

The Dominion Presbyterian

IS PUBLISHED AT

323 FRANK ST., - OTTAWA

AND AT

MONTREAL AND WINNIPEG

Terms: One year (50 issues) in advance, \$1.50.

SPECIAL OFFER.—Any one sending us FIVE new names and \$5.00 will be entitled to a FREE copy for twelve months.

The date on the label shows to what time the paper is paid for. Notify the publisher at once of any mistake in label.

Paper is continued until an order is sent for discontinuance, and with it, payment of arrears.

Send all remittances by check, money order, or registered letter, made payable to the DOMINION PRESBYTERIAN.

When the address of your paper is to be changed, send the old as well as new address.

Sample copies sent upon application.

Letters should be addressed:—

THE DOMINION PRESBYTERIAN,

P. O. Drawer 563, Ottawa.

C. BLACKETT ROBINSON,

Manager and Editor

OTTAWA, WEDNESDAY, JAN. 12, 1910

The name of Professor John Edgar McPadyen, of Knox College, Toronto, continues to be mentioned for the chair of Hebrew and Old Testament Literature in the U. F. College, Glasgow, by Scottish U. F. Presbyteries.

It may be that Gipsy Smith's work for the ensuing five years will be limited to cities in Great Britain. He is under the direction of the Free Church Council of England, and it has planned for a work such as is indicated.

Two things, then, are needed for seeing. We must have not only something to see, but eyes to see it with. We need training as much for spiritual as for scientific truth. . . . You will not see God in earth or heaven till you have seen him in your heart.—Henry Melvill Gwatkin.

The Interior notes that the action of the presbyteries of its church on the question of reducing the size of the General Assembly is very unsatisfactory. A majority of those who have voted have expressed themselves as in favor of reduction, but the majority is not large, and the action is handicapped by there being a majority against each of the four plans which have been proposed as a means of securing reduction.

An estimate of the population of the various provinces at the end of the last fiscal year, given by the Census Department, is as follows: Quebec, 2,088,461; Ontario, 2,619,025; Maritime Provinces, 1,037,112; Manitoba, 466,268; Saskatchewan, 341,521; Alberta, 273,869; British Columbia, 239,516; unorganized districts, 58,599. Since March 31st, immigration has totalled approximately 150,000, of which about 100,000 have gone to Western Canada. The total population of Canada is now about 7,350,000. This is certainly our growing time.

Speaking at Dublin lately, Sir Ernest Shackleton said that his Antarctic expedition included two Irishmen, five Scotsmen, and two Welshmen, and the rest were Englishmen.

SWEETNESS OF SPIRIT.

There are some Christian men who somehow carry the charm of an attractive atmosphere with them. Even when one differs in judgment with them as far as the poles are asunder, one is none the less drawn and fascinated by them. There is such sweetness in their spirit, such gracious gentleness in their manner, such kind catholicity, such manly frankness, such thorough self-respect on one hand, and on the other hand such perfect regard for the judgment of others, that one cannot help loving them, however conscience may compel conclusions on matters of mutual consequence, unlike those which they have reached.

Those are not weak men, either. What people like in them is not that, with the everlasting unvaryingness of a mirror, they reflect back the thought which is presented to them, and so are always at an agreement with others. Sometimes one is even more drawn to them when they are in opposition, because they are so true and just that their respect carries with it all the refreshment of variety with none of the friction of hostility.

Natural temper has something to do with this. God gives a great gift to a man when he gives him a sunny disposition, a candid spirit, and the instinct of fairness in a controversy. It is exceedingly hard for some men to be just. They are jealous, suspicious and morose in their natural bent. It is hard for them to believe good of others. It is easy for them always to put the worst construction upon matters. It sometimes seems as if it were almost more than grace can do to transform their tempers so that they will be just toward any man against whom they have been lead to have a prejudice.

A TIMELY QUESTION.

What course of reading have you marked out for this winter? This question concerns every young man and young woman in the country. Amidst the thousands of books that are within the reach of the majority of our young people, it would be nonsense to tell them what to read. Each one must select for himself but he should read something—something good. "No time to read," reply a thousand voices. You have all the time there is. There are no doubt a few people in official position in every community, who have a large number of engagements particularly in the evening, and also in consequence find it very difficult to engage in systematic reading. The vast majority of young people, however, could read systematically if they would. It is a good thing at the beginning of a winter to lay down certain rules in regard to the use of one's time. One evening should, of course, be given to the prayer meeting. Perhaps another to church work of some kind, but there should be a firm resolution to devote a certain number of hours each week to mental improvement. Piety of any kind is good, but intelligent piety is usually the best. If our young people could get hold of the idea that the society of good books is better than that of middling men, it would be a great thing for themselves and for the Presbyterian Church.

A CONTRAST.

At the present time the newspapers contain many articles from the journals of Britain and we are all interested in the varied speeches that are called forth by the present political crisis. On both sides strong language is used and many striking picturesque sayings are scattered abroad to stir the interest of the electors.

Sometimes the outsider wonders at the way things are grouped together and asks, "Why should we have on one side the Lords, the English church, the Beer Interests and Protection, and on the other the House of Commons, Nonconformity, the Budget and Free Trade? No wonder that with such an arrangement some should want to take a little—the best of course, from each side. However, to go into that question fully would call forth more history and politics than we are prepared now to give.

We would call attention to one contrast; that between Mr. John Burns, the workman member of the Government, and the Mr. Smith who is pushing to the front as an advocate of tariff reform. Mr. Burns is a man who has risen from the ranks, and the lowest rank at that, by his own labors. He exalted himself to serve the community to such an extent that he was trusted to a post of the highest honor and usefulness. Mr. Smith is a university man, an Oxford graduate, a representative of "sweetness and light." Yet in their public appeals, we find John Burns calling upon the working men, with whose life he is perfectly familiar, to show courage and self-control, to quit themselves like men, and do well the tasks that lie before them. Such a speech from a man who has had to fight his own way is inspiring and hopeful. Mr. Smith goes about the country complaining that when the working man buys six pennies worth of whiskey he gets a pennyworth of whiskey and five pence goes to Lloyd-George. As a matter of fact we expect brewer or distiller gets a good share of the workman's money that is spent in beer and whiskey; and we are further convinced that a luxury like whiskey is a more fit subject for taxation than the people's bread. On a point of this kind we think that the workman who has fought his way to the top by intelligence, temperance and thrift, is a better guide than the militant fiscal reformer who is engaged in the defence of lords and landlords.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier's speech at the banquet given in his honor by the National Club, Toronto, was a notable one, says the Hamilton Times, and quite free from any touch of the controversies of party. The unveiling of the Premier's portrait by Mr. W. K. McNaught was accompanied by a eulogy which, coming from a Conservative leader, was a graceful compliment to one who has never wavered in political principles to which that party gives opposition. Said Sir Wilfrid: "I have tried to do the best for Canada, her prosperity, and her glory. If I continue to retain the support of those who think with me, and the respect of those who differ with me, I shall have reached the only ambition I care for." The country wisely honors such a statesman.

Rev. H. J. Keith, M.A., of Peterborough, was the guest of his brother, Mr. Walter Keith, Smith's Falls, for the week-end.