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The Nova Scotia Eastern Association.

This body met in 48th annual session, at Boylston, July 10th, 11th and 12th. The Moderator of last year, Rev. F. H. Adams called the first meeting to order on Saturday morning at 9.30. Rev. J. D. Spidell, of Onslow, preached the opening sermon from the text "And thou shalt call his name Jesus," Matt. 1:21. His message was a thoughtful one and well presented. Prayer was offered by Dr. Saunders.

At 10 o'clock the list of delegates was read by the clerk. Visiting members of Baptist churches were invited to seats.

The election of officers resulted in a choice of the following: Moderator, Rev. F. H. Beals, who was happily introduced by Pastor Adams; Clerk, Rev. T. B. Layton; Assistant Clerk, H. H. Roach, Lic.; Treasurer, Dea. J. B. Anderson, Treas. of the Boylston church. Committees on arrangements, to read letters, and on questions in letters were appointed, and the reading of church letters began. During the reading of the letters the Moderator called upon Dr. Trotter and Pastor Kinlay to offer prayer. These letters are sometimes looked upon as unimportant, or as a necessarily dry part of the meeting. But they give report of much effort and are worthy serious and interested attention.

Pastor Bishop at the close of the morning service spoke words of welcome. He and his people had looked forward hopefully to the coming of this gathering. From its meetings a great and lasting blessing was expected. The Moderator thanked pastor and people for greetings extended and expressed the desire that all the meetings of the association prove to be seasons of spiritual refreshing and of benefit both to delegates and the entertaining church and community. Pastor A. J. Vincent offered prayer.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON.

Session opened at 2 p. m. with prayer by Pastor F. Beattie. Then followed a 20 minute sermon by Pastor H. H. Roach of Port Hawkesbury. His remarks were based upon the words of James, "If any man lack wisdom let him ask of God." They were timely, serious, and in harmony with the spirit of the morning meeting, and the later sessions of the Association.

Routine business was resumed at 2.30 with adoption of report of committee of arrangements, reading and approval of minutes and completion of reading of church letters. Examination of these letters reveals the following facts: 56 of the 68 churches furnish reports, 29 churches report a total of 149 baptisms, a reported membership of 5047 has not increased during the past year, 35 churches report contributions to denominational funds and these contributions, \$237.37, are slightly less than those of one year ago. Antigonish with 64 members and contributions of \$115.75 seems to have been the most liberal. New Harbor reports the largest increase in membership, Parrsboro, River Hebert and Macan report large additions. These returns are not all that could be desired. In many respects they are encouraging and point the way to better work and larger results in the year to come.

The clerk was instructed to ask statistics from the pastor of the two churches, which have not reported for three years, and to refer their case to the chairman of the district in which they belong. Pastors Morse, Adams, Beattie and Rev. Geo. Churchill were appointed a committee on resolutions.

The committee on Denominational Literature made report through its chairman, Rev. R. B. Kinlay. Heads of families were urged to see to it that only the best and safest literature find its way to their homes. Pastors and officers of churches were reminded of their duty toward their Sabbath school libraries and all other literature circulated in their churches. Words of endorsement were bestowed upon the MESSENGER AND VISITOR. The Book Room was highly recommended and the wish expressed that sooner or later it would be in a position to undertake colportage work. Tracts, the report suggested, could profitably be distributed by the different home missionaries.

On motion the report was taken up for discussion section by section. Mr. McDonald in speaking of colportage work said that over and above profits on books and papers sold and the collections he might make a colporteur would need \$200 of salary per year. This he thought could be profitably appropriated by each of our Associations. Mr. Chipman, in behalf of the MESSENGER AND VISITOR, asked for a continuance of the loyal support which this paper has enjoyed. Referring to the request, so frequently made, for a dollar paper, he said that it was unfair to compare the cost of the secular with that of the religious papers. He showed that the MESSENGER AND VISITOR is less in cost than other papers of its class, and that to be even a probable success at \$1.00 it would need 15,000 or 20,000 permanent, cash-in-advance subscribers, a larger number than could reasonably be expected in its constituency.

The report was further discussed by Revs. R. Osgood Morse and Dr. Saunders, and on motion adopted.

