

CHURCH  
WORK

## Ministers and Churches

NEWS  
LETTERS

## OTTAWA.

Rev. Professor Mackenzie, of Montreal College, preached anniversary services in Eskine church last Sunday.

Rev. Professor Kilpatrick, D.D., of Knox College, Toronto, will be the preacher in St. Paul's church next Sunday morning.

Rev. James Cornack, B.A., of this city, took the services in St. Andrew's church, Carleton Place, last Sunday. The pastor, Rev. G. A. Woodside, is steadily gaining strength, but it will be sometime yet before he will be able to undertake in full measure pulpit and pastoral work.

Rev. Prof. MacKenzie, of Montreal College, conducted anniversary services in Eskine church Sunday school last Sunday. There was an attendance of 887 scholars, which proved a record-breaker, the best previous attendance having been 570. Improvements have recently been made in the Sunday school. A new platform has been put in, large enough to accommodate the children in their exercises. The library also is being enlarged.

The new building for the Stewarton congregation has been roofed in and all outside work completed. The work inside is being rapidly pushed forward, and the building committee are not without hope that the church will be ready for the opening ceremonies before the close of next month.

## WESTERN ONTARIO.

The Presbyterians of Warton have extended a call to the Rev. Mr. Anderson, B.A., of Burlington, Ont.

Dr. Talling, of Toronto, preached in St. Andrew's church, Thamesford, on Sunday morning in the absence of the pastor.

Rev. Dr. Crafts will not be able to visit London at the present time, although invited to do so by the Ministerial Association of that city.

The next regular meeting of Sarnia Presbytery will be held on Tuesday, March 5, 1907, when the subject of church union will be discussed.

The congregation of Knox church, Woodstock, in view of the retirement of Rev. Dr. McMullen on Dec. 30, have extended a unanimous call to Mr. R. B. Cochran, M.A., to become pastor of the church.

The pastors of the Methodist and Presbyterian churches in Mount Forest exchanged pulpits on a recent Sunday morning, an act of mutual courtesy that was appreciated by both congregations.

The pulpit of Knox church, Palmerston, so long and so ably filled by the late Rev. J. M. Aull, was occupied on a recent Sunday by Rev. W. G. Hanna, of Mount Forest, who preached the charge vacant.

Rev. T. Y. Thompson, M.A., of St. Andrew's church, Stratford, conducted anniversary services in the Bradford church on the 9th inst. The collections in aid of the building fund amounted to \$250.08. The social on Monday evening netted a further sum of \$100.

The new Chalmers church, London, is nearing completion. All that remains to be done to the exterior is a small portion of the slate roofing. The building, which is constructed of red pressed brick and gray stone, is very handsome.

At the December meeting of the Sarnia Presbytery, Rev. J. Burkholder, of Maudsain, was elected moderator, and Rev. H. Currie, of Theford, officiated as clerk. The yearly statistical report, which was presented, showed that there are in the presbytery 25 pastoral charges, embracing 48 congregations. There are 2,740 families, an increase of 121 over the previous year. The number of communicants is 5,208, an increase of 224. The total amount of money raised for all purposes was \$32,977, being an average of \$1 per family.

The tea meeting under the auspices of the Ladies' Aid of Westminster church, Mount Forest, was well attended and very enjoyable. The tea served left nothing to be desired. J. B. Mullan's address, "Peeps at London," was in his well-known vein of genial humor, and was instructive as well. The music by the

choir, under the leadership of Mrs. J. N. Scott, with Miss Brebber at the organ, was delightful. A hearty vote of thanks, moved by Senator McMullen and Mr. Filsie, was tendered Mr. Mullan, and a vote of thanks was also given to the choir and the ladies.

The paper for the day at the last meeting of the London Ministerial Alliance was on the "Problem of the Old Testament," by Rev. Prof. Orr, of Glasgow. Rev. G. B. Sage gave a very able review of the book, which he characterized as indeed epoch-making. Dr. Orr joins issue directly with the cardinal hypothesis of the higher critics, and holds largely to the old traditional view. The discussion which followed was one of the most animated that the alliance has known. When the hour of adjournment arrived it was unanimously agreed to sit for another hour.

## EASTERN ONTARIO.

The next regular meeting of Lanark and Renfrew Presbytery will be held at Renfrew on February 18th, 1907, at 8 p.m. St. Paul's church, Kemptville, has called Rev. D. D. Millar, of Hawkesbury, to the vacancy caused by the resignation of Rev. John Chisholm.

Rev. J. Gandier, of the Newburgh church, and Rev. J. F. Means, of the Methodist church, exchanged services last week.

On the 9th inst. anniversary services were conducted in St. Paul's church, Bowmanville, by Rev. H. E. Abraham, B.A., of Port Hope.

Rev. and Mrs. Hugh Munroe entertained the members of St. Paul's (Bowmanville) choir at the manse on Friday evening, when a most enjoyable time was spent.

