

Mount Hamilton.—St. Stephen's.—Wardens, C. Henderson, L. Dougworth. Receipts, \$421.60; disbursements, \$374.85. There was a considerable discussion over the church services. The Rev. M. Wilson, the rector, has three churches under his care, with five services every Sunday. The problem was how to carry these on. The result of the discussion was that the congregation agreed to pay a certain share of the expenses of Mr. Dymont, lay reader, of Toronto, to assist Mr. Wilson, and a desire was expressed that Mr. W. A. Crockett, a very capable gentleman, should at times assist in this capacity also. Mr. Crockett signified his willingness to do so. Apparently a lay readers' association is badly needed in Hamilton, where help of this kind could be procured as needed. At the close Mr. Wilson expressed his pleasure at the way the congregation was aiding him in the work.

Chedoke.—Holy Trinity.—Wardens, M. Morris, H. Beckett; delegate to Synod, H. Williams. After all expenses had been paid there was a balance on hand of \$51. It was resolved to help the rector, the Rev. M. Wilson as much as possible in the matter of providing a lay reader so as to keep up the two services each Sunday. A great improvement in the attendance at the services during the past year was reported. Besides a considerable debt, which was cleared off after the rector came, cement sidewalks have been laid, and both the heating and lighting of the church has been improved.

Niagara Falls.—Christ Church.—At the annual vestry meeting the Very Rev. Dean Houston, who had announced he would resign this Easter, was requested to continue as rector until October, at which date he will have held the rectorship for 32 years. The Dean consented. A resolution was passed giving Dean Houston the use for life of the rectory and a yearly stipend of \$400. He will also be appointed rector emeritus of the parish.

Dunnville.—St. Paul's.—The Rev. E. C. Earp, the rector of this parish, has been presented with a cheque for \$500 and given six months' leave of absence. He and Mrs. Earp have left for a three months' trip to England and the continent. Mr. Earp who was formerly senior curate of St. Paul's, Toronto, suffered a breakdown, accentuated by a fall on the ice early last winter, breaking several ribs. Toronto specialists advised the rest.

Guelph.—St. James'.—Warden, W. Duncan; receipts, \$2,954.11. A balance in hand remains after all expenses were paid of \$37.79; meeting adjourned for two weeks.

St. George's.—In the rector's report he referred with thankfulness to the appointment of the Rev. C. A. Sparling as curate. He dwelt with great thankfulness upon the happy results that had followed from the adoption of the regular weekly envelopes for missionary contributions, and stated that the total amount raised for purposes of missionary character during the year had been over \$1,200. This included the contributions of the W.A., and one or two other auxiliary mission funds. While by no means as large a sum as Movement standard of five dollars a communicant ought to be raised if the Laymen's Missionary was to be reached, it was nevertheless a very considerable advance on any previous year. After considerable discussion it was agreed that in future the financial year of the parish end on April 30th of each year, instead of on Easter Monday. This will have the effect of making it possible to compare them fairly with one another. The old plan does not do this, as years may vary greatly in length, according to the date of Easter. The meeting was adjourned till May 9th.

Milton.—Grace Church.—Wardens, A. Winn, S. Dice; delegate to Synod, V. Chisholm. The wardens' and other reports, which were presented, showed a most satisfactory state of affairs. There has been a marked increase lately in membership and number of communicants. The contributions for church expenses and missions have grown under the weekly duplex envelope system adopted in January, and are much larger now than ever, with a good prospect of future increase. Several small floating debts of the previous year have been paid off lately, and the congregation now pays as it goes.

Terra Cotta.—All Saints'.—Wardens, A. Transom, J. Hamilton; delegate to Synod, A. Transom. According to the wardens, and other reports, there has been a large increase of member-

ship, number of communicants and attendance at services and in the Sunday School. There was a bank balance more than sufficient to pay off all accounts, and the indications were most favorable for increased revenue.

HURON.

David Williams, D.D., Bishop, London, Ont.

London.—The reports presented at the annual meetings showed that the past year had been a most prosperous one and that very encouraging progress had been made in every way.

St. Paul's Cathedral.—Wardens, Dr. Moorhouse, Mr. E. Paull; delegates to Synod, Dr. Moorhouse, Messrs. R. Bayley, E. Paull, T. H. Luscombe. The Rev. J. G. Perdue, who for the past three years has been assistant priest, handed in his resignation, which is to take effect on May 1st. Mr. Perdue intends returning to England on account of ill-health. The meeting was adjourned for two weeks.

Christ Church.—Wardens, W. A. Hayden, W. F. Robinson; delegates to Synod, R. M. McElheran, J. McFadden, jr.; receipts, \$3,881.04; disbursements, \$3,725.04.

St. George's.—Wardens, F. A. Andrews, F. G. Turnbull; delegates to Synod, T. F. Dexter, J. K. H. Pope. Meeting adjourned for two weeks.

St. John's.—Wardens, W. Graham, S. Newcomb; delegates to Synod, R. A. Powell. The wardens' report, which was read by Mr. S. Newcomb, showed that after all the expenses of the church for the current year had been met there was a balance on hand. During the year the church had been painted, and a neat woodshed was built.

St. John the Evangelist.—Wardens, H. D. Somerville, O. Ellwood; receipts, \$4,400; disbursements, \$3,982.98. The reports presented indicate that the year just passed has been the most successful yet. The duplex envelope system of taking the missionary offering was introduced nine months ago, and its success is apparent from the fact that the offerings in that time are fully \$200 greater than ever before. The ushers also reported that since the pew rent system has been discontinued there has been an increased attendance. It was decided to spend \$1,000 at once in repairing the church and renovating it. Arrangements will be completed at a meeting to be held two weeks from last night, by which the Rev. Professor Jeakins, of Huron College, will preach every other Sunday in the Church. At the adjourned meeting the matter of dealing with the Laymen's Missionary Movement will be taken up also.

