

United Church of Canada
Committee on Employed Women Workers in the Church
including the Deaconess Order

135 ST. CLAIR AVENUE WEST
TORONTO 5, ONTARIO

Autumn 1927

AUTUMN NEWS LETTER TO THE DEACONESSSES OF THE UNITED CHURCH

As you enter on a new year of work, I want you to realize that the General Council's Deaconess Committee is at work as well and that we are seeking to make those plans which are in the best interests of all the deaconesses. We also recognize the heavy responsibility you are carrying, and the difficult places many of you are filling, and we are eager to stand back of you in every way we can. We pray that we may all be enabled this year to do our full share in extending the Kingdom of God, our Father.

THE DEACONESS CONFERENCE

The Deaconess Conference came at just the right time this year and was, in my opinion, quite the best one that has yet been held. Everybody came to it fresh from Summer holidays and there was a quiet restfulness evident, that is too often absent from such gatherings, as well as real enthusiasm and a spirit of fellowship and unity. It was a great joy that so many could be present from places distant from Toronto. The Deaconess Association is sending you a report of the Conference which contains the list of those who were in attendance. We wish that every deaconess might have come.

THE REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE ORDINATION OF WOMEN

Enclosed in this package you will find the printed report of the committee appointed by the General Council to deal with the question of the ordination of women, a subject which was discussed, you will remember, at the last meeting of the Council. As their recommendations, found on pages 7 and 8, vitally concerned the future of the present Deaconess Order, the committee sought conference with the Deaconess Committee, and for two whole evenings we discussed their resolutions together, our final action being contained in the note on page 8.

At the meeting of the Deaconess Association these resolutions were presented to the deaconesses by Dr. Bishop, our Chairman, and time was devoted to discussion. Some expressed themselves as extremely delighted with the proposal; others felt that there is a place for both the present Deaconess Order and the diaconate; others found the issues involved so far-reaching that they were not ready to express an opinion. So far as I know this was the first group to whom these resolutions were presented, but they are now going out to be considered by all the Presbyteries of the United Church. Since they are so closely related to the future of the Deaconess Order, we do hope that each deaconess will give them very earnest thought, that you will ask any questions that occur to you, and that you will each send us your opinion of the whole plan as here outlined. I have always found the deaconesses remarkably open-minded toward new policies and ready to accept changes that seemed for the best, so I do not need to plead for that attitude in this connection.

THE UNITED CHURCH TRAINING SCHOOL

The United Church Training School is a somewhat transformed place this Autumn. It is crowded to capacity, eighty-six being in residence. The school itself numbers twenty-six, and the students are very fine young women, well prepared for the courses they are taking. The building still serves as a Home for six or seven of the Toronto deaconesses. We have with us, also, three missionaries on furlough. All the remaining space is occupied by Victoria College women students, who have come here at the request of the College, because of the overcrowding of the regular residences. 135 St. Clair Avenue West is now a "house" for Victoria College students and they have their own resident don, Miss Velma Hamill. This influx of young life is delightful, but we cannot but miss the guests who have been with us for so many years, and we greatly regret that it is no longer possible to welcome to the building the missionaries on furlough, who usually come to Toronto for a few weeks or months of study each year. The former Presbyterian School at 60 Grosvenor Street is being used as last year as a residence for students, half of them being student volunteers of the United Church, most of whom are in medicine, and the other half being Victoria College students. Miss Mary Chappell, of Japan, is acting as Dean of Residence.

A Calendar of the Training School is enclosed in this package. Each deaconess should be seeking opportunities to interest young women in the courses offered at the School and the work to which they lead.

PERSONAL NOTES

The official list which is included in the manual, gives the names of the four deaconesses who died during the past year and whose loss is deeply felt. A beautiful memorial service formed a part of the Deaconess Conference and the words of appreciation spoken at that service have been preserved

as a permanent record, and appear also in the report of the Conference. May the spirit of devotion and faith and courage which characterized these lives inspire ours as well.

Several deaconesses have withdrawn from the Order through marriage and one because of home responsibilities. They will be missed, but all would wish them the deepest joy in their new home life.

