

Ministers and Churches.

Our Toronto Letter.

The uppermost subject still of conversation abroad in the city in the Gamey charges. It would be well, if our Local Legislature could adopt the plan sometimes adopted in our General Assembly, and fix a time limit for speeches. The interminable and unfathomable baths of unnecessary talk that has been kept up for over a week, has been more than enough to exhaust the patience and weakness of the most long-suffering amongst men. Happily it has now come to an end, and we shall, it is to be hoped, soon get light on and search the bottom of this whole miserable business. No one will be able to say that the exhibition has added dignity to or public respect for our local parliament. But it must be remembered that our parliaments are made by the people, and are such as the people want.

It is a hopeful symptom that more and more attention is being paid not only to our Sabbath schools, but also to the qualifications and preparation of those who teach in them. A Conference has just been held in the Y. M. C. A. of the University, of leading Sunday School representatives of all the different bodies, and arrangements have been set on foot for holding a Sabbath School Teaching Institute in the autumn, the meeting to be held in Wycliffe Convocation Hall, which was offered by Rev. Principal Sheraton for the purpose.

The fight with the forces of evil needs to be incessantly kept up for they at least never rest. Rev. Robert Johnston, D.D., of London, who has elsewhere rendered efficient service in conducting meetings for men, has been invited by the Central Y. M. C. A. of the city and consented to hold a series of religious meetings for men, from April 6th to 9th inclusive in Association Hall. Every effort will be made by the clergy and others in the city, interested, to secure a large attendance and to make the meetings as profitable as possible. At Mr. Newell's last Bible class meeting, the subject was the story of Ruth. The lessons of this most beautiful story were applied to every day life in an interesting way. The Hall was filled to overflowing. The daily services in St. James Cathedral during last week were conducted by Bishop Du Moulin. One hundred and thirty men partook of the free breakfast at the Yonge street mission a week ago Sunday, and Rev. P. L. Parker, Baptist, and Mr. Arthur Burson conducted the services.

Rev. R. E. G. Scott from Vancouver, is in the city to get, if possible, nine young unmarried men to go as missionaries in connection with the Methodist church in British Columbia. They are to rough it in the outskirt of the province and grow up with the country. Quite a strong detachment of students of our church will soon be engaged in just such work in all parts of the Dominion.

The coming of tourists to Toronto during the summer months, with which we are now so familiar, has already begun. On Friday last, a large party of Kindergarten teachers from Detroit invaded the city, and besides other attentions and hospitalities shewn them, was a public reception in the Normal school on Friday evening which was largely attended by teachers of Toronto and others interested in educational matters. They were welcomed by the Mayor, visited him at his office at the City Hall, and were photographed from the steps of that massive pile. It may be noticed in connection with teachers that the Convention of the Teacher's Association of the city was held lately, and was of a very interesting character. It was decided to secure permanent quarters for their use, and also to establish a Superannuation Fund for the teaching staff.

The Literary Board has been interviewing the City Council respecting the site of the Carnegie libraries which is still unsettled. In the course of this interview, Dr. Bain, librarian, stated that the free public library was started nineteen years ago with 10,000 volumes, worth \$22,000; and it had now 130,000 volumes, worth \$180,000. In addition was also the reference library. During the nineteen years nine million volumes had been taken out, and five million of these had dealt with history, biography, mechanics or philosophy. The Convocation Hall fund which also contains

plates the erection of a handsome structure for the University, is making good progress. It requires \$50,000 and all but \$17,000 has been secured, so that the building of the Hall is assured. The Caven Memorial Library for Knox College is also, we believe, making good progress. We understand that some donors feel some hesitation respecting laying out so much money for a new and costly building in the present site, as the indications are that in a very few years Spadina Avenue will be an entirely business street, and therefore undesirable and unsuitable as a permanent home for Knox College. In the Queen's Park, somewhere in the neighbourhood of University College, is the natural and an ideal situation for Knox College, for all time, humanly speaking.

A very pleasing function of a modest, quiet kind was held in St. James Square Church on Wednesday evening at the close of the prayer meeting. It was a presentation to Mr. R. M. Gray, manager of one of the branch offices of the Dominion Bank in the city, who has long acted as treasurer of the congregation, and has discharged his responsible duties with exemplary fidelity. The presentation consisted of silver and cutlery to the number of one hundred and four pieces, all enclosed in a beautiful oaken casket, bearing a suitable inscription.

Rev. Alex. Macmillan of St. Enoch's church, last Friday evening treated the Young People's Society of Knox church to one of his delightful literary talks. His subject was "An Evening with J. M. Barrie." Rev. Dr. Parsons was in the chair, and the audience was large and appreciative.

An outbreak of scarlet fever in a very severe form has brought sadness into many hearts and homes of late, in the city as well as throughout Ontario generally, the number of deaths from that dread disease being far in excess of the average.

An old time gathering of Torontonians is to be celebrated here from July 1st to 4th, and prizes of \$100, \$50 and \$25 have been offered for the best poems on the subject, not to exceed 100 lines. May 15th is the last day for the reception of the poems. The judges are to be Principal Hutton of University College, Rev. Prof. Clark of Trinity, and Prof. Pelham Edgar of Victoria University. The right of ownership of the first three is reserved by the committee to be used as they choose, and they also reserve the right of publication of all the poems sent in if deemed desirable.

Ottawa.

Rev. Dr. Herridge continued his series of sermons on social questions, preaching on Capital and Labor in St. Andrew's church on Sunday evening.

