

MONTREAL.

The managers of Knox church in this city are considering an offer to purchase the property. The Presbytery will be asked to sanction the sale, should an arrangement be affected with the prospective purchasers.

Rev. J. Lyall George, M.A., of Calvin church, has been celebrating the twenty-fifth anniversary of his ordination to the ministry. During his pastorate in Calvin church the debt had been reduced by thirty-eight hundred dollars, so that only a balance of twenty-five hundred remained to be cleared off to make the church free from debt. During his full ministry he had received 408 persons into the communion of the church, and during his pastorate of the Calvin church he had baptized 136 children, married 90 couples, and officiated at 96 funerals. Mr. George was for some time minister of John street church, Belleville, before removing to Montreal.

PETERBOROUGH PRESBYTERY.

Cobourg, Dec. 14. — Peterborough Presbytery held its regular quarterly meeting at Port Hope, the Rev. Peter Duncan, moderator, presiding, with a large attendance of ministers and elders.

The name of the Rev. D. B. Marsh, D.D., formerly of Hamilton, recently inducted into the pastorate of Springfield, was added to the roll.

Permission was given the congregation of Omeme, Lakevale and Mount Pleasant to call a minister when ready. A request from the congregation of Knox Church, Peterborough, to be granted separation from the St. Paul's, in the same city, was unanimously granted. The Rev. Dr. Torrance and Mr. J. W. Bennet, elder, Peterborough, spoke of the great progress made by Knox church and of the liberality of its people in support of ordinances. The report of the Home Mission Committee revealed a satisfactory state of affairs.

The evening session of the Presbytery partook of the nature of a public conference on church union. This marks a distinct advance movement with the Presbyterians in the discussion of union with the Methodist and Congregational bodies. The Rev. A. C. Reeves, B. A., Campbellford, spoke ably on the feasibility of church union. The Rev. Mr. Johnston, of Millbrook, referred fittingly to its advantages in saving of men, better use of money, and the blessing to communities now divided into fragments of churches. There were disadvantages that might be felt, but in every good work a spirit of sacrifice must be shown. The Rev. Dr. Torrance, Peterborough, addressed the meeting on the effect of church union on the principles, doctrine and polity of the Presbyterian Church. He showed that no harm could come to truths so long cherished by the Church. The same essential truth or doctrine was looked at from different view points and he considered that under a united church, such as that proposed, no one would be asked to yield up their convictions of what truth was.

It is felt that this conference, for the addresses were followed by interesting discussion, marks a distinct advance movement towards union.

The death is announced of the Rev. Jos. Hogg, for 14 years pastor of St. Andrew's church, Winnipeg, who died suddenly on Saturday, death following an operation for cancer. He preached last Sunday at the Home Street Mission. He resigned a few years ago from the pastorate of St. Andrew's church. He was born in Barrington, N. S. He had resided in Winnipeg for twenty-one years and was prominent in church and educational circles.

HAMILTON.

The new church building recently erected by St. Andrew's congregation was opened for divine service on Sunday, the 9th inst., when Revs. J. Murray and A. MacWilliam, two former pastors, preached to crowded congregations. The services were also commemorative of the induction of the present pastor, Rev. J. A. Wilson.

On Sunday, Dec. 16th, the special service was continued, Rev. Dr. Nelson, of Knox church preaching in the morning, and the pastor in the evening. Sixty-eight new members were received into the church at the evening service.

St. Paul's and St. John's churches also held communion services on recent Sabbaths, and substantial increases were made in both instances.

Rev. S. B. Russell, of Erskine church, preached on "Destiny" on Sabbath evening. This was the closing sermon of a very interesting series on "Life Problems."

Locke street people are looking forward with great eagerness to the coming of their new pastor-elect, Rev. T. McLachlan, of Bolton.

Rev. J. A. Wilson, of St. Andrew's church, is being congratulated on the advent of his first-born child, a son. The little stranger arrived on Monday, December 10th inst., just when the anniversary and church opening festivities were at their height.

PRESBYTERY OF BRUCE.

Presbytery met at Paisley on Dec. 4th. A deputation from the congregations of North Bruce and St. Andrew's, Saugeen, appeared in connection with the resignation of Rev. H. McQuarrie. As it was Mr. McQuarrie's desire to retire from active pastoral work, the Presbytery accepted his resignation, but at the earnest request of the representatives present he agreed to continue his pastoral work until the end of April, 1907. The deputation spoke in the highest terms of Mr. McQuarrie's faithfulness as a pastor and ability as a gospel preacher, and expressed the deep regret of the congregations that he was about to leave them. During his long pastorate there had been the greatest harmony between the minister and the people, and it was only in compliance with Mr. McQuarrie's desire to retire from the active work of the ministry that they agreed to the acceptance of his resignation.