A number of deaconesses have been bereaved during the last few months. At the time of the Deaconess Conference, Miss Irwin's mother died and the same loss has come to Miss Firth, Miss Currey, Miss Bickell and Miss Halliday, and Mrs. Smith lost her father. We all join in extending to them our sympathy.

Last Spring Miss Ora McElhenie, a retired deaconess, who is now living in Pasadena, Cal., was presented with a bungalow on the grounds of the Rest Home of the Methodist Church in that city. The bungalow is to be Miss McElhenie's during her life time and she has invited two other deaconesses to share it with her.

One of the speakers at the Board Meeting of the Woman's Missionary Society held in Toronto late in September, was Miss Jennie King who presented the work of the Strangers' Secretaries in Montreal in a most interesting way.

The appointments and addresses of all deaconesses are given in the official list which is included in the manual.

BOOKS

At the Deaconess Conference, the Secretary of the Deaconess Committee was requested to acquaint the deaconesses from time to time with new books that they might enjoy or that might be helpful to them in their work.

Has everyone read Bosworth's "Life and Teachings of Jesus"? If not, it should be purchased and studied this year. Another helpful book for the present time is Dr. Sclater's "Modernist Fundamentalism."

Those who read Jones' "The Christ of the Indian Road" will take an interest in "The Indian Outlook" by Holland. Now that China is the centre of thought and study, it would be well to read "China To-day Through Chinese Eyes" by a group of Chinese writers; and "The Daughter of a Samurai" will delight lovers of Japan.

The following are the missionary books recommended for study this year by the various groups in the Church:

For Auxiliaries and Circles—"New Paths for Old Purposes", Burton.

For Young People's Societies—"Drums in the Darkness" (Africa), Dr. Tucker.

For Teen-age Boys and Girls—"Heroes of our Home Lands," Hayward.

For Junior Leagues—"Talk on the Land of the Maple," Gunn.

For Mission Bands—"Please Stand By," Applegath.

In the realm of Religious Education, one should mention again, Betts and Hawthorne's "Method in Teaching Religion" which is an excellent general book giving a great deal of help in the teaching of the Bible and of religion in its varied aspects. Outstanding among the books for Children's Workers is "Kingdom of Love" by Carrier, studies in the Life of Jesus for Juniors. All interested in Girls' Work should have the two new booklets, "A Guide to Group Leadership" and "Programme Suggestions" which are the freshest and most helpful pieces of literature published by the Girls' Work Board for several years. For young people there is recommended as a Bible Study text "Jesus' Teachings for Young People" by Weston, and young people's leaders should secure from the Board of Religious Education, 523 Wesley Bldgs., Toronto 2, the bulletins on programmes for Young People's Societies.

Rev. Archer Wallace has prepared a series of booklets called "The Silver Lining Booklets," especially written to help ministers and others in visiting sick, discouraged and all troubled people. Of them Dr. G. C. Pidgeon says: "Speaking as one who has spent most of his life in the pastorate, I cannot conceive of anything more helpful in ministering to the spiritual needs of people than this series of little booklets." The subjects are,—"The Compensations of Sickness," "The Reward of Imperfect Faith," "Songs in the Night," "Obsolete Words," "The Valley of Baca," and "Within the Shadow." The cost: 5 cts. each, 6 for 25 cts., 50 cts. per doz. and \$3.50 per hundred.

If you are fond of poetry, buy and study "New Voices," by Marguerite Wilkinson. It is a most delightful treatment of the subject of poetry, with numerous illustrations and gives real help in the appreciation of modern poetry, indeed of all poetry.

Have you "discovered" Zelma Lagerlof, the Swedish writer, whose stories have been translated into English, and Dorothy Canfield, the American who writes very fine modern fiction?

THE SECRETARY'S WESTERN TRIP

If all goes well I shall leave for "the West" early in November and shall do my best to visit every deaconess stationed in Northern Ontario and Western Canada. The Committee believes that it will be a real gain for me thus to obtain a better understanding of the work the deaconesses are doing and to get an insight into the thinking of the leaders of the Church in the West regarding the future of our work. It will certainly be a real joy to me, and I shall try to tell you about my visit in the next news letter.

