

Church News.

[All communications to this column ought to be sent to the Editor immediately after the occurrences to which they refer have taken place.]

In Canada.

Rev. J. W. TANNER, Windsor, Que., has accepted a call to Omamec.

Rev. J. N. PENMAN, formerly of Manitoba, has received a call to Windsor Mills.

MINISTERS wishing a hearing in Campbell's Bay, Bryson and Shawville will communicate with Rev. Dr. Campbell, Ottawa.

THE church at Arthur has been painted and beautified at the instance of the Ladies' Aid Society.

THE handsome new church just completed at Winchester will be dedicated June 2nd by the Rev. Principal McVicar, assisted by Rev. Andrew Rowatt and Rev. M. H. Scott, former pastors. Since the sale of the old church the congregation has been worshipping in the Baptist church, that body occupying the building in the afternoon only.

THE Willing Workers Society of the Winchester congregation, bought the building lot for the church, costing one thousand dollars, and they also bought the seats, which are of polished oak, the best seats made by the Globe Company. The society has in addition purchased the carpet for the church throughout. The Diligent Band presented a large bell.

THE session of the Central Presbyterian Church has received a letter from Rev. P. McF. Macleod resigning his charge of that church at the first meeting of the Presbytery. The session and managers in accepting this resignation have resolved to secure as soon as possible the services of a suitable pastor who may continue the work begun in the James Bay district.

THE sacrament of the Lord's Supper was dispensed in the Ore congregations on the first Sabbath of May. The preparatory sermon was preached by the Rev. Mr. Webster, of Jarrett's Corners. Twenty-eight new names were added to the communion roll. Since the settlement of the Rev. N. Campbell over these congregations a little over a year ago, 104 names were added to the roll.

AN impressive service was held in the Presbyterian church, Tilbury, on Sabbath evening, May 12th, it being the occasion of the ordination and installation to office of two additional elders to the session, Mr. James Reynolds and Dr. John Ferguson. The pastor, Rev. J. Hodges, B.A., conducted the service throughout. His sermon, which was based upon Titus i. 5, was an able exposition of the office and duties of the elder, and was one which both elders and the large congregation assembled could not fail to profit by. After the sermon the ordination of the elders elect took place, during which all present could not help but realize that the work in which the elder is called is indeed a sacred one, requiring many and varied qualifications, and above all consecration to God and devotion to His service. The congregation in Tilbury is to be congratulated upon securing for this highly important office two such well-fitted men, both of whom enjoy the confidence and highest esteem of the Church and of the entire community.

SAYS the Brantford Expositor: Thirty-four years have come and gone since the Rev. Dr. Cochrane was inducted to the pastorate of Zion Presbyterian church in Brantford. This is a record of which any clergyman in Canada might well be proud, and one that exceedingly few can equal or even approach. The church was crowded on Sabbath of last week at both services, and the doctor occupied his pulpit with all the vigor and earnestness of purpose that characterized his ministry a quarter of a century ago. It is merely re-echoing the sentiments of his people to say that the reverend gentleman has endeared himself more and more to his congregation as the years roll onward, and yesterday upon the threshold of his thirty-fourth year's work, his earnest,

thoughtful burning words were listened to with as much rapt attention as were the first words he ever uttered from the pulpit. The doctor's energy and enthusiasm are alike unabated, and though silvery threads shine plentifully among the dark locks he brought to Brantford, matured years have not appreciably weakened his wonderful vitality. Special musical services were rendered by the splendid choir of the church. Rossi's anthem, "Lord Almighty," was a feature of the morning. In the evening the choir rendered Shelly's beautiful "Hark, my Soul," Miss Houlding taking the solo parts, and Messrs. J. G. Liddell and Alexander Moffatt leading the basses. Millard's beautiful "Ave Maria" was very sweetly rendered by Miss Kate Buck.

Synod of Toronto and Kingston.

ACCORDING to arrangements, the Synod conference opened in St. Andrew's church, Orangeville, on Monday, May 13th, at 2.30. Rev. J. J. Elliott occupied the chair, and after devotional exercises called upon Rev. D. McKenzie, pastor of the church, who, after a few words of kindly welcome to the members of Synod, read an excellent paper on "The administration of the Holy Spirit through the officers of the Church."

This was followed by a stimulating address from Rev. Wm. Patterson, of Toronto, on "The work of the Spirit through church members."

An exceedingly interesting and profitable discussion then took place in which nearly all the members present took some part.

Dr. McTavish and Rev. R. P. McKay of Toronto, Dr. Macrae of Collingwood, Rev. McD. Duncan of Tottenham, Rev. John Hay of Cobourg, and others followed one another in quick succession. There were no lagging moments, and a very helpful and encouraging session was closed with the benediction about 5 o'clock.

The chair was taken in the evening by Alex. Steele, Esq., of Orangeville. The commodious church was well filled, showing that Foreign Missions still retain their power to enlist the interest of our people.

