

GENERAL ASSEMBLY REPORT.

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men a higher conception of their stewardship.

6. That we endeavor by appeals from the pulpit and by personal conversation with the young men to enlist their services in some department of the church's activities, especially in the ministry where the call is so loud and urgent.

7. That we unite our forces and use all legitimate means to banish the bar from our land.

8. That thanks be given to our God and Father for all the tokens of His presence and blessing in our homes, and that continued prayer be made for a revival of family religion in our beloved church.

A memorial from the Ottawa presbytery, asking for a revival of family worship, was also presented in connection with the recommendations, and these with the report were adopted.

Lord's Day Alliance.

Rev. T. Albert Moore, secretary of the Lord's Day Alliance, then addressed the assembly. He said: "I represent a great organization in which the Presbyterian Church is interested. I can never forget those words of the late Principal Caven that the Lord's day is the right arm of the church." A visiting minister from Australia, he said, had spoken to him of an alarming decrease in church attendance, and that the changing of the holy day into a holiday was the cause. We must recognize the sacred side as well as the rest side of this day. We believe that great importance is to be placed on the teaching on that subject in the pulpit and the home. "Last night, on the train, a brakeman said to me 'If Christians would not use the trains on Sunday we beggars would have less to do.' The Lord's Day Act of 1907 had received universal commendation. Fully \$5,000 were not at work on Sundays yesterday who toiled seven days in the week before that act came into force. There is no appreciable detriment to any industry in the land. It was difficult to put the law in force in the Yukon, but last year forty cases were won before the courts. Last month it had come into force in British Columbia. The sentiment of the province has arisen in its favor. 'There are violations,' said the speaker, 'but every train running on that day may not be a violation. The railways are making efforts to live up to the Lord's Day Act, and these may be said of other industries. We appeal to all to stand by this organization that has been so rich in blessing.'

Augmentation East and West.

The report on augmentation in the east was presented by Dr. Edwin Smith, of Truro. The work was spoken of as satisfactory. There was a time when this committee received a good deal of opposition, but this had died down. There should be no trouble to meet the demands of the fund.

The augmentation report of the western section was presented by the Moderator. He said, "We are asking \$2,000 this year in order to raise the stipend to \$900. It is perfectly easy to do this if we are in earnest. Presbyteries receiving from this fund should respond liberally to it."

The reports were adopted. Professor Dyde, in moving the adoption of the report, said that Home Missions and Augmentation were really one. "I trust that assistance to charges at our door shall be as interesting as those a thousand miles away." Touching on education, the Professor said, "The ministers of augmented congregations are as well educated as those in self-sustaining charges. It is different in our schools. It is a shame," he said, "that these ministers should receive this slight support." The speaker referred to the tendency of schools to teach agriculture; agriculture districts, manufacturing; manufacturing places, and so on. Yet from these districts come our ministers, lawyers and doctors. I say what is good for one school is good for all.

French Evangelization.

Dr. Mowatt, of Montreal, introduced the subject of work among the French-Canadians. "The Lord loves the poor, and this grand mission is always hard up." It is the thirty-third report. There are forty-three mission fields representing 880 Protestant families. The number of communicants added last year was 1,213. They contributed \$9,670, of which \$636 was for missions.

Rev. G. B. Castellini, a Waldensian whose history is bound up with martyrdom, spoke on behalf of the Italian mission in Canada. He has all the marks of his race—dark, thick-set, persistent, and fiery temperament. He went over his time, but Dr. Mowatt said "that it was hard to stop Niagara." He said the Italians of Canada are from the rural districts in the south of Italy. When they come to this country they are poor and live in crowds in the worst parts of the city. This tends to licentiousness. There are 2,000 in Montreal. The work among them began five years ago in the basement of St. John's French Church. Then they bought an expensive building, expecting friends to help them. "If they do not turn in soon we will have to sell it, though it has increased in value; may have to sacrifice it. Won't you do something to help us?"

Rev. J. P. Bruneau, of Montreal, with the eloquent tongue of his compatriots, made the central Church ring in a stirring speech. He said: "I come not because I am a Frenchman, but because it is right. I have noted changes in your Province. They are due not to your nationality, but religion. We feel that we are duty bound to scatter the 'seeds of kindness' over the fields of my fellow-countrymen. I could tell you hundreds of cases where conversions took place at 70 and 80 years of age."

Rev. E. H. Brandt, the son of another historic martyr church, a Huguenot, reported for Pointe aux Trembles School, of which he is Principal. There is no more popular member of Assembly, none more trusted, than this strong, sane, capable servant of the Master, who will give any French boy or girl who comes to him for help "fair play." Success is already due to aim, and if any one is going to make something living out of the cause in Quebec, it is this young man, with the fair and sunny face, yet magnetic personality. He said: "We have 265 pupils in our school. There were 35 more who applied that we had no room to admit. Of these 105 came from Roman Catholic homes, and 167 were the children of converts. We had the pleasure of seeing 35 join the Church this session."