And now may I, on behalf of the Committee, express the hope that you may keep well and strong during the Winter, and may be given the power to do a piece of service which will have permanent value.

Yours most sincerely,

WINNIFRED THOMAS,

Secretary.

United Church of Canada
Committee on Employed Women Workers in the Church
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135 ST. CLAIR AVENUE WEST
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1928
MARCH NEWS LETTER TO THE DEACONESSSES OF THE UNITED CHURCH.

Much has happened since the Autumn news letter was sent out, and I shall try to speak of those matters in which I think you will be most deeply interested.

WESTERN TRIP.

My trip to Western Canada and Northern Ontario was much enjoyed and most rewarding. There are so many phases of the trip about which I should like to speak that I find it difficult to make a selection.

I was absent from Toronto for six weeks and during that time I visited twenty-three centres meeting thirty-nine deaconesses. If you will take your list of the members of the Order as given in the manual including those in active service and those on leave of absence, you will discover, as I mention the places in my itinerary, just what ones I was able to see, for in each place I spent all or the major portion of my time with the deaconesses. The places at which I stopped were: Port Arthur, Fort William, Vancouver, New Westminster, Victoria, Prince Rupert, Edmonton (with short visits to Beverley, Radway Centre, Kolokreeka and Wahstao), Calgary, Moose Jaw, Regina, File Hills Indian Reserve, Yorkton, Pine River, Sifton, Winnipeg, Hearst, Timmins, New Liskeard, North Bay and Copper Cliff.

In addition to meeting the deaconesses, I tried while in each centre to get into touch with all the other women who are engaged in the service of the United Church and I discovered about seventy of these. I also tried to meet as many as possible of the ministers and other Church leaders and in many cases discussed our work quite fully with them.

First, I do want to say a word in appreciation of the welcome I received wherever I went, and of the willingness of everyone whom I approached to sit down with me and discuss our problems. I have the happiest memories of every visit, and feel that these personal contacts have given me a far greater insight into the whole situation in our Church as it concerns the work of the deaconesses.

The great variety in the service being rendered by the deaconesses of the United Church is illustrated by the fact that I found eleven in self-supporting congregations, thirteen in city missions, one in a social service institution, three in school homes, one in strangers' work, one attached to a pioneer hospital as an evangelistic worker, four in community work, one on an Indian Reserve and another in an Indian school. Three were on leave of absence. It is impossible to take space to tell in detail of their work, but one could not but be deeply impressed with their courage in facing difficult tasks and the great value of the work they are doing.

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On the whole I found the ministers and other Church leaders most appreciative of the work done by women in the Church and placing greater emphasis on the need of special training for this work. The prospect as regards openings for such trained women seems good. The whole question of the status of women in the Church is receiving a great deal of attention in the Presbyteries and whatever the outcome this is all to the good. Among those responsible for employing women the matter of the status of the worker did not seem to be considered so important as that she should be able to do well the special work required, though some of the ministers did express the view that the woman who is a member of the Deaconess Order can do more effective work than one of equal training and ability who has not this status.

One could not but feel the need of a more uniform policy in the United Church as regards the training and employment of women, such a one as would create a greater sense of unity among those engaged in the service of the Church and give to those who qualify for its work a more assured future. The Committee is at work on these questions and is making progress. It is hoped that the recommendations to be presented by our Committee to the General Council will be put in final form at the April meeting. Copies of these will be sent out to the deaconesses in a later letter.

EASTERN TRIP.

I am hoping to visit Montreal and the Maritime Provinces in May or June. As the time for the Maritime Conference is not yet settled, it is impossible to give the exact dates of my visit, but I shall notify the deaconesses concerned well in advance.

NEWS OF THE ORDER.

The new deaconess pins have been sent to all members of the Order. If anyone has not received hers, will she please notify me.

A new license will be prepared this Spring.

It has not yet been found possible to make any change regarding the identification of deaconesses in securing half-fare on the railways. The rule is that deaconesses buying tickets and travelling in uniform may receive half-fare.

Permission to wear the uniform has been granted to deaconess candidates. The whole question of the advisability of a year of probation will be discussed again this Spring. If you have any convictions about this, please share them with the Committee.

