

Ministers and Churches.

Toronto.

Rev. Prof. Ballantyne has so far recovered from his attack of typhoid as to be able to be up. He was visited by his father, Hon. Thos. Ballantyne last week.

Rev. Samuel Carruthers, pastor of Dovercourt church, who this week leaves for a three months holiday trip to the Old Land, has been presented with a well-filled purse by the Board of Management on behalf of the congregation. It is hoped that Mr. Carruthers may return to his work completely restored to health.

The popular pastor of St. James church, Rev. A. E. Gandier, B.D., has again been invited to a professorial position in the Halifax Presbyterian College—that of Practical Theology and Church History, in succession to Dr. Pollock, who has resigned. It is anticipated that Mr. Gandier will remain with the St. James congregation.

A few evenings ago Rev. J. A. Turnbull, of West Presbyterian Church, was "surprised" on the occasion of his birthday, by a number of the members of the congregation and friends assembling at the manse when, after hearty greetings had been expressed, Capt. Sylvester, representing the session of the congregation, and Mr. J. B. Hay, representing the Managing Board, presented Mr. and Mrs. Turnbull with a magnificent mantle clock as a tangible token of the good wishes of the congregation.

Rev. W. J. Knox, of Strathroy, occupied the pulpit of Old St. Andrew's church, Sunday night, and preached a forceful sermon, taking as his text, the words of the prophet "Lengthen thy tent ropes and strengthen thy stakes." The preacher said that the present age called for strong, unwavering men, who will hold independent views, and are not controlled by party or clique. What Christianity needs to-day more than anything else, he thought, was greater sympathy, sympathy which is world wide and includes all men. He feared that the men of to-day had not sufficient sympathy for their fellows, and he thought that the Church should throw down social barriers. Some members of the Church, he was afraid, paid more attention to deciding who were to be admitted to their homes than they did to their own salvation. Mr. Knox also made reference to the undue license some Presbyterians take in their conduct, and suggested that it would be better if some people were in other churches where their acts would be dominated by the minister.

Ottawa.

The Christmas tree for Knox Presbyterian church Sunday School will be held on December 29.

The annual meeting of Mackay church will be held on the second Wednesday in January.

Rev. Dr. MacLaren, home mission secretary of the Presbyterian church, will preach in St. Paul's next Sunday.

Owing to his church being so far from the centre of the city Rev. Norman MacLeod, of Mackay church, has decided not to join with other churches in observing the week of prayer.

There will be service—principally musical—in St. Andrew's church, on Christmas morning, at 11 o'clock. The choir will be out in full force, and a choir of children in the opposite gallery will aid in the service of song.

Mr. J. R. Reid entertained the infant class of the Glebe church Sunday School, numbering 60 or 70 pupils, at his home on Waverly street, on Tuesday evening. Mr. Reid takes a deep interest in this class, which he has taught for many years.

Rev. J. A. Macfarlane preached at the morning service at Mackay church on Sunday, Rev. Norman MacLeod, the pastor, officiating at the sacrament of communion, when twenty-two new members joined the congregation, eighteen of them on profession of faith.

The newly formed Men's Association of St. Paul's church have already several important projects on foot. It has been decided to take a census of the Protestant population east of the canal in order to discover those who do not attend church and arrange some plan of reaching them.

Rev. Dr. Armstrong, J. M. Macoun and W. A. Graham will be census takers. Steps have also been taken towards procuring a rink for the boys of the neighborhood. It was de-

cided to have the church parlor open once a week and give an entertainment of some kind to the boys and young men of the district.

The Children of Knox Sunday School came to the school yesterday afternoon laden with gifts for the poor of the church which will be distributed on Christmas eve. The Sunday school pupils and young people of St. Paul's church will also distribute gifts among the poor of the congregation on Thursday evening.

A society has just been organized in connection with St. Paul's church which will be known as the "Men's Association of St. Paul's church." It will be identical with those of other organizations in the city of the same character; and will aim to promote fellowship among the men of the church; to foster an intelligent interest in that which pertains to the welfare of the church, and to co-operate in philanthropic efforts and to develop a true Christian social life in the church, are three of the more important. The following officers were elected: Hon. president, Dr. Armstrong; president, W. G. Charlson; vice-president, E. S. McPhail; and vice-president, E. G. Brown; treasurer, J. M. Macoun, Executive committee, W. A. Graham, E. J. Gallagher, W. R. Cummings and A. Shaw.

At the recent meeting of the Young People's Missionary Society of St. Andrew's church, the returns of the recent Household Fair were received showing the receipts after all expenses were paid to have been \$454. Of this \$100 will be paid to Rev. Mr. Mitchell of Erskine church, for his work among the boys of the west end, and another \$100 will be given to the Men's Association of St. Andrew's church. It was decided also to support a famine child in India for a year. Mr. J. O. Machado, president and Mr. W. McKenzie King, vice president of the Men's Association, were present and addressed the society on behalf of their own organization, telling its aims and objects and asking co-operation.

It is not going in for athletics to sit on a bench and watch a few professionals play a game," said Rev. Dr. Armstrong in the course of his sermon in St. Paul's church Sunday night. Dr. Armstrong approved of athletics generally as being necessary for the right development of the body, but depreciated paying too much attention to them. There should, he said, be an intelligent study of games to discover their respective values; there should always be fair play and the player a gentleman first. Attention should be directed to the play and not to the result. There is not enough attention paid to athletics in the public schools," said the preacher. "There should be a master of games, someone who would teach the boys and girls the games so they would play them properly.

