

## AUGMENTATION OF STIPENDS.

REPORT OF SUB-COMMITTEE.—Mr. D. J. Macdonnell, on behalf of the sub-committee on augmentation, reported that all the Presbyteries had been visited by deputies during the last six months, and that the scheme had met with a hearty reception throughout the church generally. The sub-committee recommended that the regulations adopted in October last be amended to read as follows:

1. That in carrying out the instructions of the General Assembly regarding congregations in Manitoba; Resolved, that the stipends of ministers duly inducted be supplemented in the first place to \$850 per annum, and participate in the surplus fund up to \$950 per annum,—corresponding with the \$750 per annum and manse in the other Presbyteries of the church—it being understood that where there is a manse \$50 per annum will be deducted from the supplement, but this shall not be applied so as to reduce the present salary of any of the ministers now settled in supplemented congregations. That congregations receiving supplement in accordance with this regulation be required to pay at least \$500 per annum; no supplement to exceed \$400 per annum.

2. That the salaries in cities, and in towns where living is exceptionally high, be supplemented in the first place to \$800 per annum, with allowance of \$100 per annum for house rent, and may, at the discretion of the committee, participate in the surplus fund up to \$1,000, with the same allowance for rent.

3. That congregations receiving supplement in cities or towns, in accordance with the above regulation, be required to pay at least \$500 and \$100 for house rent, before being put on the list; no supplement to exceed \$400 per annum.

4. That before a settlement takes place in any vacancy requiring to be supplemented, the congregation be visited with a view to increase the contributions of the people, and the result of the visitation reported to the committee.

The sub-committee further recommended that no grants be made meanwhile to supplemented congregations for the past half year, but that they be empowered to order payment of these in the end of April, to the extent of the money then on hand, retaining a sufficient sum for a working balance or reserve fund.

The report was received and its recommendations adopted.

EXCEPTIONAL LIBERALITY IN CERTAIN CASES.—Attention was directed to the fact that in consequence of the regulation that "no congregation shall receive from the fund more than \$300 per annum," the salary of some ministers was only augmented to \$700 per annum and manse. The sub-committee were empowered to increase the grant in such cases, (provided the fund will admit of it), where there is exceptional liberality on the part of the congregations interested.

GRANT TO SECRETARY.—It was unanimously agreed, on motion of Mr. Macdonnell, to place at the disposal of Mr. Warden, the sum of \$150 for services in connection with the Augmentation scheme during the past six months.

EXCEPTIONAL CASES RECOMMENDED TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.—In the case of the following congregations not complying with the regulations, the committee agreed to recognize them as exceptional, and to recommend the General Assembly to make grants to them, notwithstanding their inability to fulfil the conditions required of congregations on the list:—Kennebec Road, Arundel, New Glasgow, St. Hyacinthe, Aylwin and Desert, McNab, Middleville and Dalhousie, Grand Bend.

LANGSIDE.—The following resolution was adopted in regard to an application from the Presbytery of Maitland for a grant to Langside: Whereas in October last the committee notified the Presbytery that in their opinion the field around Langside should be rearranged with a view to avoid the unnecessary expenditure of the augmentation fund, and whereas the Presbytery has again made application to have the congregation put on the list as requiring aid: Resolved that the congregation be reported to the General Assembly, with the recommendation of this committee that no supplement be granted.