Miss Ketcheson was elected to represent the Deaconess Order on the Committee on Employed Women Workers in the Church and Miss Pirch, President of the Deaconess Association, has been made a corresponding member of the Committee.

The Executive of the Deaconess Association is at work on plans for the Deaconess Conference and will soon be sending out a questionnaire to the members of the Order.

PERSONALS.

Please make these changes in the official list of deaconesses given in your manual.

Miss Amy Sherwood, who has given 24 years of service in the Deaconess Order, is retiring. We extend to her our sympathy in the loss of a sister early in January, and also want to place on record this word of appreciation of the long and faithful years of service she has given, and of the beautiful spirit she has shown in these last years when her failing hearing cut her off from much that others of us enjoy. Her address will be 3A Devonshire Apts., Brockville, Ont.

Miss Helen MacGregor's address is 1052 College St., Toronto, Ont.

Miss Caroline Wilcox has been appointed as deaconess in the United Church at Dundas, Ont.

We regret to report that Miss Marion Banks was not able, because of ill-health, to take her position at the Church of All Nations.

Miss Agnes Staples was appointed on January 1st, 1928, as deaconess of St. Andrew's Church, North Bay, Ont.

Miss Esther Moffitt had to undergo a serious operation at St. John's Hospital, Toronto, but her condition is improving.

Mrs. Marie Lytle was compelled to resign from her position at Albert College because of ill-health. Letters addressed to 135 St. Clair Ave. West, Toronto, will reach her. We regret to report that during the year Mrs. Lytle lost her mother. We extend to her our sympathy.

Miss Mabel K. Smith is spending some time at her home because of the poor health of her mother.

Miss Isabel Smith has resigned from the Deaconess Order because of her marriage. We extend to her all good wishes.

To the list of deaconess candidates should be added the name of Miss Martin, a graduate of Manitoba College, who is stationed in St. Andrew's Church, Winnipeg.

Miss Martha May Sleeth is taking several months' leave of absence because of ill-health. We hope she will soon be able to take up her work again.

Miss Olive Whyte's address is 1875 - 13th Ave. West, Vancouver, B.C.

Miss Ranton's health is improving. Letters addressed to 135 St. Clair Ave. West will reach her.

We extend to Miss Nelle Barker our sympathy in the loss of her mother.

To the list of deaconesses on leave of absence for study should be added the name of Miss Drusilla Russenholt, General Hospital, Regina, Sask.

Mrs. Mary Burwash is supplying at All Peoples' Mission, Windsor, Ont.

We welcome to the Order, Miss Rose Mackenzie of the Residential Indian School, Edmonton, who was designated as a deaconess by the Alberta Conference on Dec. 9th, 1927, in Edmonton.

If those eligible for designation are admitted to the Order this Spring, 12 deaconesses will have been added to the fellowship in the interval between the last and the next meeting of General Council.

DETROIT CONVENTION.

Through the generosity of the Dominion Board of the W.M.S., I was privileged to attend the Student Volunteer Convention at Detroit. It was an outstanding experience about which I would

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like to tell you much. I hope many of you have had a chance to hear some delegate give a report.

BOOKS.

Among books suggested by the Detroit Convention are the following:-

The Official Report of the Detroit Convention - \$2.00 - This can be ordered from the Student Volunteer Movement, 303 Wesley Bldgs., Toronto.

Christian Voices Around the World - In preparation for the convention, nine "nationals" of each of the following countries, India, China, Japan, Africa, the Near East and Latin America, were asked to write of the life and problems of their own country, and of the missionary enterprise of the Christian Church as they saw it. The result is a remarkable series of books which everyone should read:-

Voices from the Near East.
China Her own Interpreter.
Japan speaks for Herself.
An Indian approach to India.
Thinking with Africa.
As Protestant America sees it.

The set can be purchased for \$4.00, individual copies, \$1.00. If you have time for only a limited number of books, read these or Stanley Jones' new book, "Christ at the Round Table" instead, for example, of "Mother India."

As a book for daily devotional reading you will find Oldham's "Devotional Diary" excellent. Price 60c.

REPORTS.

