

aged to sell copies to others. Last year the Sunday School children of the Church in the United States sold one hundred thousand copies of the Children's Number of the Spirit of Missions. It is hoped that those in authority in the Sunday Schools will do their best to forward and extend the circulation of this children's number, so that greater interest may follow increased information, and lead to a larger children's Lenten offering. Orders for the children's number should be addressed to "The Mission World," 131 Confederation Life Building, Toronto.

S. Gould, General Secretary.

CLERICAL STIPENDS.

Sir,—I read your issue of January 10th very carefully, and after doing so I put together four articles entitled "Parish Finances," "Give a Young Man a Chance," "Inferior Men and Sermons," and "Clerical Stipends," and it seems to me that there is a relationship. The whole evil of the Church of England is in the salaries of the clergy. Not one in three receives a self-respecting wage, and not one in ten in the missionary districts receives even enough to live on in comfort. Who has ever heard of a clergyman in a mission station taking a real carefree holiday or holding even a reasonable life insurance, let alone endowment that will give him comfort in his old age. The old men dare not make way for the younger, and so we find the plea to give the young man a chance, which is more than likely to pass unheeded. Our young men know this and that is the reason why so many nearly enter the ministry but turn aside to some occupation where there is a real chance of getting a home before he is middle aged. Unless a young man has a tremendous influence or an extraordinary ability combined with force of character which won't be kept down his chances of rising up from the regions of the submerged is nil. How can a man get the inspiration to preach or to do pastoral work when he feels that there is a weight which is keeping him down, when he feels a great financial gulf fixed between himself and his parishioners. This is the time when parish budgets are being revised. The best beginning would be with the parsons' stipends. Life would flow into a host of poverty-stricken parsons and from them would flow the revival in religion. More and better men who have already dedicated their lives to God would seek to serve through the Church and the gain would be immense. In conclusion, why cannot a book be published as in England showing the actual incomes of our clergy. Over there the scandal is that some endowments are so large for the work done. Over here I fear it would be the other way round. It would do no harm and would do a lot of good. Failing that, let every Bishop in his diocesan report state what the income has been for each of his clergy during the past 12 months, or let a commission of business men be appointed to look into the whole business and to report to the Church at large.

J. D. P.

SUPERANNUATION FUNDS.

Sir,—I was delighted with the courteous and informative letter of Archdeacon Webb, of Edmonton, on the question of a clergy superannuation fund. It is gratifying to know that new funds are being planned by actuaries instead of by visionaries, as too often in the past. Archdeacon Webb makes this point that the Dominion Government annuities base their returns to annuitants on a 4 per cent. basis, whereas if the Church could establish an annuity system on a 5 per cent. basis the returns to an-

nuitants would be larger. That is perfectly true, but it must not be forgotten that all the cost of administering Dominion Government annuities is paid out of general revenue, and does not come out of the money paid in by annuitants. Can Archdeacon Webb be sure that any committee the Church could appoint would be able to earn so much (say 7 or 8 per cent.) on its funds that it could meet all the expenses of management and 5 per cent. for the annuitants? Furthermore, can this be done, not for the next ten years only, but for the next fifty years? The scheme must be good not only for the next ten years of high interest, but for the next half-century, at least, of probably declining interest rates. Actuarial assistance is better than guess work, but even actuaries fail—particularly the more optimistic ones—as witness the "readjustment" of rates of practically every benevolent society in Canada in the last ten years. And the effect of some of those readjustments has been terrible. Similarly some educational and municipal superannuation schemes, carefully planned, have come to grief within the past year, and the Dominion Government civil service superannuation scheme abolished in 1897 has never been re-established though ministers and civil servants have worked hard at it. These schemes failed or were abandoned not because of losses of capital, but because the basis was not broad enough. But if Archdeacon Webb is sure a Church Committee would always make sound investments he will not carry a good many eastern laymen with him, because they can remember some eastern dioceses with large invested funds of which one-third were at one time, not only not returning any interest, but were not meeting the taxes on the property under mortgage. Possibly Archdeacon Webb has counted all these things in his scheme, but in any event they must form part of the calculations under which any permanent scheme is drafted.

