

\$479. True, the Fund is not in debt, for there was a balance on hand at the beginning of the year of \$335, but this has been reduced to \$356 and unless there is an advance during this coming year the balance will be on the wrong side.

In the West they are trying to secure a permanent endowment of \$200,000. Sir Donald Smith has promised \$20,000 of this if the \$200,000 is secured within two years.

#### TEMPERANCE.

The discussion of this report and the passing of its recommendations is usually one of the most breezy scenes in the Assembly. The vast majority, realizing that they have in the liquor traffic with its accompanying evils one of the greatest hinderances to the progress of the Gospel, denounce it in all its forms, in strong terms and look earnestly and hopefully for its complete prohibition. A minority is quite willing to brand the low bar-room and saloon traffic, but believe there are occasions when liquor may be rightly used as a beverage. As one of them put it, "sweet water as well as bitter comes from this fountain," the liquor traffic, and they proposed resolutions of a much milder tone. The Assembly, however, was in no mood to abate one jot of their condemnation of the traffic as a whole, and by a large majority of four to one passed a strong deliverance which it is to be hoped each one will seek loyally to carry out during the year.

#### SABBATH OBSERVANCE.

The report on this subject was filled with useful information. Petitions to governments, conferences, deputations, enforcement of the law, press, and pulpit have all been employed and with a goodly measure of success in checking Sabbath desecration. If the bill which has been introduced into Parliament, becomes law, it will greatly simplify the work of bringing pressure to bear upon the great railway corporations. The Dominion Sabbath Alliance is working in line with the American Alliance which is working in the same direction and which hopes to have a somewhat similar law within two or three years.

#### MISSION TO THE JEWS IN PALESTINE.

Sometime since a sum of money, now amounting to about \$7000 came to our Church for the purpose of opening a mission to the Jews in Palestine. In addition to this, several hundred dollars are sent in yearly for the Mission. This money annually given, has at times been sent to other churches that have missions among the Jews, but many in the Church think that we should have a Jewish mission of our own. After a full discussion it was decided to defer the matter for another year and direct the Foreign Mission Committee to make as full inquiry as possible and report to next Assembly.

#### A FOREIGN MISSION SECRETARY.

In view of the great and rapidly increasing F. M. work of the Western Division the Committee agreed to ask the Assembly to appoint a Secretary whose whole time shall be given to the Home department of the Foreign Mission Work. It was finally agreed to continue the present arrangement for the current year, and to appoint one next year. The name of Dr. Morton, of Trinidad, was the only one suggested for that position. The appointment was intended originally for the Western Division only, but it is remitted to the Synod to consider what relationship he shall bear to the Eastern Division and whether the whole shall be brought under one management. In the East with Mr. Morrison as Secretary everything works so harmoniously, that apart altogether from the added cost, many of our people will be very unwilling to make any change or to transfer the centre of our F. M. operation, with which we have been so long associated from the Maritime Provinces to Ontario.

#### THE DECEASED WIFE'S SISTER AGAIN.

Nearly everyone thought that this question was finally settled a year ago, and it would probably have lain as settled had it not been for a certain minister, Mr. Charbonelle, a Frenchman, who is married to his deceased wife's sister and made application to be received into the ministry of our Church. This was at once opposed by several on the ground that the decision of last