

what that editor indicates he would have given them, and also considering the limitations of the speeches (apart from Dr. Scott's prepared address), it is perhaps unfortunate that the ministerial invitation was not made more comprehensive. Journalists engaged in weekly and even monthly publications, have usually had "daily" and other press experience which might qualify them, on occasion, to say something worth while even to the pulpit. Indeed, it goes without saying that the value of a publication ought to increase the further it gets from the unavoidable rush work on the "daily."

We imagine however, that the City Ministerial Union had to face the question—"Where shall we draw the line?" and naturally decided that the editors of the dailies were the men who might best link up the pulpit and the press.

It may be suggested that at another time, whether or not the Ministerial Union thinks fit to extend the invitation to include the editors or representatives of all publications in the city, a topic for address or discussion should not only be arranged beforehand, but it should be made clear that it is expected that the representatives of the Fourth Estate will take the clergy as seriously as the ministers expect to be taken when the pulpit addresses the pew and the press.

Congregational Business Meetings

Some months ago we mentioned the fact that only from six to seven per cent. of the members of the Men's Canadian Club of Vancouver were present at the annual business meeting. It would be interesting to know the actual percentage in attendance at the annual business meetings of congregations. It is to be feared the figures would be very disappointing. From observation of one city congregation and a report of another, we know that 10 per cent. of the recorded membership seems to be about the maximum representation.

We question if such a percentage can be reckoned healthy representation of any society or organization at a business meeting which is an annual one. In Church and State alike laudatory references may be heard of our democratic institutions, but too often it is to be feared that, through indifference on the part of Church members or citizen voters, as the case may be, we drift into a form of government that suggests an oligarchy.

In organizations of all kinds there are usually a number of people who find it advisable to leave others to do the thinking and planning; but perhaps there is a larger number who through indifference or laziness leave the management of affairs to others. It is always easier to stay outside an official body and criticize its conduct than to stand in and "lend a hand."

Just as Christian communicants should be ashamed to be absent from a pre-communion or preparatory service without the best of reasons, so every member of a Church ought to be ashamed to be absent from the annual business meeting of his or her particular congregation.