Eastern Ontario.

Rev. Mr. Woods, of Richmond, has been preaching at Kinburn.

A Boy's Guild has been organized in connection with St. Andrew's church, Almonte.

There are 108 lady students attending classes at Queen's University this session.

Rev. Mr. Gourlay, of Carp, has been filling the pulpit of St. Paul's church, Athens, for the past two Sabbaths.

Rev. H. J. Keith, of Montreal, preached in Knox church, Cornwall, last Sunday at both services.

Rev. R. Harkness, of Knox church, Cornwall, will preach at the anniversary services in the Tweed church on Sunday, Dec. 27.

Rev. H. D. Leitch, of St. Elmo, officiated at both services in St. John's church, Cornwall, last Sunday. The sermons were both forceful and instructive.

Rev. Jas. Cormack, Maxville, has returned home from a three weeks sojourn at Clifton Springs, N. Y. He occupied his own pulpit last Sunday morning and evening.

A unanimous call has been extended Mr. McLeod, a recent graduate of Queen's, to become pastor of St. Paul's church, Athens.

The Presbytery of Peterboro agrees to recommend the movement for the continuance of the connection of Queen's University with the Presbyterian church.

Rev. M. MacKenzie, the well-known Missionary to Honan, China, has been delivering Missionary addresses throughout Glengarry Presbytery during December, which have had the effect of greatly deepening interest in Foreign Missions.

The Morawood congregation has extended a unanimous call to Rev. D. Stewart, of St. Martin's, N.B., a recent graduate of Montreal College.

Rev. J. McLeod, R.D., has received a call from the congregations of North Gower and Oskode, and also from Metcalfe.

A handsome new organ has been installed in the Carp church. It was presented to the congregation by the Ladies' Aid society.

The ladies of the Rockland church held a skating social a few evenings ago. As the ice was in excellent condition it was greatly enjoyed, as were the refreshments that followed.

The Brockville Recorder speaks in high terms of the sermons preached in the First Presbyterian church there by Mr. Borley, a student of Queen's.

Rev. A. E. Mitchell, of Erskine church, Ottawa, was the preacher at Bell's Corners last Sunday evening. Rev. D. Findlay taking the services in Erskine church.

Rev. W. W. Maclean, M.A., pastor of St. Andrew's church, Belleville, for over 30 years, has tendered his resignation, owing to failing health. It will take effect next March.

Anniversary services were celebrated in Lowry church last Sunday, when Rev. Orr Bennet, of Almonte, was the preacher morning and evening. Special music was rendered at the morning service by the Kinburn choir and in the evening by the choir of Carp church.

The members of the First Presbyterian church choir, Brockville, twenty-five in number, were most hospitably entertained at the residence of Mr. Newton Cossitt last week. The choir had a two hours' rehearsal, after which all partook of a dainty spread provided by the genial host. An hour was afterwards spent in pleasant social intercourse and the whole evening was thoroughly enjoyed by all.

Rev. Murdoch McKenzie, of Honan, China, gave a very stirring address in the lecture room of Knox church, Lancaster, last week. The speaker held the wrapt attention of those present for upwards of an hour relating the method adopted by the missionary in presenting the gospel to the Chinese and telling many touching incidents in connection with his 14 years labor in that foreign field.

At the annual meeting of the Willing Workers of Zion church, Carleton Place, the retiring president, Mrs. Dr. McEwen, who has been a zealous worker since the organization of the society, was presented with a handsome rocker. Mrs. S. A. Torrence was elected president for the incoming year.

The annual meeting of the Carp auxiliary to the Woman's Foreign Missionary society was held at the manse last week when the following officers were elected: President, Mrs. Harry Macdougall; 1st vice-president, Mrs. N. H. McGillivray; 2nd vice-president, Mrs. J. W. McElroy; recording secretary, Miss E. F. Wilson; corresponding secretary, Mrs. Hughes, and treasurer, Mrs. Alex. Andrews.

The annual thank-offering meeting of St. Andrew's church W.F.M.S., Almonte, was held in the church on the 17th inst. Rev. J. H. Turnbull, of Bank street church, Ottawa, delivered an interesting address on foreign missions. Rev. A. M. Currie and Rev. F. Mills, of Blakeney, were present. Miss Wylie and Dr. Oliver sang solos and Miss Greig gave several organ selections. The collection amounted to \$69.25.

On December 3rd, a largely attended social was held in the Poland church on the occasion of the resignation of the Rev. James McElroy, who for seventeen years has been pastor of South Lavan, Ladore, Poland, etc. The Rev. Mr. McClung, of Smith's Falls, formerly of Quebec Presbytery, and successor to Mr. McElroy, occupied the chair. The chairman read a address to Mr. and Mrs. McElroy and presented to him a Persian lamb cap and gauntlets. Mrs. McElroy was also remembered by the congregations, receiving a silver chafing dish and spoon.

Western Ontario.

The remit on the enlargement of the powers of Synod was approved by Saugeen Presbytery with the addition that notice be given at least thirty days before the meeting. It was also agreed that in view of the increased cost of living, the minimum salary of augmented congregations be increased fifty dollars.