

OWEN SOUND PRESBYTERY.

Report on Church Life and Work—Recommendations.

1. That the questions issued (1) do not overlap; (2) be neither so numerous nor so minute, yet sufficiently comprehensive.

2. That the term "schemes" be dropped and some less ambiguous term substituted.

3. That the moderator of Presbytery issue a circular letter to all the sessions within our bounds calling attention to: (1) The duty of elders to attend and assist at the weekly prayer meeting. (2) The propriety of having the congregation divided into districts. (3) The need of regular visitation of the congregation by the elders. (4) That the pastor be strongly recommended to conduct cottage prayer meetings, especially when the attendance at the meeting in the church is not satisfactory. (5) The need of annual systematic revision of the communion roll by the session. (6) The need of more frequent revision by deacons or managers of the list of contributions. (7) That sessions be warned against the administration of private baptism. (8) That sessions report their action on this matter to the September meeting of Presbytery.

4. That the services of Mr. Meikle, the evangelist, be secured by this Presbytery as soon as convenient.

At the March meeting of the Presbytery of Owen Sound an overture on the supply and settlement of vacancies was adopted, of which the following is the prayer:

It is humbly overtured the Venerable, the Generable Assembly:—

1. That it be remitted to a committee of Assembly to prepare for the consideration of the next Assembly a more practicable plan for the supply and settlement of vacancies and for the employment of probationers and ministers without charge, either along the line suggested by the Assembly's committee on Union or as may be deemed more advisable.

2. That Presbyteries report to this committee any plans or suggestions they may wish to recommend before the first of January, 1908.

3. And that this committee be instructed to publish in the Record for the information of the church before the 15th of April following, the plan adopted by it for recommendation to the Assembly.

MARITIME NOTES.

The Presbytery of Picton, N. S., nominates Rev. Dr. Mowatt, of Srskine church, Montreal, for the Moderatorship of the General Assembly.

Rev. James Fraser, after a pastorate of thirty-six years, has notified Picton Presbytery of his intention to resign as soon as the necessary formalities can be complied with.

Commissioners to the General Assembly were appointed by Picton Presbytery, as follows: G. C. McIntosh, J. D. McFarlane, D. M. Gilles, John McIntosh, Ministers; Alex. Matheson, Dan McIsaac, Alex. Grant, Fraser McKenzie, Elders.

Rev. Principal Falconer is soon to start on an extended European trip, says the Presbyterian Witness. Mrs. Falconer will accompany her husband. Dr. Pollock will discharge the duties of the Principal in connection with the closing of the College term.

On the 8th inst., one of the oldest and best known citizens of Strathlorne, C. B., in the person of Lauchlin MacLean, passed to his eternal reward, at the age of 82. He was one of the old landmarks of that place, and will be greatly missed by all who knew him. Being of the true highland type, he had a large warm heart, and under his roof many found often a true highland welcome.

PRESBYTERY OF SANGHEEN.

The Presbytery of Saugeen met in Drayton on March 7th. The Rev. A. B. Dobson was appointed Moderator for the next twelve months. The home mission and augmentation committee were empowered to make suitable arrangements for the supply of Mildmay and Ayton for the summer. The Rev. A. B. Dobson, the Rev. W. G. Hanna and the Rev. J. G. Reid were appointed commissioners to the general assembly and the elders from Mildmay, Bethel and Amos charges. The reports on "Church Life and Work" and "Sabbath Schools," not being ready, the conveners were requested to prepare and forward them to the proper parties. Mr. Campbell presented the report on Y.P.S., which was received and adopted. A letter was read from the missionary of the Y.P.S. in the West. The Presbytery agreed to print the letter for distribution among the societies in the Presbytery. The Presbytery also agreed to hold two Sabbath School conventions in two central parts of the Presbytery. Messrs. McNamara, Campbell and Thompson, with their elders, were appointed to nominate standing committees. Mr. Thompson presented the report on remits, which was received and adopted. Provisional arrangements were made for the induction of Mr. Cranston. Honorary certificates for repeating the shorter catechism were granted Eva Douglas and Gertrude Gillespie from Cotswold Sabbath School and Jean S. Hanna from Mount Forest Sabbath school. Reports were given by those who had exchanged in order to bring the matter of systematic beneficence before the congregations.—S. Young, Clerk.

ORANGEVILLE PRESBYTERY.

