

supposing that the income last year was fully equal to the expenditure. As a matter of fact the Committee expended, with all the economy above referred to, \$70,846, whereas the income from all sources was \$69,735, so that the balance with which last year began was reduced by the 30th of April last by \$1,111. These are details that could not well be worked into a minute of Assembly, but they are facts, and they have their lesson for us.

It is to be feared that it is the dream of many that our church by her own congregational contributions is from year to year carrying on this great Home Mission work. It is to be hoped they will soon be aroused from this delusion. Hear the Report:—

“The Committee are glad to state that they have been able to pay the Missionaries in full. For this gratifying state of affairs the Church is under obligation to the British Churches. But for the timely aid rendered they would have been unable to meet their obligations.”

So that a deficit has been avoided (1) by leaving part of the work undone, (2) by making a special appeal to the British Churches for aid additional to the grants which their Synods and Assemblies have been in the habit of giving for years.

Last year we expended over \$70,000; the congregations of the whole western section contributed \$40,671,—a little more than one-half,—and of this the congregations west of Winnipeg gave \$3,540. Sabbath Schools gave \$3,332, and Young People's Societies \$2,366. But the British Churches gave nearly \$3,000 in grants, while the special contributions from congregations and friends in Britain amount to nearly \$10,000; and the Maritime Provinces with a Home Mission field of their own generously contributed over \$2,000 to aid us.

AVERAGE PER MEMBER FOR HOME MISSIONS.

For many years the General Assembly has been asking from our congregations an average rate of 50 cents per member for Home Missions, which would enable the Committee to overtake the work with comfort. Instead of that, the average giving per member over the whole Western Section is only 26 cents. Taking the Presbyterians from Quebec to Brandon, the rate of giving by congregations in each Presbytery is as follows, in order of amount per member:—

Paris . . . . .	\$2,222 or 38c per member.
Portage la Prairie. 563	“ 37c “ “
Winnipeg . . . . .	1,336 “ 34c “ “
Lanark & Renfrew. 2,253	“ 32c “ “
London . . . . .	2,384 “ 31c “ “
Toronto . . . . .	5,379 “ 31c “ “
Rock Lake . . . . .	388 “ 29c “ “
Montreal . . . . .	2,893 “ 28c “ “
Glenboro . . . . .	1,063 “ 28c “ “
Hamilton . . . . .	2,703 “ 27c “ “

Peterboro . . . . .	1,334 or 27c per member.
Ottawa . . . . .	1,815 “ 27c “ “
Quebec . . . . .	741 “ 26c “ “
Huron . . . . .	1,052 “ 24c “ “
Whitby . . . . .	527 “ 24c “ “
Lindsay . . . . .	639 “ 23c “ “
Superior . . . . .	147 “ 23c “ “
Stratford . . . . .	1,127 “ 22c “ “
Bruce . . . . .	731 “ 21c “ “
Algoma . . . . .	479 “ 21c “ “
Kingston . . . . .	1,119 “ 21c “ “
Guelph . . . . .	1,528 “ 19c “ “
Brockville . . . . .	614 “ 19c “ “
Brandon . . . . .	336 “ 19c “ “
Maitland . . . . .	308 “ 18c “ “
Barrie . . . . .	1,307 “ 18c “ “
Glenboro . . . . .	125 “ 17c “ “
Sarnia . . . . .	715 “ 17c “ “
Saugeen . . . . .	585 “ 15c “ “
Chatham . . . . .	591 “ 13c “ “
Orangeville . . . . .	510 “ 13c “ “
Owen Sound . . . . .	510 “ 12c “ “

These Presbyteries average 23 cents per member. Surely this is mere trifling with so great a work. Here are some of the concluding words of the report:—

“Unless the congregations throughout the Church give more liberally to the fund, the Committee instead of making grants to the many new fields that are seeking help in the vast mining regions of British Columbia (towards which thousands are now looking), must not only decline but reduce what amounts have been promised. The entire amount received from the British Churches during the year could profitably have been spent in the mining regions alone. Such places also as the Mormon Territory, in the North-West, need very large grants, if the Church is to hold them at all. In some cases the entire salary has to be guaranteed the missionary for a time. The brethren in British Columbia and the North-West, and in the larger Mission fields, such as Algoma, in view of the lack of means at the disposal of the Committee, have found it necessary not only to decline applications made to them but to reduce the amounts asked from the Committee. But such a state of matters effectually bars all progress and jeopardises the very existence of many of our Mission Stations in promising fields.”

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Some of the largest and wealthiest congregations are giving considerably less to Home Missions than in former years; and others give small amounts in proportion to what they give to other objects that really require less assistance. Many congregations give nothing whatever, and, strange to say, Mission Stations that have been aided for many years give nothing or the merest pittance, while contributing generously to other Schemes of the Church.”

Too much dependence must not be placed upon the result of