

The Canadian Church Magazine

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EDITORS (For Ottawa):

REV. J. F. GORMAN, REV. W. M. LOUCKS, Ottawa.

SECRETARY-TREASURER:

MISS BAKER, 5 Arthur Street, Ottawa, who will supply THE MAGAZINE and receive the subscriptions, and to whom notices of change of address should be sent.

CLERICAL VISITATIONS.

PROTESTANT HOSPITAL.—The Clergy visit in turn each week.

CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL AND CONVALESCENT HOME—The Clergy in turn.

NORMAL SCHOOL.—The Religious Instruction Class every Friday during the session, Rev. H. Pollard.

GAOL.—Rev. J. J. Bogert.

HOME FOR FRIENDLESS WOMEN -- Ven. Archdeacon Lauder.

PROTESTANT ORPHANS' HOME.—Rev. J. M. Snowdon.

HOME FOR THE AGED.—Rev. G. Bousfield.

GIRLS' FRIENDLY SOCIETY.—Rev. H. Pollard.

The General Synod of the Canadian Church held its second session in Winnipeg, beginning Wednesday, September 2nd. The lay delegates, bishops, and clergy assembled in the evening at eight o'clock for divine service, for which special music had been prepared. The Lord Bishop of Nova Scotia was the preacher. Taking his text from Rev. iii: 8, the preacher, with his well-known eloquence, dwelt upon the great possibilities for the Church which were now opened up by the inauguration of this great synod, representing, as it does, the United Church of Canada.

There is naturally a certain amount of indefiniteness as to the scope and powers of the synod, but efforts are being made to avoid coming into collision with the other constituted organizations of the Church, such as the Provincial Synod. The writer well remembers the note of warning which was sounded by the Archbishop of Ontario at a synod held in Kingston when the formation of the General Synod was under discussion. His Grace expressed the fear that the Church might make the mistake of over-government, and felt the danger which might arise from the dicta of the several synods conflicting. The danger has, however, been successively avoided so far, and, with such men as the Church possesses at the head of each synod, we may sanguinely anticipate the happiest relations between them.

Several important matters were discussed at the General Synod; among them being, first,

the desirability of introducing the revised version into the Church to replace the authorized version of 1611. A lengthy discussion took place, and a very high order of intelligence was manifested in the speeches made by several laymen. Most of the speeches were directed against the resolution, and it was finally defeated by a narrow majority.

The question of a Canadian Prayer Book was also introduced and discussed, but no definite steps taken in the matter.

An important resolution was introduced by Mr. Worrell, to the effect that the celebration of marriage be allowed by the Church after publishing the banns once instead of thrice, as heretofore.

The Rev. Rural Dean Bogert, in giving his impression of the synod, described the absence of all sectional feeling and party spirit, and the happy relations which prevailed throughout amongst those whose views were so opposite.

Archdeacon Lauder and Mr. Bogert, at the conclusion of the synod, took a trip to the Pacific Coast. There is a great deal of room for missionary work in the districts through which they travelled, but Mr. Bogert was much impressed with the activity and zeal displayed by the people generally in Church work, as well as by the strenuous efforts put forth by the missionaries to cover the ground and hold the unlimited number of services for which they are each responsible.

The Archdeacon and Mr. Bogert are back in Ottawa again, and are actively engaged in the work of their respective parishes, both having enjoyed their visit very much and benefited in health by the bracing air at the coast.

Mr. Bogert thinks it highly probable that the next session of the General Synod will be held in Ottawa, as the Lower House seemed very favorable to the idea.

The several churches are filling up again rapidly, as most of the people who go out of town for the summer are home again, and the various societies and guilds are hard at work mapping out their winter's work. It may not be out of place to say just here that the work of the associated charities, which was inaugurated with such satisfactory results last winter,