

solution of some of the problems which are as yet unsolved.

Dr. McIntyre conducted an open parliament on Baptist Union, its present status and plans for consummation. He outlined the work already accomplished and predicted its successful consummation at the joint meeting next October. Dr. Joseph McLeod was then introduced and traced the various steps which he regarded as strikingly Providential in bringing the union thus far. All the Free Baptist churches of the province, with one single exception, have voted favorably. The discussion was continued by Revs. Wilson, Currie and Neales, and also by Lie. Charles E. Johnson, of Otnabog. Contrary to all precedent this parliament was conducted without an opposition.

The clerk in presenting a digest of church letters at the opening of the afternoon session was obliged to offer an incomplete report, only 43 of the 65 churches sending letters. Many of these speak of prosperity, others of a dearth of spiritual life, and power. This is inevitably the case in pastorless fields, 217 additions are reported. The church to receive the largest share was Fredericton which increased its membership by 68.

The presentation of this report was fittingly followed by a conference on "The Greatest Need of our Churches," conducted by Rev. J. A. Caldwell. It was agreed by all that the greatest need was the fullness of the Holy Spirit. The means suggested for the accomplishment of this end were: (1) Prayer, (2) Abandonment of every known sin, (3) A generous life (4), More study of the Word, (5) Increased benevolence (6), Society. Mr. Cornett was assisted in the conference by Revs. Hatcher, Taylor, Wilson, King and Field. Prof. Sawyer and Deacon Smith, Knight and Morgan.

The concluding conference of the Association was on the subject of temperance and in the unavoidable absence of the brother appointed to lead it fell into the hands of the apostle of temperance, Rev. W. R. Robinson. That the conference was a helpful one goes without saying. The leader began at Jerusalem and claimed that while we insist in our representatives in parliament being temperance men we are asking more of our civil rulers than we are of our church members. Among others who made a valuable contribution to the conference were two of our delegates, Deacon Clark of Woodstock, and William Swinn, clerk of the Donkton church, who that day was celebrating his eighty first anniversary.

Saturday evening was set apart to Education. The first speaker was Prof. L. E. Wortman, LL. D., he spoke of the efficiency of the present work at Acadia, and in the absence of Principal DeWolfe spoke with sympathetic appreciation of Acadia Seminary. He made mention of the magnificent progress of the Second Forward Movement and closed with a glowing tribute to his late colleague, Rev. Dr. Kenstend. "A man of noble intellect, vivid imagination, strong constructive power and broad sympathy, returning with the freshness and sweetness of the joys of his boyhood days. His departure will be a great loss to Acadia and to the life of the Maritime Provinces. He takes with him to his new sphere of labor a mature mind, a deeply sympathetic nature and great though unaffected piety."

Principal Sawyer, of Horton Academy, in an experience of more than twenty years had not known a choicer lot of students than those of the past year. He spoke of the courses of study pursued, changes of the Academy on the denomination and the deep religious work that prevailed the institution during the winter and spring. He was followed by Rev. M. P. King, M. A., who attended the recent anniversary exercises and who spoke with enthusiasm of the progress which he observed since his own student days.

Needless to say the Sunday services were largely attended. The committee had a programme arranged that the Association sermon should be preached by Rev. A. B. MacDonald, but impaired health prevented his attendance. His place was taken by Rev. J. H. MacDonald, who chose for his text, Matt. 16:21-23. In the afternoon a Sunday school rally was held. Mr. J. W. Spurden, President of the N. B. Sunday School Association, taught a most interesting lesson. Mrs. W. G. Clark followed with an admirable paper commending the Home Department to the consideration of all the churches. Rev. B. S. Freeman discussed the Men's Class Movement. He is teacher of a large class of men and warmly endorsed it as the solution of the boy problem in the Sunday school and the man problem in the church. Rev. C. P. Wilson was the preacher of the evening. His subject was "The Great Refusal," which paved the way for a most inspiring after meeting. It is not unnatural that a minor chord should be struck by some of the speakers. At the closing service in view of the changes soon to be inaugurated in connection with Baptist Union when these time honored associational gatherings with all their sweet memories shall be no more. But it is only fair to say that a note of hopefulness pervaded all the sessions of the Association in the prospect of the new and better things yet to be.

Too much cannot be said of Rev. W. R. Robinson and the good people of Gibson who left nothing undone which would in any way minister to the comfort of the delegates and the success of the Association.

