

members of the Church to the practical importance of influencing our legislators, through deputations and otherwise, to right views of the Sabbath, in relation to the national welfare.

5. That the General Assembly cordially recognizes the aim and work of the Lord's Day Alliance of Canada and appoints as its representatives in the Alliance the members of its Sabbath Observance Committee.

The Assembly also expresses its gratification at the organization of the Ontario Provincial Alliance and expresses the hope that these interdenominational Alliances may greatly conduce to the preservation of the Day of Rest, especially in opposing the encroachments upon the Day of Rest by Railroad, Steamboat and other Commercial Corporations.

6. The General Assembly, believing that the observance of the Sabbath as a day of rest is highly beneficial to man's moral, mental and physical welfare, expresses its sympathy with the efforts of workingmen who, through their corporations and leagues, are seeking to secure that all unnecessary work shall cease on that day.

7. That the General Assembly's deliverances on Sabbath Observance be read from the pulpits of our Church and that ministers be desired to call special attention to them, giving at the same time such further explanations and enforcements as they may deem necessary.

8. That questions on the subject of Sabbath Observance be sent down to Sessions to report thereon.

Among those who spoke to the report were Mr. John Charlton, Mr. J. A. Patterson, Revs. Dr. J. R. Smith, Dr. Parsons, and Dr. Mungo Fraser.

DELIVERANCE ON FOREIGN MISSIONS.

In disposing of the foreign mission report, presented on Friday evening, the following series of resolutions was adopted: Expressing sympathy with missionaries afflicted or bereaved during the year; satisfaction with the prosperity of the New Hebrides Mission; gratitude for the progress made in Trinidad and the extension of the work to the other Islands of the West Indies; thankfulness for protection of missionaries in China and progress of the work, notwithstanding the war; sympathy with the Church in North Formosa in the present emergency, and the hope that the members may be shielded from all harm; agreeing to the transfer of Dr. Webster, of Haifa, to the Syrian Protestant College at Beirut; transferring balance of trust fund for Jewish Mission in Palestine to the Free Church of Scotland to be applied to their mission in Safed; authorizing the contribution of funds for Scholarship for Jewish boys in Beirut College; expressing appreciation of the character and ability of Dr. Webster, and satisfaction with the fact that he is still to serve in connection with a sister Church, with which such happy relations have always existed; gratification at the growing interest in the evangelization of the Chinese in Canada, and manifest token of God's blessing on this work; continuing the work of Dr. Thompson as missionary to the Chinese in Montreal and granting him a Chinese assistant; approving of the extension of the work among the Indians of British Columbia, and appointing Mr. J. W. Russell to that field; approving also of the extension of the work in Central India by the occupation of Dhar as a new centre, and also the initiation of work amongst the Bheels, the aborigines; confirming the appointment of the Rev. R. A. Mitchell, the Rev. James Menzies, M.D., and Miss Jennie Dow, M.D., to Honan, and the Rev. A. P. Ledingham, M.A., Mr. J. J. Thompson, M.D., and Miss Catharine Campbell to India; accepting with great regret the resignation of the Rev. J. H. MacVicar, B.A., of the Honan Mission who has been compelled most reluctantly to withdraw from work there on account of his wife's health, and recording appreciation of the important services rendered by Mr. MacVicar while in Honan; congratulating the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society on the great and growing success of the work, and praying that they may abound yet more and more in this and every good work; and appealing to the Church by a larger liberality to make it possible to send out more, or all of the men whom God is calling to consecrate themselves to the work of evangelizing the heathen, who are approved by the committee as well as qualified for the work.

On Sunday the principal pulpits of the city were filled by visiting divines. St. Andrew's Church, the place where the Assembly is meeting, had for the preacher in the morning Rev. John McMillan, B.D., of Halifax, and in the evening, Rev. Peter Wright, B.D., of Pictou. Rev. Alfred Gandier of Halifax preached in the evening in Park Avenue Presbyterian Church, and Rev. D. J. Macdonnell preached in the evening in Knox Church South London. Rev. Dr. G. L. Mackay, the ex-Moderator, preached in the morning in the Talbot Street Baptist Church. In the afternoon a mass meeting of Sunday School children was held in the Presbyterian Church, and addressed by Rev. Dr. Mackay, Rev. Dr. J. F. Smith and Mr. Ross Kan.

