

It is further recommended to the General Assembly that before a new edition of the Rules and Forms of Procedure is issued, the book shall be subjected to a careful revision throughout.

All of which is respectfully submitted. WM. CAVEN,
Convener.

Next Place of Meeting.

The General Assembly will meet next year in St. Andrew's Church, Winnipeg, commencing on the evening of the second Thursday in June.

Church Life and Work.

Rev. Principal Caven then presented the report of the Committee on Church Life and Work, the first report of its kind laid before meetings of the Assembly. In former years the matter in this report was contained in four distinct reports, namely:—"The Religious Life," "Systematic Benevolence," "Sabbath Observance," and "Temperance." The following recommendations, attached to the report, give a fair idea of its tenor:—

1. The General Assembly expresses gratitude for the many evidences of the divine blessing that have accompanied the labors of our ministers, elders, Sunday school teachers, missionary, and Young People's Societies, and of all those who, in various ways have sought to promote the cause of Christ in connection with our Church during the past year; and earnestly hopes that these tokens of divine acceptance will only increase our love of Christ, and stimulate us to more abundant labors in His service.

2. The Assembly, while recording its deep humiliation and sorrow that family religion is not in a more prosperous condition, and while earnestly pleading with parents to instruct their children diligently in Christian truth, and acknowledge God by daily acts of worship in the house, and with Sessions and Presbyteries, to promote by every available means in their respective spheres the religious life of the family; yet cannot but express great thankfulness to God for the many evidences that wholesome religious influences are so largely moulding the lives of our young people, resulting in much domestic happiness, loving and helpful service to the Church, and blameless relations to society.

3. The Assembly thankfully acknowledges the growing liberality of the Church, in the support of ordinances, in the furtherance of our missionary schemes, and as manifested in caring for the poor and needy; but believing that much remains to be done in the development of this grace, would earnestly urge on all our people the duty and privilege of consecrating a definite proportion of income, which should seldom be less, and frequently more, than one-tenth, to the support and spread of the Gospel, and for the relief of poverty and distress.

4. The Assembly, recognizing the unspeakable importance of the Sabbath as a divine institution, and believing that the secularization of the day would inflict incalculable loss on Christ's cause, and on human society, would earnestly counsel all the ministers, members and adherents of our Church, to guard faithfully the interests of the Sabbath in their respective communities, and resist by their example and influence all encroachments on its sacred hours, whether for business or for pleasure. Especially is it hoped that the pulpit will give due prominence to the subject of Sabbath Observance.

5. The Assembly cordially acknowledges the valuable work done in the interests of Sabbath Observance by the various Lord's Day Alliances of Canada, and earnestly hopes they may be still more abundantly blessed in preventing the violation of existing Sabbath laws, and in promoting further beneficial legislation; and that, in doing this, they may have the practical support and sympathy of all our Church courts, ministers and people.

6. The Assembly renews, in substance, its oft-repeated declaration, that the traffic in intoxicating liquors for beverage purposes is repugnant to the teaching and spirit of the Christian religion, inimical to human well-being, is the cause of ruin to tens of thousands of our fellow-men, and of poverty and wretchedness to millions; and would therefore urge on all our ministers and people, to employ all lawful means, by example, influence, and the use of the franchise, to bring about its speedy and absolute destruction.

7. That this Assembly, believing that the sale of intoxicating liquors within the precincts of the Parliament Building at Ottawa has, both directly and indirectly, a demoralizing effect on the people of this Dominion, would express the hope that the Christian and patriotic sentiment in the Senate chamber and the House of Commons will prove sufficiently powerful to remove what is a reproach to Parliament and a stain upon our national honor.

The report and recommendations were adopted.

Rev. Murdoch MacKenzie, of the Honan, China, mission stations, gave an interesting account of missionary work in that part of the world.

The Assembly Closed.

On Thursday the proceedings were brought to a close. In a decidedly fine spirit the Assembly agreed that in recognition of the invaluable services rendered to the Church by the late Rev. Dr. Reid, the sum of \$400 yearly be granted to his widow.

