

Another Untimely Interruption

Before Presbytery got back to nominations for the Principship another interrupting discussion occurred. The question was raised as to why there should be any nominations at all at this meeting. Why this hurry? was asked; Manitoba had waited years for their new Principal, and the resigning Principal of Westminster Hall had not yet left for his new post. This question, which might have been pertinently put before any nomination was made, was hardly timely after the questioners had allowed one nomination to be made without raising the point.

A Protester and Previous Nominations

Another member prolonged the interruption by raising a question to the effect that no notice had been received that nominations would be in order at that meeting of Presbytery. This speaker continued to "protest too much," as an official of Westminster Hall created laughter at his expense by mentioning that that gentleman himself had been associated with other nominations sent in two or three weeks previously.

Discussion of this point led the Clerk of Presbytery to point out that he was under no obligation to state specifically all the matters that were to come before the meeting. Rev. Mr. Thompson, of Eburne, as secretary to the Board of the College, on the other hand, stated that he had written to the Clerk of Presbytery, and mentioned that nominations would be in order at that meeting. The clerk said he had received the letter when in Toronto.

Perhaps it is only fair to those who nominated Dr. Smith to add that another gentleman's name had previously been before the Board of Management of the College, and was submitted following Dr. Mackay's resignation. That fact could only make those independently interested in the business of the Presbytery question what purpose any member of Presbytery, who was also connected with the Board of Management of Westminster Hall, could have in pleading ignorance of nominations coming before that meeting.

THE BRITISH COLUMBIA MONTHLY

Dr. Henry Nominates Mr. Sharrard

Dr. E. A. Henry left the chair to nominate Mr. Sharrard. Dr. Henry made a strong speech in favour of his nominee, who is known as a ripe scholar and excellent gentleman of attractive personality and wide and varied experience. As Dr. Henry stated, and those familiar with his nominee can confirm, in comparing the qualities of the two men before Presbytery, both must be credited with strong powers of appeal so far as the individual is concerned. Any bias exercised in judgment of them depends mainly on how far that personal appeal can be intensified in its application to men and the community in the mass.

In seconding the nomination of Mr. Sharrard (who without the name of professor has been doing the work at the College for some years past) Mr. F. W. Kerr was candid enough to tell the meeting that his action was prompted from behind by Mr. Craig. By his remarks Mr. Kerr implied that he was equally in favour of Dr. Smith's appointment. Mr. Rae, a recent graduate of the college, had evidently been prepared to support Mr. Sharrard, as he got through a fairly long speech when the meeting was visibly tired of the long-drawn-out proceedings. Mr. Craig, who had modestly allowed Mr. Kerr to take his place in seconding the nomination, followed Mr. Rae in support of Mr. Sharrard.

Close Voting at Late Hour

It was considerably after six o'clock when the Presbytery took a vote, and as a consequence a number of the members had left the meeting. Dr. Logan made a motion, and Mr. Gibson, without exception being taken, seconded it, that both names be submitted to the Board by the Presbytery, and on a vote being taken the Clerk announced the figures as 17 to 16, but did not mention on which side the majority lay. One member of Presbytery pointed out that two elders representing one Church were voting, and Mr. Gibson, chairman of Westminster Hall Board, at once stated that he must be the second

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