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deficit in this fund owing to rapidly increasing demand and that the assembly must have more perfect and complete information regarding the work in western Presbyteries.

He added that the offerings in money were constantly being received in the Toronto offices of the church from new mission stations of which the office had no knowledge. The lists of mission stations sent in by Presbytery clerks was quite incomplete and provision must be made to correct this.

Rev. Dr. Bryce indicated the cause of this difficulty and pointed out the manner in which it was obviated in the Presbytery of Winnipeg. The statistics at present were most incomplete. They showed sixteen hundred preaching points in the four western provinces. He and Dr. MacLaren had gone into the matter with the information available and found that there were actually twenty-one hundred preaching stations in these provinces.

The vote of thanks to the retiring moderator was moved by Dr. Bryce, of Winnipeg, and Dr. Ratcliffe, of St. Catharines. Dr. Lyle stated that he had devoted half of the year to the work of the augmentation committee, visiting small churches, and Governor Fraser suggested that the new moderator might spend the entire year in the same manner.

In view of the accession of King George the assembly sang the National Anthem in the opening service and at the close a special committee was named to prepare a message of sympathy with the Queen Mother.

#### Augmentation Committee.

During the afternoon the report of the augmentation committee was presented. Rev. W. H. Spencer speaking for the maritime provinces, and Rev. Dr. Lyle for the west. The latter stated that the committee was disposed to make the salary of a minister in an augmented charge \$1,000 a year. This was deemed impossible, but an increase was decided on. Most careful statistics had been collected, and it was made clear that the ministers of the church, in spite of the small increase in their salaries, would be worse off next year than they were ten years ago. The statistics show that in ten years the increase in the city of living was 35 per cent., while the increase in salary was 13 per cent. One of the difficulties in the matter of securing support for the augmentation fund consisted in the fact that certain presbyteries had manifested an unwillingness to re-arrange fields and save large sums to the fund. Dr. Lyle declared that a further increase in salaries must be made next year and then every minister in the church would receive \$1,000 a year and a manse. The Presbyterian church was a very rich one and the amount necessary could be provided.

#### Vancouver College.

Principal MacKay reported for the Theological Hall in Vancouver. Citizens of Vancouver recently contributed \$125,000. There were 18 students in the institution preparing for the ministry, nine of whom were in the third year. Distinguished men had been brought from Europe to teach these young men and had, in addition, delivered addresses to Vancouver congregations. Among those who had been in the college in this way were Dr. Denny and Dr. George Adam Smith. An addition to the staff is made this year, Rev. W. R. Taylor, of Toronto, being called to the chair of old testament exegesis. The large sum contributed toward an endowment by Vancouver would not yield any revenue for 12 months and another appeal was made for support for the college for the current year.

Dr. C. W. Gordon thought that very special reference should be made to the most extraordinary contribution of Vancouver, which city in three days

had raised \$100,000 for the college, and which had since given \$25,000 more for the same cause. This was done by the assembly in formal resolutions.

Rev. W. C. Clarke, of Quebec, made a report on Morrin college. The governors of this corporation which has not done any teaching for some years have an income of \$7,000 which is being expended on general executive work. Mr. Clarke expressed the hope that at some time the French work now being done in Montreal might be transferred to Morrin college, which would again become an active teaching college in the very centre of the French population in Quebec.

#### Home Missions.

In the evening before a crowded congregation many addresses were delivered on the home mission question. Those speaking were: for the Maritime provinces, Rev. Robert Johnston, Rev. James Ross, Dr. Thomas Stewart, and Rev. J. A. Greenless, and for the west, including Quebec and Ontario, Rev. Dr. E. D. MacLaren, of Toronto; Rev. W. G. Carmichael, of Winnipeg, superintendent; Rev. H. G. A. Wilson, of Vancouver; Rev. W. D. Reid, of Calgary; superintendent, and Edward Brown of Winnipeg.

Rev. Dr. E. D. MacLaren in a brilliant address presented the annual report of the home mission committee. The statement covered all phases of work in the remote and sparsely settled portions of the country and indicated that owing to rapid expansion a quarter of a million dollars would be required by the committee for the next church year. An appeal was made for this amount. Figures were quoted to show the marvellous nature of the changes which have occurred during the past eight years, especially in the country to the west of the Great Lakes. In 1902 Western Canada had two synods, eighteen Presbyteries and 258 mission fields. In the interval since that time the number of synods has been doubled, the presbyteries have increased from eighteen to twenty-five, and the mission fields from 258 to 503. The financial showing for the year was entirely satisfactory. The receipts were in excess of those of the previous year to the extent of \$51,345 the total for the year being \$208,078.

Reference was made in the opening sentences of the report to the tragic death in the Spanish River railway disaster last January of the Rev. Stephen Childerhouse, superintendent for Northern Ontario. As successor to Mr. Childerhouse the committee nominated the Rev. J. D. Byrnes, of Cobalt.

