is of the unanimous opinion that the wishes of the Home Mission Board will be met, the work more fairly represented, better understood, more properly emphasized, and more generally and generously supported.

A. J. HOLT,  
JOHN F. PURSER,  
W. E. ATKINSON,  
J. S. FELIX,  
J. M. WILBUR,  
J. C. CARLTON,  
B. S. FUNDERBURK,  
R. F. HANKS,  
J. H. FOSTER,  
GILBERT DOBBS,  
W. H. TRIBBLE.

### A GOOD LETTER FROM CUBA.

Some time ago the Board learned incidentally that some places of Protestant worship in Cuba were being used for political assemblages. In order to avoid all complications the Board wrote kind letters to all our Missionaries calling attention to this fact, and asking that none of our places of worship should be used for such purposes. We are greatly gratified to state that every one of them has replied most favorably to the wishes of the Board, showing a clear comprehension of the differences between political and religious organizations. We publish a letter just received from Brother Rodriguez, who was recently ordained to the ministry, and is now pastor of the church in Sagua la Grande. The letters from all the other brethren are of the same tenor, and reveal the same clear understanding of the relations existing between political and religious institutions.

In answer to your communication of April 23rd, I am glad to be able to state that this mission will be kept sacred to our divine religion, and to purely moral and charitable purposes, and will not be used for any political one.

Amid the manifold aspirations and struggles of this society at this present day, Christ will surely be the most active force for good. His commandments will clearly distinguish and separate in them what is right and wrong. "Cuba for Christ" is the motto.

We are deeply sorrow at the present situation of political affairs, but we feel sure that it is deepened the gratitude of the overwhelming majority of the Cuban people towards that grand country of liberty, and that this sentiment will be the means of a good and final settlement of any differences that may have arisen between themselves and your government.

Praying God's richest blessings may rest upon you, I remain sincerely and affectionately your brother in Christ's bonds,

E. P. RODRIGUEZ.

### WOMAN'S WORK.

Extracts from Convention Committee's report:

The work of our Baptist women of the Woman's Missionary Union is fairly entitled to the most cordial and unequivocal indorsement of this Convention. For thirteen years our sisters have walked with delicate tread and gentle footsteps along a pathway where innumerable dangers were supposed to lie. But their refined sensibilities, their conscious integrity, and their earnest desire to serve, together with their firm faith in God, their jealous regard for his Word, the honor of his name, and the prosperity of his cause, have led them so surely that all must rejoice in their noble work. Fears of disintegration have vanished, doubts of

loyalty have been dispelled, anxiety lest we should somehow suffer loss, is all gone. And in the radiant dawn of what is already the most glorious of all the centuries we may leave all our dark forebodings in the shadows of the sleeping past. And as we face the thronging opportunities and the crowding responsibilities which call us to the busiest and most promising years of the Christian era, all are happy to find close by their sides the warm heart, the delicate hand, the undaunted courage and the quenchless zeal of mother, wife, and sister.

During the thirteen years of their organization they have been as delicately responsive to the wishes of this Convention, even when never so slightly intimated, as any one could desire. And when, at the last session of this Convention, there went to them from this floor a simple request, sent directly to them, they took it as an expression of confidence and rejoiced in it.

We gather from their latest published reports, that, during the year just passed, they have contributed to Home Missions, \$20,549.54, in cash, and boxes valued at \$26,887.88, making together, \$47,437.42, an increase of \$2,233.65 over the previous year. To the Sunday School Board, cash, \$622.42, and boxes with an estimated value of \$8,491.66, making a total of \$9,023.58, an increase of \$3,460.27 over the previous year. And to Foreign Missions, cash, \$31,801.31, making an apparent increase of \$43.66, but, in fact, an increase of gifts from the sisters of \$4,043.66, because in last year's report there was an annuity gift of \$4,000.00. The grand total of all their gifts for the year amounts to the splendid sum of \$88,262.31, which is an increase over the preceding year of \$4,095.58, and is larger even than the gifts of the "Centennial Year."

And all this work has been done at the inconsiderable cost of \$2,477.25. And yet there is an increase which cannot be written down in figures—the increase in their working force of 600 new bands and societies. They now have some 5,600 organizations. From the sisters our Boards have received, since their organization in 1888, the magnificent sum of \$704,501.00.

The following report of Convention Committee on Work Among the Negroes, and Co-operation with the Home Mission Society, was adopted at New Orleans:

The arrangement of the Home Mission Board and the Home Mission Society to co-operate in work among the negroes and in Oklahoma and Indian Territories was both brotherly and wise. It was approved by the Convention last year.