The first address was by Rev. M. N. Bethune, of Beaverton, who spoke for half an hour powerfully and convincingly on obedience to the last command the secret of blessing and power.

He was followed by Rev. J. A. Turnbull, of Toronto, who dealt in a most able manner with the practical question "Should we send to the field all approved persons who offer for Foreign Mission service, trusting to the Church for their support? This question he answered in the affirmative, and a vigorous discussion followed. Some were disposed to deprecate such a step as revolutionary, but all were agreed that a crisis was upon the Church in this work, and none were inclined to dogmatize about methods in face of the fact that six young men, approved by the F. M. C., are waiting to be sent to the foreign field and that there are no funds to send them. The hour being late it was resolved to resume the discussion at another session.

TUESDAY MORNING.—The conference opened with devotional exercises at 9.30. In the absence of Rev. W. A. Hunter the chair was taken by Rev. John Young of Toronto. The first paper was read by Rev. J. McD. Duncan on "The law of the Sabbath and its present obligation." The address was an excellent one, presenting a most convincing chain of Scriptural reasoning to show that the law of the Sabbath is still binding on the conscience of Christian people. The Rev. John Burton, of Gravenhurst, followed with an admirable paper on "The Sabbath in relation to Spirituality."

The final paper was by John A. Paterson, Esq., of Toronto, on "The Sabbath in relation to Government." The speaker dealt with the legal aspect of the question, showing the justice of guarding the rights of the laboring man by the enforcement of Sabbath laws, and commending to the sympathy of the members the recently organized Ontario Lord's Day Alliance.

Rev. Dr. Middlemas, Principal Caven and

others continued the discussion until the arrival of the noon hour. The afternoon session was presided over by Rev. Thos. Smith, D.D., of Kingston. After devotional exercises the discussion on Sabbath observance was resumed. Very suggestive facts touching Sabbath desecration at our lake ports were brought forward by Dr. Somerville and Dr. Waits of Owen Sound and Rev. David James of Midland. Rev. G. Munro, of Harrison, made a strong plea against Sabbath funerals and processions, and urged that ministers exercise all due vigilance against catering to demands in this direction. After thorough discussion a committee was appointed with Rev. Dr. MacLaren as convener to draft a resolution to be submitted to the Synod. The resolution was vigorously worded, protesting against the injustice of many employers in compelling their workmen to labor on the Lord's day, and sympathizing deeply with those who are subject to the hardship of choosing between Sunday labor or dismissal from employment.

The discussion was then continued on the question of sending men to the foreign field trusting to the Church for their support. Rev. J. McF. Scott opened up the subject with an earnest address and the discussion became general.

Considerable difference of opinion was revealed as to the principle involved in the question at issue. Some were disposed to think there was no good reason for applying a principle to our foreign work which we are not prepared to apply to our home work as well, and that if the Church is to take this new departure the most natural and convenient field for its first operations would be in our Home Mission field. Some sympathy was felt with the view expressed by Rev. M. N. Bethune and others, that there is no necessity for rigid separations between the two different policies under discussion, that the principle was adopted by the Church is quite right, that is, sending out men with a guaranteed salary. But if young men offer themselves, and are willing to go without such guarantee then the Church should send them. Rev. R. P. McKay gave an excellent address, emphasizing the fact that the Church has reached a crisis in its foreign work and urging that no stone be left unturned to meet the extra demands of the F. M. Committee at the present juncture.

The conference was then closed after passing a resolution that all the papers that had been read should be printed for gratuitous distribution among members of the Synod.

In the evening the retiring moderator, Rev. Robt. Fowle, of Erin, preached an able and appropriate sermon, taking for his text the first clause of I. Cor. iii. 9. He made a threefold division of his subject:

1. Who are they who co-operate with God?
2. In what do they co-operate?
3. The reward of those who so co-operate.

Then followed the election of a new Moderator. The unanimous choice fell upon Rev. J. B. Mullen, of Fergus, who in a few well chosen remarks thanked the Synod for the honor conferred upon him, and took his place in the Moderator's chair. After a resolution of thanks to the retiring Moderator, routine business was taken up and the way cleared for a good day's business on the morrow.

Wednesday morning in the Synod was largely taken up with routine business. A pleasant incident was the municipal welcome extended to the Synod by Mayor Bailey, Reeve Gillespie and Deputy-Reeve T. Stevenson. The Mayor made a well worded speech of welcome, and the Moderator was quite at home in a courteous and happy reply.

The report of Brantford Ladies' College was read, showing very satisfactory progress. Rev. J. S. Hardy, of Ayr, representing the college, then addressed the Synod commending this excellent institution to the attention of ministers and members of our Church.

The financial statement of the Synod for the year was submitted. The receipts were \$431.53 and the expenditure was \$267.22, leaving a balance of \$164.31.

A letter was read from Rev. C. S. Whitcombe, of the Synod of Niagara Diocese of the Anglican Church, enclosing a resolution with regard to religious instruction in public schools. Following is the resolution: "That