J. H. MACDONALD.

The Central Association of Nova Scotia.

The annual meeting of this Association was held this year, June 20-22, with the church at Mahone. Mahone is a thriving town of 1200 inhabitants situated on the Mahone Bay and at the junction of Central Division of the H. & S. W. railway system with its main line. The good people of Mahone have long been largely interested in fishing. Of recent years shipbuilding has been extensively carried on. The prosperity of the place rests upon a firm foundation, and may be expected to continue.

The session of the Association opened on Tuesday evening when Pastor A. J. Vincent of the Tabernacle Church, Halifax, preached an interesting and characteristic discourse. A profitable after meeting was led by Pastor Quick of Hantsport. This service prepared the way for the highly spiritual tone which marked the sessions throughout.

At 9:30 Wednesday morning the Association was regularly organized. The roll call of delegates showed a large attendance. Those arriving later increased the number of delegates to 125, while visitors would probably increase this number to 150.

Pastor W. F. Parker of Windsor was chosen Moderator, and conducted the services throughout with his usual tact and energy. It goes without saying that Pastor H. B. Smith was re-elected clerk. He is the right man in the right place. Pastor J. D. Spalded was elected assistant clerk. Bro. N. Langille served as treasurer.

Words of welcome were spoken by Pastor Browne. The welcome already accorded the delegates in the homes of the people was thus emphasized.

A nominating committee was appointed after which the work of the Association proceeded with the reading the digest of letters, carefully prepared and read by the clerk. From this digest it was learned that several churches had improved their property, one new church that at New Ross had been dedicated, some churches had increased pastor's salary. Generally a good year spiritually was reported. Largest additions were reported by the churches at Wolfville, 1st and North churches, Halifax, Kentville and Hantsport. Some churches are dealing with the serious non-resident problem. Some note the large removal of young people to other parts. Some report the progress of the Second Forward Movement, and others, special emphasis laid upon our denominational work. At this point visiting brethren present were invited to seats in the Association. Among those responding to the invitation were Rev. A. C. Chute, D. D., representing Acadia University, Rev. E. J. Grant, secretary H. M. Board, Rev. H. Y. Corey, Rev. W. B. Bozanson and Rev. Stephen March. All were saddened to notice that Bro. March was in such poor health. All felt his presence a benediction. The new pastors welcomed were Revs. G. A. Lawson, E. P. Calder, A. J. Vincent, J. Miles, G. H. Beaman, A. E. Brown, L. E. Wallace, C. S. Stearns, student pastors McLeod and Allen.

A resolution of sympathy with Pastor D. E. Hatt in his illness was wired him.

A sermon by Rev. E. P. Calder, text, Matt. 25:27, theme, latent power in the churches, closed the morning session. These latent powers, the preacher spoke of as the fruit of God, Truth, Conscience, Human Sympathy, Cooperation, with rare homiletic skill and wealth of illustration the preacher enforced his points.

Wednesday afternoon was given to reports of District chairmen and to Sunday schools. The report of the district chairmen, dealt especially with the Home Mission churches, within their districts thus giving an excellent report on Home Missions within the Association. That of the Halifax District dealt especially with the problem arising from the condition of the colored population of the province. A committee whose duty it is to seek a closer relation between the African churches and the H. M. Board was appointed. Rev. E. J. Grant spoke at this point of the work of the Home Mission Board within the Association. He said some churches once strong now need help. Other churches, able to bear their own burdens, persist in depending on the H. M. Board. What shall be done with such churches.

The Sunday School report prepared by Pastor G. P. Raymond, was read by Pastor D. H. Simpson. Pastor W. F. Parker spoke on Bible Study in the churches, emphasizing its need and value, and suggesting some methods of study. Then followed a paper on Primary Work by that wonderfully capable and versatile woman, Mrs. D. H. Simpson. Out of her richness of life and large experience she spoke emphasizing the great opportunity and corresponding obligation of the primary teachers.

Wednesday evening was devoted to Education. Prof. Chute spoke with classic diction and intense emotion of "Acadia College, Another and yet the Same." The readers of the Messenger and Visitor should have this address in full. In your reporter's opinion no address ever delivered more truly portrayed the ideals and the development of our educational work. Pastor H. F. Waring spoke on, "Education and Life." This unreportable address portrayed with wealth of scholarship, poetic conception and diction, and masterly eloquence the ideals of Christian education and showed how the work done at Wolfville approached the ideal.