Standing Committees.

The following conveners of Standing Committees and chairmen of Boards were approved of:—Presbyterian College, Halifax, Board of Management, Rev. D. Sedgwick, and Senate, Principal Pollock; Presbyterian College, Montreal, Board of Management, Mr. D. Morris, and Senate, Principal MacVicar; Queen's College, Bursary and Scholarship Committee, Rev. John Mackie; Knox College, Board of Management, Mr. W. Mortimer Clark, and Senate, Principal Caven; Manitoba College, Hon. Chief Justice Taylor; Home Missions, Western section, Rev. Dr. Cochrane, and Eastern section, Rev. J. McMillan; Augmentation, Western section, Rev. Dr. Campbell, Renfrew, and Eastern section, Rev. E. Smith; Foreign Missions, Messrs. Hamilton Cassels and A. A. Falconer, joint conveners for the Western and Eastern sections, respectively; French Evangelization, Principal MacVicar; Distribution of Probationers, Rev. Dr. Torrance, Guelph; Church Life and Work, Rev. P. Wright; Sabbath Schools, Rev. T. F. Fotheringham; Widows and Orphans' Fund, Western section, Mr. T. Kirkland, Toronto, and Eastern section, Rev. R. Laing; Aged and Infirm Ministers' Fund, Western section, Mr. J. K. Macdonald, and Eastern section, Rev. Anderson Rogers; Finance, Toronto section, Mr. Andrew Jeffrey, Montreal section, Mr. D. Morris, Halifax, Mr. J. C. Mackintosh; Statistics, Rev. Dr. Torrance; Protection of Church Property, Hon. Justice MacLennan; Church and Manse Building Fund, Hon. Chief Justice Taylor; Hymnal Committee, Rev. Dr. Gregg; Presbyterian Record, Rev. Dr. Warden; Young People's Societies, Rev. R. Douglas Fraser.

Finance Committee.

WESTERN SECTION.

The report of the Finance Committee, which has already appeared in our columns, was presented by Mr. Andrew Jeffrey, of Toronto. The report led to a long discussion, as to just what position Rev. Dr. Warden, the new agent of the Church, should hold in regard to the various properties. It was shown that there is no corporation to hold property owned by the Church, and these were formerly held in the name of the late agent, Rev. Dr. Reid. As a result of the discussion, the matter was referred to a committee, of which Rev. W. Moore was nominated chairman.

At a later stage the committee recommended that the properties of Knox College be held equally by Knox College and Rev. Dr. Warden; and that a committee be appointed to secure such legislation as should provide for the proper method of conveying, holding, and dealing with regard to Church property, by the formation of an incorporated Board of Trustees or otherwise. The committee to report at next Assembly. This carried.

EASTERN SECTION.

The Finance Committee, Eastern Section, beg leave to submit the following comparative statement of the contributions to the principal schemes of the Church. It shows that the giving has been slightly under that of the preceding year, which in turn was considerably under that of the year preceding it:

	1893-94.	1894-95.	1895-96.
Foreign Missions.....	\$31,298 03	\$27,485 03	\$25,233 23
Home Missions.....	11,082 88	12,281 64	12,803 90
Augmentation Fund.....	7,880 16	8,263 25	8,270 92
College Fund.....	10,765 64	10,578 86	10,808 37
Bursary Fund.....	1,138 56	1,090 96	1,181 41
Aged Ministers' Fund.....	3,529 50	2,914 82	4,190 28
	\$65,692 67	\$62,618 11	\$62,488 11

A New Presbytery.

The overture from Calgary Presbytery regarding the division of said presbytery and the formation of an additional presbytery in that district was received and adopted. The new presbytery will be known as Edmonton Presbytery, and will hold its first meeting at Edmonton on July 14th next. It will be connected with the Synod of British Columbia.

Place of Meeting.

At the afternoon session the committee appointed to take steps with regard to a permanent place of meeting and as to the advisability of doing away with the billeting system, recommended that the following questions be sent down to presbyteries as a remit