

## Ministers and Churches.

### Our Toronto Letter.

The Presbyterian Ministerial Association which met on Monday 17th inst. after routine business, held a symposium on "Pastoral Visitation." The subject was introduced in a well thought out talk by Rev. J. Wm. McKinley of the Southside congregation. Several ministers took part in the subsequent conference which arose, all acknowledging the value of Mr. McKinley's talk on a very difficult and very practical part of a minister's work.

Knox College Alumni Association are out with two circulars; the first, setting before its constituency names placed in nomination to represent the alumni on the Senate for the next three years. Two names only are put up, and one only is to be chosen. The names are, Rev. John A. Clark, B. A., Toronto, and Rev. R. C. Tibb, B. A., Toronto, but voters may vote for anyone else should they prefer to do so. The other refers to a proposal for an addition to the present building by the erection of one to be called "The Caven Library and Museum." The need for such a building for the safe keeping of the present valuable library and museum from the danger of being destroyed by fire, is urgently presented in the circular. The cost of the building contemplated is estimated at \$20,000 of which it is proposed that Toronto should provide one half, and the rest to be given by the large constituency of the church outside of the city. The need for such a building cannot be questioned, and provided there is well organized effort, thoroughly carried out, there should be no difficulty in getting the required amount. Principal Caven's name, proposed to be given to the new building, because of the high respect in which he is universally held, should be a powerful aid in securing the means, but more will depend upon well directed effort on the part of those who have taken the work in hand. The committee of the Alumni Association charged with the management for the annual post-graduate conference, has taken time by the forelock, and has already announced the time and subjects for the next conference. The time is to be from Dec. 1st to 4th, and the subjects proposed are: The Priest in the Old Testament; The Prophecy of Hosea Christianity as presented by Paul, compared with the Christianity of the gospels. The Epistle to the Galatians; The Reformation as an Intellectual Influence; The Authority of Scripture in the Churches of Reformation; Phases of Current Unbelief; Restrictive Legislation and Moral Reform; History of Church Music, and two or three lectures from university professors.

Very great was the satisfaction expressed and more gratitude to God was deeply felt, who had poured upon the church the spirit of liberality, so that all the great schemes of our church were reported at the close of the financial year up to the amount needed. For this much credit is due to Dr. Warden's vigilant and inspiring leadership. The executive of the Foreign Mission Committee met last Wednesday. Along with much routine business attended to at the opening of a church erected by the Chinese to the memory of the late Dr. S. L. Mackay was very gratifying news. Several applications to be sent to the Foreign Mission field were received, and nearly all were passed on for the consideration of the full committee.

The following facts respecting the work of the W. F. M. S. of the church among our Indian population should be noted and generally known: (1) All buildings for school purposes, excepting that of the Government Industrial School at Regina have been paid for from the society's funds; (2) also the salaries of all teachers male and female except those at Regina; (3) the salaries of all matrons and helpers in school work; (4) at stations where no school exists one half of the missionary's salary, and the whole of it, where the missionary is at the same time the teacher also, is paid by the W. F. M. S.; (5) the whole cost of missions to the Indians in British Columbia, except those of Mr. Swartout who confines himself to evangelistic work; (6) all mission buildings in that field and the Alumni Home have been paid from the same source; (7) that, not including clothing, quilts and such supplies sent out annually, amounting in value during the past sixteen years to many thousands of dollars \$200,000 have been contributed by the W. F. M. S. since 1885. A splendid record every one must admit.

The Presbyterian Review, originally started in 1884, by the Presbyterian News Co., was noticed, has been purchased by the Westminster Co., and incorporated in their journal. The closing of Knox college session for the winter is fast approaching; students especially are realizing this, as examinations are a very realistic thing. At this time the two societies to one or other of which all the students belong, the Student's Missionary Society, and the Literary and Theological Society choose their officers for the ensuing year. Of the former the president elect is D. J. Davidson, B. A., and J. G. Cheyne, and J. D. Cunningham, B.A., vice presidents; of the latter A. H. McLeod, B. A., has been elected president and J. Little, B. A., vice-president. The university and literary society of Toronto University has shown its appreciation of Mr. James Brebner, continuing at his post as registrar, instead of going to McGill College, Montreal, by electing him as president for the coming year. The same gentleman has been elected to, and we understand has accepted the eldership in St. James' Square congregation.

On Sunday last the speaker at the meeting of the Canada Temperance League, whose weekly gatherings on Sunday afternoons in Massey Hall are largely attended, was Rev. D. C. Hossack, well known as an effective platform speaker, as well as popular preacher. Prohibition continues to be discussed and the Reformation in all their phases, and from now until the day fixed for voting, the subject will no doubt be fully kept in view, and every effort put forth by earnest temperance men and women to carry this measure, from which so much is hoped, and for which such a long and gallant fight has been made.

At the Bible Training School on Monday evening of last week, Mr. Spencer Fallon, a representative from Dr. Andrew Murray's Mission in South Africa gave an address on mission work in the Transvaal. He insisted especially on the necessity, as was also done in the student's convention, for high qualifications of various kinds, needed for missionary work. He stated that all the converts in Switzerland, with but two exceptions, had remained steadfast in the days of trial which they have been passing through.

Though no procession was held on St. Patrick's day it was duly celebrated by all true Irishmen by the wearing of the green, by attendance at church on Sunday, and on the Saint's day, by concerts, dinners, and speech making and in other ways appropriate to such an occasion.