Late and encouraging statistics from Grande Ligne were presented by Pastor Morse. During the year there have been 125 pupils at this school; fifty could not be accommodated and were refused admission; of 60 unconverted at the beginning of the year 30 have professed Christ and 26 have been baptized. One of the missionaries

of the school has been baptizing in many places, one young converted Romanist has led seven people to accept Christ, a man to whom a Testament was handed four years ago has this year been baptized. Mr. Morse urged that the churches give liberally for this mission and prevent a threatened falling off in our contributions. Rev. H. B. Smith supported the plea just made. Pastors Kinlay, Adams, Vincent, Raymond, Dr. Saunders and Dr. Trotter took part in the discussion. To some the proportion of the Convention Fund given to Grande Ligne did not seem large enough.

Pastor Kinlay reported that a church had been regularly organized at Wine Harbor, a section of the Port Hillford field. For some unknown reason its letter and application for membership had not reached the association. At the request of the Moderator, Mr. Kinlay gave particulars concerning its organization, and on motion it was received and the hand of fellowship extended to its pastor.

Pastor Roach in the sermon of the afternoon had called attention to the fact that in only 15 per cent. of our homes is family worship maintained. In referring to this, Pastor Adams rather questioned the accuracy of the statement. In his opinion the percentage was larger. Pastor Beattie regretted that in all probability the average given was too large. In this connection pastors were urged to impress upon their people the great need for a regular observance of family worship. The meeting closed with prayer by Pastor Smith, of Sydney.

Education was the subject assigned to the meeting of SATURDAY EVENING.

The congregation was large and the addresses of unusual interest. Pastor Beals, of Causo, presented the report of the committee. It was brief and comprehensive. It emphasized facts, which cannot be too often advanced, that the institutions at Wolfville belong to the members of our churches and that of all the agencies for the defence and extension of the truth, owned and controlled by our churches, these institutions are the most important. These facts are being realized. They must be kept before our people until even our youngest church member realizes his ownership in Acadia University and until all contribute. Pastor Robinson, of Antigonish, delivered an excellent and carefully prepared address upon "Acadia as an Evangelizing agency—or a Spiritual Factor in Connection with our Church Work." For church and the world is her motto. In character and out-reaching results she is fulfilling her mission. She has led us wisely and successfully and has been at the heart and head of all our work.

I. Acadia is a spiritual birthplace where scores and hundreds of our best young men have been born again. She has been imbued with a strong religious spirit.

II. It is the place where God has called our young men to the ministry.

III. It is a radiating centre of spiritual influences.

IV. Her spiritual power is not waning, while her intellectual power is rising. Her head and heart are growing together.

Pastor Raymond, of New Glasgow, spoke directly and in an interesting manner of Acadia as the home for the poor young man as well as the rich young man. If he wishes and wills to do so no one is too poor to carry to successful completion a regular course at Wolfville. One graduate began with \$5 as the sum of his capital. Acadia needs quality as well as quantity of young men and women. She needs the best and she has the best to give.

At the close of this address the congregation enjoyed listening to a solo by Mr. McDonald of the Book Room.

Dr. Trotter in his opening remarks spoke of the kind of support our people give to their College. It is different from that given by any other College constituency. His address dealt simply and in a straight-forward way with particulars as to courses offered at Academy, Seminary and College; the teaching forces; the character of the work done—work that compares favorably with the best done by any similar grade schools, and by men and women who strive to make these schools essentially Christian; the buildings; the endowment; the attendance; the debt; the history; the Forward-Movement. President Trotter received a most attentive hearing and stimulated a deeper interest in his work.

In the routine of business which followed the addresses, supplies were assigned to churches in and around Boylston and Guysboro. Report on Education was on motion adopted. Dr. Saunders, chairman of committee on questions in letters made report recommending the Country Harbor church to refer their letter to their district committee.

A memorial to the Association from a minority of the Isaacs Harbor church was on motion and without discussion referred to a committee of three. Dr. Saunders, Dr. Trotter and Rev. G. P. Raymond were appointed to this committee. The question of changing the time of meeting of this Association was on motion referred to the committee on resolutions. Pastor Adams offered prayer.

SABBATH DAY

Services began at 9 o'clock with a largely attended and helpful prayer meeting, led by W. P. King, of Truro. This was followed by a Sabbath School exercise when brief addresses were given by Pastors Beattie, Adams and Dresser and our returned missionaries, Mr. and Mrs. Churchill.

At 10.30 Rev. J. W. Manning preached to a large congregation from the words, "I must work the works of him that sent me while it is day, the night cometh." It was a deeply spiritual and earnest effort. It emphasized

the spirit of seriousness and responsibility which pervaded all of the meetings of this gathering. It could prove only helpful to those who heard.

