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EDITORIAL JOTTINGS.

THE UNION.

THE thirty-second annual meeting of the Congregational Union of Ontario and Quebec began its sessions in the Congregational Church, Hamilton, on the evening of Wednesday, June 10th. The Hamilton church had evidently determined to do all that willing heart and ready hand could do to render the guests comfortable, and to surround them with pleasant tokens of attention. The church building (recently freshened and repaired) was tastefully decorated, not profusely, but appropriately, and the excellent choir placed their services at the disposal of the gathering. You felt at home the moment the reception committee got you within their embrace.

THE service on Wednesday evening was well attended, the chairman presiding. Mr. Hunter, of London, and Dr. Stevenson taking part in the devotional exercises. The sermon of Mr. Hugh Pedley we shall allow to speak for itself, only saying that it was delivered with great vigour, distinctness, and the earnestness of conviction. It had the ring of a manly Christianity, and kept the attention of the audience for full forty minutes. The sermon over, the Standing Committees were struck, some interpretations of the rule for the ballot for chairman were passed to prevent misapprehension and the meeting adjourned at half-past three.

THURSDAY morning, as that of the previous day, opened bright, fresh, and clear as the hour for prayer and conference drew nigh. A few, a very few, old-fashioned folk were punctual, so few, however, they seemed to doubt their claim to the promise. About twenty minutes after nine the friend appointed to preside—Mr. Gordon-Smith, of Stratford—began the meeting, which was carried on with spirit till the hour arrived for the Union to begin. By

this time the church was filling up, the chairman took the chair, and at his request Mr. W. H. Allworth led in prayer. The roll was then called and the attending delegates marked.

THE chairman's address, being next in order was given, occupying in delivery over an hour and a quarter. The subject was "Congregational Polity and Work." We may be allowed to say that it was listened to with close attention to the close. Then came the election of the chairman according to the new system of ballot. The Union had interpreted its own rule so that none but members present should have the right to vote, and that a majority of all the votes cast was necessary to secure an election. The first ballot resulted in no election. The three highest names on the list were declared, and another fruitless vote was taken. As the hour of adjournment had passed, the standing rule requiring the election on Thursday morning was suspended, and further balloting fixed for Friday morning. Thus ended the morning session.

AT two o'clock the annual meeting of the Canada Congregational Missionary Society was held, the President, Dr. Cornish, in the chair. From the secretary's and from the superintendent's report we learn that the income of the past year was \$6,318, and expenditure \$7,579. This excess of expenditure over income does not represent increased work, but decreased contributions. Ontario and Quebec have fallen behind \$616, the Lower Provinces \$800. In this connection we may note that the General Committee, after serious and protracted deliberation, have resolved to deduct ten per cent. from off the next quarterly payment to the pastors receiving aid from the funds, and a still larger percentage must be deducted from the next payment, unless contributions gather much more rapidly and generously during the immediately following months. The committee confidently expect