

Corinthians to which you have just listened. We know the ring of those words as they stand, but how much richer would they be if we had as in the Revised Version "Love" instead of "Charity," so bringing it into touch with those two commands which are the fulfilling of the Law. Some may imagine that such activity is only within reach of the wealthy; but it is not so. It is not what is given which counts but the spirit in which it is given—the love which prompted it. "Though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor," St. Paul says, "and have not love, it profiteth me nothing." And it was just that love which was so marked a feature in Mrs Lowry's life. It was not that she had had no sorrows of her own. My own first recollections of her are of a tragic sorrow which entered into her own life. Her sister, Mrs Wilson, had seen her husband and her children, all but one, massacred by Te Kooti's men, and had herself been bayoneted and left for dead; she survived however to be brought to Napier, where Mrs Lowry was then living, as the country was unsafe. And for an anxious week she nursed her sorely wounded sister, praying that it might be God's will to restore her to health. Whenever I saw her in after years I could not help feeling that this deep sorrow gave a richness and depth to her love and kindness which it otherwise would have lacked: and made her more able to enter fully into the sorrows of others. It is her memory we are recalling. We may thank God for the faith and love shown in the life of Maria Townsend Lowry. The message I would give to all is: "Go and do thou likewise."

The service concluded with the singing of that beautiful hymn, "Therefore give us Love," which followed so appropriately on the closing words of the Bishop's sermon.

### "CREATIVE CONFLICT" IN MISSION WORK

Just recently we of Poverty Bay have been favoured by a visit from the veteran missionary, Dr. C. E. Fox, of Melanesia, and besides stirring up interest in the missionary work of the church he has given us much food for thought, and that too not easily digested.

I wonder if any of us, who have not actually worked in the Mission Field have ever really grasped how deep and how wide is the disintegration in the lives of the natives consequent on the arrival of the white man be he Government officer, trader or missionary. Though the influence exerted may be unintentional it is never the less epoch-making. The native mind is affected in every way, socially, artistically and religiously. The old props of his life are not so sound and so sure as he had imagined they were, and it is not too sweeping a statement to make that everything in his life is touched to the foundations and he begins consciously or otherwise to reconstruct his life.

Some there are who maintain that the influx of the white man has robbed the native of the zest for life and, in consequence, he has become decadent and without hope or a desire to make good again.

Now what are we as white people and especially as Christians to say to this! Well, first of all, we are optimists and not pessimists, though we must realise the magnitude of the task and the fact that we are our brothers' keepers.

We are optimists because we are followers of and believe in Him, who is the Way, the Truth and the Life; therefore no room for pessimism here. Also we are followers of Him who said "I am the Resurrection and Life," not only of individuals but of peoples and

racess also. Those of us who have read that great book by Studdert Kennedy entitled "The Warrior, the Woman and the Christ" will remember that the call of the book is to "creative conflict," and that is the call of the mission field to-day to each one of us Christians. Conflict is inevitable, but it must be a creative one, or it is not really Christian at heart. And missionary work is above all things constructive and not destructive, to build up and not only pull down, to impregnate all that is good, beautiful and of good report with the life of the Son of God, for He has not left Himself without witness even amongst the most benighted peoples.

Now Christianity supplies the constructive dynamic and recreates the zest for life in the hearts of those whose lives feel adrift.

Christianity breaks down the barriers of distrust and suspicion; the missionary has no axe to grind and no personal profit in view, only the good of his brother man and it is not long before the native realises this.

Note how this has been exemplified in S. Africa in the fine stand the Christian Church has taken in regard to the Colour Bar Bill, and the same is no less true nearer home in Melanesia in the New Hebrides Islands and Solomon Islands; though with gratitude we acknowledge the improvement in the latter sphere.

But you might say what has this to do with missions and our bounden duty and obligation to support them by prayer, interest and offerings! Why, it has everything to do with it because the religion of Jesus Christ alone can "deliver the goods" and "build afresh the broken life of the native and supply him with the zest for life. Whichever way we regard the question of missions to the heathen—from an humane, empire point of view, or from the religious point of view, we feel that the Christian religion alone has that within itself which entirely satisfies and enriches all life, body, mind and spirit.

No longer in a patronising way do we subscribe to missions but because we feel the necessity and the responsibility to rebuild well and securely and to give to others that which we so richly enjoy.

R. HODGSON.

### STATEMENT OF MISSIONARY CONTRIBUTIONS.

Month.		Amount required at end of each month.			Amount raised at end of each month.			Deficit at end of each month.		
		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
July	1929	225	0	0						
Aug.	1929	450	0	0						
Sep.	1929	675	0	0	283	17	5	391	2	7
Oct.	1929	900	0	0	393	13	8	506	6	4
Nov.	1929	1125	0	0	549	19	7	575	0	5
Dec.	1929	1350	0	0	786	3	8	563	16	4
Jan.	1930	1575	0	0	947	10	10	627	9	2
Feb.	1930	1800	0	0	1173	7	10	626	12	2
March	1930	2025	0	0	1735	4	11	289	15	1
April	1930	2250	0	0	1907	14	6	242	5	6
May	1930	2475	0	0						
June	1930	2790	0	0						

NOTE.—DEFICIT AT END OF APRIL, £242 5s 6d.

At a dedication service in North China, the Chinese preacher emphasized the point that the Church was a witness that Christians should offer not only their substance, but their lives for the glory of God.