This Presbytery gave two days, March 11 and 12, to its regular meeting. Careful work was done on all reports. Five hours were spent discussing the prayer meeting, sacraments, individual communion cups, preparatory services, evangelistic meetings, methods of work and kindred topics to church life and work reports. Arising out of this report the Presbytery resolved that ministers and sessions employing helpers in evangelistic services, other than regular ministers, were to present the name to Presbytery for sanction; and a committee was appointed to consider the whole matter of the individual communion service.

Rev. L. W. Thom, of Flesherton, accepted a call to Waldemar and will be inducted March 26th. Rev. D. Johnston of Guthrie, was called to Maple Valley and Singhampton.

The statistics showed an increase in givings: \$923 increase to mission purposes; \$935 increase to all purposes; \$550 increase to stipends; 130 families and 160 single persons left the bounds and went to the West, Toronto and elsewhere. In the face of a decreasing population the increase since 1900 in liberality has been very marked in this Presbytery. The card envelope and quarterly reminder system is largely in vogue and is being pushed. Ballinasfad and Maple Valley became self-sustaining. Leventdale, the only mission station, asks for decreased grant of \$52 per year. Progress is being made in gathering the young and the lapsed into the church; but the exodus is discouraging. Sabbath school and young people's work is well looked after. Conference on Home Department and other Sabbath school work will be held in May. Commissioners to Assembly were appointed. Next meeting of Presbytery will be held in Orangeville, May 7th, at 10.30 a.m., in St. Andrew's church.

Rev. Dr. E. F. Torrance, of St. Paul's church, Peterboro', has tendered his resignation, after a pastorate of thirty years.

PRESBYTERY OF BRUCE.

Presbytery met at Paisley, March 4th.

As Mr. McQuarrie's resignation of the charge of North Bruce and St. Andrew's takes effect at the end of April, it was agreed to make application to have him placed on the Aged and Infirm Ministers' list, and Mr. Johnston was appointed interim moderator of session to moderate in a call when the charge is prepared to do so.

An overture presented by Mr. Atkinson at a former meeting of Presbytery a new term of service of elders was fully discussed and afterward laid on the table till the meeting of Presbytery in September.

Standing committees were appointed of which the following are conveners: Finance, Mr. Cockburn; Home Mission, Mr. Mahaffy; Sabbath Schools, Mr. Wilson; Congregational Returns, Mr. Hosie; Superintendence of Students, Mr. McKinnon; Church Life and Work, Mr. Atkinson; Young People's Societies, Mr. Brown.

Rev. Clarence McKinnon, of Winnipeg, was nominated for the chair of Church History and Pastoral Theology in Halifax College.

A resolution was passed disapproving of the new method of tabulating financial and statistical reports, and recommending a return to the former method.

Messrs. Brown, Atkinson and Johnston were appointed delegates to the General Assembly, and elders from Glamis, Port Elgin and Walkerton.

On application from Southampton, leave was granted to the congregation to sell an unused lot.

The following minute was adopted and the death of Rev. Andrew Talmie, and was ordered to be engrossed in the minutes: "The Presbytery of Bruce wishes to place on record its deep sense of loss in the removal by death of the Rev. Andrew Talmie. He was a minister in the Presbyterian church for 54 years, and for more than 40 years was a member of this Presbytery. In the work of the Presbytery he always took a prominent part, and was for many years a member of the Home Mission Committee. He was a man of deep convictions, sound and evangelical in his preaching, and faithfully performed the duties and endured the hardships of pioneer work which he carried on for many years in a widely extended field. The Presbytery hereby desires to extend its deep sympathy to Mrs. Talmie and family in this hour of sorrow, and commends them to the care of a kind Heavenly Father whose promise is "I will not leave you comfortless, I will come to you." We are sure that that same comfort with which the family sought to comfort others will now be realized by them."

The afternoon and evening were chiefly taken up with a conference on the proposed union of the churches, and at the close of the discussion the following resolution was adopted: "That having listened to a thorough and careful presentation of the subject from various points of view, the Presbytery feels that the statements of the joint committee on Union, both as regards doctrine and polity, are not adequate enough for this Presbytery to commit itself to the proposition at this stage of the negotiations. The Presbytery feels that earnestly and prayerfully seeking the Divine guidance, the Presbyterian church should continue to proceed slowly and carefully in this discussion."

Presbytery adjourned to meet at Paisley on Tuesday, July 2nd, at 10 a.m.

Rev. E. A. Henry of Brandon, has been lecturing in the Presbyterian church, Wolseley, on "Some Girls."

Much to the delight of a large audience, Rev. Dr. Bryce, gave his illustrated lecture on the "Early Days of Winnipeg," on Monday evening, in Knox church.