

CHURCH  
WORK

## Ministers and Churches

NEWS  
LETTERS

## OTTAWA.

At St. Andrew's, last Sunday morning, the following were ordained and inducted to the eldership, viz., Messrs, George I. Dewar, R. A. A. Johnston, Judge MacTavish, W. T. Macoun, Dr. R. S. Minnes and W. Strachan.

A pleasing incident in the services at Stewarton church last Sunday was the baptism of two young Chinamen, first-fruits of the Mission school in connection with the congregation. The school now numbers upwards of twenty, the majority of whom are faithful in their attendance and very diligent students. They are also very much attached to their teachers.

The attendance at the annual entertainment of Mackay Street Sunday school was the largest in its history, over 600—scholars and friends—being present. From 6.30 to 8 p.m., tea was served, after which an excellent concert was given, in which every class took part, from the infants to the Bible students. A feature of the evening's happy gathering was a presentation to Rev. F. W. Anderson, the pastor, by the members of the Bible class. The management of all the details for the evening's work was successfully taken by the following officers and staff: Superintendent, W. B. Garvock; secretary-treasurer, J. Rankin, and assistant, W. Slinn; teachers, Rev. P. W. Anderson, Bible class; Misses L. Rennie and M. Dawson, infant class; Misses Clements, Slinn, Ryan, Wilson, Sherwood, Putnam, A. Gordon, Edith Cowan, J. Rankin, B. Elliott, E. Rankin, I. Elliott, Mrs. Craig, Messrs. Wood, Wm. Gerard, T. Rankin, A. E. Stitt and Wm. Lunan.

The new Erskine church was crowded at both services on Sunday as on the opening ones a week before. Rev. W. D. Reid, B.D., of Montreal, officiated both morning and evening, delivering forceful sermons each time. In the evening he took as his subject, "The Man God Calls a Fool," based upon the parable of the rich man who made up his mind to eat, drink and be merry for the rest of his life as he had such a store of wealth. In the course of his remarks, the preacher claimed that business to-day in our so-called Christian nations, was carried on in a perfectly pagan manner. He believed it never would be conducted according to Christ's ideas until co-operation replaced competition. He also made a reference to a great Montreal manufacturer, a millionaire well known for his gifts to education and hospitals, which was not at all complimentary. He said this man when the time came each winter, when work was hard to get, cut his employees' wages 82 a week. While he did this in his business he poured out his money to colleges and hospitals, posing as a philanthropist. The fierce onrush of business to-day was the sign of an inveterate hunger man was trying to satisfy. This could not be satisfied. It was the soul that required food not the material side of man, and this could only be given it by development of the spiritual side of man's life.

The annual meeting of St. Andrew's church congregation was held last evening in the Sunday school hall and was largely attended. The meeting was a most harmonious and businesslike one, the various reports being read and carried with little discussion. On all sides the church showed marked progress, but especially so in the treasurer's report, that of Mr. George S. May. His statement showed the church to be free of all debt, a mortgage of \$10,000 held by Mr. James Manuel being fully paid up. The year in fact was the most gratifying in the church's history. The report of the Kirk Session was presented by Mr. F. P. Bronson. It gave a general review of

the year's work in the church, bringing in all societies in connection with it, and referring to their work in the most flattering terms, especially that of the Men's Association. It also made reference to the loss sustained by the church in the death of several of its leading members and elders, the latter including Mr. William Wyld, Mr. J. A. Gemmill and Lt.-Col. John Macpherson. At the beginning of last year the membership was 604; net additions 29; making total number on roll at date 633. The amount received from sale of Glebe lots belonging to the church during the year was \$20,275. The income of the H. M. Society was \$2,737. The reports from W. F. M. S., Ladies' Aid and Y. P. M. Society were all most encouraging. The attendance at the Sunday school was not quite as good as last year. Mr. Gibson attributed the falling off in attendance to the fact that the scholars now lived too far from the church and attended a nearer Sunday school or else did not go to any. As a remedy for the latter cause he proposed inaugurating a home department, and that to do this new workers were necessary. These he thought, with such a strong Men's Association and the new elders, could be easily secured. The total receipts of the schedule fund were \$4,003.80. Included in the allocations were \$1,600 to the church expenses; \$1,000 to the home missions; \$300 to augmentation of ministers' stipends; \$200 to the foreign missions; \$83 to French evangelization; \$80 to Queen's University; \$25 to Manitoba College; \$25 to Montreal Presbyterian College; \$884 to the widows' and orphans' fund; \$398 to the aged and infirm ministers. The balance for the year was \$880. The balance at the beginning of the year was \$1,360.

