

We would also call upon you to consider the importance of systematic giving to the cause of God. If when our income is small we consecrate one-tenth to the Lord, the habit will easily grow with our prosperity, and there will return upon our souls an untold blessing on the high joy of being able to do much good with the temporal means wherewith God hath blessed us; and at the same time every department of the work of God will be both more liberally and more certainly secured than by even the richest endowments in lands or bonds. We are the more careful to urge this upon you because we are convinced that you will agree with us that in the rapid development which is possible in this country our circuits will not be dependent upon missionary aid for any long period, such as was necessary in the hewing down of the vast forests in the older provinces; but as the breadth of the field to be cultivated is so much vaster, it is desirable that missionary grants be expended upon the newer fields constantly being opened.

Closely connected with this topic is that of education. We know that we need not urge upon you the importance of the most liberal education possible for the youth of both sexes. On this subject you feel as we do, but we have to call attention to a great need of our church at this time. We are in sympathy with the system of education in Manitoba, in which there is one Provincial University, whose functions are exclusively the examination of candidates and the granting of degrees. The teaching must be conducted by colleges in affiliation with this university.

Three other religious denominations have already established their colleges in the capital of the Province, and a fourth proposes to do so very soon. This is right. The Christian Church should exercise a wise oversight of collegiate education, so far as responsibility for the character, qualifications and moral standing of the teachers is concerned. Now, up to the time of the meeting of our Conference, no steps have been taken by us as a Church, to provide for the higher education of our own children, but we have affirmed our conviction of the importance of taking immediate action to establish a college for the education of males, and another for females; and we have appointed mixed committees of ministers