

CHURCH NEWS.

ERIN.—Bro. Geo. Black is preaching for the churches here during Bro. Munro's absence.

EVERTON.—At our regular evening meeting last Lord's Day, (Aug. 25th), 3 came forward and confessed the Saviour. T. L. FOWER.

OWEN SOUND.—The new Church house will be opened (N.V.), on September 29th. All are cordially invited.

ACTON.—Bro. Hugh Black, of Everton, has been preaching lately every alternate Lord's Day for this church. Bro. Black's services, we were not surprised to hear, are much appreciated.

WALKERTON.—It will be good news to many to know that Bro. E. Sheppard has engaged with the church in Walkerton. The church is not strong enough to raise sufficient salary to keep him all the time. Bro. Sheppard's services can be had for a few protracted meetings in favorable seasons of the year.

OWEN SOUND.—Bro. C. J. Lister is on Manitoulin Island proclaiming heaven's message and will remain there until the close of navigation. Bro. Kirk, of Bethany, who has been preaching for the church here during his vacation, has returned on account of sickness at home. Who will fill his place until Bro. Lister returns?

ALDORO.—Lord's Day, 25th ult., was August meeting day for the brethren in Aldoro. Bro. Geo. Munro was spending his holidays not far from that place and was pressed into service. That is what a man gets by taking holidays in the harvest time. Judging from a letter from Bro. McKillop the brethren there would not object if Bro. M. took holidays often and always in that section.

MIMOSA.—The church at Mimosa was never in as flourishing a condition as at the present time. Good audiences, a flourishing S. S., and a live Young People's Society. The house at times is not large enough to accommodate all who attend. About 40 have been added to the church this past year. It has been decided to enlarge the church building, remodel and veneer it with brick.

WEST TORONTO JUNCTION.—It was intimated in the July No. that the brethren at this point intended to engage a man to labor for them. We congratulate the Disciples at West Toronto Junction upon their choice. Bro. John Munro, B. A., who graduated with high honors last June at Toronto University, is the man. Bro. Munro has had at least two tempting offers to fill the position of Science master in high schools, but refused them to accept a position with several hundred dollars less salary per annum. Bro. M. is another specimen of our Ontario hirelings. May the Lord send us more of the same kind. T. L. F.

Children's Work.

MRS. JAMES LEDIARD, Poplar Hill, SUPT.,
To whom all communications for this department should be addressed.

DEAR CHILDREN.—The Editors have kindly given us space in the EVANGELIST for ourselves, and I want you all to help me make it at least as interesting as the other part of the paper. You can do this if you will send in your reports regularly, and make them as interesting as possible. If anything should occur in your Band which it would be pleasant for others to know, just write me all about it. If you find out some nice new way of working, some new way of raising money for Missions or anything likely to be helpful to others, let me hear from you and thus all will get the benefit. Everyone is interested in our work and will read the children's column with interest. Get your Secretary to prepare a report, then read it at your next meeting so that it may be approved by all the members, and if sent to me in time it will appear in the next number of the EVANGELIST.

In your first report, tell me when you organized your Band; what you are called, what and who are your officers, how often you meet, what special work you are doing, and anything else in connection with your Band.

It is very pleasant to me to be working with the dear children in Ontario. It is true I know but few of you personally, but we shall soon become acquainted if you will all write to me sometimes and tell me freely what you are doing or hoping to do.

I would like to remind you that our work is work for Jesus. Try and keep this thought always before your minds. In one of our children's meetings in Lobo, a little boy read a story about another little boy who had gone to a missionary meeting, but who had no money when the plate was passed round, he asked the person who carried it, to place it on the ground, and when that was done the little boy stepped into it and gave himself to the mission cause. There is a better way than that to do it; God says, "My son give me thine heart," and this is the best offering you can make. If you have given your heart or your love to God it will be easy to give him everything else. J. E. L.

Bands heard from since the annual meeting:—Toronto, Lobo, Warton, Kilsyth. I hope to hear from others shortly.

The Band in Lobo are preparing the Missionary Concert Exercise "Open Doors." Its music and its recitations are excellent and easily learnt. Can be had of Fillmore Bros., 185 Race Street, Cincinnati. It is nicely printed on pink paper. Price 60c. per dozen.

The Warton Band has been in existence over two years. The first year they raised nearly \$24.00 and devoted it to foreign missions. They are still going on in the same good work and we hope to hear from them again soon.

We are awaiting reports from Guelph, St. Thomas, Wainfleet, Walkerton and Ridgetown. Write soon, that you may encourage those who have not yet organized.

MANITOBA CHRISTIAN CONVENTION.

This convention was held at Brandon, July 25, 1889, at the residence of Sister Mitchell. On motion, E. J. Darroch was placed in the chair and G. A. Campbell chosen Secretary, pro tem. After a complete organization was effected it was decided to adjourn to meet at Portage la Prairie, August 9, 1889. We will therefore give the proceedings of the meetings as though they were one, much of which will be copied from the minutes of the Brandon session.

