

CHURCH
WORK

Ministers and Churches

NEWS
LETTERS

OTTAWA.

This (Wednesday) evening will be commenced in Erskine church a series of special services to last two weeks. The pastor will be assisted by Rev. D. J. Craig, who is devoting himself to evangelistic work under the direction of Ottawa Presbytery. The anniversary services and lecture realized about \$1.00.00.

The collection taken in Stewarson Presbyterian church for the building fund at the opening services on February 17 and 24, were \$581.30 on the former day and \$275.05 on the latter—in all \$856.35. Add to this sum the regular collections and it will be found that the total collections for the two Sundays were over \$1,000.

Rev. Dr. Herridge's book of essays, "The Orbit of Life," is accorded the distinction of a leading article, entitled, "The Christ of Experience," which appears in The London Spectator for last week. "The book abounds in common sense," the reviewer writes, "and is full at the same time of religious and ethical suggestion. The most modern reader could not say that Dr. Herridge was behind the time; but unlike so many men of wide sympathy and wide contemporary reading, he has managed to steer clear of that fog-belt of religious and moral confusion wherein so many writers of to-day lose their way."

The Ministerial Association received with pleasure at their monthly meeting on Monday the report that the Men's Rescue Mission is proving most successful in accomplishing the objects for which it was founded. Rev. Messrs. Milne and Anderson were appointed a committee to make arrangements for the annual interchange of pulpits. Rev. Dr. Fraser of Toronto, editor of the Sunday school publications of the Presbyterian church, was introduced and gave a brief address. Rev. J. H. Turnbull read an excellent paper upon the teaching of Rev. Frederick Robertson and its influence upon the theology of the present day. Revs. Dr. Cameron, Dr. Armstrong, Cousins, Campbell and Milne took part in the discussion.

On his way from the city, after preaching and lecturing in the new Stewarson church, Rev. R. E. Knowles was caught in the railway accident near Guelph, in which three of his fellow passengers were killed. A special to a Toronto paper represents him suffering from a broken shoulder and collar bone, as well as an injured knee and ankle, and lacerated hand, all of which are on the left side. His back, too, is giving him considerable trouble. Dr. Vardon reporting that he has undergone concussion of the spine. At the morning service in Knox church on Sunday a resolution of sympathy and affection was adopted by the congregation by a standing vote, and a delegation appointed to convey it to Mr. Knowles on behalf of the congregation. Rev. Principal Ballantyne of Toronto conducted the services in Knox church last Sunday.

When the Presbyterian church of America united with the Cumberland Presbyterians, a few of the latter refused to enter the union. These appealed to the Law Courts on the score of trust deeds and property rights in the State of Texas. But, unlike our Lord Chancellor, the American judge decided in favor of the combined church, and held that there was not any sufficient divergence in doctrine to justify the recalcitrant minority. That was so in the Scottish Church case also, no sufficient doctrinal divergence, but how different and how disastrous the legal judgment!

WINNIPEG AND WEST.

Rev. Thurlow Fraser, of Portage la Prairie, has uttered a strong protest against the unmanly brutality and personal spite too frequently exhibited in athletic games, tending to debar the most desirable class of men from participating in these sports, which he claims are right, and almost necessary for all.

At a meeting in Winnipeg of the conveners of the Sabbath school committees of the presbyteries of the synod of Manitoba, those present: Rev. John A. Cromie, of Oak Lake, convener of the synod committee on Sabbath schools; Rev. G. W. Carter, Superior presbytery; Rev. D. N. MacRae, Brandon; Rev. E. Mason, Rock Lake; J. Russell, Portage la Prairie and Rev. Dr. Munro, Dauphin. The presbyteries all reported an increasing interest in the Sunday schools of the church, and arrangements were made for the putting forth of a vigorous effort this summer to further increase the efficiency of the schools and the system. It was decided to carry on institutes and summer schools in all the presbyteries reporting. These will be carried on in charge of the local committees and under the direction of the general committee. The places suggested were: Rainy River, Dauphin, Neepawa, Killarney and other points. The Sunday schools among the Galicians, of which there are several, were discussed, and it was decided to supply them with religious literature free of charge.