Rev. Prof. Jordan, D.D., of Queens University preached two eloquent sermons in Bank Street church last Sabbath.

On the evening of St. Patrick's Day an enjoyable social was held in St. Paul's church under the auspices of the Ladies' Aid Society. The Sunday School hall was prettily decorated, the electroliers were twined with smilax and Irish flags, green hunting, cut flowers and shamrocks used lavishly. An enjoyable programme was given, informally, which consisted of songs by Miss Denesha, Miss Bourne and Mr. White; a recitation by Miss de la Ronde; a violin solo by Miss M. Watters, and a reading by Mr. Watters. Refreshments were served at numerous small tables and the evening spent very delightfully in social conversation.

At a largely attended social gathering in the Glebe church on the 17th inst., Rev. J. W. H. Milne, the esteemed and popular pastor, was presented with a new silk cassock by the ladies, on behalf of the congregation. An address containing many expressions of kindly feeling and respect accompanied the handsome gift and was read by Miss Back. The presentation was made by Mrs. Sievright. Mr. Milne replied feelingly to the very substantial expression of regard. Mrs. Milne was made the recipient of a beautiful gold brooch set with pearls, and also a dozen silver knives. Mrs. W. H. Pearce made the presentation and Mrs. J. S. McEwan read the address, to which Mrs. Milne replied in appropriate terms. The Glebe orchestra was present and contributed delightful music. Miss Ketchum also gave several whistling solos which received a well merited applause. Refreshments were served by the ladies of the congregation.

The Ottawa Presbytery held a special meeting last Saturday to sanction the call from the congregation of Bank Street church to Rev. J. H. Turnbull of Bowmanville. Rev. Joseph White presided, in the absence of the moderator. The call was signed by 393 members and about half as many adherents. It will be sent to Rev. Mr. McKeen, moderator of the Whitty Presbytery, for the ratification of that body. An effort will be made to have the induction ceremony take place on Tuesday, April 28th, when Rev. Dr. Herridge will preach the sermon, Rev. Dr. Armstrong will address the congregation and Rev. D. M. Ramsay, the new pastor. The Rev. Wm. Patterson, moderator of Presbytery, will preside.

Eastern Ontario.

The Havelock Presbyterians have been holding a pleasant social at the manse.

The next regular meeting of Peterboro Presbytery will be held at Port Hope on 14th July.

Mr. Stewart of Knox College, Toronto, has been preaching in the Woodville church.

Mr. F. W. Mahagay, of Queen's University, conducted the services at Napanee last Sabbath.

Rev. J. A. Stuart, of Montreal, occupied the pulpit of the Balderson and Drummond churches on the 15th inst.

The call to Rev. Mr. Kamrawin, Omamee, will be considered at a special meeting of Peterboro Presbytery on 7th April.

Rev. D. M. Martin, of Cannington, was among the slightly wounded on the recent G. T. smash up near Guelph, and was taken to the Toronto General Hospital.

The resignation by Rev. A. G. Sinclair, of the Port Hope charge, has been accepted by the Presbytery. Rev. J. W. McIntosh, of Centreville, was appointed interim moderator of session.

The resignation of Rev. R. F. Hunter, of Baltimore and Cold Springs has been accepted by Peterboro Presbytery, and Rev. C. S. Lord, of Graton, was appointed interim moderator.

Rev. R. McNabb, of Pembroke, formerly of Beaulieu, was inducted last week as pastor of the Presbyterian church at Powassan. Rev. Mr. McNabb's family will remove from Pembroke to Powassan shortly.

It is announced that Mr. James Wallace, M. A., of Queens, recently called to St. Andrew's, Lindsay, is soon to leave for Germany, when he will pursue a special course of study.

At the last meeting of the Young Men's Guild of St. Andrew's church, Renfrew, a thoughtful paper on the Responsibilities of Young People as citizens of Canada To-day, by Mr. Geo. A. McNabb, of Douglas, was read by his brother, Mr. R. C. McNabb, B.A., and gave rise to a profitable discussion.

Rev. Dr. Crombie, conducted services in connection with Lord's Supper in St. Paul's church, Smith's Falls on the 22nd inst., and took occasion to remark that he had dispensed the communion in the same place just 34 years ago for the first time, and that in all probability this would be the last time he would officiate at a similar service. Dr. Crombie was pastor of St. Paul's for over 17 years.

The anniversary services in St. John's church, Cornwall, on Sunday the 22nd instant was attended by large congregations. Rev. Norman McLeod, of Ottawa, was the officiating clergyman at both services, and he fully sustained the good opinions he won when he occasionally preached in St. John's during the time he was pastor at Woodlands. He delivered two excellent sermons. The annual social in connection with the anniversary took place in the church on Tuesday. There was a large attendance and an excellent programme was provided. The chair was occupied by Mr. D. B. MacLennan, K. C., Rev. Mr. Curry opened the proceedings with prayer. The chairman then extended a hearty welcome to all and an excellent program was given, including several musical selections and an address by Mr. McLeod on the early history of the Christian church.

At the annual congregational meeting of St. Paul's church, on the 23rd instant, Mr. Joseph Thompson, treasurer, reported that the mortgage on the church had been completely wiped out, and there is a surplus in the treasury. Reports of the different organizations connected with the church were presented and all were most encouraging. A vote of thanks was moved and seconded in favor of Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Lewis, of Brockville, who lent such valuable ser-