

### An Adjourned Meeting

If further reason were needed for maintaining that the Presbytery programme needs attention, and also that two days' meetings may at times be necessary to do justice to the business of the church, it need only be noted that at the adjourned meeting fixed for the Kitsilano case a few days later, other subjects awaited conference and decision.

"Reports of Assembly Commissioners," though down for reception, were still unheard, as no "Assembly Commissioners" were in attendance at the adjourned meeting.

### The Kitsilano Case

To sensible folk of all shades of religious belief, open differences among church members are always a source of sorrow. That being so, there was good cause to be gratified at the final wording of the recommendation of the "Commission" appointed to deal with the conditions which had arisen at Kitsilano. That recommendation or motion, which was passed unanimously, revealed a spirit which was at once creditable to the work of the Commission and to all the parties concerned, including the pastor, Rev. Dr. McKinnon.

Perhaps it would have been better had the acting-Moderator (Dr. Mackay) closed the matter with the exercise of thankfulness in prayer which Dr. Carruthers suggested as appropriate, and to which he, in common with Rev. A. O. Paterson (at the Moderator's request) gave voice. Allowance must be made for the feeling of relief and satisfaction at settlement, common to all, which no doubt prompted Dr. McKinnon to ask to be heard thereafter. The granting of the request by the Moderator was also in harmony with the gracious spirit then dominating the Presbytery.

Dr. McKinnon's remarks had a beautiful ending, quoted from the New Testament. Possibilities of the future no doubt occurred to the impartial friends and well-wishers of both sides. Having been led to show such an excellent spirit, Kitsilano may within the year give the community a further object lesson in what the exercise of Christian spirit can do to weld together people of different viewpoints but with Christian ideals. Meantime, it will probably make for the progress in the social and Christian life of all concerned if they live in the expectation that the separation that Dr. McKinnon has now decided upon shall take place. The fact that he voluntarily agreed upon such a course suggests that there is likely to be awaiting the strong personality and fighting spirit of Dr. McKinnon a greater work than his present circumstances supply. The Christian minister serves a Master Whose field for service is the world, and, given the right spirit, there are undoubtedly tasks for all types of workers.

### "Bronco-Breaker" for Powell River

The people of Powell River are to be congratulated on the prospect of their getting Rev. D. R. McLean, B.A., sometime of Hazelton and latterly of Quesnel, as their pastor. Like Rev. A. O. Paterson, "D. R." is one of the first graduates of Westminster Hall (1910). We understand he has done good work in the north country, and those who like to see strong men who have helped to "open up the country" religiously, transferred within measurable distance of the larger cities, so that they may, occasionally at least, share in influencing crowded lives, will be glad if this "Call" goes through and is accepted.

At College Mr. McLean was sometimes referred to as "the Bronco-breaker," and it may be said with confidence that if knowledge of veterinary science makes him a valuable friend to horses, it does not make him less a minister for men. Under the present system influencing the church democracy, ministers with less equipment sometimes get called to city churches and to churches in the neighbourhood of the cities.

Should Mr. McLean, who must now have done a fair share of the rough pioneering work, accept this call, he will be a valuable addition to the Presbytery of Westminster.

## THE BRITISH COLUMBIA MONTHLY

### REPETITION OF NOMINATIONS AT SEPTEMBER MEETING

Publication of the foregoing impressions has awaited final re-arrangements in connection with the changes in this magazine. In the meantime the matter of the Principalship of the Coast College was held up in such a way as to lead to the request being officially repeated for nominations by the Presbyteries within the Synod of British Columbia. Before the end of August it was reported that the Presbyteries of Victoria, Kamloops and Kootenay had each in turn, and presumably by majorities at least, nominated, or re-nominated, the Rev. W. H. Smith.

The Westminster Presbytery was the last Presbytery in the Synod to have the matter of nominations under re-consideration. At its meeting on 2nd September, that Presbytery, following a memorable discussion on the subject, in the course of which four men were nominated, decided by a considerable majority to submit to the Management of the College only one name for the Principalship—that of Rev. W. H. Smith, M.A., B.D., Ph.D.

### An Appreciation of Rev W. H. Smith

IN conformity with the Presbyterian custom, Rev. James Carruthers, D.D., who was appointed by the Presbytery as interim Moderator of Session, occupied St. John's pulpit on the second of November and declared the charge vacant. In connection with that duty, Dr. Carruthers made the following reference to the retiring pastor:

In my position as Interim-moderator of the Session of this congregation, and as the life-long friend of your late minister, it is but fitting that I should speak a word of appreciation. I have known Dr. Smith as a student and followed him in his work throughout his different charges, and watched success following success, until he became the minister of St. John's church. St. John's church has had a succession of great preachers, each distinguished in his own way. But it seems to me that Dr. Smith has won his way into the hearts of a large circle by his gifts and graces as a man and a preacher. He came among you at a time—the very hardest for both minister and people. We were in the midst of the war. Already many hearts were bleeding, many homes desolated. The hardest of all things is for one to breathe his sorrows into the ears of a stranger, and doubly hard it is for the minister to say the right word to one but slightly known to him.

But Dr. Smith is a great HUMAN. You found him such. His words consoled you, his prayers carried you to the Throne, and his life appealed to you as a great friendship. He was indeed called of God to minister to you in your joys and sorrows, guide you in all your congregational work, leading you fearlessly on the side of truth and righteousness, ever keeping before you great ideals. I feel sure that I am expressing the mind of every one of you when I say that he was a faithful minister to all, from the humblest home to the highest. All were his people, all were equally dear to him.

You are giving him to the wider work of a College Principal. His removal is an occasion of rejoicing at what Westminster Hall shall gain. Yet I cannot help feeling that as you bid him "God-Speed," the sting of regret is in your heart.

### PRINCIPAL SMITH HONOURED WITH D.D. DEGREE

Information has been received that a special meeting of the Senate of the Presbyterian College, Halifax, was called on October 29th, to confer the degree of D.D. upon Rev. W. H. Smith, M.A., B.D., Ph.D., the recently appointed Principal of Westminster Hall, Vancouver.

Halifax College, which is entering upon its ninety-ninth