

this Synod will gladly co-operate with other religious bodies in this province in preparing a scheme of religious instruction for our public schools." It was referred to the committee appointed to draft a resolution in the Manitoba School Question. The re-arrangement of stations in the townships of Luther and Proton then occupied the attention of the Synod. After a lengthy discussion it was decided to transfer St. Andrew's church, Proton, from Orangeville to Saugeen Presbytery. In the afternoon seditur the Synod took up the discussion of the appeal from the decision of Toronto Presbytery to allow the dissenting members of Parkdale church to worship at Cowan avenue. Technical flaws in the appeal prevented any real progress during the afternoon. Rev. Dr. Milligan, Rev. D. J. Macdonnell, Rev. J. A. Grant, Rev. J. Young, and one or two other members of Toronto Presbytery wished to be entered as co-applicants with Mr. Hossack and the members of the Dunn avenue congregation. They would thus have a chance to speak, which they would not otherwise have as members of Toronto Presbytery. Dr. Caven pointed out that they were complainants and not appellants, and the only way in which the matter could be put right was by Toronto Presbytery withdrawing and passing the necessary resolutions. They accordingly withdrew and spent most of the afternoon in getting the papers in correct legal form. In the meantime the Synod devoted its attention to other business. An overture was introduced by the Presbytery and on motion transferred to the General Assembly, to the effect that ministers who have passed the age of 70, and who are drawing from the Aged and Infirm Ministers' Fund be permitted to continue in the active work of the ministry so far as their strength will allow them.

Rev. J. McP. Scott presented the report of the Synod conference, and recommended in behalf of the committee that the conference be continued. Standing committees were struck for the coming year. Sabbath Schools, Convener, Rev. H. Farquharson; Sabbath observance, Rev. D. James; Augmentation, Rev. J. Somerville; Systematic Benevolence, Rev. R. D. Fraser. In the evening seditur the appeal of the Parkdale church members was taken up in earnest. Rev. D. C. Hossack opened the debate in an able address lasting about half an hour. He argued strongly that there is not room in Parkdale for three self-sustaining congregations, and that the proper course to pursue is for the petitioners to amalgamate with Fern avenue congregation. Mr. John Winchester followed in the same line, strongly urging that whether a new congregation was formed or not it should not be south of Queen street.

Rev. Dr. Milligan then spoke as one of the complainants of Toronto Presbytery. He delivered a spirited address, dwelling on the folly of the unnecessary multiplication of churches. It was unfortunate that churches should be so burdened with debt that the energies of the members were abstracted from higher things. They should think carefully before establishing new churches in a city so well supplied as Toronto. This closed the discussion for the evening, and the Synod adjourned.

THURSDAY.—Rev. D. J. Macdonnell was the first speaker on the appeal case at the morning seditur. With his vigilant eye fixed on the Augmentation Fund he argued vigorously against the establishment of a new congregation in Parkdale. He contended that no good reason had been advanced why the petitioners should not amalgamate with Fern avenue. Mr. John Douglas then spoke on behalf of the petitioners. He set out with the declaration that the question of amalgamation was not before the court. The question was one simply of situation.

The Masonic Hall in Queen street was entirely unsuitable, and the Cowan avenue church afforded every convenience for their purpose. They were not in a position to build, and all that they asked was that they should be permitted to remain in their present place of worship temporarily.

Mr. A. Hendry followed in the same side, and in a fine spirit of goodwill to all concerned, he argued very effectively that the prayer of the petitioners should be granted.

Rev. Dr. MacLaren then spoke on behalf

of the Presbytery, remarking that he had thought that the question of amalgamation would not come up, as the Toronto Presbytery had decided that it was impracticable. He outlined the history of Fern avenue church. He thought that fair progress has been made, and that in a short time the congregation would be self-supporting. The morning session closed at this point and Dr. MacLaren closed his address at the afternoon seditur. He did not see anything objectionable in the formation of three churches, and the Cowan avenue worshippers had shown they were well able to take care of themselves. He did not think that the proximity of the smaller church would be an injury to the Dunn avenue church. The injury, if there were any, was much more likely to be the other way.

Rev. J. A. Turnbull made an able address on the same side, and Rev. D. C. Hossack then reviewed the arguments and brought the protracted debate to a close.

After several questions had been asked the parties were removed from the bar and the Synod proceeded to a consideration of their case. After discussion several motions were proposed. Three of these gained seconders and were formally put before the Synod.

(1) A motion by Rev. J. C. Smith, of Guelph, seconded by Rev. S. Houston, to the effect that before the Presbytery recognize the new congregation they be required to secure a permanent site for their new church.

(2) By Mr. McKellar, of Woodland, seconded by Rev. J. McLeod, of Priceville, that the matter be referred back for further consideration to Toronto Presbytery.

(3) By Rev. R. D. Fraser, of Bowmanville, seconded by Dr. Jac. "n, that the appeal be dismissed.

This motion was carried by a motion of thirty-two to eighteen.

Mr. Hossack gave notice of an appeal to Assembly, while the complainants of Toronto Presbytery acquiesced in the decision.

