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Meeting of the Miramichi Presbytery

The quarterly meeting of the Presbytery of Miramichi was held in St. James Hall, Newcastle, on Tuesday. There was a good attendance and an important docket of business was transacted. There were present Rev. T. A. Harrison, Hugh Miller, Dr. D. B. Wyllie, J. J. H. A. Anderson, J. H. McLean, Alex. Firth, L. J. King, B. H. Penwarden, F. W. Thompson, W. M. Matthews, L. H. MacLean, Alex. McKay, G. S. Gardner, G. P. Tattler, A. J. MacNeill, J. F. McCurdy, H. S. Raynor, B. C. Salter, ministers and Messrs. E. A. McCurdy, John A. McNaughton and J. O. Sherer, elders.

The election of officers for the ensuing six months resulted in Dr. E. B. Wyllie being elected Moderator, Rev. W. M. Matthews re-elected treasurer.

The first matter taken up was the report on Home Missions by the convener of the committee, Rev. J. F. McCurdy. Good work had been done by the students in the various mission fields, H. Y. Ch., in Mill Bank, Russellville and Oak Point; Victor Walls in Kichibouguac, T. H. Whelpley in Matapedia and Linden Crocker for a few weeks in Muscou and Shippegan. All of these fields had met the financial requirements and there were no bills unpaid to submit to Presbytery.

A pleasing feature of the proceedings was a fraternal visit from Rev. Dr. Steel, superintendent of Home Missions in the Methodist Church, and Rev. J. B. Champion of the Methodist Church in Newcastle, both of whom were invited to sit as corresponding members of the court. Dr. Steel addressed the Presbytery, outlining what was being done particularly in Nova Scotia in the matter of co-operation between the Presbyterian and Methodist churches to avoid undue overlapping. The committee of Presbytery on co-operation, Revs. Hugh Miller, J. F. McCurdy and W. M. Matthews, has been at work for some time securing information. This committee met on Tuesday with a similar committee representing the Methodist and came to a cordial agreement in a general survey of the whole constituency and possible readjustments of the work. At a later stage the report of these deliberations was submitted to the Presbytery and approved.

On motion of Rev. H. Miller, Rev. Norman A. McLeod, Ph. D. at present taking post-graduate work in Hartford Seminary, U. S. A. was nominated for appointment to Chair of Religious Education in Knox College, Toronto. On motion of Rev. L. H. MacLean, Dr. Robert Johnston was nominated for the Chair in Homiletics in the same institution. The appointment to these chairs will be made by the General Assembly at its meeting in Toronto in June next.

Rev. J. H. A. Anderson convener of the committee on Sabbath Schools and Young People's Societies, brought in the finding of the committee on the better administration of the Sacrament of Infant Baptism, which had been remitted to them at a former meeting. The recommendation with some modification was adopted emphasizing the importance of its administration at public worship and in the presence of the congregation, the need for fuller instruction as to its significance, and overruling the General Assembly to give a deliverance on the whole question and provide suitable literature available for the general instructions of the Church at large.

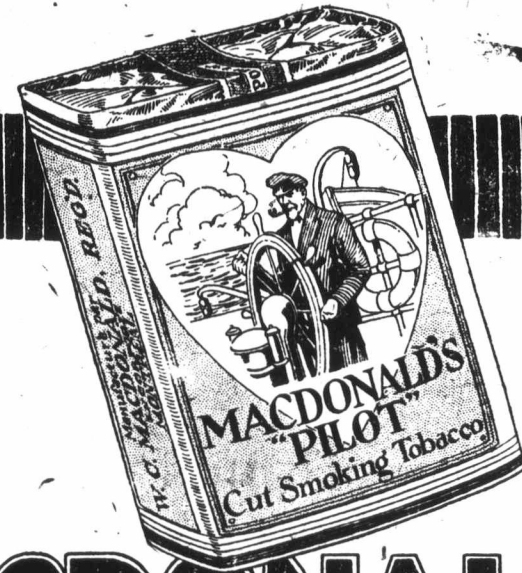
Rev. J. H. McLean submitted the allocations of the mission budget to the several congregations of the bounds for 1921. Part of the financial outlook in the Forward Movement is the steady increase of regular missionary giving, so that the whole budget shall be doubled in five years. The allocation to the Presbytery for 1921 is \$14,000. Rev. Alex. McKay presented a call from the congregation of New Carlisle, P. Q., addressed to Rev. J. S. McCurdy who has been eighteen months under appointment there as ordained missionary. The call was supported by Mr. J. O. Sherer from the congregation, sustained by the Presbytery as a regular Gospel call and placed in the hands of Mr. McCurdy who intimated his acceptance of the same. The induction was set for Dec. 29, the Presbytery to meet in New Carlisle Church at 7.30 p. m. Rev. A. McKay was appointed to preside and induct Rev. Mr. McKay to address the minister and Rev. L. J. King the people.

Rev. B. C. Salter, H. Miller and L. J. King were appointed a committee to consider the remits sent down from the General Assembly and report to the March meeting. Rev. J. H. A. Anderson, L. H. MacLean and T. Harrison were appointed a committee on Presbyterial visitation of congregations in March.

Rev. G. P. Tattler gave notice of motion that at the next regular meeting he would recommend a new schedule of quarterly meetings. The Presbytery adjourned to meet in Newcastle on the first Tuesday in March.

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