

Three of our Synods, representing the central portion of the church, have recently been holding their annual meetings. The Synods of the Maritime Provinces, and of Manitoba and the North-West meet in the autumn.

The Synod of Hamilton and London met at Stratford, April 18th. Rev. H. McQuarrie, Wingham, was elected Moderator. On Tuesday forenoon, Rev. W. Burns presented a statement of the Aged and Infirm Minister's Fund, after which a resolution was passed commending the work to Presbyteries and congregations. Synod devoted the afternoon to Augmentation and Home Missions, and resolved that all applications of Presbyteries for grants from both these funds ought to be revised by the Synodical Committee before transmission to the General Assembly's Committees. The evening was spent in hearing reports on the State of Religion, Temperance, Sabbath Schools and Sabbath Observance. On Wednesday further reports were received, among them that of Brantford Ladies College, which has had a prosperous year. Synod approved of the erection of the new Presbytery of Algoma. An overture was adopted asking that the General Assembly rescind last year's action, re extra mural session by theological students, and also the decision requiring ministers coming from other churches to give a year to the mission field before being eligible for a call. Synod resolved to ask the Dominion authorities to close the Canadian section of the Chicago exhibition on the Lord's Day. Agreed to meet next year in Knox Church, St. Thomas.

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The Synod of Toronto and Kingston met on the evening of May 10th, at Peterboro. In the afternoon a religious conference was held. A paper was read by Mr. Somerville of Owen Sound, on "The importance of a high spiritual life on the part of Christian workers," and, later on one, by Mr. S. Houston of Kingston, on "The attainments in holiness possible in this life;" and on these two themes centred a number of brief addresses. Synod opened in the evening by a sermon from R. W. Grant, retiring Moderator, and Dr. Parsons was elected to the chair. Wednesday was devoted to Aged and Infirm Ministers' Fund, Augmentation, Sabbath Observance, Temperance, State of Religion and Sabbath Schools. The Aged and Infirm Ministers' Fund (west) endowment, has \$104,000 subscribed and \$71,000 paid in. There are 73 annuitants. Collections have not increased. Presbyteries should be careful in recommending annuitants. The Augmentation scheme has nursed 186 congregations into self-support. There would have been a large deficit this year but for Mrs. Nichol's bequest. Synod approved of a Synodical Committee revising all applications from Presbyteries for grants from this fund. Synod strongly urged Government to take no

part in the Chicago Exhibition, if it is to be opened on Sabbath. A most profitable day was spent in conferences on the various subjects. On Thursday, Synod agreed to transmit an overture to Assembly from Whitby Presbytery, asking that Young People's Societies be united in one common organization for the whole church; approved of the overture of Barrie Presbytery for the formation of the new Presbytery of Algoma; adjourned to meet next year in Knox Church, Guelph.

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The Synod of Montreal and Ottawa met at Smith's Falls, Tuesday evening, May 10, and was opened with a sermon by Dr. MacKay, after which Mr. Stewart of Pembroke was chosen Moderator. Wednesday afternoon was largely devoted to a conference on "French Evangelization." Mr. Morin read a paper on "Methods of French Evangelization," and Dr. Scrimger one on "The Bearing of French Evangelization on our National Life." Prolonged discussion followed, greatly deepening the interest in this branch of our work. The evening was devoted to our young people. Mr. Ross of Perth, read a paper on "How can we get our young people into fellowship with Christ," and Mr. Cook of Smith Falls, on "Young Peoples Societies." Around these centred a most profitable conference. On Thursday the chief subject was "Augmentation," one of the great nursing funds of the church. Next year's meeting to be held in Knox Church, Ottawa, on the second Monday of May.

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The authorities of the Presbyterian College of Montreal are making a vigorous canvas to increase their endowment. The progress of this college has been very marked. It is but twenty-five years since it was first organized. For five years the classes were taught in the basement of Erskine Church. Then the first buildings were erected, and to-day the ample pile around the college court attests the energy and ability of those who have guided its affairs, and the liberality of its generous friends. The two hundred students who have graduated from its classes and have gone forth to preach the gospel have proved at once the need of the institution and the work done within its walls, while the seventy-seven students in attendance during the session just closed shows the appreciation in which it is held. It is hoped that the old friends who have never failed it in the past will readily respond to its call, and that new ones to whom its work has proved its worth will join heartily in the effort to increase its efficiency.

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