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A RELIGIOUS MONTHLY.

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APRIL, 1890.

A FORWARD MOVEMENT.

The reader may observe that this is Vol. 4, No. 12 of THE ONTARIO EVANGELIST, from which it follows that the paper is four years of age. How well it has served the cause to which it is devoted it is not for the writer to say. It has made many friends and lost few. The demand upon its columns has continued and increased, until for some time it has not been found possible to insert promptly all that has been offered for publication. This state of things suggested the enlargement and the more frequent issue of the paper. After mature consideration and consultation with as many as possible of our subscribers and friends up to this time, both of these changes have been decided upon, and we have undertaken to publish an eight page semi-monthly, beginning May 1st, the page to be nearly as large as those of the present paper.

Instead of a four page monthly at fifty cents a year, there will be issued an eight page semi-monthly at one dollar a year. Not only will the paper appear twice as often, but it will be nearly twice as large—48 pages, now per year, henceforth 192 pages. It will also be cut and pasted and present as fine an appearance as any religious journal in Canada.

In order that the increased cost of publication may be promptly met, it will be necessary to retain the support of our old friends and to secure large additions to our list of subscribers. In view of the hearty support so far extended to the EVANGELIST, we have no fear but that our old friends will stand by us, and we solicit their assistance in extending the circulation of the paper. Especially do we ask that those knowing of isolated brethren in any part of Canada not now taking the paper: would send us on a Post Card the names and addresses of such before May 1st, that we may be able to mail them sample copies. We would also be pleased to receive the names and addresses of any Canadian brethren in the United States who might be interested in our work.

The first number of the enlarged and improved paper may be expected on the first of May; the second on the fifteenth; and so on thereafter each month with promptness and regularity.

THE MAY COLLECTION.

As will be seen by reference to "Co-operation Notes" in this issue, the churches in the Province are asked to take up a special collection for Home Missions on the first Lord's Day in May. This will furnish an opportunity to those who have not yet contributed as well as to any who have already given but desire to aid the work still more. There is much to encourage us in our efforts to extend the knowledge of the truth in our own country. It is evident that well-directed and sustained work will succeed. The opportunities of establishing churches are many in all parts of Ontario. Every additional church established increases our working force. It is becoming more evident every year that those who think that there is no future for the Disciples in this country are mistaken. Many who have for some time been thinking that the cause of a pure Gospel, and a united Christendom, could

be advanced and their triumph secured without the intervention or co-operation of the Disciples, are discovering that the Protestant denominations with all their show of good-fellowship and all their suggestions and propositions of union are still far apart and still ignorant of the Scriptural and Apostolic basis of Christian unity. It is becoming apparent even to some of our easy-going brethren that the conflict is not yet over, but that the Lord's work requires that His people should gird on the armour and with renewed zeal, energy and consecration, wage war against all that is contrary to the Gospel of Christ.

It requires no argument to prove that the co-operative missionary work carried on by the Disciples in this country is successful. Those who are acquainted with the work and contributing towards its support are gratified at the results so far and the prospects for the future. A liberal collection on the day specified will enable the Board to undertake work at additional points and to employ more preachers; and will at the same time give an impetus to the work for another year. It would be a good idea if the occasion should be utilized by preachers and elders to lay before the churches the grand opportunities before us.

MINNEDOSA.

The Manitoba Column will inform the reader that the little Church in Minnedosa has made arrangements to build a house of worship. We want to remind our friends that they look to their brethren in Ontario to assist them. They are raising all they possibly can themselves, and no doubt the brethren at Portage la Prairie and other points in Manitoba will aid them. But when all those have done their duty the required sum will not be raised. The appeal made in this paper last Fall was quite liberally responded to by some of our subscribers and a very substantial sum was contributed. But the interest subsided a good deal when it became apparent that the house could not be erected and occupied during the winter. The statement that the building is to go on soon should revive the interest, and we might say, the enthusiasm, aroused when the proposition was first made to assist the Minnedosa church to build a house. We feel that it is not asking too much of the readers of the EVANGELIST, and we, therefore, again do earnestly urge those who have not already done so, to send in their contributions at once to Miss JENNIE FLEMING, KILSYTH, ONT. Hundreds of our readers are able to give one dollar each to this worthy enterprise. And we will promise that if the necessary amount is subscribed before our next number comes out we shall not in that number ask anyone to give another cent for that object.

The following sums have been contributed to the Minnedosa Church Building Fund since last report:—

- Mrs. Rosa H. Cameron, Toronto \$5 00
- Mrs. Rachel Wood, Cherrywood 1 00
- Auxiliary to the O.C.W.B.M. at St. Thomas, 5 00
- Infant Class, Sunday School at Guelph... 3 00
- Primary Class, Sunday School at Guelph. 3 25

JENNIE FLEMING,
Treasurer O.C.W.B.M.

