

Knox church, Lancaster, was the scene of a memorable and happy event on Tuesday of last week, the occasion being the double ceremony of ordination and induction of the Rev. J. D. Mackenzie, of Inverness, Que., a recent graduate of the Presbyterian College, Montreal. The Rev. D. N. Coleman, Lunenburg, moderator of the Presbytery, presided; the Rev. Dr. Harkness, of Cornwall, preached; the Rev. A. Ewan, of Williamstown, addressed the new minister, and the Rev. J. U. Tanner, of South Lancaster, addressed the congregation. At the close of the service an address, accompanied by a cheque, was presented to the Rev. J. U. Tanner, who had acted so faithfully and well as moderator during the vacancy.

WESTERN ONTARIO.

Several needed improvements have been made about Knox church, Listerville.

Rev. S. Young, of Clifford, has gone to Prince Albert, N.W.T., on a two months' leave of absence.

At a recent service on Friday evening thirty-two new members were received in St. John's church, Hamilton.

The death is announced of Mr. Thomas Mitchell, for twenty-four years a faithful elder of Knox church, Hamilton.

Rev. A. McVicar, of Alton, conducted the recent service in Knox church, Stratford, last Friday evening, when 50 new members were received.

Rev. F. W. Anderson, M.A., of St. Andrew's church, Stratford, has been called to Sidney, N.S., and it is said he will accept.

At the recent communion service in the Alton church there were twenty of 20 members present. The pastor, Rev. D. MacVicar, M.A., conducted the solemn service.

Somebody's contribution to communion was held in King Street church, London, on Friday night, when 300 new members were received. Rev. Dr. McCune, of Woodstock, conducted the service.

At the First Church, Bay, W. J. Clarke told the congregation he regretted there was to be an election in London. He advised his people to so act that afterwards there would have been no need of anything of which they need be ashamed.

Rev. James Stevens who was a short time ago, asked by the London Presbytery to resign the pastorate of Knox Church, of Dutton, came to trouble with two of the elders, at the close of an exceedingly warm sermon announced his withdrawal from the Presbyterian church.

In the course of a sermon on "The Child and the Church" in the Central church, Hamilton, Bay, Dr. Lyle spoke against gambling. He declared betting on horse races, and said there were young people within the sound of his voice who had bet on the Toronto races last week. He believed there were girls in this city who used their employers' money with which to bet.

At the recent Ontario Oxford Sunday School Convention, held at Salford a noteworthy address on "Teaching Children Reverence for the House of God" was given by Rev. E. R. Hutt, of Ingersoll. Another worthy of mention was that on "The Sunday School in Relation to Missions," by our old friend Mr. H. P. Moore, editor of the Arden Free Press, the most neat and clearest local newspaper published in Canada.

Rev. Arch. Thompson, B.A., R.D., who was for nearly ten years a member of the Owen Sound Presbytery, until he took charge of the Home Mission field at Weymouth, Gibson, Knox and Van Valin, in Harris Presbytery, has received and accepted a unanimous call to the pastoral oversight of the united congregations of Roby and Crowsfoot in the Saugeen Presbytery. The stipend guaranteed is \$200, with free manse and five acres of place plus two weeks' holidays. Induction will take place on June 20th.

Amongst the numerous organizations in the Presbyterian Church, Paris is the "True" Club, organized by the pastor, Rev. R. G. MacBeth, a few months ago. It is

for boys of school age and has some seventy members. They wear a special badge and pledge themselves against the use of liquor, tobacco and bad language. They have a great variety in their meetings from physical exercises and drill to literary gatherings and seem very enthusiastic. Speaking of Paris reminds us that the congregation last week added \$200 more to the minister's stipend.

Londesboro' Presbyterians are fortunate, says the Hamilton Times, in securing as their pastor a minister of such marked ability and scholarship as our young townsman, Rev. Neil M. Leckie, whose induction and ordination will soon take place. He rendered good service as assistant to Rev. Dr. Lyle, and he has been in demand by other congregations. The field to which he goes is a fruitful one. One of his predecessors in the Londesboro' charge was Rev. Dr. Ramsay, an old friend of the writer, now of Ottawa, and he found the work there very congenial. We hope to receive good reports of Rev. Mr. Leckie from Huron.

Rev. Dr. John James, one of the most venerable divines in the Presbyterian Church in Canada, died at his home in Paris, Ont., on Saturday morning. He had reached his eightieth year, and for a number of years had lived in Paris after having retired from the active duties of the ministry. He held a charge in the United States before coming to Canada, and for years was minister of the Paris church, afterwards of Knox church, Hamilton, and more recently in Walkerton. One of his sons, Rev. David James, is a graduate of Knox College, who, after holding a pastorate in Midland removed to California, where he now lives. Dr. James was a scholarly and polished preacher, and in all his relations was marked by a great dignity and gentleness. He retained his fine personal appearance to the last.

