

SABBATH OBSERVANCE.

The Assembly then called for the report of the Committee on Sabbath Observance. The report was presented by Dr. Armstrong, the Convener, who explained at length the main features of the report, which was on the whole of an encouraging nature. On motion of Dr. Armstrong the report was received, and it was agreed to consider its recommendations *seriatim*. The first recommendation was adopted on motion of Mr. J. Nichols, duly seconded. The second, third and fourth recommendations were also adopted, and the recommendations as a whole were adopted as follows :—

1. That recommendations one, two and three of last year be renewed, viz. :—

“ That the ministers of our Church be careful to bring before their congregations the nature and sanctions of the Sabbath as they have opportunity, and that at least one sermon during the year be devoted to the subject.

“ That parents in their home instruction and teachers in their Sabbath schools take pains to instil into the minds of the young the teaching of Scripture in regard to the Sabbath Day.

“ That the ministers and members of our Church, and especially those on our various Sabbath Observance Committees, seek, as they have opportunity, to use the Press in influencing public attention to right views on Sabbath Observance.”

2. That the Assembly, whilst deploring the neglect and desecration of the Sabbath that still exists, would yet record its thankfulness to God for the cheering reports of improvement that have come from several quarters, especially from the Synod of Manitoba and the North-West Territories, and for the deeper interest awakened throughout the Church in regard to the necessity of maintaining the sanctity and obligations of the day.

3. That a circular be sent to Presbyteries containing questions for the purpose of eliciting information, and that Presbyteries be recommended to call for reports from their Committees on Sabbath Observance at a regular meeting of the Presbytery.

4. That the Assembly express its sympathy with the work of the Lord's Day Alliance of Canada, especially with the attempt to obtain better Legislation for the protection of the Sabbath as a day of rest, and appoint the members of its Committee as its representatives in the Alliance.

Dr. Armstrong then read a draft of the Questions on Sabbath Observance for next year. On motion the questions were adopted by the Assembly as follows :—

1. Have you a Presbyterial Committee ?
2. To what extent has Recommendation Number One been attended to by your Presbytery ?
3. Are there any special forms of Sabbath breaking within your bounds ?
4. What has been done within the bounds of your Presbytery,—
 - (a) To check the abuses of the Day ?
 - (b) To promote the religious observance of the Day ?
 - (c) To secure better Legislation ?

STATE OF RELIGION.

The Assembly now resumed consideration of the Report on the State of Religion. The resolution previously submitted by Mr. Pringle was adopted, and in accordance therewith the report was received and the Assembly proceeded to consider its recommendations *seriatim*. The first and second recommendations were adopted.

The hour of adjournment now arrived, but it was agreed to sit for fifteen minutes longer.

The third recommendation was read as follows :—“ That as a means of developing the gifts and graces of the Young People, a Young People's Society of Christian