At the regular quarterly communion in Knox church, Vankleek Hill, held on 9th inst., the pastor, Rev. T. G. Thompson, was assisted by Rev. Dr. MacLean, of Avonmore.

Rev. E. W. McKay, formerly of Madge, was inducted into St. Paul's church, Smith's Falls, on December 11th. Reception meeting addressed by members of Presbytery and local clergy in the evening.

Rev. J. M. Miller, of Dalhousie (Lanark and Renfrew Presbytery), has accepted a call to White Lake and Burnstown (Lanark and Renfrew Presbytery) and is to be inducted at Burnstown on January 3rd, 1907, at 1:30 p.m.

The trustees of the estate of the late Mrs. Nicholls have donated from the residue of the estate not disposed of by direct bequest \$5,000 to Knox church, Peterboro'. This is a recently organized congregation in the southern part of the city.

At the annual meeting at Taylorsville of district No. 8 County Russell Sunday School Association, Rev. S. A. Woods, B.A., of Metcalfe, presided. A number of good papers were read, among others one by Rev. Mr. Milne, of Ottawa.

The Sabbath school of Knox church, Moose Creek, intend having an entertainment in the village church on Monday evening, Dec. 24. Judging from the extensive preparations going on, it promises to be a treat for those who can make it convenient to be present.

In the sermon on the Third Commandment, the Rev. W. W. Peck, of Arnprior, spoke with regret of the prevalent disregard for things religious among the people of the present generation, and the light way in which our legal oath was used, causing a tendency to perjury in our courts.

The Tanworth congregation sustains a serious loss in the removal of Mr. C. A. Jones and family to Toronto Junction. Before his departure the members of the Bible class, of which he was the teacher, presented him with an appreciative address along with a handsome Bible and Hymnal. A son, Mr. Sinclair Jones, was the efficient secretary of the Sunday School.

At a recent meeting of the Men's Guild of St. Andrew's church, Picton, the question of church union was debated. Dr. Knight and Rev. Mr. Shearer spoke in favor of organic union and Messrs. Walter McKenzie and D. A. Gilchrist opposed it. Others in the audience took part in the discussion. Some of the speakers were very eloquent and all manifested close study of the all-important subject. Refreshments were served at the close of the meeting.

The death of Mr. Donald A. McRae, a noted teacher and choir leader, at the age of sixty-three, is announced. He was a native of Glangarry. For seven years he was choir leader in Knox church, Toronto, and for eleven years he filled a similar position in Knox church, Galt. A matter of interest to the people of Glangarry is that Mr. McRae was the undoubted prototype of "The Precentor" in the "Man from Glangarry." Reverend Chas. W. Gordon, (Ralph Connor) on being asked this question by a representative of the Winnipeg Free Press, said: "Yes, he was the prototype of the precentor. The McRaes are a large and important family in the Indian Lands, Glangarry, the district in which my father was minister for twenty years. It was there that I was born and lived until I was eleven years of age. There is a block of Scotch people there, and the McRaes are a large family who go a long way to making up this block. The particular branch to which Donald belonged was associated with Sinclairs, another large and important family in the district, and it was into this family that Donald married. Both families were musically inclined and Donald became the teacher of singing in the district."

Avonmore, Dec. 5.—There was a large and enthusiastic gathering at the manse last evening, when the Presbyterians of this community met to do honor to their pastor, Rev. Dr. Maclean, his wife and family. Men and women from far and near, bringing tangible tokens of good-will, completely filled the spacious residence. The first part of the evening was devoted to games, music and mutual converse. At ten o'clock the ladies served a generous luncheon, after which Mr. Dr. D. MacLntyre took the chair and treated the house to a splendid programme of impromptu speeches and musical selections. The chairman made a touching reference to the contemplated departure of our genial C. P. R. agent, Mr. Robert Duke, and family, on the 13th current, to Calgary. Mr. Duke has had charge of the Young People's Bible class during the past year, and has rendered efficient and valuable service to the congregation. Mr. Duke responded, expressing his own and Mrs. Duke's sorrow in view of the severance of the ties which bound them for the past eight years to the congregation and community. However, he said he heard the call, "Young man, go West," and West he must go. "God be with you till we meet again," was then sung with manifest feeling. Messrs. John West and Charles Nesbit made brief but felicitous speeches. The evening being then far spent, the pastor, on behalf of Mrs. Maclean and himself, thanked the people for their great kindness. He felt that he could not, under the circumstances, adequately express his gratitude, but he hoped he should always be able to prove himself worthy of his people's love and confidence. The singing of "Auld Lang Syne" brought a very pleasant evening to a close, and everyone went home manifestly with pleasure.

The recent anniversary services in St. Andrew's church, Markham, were conducted by Rev. Robert Martin, B.A., a former pastor, but now minister of Knox church, Stratford.