

OUR WEEKLIES AND "THE RECORD."

Beginning with the oldest East, whence wisdom comes and ancient civilizations always hail, the "Presbyterian Witness" has reduced its price. Not that it is effete with age or waning in self-esteem but in order to widen circulation it offers for a dollar in clubs of ten, singly a half more.

Coming West, old Canada has three:—"The Dominion Presbyterian," from that veteran Presbyterian publisher, C. Blackett Robinson, for one dollar; "The Presbyterian Review," one dollar and fifty cents; "The Westminster," two dollars. You make your choice and pay your money. Which is the best value? We judge not lest we be judged. Chacun à son goût and purse.

Trees and Presbyterian weeklies alike await planting on the prairie. Meantime the "Western Presbyterian," fortnightly, and the "B.C. Presbyterian," now monthly, with the "Prairie Witness" and outside help, hold the fort.

But while those who can should have a weekly Presbyterian paper, all, without exception, should have the "Record." Taking a weekly paper should not be a reason for not doing so. As a rule it contains what they do not. Little of this issue will be found in any of them. Further, it is not a private venture. It belongs to our Church. Each member of the Church is a shareholder. All its income above cost goes to the Church work. And what the Church provides for giving knowledge of mission work should be taken by all.

Its cost is so small that almost all can take it. And if any cannot do so, their congregation should provide it for them. Yea, the best plan for every congregation is to take a copy for each family. Quite a number are thus celebrating the twenty-fifth year, the semi-jubilee of the "Record," the semi-jubilee of the Presbyterian Church in Canada and the close of the century.

 GOOD NEWS RE CENTURY FUND.

It is February. The agent, Dr. Campbell, has just dropped into the "Record" office. "How is the Century Fund progressing, Doctor?" As follows he replies:—

"Large city centres have been in good measure left to carry on the work themselves, except addresses on Sabbath by the Agent, but both Agent and Sub-agents have been working extensively in the towns, larger and smaller, and also in many of the congregations throughout the country.

"In these towns and country districts the work has been most encouraging and the response made to the appeal has been cordial. In only one of the larger towns has the subscription list been headed with less than one thousand dollars; while in several instances two thousand has been the initial

subscription; in two instances, three thousand, and in other two instances, five thousand.

"These results indicate the interest that has been awakened among the wealthier men of our church in the outlying districts.

"Passing from the wealthier few to the many with lesser but comfortable incomes, upon whom we must chiefly depend, the interest and response are most encouraging. Among these, subscriptions ranging from one hundred to one hundred and fifty and two hundred dollars have been plentiful in all our congregations. Never even in any of our small congregations have I had to begin with less than one hundred dollars from this class, and everywhere those who are so situated are deeply interested.

"In this way we have in sight in the town of Peterboro, ten thousand dollars; in Galt, ten thousand; in Guelph, ten to twelve thousand; in St. Catharines, ten thousand; in Orillia, ten thousand; in Renfrew, ten thousand; in Pembroke, seven to eight thousand; in the little town of Niagara Falls, two thousand; in Portage la Prairie, six thousand; in Charlottetown, six thousand; and many other equally liberal gifts from smaller towns and villages.

"A little congregation of forty-five families out on the prairie responded to the agent's appeal by promising eight hundred dollars to the Common Fund. The town congregation visited the same day promised six thousand dollars, a large part of which was subscribed during the next two days.

"Another small town congregation in another part of Manitoba visited by Mr. MacBeth promised five thousand dollars.

"At a meeting of business men in the City of Winnipeg it was resolved that in the City the congregations would aim at raising thirty-five thousand dollars for the Common Fund, besides which they continue in their ordinary way of paying off one or two thousand dollars yearly, as they are now doing for lessening their own debts. In that western Province, where the need for the Common Fund is known and deeply felt, the debt fund is being placed in the background and every effort made to swell the Common Fund."

Such was the Doctor's statement—and in finishing, he said: "These are a few facts, you can moralize on them." Perhaps we cannot do better than pass the facts along to each reader to do his own moralizing, or, if we were to add a thought or two they would be:

1. What a remarkable interest is taken in the Fund in many places.
2. If village, town and country are doing so well, what should the great cities do with their larger wealth?
3. The example of the far West is worthy of imitation. It is not well to use all the stimulus of the Century Fund to pay off