HALIFAX, N. S.

A historic Presbyterian church, Chalmers, of Halifax, N.S., has been closed and the building sold, the congregation having disbanded and joined other Presbyterian churches. The congregations was organized 62 years ago when Halifax had a population of 15,000. In later years the church had been crowded up with the growth of large business establishments, and those forming the congregation had gradually moved out to the residential portions of the city. The closing and sale of the church therefore seemed, and became, a necessity, but its history, a noble one, will not be forgotten. Three eminent Scotchmen, distinguished preachers who occupied the pulpit, have gone away to the better land. The first Nova Scotian who earnestly and lovingly preached the gospel there now rests in Gay's River cemetery, and four of the former pastors are still living. There is only one minister living in Nova Scotia today who was there at the time the congregation was formed. During its history 39 elders were elected to hold office, some of whom held very important positions in professional, mercantile and political life. It gave several ministers to the Presbyterian Church to labor in the home field, and has sent missionaries to foreign lands.

Presbyterian Witness: Principal Falconer and Mrs. Falconer have been spending some time in Picton, where the people of Prince Street and Knox churches have enjoyed hearing him in their pulpits during the last two Sabbaths. His sermons were much appreciated. They left yesterday for Ontario, where Mrs. Falconer will spend some time with her friends there, and the Principal will attend the General Assembly at Kingston.

The 70,000 Jews in New York city, together with about 700,000 more of their kindred in other parts of the United States, are preparing to celebrate their first coming to this continent two and a half centuries ago.

BRITISH AND FOREIGN.

India holds about 15 per cent of the entire population of the world.

It is said that the Russian Army in Manchuria loses a thousand men per day by desertion alone.

The Z'hippine Islands have a population of 1,635,426 on 342 islands, of whom nine per cent are wild.

The longest straight piece of railway line in the world is from Nyngan to Mourke, in New South Wales. This railway runs 136 miles on a level and perfectly straight line.

In all seas, both home and foreign, Great Britain claims to be saluted first, and this honor is rendered by every nation as the tribute to her sovereignty of the waves.

During the year 1904 the communicant membership of the Presbyterian Church of England increased from 81,555 to 83,113, an advance of 1,558. In six years the increase has been 9,864.

"I am sixty-five years of age," said Sir Hiran Maxim to an interviewer, "and I remember distinctly that my father told me that his grandfather had said that England was evidently going to the dogs."

Peru, though situated in the torrid zone, possesses such a variety of elevations and climatic peculiarities that it is possible to grow there almost any product known to man.

Sunday in Heligoland begins at six p.m. on Saturday, when the church bell is toll, and ends on Sunday at the same hour. In former years no vessel could leave port between these hours.

In Great Britain the approaching publication of Messrs. Nelson's sixpenny series of reprints is creating a considerable stir. A volume of 600 pages can be had for six pence, and many are asking how this can be produced at the price.

Parades of ministers through New York slums at midnight, winding up at a theatre service, is a startling innovation in religious work which seems to be growing fashionable. Already the experiment has been tried in Denver, Boston, and Los Angeles, and in several cities in Great Britain.

Rev. Dr. Armstrong Black, Toronto, has been asked by the office-bearers to occupy the pulpit of St. John's Wood Church, London, on his return to England during the months of July and August. The minister of the church is, the Rev. Dr. J. Monro Gibson, formerly of Erskine Church, Montreal, and afterwards of Chicago.

A daring theft, committed by one of the elephants at the London Zoological Gardens has been reported to the authorities. While a lady was watching the animal, it suddenly extended its trunk, seized hold of a chateleine bag she was carrying, and swallowed it. The bag contained a purse, three sovereigns, a quantity of silver, a pair of scissors, a knife, and a pocket handkerchief.

Authorities on forestry say that seventy-five years are required for the oak to reach maturity; and about the same length of time for the ash, larch and elm; for the spruce and fir, about eighty years. After this time their growth remains stationary for some years, and then decay begins. There are, however, exceptions, for oaks are still living which are known to be over a thousand years old.

One of the most marked effects of the Revival in Britain is in the direction of practical temperance reform. It is becoming evident week by week that it has done more to promote sobriety than all the temperance organizations of the country were able to accomplish in a generation. This shows how, at its root, the temperance question is the religious question, and that it can never be solved apart from spiritual reinforcements and motives. None the less it is useful to promote wise and statesmanlike measures of reform; and some of the religious and temperance workers are just now in league to urge upon friendly societies and trade union lodges to hold their meetings on non-licensed premises.