

Sir Thomas Taylor supported the resolution, remarking that he had assisted in preparing the resolution for the sale of old Knox College property on Grenville and Grosvenor streets a third of a century ago.

Mr. John Charlton made a plea for the consolidation of the three colleges in Ontario and Quebec. There was no need of these three colleges. Now was the time to consolidate. If this was not done students would continue to go to the States. The Church wanted a powerful theological school to which the students would flock instead of going abroad.

Principal McLaren thought Mr. Charlton spoke without warrant. The English and Scotch and United States colleges had declined in exactly the same way as those of Canada, and to an even greater extent. He regretted this decrease in the number of students offering for the ministry, but they had no exodus of students to the United States. And certainly if the Church were beginning de novo and establishing but one theological college in these central Provinces, that one would be located at Toronto. In the face of the facts of the case and of the history of present conditions it would be the utmost folly to remove Knox College from Toronto or to arrest its healthy development. The resolution was adopted unanimously.

Principal Falconer presented the report of the Presbyterian College, Halifax. He spoke with hopefulness and enthusiasm of the work and prospects of the college. The tide had turned and the outlook for students is good. The exodus of students to the States is far less than ten years ago.

In the judgment of the board a material addition should be made to the salaries of the professors, and the General Assembly was asked to remit the whole matter to the Synod of the Maritime Provinces, with power to issue the matter. It was also agreed, in view of the debt now on the fund and the other claims upon it, to ask for \$17,000 for the college fund during the present year, of which congregations are requested to contribute not less than \$8,000.

The Montreal College.

Principal Scrimger, in the regretted absence of Mr. David Morrice, chairman of the board, presented the Montreal College report. He had nothing in the way of radical change to bring before the House. The falling off in students had reached its lowest ebb, and he expected an increase in the next few years. Only one student in four years had gone to the States. In a supplementary report it was recommended that Rev. D. J. Clark be continued as lecturer in Church history, and that authority be given to arrange with the Congregational College for instruction in Old Testament history, apologetics and exegesis. He thought the three colleges in Montreal in connection with the negotiating churches would, in case of union, become one.

The Board of Management of the college reported a financial position somewhat improved as compared with last year, extensive repairs on the original building erected over thirty years ago having prevented a more favorable statement. Except, however, for the debt of \$24,450 still standing against the building fund, all balances were on the right side. The total balance amounts to \$265,462.49, of which \$256,246.24 is in the endowment fund.

Rev. Alfred Gandier moved the adoption of the report, which was unanimously agreed to. He thought that young men feared they had not the qualities which would enable them to succeed in the ministry, so they turned elsewhere.

Progress of Queens.

Principal Gordon, in presenting the report of Queen's University, Kingston, pointed out the striking increase of students in the university. They numbered 1,042, or 85 over last year. The number of theological students fluctuated less than in any other college. The growth of

Queen's warranted them in the effort for an additional \$500,000 of endowment. Speaking of the Government grant, he said that on the question of Government aid the position always consistently taken by Queen's was that the Provincial Government should not confine its help to any one institution or centre. The policy pursued in all well-educated countries was against centralization. By a variety of institutions they got a variety of training which was of advantage to the country. Certain sources of revenue were closed to Queen's through its connection with the Church, on which, therefore, rested a responsibility to secure its adequate support. A strong regard was paid in Queen's to the nobler aims of life, and through it the Church could exercise a mighty influence in moulding the life of the country.

On the motion of Professor Baird the report was unanimously adopted. Professor Forrest, who seconded the motion, thought it would be well to have a college committee to look after the colleges in the interests of the Assembly.

Mission Work in the East.

After the opening services the evening sederunt was entirely devoted to home missions. Rev. J. S. Sutherland, Halifax, Convener of the committee for the eastern section, presented their report. The field of the committee includes the Maritime Provinces, Newfoundland, part of Quebec and part of Maine, with a population of 1,100,000, of whom 160,000 are Presbyterians. Distinct progress had been made, though the population was practically at a standstill. A new movement had been inaugurated among the lumbermen about Miramichi. They had observed the golden rule of "Hoe your own row," and not only supported their own work but gave considerably to other fields. He paid a tribute to the work of Rev. James Ross, the Superintendent for New Brunswick, whose work the committee wished to extend to the whole Synod.

