

Ministers and Churches.

Our Toronto Letter.

It is interesting to note as shewing the attention the spiritual needs of our North West is receiving in the motherland, that the Colonial and Continental Church Society of England, have granted to Wycliff College a scholarship of \$150 to be awarded to a student in training for missionary work in that part of Canada.

The city is still almost deserted by nearly all the pastors of congregations, but next week some will be returning, and before two Sundays more are past, the most of them will have got back and be getting into harness for the work of another year. Judging from the names to be seen as supplying the vacant pulpits, the preaching part of the services has been, we should think, well sustained. The Rev. Louis H. Jordan B. D., occupied his old pulpit last Sabbath and was gladly welcomed by as many of his old congregation as were in the city, and by a large number of outside friends as well. He has been delivering a special course of lectures at the University of Chicago, on the "Genesis and Growth" of Comparative Religion, and is now on his way back to England, still further to carry on studies and work in his special line.

On Sept. 10th in Knox church the General Assembly's Committee on Young People's Societies is called to meet for business, when the following subjects will be considered: 1. Report of the Committee on Literary Studies. 2. Report of the Committee on Consecutive Bible Studies. 3. Proposed changes in schedule to be sent to Conveners. 4. The selection of two special denominational topics. 5. The appointment of writers to discuss the special topics in the Presbyterian Record. 6. The appointment of a Committee to select daily readings for the special topics. 7. The publication of a small hand-book for young people. 8. The advisability of establishing a summer school for young people. 9. The extension of our work, organization of new societies, etc. 10. The appointment of some person or persons to issue and sell the Model Constitution of the Presbyterian Guild.

This is especially the season for outings of all kinds and by and for all sorts of people. Mr. Hall, city missionary, has lately received contributions to the amount of \$92.00 for outings for deserving poor known to him in his humane and most praiseworthy labours. We in Toronto here are all interested in the fact of Dr. Parkin, C. M. S., the Principal of Upper Canada College, being appointed by the trustees of the late Cecil Rhodes estate, to direct the establishment of colonial and American scholarships arranged for under the terms of his will. All will regret his severance from his present important and influential position, should this become necessary, but in any case, he will not enter upon his new work, until he has completed certain arrangements for putting Upper Canada College on a better working basis. The carrying out of the provisions of Mr. Rhodes, will in the matter of scholarships for students in different parts of the empire and the United States particularly, will be watched by all intelligent people, with great interest as to the effect it may have upon the countries concerned, and the long established traditions, and conservative spirit and methods of Oxford University. Speaking of Canada's interests and public questions, our attention was caught by the following sentences in a daily of this city by which we fancy most will sympathize. Canada has done her share towards cementing the empire with her best blood. She must now attend to the simple domestic duty of cementing her own welfare with her best brains. Canada's own problems are not easy or unimportant. If Canadians turn in and settle these problems they will have no surplus of brains or energy to export for the assistance of the English people. If reports from across the Atlantic are correct, Canadian brains and energy there now, are being directed with good effect to solving some of Canada's problems in such a way as we doubt not will greatly promote the material well being of the Dominion.

Ecclesiastical news is at a premium in this city at present, when, figuratively speaking, everyone who could make any ecclesiastical stir is out of town. Even the Metropolitan presbytery of Toronto takes a rest, and holds no meeting in August. Only a few stray items

which acknowledge no percentage find their way to the public ear. I think I have mentioned that, failing to find a suitable successor to take the place of the late Professor Halliday Douglas, Knox College Board had decided to ask three ministers, pastors of congregations, to take his work between them. One of these is Rev. Alfred Gandier, B. D., pastor of St. James Square Church, who has been asked to take the first year's classes in Apologetics. After consultation with his session, Mr. Gandier has agreed to undertake this, and if the assistance promised to help him in his congregation line is of the right kind, and his health and strength keep up, there can be no doubt he will do the work conscientiously and well. The congregation of Deer Park is making a strong effort, in which there is the hope it may be successful, to retain the services as its pastor Rev. D. C. Hossack, who has been called to Franklin, Pennsylvania. The main question in Mr. Hossack's mind is the sphere of widest influence for good, offered by one place as compared with the other. Much interest is felt by his many friends in the city, in the call to Vancouver of Rev. W. J. Clark of London to succeed Rev. Dr. MacLaren in St. Andrews, vacant by the appointment of the latter to be the General Home Missionary Secretary of the church. Rev. J. G. Shearer the able secretary of the Lord's Day Alliance, now in British Columbia, writes that, although there is room yet for much improvement in Sabbath observance in the mining districts and on the coast, a noticeable change for the better is taking place, and people are asking and will not be satisfied until they get improved legislation to help them in this battle. Large congregations for the time of year were present at St. James' Square church on Sunday 17th., to greet their old pastor, Rev. Sims H. Jordan, B. D., whose services were much appreciated. Evidently his student life is agreeing with him as he is looking remarkably well. The course of lectures which he gave in Chicago University was well attended, and it is not improbable that they may be published as a popular presentation of the subject of Comparative Religion. Rev. W. Wilberforce McCuaig, assistant of Rev. Dr. Barclay, of Montreal, has been rendering most acceptable service to Rev. Dr. Armstrong Black's congregation. He has also received royal congratulations, it is said, for a new National Anthem of which he is the writer.