Pastor R. Osgood Morse commended Acadia Seminary

and urged a practical plea for the boys of our communities and for Horton Academy as a place helping to solve the boy problem. He asked for 250 boys for Horton Academy.

Thursday Morning Pastor C. R. Freeman, reported on Denominational Literature. This report commended the Messenger and Visitor, and service. It urged putting biographies in the S. S. library. It suggested publishing Missionary information such as the Missionary Union now publishes, and commended The American Baptist Hymnal to the churches. The discussion settled on the last two points, the opinion was universal that the time has come when we must have more and better missionary intelligence given in usable form. Opinion differed as to how to get it. It was, however, the universal opinion that the Missionary page of the Messenger and Visitor as now conducted does not meet the need. It should be packed full with bright, brief up-to-date, world wide missionary news.

The lack of a Music Edition of The Canadian Baptist Hymnal it is evident, is responsible for the tide now just setting against the Hymnal. Some indorse The American Baptist Hymnal, as suited to our needs. Others commended the Canadian edition of The English Baptist Hymnal.

The report on Systematic Benevolence, prepared by Dr. B. H. Eaton, differed from the usual reports on this topic in that it emphasized the duty of getting something to give and pointed out the royal road to getting as being by working. An animated discussion followed this report emphasizing the need of all our churches having their part in the support of our Denominational Work. The best speech of the discussion was made by Deacon John Moler of New Canada, who spoke on doing all things to the glory of God. He illustrated this thought by the farmer sowing seed and caring for stock to the glory of God. When all Christians act upon Deacon Moler's principle our Lord's treasures will never be empty.

Pastor H. B. Smith preached the Associational sermon, text, Matt. 27:42. Theme, "Saving others through sacrifice of self." This sermon is to appear in the Messenger and Visitor.

The report on statistics showed 129 baptisms, 152 deaths, 2,208 non residents. The churches reporting largest number of baptisms were Wolfville, 92, Halifax North 41, First Halifax, 39, Kentville, 29; 16 churches reported no baptisms; scholars in Sunday schools 5,814.

The report on Obituaries read by Pastor J. H. Jenner, and discussion thereon made suitable reference to the late Revs. T. A. Higgins, D. D., and Enoch H. Sweet, Deacons John Sadler and Rodden of Windsor, and Bro. Thomas Gorman of Chester. Pastor R. Osgood Morse offered prayer thanking God for these brethren and commending the bereaved ones to our Heavenly Father's care.

The report on Temperance presented by Pastor E. P. Calder, dealt vigorously with the following aids to the Liquor Traffic:

(1) The universal gambling spirit. (2) The sporting tendency of the age. (3) The sale and use of tobacco. (4) The sale and public use of light drinks.

The report was followed by a stirring address by Pastor S. W. Schurman on Individual Responsibility. Pastor C. H. Day was to have spoken on, "The Moral forces in temperance reform," but the time being limited, at his request, the report was discussed. Dr. Day was asked to send his address to the Messenger and Visitor for publication. The discussion hinged chiefly on the use of tobacco which habit was handled without gloves.

Thursday evening was given to Missions. Rev. E. J. Grant spoke for Home Missions. His special topic was, "The philosophy of our present strength." This the speaker found to lie in the fact that from the days of Henry Alline to the present we have been a Home Mission people. Weak churches have been aided in the support of their pastors and Home Mission Evangelists have been almost constantly in the field. The relation of our Home Mission work to all our other enterprises is that of "Pat to the wheelbarrow." One half of our pastors come from churches either now or formerly aided by the H. M. Board. The H. M. Board occupies new ground faster than the old becomes self-supporting. Hence the need for a continually increasing income.

Rev. E. Y. Corey spoke for Foreign Missions. Mr. Corey was at his best and gave such a view of the people of India as to show that they are worth giving the Gospel to.

The Associational closed with a deeply spiritual testimony service, in which several unconverted manifested a desire to know Christ, and live for Him.

The hospitality of the good people of Mahone was at full tide. It seemed to them a delight to give and this made it a delight to the visitors to receive. The thanks of the delegates was duly recorded. In the vote of thanks to the officers, special mention was made of the service rendered year after year by Secretary Smith. When the right man is found for this place it is wise to continue him in office.

Invitations to the Associational next year were received from the churches at Aylesford and at New Germany. The latter was accepted.

The devotional services preceding the business sessions were led by Pastors Beaman, Quick, Spurr and Lawson.

R. OSOOND MORSE