

The Moderator presided, assisted by other brethren in reading the Scriptures and prayer. The address of Dr. MacVicar before the supper was a treat of rare richness in Scriptural thought, and that of Dr. Mackay of Formosa, after supper, burned with his wonted intensity.

MONDAY, 17 JUNE.

The appointment this morning, for the first time, of a Standing Committee on Young People's Societies, shows the drift of our Church life. Happy the Church that has its young people interested in religious work, and that seeks faithfully and lovingly to aid and guide them in that work.

Dr. Warden, Convener of the RECORD Committee, presented the Report on the PRESBYTERIAN RECORD and *The Children's Record*. The monthly issue of the former is now 50,000 copies, that of the latter 23,000.

An overture on uniformity of worship was presented by Dr. Laing, proposing that a directory for public worship should be prepared suitable to our times and acceptable to the Church. It was referred to a committee with instructions to submit a draft of such a directory and report to next Assembly.

The Committee on the reception of ministers from other Churches reported in favor of applications in behalf of Messrs. James S. Black and Thomas H. Murray, by Halifax Presbytery; Wm. Peacock by Inverness Pres.; Thomas J. Thompson by Kingston Pres.; Horatius S. Beavis, by Hamilton Pres.; John Hale (with one session at College) by Sarnia Pres.; George Roddick by Brandon Pres.; and John W. Ray by Minnedosa Presbytery.

The time previously fixed for appointing the next place of meeting having arrived, invitations were received from Winnipeg, Sault Ste Marie and Toronto. The latter place was chosen.

In this connection, for the first time in the history of the Assembly, came up the question of doing away with the "billeting system." An overture to that effect was introduced, urging that Presbyteries pay for the entertainment of the commissioners whom they send to Assembly. Some were strongly in favor of the change, but when the question came to vote they were in a minority.

The Report of the Hymnal Committee was presented by Dr. Gregg. The British Churches have been moving along the line of a Common Hymnal for themselves, and our Committee has been in correspondence with them with a view to a Common Hymnal for the Presbyterian Churches of the British Empire. In view of the possibility of accomplishing this end, the publication of our own Hymnal will be delayed until the final report of the Scottish Committee in May, 1896, our Committee in the meantime co-operating with them with a view to a Common Hymnal.

Applications from Presbyteries asking for aged ministers leave to retire, were reported upon, and leave was given to Revs. A. Grant, J. G. McGillivray, and James Murray, (Eastern Section); and W. Anderson, O. C. Johnson, and J. B. Duncan, (Western Section).

AUGMENTATION.

The reports on this important scheme were submitted on Monday evening, by Messrs. Caruthers for the East, and Macdonnell for the West. In the East the income for the year was \$8,233, an increase of over \$400 upon the previous year, but \$95 less than the total expenditure. Fifty-three congregations were aided, and the average grant was \$150.

In the West the receipts were \$25,436 as against \$23,376 the previous year. 142 congregations were aided and the average grant was \$170.

The scheme and its management was warmly commended to the liberality of the Church.

*French Evangelization.*

The Report was presented by Principal MacVicar, Convener. He showed the need of such a scheme for the Province of Quebec. 38 per cent. of the population is unable to read and write, while in Ontario the number is but 10 per cent. 46 per cent. of the teachers could not qualify in any other Province. The cause of this is that the Church, in spite of the numbers of intelligent French Roman Catholics who wish it otherwise, controls the school system. He was followed by Mr. Heine who closed his speech with the statement, which should be heartily and practically endorsed by the Church at large, that "The only remedy for the state of affairs in Quebec was the giving to the 1,400,000 people the pure unadulterated Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ."

Dr. Warden submitted a very satisfactory statement of Coligny College, which is the property of the Church, and under the care of the French Board, and received the Assembly's hearty approval for the same.

TUESDAY, 18 JUNE.

Dr. Dickson of Galt, presented the report upon Remits. "What are these?" asks some young reader. When a proposal comes before a meeting of Assembly to take action or pass a law concerning some Church work; the Assembly, if unable to decide which is best, or if wishing to get the opinion of the Church at large, "sends it down" or "remits" it to Presbyteries, asking them to consider it at some time during the year, and to report their opinion to the next Assembly. These opinions are all gathered up, the results stated, and the next Assembly takes action, sometimes in line with the opinion of the majority of Presbyteries, sometimes not.

The first remit on this occasion was a question that had been "sent down" by last Assembly, as to whether the three Committees, on "the State