

ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH,

When Rev. Armstrong Black resigned the pastorate of St. Andrew's church, Toronto, and returned to England last June, the outlook for the congregation was not particularly cheering. Conditions have changed so much within the past few years, and railways, factories and warehouses have so far encroached on what was formerly a residential district, that St. Andrew's has become distinctively a downtown church, far removed from its congregation, and without any immediate constituency to draw from. But it has a history, and many families so warmly attached to it that it would require a very strong temptation to induce them to go elsewhere. After due inquiry, Rev. T. C. Brown, M.A., a graduate of Queen's University, Kingston, who after completing his course, had gone abroad for post graduate work, and was doing duty as an assistant at St. Giles Cathedral, Edinburgh, was invited to take charge for three months, and entered upon the work the Sabbath after Dr. Black closed his ministry. So acceptable were the services rendered by Mr. Brown that when the time came for the congregation to decide upon its future course, it was resolved to extend a call to Mr. Brown, a colleague or assistant, as he might wish, to be provided, to share with him the labour and responsibility of the charge. Mr. Brown had other invitations and had St. Andrew's not secured him he would have gone to Winnipeg as assistant and successor to Dr. Du Val, of Knox. To the satisfaction of the people who had called him with practical unanimity, Mr. Brown decided to remain in Toronto, and the call having been sustained by the Presbytery, and the usual steps taken, the young minister was ordained and inducted on November 16th.

The induction sermon was preached by Rev. Robert Herbiison, of St. Giles Toronto, the text chosen being Matthew xxvii., 51. The value of a human life was the preacher's theme. Should not a man so live, said the preacher, as though he felt that God had some definite purpose for him? It was right to be humble and lowly-minded, yet men should think more nobly of themselves—of their lives and the gifts God had given them. A man should throw all his energies into some definite work. Men who were enthusiastic and believe in themselves are irresistible. Strength is worth more than refinement, and enthusiasm for the best things than mere respectability.

Rev. D. C. Hosack, moderator of Presbytery, having put the usual questions to the candidate and offered the ordination prayer, Mr. Brown was solemnly ordained to the Christian ministry and inducted to the charge of St. Andrew's, the members of Presbytery extending the right hand of fellowship.

The charge to the newly inducted minister was then delivered by Rev. Dr. Carmichael, of King, this being the fourth time he has performed that duty at St. Andrew's. Rev. Prof. Ballantyne, of Knox College, delivered the charge to the congregation. These duties could not have fallen on more fitting shoulders, and words of wisdom fell from the lips of both speakers. The proceedings closed with the benediction pronounced by Rev. Dr. Milligan.

A reception was held in the school-room of the church the following evening which, notwithstanding adverse weather conditions, was an unqualified success. The congregation attended in large numbers, and many members of Presbytery, with other friends, were present. During the evening Prof. Ballantyne was made the recipient of a purse of gold in recognition of his services as moderator of session during the vacancy. Mr. Brown received a hearty welcome.

On Sunday Very Rev. Principal Gordon, of Queen's University, conducted the morning service by way of introducing the new minister. In his sermon he spoke of Christ's conception of the work

of His church, and referred to the work which still lies before St. Andrew's.

Mr. Brown enters upon his ministry with great hopefulness. The work is heavy, but he is equipped with a vigorous constitution and a capacity for hard work. Under this sturdy young Canadian there appears to be no reason why the work of St. Andrew's church and St. Andrew's Church Institute should not be as successful as it ever has been in the past.

TORONTO.

The Wychwood Literary Society recently reorganized under the Presidency of George P. Bryce, B.A. The first meeting for the season took place at Wychwood church on Monday, November 13th.

Rev. Alex. Esler has commenced in Cooke's church a series of sermons on "Five Young Men of the Bible—Joseph, David, Daniel, John the Baptist and Jesus Christ, the young man's Redeemer."

The Presbyterian Ministerial Association of this city elected the following officers: President, Rev. R. N. Hamilton, Weston; vice-president, Rev. J. McP. Scott, St. John's church; secretary-treasurer, Rev. James Wilson of Dovercourt Road Church.

The Ontario Sunday School Association to take a religious census of Toronto, Nov. 29th, will require 183 supervisors and about 3,000 assistants, mostly ladies taken from the Sunday schools. A club of 120 young men from some of the Presbyterian churches volunteered their services.

Dr. E. D. McLaren, general secretary of Presbyterian Home missions, has gone to Sarnia, Thessalon and the Sault, to speak in the interest of home missions. He considers this a critical formative period in the national history of Canada, and is endeavoring to enthuse the Ontario churches to the realization of this fact. He says: "The situation is becoming desperate. The appeals from vacant fields are enough to drive one to distraction. It is the supreme duty of the church of this generation to see that the foundations for the West are laid in righteousness and truth, and in the fear of God."