Several members of the session and congregation of Chalmers church, Kincardine, presented a memorial with reference to matters pertaining to that congregation, but as it had not come in a regular way it was not received. But a deputation consisting of Dr. McLennan, Messrs. Thynne and Nichol together with their representative elders, was appointed to visit the congregation of Chalmers church and report to Presbytery.

An overture from Rev. Mr. Atkinson with reference to the election of elders for a limited period was read by the clerk, but as Mr. Atkinson was not present it was laid on the table till next regular meeting of Presbytery.

Rev. H. McQuarrie was unanimously nominated for the moderatorship of the next General Assembly.

It was decided to hold a convention at the evening sederunt of Presbytery in March to discuss the report of the Union Committee, and Messrs. Johnston, Cockburn, Atkinson and Wilson were appointed a committee to make the necessary arrangements.

Presbytery adjourned to meet at Paisley on Tuesday, March 5, at 10.30 a.m.

Many people are travelling toward heaven, but they are not running on schedule time. They spend more hours on the siding than on the main track.

BARRIE PRESBYTERY.

Barrie Presbytery met in Alliston, December 4th. Calls were sustained from Angus and New Lowell in favor of Rev. R. J. Sturgeon, B. A., offering \$850 and a manse; and from Bracebridge and Monk in favor of Rev. A. W. Crow, offering \$850 and a manse and three weeks holidays.

Rev. D. D. McLeod, D. D., of Barrie, was nominated for moderator of the next general assembly. It was felt that this large mission section of the church should have that honor and that Dr. McLeod was in every way qualified for the position. Besides, he is a mission enthusiast, and well up in all matters of interest to the church.

A very hopeful conference of the Y. P. S. and S. S. of the Presbytery was held in connection with the meeting. The speakers were Dr. McLeod, Mr. J. C. Robertson, S. S. C., and Rev. J. T. Taylor, of India.

The following new life members of the W.F.M.S. are announced in the December issue of F. M. Tidings.

Mrs. James R. Cavers, Knox Church Auxiliary, Galt; Mrs. Helen Johnson, St. Paul's W.F.M.S. Auxiliary, Winnipeg; Mrs. A. E. Harrison, Caven Church Auxiliary, Bolton; Mrs. George Bryson, Ottawa Presbytery, Fort Coulonge, Que.; Mrs. John McGarva, Willis Church Auxiliary, Clinton; Mrs. David Caldwell, Erskine Church Auxiliary, Toronto; Mrs. R. N. Ball, W.F.M.S. Niagara-on-the-Lake; Mrs. John McAllister, Erskine Church Auxiliary, Hamilton; Mrs. Frank Cockshutt, Harrington Mission Band, Brantford; Mrs. John McMillan, W.F.M.S. Auxiliary, Blythe; Miss Catherine McMillan, W.F.M.S. Auxiliary, Blythe; Miss Janet McLennan, Beulah Auxiliary, Hephzibah Church, Williamstown; Mrs. J. F. Kilgour, W.F.M.S. Auxiliary, St. Thomas; Mrs. Victoria Waites, Emmanuel Church Auxiliary, East Toronto; Mrs. H. W. Reede, Alma Street Church Auxiliary, St. Thomas; Mrs. H. Urquhart, Gauld Mission Band, Kippen; Mrs. T. N. Forsythe, Gauld Mission Band, Kippen; Miss McMullen, Knox Church, Auxiliary, Woodstock.

There was a good attendance at the meeting of the Ontario W.C.T.U. held at London last week. The secretary reported that 12 unions had been formed, the total number now being 470, with a membership of 5,086; also 43 Juvenile bands, with a membership of 4,513. The total amount raised during the year was \$13,078.23, an increase of \$4,478.89. Mrs. S. G. E. McKee, of Barrie, the president, was in the chair.

It is stated that General Booth contemplates an appeal to the public for £1,000,000 to aid in carrying out what he believes will be the most gigantic and culminating work of his life—viz., the populating of Rhodesia. He has (says the "London Evening News") been in communication with the board of the British South Africa Company, who have offered the General 1,000,000 acres of land free, with the stipulation that if the colony fails the land shall revert to them.

Professor Hubert von Herkomer, in a lecture at Edinburgh, said that a friend of his once took one of Kipling's short stories, had it typewritten, changed the names of the characters, and sent it to the editor of one of the leading periodicals. The story was returned, along with a few graceful words of regret on a printed slip. Nine editors followed suit.

It will help to a Merry Christmas, if subscribers see that their subscriptions are paid for the ensuing year. Already several subscribers to the Dominion Presbyterian have remitted for 1907, Thanks.