The Normal School in this city has just begun its sessions with 118 students of whom but 13 are males. At the present rate, the female invasion and conquest of the teaching profession will soon be so complete, that there will not be found among the males such a thing as "the fittest" to survive. We understand that, in Chicago University, so formidable is the incursion of female students that the question of what is to be done to prevent driving away male students and the university becoming a woman's institution is growing quite a serious one, notwithstanding the numbers of females flocking to the teaching profession, there appears to be a scarcity of common school teachers of a high grade of scholarship. To promote an education to this class the Deputy Minister of Education is proposing that, an enlarged grant should be made to schools employing the best qualified teachers. The Conservatory of Music, another teaching institution in the city, had last year at its various classes for culture of different kinds, the large attendance of 1300, and expects to have an increase this season. As an evidence of the present great material prosperity of the country it may be mentioned that the educational institutions of all kinds in the city are flourishing.

The Rhodes' scholarships to which reference has once and again been made is a very large undertaking to put into full and satisfactory working order. Principal Parkin of Upper Canada College who has received an influential and responsible appointment in connection with them has been saying to our interviewer, that the trustees of the Rhodes estate, owing to the complexity of the interests to be consulted, are not disposed to hasten matters, but rather to take time to do their work thoroughly and solidly, once for all. In consequence of this wise course of proceeding, it will be the autumn of 1904 before the scholarship scheme can be brought into full operation, and made available to students.

A Convention of the Ontario W. C. T. U. is to be held in the city soon, and the ladies of that organization and their friends are hard at work making preparation for it. Lady Henry Somerset and Rev. H. I. Saunders, M. A., from England, are expected to be present and address

the convention at which it is expected 200 will be present. About 300 leading Methodist clergymen and laymen will soon be taking their departure by various routes to Winnipeg to attend the meeting of the General Conference to begin its sessions there early next month.

The tourist travel to Muskoka and all our recreation grounds in Muskoka and the region round about is this year exceptionally large. The call for harvesters for Manitoba and our Northwest are making things hum at our Union Railway station. On Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays there leave special trains loaded with harvesters and quite a sprinkling of men and women who want to do very much at that work. On all the excursions which have so far left Ontario it is supposed that 8000 people have gone west.

The prospects for a large attendance at Toronto's great annual Industrial Exhibition and for an excellent display are better than ever. It is expected to be opened by Lord Dunsford, General Officer commanding the Canadian Forces. A dinner will be given him by Lieut. Col. Pellett which will be a private military function, and addresses will also be presented to the General by several united Scottish societies in the city. A monument has just been erected in memory of Scotland's great national bard, and before many months, another will be put in place in the Queen's Park in memory of Simcoe, the first Governor of the Province. Premier Ross who has been in England has returned home to find a rather uncomfortable state of matters politically and people are saying, what will he do?

Death of the Rev. W. H. Ness, B. D.

A deep gloom was cast over the village of Stroud and surrounding district in the Presbytery of Renie when on Thursday, Aug. 14th, it was learned that the Rev. W. H. Ness, B. D., who had been in poor health for several years had passed away. Mr. Ness was born in 1852 and grew up as a boy in the Township of Innisfil, Co. of Simcoe. Early in life he gave his heart to God and after teaching for a time was led to study for the ministry. He attended Toronto University and Knox College taking his final year in Princetown graduating in 1881. He was a college mate of such men as Jas. Farquharson, the late R. Y. Thompson, M. McGregor and John Neil. The largest part of his ministry was spent at Pootipique, Nova Scotia, amongst a kind and sympathetic people. Their appreciation and their love for him as a minister of the gospel was shown by their urging him to cease work and take some months of rest and change in a warmer climate rather than have him resign. The writer has frequently heard him speak of the kindness of the brethren of his Presbytery and amongst others the names of Rev. McGeigie of Parkdale and Dr. McMillan now of Halifax was mentioned. Since coming to reside in Stroud he loved to meet and converse with any of the brethren who assisted Mr. Ross at preparatory or anniversary services. He loved the study of God's word and when able took delight in reading critically and carefully which is evidenced by his taking his B. D. in 1891 while pastor of a large congregation. The funeral services were conducted by J. A. Ross, B. A., assisted by the Rev. Mr. McConnell his old friend of whom he always spoke in the kindest way. Rev. Mr. McKee of the Methodist church was also present and assisted in the service. He leaves a loving wife, five brothers, besides many warm friends to mourn his death. He was a genuine christian man allowing few opportunities of directing young and old to church to pass unimproved. After the service the congregation gathered at Cargate Station to again extend their sympathy and bid farewell to Mrs. Ness who by her pleasant manner and sterling qualities made many friends. The remains were taken to Southampton, Nova Scotia, for burial.

TO CONSUMPTIVES.

The undersigned having been restored to health by simple means, after suffering for several years with a severe lung affection, and that dread disease Consumption, is anxious to make known to his fellow sufferers the means of cure. To those who desire it, he will cheerfully send (free of charge) a copy of the prescription used, which they will find a sure cure for Consumption, Asthma, Catarrh, Bronchitis and all throat and lung Maladies. He hopes all sufferers will try his remedy, as it is invaluable. Those desiring the prescription, which will cost them nothing, and may prove a blessing, will please address
Rev. EDWARD A. WILSON, Brooklyn, New York