The executive of the Lord's Day Alliance of Canada and the Ontario Lord's Day Alliance held meetings last week at the Y.M.C.A. At the former the General Secretary, Mr. J. G. Shearer, announced that the 600 local societies had enrolled 30,000 members. He said much credit was due Sir William Mulock for closing post offices which had been kept open on Sundays. Saskatchewan and Alberta have organized Alliances. Mr. R. U. McPherson, the solicitor, in presenting his report regarding the recent Privy Council's decision on the question of Provincial and Dominion jurisdiction, said that the inference to be drawn was that the power to legislate on the Sunday question belonged to the Dominion. Messrs. Paterson and McPherson were appointed a committee to select counsel to watch for legislation at Ottawa which may have an adverse effect on the observance of the Lord's Day. It was decided to renew the application to the Dominion Government for a Lord's Day Act, and to ask for the enactment of the draft submitted two years ago. The secretary of the Ontario Lord's Day Alliance, Rev. T. Albert Moore, stated in his report that in over 500 cases successful efforts had been made to prevent Sabbath desecration. In past years the Alliance had not been compelled to appear as plaintiff in a single case, for the Attorney-General of the Province had instructed Crown Attorneys or special counsel to act. Cheese-making and the sale of newspapers had been stopped, and soon action would be taken against twenty-one cement factories. Special watchfulness was recommended for New Ontario. The Ontario Government have given assurance that Sunday excursions will be stopped on the Temiskaming Railway. Further restrictive Sabbath legislation will be applied for.

NORTHERN ONTARIO.

The Rev. Dr. Armstrong, moderator of the General Assembly, conducted anniversary services in St. Andrew's Church, Sault Ste. Marie, on Sabbath, the 12th inst. Large and enthusiastic congregations greeted the rev. gentleman at both services. In the evening the church was filled to overflowing. In the afternoon of the same day Dr. Armstrong gave two Sabbath school addresses, one to the Sabbath school in St. Andrew's Church and another to the mission in connection with St. Andrew's on Bruce street hill. On Monday evening a social gathering was held in the church, which also was largely attended. Dr. Armstrong gave an excellent address on the value of the church to national life. Addresses were also given by Rev. Mr. Hart of the Central Methodist Church, and Rev. Dr. Snensor of the First Baptist Church. Excellent music was rendered by the choir of the church. The Rev. W. A. Duncan, pastor of the Congregation was warmly congratulated on the completion of his 15th year of a successful pastorate. There is a felt need of a new church to meet the growing requirements of the congregation, and steps in this direction may be taken in the near future. The visit of the Moderator was very highly appreciated and will be long remembered.

WESTERN ONTARIO.

Rev. A. B. Winchester, pastor of Knox church, Toronto and an old Woodstock boy was renewing acquaintances in city last week.

The re-naming services of St. James' Church, London were conducted by Rev. Dr. Milligan, of Toronto. The new gallery will cost \$250.

At the Christmas entertainment of Westminster Sabbath school, Mount Forest, Rev. T. D. McMillan, of Harrison, will give his illustrated lecture on "Canada from Ocean to Ocean."

Rev. Mr. McCrae, late of Manitoba, and Mr. Kechezie, of Knox College, Toronto, have been preaching very acceptably in the Morrison church recently.

Rev. Alexander Henderson, clerk of London Presbytery, has removed from Wortley Road, London, Ont. Correspondents will please make note of the change.

Rev. Mr. Watson of Thamesford conducted the preparatory services in the Drumbo Church last Friday week. His address was exceedingly good and appropriate.

At a Presbytery meeting held in Paris on Tuesday of last week the resignation tendered by Rev. Dr. Mackay, for nearly thirty years pastor of Chalmers Church, Woodstock, was regretfully accepted.

The anniversary services in Duff church, on 12th inst., conducted by Rev. R. W. Ross, of Guelph, and Rev. A. Blair, of Napanee, were well attended, and the large congregation were delighted and edified by the sermons. On the following evening Rev. Dr. Dickson, of Central Church, Galt, gave a deeply interesting lecture on "Presbyterianism in Scotland, previous to the first Reformation."

About sixty delegates attended the twenty-second annual convention of the Women's Foreign Mission Society of the London Presbytery, in the First Presbyterian church, the President, Mrs. (Rev.) McCrae of Westminster presiding. The yearly report showed 41 auxiliaries and 21 mission hands under the care of the Presbytery, the membership being 1,152. Following are the officers elected for the year—President, Mrs. (Dr.) McCrae, Westminster; Vice-Presidents, Mrs. W. J. Clark of London, Mrs. D. M. Tait of St. Thomas, Mrs. McMillan of London, Mrs. Currie of Belmont; Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. (Dr.) Arnott, London; Mission Band Secretary, Miss L. M. Fraser, London; Tidings Secretary, Miss McAdam, St. Thomas; Secretary of Supplies, Miss Watson, London.