Kilsyth, March 31, 1890.

We started to raise \$300 subscription on Church house here. I reached the amount today. It will not be paid till June. We now believe we can raise \$100 more. Our townsmen are now opening up their hearts to us, Methodists and Church of England aiding. We want \$400 at once to buy lumber and build in May. Slack time after seeding here. Delay will hurt us much. May a way open.

Fraternally,
F. H. LESION.

A letter recently read from Bro. Darroch gives some estimates of size, cost, etc., of the proposed church building in Minnedosa which will be interesting to the brethren and sisters in Ontario who are assisting to build the house.

Speaking of the lot he says, "We have bought a lot to build on, 40 x 120 feet—a corner lot—and the best site in the town for a church building. It is to cost us \$175, two years to pay for it without interest."

In regard to the house he says, "We have decided to build one 24 x 36 feet. We have got estimate of cost which is \$800. At our business meeting a resolution was passed that if we received \$500 from Ontario or a definite assurance that we would get that amount, we would begin to build as soon as the weather will permit; but we would want to be sure of enough cash to pay for the material—which would be about \$500—before beginning to build. If \$400 of this

could be sent from Ontario, we could raise \$1000 cash here now. We can raise \$300 in Manitoba, but the greater part of it will not be paid in before fall."

Now brethren and sisters, the case is before you—Shall the house be built at once or not? Bro. Darroch further adds, "I earnestly hope that some way be opened up so that we will not be delayed in going on with the building, as any hindrance at the present time means a great deal in regard to the future prosperity of the Master's cause here."

Can we not act promptly upon Bro. Munro's suggestion in March EVANGELIST, and send in one dollar subscriptions? Some who have not contributed before may find it in their hearts and pockets to give more—but there are more than enough among the readers of the EVANGELIST—who could easily send one dollar to make up the needed sum. It would greatly encourage and strengthen the handful of brethren in that far-off town, to be thus substantially assured of our sympathy with them in their efforts to secure a house in which to worship the Lord according to His commandments.

Let us make this a personal matter, and do for our brethren in Minnedosa as we would wish them to do for us if we were similarly situated giving heartily as to the Lord and not to men, and verily we shall not lose our reward, for, evermore, we are working "under the Master's eye."

S. M. BROWN.

MANITOBA COLUMN.

One baptism at PORTAGE LA PRAIRIE since last report.

At a business meeting in MINNEDOSA last week, it was resolved to build a neat frame house, 24 x 36 feet, and they are now carefully selecting a site. I trust they will have wisdom to place it in a good central location and not kill their work by placing it in some out-of-the-way place on some muddy lane or alley.

Bro. Lemon's work is beginning to get a firm hold of the people. It will last. Bro. Osborne of Winnipeg pledges them \$25 for their new house.

Brother you never invested money in a better or worthier cause than the Minnedosa house. One dollar now will be worth more than five a year hence.

On Tuesday Feb. 18th. the annual business meeting of the church was held.

We clip the following from a local paper.—

The annual meeting of the members of the Christian church took place Tuesday night to transact business and arrange matters for the coming year. The report shows a largely increased membership over last year, and the financial standing is very good. Mr. A. H. Finch will remain another year. The treasurer's, (Mr. T. S. Sions, Jr.) report shows a much larger amount of cash handled, owing to the erection of the minister's residence than previous years. "E. Campbell, secretary, reports the work in general as very satisfactory. The mission and Sunday School work get a hearty support from the members.

On Monday evening, Feb. 24th. the young people of the church spent the evening at the writer's house and organized a Young People's Society of Christian Endeavor, and appointed subjects and leaders for every Monday evening until the last of April.

We subjoin the pledge taken by all members of the society.

Trusting in the Lord Jesus Christ for strength, I promise Him that I will strive to do whatever He would like to have me do; that I will make it the rule of my life to pray and to read the Bible every day, and to support my own church in every way, especially by attending all her regular Sunday and mid-week services, unless prevented by some reason which I can conscientiously give to my Saviour and that, just so far as I know how, throughout my whole life, I will endeavor to lead a Christian life. As an active member I promise to be true to all my duties, to be present at and to take some part, aside from singing, in every Christian Endeavor prayer-meeting, unless hindered by some reason which I can conscientiously give to my Lord and Master.

How many brethren and sisters, to whom "the fear of man layeth a snare" would to-day have been a "power for good" in the land, had they, in youth, been trained in such a school as the above suggests. Certainly they attended the weekly prayer meetings; certainly it was their duty to take part; but just as certainly they did not, and to-day they are "silent all."