Our Committee would appreciate it very much if you would send us a copy of your annual report or excerpts from it.

APPOINTMENTS 1928-1929.

While official negotiations regarding your appointment for next year should be carried on with the Church or Board under which you are working, I would appreciate it very much if you would let me know your plans at the earliest possible date. We are eager to be of service to those who wish our help in securing new positions, and we can only assist the few who need us, of all the deaconesses keep us in touch with their plans for the future. We shall be careful to regard information as confidential if you so desire it. There is no reason why there should not be suitable appointments for everyone, if all will cooperate with our committee in this way.

The next letter will go out just as soon as our report to General Council is in shape. Meantime, on behalf of the Committee, I wish to send you our greetings and good wishes.

Yours most sincerely,

WINNIE FRED THOMAS,
Secretary.

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AUTUMN NEWS LETTER 1928

TO

THE DEACONESSES OF THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA

The last few months have been most significant ones in the life of the Christian Church throughout the world and of The United Church of Canada. The meeting of the International Missionary Council held in Jerusalem last Spring may be regarded, many believe, as one of the most important gatherings in the history of the Christian Church. Some refer to it as "the most significant event since Pentecost." The Third General Council of the United Church was very interesting. Even more than the Inaugural Council, it inspired gratitude for what has been achieved and a desire to give to our own Church our most devoted loyalty and service. Should we not seek to carry on our work this year in the light of and under the inspiration of these two great gatherings?

THE JERUSALEM MEETING OF THE INTERNATIONAL MISSIONARY COUNCIL

The influence of this meeting of the International Missionary Council should in the years to come reach every Christian the world over. Whatever else we may have to neglect this year, we must not fail to read and re-read the Jerusalem reports. Fortunately this is not a difficult task, for in three small and inexpensive books is found all that the average person needs to know about Jerusalem. These are: "Roads to the City of God" by Basil Mathews (35¢), "The World Message of Christianity" (25¢) which contains the "Message" and the recommendations of the Council, and "The Proceedings of the Council" (25¢) which gives a list of those who were present, as well as a record of the daily proceedings. Nor is it enough that we should read these books; we must so absorb the thought and spirit of "Jerusalem", that they affect our point of view and our habitual attitudes and thus influence our lives.

THE THIRD GENERAL COUNCIL OF THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA

Those of us who attended the General Council were indeed fortunate and we all rejoice that so large a number of the deaconesses could be present at many of the sessions. As the reports given in the "New Outlook" and other Church publications were so full, I shall touch on only one or two matters of particular interest to the deaconesses.

(1) The Spiritual Life of the Church

The passing of the resolution presented by the Boards of Evangelism and Social Service and of Religious Education regarding the deepening of the spiritual life of the Church was one of the most important actions of the Council. It is one which touches very intimately the work the deaconesses are doing. Most of you are probably now receiving the literature being sent out by a joint committee of these Boards, containing suggestions regarding the steps that may be taken in carrying forward this movement and drawing attention to helpful books on Bible Study and Prayer. If not, a request for this material sent to either of the Boards will be welcomed, as they are eager to unite all the leaders of the Church in a common effort to realize the ends set forth in this resolution.

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(2) The Ordination of Women

The following resolutions were presented by the sessional committee on the ordination of women and unanimously endorsed by the Council:

- "1. That the General Council take no action in the matter of the ordination of women to the ministry; but puts itself on record as holding that there is no bar in religion or reason to such ordination.
2. That the General Council do not create a diaconate ordained to the Word and one Sacrament.
3. That the General Council remit to the Committee on Law the question of the ordination of women to the eldership.
 - (a) To determine whether by a declaration of Council the word "men" in 2B, 9A of the Basis of Union may not legally be held to include women, or
 - (b) To devise a means whereby, under the Barrier Act, the necessary change may be secured.

Your Committee cannot conclude without expressing the hope that every encouragement will be given to the existing order of Deaconesses to develop their educational training, and their special aptitudes for the wonderfully valuable work which they do. They hope that Deaconesses employed by congregations will be members of Official Boards and of Sessions, when that is legally possible, in order that they may be eligible for the higher courts of the Church, and that thus wisely and with regard to the harmony and well being of the whole Church, they may enter into that larger sphere to which their gifts of insight and service entitle them."

