

(2) To add to the section so amended the following clause: Provided, however, that for all the Rural Deaneries within the District of S. Francis there shall be one Deanery Board composed of all the Clergy, Lay Delegates and elected Members within the District. Of this Deanery Board, the Rural Dean, Senior in Holy Orders shall be Convener and Chairman.

This being now the expressed wish and agreement of the present Ruridecanal Chapter, in response to the desire of the Bishop, it is proposed to proceed as follows:

Since Canon XII of our Diocesan Synod gives to the Bishop power to form new Rural Deaneries with the consent of existing Rural Deaneries that may be affected, the Bishop proposes to wait and allow the next meeting of the Deanery Board of the District of S. Francis to be summoned as heretofore. At this meeting the Bishop will promulgate the formation of the four Deaneries out of the one existing Deanery by a formal Act under his hand and seal. He will then call upon the Clergy to meet and elect their several Rural Deans at the close of the first Session of the Deanery Board i.e. on the Wednesday, at noon or after dinner.

Since the newly elected Rural Deans will still need to be appointed and commissioned by the Bishop as *his* officers, the Bishop will set forth to the general body of Church people gathered together at the Public Missionary Meeting in the evening, what has been done, and will at the same time hand their signed and sealed Commissions to the several Rural Deans. Then, before the meeting of the Deanery Board, in December 1897, the necessary alterations in Canon XII will have been obtained, and consequently that meeting will be summoned by the Rural Dean who may be Senior in Holy Orders.

It is earnestly hoped and believed by the Bishop that these changes will lead to increased vitality and co-operation; and he is also of opinion that it would be well for the Clergy of the Rural Deanery of Quebec to hold a Chapter Meeting and formally to consent to divide their Deanery into at least two, i.e. one on each side of the River S. Lawrence.

Quebec Diocesan Lay Helpers' Association.

At a Meeting of the Association of the Lay Helpers of the District of S. Francis, held at Sherbrook last December, the Constitution of the Association was again somewhat amended and now stands as follows:

I.—NAME.

The Association shall be called the Association of the Lay Helpers of the District of St. Francis.

II.—BISHOP'S SANCTION.

The Association is formed with the sanction of the Bishop, and the Bishop is *ex officio* President of the same. All proceedings of the Association are subject to his approval.

III.—MEMBERSHIP.

1. All persons within the District, being Communicants now actually engaged in the work of the Church, with the sanction of the Incumbent of the Parish or Mission in which they reside, or desirous of giving a portion of their time, under such sanction, to the work of the Church, shall be eligible as members of the Association.

2. All persons desirous of becoming members of this Association shall apply to the Incumbent of the Parish or Mission for his sanction, and if such sanction is given, the names of such persons shall be sent in by the Secretary of the Association to the Bishop for his sanction in writing. On the Bishop withdrawing such written approval, such members shall cease to be members of the Association.

IV.

The following shall be the officers of the Association: the Bishop, *ex-officio*, President; two Vice-Presidents, one Lay, one Clerical; a Secretary, a Treasurer, and a Committee of Management of six persons, viz., three Clergymen and three Laymen, with the officers of the Association, of which Committee five shall be a quorum.

The Secretary and Treasurer and Committee to go out every year, but to be eligible for re-election by the Association.

The first named member of the Committee, who shall be a layman, to act as Convener and Chairman, *pro tem.*; until a Chairman (who shall be a layman) is chosen.

V.—MEETINGS.

1. The annual meeting of the Association shall be held at such time and place as may be decided upon by the Association. At