Of the minister who has just taken charge of the mission, corner of Home and Livinia streets, Winnipeg, it is said: The Rev. H. J. Robertson comes from Chilliwack, B.C., and he has behind him a splendid record for pioneer missionary work in British Columbia. He is the hero of many stirring adventures and he has been the organizing and inspiring force behind many notable achievements. His work in the mountains was such as used to delight the grand old superintendent's heart. Robertson had the courage and the responsibilities and opportunities of western life. His achievement at Rossland was notable. Appointed by his committee to another field, Robertson heard about the new mining camp being opened at Rossland. The facts that came to him of the crowding in of men and the horrible moral conditions determined Robertson to act at once. He bought a tent, grub-staked himself and set off for the new camp. Roundly criticised by his committee, he went on with his work. Within a year it was the great joy of the superintendent and the present minister of St. Stephen's to open a new church in Rossland where a vigorous, fighting congregation had rallied round their courageous if somewhat guerilla leader.

Mr. Charles McArthur has been appointed police magistrate at Burke's Falls. The appointment is a good one, and very popular in the neighborhood.

Large congregations greeted Rev. Mr. Woodside when he preached his farewell sermons. His removal from Carleton Place, with his esteemed partner, Mrs. Woodside, is very deeply regretted.

The death is announced at Maxville of Mr. David Munro, a good citizen, an active temperance advocate, and for many years a respected elder of the Presbyterian church. Deceased was in his 64th year.

WESTERN ONTARIO.

The Kemble, Sarawak and Lake Charles congregations have united in a call to Rev. Mr. Smith.

The United Presbyterians, of Galt, are trying to effect a union of their congregation with the Canadian church. The chief difficulty is the question of property.

The induction of the Rev. Geo. Kendall to the pastorate of Amos church, Dromore and Knox church, Normanby, took place on 28th ult., at Amos church, Dromore. Rev. Mr. Little, moderator, presided, Rev. Mr. McNamara, of Drayton, preached, Rev. W. Farquharson, of Durham, addressed the minister, and Rev. J. P. McInnes, of Cedarville, addressed the people. Mr. Kendall assumes an important charge under happy auspices, and his many friends will wish him and the congregations all success in spiritual things.

Knox church, South London, celebrated its quarterly communion service on Sabbath last, which was the most numerously attended in its history of the past quarter of a century; and further, the most gratifying in its results, there being a harvest of youth added to the Saviour's garner house—twelve young men and three young women from the Sabbath school being added to the church roll, and seven persons "from other churches." The preparatory service was conducted by the Rev. Mr. Mitchell, of the New St. James' Church, and it was very profitable and impressive.

The six senior elders of St. Andrew's church, London, who, as noted in these columns at the time, recently celebrated the twentieth anniversary of their ordination and induction, and, together with their wives and the present pastor (Rev. Dr. Ross) were hospitably entertained by Elder and Mrs. Somerville at their residence. The six elders, Messrs. C. R. Somerville, Alexander Fraser, Robert Allan, Thomas Blair, A. S. Macgregor and George W. Armstrong, were subsequently brought under the power of the camera and a most artistic group was the result. A copy of the photograph was framed and has found a place in the Session Room of St. Andrew's church.

We see it stated that the total enrolment of students in the Bible Training School, Toronto, for this session is over 300. Of these 63 are regular students in the day classes, representing eleven Christian denominations. Most of the students are Canadians, but the United States, England, Poland, Germany, Russia, Italy and China have also their representatives in the classes. Three or four who have finished their course of study are expecting very soon to go to South America, Northern Nigeria, and another foreign field. This useful work is now under the charge of Rev. Principal McNicol, formerly minister of our Aylmer church.

Plans have been adopted and tenders called for the erection of the new Sunday school addition to Knox church, Owen Sound. The plans show a building wonderfully complete and well equipped for the purpose for which it is intended. Commencing with the basement the plan shows a social room 48x72 feet, class room 17 1/2x12 1/2, toilet rooms and pantries, with entrance from kitchen to the rear. On the ground floor the main vestibule leads into a hall 17 feet wide with wide staircases leading to the Sunday school and also to the gallery of the church. On the main floor of the new addition is an auditorium 36x47 1/2 feet, primary class room 24x27, choir room 17x32, library 9 x12, pastor's study 11x13, and ten class rooms arranged in semi-circular form.