

was all he said, but the seed germinated, and it was all off with the Standard artist.

#### Sabbath Schools.

The report on Sabbath schools was the first received. It was prepared by Rev. G. A. Woodside of Carleton Place, but, he being unable to be present, it was read by Rev. W. W. Peck of Arnprior. It stated that the progress in the general work had been good. In the district embraced by the Synod there were 170 graded schools, and 292 teachers that had taken up the teachers' training course. The number of scholars enrolled as communicants during the year was 1,047, making 4,332 scholars that were now communicants of the church, 491 elders were now engaged in Sunday school work, and 292 schools were open the year round. The sum of \$6,394 was contributed to the schemes of the church; \$9,570 for expenses, \$1,465 to the Children's Day Fund, and \$5,391 for other purposes. The amount contributed by the congregations to the schools was \$2,000, the total amount raised being \$22,008. According to statistics, there was but one teacher for every eleven scholars, and that only twelve out of every 100 members of the church were engaged in Sabbath school work. The only presbytery reporting an increase in the contributions to the schemes of the church was Brockville. The total contributions to the schemes of the church was \$233 less than the preceding year; 4,332 was the total number of the church members now engaged in Sunday school work. The report after a lengthy discussion was adopted, with the recommendations that there be a more efficient and thorough organization of teachers' training classes, that greater attention be paid to the Home Mission Department in each Sunday school, and that some plan be adopted to secure regular contributions.

A committee to strike the standing committees was appointed as follows: Revs. Dr. Kellogg, convener; Rev. MacKay, McGillivray, A. H. Scott, Ross, Gamble and Elder Paul.

The report of the augmentation committee, submitted by the convener, Dr. Kellogg, showed that during the year twenty-three congregations had become self-supporting. The minimum salary was raised from \$750 to \$800. The estimates for the year were \$45,000. The synod was asked to devise some ways and means to increase the receipts for this fund. A general secretary to travel about was suggested, but the synod would not support that.

Rev. J. R. MacLeod, the clerk, read the synod treasurer's report. This showed a balance on hand of \$219. The total receipts during the year had been \$445.

After stirring addresses from Rev. Drs. Neil and Mackay on Sunday school work and foreign missions respectively, there was a motion passed in response to Dr. MacKay's appeal declaring for the formation of a synodic foreign missionary committee.

#### EVENING SESSION.

The evening session was well attended, a large number of ladies being in the congregation. Several members of the choir were present, and assisted in the singing.

#### Lord's day Alliance.

After devotional exercises Rev. J. G. Shearer, secretary of the Lord's Day Alliance, addressed the synod on the work of the alliance. He was glad to state that even with imperfect legislation much had been done under Divine blessing. But legislation was not the greatest aid of the alliance. The educating of the people and the developing of a strong public sentiment were the chief instruments by which the aims of the alliance were to be realized. All creeds were uniting to secure a better observance of the Sabbath. Perhaps the greatest reason why the alliance commanded attention was that it could say "we represent a united Canada."

"After a reference to the Lord's Day Bill, now before the House of Commons, and which would likely become law in a few days, he said the work of the alliance had just got beyond its experimental stage, and was entitled to the same support as were the home and foreign missions of a church. The synod would not

be doing more than its duty if it assisted in providing the sinews for the alliance to carry on its war.

Rev. J. W. H. Milne thought that as a church they ought to do something to support the work of the alliance. They owed much to Rev. J. G. Shearer, who had been constant in season and out of season. There would now be no Sabbath observance bill going through parliament but for his efforts. Mr. Milne moved that a committee composed of Rev. W. D. Reid, Rev. Dr. Ramsay and Mr. John R. Reid, be appointed to consider what support the synod could give the Lord's Day Alliance. The motion was seconded by Rev. Dr. Armstrong, who also paid a tribute to Mr. Shearer, and it unanimously carried.

#### Revival in the Church.

Rev. D. Strachan, of Brockville, then read an excellent paper on "The Revival in the Church." He described at considerable length the great revival of the 16th century and said that that part of the church called "Reform" would always look back with profit and interest to the Reformation. Just as the Renaissance struck the note of simplicity in art so the Reformation struck the note of simplicity in life. It produced a new and special type of piety, teaching men that they were dependent on God.

#### Ottawa Ladies' College.

Rev. Dr. Armstrong presented the report of the Ottawa Ladies' College. There were, the report stated, 64 resident students, four more than the building was supposed to accommodate. Owing to the growing attendance it would be necessary to erect a wing to the building, the erection of which would be started within the course of a year. Two subscriptions had been received already for the work, one for \$1,000 and the other for \$500. The expenditure was increasing, owing to the advanced cost of living and to the increase in salaries, but the revenue would be sufficient to meet all expenses.

Rev. Professor MacKenzie presented the report of the committee on education. In Quebec but few were taking up the teaching profession, typewriting and nursing hold out greater inducements to the young ladies of the province.