The committee is gratified that the Home Mission Board has in every particular complied with its obligations in the co-operative plan.

It was to be anticipated that, owing to conditions existing in the territories prior to the co-operative arrangement, difficulties would arise in the effort of the two bodies to work co-operatively.

The committee recommends that our Home Board, while maintaining kindly and firmly their rights under the existing arrangement, employ every proper means to work in harmony with our brethren of the Home Mission Society and so perpetuate the work of co-operation until the great destitution of the territories shall have been supplied with the gospel.





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—OF THE—

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#### SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION.

The spacious auditorium of the First Presbyterian Church in New Orleans was crowded with a throng of Southern Baptists and their friends to witness the opening exercises of the forty-sixth annual session of the Southern Baptist Convention. It was estimated that there were at least 3,000 people in the auditorium and galleries. With mighty volume the great throng sang "Nearer My God to Thee," at the request of President W. J. Northen, of Georgia, who gracefully called the Convention to order. Dr. B. D. Gray, of Alabama, led the Convention in a fervent prayer.

Secretary Lansing Burrows, of Tennessee, announced that 476 Associations were entitled to representation in the Convention, and on the money basis 964 brethren were authorized messengers; making a grand total of 1,440 possible representation. Of this number there were only 787 in actual attendance.

Hon. W. J. Northen was nominated and enthusiastically elected President of the Secretary Burrows casting the Convention, vote.

Dr. Lansing Burrows and Dr. O. F. Gregory as Secretaries, were duly re-elected to the position they have held for so many years.

Ex-Governor Jas. P. Eagle of Arkansas, Gov. A. H. Longino of Mississippi, Gov. W. W. Heard of Louisiana, and Hon. Joshua Levering of Maryland, were elected Vice-Presidents.

President Northen felicitously introduced Dr. B. M. Palmer, the venerable pastor of the First Presbyterian Church in which the sessions of the Convention are being held, and who is one of the most notable figures in the ministry of the South. For forty-two years he has been pastor of the First Presbyterian Church in New Orleans, and

could hardly be more strongly entrenched in the hearts of this people.

The abstract report of the Foreign Mission Board was read by the Corresponding Secretary, Dr. R. J. Willingham, of Virginia.

Twenty-one new missionaries have been appointed during the year—seven to Mexico, three to Italy, five to China, two to Japan, two to Brazil. One of the missionaries died last year. It was Mrs. W. E. Crocker of Japan. Five missionaries have resigned on account of failing health.

During the year \$156,083.33 has been received. Of this \$3,500 was given on the annuity plan, \$3,000 by a friend in Virginia, and \$500 by a party in Missouri. This will be kept on interest until the death of the donors. All expenses of the year have been fully met.

One thousand and nine baptisms in our foreign fields last year call for profound gratitude to God. The number of our missionaries has been constantly increasing, until now we have 102 missionaries and 171 native assistants; a force altogether of 273 workers.

The Board supports missionaries in number as follows: Missionaries, male, 46; missionaries, female, 56; ordained natives 41; unordained natives, male, 110; unordained natives, female, 20; grand total, 273.

There are 6,773 members in the 127 churches planted in the several fields of labor occupied by the missionaries under the employ of the Board. There are seventy houses of worship on these fields.

#### HOME MISSION REPORT.

President W. W. Landrum, of Georgia, submitted the report of the Home Mission Board of Atlanta, Ga., instead of Dr. F. H. Kerfoot, the Corresponding Secretary, who was quite weak owing to a recent serious spell of sickness. Dr. Landrum's strong, clear voice was easily heard everywhere in the audience room, and thus the report was strongly set before the people. The following summary of the work is of deep interest:

"Missionaries, 811; weeks of labor, 19,316; churches and stations, 2,660; sermons and addresses, 68,722; prayer-meetings, 14,745; religious visits, 104,911; baptisms, 6,671; received by letter, 7,229; total additions, 13,800; churches constituted, 162; houses of worship built, 100; houses of worship improved, 109; amount expended on houses of worship, \$82,542.75; Sunday-schools organized, 511; Bibles and Testaments distributed, 19,485; tracts distributed (pages), 1,385,491.

The State Boards of Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Indian Territory, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Missouri, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma Territory, Tennessee, Texas and Virginia are in co-operation with us in part, or the whole of their work.

The total amount of cash received during the year for the regular work of the Home

Board has been \$86,964.68, which is an increase of \$11,598.00 over the previous year. In addition to this the Board has received in special gifts to the church building and loan fund the sum of \$4,110.43, which makes the actual amount of cash received \$91,075.11 as against the sum of \$79,366.68 received the previous year. All of the States except two show an increase in cash contributions over last year.

