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OTTAWA, WEDNESDAY, JAN. 16, 1907

This year Young People's Day will be observed on the 3rd of February. Those desiring copies of the special services for that occasion may obtain as many as can be used, and without charge, by applying to Rev. Dr. MacTavish, the committee's convener, Kingston, Ont. Send in your order at once.

We note that some of the daily papers are devoting attention to the question of the profanity which has grown to be so offensive an evil in society, and which has been frequently referred to in these columns. "Because of swearing the land mourneth," said the prophet in ancient times. The prophet's diagnosis is just as true and applicable today as it was 2,500 years ago. Recently the Montreal Star drew attention to this widespread evil which is declared to be the reverse of either sensible or clever, but on the contrary shocking and ungentlemanly, offensive, vulgar and cowardly. The Halifax Recorder reproduces the scathing comments of the Star and endorses them, suggesting that a crusade against the evil should be inaugurated as one that ought not any longer be tolerated in decent, self-respecting society. The Halifax paper says: "Much can be done by educating the youth of our land in our schools, and instilling in them a taste for the use of pure language. But much of the good work of teachers is set at naught by those who in public places set a bad example, and the sorry part of it all is by men who should practise better things." It is a good thing to see the secular press taking a hand in this fray.

THE DOMINION PRESBYTERIAN.

A GREAT PRESBYTERIAN GONE.

Rev. Robert Rainy, D.D., principal of New College, Edinburgh, the chief theological seminary of the United Free Church of Scotland, died in Australia a fortnight since, having gone there seeking change and rest. The foremost man in his denomination, upon him had fallen leadership in troublous times. He was moderator of the Free Church General Assembly in 1887, and became the first moderator of the United Free Assembly after the re-union, for which he wrought zealously, had been accomplished. When the decisions of the court went against the legality of that union he was made moderator again an unexampled honor, conferred because only he was felt to possess the statesmanship needed to guide the united body through its new trials. He appeared for the church before the House of Lords and presented the case intrusted to him with rare tact and force. In all subsequent steps he was first and foremost, his leadership being welcomed without dissent by those who recognized his judicial gifts and theological learning. He lived to see the substantial fruits of victory assured to the church; but his health had broken under the strain, for he had lived beyond fourscore years. For forty years he was connected with the theological training of the Free Church ministry, and for thirty-two years he was principal of the seminary. Dr. Rainy was the son of Harry Rainy, M.D., professor of forensic medicine in the University of Glasgow. He was called to the pulpit of the Free High Church, Edinburgh, when he had been but three years out of school. He wrote a large number of theological and historical articles for the reviews, and various volumes of his upon history, criticism and doctrine are found in all serious libraries. His death will be deeply felt in the homeland where he was universally beloved and respected.

SCHEMES OF THE CHURCH.

The sub-joined statement, showing receipts to January 14, 1907, should awaken serious thoughts in the minds of the members of our Church. Notwithstanding the abounding prosperity which God in His goodness has bestowed upon our people, the contributions to all the funds nearly are behind those of last year at the same date. We cannot believe it possible that our Church will fall short of doing its full duty in the maintenance of the work of our Lord and Saviour:

	1906.	1907.
Knox College	\$ 1,203.87	\$ 999.50
Queen's College	416.56	474.06
Montreal College	374.14	252.90
Manitoba College	1,197.39	908.34
Home Mission Fund 50,806.60		45,809.00
Augmentation Fund.	6,514.56	6,655.22
Foreign Mission Fund 30,767.77		30,405.30
Widows' and Orphans' Fund	2,458.49	1,993.70
Old and Infirm Ministers' Fund	4,864.75	3,773.52
Assembly	1,434.04	1,388.28
French Evangelization	7,802.58	5,119.16
Pointe-aux-Trembles	3,178.80	3,295.69

JOHN SOMERVILLE, Interim Treas.

SOME PEOPLE AND SOME THINGS IT WOULD BE WELL IF THE NEW YEAR MADE NEW.

By Knoxonian.

With a good many people the only new thing about the New Year will be its date—1907 instead of 1906. Even that will not be altogether new at first, for nearly everybody will write 1906 for a time and score it out and put in 1907. Now it is highly desirable that the New Year should bring in something more than a change of figures—a change, in fact, of only one figure. It would be a great thing if the New Year could make some men new.

Here, for example, is a member of the Crank family. What a blessing it would be if the New Year could straighten him out and make him a new man! His whole lifetime has been worse than wasted, not because he is really a bad man, but simply because he has been a crank. Now, if that man would begin with this year and try to act on common-sense principles for the remainder of his days, he might yet do something in the way of redeeming the time. It is doubtful, however, if the New Year will do anything for him. A prominent city pastor is reported to have said that a certain power will "straighten out any crank in six months." That statement may be questioned as a matter of fact and as a matter of theology. Who ever saw half-a-dozen instances of ingrained cranks being turned into good, sensible men? As a matter of theology the power alluded to sanctifies what it finds, and if grace finds a man a crank he is almost certain to remain a crank. Still, if every crank would begin this year with a firm resolve to be less cranky, and if he would invoke the power alluded to, he might straighten out a little, and in that case 1907 would really be a NEW Year to him. It would also be a NEW Year to everybody that has to come in contact with him.

Here is another man that might make 1907 a New Year with great advantage. This gentleman is a specialist in the moral reform business. He has a mission to banish tobacco, or to put an end to tea-drinking, make people quit eating meat, or something of that kind. Perhaps he conceives that he was sent into this world for the special purpose of standing sentry at the human nose, and preventing the owner from putting snuff into his own nasal organ. Perhaps he imagines that he has a commission to put an end to skating. Perhaps he belongs to that class who, according to Talmage, believe they are certain to go to heaven if they can jump clear of a whiskey barrel. Now, if a man of this kind would begin the year by finding out that one always minimizes his usefulness by riding a hobby and increases it by fighting the devil along the whole line, this would be a New Year to him and he might probably become a new man this year.

Here is a third man who sorely needs the quality of newness. He has been a fighter all his days—probably he was constructed on a pugilistic basis. Perhaps he was placed in adverse circumstances, and fighting his way made him a fighter all round. Possibly, he began