At the evening seditur the Manitoba School Question came up for discussion. In the absence of Dr. Torrance the report of committee to draft a resolution was read by Rev. Dr. Middlemiss. The resolution was lengthy. It deplored interference with the Provincial Government by the Dominion authorities when the rights of the minority are thought to be injuriously affected by local legislation, and expressed the strong conviction that Manitoba should be left alone under her own immediate legislators.

The resolution was taken up *seriatim* and some of the clauses gave rise to difference of opinion.

Rev. Dr. Milligan, seconded by Rev. D. C. Hossack, brought in a minority report as follows:

"Whereas the Manitoba School Question is now under the consideration of the authorities appointed to deal with it; whereas the question lies within the sphere of our duty as citizens, rather than as members of Synod, and whereas there are questions of constitutional law involved in its solution rendering it difficult for the Synod to pronounce a competent judgment upon it, especially at its present stage, resolved, that no expression of opinion be given by the Synod regarding the difficulties in educational matters at present existing between the Manitoba and Dominion Governments.

The resolution of sympathy was finally carried by a small majority.

In regard to the communication from the Anglican Synod of Niagara, a committee was appointed, with Dr. Middlemiss convener, to consider the question and report next year.

Several reports were then read. That on Temperance was read by Rev. Wm. Frizzell, and recommended that the subject be given a place on the programme of the Synod conference next year.

Report on Sabbath Schools was read by Rev. Mr. Rae, of Acton, and the State of Religion report by Rev. John Hay, of Cobourg.

Rev. Wm. Burns spoke briefly on the Aged and Infirm Ministers' Fund, urging increased liberality. Rev. Dr. Robertson then gave one of his stirring addresses on mission work in the North-West.

Rev. Dr. MacLaren moved a resolution of sympathy with our work in the North-West. The motion was seconded by Dr. Milligan, and carried unanimously.

After the usual votes of thanks the Synod was brought to a close.

### Knox College Professorship.

THE Saugeen Presbytery has nominated Rev. D. M. Ramsay, M.A., B.D., of Mount Forest, for the vacant professorship.

The Presbytery of Orangeville has nominated Rev. W. Farquharson, B.A., of Claude, as successor to the late Rev. R. Y. Thomson, in the chair of Apologetics and Old Testament Theology in Knox College.

At a meeting of the Presbytery of Whitby, held last week at Orangeville by leave of the Synod, on motion by Mr. Eastman, seconded by Mr. Abraham, Rev. Dr. Stalker, Glasgow, was nominated for the chair in Knox College, rendered vacant by the death of Prof. Thomson. The Presbyteries of Stratford and of London have also nominated Rev. Dr. Stalker.

The Presbytery of Barrie at its meeting a few days ago unanimously agreed to recommend the Knox College Board for financial reasons and in the interests of theological education to divide the chair of the late Prof. Thompson adding Biblical Theology to Old Testament Literature and making in the meantime two lectureships. (1) Old Testament Literature and Biblical Theology and (2) Apologetics, the salary connected with each lectureship to be \$1,500 per annum. The Presbytery also nominated for the first chair the Rev. D. M. Ramsay, M.A., B.D., and for the second the Rev. J. McI. Duncan, B.A.

### Presbytery of Stratford.

THE Presbytery of Stratford met in Knox church, Stratford, Rev. E. W. Panton, moderator, presided. Rev. A. F. Tully, pastor of Knox church, Mitchell, for the past fourteen years, tendered his resignation of that charge, which was duly accepted. Messrs. Gourlay, Murray, Stewart and Machan, representatives from the congregation, spoke in warm terms of the eminent services Mr. Tully had given in all departments of his work and though regretting deeply his action could not, under the circumstances, oppose his resignation. A resolution was passed by the Presbytery expressing the high esteem and confidence in which Mr. Tully has been held as member and clerk of the Presbytery and expressing sorrow in being compelled to sever the fraternal connections with him. Rev. M. L. Leitch, of Stratford, was appointed moderator of session during the vacancy and to declare the pulpit vacant on the first Sabbath of June. Rev. A. F. Tully also tendered his resignation of the clerkship of the Presbytery and his commissionership to the General Assembly. Rev. T. A. Cosgrave, St. Marys, was appointed clerk *pro tem* and Rev. M. L. Leitch, Stratford, commissioner. The auditors certified that the treasurer's books were carefully and correctly kept. The death of Mr. James Wylie, elder of Avonton congregation, and also of Mr. James Brooks, elder of Granton congregation, were announced and the Presbytery passed resolutions expressing sympathy with the afflicted families and with the congregations.

The report on Temperance as given by the Rev. Mr. Ferguson was received and adopted. The Rev. Dr. Stalker, of Glasgow, Scotland, was nominated for the position of professor of Knox College as successor to Prof. Thomson, deceased. The Rev. Dr. Gregg, of Knox College, was nominated as moderator of General Assembly.

### Presbytery of Prince Edward Island.

THE Presbytery of Prince Edward Island met in the hall of the church, Summerside, and was constituted by the moderator, Rev. A. Stirling. Rev. Messrs. Coffin, Fisher, McKenzie and Moss were invited to sit and correspond. Rev. Malcolm McKenzie intimated his acceptance of the call to Tyne