

Ministers and Churches.

OUR TORONTO LETTER.

There is very general satisfaction, not only among the good people of East Toronto, but among all interested in the progress of the Church in that locality, since the Rev. Thos. H. Rogers has initiated his acceptance of the call they have given him. The Church has come through deep waters recently, but it has borne itself well, and is now in good shape to do excellent work under Mr. Rogers' leadership. He will be inducted on the 18th instant, when the Rev. Robt. Atkinson, the new minister of East Toronto, will preach, W. Warden will address the people, and Rev. W. Prizzell will deliver the charge to the minister.

According to the judgment of the Toronto Presbytery Committee those Presbyteries that have elected ruling elders to the Moderator's chair, have acted illegally, and the acts of all such Presbyteries during the term the ruling elder held the office may be called in question. The Presbytery was impressed with the gravity of the situation, but did not commit itself to a judgment. Wishing time to think the matter over it ordered that the Committee's report be printed, and will consider the whole question at the June meeting, when an overture to the General Assembly, asking that such changes be made as shall make it legal to elect a ruling elder to the Moderator's chair, may be presented.

Last year Toronto Presbytery arranged for a special evening sederunt to license students. The general public was invited, but it was a new move, and the general public did not comprehend that it was invited, at least it did not come. The Presbytery has again arranged for a special sederunt on the evening of the sixth of June next, and again the general public will be invited to attend. Might we suggest that it will dispel the atmosphere of officialdom in which the Presbytery is surrounded, if this special meeting be held in some uptown church. Indeed we think it would serve a good purpose if this function were conducted in a different church each year. Congregations would become acquainted with the Presbytery, and incidentally with the work of the college from which these young men graduate.

Will the Rev. Armstrong Black accept the St. Andrew's call? The question is being eagerly canvassed by more than the congregation immediately concerned. We have expressed our appreciation of the splendid loyalty of this congregation, as seen in their unanimity and strength during a trying vacancy. In all probability some word other than rumor will reach Toronto during the coming week. We trust it may be the word for which St. Andrew's hopes.

Knox Church remains on its old site, at least for a year longer. During that year the congregation will do a power of thinking, and others will do some talking. As usual the question is one of settlement to those who are not immediately concerned. Already a sapient editor has settled it, and adjures the people of Knox, in language that is strong if not reverent, to stay where they are. We could settle it, too, in several ways, indeed we offered what seems to us a most wise settlement in last week's issue. In the multitude of counsellors there is—well we won't say what, but no doubt the trustees of Knox will be ready to accept a feasible solution. We respectfully join in the reminder, however, that their present parish should have some weight in settling the question, and the majority of that parish have never been inside their doors.

Central Church marked another year of its history on Sabbath last. Rev. J. M. MacMillan, M.A., of Lindsay, preached morning and evening. Mr. MacMillan speaks right out in meeting, and cares little for the criticisms of others. We heard a good thing of his preaching recently. He and a brother minister arranged an exchange of pulpits. Mr. MacMillan chose for his text the well known passages in Job in which occurs the clause, "I know that my Redeemer liveth," etc. In commenting upon it, the preacher said that of course Job had no knowledge of Christ, and did not refer to Him here, dilating upon the point of exegesis for a moment or two. Some time later the pulpit in which he had preached became vacant. When the names of ministers who might be suitable to fill the vacancy were being discussed, that of Mr. MacMillan was one of the first to be proposed. "No, no," said a good member, "he said Job did not refer to Christ when he said 'I know that my Redeemer liveth,' and I'll never vote for a man that wants to take away any part of my Bible from me." One wonders how much of the Bible is contained in "my Bible," and how many other good men are condemned because they deal with

an undertone frankness with personal prejudice.

The meeting of the Synod of Toronto and Kingston in Knox Church, Toronto, promises to be uneventful in so far as burning questions are concerned. There may therefore be some time to receive spiritual benefit from the discussions that arise.

WINNIPEG AND WEST.

Rev. D. Robertson, formerly of London, Ont., has been called to the congregation of Treherne, in Southern Manitoba.

Knox Church, Rat Portage (Rev. W. M. Rochester), opened its handsome new church a week ago. Drs. Duval and Slinger presided.

Rev. J. S. McKay, of Stellarton, N.S., is holding evangelistic services in the Presbytery, following the Assembly's plan of study with much advantage. Open meetings have been held, when special monthly topic is taken up. On Friday last "Presbyterianism in Ireland" was dealt with in an able paper by Mr. J. D. S. Lowry, a missionary student of Manitoba College.

Rev. Principal MacVicar and Prof. Scrimger, of Montreal, are in the full swing of work at the Manitoba College summer session. They make a strong team and the students are loud in praise of their lectures. The churches in Winnipeg and neighborhood are also putting in application for their services in preaching. Their trip here is by no means a holiday, but they both seem to thrive on ozone and hard work.

Rev. Prof. Iverach, of Aberdeen, is delivering in the college the course of lectures he gave in New York on the Deeside Foundation. The lectures are being largely attended, not only by the students, but by ladies and gentlemen of the city and vicinity as well. Dr. Iverach is an exceedingly able and interesting lecturer, speaks easily, but intensely, and holds the closest attention of his hearers throughout. He is a preacher of great power and last Sunday conducted services in Knox and Augustine Churches, with crowded congregations.