## EASTERN ONTARIO.

Zion Church, Carleton Place, is to be enlarged and improved.

The Rev. Mr. Campbell, ororo, preached most acceptably in the Presbyterian Church, Fesserton, last Sabbath.

Rev. W. W. Peck, of Arnprior, was elected Moderator of the Presbytery of Lanark and Renfrew.

Rev. Mr. Craig, of Aylmer, who was visiting Rev. Mr. McKay, of Maxville, assisted at the special services in the Presbyterian Church on Monday and Tuesday of last week.

Rev. Mr. Moore, of Braeside, preached in St. Andrew's Church, Pakenham, on a recent Sunday, Rev. R. Young, B.A., taking Mr. Moore's work at Braeside, Sand Point and Dewar's.

The Rev. Mr. Campbell, Guthrie, the Rev. Mr. Elliott, Midland, and the Rev. Mr. Bremner, Bracebridge, have been assisting the Rev. Mr. Haig in a series of revival meetings at Esson Church, Oro, during the past three weeks. These meetings have been well attended and considerable spiritual awakening has resulted.

The annual meeting of the Victoria Harbor congregation was held on the 20th ult. The various reports read showed that the church was in a very flourishing condition financially. They have built a fine manse, costing over \$2,400. Seven have joined the church on profession of faith. The Women's Foreign Missionary Society has 29 members; they raised \$64 for building fund; \$84.32 for missions and other purposes. Miss E. Smythe, secretary; Mrs. A. Huston, treasurer. The congregation appreciating the good work done by the Board of Management the past year, re-elected them by acclamation. Chairman, F. C. Waldie; A. Huston, secretary; I. Wardell, treasurer; managers, J. Duckworth, P. Schissler, N. McMillan, A. Jones, S. Hill, Jos. McKendry, J. E. Smythe and Ed. Crooke.

At the recent meeting of the Presbytery of North Bay in St. Andrew's Church, Burks Falls, there was a large ministerial and lay representation, among them the following: Revs. J. Johnson, North Bay; C. Childerhose, Parry Sound; Dr. Findlay; J. Steel, Callander; R. V. McKibbin, Magnetawan; George Lamb, Sundridge; R. McNabb, Powassan; J. Rodgers, R. J. Sturgeon, Burks Falls; S. McClellan, Huntsville; Messrs. Aberdeen, Howard, Wilson, etc. Interesting reports were submitted of the work done by the churches within the bounds of the Presbytery, showing an increase. A committee was appointed to arrange for the erection of a church and manse at Cohalt. The new Psalter prepared by Drs. Greig and Dey was submitted for examination and its adoption in the service of praise in the Presbyterian churches recommended. Delegates were elected to represent the Presbytery at the next General Assembly to be held in June. The Presbytery was loud in its congratulations to the members of St. Andrew's Church and congregation on the completion of their handsome house of worship. Members of the Presbytery were afterwards entertained to dinner and tea by the ladies of St. Andrew's, a hearty vote of thanks being tendered them for their hospitality.

In Knox Church, Perth, Mr. Rickwood gave an excellent address on "Congregational Singing." He spoke of the important place music held in religious services and cited the Torrey-Alexander meetings in England and more recently in Toronto, to show the wonderful power of song in great religious movements. It is difficult to say whether the singing was not a more powerful agency than the preaching in gathering such immense audiences for a whole month two or three times a day in Massey Hall. Mr. Rickwood said the congregation should not look upon the choir as leaders, but rather as supports to the congregational singing. All without exception should sing and should sing together. Anyone who has a voice for speech can sing and ought to do so. The congregation should not be a note behind the choir or organ; all should be sung promptly together and continue singing till the hymn is finished, as this leads the one next in position to stop likewise. There should be distinct articulation so that the words may be clearly heard. Nothing goes so far to create brotherly feeling in a church as hearty congregational singing. When God has given us talents we should use them and what better use can we make of the talent of song than employ it in praising God. The address proved very interesting and helpful and was highly appreciated by the fine audience that heard it.

Rev. W. R. Cruickshank, of Montreal West, has resigned the pastorate there to take up new and important work in connection with Presbyterian extension in the suburbs of the city of Montreal. The resignation has been accepted by the Presbytery, and Mr. Cruickshank enters upon his new duties at once. The Witness says: It is proposed to call a general meeting of all the official members of the Church in Montreal and its immediate vicinity at an early date, when the pressing needs growing out of the rapid expansion of the city's population will be presented, and plans for meeting them discussed. The details for the arrangement of this meeting were assigned to a committee, with the Rev. John MacKay as convener, to co-operate with Mr. Cruickshanks.

The Belfast flax spinning mills are enjoying a period of unusual prosperity.