The work in Cuba has gone on quietly during the year. The sentimental period of Cuban missions is now fully passed. Since the American occupation nearly all denominations have entered Cuba for missionary work. The Baptists have no longer, by any means, a monopoly of this work.

In Havana Province, money spent..... \$4,802.25  
In the Matanzas Province, money spent..... 1,864.70  
In the Santa Clara Province, money spent..... 4,666.68  
In the Pinar del Rio Province, money spent..... 995.00  
In the Havana Province, baptisms..... 35  
In the Matanzas Province, baptisms..... 24  
In the Santa Clara Province, baptisms..... 51  
In the Pinar del Rio Province, baptisms..... 47

#### "APPEAL OF THE HOME BOARD."

The following are extracts from the report of the committee on Home Board's appeal, which was adopted at the Convention:

Your committee to which was referred that part of the Home Board's report which relates to the need of emphasizing the importance of the Board and its work, beg to report:

1. Not only are the churches as willing as they have ever been, but more of them are contributing, and they are giving more money to the Board each year.

2. Nevertheless your committee pleads for a yet larger place for the Board in the affections and gifts of the churches.

The field occupied by the Board, already large and important, grows larger and more important each year. Cuba, our great and growing cities, our frontier fields, the foreign population, and the Negro, each calls for more men and more money.

The past achievements of this Board abundantly demonstrate that it is in every way worthy of our most enthusiastic support.

We urge Vice-presidents to spare no pains to see that the claims of the Home Board are faithfully and fully set before the churches, and that by associational representatives, by the wise use of our denominational papers, and by distribution of literature they keep the Board constantly before the people.

Never before had the Board greater need for our support, and never before has it been more entitled to it.

#### Receipts of Home Mission Board from May 1st to May 15, 1901.

ALABAMA: Cash, Concord ch. \$15, Poplar Springs ch. \$2.35, Wehadkee ch. \$3.12, Total, \$20.47.  
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA: Cash, Y. P. S. C. Rm. 1st B. ch. Washington, \$1.50, W. H. Circle, 1st B. ch. Washington, \$1.50, Brookland B. ch. Washington, \$1.36, Total, \$4.36.  
FLORIDA: Cash, Greenwood ch. \$1.65, Lovelade ch. 7 c., Pleasant Hill ch. 25 c., Wenhatch ch. \$1.58, St. Andrew's ch. \$1.30, Millville ch. \$2.35, Total, \$7.87.  
GEORGIA: Cash, Bethel ch. \$4.65, Salem ch. \$2.50, Valley Grove ch. 25 c., Hopeful B. ch. \$9.75, Jones Ave. B. ch. Atlanta for Jacksonville sufferers, \$47, Hoversville B. ch. \$4.15, Total, \$65.55.  
KENTUCKY: Cash, Indian Gap B. ch. \$1, 3rd B. ch. Owensboro, \$5, Salt River B. ch. \$3.78, Ellensburg B. ch. \$1.30, Total, \$10.10.  
LOUISIANA: Cash, R. A. B., Bayou Barbery, \$1, Total, \$1.  
MARYLAND: Cash, W. B. H. M. S. of Md. \$8.75, Wilson Mem. ch. Balt. \$10, Sater's ch. \$5, Bramley B. ch. \$6.45, Total, \$30.95.  
MISSOURI: Cash, West Line B. ch. \$3.75, Total, \$3.75.  
NORTH CAROLINA: Cash, Teachey's B. ch. \$1.50, Mrs. R. E. W. Clyde, \$5, Total, \$6.60.  
OKLAHOMA: Cash, 1st B. ch. Perry, \$10.90, Total, \$10.90.  
SOUTH CAROLINA: Cash, Sunbeam, Green St. ch. Spartanburg, \$1.30, L. M. S., Harmony ch., Chester Ass'n, \$5, 1st B. ch. Gaffney, \$1.46, Chesterfield Ass'n, \$6.30, Mt. Zion ch. Florence, Ass'n, \$4.79, 1st B. ch. Newberry, \$2.01, Buffalo ch. Broad River Ass'n, \$11, New Prospect ch. \$9, Norway ch. \$2.38, Black Creek ch. \$2.75, L. M. S., Langley B. ch. \$5, Winboro ch. \$5, Total, \$77.23.  
TENNESSEE: Cash, Antioch ch. \$2.81, Total, \$2.81.  
TEXAS: Cash, W. E. D., Fort Worth, \$15.50, Arlington B. ch. \$45, Saraville B. ch. \$9.85, Decker Branch, Dunlap, \$5, Bright Star ch., Bethlehem Ass'n, \$1.35, Houston B. ch. \$1.05, Total, \$48.55.  
AGGREGATE: Cash, \$866.45.



