

You very likely know of the drastic cut the Board was again forced to make in its appropriations for 1927. In all our North China Mission was given only thirty thousand dollars. The executive board of the mission met and apportioned this out to the various stations as best they could. It was a heart-breaking job. These men knew too well the needs of the different fields, and to have sent to each station such small amounts was hard indeed. It was also hard on the Board and they have written us about that meeting. We, on the fields, do not blame them. We are just as anxious as they are to have that debt cleared off. But somebody, somewhere, has fallen down on his or her job. When a man goes down in a well, to clean it out, it is somebody's duty to hold the ropes. We, your missionaries, are down in the well, as it were, and if our friends back home do not hold the ropes it means disaster to us and to the work for which we are giving our lives.

When we ask, Why this let-up in giving to missions? we are told that nearly all the churches back home have put on large building programs. Each one, it seems, is trying to outdo the other. It would be interesting to know just how the dear Lord feels about those fine churches when he sees souls lost in darkness and no money to send a preacher to them.

Here in this northern part of Manchuria there are large cities where the Word of God has never been preached. We have longed and prayed to be able to open up work in two or three of these places where the opportunity seems especially good, but again we cannot.

Manchuria is a new and progressive country, and if we can start the work and build up a few strong Christians, it will be but a short time until they can carry on the work themselves. Harbin, for instance, is one of our newest places, yet we have a church here that is, aside from the rent on the chapel, self-supporting. Not only that, but this year the Harbin church has opened up a chapel in a suburb of the city, and paid the rent on the chapel as well as the light and heating of the chapel.

We, as missionaries, are at the junction of the road. Either we must go forward or turn back. We are at your mercy. What will you do with us and the work we hold dear? We can go home and work there, and to many it would be a relief to do so, but what about the people here in Manchuria who have never heard the gospel?

Clipped from February "Home and Foreign Fields."

THE MINISTRY OF HOME MISSIONS.

Mrs. Emily Black, Tampa, Florida.

Through Home Missions we reach the Jews, Italians, Spaniards, Cubans, Chinese, Indians, Negroes and Americans with the gospel. We civilize, evangelize, Christianize, educate and train for the Master's service. In our Mission School under the Home Board, in Tampa, Fla., we have enrolled Cubans, Spaniards, Chinese and Americans.

The foreigner may go back to his own country. If he goes, will he go as a Christian or not?

This depends largely on the home missionaries and the Southern Baptists who support them.

In our schools we teach the Bible and win souls for Christ. We furnish the pupils with the best religious literature. After they leave school some of them come back and bring their friends to visit us, and read the books and papers in the library. Our school rooms are also play rooms. We have no playground, but we give them wholesome entertainments and good music.

The Senior B. Y. P. U. supplies the church with a clerk, a Sunday school superintendent, a secretary, and two teachers. This is a challenge to the young people in the Baptist-American churches. Now, young people, when you study about Missions, remember Home Missions, and give us your support and prayers. Our opportunities are great, for "America has become a foreign mission field." *Vamos adelante!* (let's go forward) in the Lord's work in this new year.

(Clipped from March Home and Foreign Fields.)

FAMOUS APRIL BIRTHDAYS.

April ranks second as the birth month of members of the Hall of Fame for Great Americans. (C. E., pages 15, 32.) Eight famous Americans were born in April. February, the shortest month in the year, ranks first, with 12 members, including George Washington and Abraham Lincoln. The eight members who were born in April, are: Washington Irving, April 3, 1783; William Ellery Channing, April 7, 1780; Henry Clay, April 12, 1777; Thomas Jefferson, April 13, 1743; John Lothrop Motley, April 15, 1814; John James Audubon, April 26, 1785; Samuel F. B. Morse, April 27, 1791; Ulysses S. Grant, April 27, 1822.

Five members of the Hall of Fame were born in May, as follows: Horace Mann, May 4, 1796; James Buchanan Eads, May 23, 1820; Ralph Waldo Emerson, May 25, 1803; Louis Agassiz, May 28, 1807; Patrick Henry, May 29, 1736.

Only two members of the Hall of Fame were born in June. They are: Harriet Beecher Stowe, June 14, 1811; Henry Ward Beecher, June 24, 1813.

THINGS THAT ENDURE.

Honor and truth and manhood—

These are the things that stand,
Through the sneer and gibe of the cynic tribe
Are loud through the width of the land.
The scoffer may lord it an hour on earth,
And a lie may live for a day,
But truth and honor and manly worth
Are things that endure always.

Courage and toil and service,

Old, yet forever new—
These are the rocks that abide the shock
And hold through the storm, flint true.
Fad and folly, the whims of an hour,
May bicker and rant and shrill;
But the living granite of truth will tower
Long after their rage is still.