A pathetic interest was given to the closing of the session of the Local Legislature by the appearance in his place of the premier for the first time since his great loss, and by the empty chairs in the centre of the chamber reserved for ladies, as it was a general understanding in society circles, on this occasion they would abstain from all display.

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### Eastern Ontario.

St. Andrew's church at Renfrew is to be enlarged.

Rev. J. U. Tanner, of Lancaster, has been visiting in Montreal.

Rev. D. McVicar, B.D., of Montreal, has accepted the call to Finch.

Rev. K. A. Gollan, of Dunvegan, has been visiting friends at Maxville.

Mr. J. Bert Sutherland, of Montreal, has been lecturing very acceptably at Vankleek Hill.

Rev. Dr. MacNish, of Cornwall, intends leaving about the middle of March on a holiday trip to the Bermuda Islands.

Mr. F. A. Robinson, of Queen's University, has been engaged to conduct Presbyterian services in Lanark this summer.

Rev. Robert Harkness, of Tweed, has accepted the call extended by Knox church, Cornwall, and is expected to arrive about April.

Rev. D. Strachan lectured on "The Bonne Briar Bush," in Brockville on Friday of last week. His Honor Judge McDonald presided.

Rev. H. Cameron, of Morrisburg, exchanged pulpits with Rev. Dr. Stuart, of Fries O't, last Sunday. Both congregations were pleased with the exchange.

Rev. D. MacVicar, B.D., of the Victoria church, Point St Charles, has accepted a call extended to him by the Presbyterian congregation of Finch.

The ladies of St. Andrew's church, Picton, are to hold an easter sale of fancy articles on March the 27th. Refreshments and home-made candy will be served.

Rev. Donald G. McPhail, of St. Andrew's Church, Picton, has given up his pastorate to go as a missionary to Crow's Nest, B.C. His congregation is very loth to lose him.

Miss Campbell, a returned missionary, gave a very interesting lecture in the Presbyterian church, Janet's Corners, Sabbath 16th inst., on "The Famine and Missionary Life in India."

Rev. R. Harkness, of Tweed, accepts the call to Knox church, Cornwall, in succession to Rev. James Hartie, who recently removed to British Columbia, and his induction is fixed for the 8th prox.

The Pembroke papers mention in terms of commendation sermons recently preached in Calvin Church, in that town, by Rev. R. C. MacLean, of Almonte. Rev. Dr. Bayne preached in St. John's church.

Rev. J. U. Turner, B.A., of Lancaster, co-ventor of the local French Evangelization Committee of the Glangarry Presbytery, attended a meeting of the French Evangelization Board, held in Montreal the early part of last week.

On Monday evening last in the lecture room of the First Presbyterian church, Brockville, an entertainment was given under the auspices of the Young Ladies Mission Band. Rev. R. Laird delivered an address on Martin Luther. There was also a short musical programme.

The union of the Young People's Societies, held in Zion Church, Carleton Place, on the 18th inst., was a decided success, the meeting being largely attended. The chair was occupied by Mr. R. J. Morgan, Rev. Mr. Weir gave the address, whilst Revs. Scott, Weir and Woodside offered prayer.

The Western section of the Home Mission committee has made the following appointments as student missionaries: Lanark and Renfrew, J. G. Greig, W. Moore and F. A. Robinson; Brockville, J. A. McConnell and W. C. Brown; Kingston, Rev. W. W. Purvis, F. W. Malaffey, J. C. McConachie, J. H. Woods, Sam Couch, M. A. Lindsay, Fred Miller, W. F. Crawford and I. A. Caldwell.

The anniversary services of St. John's church, Cornwall, were held on the 16th inst. Rev. Dr. Ryckman preached in the evening, and the pastor, Rev. Dr. MacNish in the evening. On Monday evening a large attendance was present at the annual social, when Dr. Ryckman gave an address, and an excellent programme was rendered. Supper was served by the ladies in the lecture hall at the close of the evening.

The Congregationalists and the Presbyterians who worship in the Town Hall, Lanark, have made an arrangement for services in the Hall during the summer months that should have a beneficial effect on the Christian life of the village, as well as draw the people of these two denominations into closer social relation. The Congregationalists are going to build a new church, and, in looking for a place to worship, met a committee appointed by old St. Andrew's Congregation to see if joint service might be held in the Hall, or if anything could be done to permit the two bodies using the same place of worship. The meeting took place Thursday evening, and an understanding arrived at whereby they will each hold services on alternate Sabbaths.

The Osnabrick Township Sunday School convention was held in the Aultsville church and was largely attended. Many visitors and delegates from neighboring schools were present, the church being well filled in the afternoon and more than filled at night, when many were obliged to stand. A splendid programme was rendered. The following gave very interesting and instructive papers or addresses: "Securing Spiritual Results from the School," by Rev. J. Cross; "How to Teach with Chalk and Pencil and Object Lessons," Rev. D. N. Coburn; "Round Table Conference," Rev. E. Hamilton; "Foes and Perils of the Sunday School," James Martin; "The Necessity of the Continuance Study of the Bible for Character and Culture," Rev. G. Rogers. Several other gentlemen took part in the discussions.

Rev. J. A. McFarlane, superintendent of Bible Institute work, who conducted meetings in St. John's church, Almonte, last week, announces that a large summer hotel capable of accommodating about one hundred guests, will be erected at Noway Bay, opposite Sand Point, and run in connection with the Bible Institute work, of which he is the prime mover. In other words, Norway beach will become a Canadian Chautauqua. Sixty acres of land have been purchased in the most favored portion of the beach,