## WOMAN'S MISSIONARY UNION.

Auxiliary to S. B. C.

No. 304 N. Howard St., BALTIMORE, MD.

Motto:—GO FORWARD.

MISS ANNIE W. ARMSTRONG, EDITOR.

### GEMS OF THOUGHT.

The greatest mistake is the failure to take a good opportunity.

Every day brings us power or takes it away from us. An unused talent rusts hour by hour; a well-used one is perfected daily. What the years bring us is only the outward symbol of our inward gain or loss.

When a man dies the world asks, "What has he left behind?" But the angels ask, "What good deeds has he sent before him?"

In the life of obedience God leads us by many chains. There is the iron chain of duty, the silver chain of hope, the golden chain of love. It is ours to choose the chain. Most of us mix the links.

Are we doing our share in making the world better? Are we doing anything in that line? There is certainly need of such work. We have possibilities and capabilities of service. How have we improved these within the past week? It may be well for us to face squarely our duty, and to consider fairly how far we have met it. It may be that this will lead us to do more the next week.

### A WORD OF EXPLANATION.

As material for this Department is furnished the Editor of OUR HOME FIELD about a month previous to publication, it is not possible to give in this issue any account of the Annual Meeting of Woman's Missionary Union. We hope to do so later. From Annual Reports of the Corresponding Secretary and Treasurer, the following selections have been made in the hope that they will be of interest to W. M. U. workers and others.

CONTRIBUTIONS WOMAN'S MISSIONARY UNION, 1900-1901.

TOTAL AMOUNT raised by W. M. U. during the year 1900-1901: \$88,262.31.

CASH CONTRIBUTIONS including gifts to the Church Building Loan Fund of the Home Mission Board: To the Home Board, \$20,549.54; To the Foreign Board, \$31,801.88; To the Sunday School Board, \$622.42.

BOX CONTRIBUTIONS: 565 boxes valued at \$26,887.88 were sent to Home Missionaries, Contributions of basted work, etc., amounting to \$155.58 for German Industrial School included; 141 boxes valued at \$8,401.16 to Sunday School Missionaries.

### SYSTEMATIC AND PROPORTIONATE GIVING.

Gratifying indeed is the aggregate amount raised through the faithful ingathering of tithes since the organization of Woman's Missionary Union, but what an impetus would be given the mission work of the Southern Baptist Convention if every W. M. U. worker would adopt a systematic, proportionate plan of giving. Do we not depreciate the cause of Christ when we give only when moved by some special appeal, or when, instead of first fruits, we bring but the dregs and leavings? God having expressly commanded his ancient people to honor him by the payment of tithes and to prove their love by free-will offerings, afterwards reiterated the command when, by the mouth

of the Malachi, he termed unfaithfulness "robbery." At the same time, he pledged himself to give an overflowing blessing to those who should bring "all the tithes into the store-house." The Jews failed to receive the blessing because they withheld God's portion.

What reason have we to hope for wonderful advance unless, realizing that through Malachi God has spoken to all generations, we yield full obedience. Paul clearly endorses the teaching of individual, systematic, proportionate giving when he counsels "every one of you"—not one left out—at regular times to give "as God hath prospered"—a regulated amount. What force there is in that little word *as*! To the wealthy, how great the responsibility since *what one has is* the measure of obligation! Yet upon all classes, including the very poor, is imposed this duty of systematic, proportionate giving. A son, hearing his father pray that abundant means might be supplied the mission boards, said: "Father, I wish I had your money." "Why, my son, what would you do with it?" "I would answer some of your prayers, father." The young man saw the inconsistency between his father's prayers and his giving. He had prayed for dollars and, though rich, gave pennies. Are there not some of us who are following the same course? We pray for the coming of Christ's Kingdom, but in truth, are we giving according to the "measure of ability?" For the warning of the rich, the Holy Spirit says, "Unto whom much is given, much will be required." For the encouragement of the poor, "If there be first a willing mind, it is accepted according to that a man hath."

As W. M. U. workers do we indeed desire to know what is our personal responsibility for giving towards the enlargement of mission work as done through the Southern Baptist Convention? Then, let us earnestly pray for more love to the Great Exemplar of giving who "for our sakes, though he was rich, became poor," and for better understanding of Paul's gauge "as God hath prospered."