Economist.

WHO WILL HELP?

Sir,—To the appeal, Who Will Help? which you so kindly put in our paper, I have received the following subscriptions, which I would be glad if you will acknowledge in your columns also. I am unable at present to make it known what price of a chair it will take, as we do not know what style can be used to best advantage, but am making enquiries, and until then, any subscriptions will be acceptable, as I do not think a sufficient amount is on hand yet.

Received up to the present time:—
Dec. 31—Mr. E. A. Peck, Peterborough \$2.00
Dec. 31—J. H. N., Oakville 2.00
Jan. 7—Mrs. Hague, Kingston 1.00
Jan. 8—Molsons Bank, 114-118 Bay St., Toronto 5.00
Jan. 8—A. B. C., Guelph 3.00
Dec. 31—Mrs. H. Manley, Meaford 1.00
Jan. 9—Mrs. Jeffery Hill, Shelburne 2.00
Jan. 10—W. Dewfall, Toronto 2.00
Jan. 11—Alex Weir, Burford 1.00

Total \$19.00

The writer of the appeal is very grateful for such a prompt response.

J. R. Bythell,
Rector, St. Thomas' Church,
Granton, Ont.

A result, which savours more of a national loan than a campaign for social and moral benefit, follows the work which Mr. J. J. Virgo, of England, came to the United States last September to further. No less than ten million pounds sterling has been contributed by that country for Y.M.C.A. work.

The Churchwoman

New Branch of W.A. Formed.

An enthusiastic gathering of the women workers of St. Paul's Church, Runnymede, Toronto, met in the church on January 17, to participate in the organization of a new Branch of the Woman's Auxiliary. The meeting was addressed by Miss Summerhayes, general secretary of the W.A. for the diocese of Toronto, who explained the object of such an organization in a church and the necessity of concentrated efforts upon the part of the officers and members to successfully conduct the work. Rev. E. Morley, the Rector, commended the ladies upon their enthusiasm in endeavouring to establish a new society, which meant more work. "It is another milestone reached in the programme of our church," he said. The officers are: Mrs. F. Forsyth, pres.; Mrs. G. L. Murchison, vice-pres.; Mrs. G. A. Carter, sec.; Mrs. Morley, treas.; Mrs. H. Hallett, Dorcas sec.; Mrs. J. Gunn, literature sec.; Mrs. V. D. Harbinson, sec. of baby department; Mrs. A. V. Day, General Board representative. The society will meet every alternate Thursday in the basement of the church.

W.A. Has Successful Year.

The Woman's Auxiliary of St. Thomas' Parish, Granton, Ont., held their annual meeting on Thursday, December 6th. The president, Mrs. Bythell, was in the chair, and the Rector conducted the opening devotions and gave a Bible talk on the work of the women, commending them highly for the success of their faithful efforts during the past year. The secretary, Mrs. A. German, read an interesting report, showing an increase of attendance at meetings, an increase of missionary interest and an increase of giving. The report of the treasurer, Mrs. W. S. Dinsmore, showed a substantial increase, amounting to nearly \$100. The officers for the ensuing year are as follows:—Honorary president, Mrs. J. R. Bythell; president, Mrs. W. J. Dinsmore, vice-president, Mrs. S. Coxon; secretary, Mrs. A. German; treasurer, Mrs. W. S. Dinsmore. Other members on the executive: Mrs. C. Powers, Mrs. E. L. Hodgins, Miss F. Stanley.