In the preamble it is stated that "a large section of the Church, probably indeed a majority, regard the ordination of women as an ideal toward which the Church should move". There seemed a very general agreement throughout the Church that women should have a place on the session. Coming through the report of this Committee, the paragraph regarding the Deaconess Order should have considerable weight and should bring encouragement to the members of the Order.

(3) The Report of the Committee on Employed Women Workers in the Church

The report of the Committee on Employed Women Workers in the Church was passed in the form in which it was presented, though unfortunately it was given at a time when a serious discussion of its contents was quite impossible.

I am sending a copy of the report to those who were not present at the Deaconess Conference, and shall hope that every deaconess will make herself thoroughly familiar with its contents.

In view of the action taken by the General Council in relation to the diaconate, Section I, pages 162-163, will be deleted. The Council appointed Rev. H. J. Fritchard of Toronto as Chairman of the Inter-Board Committee on Women Workers (see page 165), and I was appointed Executive Secretary. The Council also named the four members at large referred to in (1) (d), and the Boards are appointing their representatives. The voting slips for the election of the two representatives from the Deaconess Order are being sent out by the Deaconess Association. It has not yet been possible to call a meeting of the Committee, but we are confident that it will accomplish a great deal for all the women at work under the United Church and for the members of the Deaconess Order.

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In the official list of deaconesses given on pages 170-172, the name of Miss Druscilla Russenholt was omitted by mistake, but this has been corrected in the Minutes of the Council. (Please use for reference the other list of deaconesses which I am enclosing, as it is a more recent one.)

THE DEACONESS CONFERENCE

The report of the Deaconess Conference is being sent out by the Executive of the Deaconess Association. Those of us who were present were very enthusiastic about the Conference and want to express our gratitude to the deaconesses and the other leaders in Winnipeg who made us so welcome and did so much to make the Conference programme interesting and helpful.

COURSES OF STUDY

Some time was given at the Deaconess Conference to a discussion of study courses for deaconesses. It may be valuable to draw attention to some of the points that were emphasized.

Degree and Diploma Courses

Those who have Junior Matriculation or are young enough to secure it should aim to go forward in some definite course either in Arts, Theology, Social Service or Religious Education, even though progress must needs be made - quite slowly. Several Canadian Universities offer extra-mural and summer courses in Arts subjects. Women are welcomed to classes in the Theological Colleges of the United Church. The University of Toronto and McGill University offer two-year courses in Social Service. In several American Universities, such as Columbia and Boston Universities, there is afforded an opportunity for a student to take an Arts Course, majoring in Religious Education. These American Universities are generous in allowing credits for courses taken at the United Church Training School, and Theological Colleges, or the Department of Social Service as well as for Arts subjects. The difficulties in the way of doing serious study while in active work are great, but it is worth while making the effort and it helps greatly if one has some definite goal in view.

Leadership Training Courses in Religious Education

The courses offered by the Religious Education Council are within the reach of all; indeed there is no reason why any deaconess should be without a knowledge of the principles and methods now recognized in the field of Religious Education. One of the first questions now asked of a deaconess when appointments are being considered is "Has she a grasp of modern methods in Religious Education?" The Standard Leadership Course is excellent and may be taken entirely by correspondence if necessary. With her background of study and experience, a deaconess would not find any of the "units" of this course difficult but they contain much that will be new and stimulating. Several "units" could be completed in a year. Even those who have the Standard diploma will find within this course new specialization courses that will be of interest, including the Instructors' Course, and there is now an Advance Course designed for those who have completed such study in Religious Education as is now given at the United Church Training School. I am enclosing an outline of the Standard Course and the Board of Religious Education will send on request information regarding the Advanced Course.

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General Reading

I am enclosing the announcement regarding the Ryerson Reading Service which may be of interest to the deaconesses. Dr. Solandt, who is in charge of this service, is anxious to help Church Workers in selecting reading along all lines. There are so many books published in these days that it is difficult to make a choice, and when one's time is limited none of it should be wasted on the second-best books. Almost anyone in touch with new books could, for example, easily name ten books in the same fields far better than two that have been widely read recently, "Mother India" and "The Man Nobody Knows".

