

CITY IS A MENACE TO WHOLE CIVILIZATION

BAPTIST HOME MISSION BOARD FINDS THE FOREIGNER THE GREAT PROBLEM.

"The city is a peril to the nation. It has replaced the simple life with the intense struggle for existence. For the home it has destroyed, it has substituted the unspeakable squalor and the yardless tenement. Vice and crime, greed and graft, pauperism and disease flourish luxuriantly in the city. In short, the extraordinary development of the material element in life, without the corresponding knowledge of the moral and spiritual, has made the city a menace to our whole civilization."

This striking indictment of the city appears in the annual report of the Baptist Home Mission Board, which was issued yesterday.

Yet, says the report further, the city is the hope of the future. Many forces, social and charitable, are being employed for the redemption of the city. The question of the foreigner is carried as the greatest problem. How shall we nationalize the immigrants who are pouring into our country at the rate of one thousand a day, for during 1912 over 350,000 immigrants came within our borders?

The most serious case in Canada, it was said, is Fort William, where, out of a population of 25,000, six thousand are foreigners, that is, about 25 per cent. In Toronto the foreign element is 12 per cent.; in Montreal 14 per cent., and in no city in Canada is the condition yet beyond the powers of the native population to assimilate the foreign mass.

The difficulties of home missions are characterized as the ignorance, viciousness and superstition of the foreigner. "The strongholds of the aliens," it was said, "must be destroyed or the foreigners will destroy our national institution. They will be truly Christianized only when they are genuinely Christianized. The two Provinces must be evangelized from Quebec city to Kenora by evangelists, sane and safe, able and consecrated."

New missions have been opened up in Montréal, Hamilton, Algoma, Walkerville, and North Cobalt. The number of baptisms for the year is 476, as compared with 552 for last year. The total number of additions on the home mission roll is 1,147; \$26,324.55 was contributed to the home mission fund, a considerable increase over last year.