Sabbath Schools.

The Report of the Committee on Sabbath Schools contains sectional reports by Rev. J. W. Rae, Vice-Convenor on statistics and by Rev. Wm. Farquharson B.A., Claude, Vice-Convenor, on Higher Religious Instruction as well as the Report by the Convenor, Rev. T. F. Fotheringham. Mr. Rae says: The returns herewith presented are believed to be as complete and accurate as can well be expected under existing conditions. The thanks of your Committee are here tendered to the Convenors of the several Presbyteries for their untiring efforts in securing statistics.

Sixteen Presbyteries give complete returns. The Schools reported number 1,888, an increase of 81, or about 90 per cent. of the total number of Schools. In order to conserve space, our reference to the various sections of the tabulated report will be as brief as possible.

17,527 teachers and officers, an increase of 563, have under their care 153,013 scholars, a gain of 9,851. Of the former, the average attendance is 83 per cent., and of the latter 66 per cent. 1,238, or slightly over 66 per cent. of the 1,888 Schools reported, are "evergreen," the rest vary in the number of months kept open per year from six to eleven months, the average being eight months.

The numbers memorizing the Scriptures and the Shorter Catechism are on the increase from year to year, while those repeating the whole Catechism are 578 fewer than last year.

The satisfactory increase of 9,271 pupils who prepare lessons at home, is doubtless due to the introduction of the Home Study series of lesson helps so ably prepared by our Convenor.

We regret that the number of teachers' meetings for the study of the lesson shows a decrease of 12.

In this section all the columns indicate an increase but one. The Elders engaged in Sabbath School work are 2,626, or 123 more than last year. The number of scholars attending public worship in the sanctuary is 59,955, a gain of 1,819. 4,943 scholars sat at the communion table for the first time during the year, while the total number of scholars in full communion is increased by 1,171. The answers to the question, "Is there a communicants' class," are very unsatisfactory, several Presbytery Convenors recommending that it be no longer asked. There are 18 Presbyteries in which no such classes are reported. Of those reporting, the average number per Presbytery is 4.

\$82,008 was raised in the Schools, a decrease of \$1,029. Of this amount \$45,749 was expended on the Schools themselves; \$28,987 was given to the Schemes of the Church, being \$1,111 less than last year. Of the schemes supported, Foreign Missions have the lead with \$8,428, Home Missions come next with \$7,556, French Evangelization closely follows with 7,270, while 3,146 were given to other schemes. "Other objects" received \$7,183, an increase of \$732. Congregations contributed \$11,390 to the support of their Schools, being an increase of \$181.

Rev. Wm. Farquharson, B.A., Claude, Vice-Convenor, on Higher Religious Instruction, reports: In this department a steady advance is marked during the year. The work, preparatory to the examinations, was taken up by 60 schools, while from 40 other applications were made for diplomas for catechism recitations; so that at least 100 schools participated to some extent in the benefits of the scheme. In these 100 schools, 974 took some part in the work, as compared with 932 for last year. The severe storm prevailing throughout the Dominion on the day appointed for the annual examination kept many candidates from presenting themselves; yet your Committee are glad to report 385 as having taken part in the examination, a slight advance over last year. Of the 385 attempting the examination there are 193 who receive diplomas, 59 to whom have been awarded prizes, and 16 who have won medals. The interest in the Shorter Catechism steadily increases, as seen in the awarding of 169 diplomas for correct recitation of all the questions, as compared with 124 during last year.

Your Committee do not think it necessary in this report to print the Syllabus for 1895, as to a large extent the work prescribed is the same as that taken up on previous years. The only important changes for this year are the substituting in the Biblical Department of "The Life of Christ," by the Rev. Jas. Stalker, M.A., for "Abraham, his Life and Times," by the Rev. W. J. Deane, M.A.; and the striking out from the Doctrinal Department of "The Shorter Catechism," by the Rev. Alex. Whyte, D.D.; and retaining for all grades "The Shorter Catechism," by Prof. Salmond, D.D.; Part I questions 1-38. Copies of the Syllabus, with all changes marked, may be had on application to the Vice-Convenor, Claude, Ont.