The Laborers too few.

"The darkest page in the cheering retrospect is that which contains the record of the scarcity of men to supply some of the fields which so much needed additional laborers," was a keynote in the report of the committee.

"Our ordained missionaries have numbered 22, as against 21 for the preceding year, and 34 for the year 1903-04. These 22 ordained missionaries have supplied congregations which have 60 preaching stations, 3,871 of an average Sabbath attendance, 1,066 families, 148 single persons not connected with families, and 1,615 communicants, of whom 101 were added during the year. The mission charges paid for the services of their missionaries \$6,177.16 and contributed for the schemes of the Church \$1,143.27, of which \$293.51 was for home missions. These congregations have received grants from the home mission fund aggregating \$4,994.19, being \$66.37 less than the amount given to the same branch of the service during the preceding year, and \$1,088.01 less than during the year 1903-04.

"The number of catechists employed last summer was 44, as against 54 during the preceding summer. These catechists supplied 54 fields, which had 110 preaching stations, an average Sabbath attendance of 5,470, 1,558 families, 300 single persons not connected with families, and 1,595 communicants, of whom 141 were added during the year, as against 114 additions during the previous year. Our people in these fields paid for the services of their missionaries no less than \$7,114.08, besides contributing \$307.18 for the schemes, of which \$196.80 was for home missions. To assist these mission fields the committee made grants amounting to \$1,957.60, a somewhat larger sum in proportion to the number of laborers than that which was paid in 1904-05."

Carrying Their Training West.

The duty of the workers in the Maritime Provinces, declares the report, "appears to be the careful training of the

children and young people in morals and religion, so that they may furnish the material for Church building in other Provinces of our country. The results may not be apparent to us who labor in the Maritime Synod, but they are everywhere manifest throughout every section of the great Northwest. Our labor is not lost by the shifting of population, as the statistical returns prove conclusively."

A gratifying statement of finances was presented, showing receipts of \$11,591, with a balance from last year of \$395. There were also receipts for the Northwest of \$5,000, making in all \$2,000 over last year. Besides this there were bequests amounting to \$1,291. The expenditure for the year was \$10,206, leaving a credit balance on March 1 of \$3,195.

The Great Western Field.

Rev. E. D. McLaren presented a resolution to receive the report of the Home Mission Committee (western section), expressing appreciation and satisfaction with the work that had been done and gratification at the liberal response made for the support of the work. He referred in feeling words to the death of the late Dr. Warden, who would be more missed in home missions than any other department. He thought that in spiritual results the past year had been the most successful in all the operations of the missions, but he had two things he wished to speak of. On the character of the incoming population he wanted to sound a warning to the Assembly, as he had already done to the congregations for two years past—the warning of the danger of trying to settle on the magnificent inheritance west of the great lakes immediately irrespective of where the people come from. He had prepared a map, which he thought suggestive, showing the settlements of the foreign population.

Where Illiteracy Reigns.

There were 70,000 Galicians, and he could drive thirty-five miles in one direction in a straight line and fifty miles in another where he could not find one single English-speaking man or a single school.

"We are standing in momentous days," he said, "looking out on a glorious future. Whether these possibilities will become actualities depends on how the Christian youth of this generation undertake the duties that God has laid on them to perform."

He invoked the ministers to see that their congregations measured up to their responsibilities and proved worthy of the God who saw in Canadians

"A people poor in noble and state,
But rich in noble deeds,
Folding that righteousness exalts
The nation that it leads."

Heredity and the Gospel.

Rev. Dr. Carmichael seconded the motion in a searching and enlightening address, and surveyed the field of the western missions with its influence of 30,000 families, equal to 600 mission fields. Last year they had heard much of the strength of heredity and of environment overcoming heredity but there had been environments in the west where the best heredity of the east was overcome and men went to places like a barrel without hoops. They must so preach that heredity would be overcome for good by the redemptive forces of the Gospel.

Rev. Dr. Herdman spoke of the swift forming towns and villages and settlements in Alberta, where the public school was always the largest edifice. Among the Galicians there was not one separate school. Hospitals were a necessity, and he announced that a member of the Women's Missionary Society had promised \$4,000 for a hospital to be named as she directed.

Rev. A. C. Strachan, Assn. Secy., closed the addresses supplemental to the report with a plea for more men and means.