Rev. J. T. Pitcher, of Ottawa, and Rev. Mr. Dewey, of Montreal, addressed the synod in the interests of the Bible Society.

#### Standing Committees.

The following standing committees were appointed:

Home mission, Dr. Armstrong, convener, Messrs. John Mackay, J. Hay, A. E. Mitchell, W. J. Morrison, E. H. Bronson, Jas. Stewart; Church Life and Work, A. S. Ross, convener, Messrs. C. H. Vessiot, R. Gamble, A. G. Cameron, W. C. Wilson, Professor D. J. Fraser; ecclesiastical co-operation, Principal Scrimger, convener, Messrs. A. L. Low, H. J. McDiarmid, John McDougall, J. C. Heine, J. N. Tanner, Dr. Campbell (collateral), Dr. Herdridge; public education, Professor E. A. Mackenzie, convener, Messrs. Dr. Barclay, D. J. Graham, J. W. H. Milne, C. H. Cooke, Dr. Ramsay, T. A. Mitchell, John MacMillan; Sunday school, G. A. Woodside, convener, Messrs. P. Henderson, Jas. Muir Melsillin, Walter Paul, F. D. Muir; Young Peoples' Societies, W. D. Reid, convener, Messrs. W. A. McIlroy, R. P. Duclos, W. S. Leslie, J. R. Reid; French evangelization, Dr. Mowatt, convener, Messrs. E. A. Mackenzie, I. J. Taylor, A. H. Scott, Geo. McArthur, F. W. Anderson, J. W. H. Milne, D. N. Coburn, Mr. Menard, Walter Paul, Geo. Hay, Jas. Stewart; foreign missions, J. H. Turnbull, convener; Messrs. S. A. Woods, David Yule, D. J. Fraser, M. C. Clark, John McGill, Jas. Stewart.

On invitation of Rev. D. Strachan, of Brockville, it was unanimously decided to hold the next annual meeting of the synod in St. John's Church, Brockville.

It was announced that there were 113 delegates in attendance, a record number.

#### Appeal From Moose Creek.

A troublesome case, and which under proper management should never have got beyond the presbytery, was involved in the appeal of Dr. Watts, of Moose Creek, against the action of Gleanery Presbytery, in refusing to restore him to full membership, except after three months' probation. The case arose out of a disagreement between the doctor and the minister, and neither party appears to have exhibited very much of the love that "suffereth long, and is kind." In the spring of last year the local session dealt with the case and the result was Dr. Watts' name was removed from the roll. He appealed, and the Presbytery of Gleanery, and Presbytery, after it had been assured that good fellowship had been restored between the disputants, directed Dr. Watts' restoration to membership. The Koxborough session would only agree to this after a three months' probation. Dr. Watts protested again to the presbytery, which upheld the action of the session, and hence his appeal to the Synod. After hearing both sides at considerable length the Synod decided to refer the matter to a commission, consisting of Rev. John Hay, Rev. Dr. Ramsay and Mr. John R. Reid, of Ottawa.

The Presbyterians of Ottawa, extended to the ministers and elders attending the Synod a generous measure of hospitality, and this was acknowledged before adjournment by a hearty vote of thanks.

#### GEOMETRY OF GOD.

This is the title of an article by the Rev. Dr. Hugh Macmillan, of Greenock, Scotland, from which the following extracts are taken:

"The beautiful colors of Nature are caused by vibration or waves of light, which have been counted, and are always exactly the same for the same color. The number of waves required to produce the sensation of red as they break upon the eye must be 39,000 in an inch and 41 million millions in a second. The number of waves required to produce yellow must be 47,000 in an inch, and 530 million millions in a second. And so with all other colors. To enable you to see a red rose, or a red ribbon, no less than 47 million of millions of ether waves must break upon your eye every second.

"God counts also the number of the stars, and He arranges them in the heavens not by chance, but according to a fixed system.

"In the solar system, for example, the intervals between the orbits of the planets go on doubling as we recede from the sun. Thus, Venus is twice as far from Mercury as Mercury is from the sun; the Earth is twice as far from Venus as Venus is from Mercury; Mars is twice as far from the Earth as the Earth is from Venus, and so on. In this way the planets are arranged in the sky around the sun in the same numerical order as the leaves are arranged around the stem of a plant, or the scales around a pipe cone, or the teeth around the edge of the seed vessel of a microscopic moss.

"And that extraordinary law, the most universal of all laws, which everything throughout the universe obeys—the law of gravitation—is also expressed by a numerical formula. The force does not decrease just in proportion as the distance is increased; it decreases according to the square of the number expressing the distance; so that at twice the distance the force of gravitation is not twice less, but four times less; at thrice the distance nine times, and so on.

"Thus everything in the universe, from the smallest moss to the remotest star, is constructed and arranged according to fixed numbers. There is nothing left to chance. There is not an atom but obeys its law, not a leaf but appears in its proper place. A sublime order is present everywhere, proving that the universe is the product of one infinite Mind."