The official board appointed was as follows: President—A. H. Finch, Portage la Prairie. Secretary—T. H. Lemon, Minnedosa. Treasurer—A. P. Campbell, Portage la Prairie. An Executive Committee was also appointed, viz:—

- E. J. Darroch, Minnedosa.
- Daniel Seaton, Brandon.
- William Finch, Brandon.
- Henry Kirkwood, Portage la Prairie.
- N. Campbell, Portage la Prairie.

This committee was instructed to co operate with the board in raising finance and planning the work.

A general discussion then took place as to the best plans for work. On motion, the convention decided to hold annual meetings subject to the call of the President. Reports from all fields were now called for. Bro. Darroch reported Minnedosa; Bro. Seaton, Brandon. "On motion, the convention voiced their satisfaction with the work done by Bro. Lemon and asked that he be retained in the Province if possible."

The question then arose—will the sisters of Ontario be willing to support the work and have part in Brandon and part in some other point. Question referred to Bro. Darroch. It was then proposed that the board make a general canvass of the Province for Disciples, and an effort made to interest them in evangelizing this field. On motion, the board was instructed to write each Disciple, and Bro. Lemon to go to Winnipeg and visit all Disciples there.

The question of retaining the writer in the province for the coming year now came up for final settlement. We believe Minnedosa to be well churched, having as high as seven services at times, and 250 church-going people, and unless something can be done to stir the interest the year's work would be unsatisfactory both to brethren and minister. In view of this we expressed an unwillingness to accept a call for Minnedosa alone. At this point Bro. Finch kindly offered to assist in a meeting and see if we could break down the middle wall of partition.

Motion was then carried that the writer be asked to stay at a salary of \$750.00, and that a week be given for the arrangements to be completed between him and the executive committee.

Secretary was instructed to publish the proceedings of this meeting in the various religious papers.

Pres., A. H. FINCH, Portage la Prairie. Sec., F. H. LEMON, Minnedosa.

These meetings were well attended considering the circumstances, and will result in much good. All seemed to be deeply interested in the work and have subscribed liberally. Bro. G. A. Campbell has established his reputation as a rustler. His field which consisted in June of two families, neither of which are wealthy, sends up a subscription of \$250.00. The hospitality of Sisters Mitchell, Campbell, Finch and others will be remembered. Yours in Christ, F. H. LEMON.

MUSKOKA MISSION MATTERS.

At Huntsville we have had a grand Temperance Convention and Campmeeting, lasting from the 16th to the 30th July, where hundreds of people from all parts of this province were daily congregated in a beautiful grove with all suitable accommodation, listening to excellent addresses, splendid music, timely advice to the young and urgent appeals to the dissolute to enter upon a higher and better life. We had prayer-meetings, gospel meetings and soul-stirring songs in the day time, with lectures,

etc., in the evening, while many a leisure hour was spent in loating, fishing, shooting, picnicking and otherwise enjoying the beauties and capitalities of Muskoka's woods, hills and lakes. Many of the speakers and singers and visitors were from Toronto and vicinity, and we and they have enjoyed ourselves immensely.

Bro. and Sister Broadbent, of Brunel, had their house burned on the morning of the 15th July, with their household stuff, all of their bedding and nearly all of their clothing. We gathered up men the same morning who went to work cutting and drawing logs, and before nightfall we had the body of a house up, and they were afterwards assisted to put on the roof, &c.

I have been able to do more than usual lately, especially on the Lord's day. I trust the gathering of the harvest may not end with the end of my labors.

We have had four additions by primitive obedience late, one at Bayville and three at Brunel, all heads of families. Aeneas is still asking for labor in that neighborhood. Our Sunday School at Huntsville is looking up, and the church house is being advanced a stage, while in Brunel where they enjoy more of my time than in any other place they are steadily advancing.

People are very busy in haying and harvesting just now, and crops are promising. Let us thank God and take courage, we shall reap temporally and spiritually if we faint not. W. M. C.

Huntsville, Aug. 5th, 1889. P. S.—There is a prospect of our receiving help in this field ere long.

FIRST ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SUNDAY SCHOOLS OF THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF CANADA.

DEAR BROTHERS AND SISTERS.—We, your Committee on Sunday Schools, appointed a year ago for the purpose of getting statistics, and information in general, relative to our Sunday Schools, beg to make report. We regret very much indeed; that we are not able to present a fuller report of the Bible Schools of the Dominion than we are on this occasion. At the 1st of January of the present year, blank forms were sent out to every Church in the Dominion of Canada mentioned in the year book, and to as many other addresses as we could procure in Ontario. There are about 60 churches mentioned in the year book. There are 8 in New Brunswick and 7 in Prince Edward Island, in all about 75 churches. There are a number of churches not mentioned separately in the year book, and blank forms for Reports were sent to every place where we could suppose there was a Sunday School existing.

In some cases several reports have been sent to the same church.

We regret very much to have to state that we have Reports from only 18 Sunday Schools in Ontario, one in Manitoba, and one in the Maritime Provinces. Two churches also in Ontario report that they had no Sunday School.