One of the pioneers of Western Presbyterianism died last week, in the person of Senator Sutherland, of Kildonan. He was born at Fort Douglas, now Winnipeg, in 1821, and was one of the founders and leading supporters of Kildonan Church and Manitoba College. His funeral was largely attended. Impressive services were conducted in the old church by the Rev. R. G. MacBeth, assisted by Rev. Prof. Hart, and Rev. Alexander Matheson. Mr. MacBeth delivered an address on the true significance of a funeral and spoke of the strong points in the life of the late Senator, which for the welfare of the country ought to be perpetuated.

EASTERN ONTARIO.

The fourth annual convention of the young people of Renfrew and Lanark Presbytery opened on Monday, and was largely attended. The report of the nominating committee recommended the following officers:—President, Rev. Mr. Currie, of Perth; first vice-president, Miss Lizzie Gordon, of Pembroke; second vice-president, Mrs. J. McDonald, c. Blackburn; secretary, Miss C. Frost, c. Smith's Falls; treasurer, Mr. W. J. Keith, of Smith's Falls.

Miss Kate Calder, who has been laboring in India, as one of the missionaries of our Church, has arrived home on furlough. Miss Calder is the second missionary who has gone out to the foreign field from Knox Church, Beaverton; and her many friends are exceedingly pleased to see her return in such good health after a seven years' residence in a climate that has tried the health and strength of most of our missionaries to the utmost. It is to be hoped that she will fully enjoy her well earned rest.

Rev. K. J. McDonald has introduced a new feature into the morning service of Knox Church, Beaverton. It is a short sermon for the children. At its close a children's hymn is sung, the whole not occupying more than eight or ten minutes. Mr. McDonald has, in a very marked degree, the happy faculty of adapting himself to children; and the older people enjoy the short, pretty sermon, as much as the children to whom it is addressed. That the children are interested, is evident from the greater number who attend now than formerly.

Rev. D. McLeod has been called by the congregation of Hampden, Que.

WESTERN ONTARIO

The Presbyterians of Arthur are building a new church.

Rev. G. C. Little, B.A., preached in Durham Church last Sunday.

Rev. J. J. Brown, of Bothwell, has been preaching on "Spring a Harbinger of Immortality."

The Presbyterians of Preston and Doon have called Rev. J. R. Johnston, formerly of East Toronto Junction.

Anniversary services were held last Sunday in MacNab Street Church, Hamilton. Rev. Prof. Ballantyne, of Toronto, was the preacher.

Mr. Matthew Fairlie, son of Rev. John Fairlie, of Lansdown, has lately passed his final examination as a mining engineer with honors.

Rev. Mr. Cameron, of North Easthope, occupied the pulpit of the Shakespear Church here last Sunday night. The Rev. Mr. Pyke is recovering from his recent illness.

Rev. J. G. Shearer, M.A., of Erskine Church, Hamilton, commenced last Sunday evening a special course of sermons to the young people on the fascinating life-story of Daniel.

Rev. J. D. and Mrs. McEwen, of Stouffville, are visiting his sister, Mrs. Pollock, at Bennet, before leaving for South America. Mr. McEwen preached for Rev. Mr. Miller, at Crysler Church, last Sunday.

Rev. W. A. J. Martin, whose induction to the charge of Zion Church, Brantford takes place this week, will occupy the pulpit next Sabbath; and on Monday evening he will be given a reception by the congregation. Rev. B. B. Williams, of Guelph, has been preaching here with much acceptance for several Sabbaths.

Rev. Dr. Johnston, of St. Andrew's Church, London, much to the gratification of his people, has decided to decline the invitations given him by large congregations in Chicago and Baltimore. In the latter case the temptation was very strong; a salary of \$6,000, a free manse, and a church the working of which it would be a pleasure to carry on.

At the last meeting of the Orangeville Presbytery Rev. Mr. Fowler gave an encouraging report on Sabbath schools. Out of 45 schools, 35 reported. Rev. Mr. Crozier pressed his resignation of the charge of Grand Valley and Lathton, although an influential deputation from the congregation appeared and spoke unanimously in favor of his remaining. The Presbytery accepted the resignation, to take effect on the third day of July—the completion of a fifteen years' pastorate; Rev. Mr. Bell, of Laurel, was appointed interim moderator of session.

OTTAWA AND VICINITY.

"Foods and Digestion" was the subject of Dr. A. F. Rogers' lecture to the students of the Presbyterian Ladies' College on Thursday last.

Rev. Dr. Torrance, of Peterboro, preached two effective sermons in St. Andrew's last Sunday. Dr. Torrance and his bride of a few weeks were guests at the Russell House while in town.

A union meeting of all the city auxiliaries of the W. F. M. S. will be held in the Stewarthon Church on Tuesday next. Reports will be presented from the delegates to the recent meetings at Woodstock.

The twenty-fifth anniversary of the Rev. Dr. Armstrong's pastorate at St. Paul's will be celebrated next Sunday. Services appropriate to the occasion will be conducted in the morning by Rev. Dr. Moore, of Bank Street Church.

At the last meeting of Queen's University Senate the following graduates were appointed tutors for the next session:—Latin, Oscar Skelton, M.A., and J. F. McDonald, M.A.; Greek, James Wallace, M.A.; mathematics, A. Kennedy, M.A.; moral philosophy, M. McLaren, M.A.; J. D. Byrnes, B.A., was appointed clerk of the college postoffice, and W. McDonald, B.A., as assistant.

The Rev. R. C. Tibb, Clerk of the Toronto Presbytery, has received the names of several ministers who are available for temporary supply during the present summer. Should there be any minister who desires supply for his pulpit for one or more Sabbaths Mr. Tibb will be glad to send him a list of the names and addresses of those who have reported themselves available for such supply.