### TOTALS FOR HOME AND FOREIGN MISSIONS SINCE ORGANIZATION.

1880.....	\$ 30,773.69
1890.....	31,237.76
1891.....	38,090.34
1892.....	44,282.80
1893 (Centennial Year).....	62,336.75
1894.....	45,128.59
1895.....	48,665.96
1896.....	56,342.19
1897.....	53,407.64
1898 (including contributions to Sunday School Board).....	58,293.51
1899 (including contributions to Sunday School Board).....	64,112.73
1900 (including contributions to Sunday School Board).....	83,265.73
1901 (including contributions to Sunday School Board).....	88,262.31
Grand Total.....	\$704,501.00

### BRIEFLETS.

With thanksgiving, we again record the best year in the history of Woman's Missionary Union. Contributions larger than ever before; many new societies organized; general interest stimulated.

The increase of Societies and Bands has been the New Century aim of Woman's Missionary Union. With this in view, the Corresponding Secretary sent 5,635 letters to pastors, and later 2,325 letters to ladies whose names were suggested by them.

The Christmas Offering was larger than ever before. Amount reported, \$6,355.67.

A Self Denial Offering of \$25.50 was received from a little church in Indian Territory.

"Every one of us shall give an account of himself to God" and in the great work to which as Southern Baptist women we have been called, success is largely dependent upon personal fidelity.

319,516 leaflets were distributed last year.

Let us continue to sow the seed, trusting God to prepare the hearts.

Expenses of Woman's Missionary Union for the year \$2,477, less than 4 per cent. of amount raised. Officers receive no salaries.

Inspired and encouraged by the memory of God's dealings in the past and by the knowledge that through our offerings and labors, each one of us is permitted to be a co-laborer in his great plan for the redemption of the world, in entering upon another year, shall we not consecrate ourselves anew to his service.

"This whole wide world for Jesus,  
Through all its fragrant zones!  
Ring out again the watchword,  
In loftiest, grandest tones.

The whole wide world for Jesus!  
We'll wing the song with prayer,  
And link the prayer with labor,  
Till Christ his crown shall wear.

### CHILDREN'S DAY IN JUNE.

Is your school preparing for observance of this special Day which is set aside for the benefit of the Bible Fund of the Sunday School Board? If not, there is yet time. Woman's Missionary Union prepared the program, designed the mite boxes, and Dr. J. M. Frost, Secretary of Sunday School Board, Nashville, Tennessee, will take pleasure in supplying these to your school, free of charge.

Children's Day offers a special opportunity of giving instruction to our young people regarding God's Word, and of educating them in the duty of giving. Will you not therefore use your influence for its observance in the Sunday School of the church with which you are associated, and also do all in your power to make it a success?

### REWARDS.

To be distributed at Christ's appearing.—Rev. 22: 12.

1. Heavenly crowns.—Rev. 2: 10; 2 Tim. 4: 8.
2. Heavenly honors.—Luke 12: 8; Rev. 3: 12.
3. Sovereignty upon earth.—Matt. 25: 21; Rev. 21: 26, 27; 3: 21.
4. Inherited riches.—Col. 3: 24; 1 Pet. 1: 4.

### HOW REWARDS ARE WON.

1. Faithful service.—1 Cor. 3: 8, 14.
2. Self-mastery.—1 Cor. 9: 25; Jas. 1: 12.
3. Patient endurance.—Matt. 5: 12.
4. Care for God's children.—1 Pet. 5: 2, 4.
5. Deeds of kindness.—Matt. 10: 41, 42; Luke 14: 14.
6. Cultivation of the Christ-spirit.—Luke 6: 35.

### LIVING AT OUR BEST.

Do not try to do a great thing; you may waste all your life looking for the opportunity which will never come. But since little things are always claiming your attention, do them as they come, from a great motive, for the glory of God, to win his smile of approval, and to do good to men. It is harder to plod in obscurity, acting thus, than to stand on the high places of the field, within the view of all, and to do deeds of valor at which rival armies stand still to gaze. But no such act goes without the swift recognition and the ultimate recompense of Christ. To fulfill faithfully the duties of your station; to use to the utmost the gifts of your ministry; to bear chafing annoyances and trivial irritations as martyrs bore the pillory and the stake; to find the one noble trait in people who try to molest you; to put the kindest construction on unkind acts and words; to love with the love of God even the unthankful and evil; to be content to be a fountain in the midst of a wild valley of stones, nourishing a few lilies and flowers, or now and again a thirsty sheep; and do this always, and not for the praise of man, but for the love of Jesus—this makes a great life.—[F. B. Meyer.



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