

connected with Committees who have no fund of their own, such as the Committee on Distribution of Probationers, Church Life and Work, Statistics, etc. There is also an annual charge on account of the general expenses of the Presbyterian Alliance. As the large bulk of the expenditure (printing of the Minutes, etc.) has to be met in July and August, it is hoped that congregations will remit for this Fund at the earliest possible date.

Needed for the Year's Work, West.

Home Missions, \$82,000.

Augmentation of Stipends, \$28,000.

Foreign Missions, \$65,100.

Woman's Foreign Missionary Society, \$14,460.

French Evangelization (including Pointe-aux-Trembles Schools), \$35,000.

Colleges, viz: Knox, \$12,000; Queen's \$4,000; also deficit of \$9,000), \$13,000; Montreal, \$5,000; Manitoba (exclusive of amount from Synods of Manitoba and British Columbia), \$5,000.

Ministers', Widows' and Orphans' Fund (over and above Ministers' Rates and Interest from Investments), \$10,000.

Aged and Infirm Ministers' Fund (over and above Ministers' Rates and Interest from Investments), \$17,000.

Assembly Fund, \$6,000.

The above statement of schemes, West is intended to guide Presbyteries and congregations in the amount at which they should aim, as well as in the appropriation of their contributions. It is very desirable that Presbyteries should at an early meeting give special attention to this matter, and carefully consider what amount they should assume, and then apportion this amount among the several congregations within their bounds. In Presbyteries where this has been done, and where the supervision of each scheme has been committed to some one member of Presbytery, the results have been generally much more satisfactory than when left to each congregation to give as it pleased.

The congregations in both Eastern and Western Sections of the Church contribute for French Evangelization, Manitoba College, and the Assembly Fund; the amounts named for the other schemes are for the Western Section alone.

Facts to Remember.

An average contribution over the whole Church of \$2 per member would provide the total amount required for the Schemes. Many congregations will, of course, greatly exceed this average. It is hoped that an earnest effort will be made to reach the average in every congregation.

Mission Stations, as well as congregations, are enjoined by the Assembly to contribute to the Schemes of the Church. This will be found helpful to them as well as to the work.

On more than one occasion the Assembly has recommended that Missionary Associations should be organized in every congregation. Where these do not exist the Assembly has appointed collections to be taken up during the current year as follows:—

French Evangelization, 4th Sabbath July.

Mome Missions, 4th Sabbath August.

Colleges, 4th Sabbath September.

Ministers' Widows' and Orphans' Fund, 3rd Sabbath October.

Assembly Fund, 3rd Sabbath November.

Manitoba College, 3rd Sabbath December.

Augmentation Fund, 3rd Sabbath January.

Aged and Infirm Ministers' Fund, 3rd Sabbath February.

Foreign Missions, 2nd Sabbath March.

Quite a number of congregations fail every year to contribute to one or more of the Schemes of the Church. Last Assembly instructed Presbyteries to take this matter into consideration, at their first meeting after the Assembly rose, and endeavor to secure the organization of an efficient Missionary Committee in every congregation and Mission Station within their bounds, so that a contribution may annually be obtained for every Scheme.

Heretofore about two-thirds of the entire contributions for the Schemes of the Church have been received during the last three months of the ecclesiastical year. This renders necessary the borrowing of large sums of money to meet salaries and other disbursements, entailing heavy expenditure for interest. To obviate this, the General Assembly recommends all congregations to forward their contributions quarterly. The books of the Church close promptly on the 31st March, 1899.