The mission fields reported last year numbered 635. Since that report was presented 197 new fields have been advanced to the status of augmented charges; three became self-sustaining without requiring to draw upon the augmentation fund at all, and 36 have been rearranged and merged in other fields. The results of the year's operations is a net gain of 39 fields, the total number reported by the different presbyteries being 674.

The geographical distribution of the work is indicated by the following figures: In Ontario and Quebec there are 171 fields; in Manitoba, 101; in Saskatchewan, 201; in Alberta, 124; and in British Columbia, 68.

The immigration last year was nearly 50 per cent. higher than that of the year before, and government officials anticipate that the current year will surpass all previous years in its immigration record. Of the 208,794 immigrants who arrived in Canada during the fiscal year that ended March 31 last, 103,798 came from the United States, 59,700 from Great Britain, and 45,296 from the continental point of view.

From a denominational point of view, there can be no question as to the value of Home mission work. The church's expenditure in the west during the last thirty years will yield, for all time to come, a magnificent return. The value of home missions, however, is to be measured, not by its effect in increasing the strength of any particular denomination, but by the power it wields over the hearts and lives of the people of the country.

(To be Continued.)

#### BROCKVILLE PRESBYTERIAN W.F.M.S.

The 25th anniversary of the Brockville Presbyterian W.F.M.S. was held in the Presbyterian Church, Prescott, May 16th and 17th. Over 100 delegates from all parts of the Presbytery were present, and an unusually large number of friends and visitors. The greatest interest was manifested throughout all the sessions. The reports of the auxiliaries and bands showed steady advancement in all departments of the work. Greetings were received from former officers who have removed to other spheres of labor, also from Mrs. Thorburn, of Ottawa, who organized the society a quarter of a century ago, in the old church (since destroyed by fire). She paid a loving tribute to the memory of the late Mrs. Blair, first president of the Presbytery. Mrs. MacAlister, Russelltown, Que., an ex-president, was present, and gave a most interesting reminiscence of the society since its inception. Mrs. Grierson, a returned missionary, was welcomed, and presented a clear and concise account of her work among the Chinese women. Rev. S. B. Rohold, superintendent of missionary work among the Jews in Jerusalem, and Dr. Leslie, of Homan, addressed the meetings at the Tuesday afternoon and evening sessions.

It was felt to be a great privilege to hear those distinguished missionaries, and their excellent and instructive addresses on the different fields of labor will not soon be forgotten. Rev. N. D. Keith, pastor, occupied the chair at the evening session, and cordially welcomed the delegates and visitors. Rev. Mr. McIntyre, of Ogdensburg, N.Y., conducted the devotional exercises, and Mr. Wilson, of Hailville, most ably presented the greetings of Presbytery. The weather was ideal. A very enjoyable social hour was spent in the dining-room of the church with the members of Presbytery, who met at the same time. The room was beautifully decorated for the occasion, and the tables laden with good things provided by the ladies of the congregation.

This semi-jubilee will long be remembered by those who were privileged to attend.

Contribution sent to gen. treasurer, \$2,650.00, an increase of \$150 over the previous year.

#### SAUGHEEN PRESBYTERIAL.

The Saugeen Presbyterial of the W. F. M. S. met at Harrison. There was an interesting and profitable programme. Mr. Farquharson, Durham, presided. At the morning session Mrs. Cooper, Mt. Forest, and Mrs. T. D. McCullough, Harrison, conducted the opening exercises. Mrs. Glenney, Harrison, Mrs. Hostetter, Holstein, and Mrs. Sinclair, Arthur, presented reports of Supplies, Tidings and Expenses respectively and other routine business was transacted. At the afternoon session the president gave a very thoughtful address and greetings were conveyed by sister societies in Harrison. The secretaries also gave their reports. The treasurer reported total contributions during the year of \$1276. Mrs. Mark, Holstein, offered the dedicatory prayer. An excellent address was given by Miss Campbell on mission work in India. A paper by Miss Wilson, Harrison, on "Why are Christian women so backward in taking part in public prayer?" led to a profitable discussion. Another on "How to promote systematic and proportionate giving" was also discussed. At the evening session the chief feature was an address on the Indian revival by Miss Campbell. Following are the new officers: President, Mrs. Flishele, Mount Forest; Vice Presidents, Mrs. Paulin, Arthur, Mrs. Ireland, Durham, Mrs. Wright, Mt. Forest, Mrs. Eckenswiler, Clifford; Recording Secretary, Miss Stevenson, Holstein; Treasurer, Mrs. A. G. Campbell, Harrison; Secretary of Supplies, Mrs. Glenney, Harrison; Secretary of Tidings, Mrs. Hostetter, Holstein; Mission Band Secretary, Mrs. Kendell, Dromore.