Dr. Mowatt then moved the following resolutions, which were adopted:

The Board desires to express its grateful appreciation for the financial and other assistance given from congregations and Sunday schools, missions and other associations and individual friends and especially to the Women's Missionary Society for the salary of a colporteur and 15 scholarships for Pointe-aux-Trembles, the Montreal Auxiliary Bible Society for large grants of scriptures, the National Bible Society of Scotland for grant towards colportage, and other friends for their subscriptions towards its work.

The Board, having considered several propositions for the quarto-centenary of John Calvin, unanimously agreed to recommend to the General Assembly: (1) That commemorative services be held throughout the Church on the 11th of July next, and suitable sermons be preached, and inasmuch as the centenary of Dr. Charles Chiniquy falls on the 30th of the same month, it be suggested that reference be made to his work also. (2) That at these services appeal be made for prayerful interest in the work of French evangelization and for liberal aid for this scheme of our Church as carried on in its missions, schools or other work approved by the Board of French Evangelization.

The Rev. Leon Payne, having declined the appointment to the French chair in the Presbyterian College, Montreal, the College Board invited the Rev. Ch. Blier to the position, with the understanding that the salary should be a rate of \$2,500 per annum up to the end of the ecclesiastical year, and \$2,750 from that date. He accepts and the Assembly is asked to confirm.

On Sunday Schools.

Rev. A. MacGillivray reported for the Sabbath schools. Some might think this a threadbare subject. Others that it was commonplace. But others who today hear of great movements and thrilling addresses might well say, after hearing the convener, the General Secretary, Rev. J. C. Robertson, and secondor, Mr. R. MacQueen, Kirkwall, that the addresses were "second to none."

Rev. A. MacGillivray said: "Think of what has been done to win precious young life and retain it. If we have any thanks it is for those who are manning our schools from one end of the Dominion to the other. There are 3,154 centres of Christian activity and faith; 24,500 act as teachers. Last year 7,000 from the Sunday school took their first communion, and there are a total of 34,900 church members. Is it not easier and wiser to win them now than to inaugurate evangelistic services to reclaim wanderers afterwards? Their gifts amounted to \$173,000, and from the 'pennies of the children' \$50,000 went to support missions. Considering these things, do we as a church measure up to the greatness of our opportunity and sacredness of our mission to the children?"

Rev. J. C. Robertson said: The past year has seen our enrollment increased by 16,000, which is double of last year. For the past four years there has been the same marvelous leap upwards. I shall give two illustrations from life. There is a teacher who has for five years held a class. She has not very high ideals in life. But from the personal touch of her character during this time every one of the girls has adopted the same ideals, and these are not those of any home from which they come. Another teacher in the same time has won every one in her class to Jesus Christ. What a responsibility to come day after day to impress the young heart!

Mr. R. MacQueen, Kirkwall, in fluent and beautiful words, of whom the Moderator said he is one of the best members of Hamilton Presbytery, said: We are but one hour a week with our classes, as has been said, but then they are never out of our thoughts or prayers. Then we teach by our daily life and reputation, which is most effective. The Sunday school work has been my delight all my life, and now that the shadows of time are deepening over me, my interest is greater and would like to do better, for there is no greater privilege or responsibility in life.

The report was then adopted. One special item was that the salary of Rev. J. C. Robertson should be \$2,250 per annum, which is about the usual amount given the secretaries.

Young People's Societies.

Dr. Neil, in presenting the report on Y. P. S. said that according to the recommendation of last Assembly the committees on Y. P. S. and Sunday School. This met with considerable opposition, and Principal Scrimger moved in amendment that the whole scheme be sent down to Presbyteries for consideration. This was adopted.

Queen's University Commission.

The names have been announced of the commission to co-operate with the Board of Trustees of Queen's University in regard to such changes in the constitution of the university. They are as follows: The Moderator, Dr. Lyle, Dr. John MacMillan, Dr. T. C. Jack, Dr. James Barclay, the Rev. A. T. Love, Dr. E. Scott, Dr. Ramsay, the Rev. J. H. Turnbull, the Rev. C. H. Daly, the Rev. J. D. Boyd, the Rev. Jas. Binnie, the Rev. Jas. Wallace, the Rev. D. W. Best, Dr. D. McTavish, Dr. D. D. McLeod, the Rev. J. J. Wright, Dr. Wm. Farquharson, Dr. Jas. Ross, the Rev. J. Edmonson, Elders—Lieut.-Gov. Fraser, Mr. Geo. S. Campbell, Mr. Alex. McPhee, Mr. David McLaren, Mr. Geo. F. Henderson, Mr. Jno. M. Gill, Mr. W. F. Mickle, M.P.P., Mr. Samuel Russell, Mr. Richard Lees.