Could not the co-operation gather statistics for next annual meeting on the following. (a) "How many attend the weekly prayer meeting and take part?" This is the *abiding strength* of the church, these "hold the fort." (b) "How many young people take part?" This is the *hope of the future*. (c) "How many members can stand on their feet and enunciate coherently, in an audible voice to be heard forty feet away, five sentences on any religious subject?" This is the *aggressive force* of the church. These "storm the fort." When the demon "fear of man" is cast out, and his tongue loosed the young Christian will take pleasure in speaking boldly as he ought to speak.

NOTES.

The following from the Montreal Daily Witness is to the point:

There has recently been an outcry of the Protestant denominations from one end of the Dominion to the other against grants of public money for sectarian purposes. In many parts of the country this has been but a cry, but in Manitoba it has taken substantial form in action. The separate schools of the Roman Catholics have been assailed as a misuse of public money. How much easier it is to see a wrong which benefits others than one by which we ourselves benefit is illustrated by the fact that when the same movement took shape against the exemption from taxation of church property, the very denominations which could only see one side to the question of separate schools immediately took opposite ground and formed a joint delegation to the Legislature to protest against the abolition of church exemptions. The Episcopalians, Presbyterians and Methodists are said to have all joined in this protest. For our part we see very little difference in principle between a grant of public money and an exemption from taxation, unless it be the difference familiarly known as that between my ox and your cow. As long as it was a Roman Catholic Institution which claimed the benefit of the public money, such grants were regarded as iniquitous and unconstitutional; but when it is Protestant institutions which benefit the thing appears in an entirely new light.

We are glad to observe that the movement in favor of the abolition of all tax exemptions is making good progress. The people are beginning to see that there is no sufficient reason why churches and ministers should not pay their share of taxes.

FOREIGN MISSIONS.

Contributions from Ontario to Foreign Missions since last report:—

- C. W. B. M. Selkirk \$4 00
- J. H. Hanns, Craighurst 10 00
- Church Cotswold 7 47
- " Hamilton 29 47
- " Acton 13 45
- " Collingwood 10 00
- " Guelph 30 00
- " St. Thomas 38 15
- " Walkerton 8 10
- " West Toronto Junction 21 00
- Mrs. W. T. House International Bridge 1 00

The above indicates that a quite general response has been made to the request for a collection for Foreign Missions. No church should fail to assist this great work. Brethren not being able to meet with churches should send in their individual contributions to A. McLean, Box 750, Cincinnati, Ohio.

CO-OPERATION NOTES.

Quite a number of subscriptions to the Home Mission Fund for this year's work have not yet been paid. It is very desirable that they should be paid at once. Will those concerned please give heed? When it is remembered that the Board is depending upon these subscriptions to support the preachers at the mission points the reasonableness of a little urgency will not be questioned.

The annual meeting at St. Thomas directed the Board to suggest to the Churches the propriety of taking up a special collection for Home Mission Work on the first Lord's Day in November and also of the same at Lord's Day in May. The request for a collection in November met with a gratifying response. It is hoped that the present appeal will meet with a similar reception. A circular letter will be prepared and distributed among the churches as early in April as possible calling attention to the matter; and the elders and preachers are respectfully urged to present the subject to the congregations and exhort them to give it their favorable consideration. Some of the churches have not yet contributed this year. They should not let the opportunity pass of adding the good work.

Many of the readers of the EVANGELIST are not able to meet with churches, and a goodly number of this class aid every year the mission work; some of them, however, do not. Should this note catch the eye of any of these, it is hoped that it will put it into their hearts to send in an offering in the near future.

The following contributions to the Home Mission Fund have not been reported:—

- C. Sinclair \$5 00
- Mrs. C. Sinclair 5 00
- John Matheson 1 00
- Robt. McMillan 1 00
- Chas. Ferguson 1 00
- Joseph Watson 2 00
- Alex. Currie, (Belwood) 1 00
- James Dickson 1 00
- Joe. Atwell 4 00
- Dur in Currie 1 00
- Mrs. J. Watson 1 00
- Wm. King 1 00
- Emily Woolner 1 00
- J. Nodwell 5 00
- D. Harris 1 60
- M. Bloch 2 00
- H. Harding 12 80
- Church, Maserville.....

We understand the work of building the meeting house in Hamilton has commenced; and the fact is stated not merely as interesting piece of news, but as a gentle reminder to those who have not yet paid their subscriptions to the Hamilton Building Fund.

The Annual Meeting will convene at Owen Sound, Thursday, June 5th. Bro. Robert Moffett, of Cleveland, Ohio, has promised to attend as chief speaker. It is expected to be a season of great interest; an excellent programme has been prepared, which will be