

CHURCH
WORK

Ministers and Churches

NEWS
LETTERS

OTTAWA.

Ottawa, Jan. 2.—Presbytery of Ottawa met in St. Andrew's Church. The Rev. A. S. Ross, moderator, in the chair. The attendance was not large nor was the docket a heavy one. Considerable time was spent in discussing a scheme which was proposed for the equalization of expenses of ministers in attending the regular meetings of Presbytery. The scheme was not adopted but the committee who has it in charge were instructed to obtain, before the next regular meeting, an expression of opinion of all the ministerial members regarding it, when it will be finally dealt with. A committee of elders was appointed to prepare a scheme to meet the express of representative elders attending the meetings of the court.

There was also a long discussion of methods of finance, particularly with reference to the schemes of the church. Inasmuch as the contributors to these schemes are not as liberal as they should be it was felt that an earnest effort should be made towards securing an increase in the coming year. To this end it was advised that when no effective method is already in use, the monthly envelope system be adopted by every congregation. It was also resolved that a circular embodying the facts of the case be sent to each minister within the bounds of the Presbytery, to be read to his congregation.

A call to Rev. A. D. MacIntyre, Cumberland and Rockland, from the congregation of Summerside, etc., in the Presbytery of Regina, was accepted; and Presbytery agreed to his translation to take effect on the 7th of Jan. The pulpit of Cumberland will be declared vacant on the 14th inst., and Rev. D. N. Coburn of Buckingham will act as interim moderator of session.

The Rev. Principal Scrimger of the Presbyterian College, Montreal, was nominated for moderator of the next general assembly. Rev. R. Gamble of Wakefield, was nominated for moderator of the synod of Montreal and Ottawa.

The next regular meeting was appointed to be held in St. Andrew's Church, Ottawa, on 6th March at 10 a.m.

At the Communion last Sunday morning in Bank street church, there were twelve additions to the membership. The annual meeting was held on Monday evening, a full report of which will be given next week.

At a recent meeting of the Carleton Place Ministerial Association the following resolution was passed, which was read in the churches last Sunday: "The Ministerial Association desires to express its disapproval of the apparent ease and frequency with which many of our people absent themselves from the regular midweek prayer-meeting, to attend social functions in the home, public entertainments, and other forms of amusement, and would urge our people to keep this one night sacred to God, in prayer for themselves and their children, to shun all such entertainments and functions as in their very nature tend to carelessness, and finally to the lowering of the moral and spiritual life. Those who do not attend prayer-meeting, are invited to safeguard this night to those who do by holding no such function on that night as will tempt them to forsake their principles and the hour of prayer."

The north-east province of Japan has been stricken by famine, and the people are in a deplorable condition. Relief is being sent from Tokio, and it is declared that assistance from sympathizers abroad will be welcome.

TORONTO.

At the annual meeting of the Bible class of Dovercourt church, the members presented Rev. James Wilson, who conducts the class, with a dressing gown and a pair of slippers.

Chalmers' Presbyterian Young Men's Union have elected the following officers: President, F. H. McEwain; vice-president, Elmore C. Armstrong; secretary, H. S. Duncan, 230 Crawford street; assistant-secretary, F. Marshall; treasurer, C. Paton; programme committee, H. Radcliff, Chairman, C. Forbes, W. B. Hunter, J. D. Dingwall; press committee, H. A. Temple, A. Hunter; organization committee, J. L. Tennant, Chairman, and W. B. Hunter, and H. Eccles.

Twenty thousand dollars will be asked by the Toronto Presbyterian Union during the present year by personal appeal and by requests for collections in the churches, for the purpose of church extension and the assistance of weak congregations. This \$20,000 it is proposed to make a special fund, out of which loans may be made to congregations, to be repaid on the installment plan. Dovercourt Road church will be loaned \$4,000, Royce Avenue \$600, Kew Beach, \$2,000, and Fern Avenue Church will be liberally helped if it decides to remove and build this year. After the \$20,000 fund has been secured it is estimated that \$5,000 a year will be sufficient to maintain the work of the union.

WESTERN ONTARIO.

Rev. John Thomson, of Ayr, spent Christmas with his son in Toronto.

Rev. Robert McIntyre and family, of Tempo, have returned from a holiday visit to Detroit.

Knox church congregation, Stratford, on Wednesday evening presented the pastor Rev. R. Martin, with a handsome fur lined coat, and two exquisite pieces of cut glass for Mrs. Martin.