The annual meeting of the Ladies' Guild of St. Thomas Church was held on Thursday, January 10th, at the home of Mrs. W. Foster. The Rector, Rev. J. R. Bythell, opened the meeting with prayer, and Mrs. Bythell, being president, conducted the business. The annual reports were read and approved, total receipts being \$470.74, with a balance on hand of \$296.09, which is the commencement of a fund for Church building improvement, which the ladies hope will be commenced after the war. Plans for the coming year's work were discussed and committees appointed to act on the same. The election of officers resulted as follows:—President, Mrs. J. R. Bythell; vice-president, Mrs. W. Dann; secretary, Miss Jennie Foreman; treasurer, Mrs. H. German. Other members on the executive:—Mrs. S. Coxon, Mrs. Clatworthy, Miss Ada Jermyn.

One of the mission clergy of the American Church in Utah has been working for three weeks recently as a labourer in one of the large copper plants in order to get to know the men and their point of view—and incidentally to earn three dollars a day for the Armenian and Syrian Relief Fund. He says: "It has been a wonderful experience, and one which a missionary should go through at an industrial centre before trying to preach to the men."

Church News

Preferments, Appointments and Inductions.

Moffatt, Rev. E. K., M.A., of Fort, diocese of Qu'Appelle, appointed to the Mission of East Angus, Quebec.

Love, Rev. A. T., B.A., of Marbleton, diocese of Quebec, elected Rural Dean of Cookshire.

Roche, Rev. Henry, formerly Curate of St. John's, West Toronto, to be Curate of the Church of the Ascension, Hamilton. (Diocese of Niagara.)

Naylor, Rev. Herbert, Incumbent of Longford Mills and Atherley, to be Curate at St. John's, West Toronto. (Diocese of Toronto.)

Smith, Rev. C. H. E., M.A., Missionary at Acton and Rockwood, to be Rector of St. Mark's Church, Niagara-on-the-Lake. (Diocese of Niagara.)

Ryall, Rev. Septimus, Rector of Chemainus, B.C., to be Rector of Nanaimo, B.C. (diocese of Columbia.)

The Day of Prayer at St. John's, Saskatoon.

Special services were held in this church on the Day of Prayer, January 6th, which were well attended. At the morning service the Rector, the Rev. Canon Smith, preached from the text, 1 Kings 8: 61: "Let your heart therefore be perfect with the Lord our God, to walk in His statutes and to keep His commandments." The churches, he said, look upon war as a contradiction of the spirit of Christ, and yet the necessities of the times make it incumbent upon the Christian himself to fight. The stain upon our Christianity would have been indelible if in the face of the violation of Belgian neutrality we had simply folded our hands and stood indifferently at one side. Wherein Christianity has failed, it has been through no defect of the wondrous scheme itself, no lack of power, or love, or forethought in the living head, but simply through the weakness, the disloyalty, the half-heartedness of those poor human agents by whom Christ has willed to carry out His gracious purposes. The war calls us to serious thought, stern resolve, to individual consecration of self to Christ, so that the time may come when human passion shall be tamed, and peace begin its reign. Never has the glory of self-sacrifice shone out so brilliantly. Our men have gone to the front not thinking of personal gain, or the enlargement of national territory, but in response to the call for personal sacrifice. Our womankind have been no less ready to yield up their nearest and their dearest. But more than sympathy on our part is required if the ultimate issues of the war are to be the best. We have not done our part when we have given our dollars to the Patriotic and Red Cross Funds. There is a spiritual side to the war and there must be spiritual results. These will only be obtained by the sword of faith and the arrow of prayer. The spiritual force of the nation does not reside in the clergy alone. The people as well as the clergy must wake up. Individual responsibility calls for the practice of intercession and national responsibility calls no less for the practice of corporate worship, for united devotions. The mysterious, electrical force of the enthusiasm of numbers is of immense value in public worship. And yet many professing Christians are frightfully slack in their attendance at the house of prayer. Such plausible excuses are found for their absence. People say hard things of "slackers," and they are right. But the worst slackers are not the frightened youths who will not fight, but the lazy Christians who will not pray. The nation must humble itself in prayer, contrition and consecration

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