The following is a summary of the reports received:

There are on the rolls of the 20 Sunday Schools reporting, 1305 pupils, of these about 45% are males, and 55% females, the average number of scholars to a Sunday School being 65. The total average attendance is 943, making an average of about 47 scholars in each Sunday School.

The proportion of lady teachers, to gentlemen teachers, is about the same as the proportion of boys and girls in the Sunday School. The total number of scholars who have been added to the churches in these schools during the year is 88, which is an average of about five from every Sunday School. The largest number added from any one school was 20, and there are only three schools reported, that have not supplied one or more members to the Church with which they are connected. It is needless for us to say, that the Sunday School should be the training school for the Church, a prosperous Sunday School will make a prosperous Church. Boys and girls well taught in the Sunday School will sooner or later almost certainly become members of the congregation, and the better they are taught and the more they are taught, the better and more intelligent members of the Church they become. It seems to us that a Church without a Sunday School, is in anything but a hopeful condition.

The next question in the report asks: "How many members of the church attend Sunday School?" We find 379 in the 20 Schools reported, or about 19 to each Sunday School.

The Sunday School should be a training school for all young people, for those that are not members of the church, that they may be taught the way of salvation, and to those who have become members of the body of Christ.

The Sunday School is the place where they can greatly improve in the knowledge of scripture.

If it is well kept up it will become the natural feeder of the church.

In another column the question is asked: "What are the hindrances to the progress and success of the Sunday School?" and one of the

chief causes in these reports is, "Few church members attend," or "Lack of interest in church members."

One report says "Pure indifference of church members."

This is not as it ought to be. While the average of 19 is very fair indeed, still in some the numbers are extremely low.

In one church the number on the roll is 39, the average attendance 25, the number of members that attend 22, this is very good indeed, looking at it from this angle of vision, but there is another angle of vision at which to look at this, and that is the lack of those who are not members.

It does not look as if they went out into the highways and the byways and compelled any to come in. There is no doubt but that the Sunday School mentioned is doing a great deal of good in instructing the church members, but we believe they have a more extended mission than that. They should be gathering into that school those who are not members, and teaching them the way of the Lord more perfectly, that the membership and influence of the church might be increased.

The next three questions deal with finances. 1st: "How much is contributed for home support?" 2nd: "How much for home missions?" and the third: "How much for foreign missions?"

We find the total amount contributed for all purposes by those 20 schools is \$830.68 during the year 1888, an average of \$41.53 per school, of this \$63.09 is for home support which is \$33.15 per school. \$71.03 was contributed for home missions, which is \$3.55 per school, but only four schools out of the 20 contributed anything, so that made an average to the four of \$7.75. For foreign missions, \$96.56 was contributed by 11 schools about \$8.79 each.

The question of finances is always an important one. It is important that every one be trained to give of their means as the Lord has prospered them, and the earlier that education is begun, the better, "as the twig is bent, so the tree is inclined." It is wonderful what the children will do for missions if the matter is simply suggested to them.

Concluded in next.

OBITUARIES.

PARKINSON.—On the 29th of June, at their homestead in Bramosa, Sister Hannah Parkinson, aged 72 years, relict of our late brother Joseph Parkinson, passed quietly away from a world of pain and sorrow to the enjoyment of a life of bliss and purity beyond the river. Our sister was one of the very few remaining pioneers of the cause of Christ in Wellington County. She had a strong and living faith in Christ, which she manifested by yielding herself in submission to his will. Five daughters and three sons survive her, to whom is extended, the sympathy of a Christian community. God grant that they and we may be ready as she was to go home at the call of the Master. Guelph, Aug., 1889. J. S. KILGOUR.

MUNROE.—Died at his residence, in the Township of Irook, Aug. 6th, 1889, John B. Munroe, aged 60 years. Our brother was for many years confined to his bed and was a great sufferer, yet through all he maintained not only his faith and patience, but a large measure of cheerfulness. I held a service in his house a year ago and in company with the brethren of the church in Mossa we gathered round the Table of the Lord and remembered Him—our sick brother rejoicing in this service. He sang his favorite songs of praise to us and told of the Lord's goodness to himself in a way that will long be remembered by all there. He suffered much in the last few weeks, but his faith and hope were bright to the end. He "sleeps in Jesus." The writer spoke to a large audience of sympathizing friends. He was buried in Alvinstone. J. LEDIARD, Poplar Hill.

SINCLAIR.—Died July 29, 1889, at Fort William, aged 24, Duncan Sinclair, eldest son of Archibald Sinclair, of Lobo. Our brother was a young man of fine Christian character and much promise. Intelligent, thoughtful, pure, would describe his life. He was a painstaking teacher in one of our public schools. But his life of promise was brought to a close very early. An affection of the heart had been steadily growing on him for some time. He left home for the benefit of his health, but in a few days the end came. Though far from home he was not alone; his aunt, Miss M. A. Sinclair, was with him and all that loving hands and a sympathetic heart could do was done for him in his last hours; and better than all he had the comfort of the Saviour's presence and died in faith and hope. His remains were brought here for interment and a large concourse of friends, amongst whom were a number of fellow students and scholars, gathered around the open grave and thus we laid him away to await the resurrection of the just. J. LEDIARD.

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