The Chatham Presbytery is to be favored in the near future by a visit from Rev. John Griffith, B.A., of Homan. Rev. J. A. Ross, of Essex, is arranging for a series of six meetings, commencing 21st February to the 26th.

At the annual business meeting of St. Andrew's Sunday school, Hamilton, the following officers were elected: Hon. Sup., Rev. J. A. Wilson; Supt., Mr. J. M. Robinson; assistant supt., Mr. Campbell Leckie; secretary, Mr. J. M. Connor; treasurer, Mr. Howard Law. The reports of the school were very encouraging, showing a total of 634 scholars on the roll, an average attendance of 454, and a total collection for the year of \$791.61.

Rev. Dr. McCrae conducted thanksgiving services recently in Essex Church, preaching able sermons. These services were followed by a lecture on the Monday evening following. By means of these services and a special free-will offering in connection therewith an old mortgage of \$400 was wiped out. The congregation is greatly delighted to get rid of this burden, and are grateful to their pastor, Rev. J. A. Ross, for his efforts in carrying the matter forward to a successful issue.

Rev. Dr. Jamieson, who has been pastor of the Oil City church for the past five and a half years, preached his farewell sermon last Sunday, and with his family intends leaving this week for Trinidad, S. A., to take up missionary work. The united congregations of Oil Springs and Oil City presented Mr. Jamieson with an address and well-filled purse. Mrs. Jamieson was also the recipient of one from the Ladies' Aid. They will be greatly missed by their many friends who wish them a safe and pleasant voyage and a happy sojourn in their new field of labor.

BRITISH AND FOREIGN.

A manuscript of Chatterton's has been sold at Sotherby's for £255.

Glasgow is the cheapest town to live in in Great Britain, London the dearest.

The private wealth of Australia now amounts to £982,000,000, and one person in every six owns property.

The Duke of Argyll suggests the construction of the Forth and Clyde Canal as a solution of the unemployed problem.

Mr. George Herring, the London philanthropist, has given £100,000 to General Booth, to carry out a scheme of land colonization at home.

Mr. John Burns has at least one qualification for a place in the Cabinet. "His features," says a comic artist, "are good for caricaturing."

The Prince and Princess of Wales spent Dec. 18th in Arga, India, and in the afternoon the Prince unveiled the statue of Queen Victoria in the MacDonnell Park.

Last year 38,000,000 tons of cargo were carried from all the seaports of the world, and out of that total 31,000,000 tons were carried by the ships of Great Britain.

It is not generally known that there is a memorial in London to the horses which fell in the South African war. It takes the appropriate form of a drinking trough.

At the end of 1905 China is expected to have an army of more than 400,000 men, all regular troops, and in ten years time it will be able to raise 1,200,000 trained soldiers.

In view of the frequency of suicides at Dover, the local clergy have agreed not to use the Prayer-book order of burial at the funerals of those who have taken their own lives.

"The cat is said to have nine lives, but in this country it seldom needs them all, because of the presence of Christianity." So wrote a London child in an essay on "Kindness to Animals."

The remains of the Rev. Dr. John Smith Broughton Place Church, Edinburgh, were interred in Cluny Hill Cemetery, Forbes, on the 19th ult., amid genuine manifestations of grief.

Still another vaccine for tuberculosis is reported to have been discovered by Paris medical men. The bacilli is from horses instead of, as in Professor Behring's bacilli, from human beings.

British casualties in the Nandi campaign in British East Africa, which has now concluded, were 42 killed and 48 wounded, while the enemy lost 636 killed, and 10,300 cattle and 18,000 sheep and goats were captured.

During 1905 there were 610 fatalities among mine employees of the anthracite region of this country. The dead left 145 widows and 480 orphans. The feature of the accidents during the year was the number of men killed by falling cages. The number of non-fatal accidents is close to 15,000.

At a meeting of the Belfast Corporation on the 11th ult., a proposal to confer the freedom of the city upon Mr. Andrew Carnegie found no second, despite the fact that that gentleman has established no fewer than three libraries in that city.

The London Metropolitan Police have a collection of seventy thousand sets of finger prints of criminals. It has been completely established that the thin capillary ridges on the tips of the fingers undergo no natural change of characteristic from the cradle to the grave.

The acceptance of Mr. John Burns of an office in the new Government, to which is attached a salary of £2,000 per annum, recalls that in a speech delivered by him, within the past twelve months, he is reported to have said that no man was worth more than £500 a year. Possibly he was right.