The dedication of the new house of worship at Manchester occurred at 3 o'clock in the afternoon. A large number of the people gathered, entirely filling the house, many listening at the door and windows. The service was directed by Rev. R. H. Bishop, pastor of the church. Pastor Adams preached with his accustomed force and ability from the parable of the rich young man. His subject was trusteeship. It is not wrong to make money. It is important to make the right use of money. Appropriate music was provided by the Boylston choir and other visiting singers. Dr. Trotter offered the prayer of ordination. Dr. Saunders gave a short address upon the work of Acadia and her influence upon the Baptist body.

The new house is a neat building with seating accommodation for 200 or more. It is a credit to the Baptist people of Manchester, and it is nearly free from debt. Heretofore a union house has been used.

Foreign Missions was assigned to the evening meeting. A letter was read from Missionary Morrow, who has a brother living in Boylston and is well known there, in which he expressed regret at his inability to be present at this meeting. His health is not good and he desires the prayers of his brethren in his old Association. Mrs. Churchill read the Scripture and offered prayer. Pastor Adams, as chairman, read report of committee on Foreign Missions. Our field embraces 5466 square miles, 4185 villages, 2,000,000 souls. We furnish 1 preacher to 300,000 people. Maritime Baptists could do more. They are trustees of their money. The past has been a year of spiritual prosperity, 100 Telugu members being added to our mission churches. The report was received for discussion.

Rev. J. D. Spidell in a carefully prepared and informing address had for his subject, "God's message to the churches." It was a summary of the history of missions from New Testament times to the present day.

It was a pleasure for all present to meet Bro. and Sister Churchill, and the Moderator voiced the general sentiment in the formal welcome which he extended to them. Mr. Churchill took the meeting with him in brief tour to the different mission stations, pointing out some discouraging and some encouraging features, but giving us a clearer idea of the work to which we are committed. Two Telugu hymns sung by our missionaries were interesting to young and old.

MONDAY MORNING

Brought another round of business. The first meeting was at 8 o'clock when delegates from Guysboro and Antigonish Counties and Port Hawkesbury met in the Methodist church to arrange their district committee work. This church was twice placed at the disposal of the Association. Its pastor Rev. M. Day, was earlier in the meetings invited to a seat, and expressed his pleasure in meeting with his Baptist brethren.

A prayer meeting at 9.30 was led by Pastor Dresser, of Crow Harbor, a number participating in and enjoying this devotional service.

At 10 o'clock the annual sermon was preached by Pastor Beattie, of Little Glace Bay, from Gal. 6:1, "God forbid that I should glory save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ. Regeneration in the heart produces a radical change in the life, a change real, though less apparent in some than in other conversions. Why did Paul glory in the cross of Christ? Why do we glory in the cross of Christ? Because it reveals a God clothed with attributes which meet the demands of reason. Because it reconciles us to God. Because it gives peace. Because of its power to elevate the race. Because it sweetens the bitter cup of life. Because it will be our support in death. The cross endures. Pray the prayer of this text.

The sermon was listened to with deep interest and edification.

The minutes of the preceding sessions were read and approved and necessary changes were made in various committees. Pastors Raymond and Kinlay and Bro. W. P. King were appointed a nominating committee.

Dea. W. H. Cunningham read the Home Mission report prepared by chairman Rev. O. N. Chipman. This gave reasons for continued interest in Home Mission work and presented the following data: Churches receiving aid during the year 61, on 34 fields; one general missionary, and a county missionary, since May 1st; grants, \$3200; salaries and other regular expenses, with debt of last year, make expenses for this year not less than \$5700; receipts to date but \$2300; \$6000 needed each year; district committees should all aid in working convention plan; weak churches should hold together; stronger churches should reach and aid their out stations.

Prof. Tufts, though unexpectedly called upon, gave an interesting address upon wider and greater missionary endeavor. Rev. R. Osgood Morse and Dea. Borden of Tracadie offered prayer for this department of our work. Pastors Morse and Kinlay continued the discussion and report was on motion adopted.

The committee to consider memorial from the Isaacs Harbor church reported through its chairman Dr. Saunders. They had conferred with the delegates from that church, had reached the conclusion that it would be well for a number of brethren from this association to go to Isaacs Harbor and offer themselves as counsellors or advisers in an informal way. The delegates would be pleased to have the committee consist of Dr. Saunders,

(CONTINUED ON PAGE FIVE.)