

## REPORTS.

### Report No. 1—Presiding Elder's Report.

#### *To the Ontario Annual Conference:*

DEAR BISHOP AND BRETHREN,—In presenting to you this general report, I acknowledge the presence of the triune God, and the courtesy and faithfulness of the ministers and people.

The District is composed of two mission stations, five missions, and seven circuits—fourteen in all.

Waterloo and Niagara circuits are too large, they cover too much territory to be properly worked.

Brothers J. B. Backus and J. Mager resigned the fields assigned them by the last annual Conference. Brother J. U. Robins took charge of Novar Mission with Scotia Mission and worked the two fields, and Brother J. W. H. Newbery was appointed to Vienna circuit, and worked it very acceptably. The rest of the fields were served faithfully, generally speaking, as arranged by the last Conference.

The ministers were well, with the exception of Brothers Geo. H. Backus, J. Showers and R. Jamieson, they having been incapacitated for work through sickness for a couple of weeks, but had their fields supplied very satisfactorily.

The business and general interests of the church have been carefully looked after.

Owing to the extremely cold and stormy winter, and so very much sickness among our people, we were materially hindered in revival efforts, hence have not had the ingathering of souls we had hoped for. The interest in the Sabbath Schools and Young People's Societies is very good, especially that of the Sabbath Schools.

The Ministerial Association and Young People's convention were held in our church at Elebo, Gainsboro circuit, both of which were well attended, and were interesting and profitable. We were most happily favored with the presence of our honored Bishop Kephart, whose sermons and addresses were very highly appreciated by all present.

At Windfall, on the Blenheim mission, a new church has been built, to be dedicated by our honored Bishop the Sabbath following Conference.

Quite extensive repairs have been made on several of our churches in the district.

Personally I have received the kindest treatment from all. Have travelled by rail over four thousand miles. Have held all the quarterlies, fifty-six in number, but two, Brothers Houseman and Mager each holding one.

On the 1st of February I dedicated the Maple Grove church on Shelburne circuit, assisted by Bros. Durkee, Houseman, Showers and J. Geach, pastor.

Have delivered two hundred and nine sermons and addresses. Baptized nineteen; Licensed one; Received one with quarterly conference license from the Methodist Episcopal church.