Dr. Solandt is also ready to advise the deaconesses in regard to "the ministry of literature in the homes"; indeed he covets their co-operation in his efforts along this line. He is ready to suggest books for parents to read to children as well as books for children and young people.

In addition to the Jerusalem reports I should like to draw your attention to two or three important books,- "Jesus Christ and the Human Conflict" by Dr. John Dow of Emmanuel College, "Our Common Faith" by Dr. Kilpatrick, "The Intelligent Woman's Guide to Socialism and Communism" by Bernard Shaw, and the biographies by Ludwig & Mauvois.

PERSONALS

The list of deaconesses with addresses will be found on separate sheets. These are as correct as is possible. I shall not draw attention to the changes that have occurred in regard to positions, as these will be revealed by a reading of the list.

We welcome to the Order the five deaconesses who were designated at the time of the meeting of the Annual Conferences in May and June:- Miss Winnabel Harper, Miss Joyce James, Miss Emily Martin, Miss Emily Hayter and Miss Louise Mollenhauer.

We wish to extend most sincere sympathy to Miss Leah Bratt and Miss Margaret MacKinnon, each of whom lost her mother during the last few months, and to Miss Bessie Irwin, whose father died in August.

At the August Convocation of Boston University Miss Mary Young received her Bachelor's Degree in Religious Education (B.R.E.). Miss Elsie R. Smith also spent last year at The School of Religion of Boston University.

Miss Louise Pirch, B.A. is now attending the Department of Social Service of Toronto University and Miss Agnes Staples and Miss Martha May Sleeth, as well as several deaconesses on furlough under the Woman's Missionary Society, are in Toronto, taking classes in subjects related to their work in the Church.

Miss Druscilla Russenholt received the gold medal when she graduated last Spring from the Regina General Hospital and was also selected to deliver the Valedictory Address.

Two deaconesses were married this Autumn. Miss Ada Garbutt is now Mrs. Arthur Lee of Victoria, B.C. and Miss Nelle Barker married Mr. R. W. Parker of Caledonia, Ontario.

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We all sympathize deeply with Miss Bentley of Trinidad in the fact that the Iere Vocational School of Princes Town, of which she was Principal, was burned recently. The fire involves a serious loss to the Mission and to Miss Bentley personally.

When returning to Toronto for her Summer holidays, Miss Joyce James was compelled to stop at Winnipeg and undergo a critical operation. We are glad that she is now much better, and wish to express gratitude to those in Moose Jaw and in Winnipeg who were so kind to her during her illness.

Miss Agnes Allan attended the meeting of the World's Sunday School Convention in Los Angeles, Cal., and found the sessions most interesting.

Miss Margaret Halliday resigned her position at College Street United Church and is now studying in Portugal in preparation for missionary work in Africa, where she will probably be supervisor of Village Schools. The Deaconess Order will soon have representatives in Korea, India, Honan, Trinidad and Africa.

We regret that Miss Ranton and Miss Richardson have been compelled, because of ill health, to be placed on the list of "retired" deaconesses. We join with them in hoping that this relationship will be only a temporary one and that they will soon again be ready for active service.

Miss Bickell was good enough to pass on this information, which may help some of the deaconesses, until a more satisfactory plan is worked out regarding the securing of half-fare on the railways. The C.P.R. regulation No. 3022 states that half-fare can be claimed by "deaconesses wearing distinctive costume or identifying badge."

THE YEAR'S WORK

May we all seek to do our work this year faithfully and well, resisting the demand to undertake more than we can do without the sacrifice of thoroughness or of that time for quiet study and prayer which is so necessary if we are to be of any real help in establishing God's Kingdom in the hearts of men and women. Since she is constantly in touch with people, Hoyland's words in one of his prayers in "The Fourfold Sacrament" are true of the life of a deaconess; it is "full of unimaginable opportunities, instinct every moment with decisions and duties fraught with the eternal issue of the Kingdom, where today's faithfulness or sloth means life or death in an infinite series of to-morrows."

WINNIFRIED THOMAS,

Secretary.