Memorial Church.—Wardens, Dr. Santo T. A. Wright; delegates to Synod, Major Hume Cronyn, F. P. Betts, ex-Ald. Scarlett and V. Cronyn, K.C. The rector, the Rev. Canon Dyson Hague in his annual report spoke most enthusiastically of the work that has been accomplished during the past year. He mentioned that the church had been renovated and stated that next Sunday the duplex envelope in connection with the taking up of the missionary offering will be used for the first time, and spoke most hopefully of the good results to be expected.

Markdale.—Christ Church.—Easter Day began with a celebration of the Holy Communion at 8.30. The morning service commenced by the choir slowly ascending the stairs from the basement to the church, vested for the first time in surplices, singing the beautiful Easter hymn, "Welcome, Happy Morning." The rector then proceeded with shortened form of morning prayer, followed by the celebration of Holy Communion, at which a large number communicated. During the offertory Cook's anthem, "Why Seek Ye the Living," was sung with telling effect by the choir, the solo parts being rendered most effectively by Mrs. Dymond, Messrs. Caesar and Richardson taking the tenor portions. The text chosen was Philip 3:20, "The Lord Jesus Christ, who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto His glorious body." The chancel and altar presented a festive appearance with its tastefully arranged Easter lilies, carnations and other flowers. Much credit is due Mrs. (Dr.) Campbell for her untiring effort in training the choir during the absence of Miss Macpherson. Mr. Fred Lucas, of Trinity College, Toronto, assisted Mrs. Campbell at the organ most acceptably at both services. The service concluded with the Recessional hymn, "I Know that My Redeemer Lives." Evensong opened with the Processional Hymn, "Christ the Lord is Risen To-day," the anthem being again sung. The sermon was taken from Rev. 1:18, "I am He that liveth and was dead; and behold, I am alive for evermore." Large congregations were present at both services, and many expressed themselves greatly pleased with the surplice choir and the services of the day.

The vestry meeting was held on Monday evening, with an unusually large attendance. Mr. John W. Ford was appointed rector's warden, and Mr. W. E. Bradey people's warden. The sidesmen for the ensuing year are Messrs. J. B. Lucas, Douglas, Lee and Mercer, and the ushers, Messrs. Bradey, F. Beighton and G. Beighton. At the congregational meeting Hon. J. B. Lucas and Mr. Wm. Lucas were elected delegates to Synod. Heartly votes of thanks were tendered to the acting vestry clerk, Mr. J. Lucas, the organist and choir for their faithful services. At the conclusion Hon. J. B. Lucas made a kindly reference to the rector and to his work during the past year. His remarks were warmly seconded by Mr. Wm. Douglas and endorsed by the meeting. Mr. Dymond made a brief but feeling reply, in which he thanked all present for their kind and encouraging expressions of appreciation.

Correspondence

THE NEW HYMN BOOK

Sir,—In reply to Mr. J. E. Jones' letter in last week's issue of the Canadian Churchman, I should like to say that I am indeed glad to have his assurance that Messrs. Novello will be asked to restore the original and better arrangement of the tune "Covenant," set to the processional hymn, "The God of Abraham," and so to make it more congregational—an object always desirable and in the case of a processional absolutely essential. There certainly is a distinct lack of good, bright processional hymns of dignified character and easy compass. In my previous letter I did not object to the tune "King Edward" as a tune, but stated my opinion that it is totally uncongregational on account of its wide compass—so wide as to be beyond the scope of the ordinary voices in a choir and congregation. This applies also to "Valiance," "Worship," "Warrior" and other tunes. Since Mr. Jones has mentioned my friend Canon Robert's name, let me say that although unfortunately, Canon Roberts and I do not agree as to the suitability of the tune "Valiance," as a processional hymn, yet we are thoroughly at one on most points regarding the merits and weaknesses of our new hymn book. As to "Winchester New," let me make it quite clear that I consider that the harmonies chosen for the B.C.P. are incongruous. It would be a very easy matter to find more suitable arrangements of this fine tune, as for instance the well known available settings in the Hymnal Companion and Church Hymns. In respect to "Rockingham" the best harmonies extant are those used in the original editions of Hymns Ancient and Modern, but which are not the exclusive right of the compilers of that book. They have been well tried during half a century by thousands—aye, tens and hundreds of thousands of people all over the world, a better evidence of their fitness, I take it, than the fact that they may have appeared in a number of hymnals of more or less popularity. We should have the best we can get no matter from what source. I still consider it would be a distinct advantage if Sir George Martin could be persuaded, amongst other things, to suppress the passing notes in the last lines of "Rockingham" and "God save the King." In referring to "Winchester Old" I simply stated my agreement with the opinion of "Musician," that the key of F (the lower key) is far better than the one in G. This frequent transposition makes the use of a second hymn book a necessity in the case of many young organists who are naturally afraid to trust themselves to transpose at sight. Since we realize that the compilers of the B. C. P. could not dispense with many of the favourite old melodies, though they contain notes outside the compass of ordinary voices, it becomes imperative that only those new tunes should be selected which, in addition to being desirable in other respects, are also suitable in compass and well harmonized. I should indeed be sorry to recommend even the omission of "Weber," "Ancient of Days," and a few other tunes of like character, if it really meant depriving thousands of enjoyment, did I not feel more than confident that we could give them something infinitely better. Such tunes as "Verulam" and "Gift," I should be cruel enough to transpose out of the B. C. P. altogether whilst to suggest that these should be used even as alternate tunes for the beautiful hymns, "Brightest and Best are the Sons of the Morning" and "Thy Life was Given for Me," is positively irreverent. Albert Ham.

A large quantity of Diocesan News and correspondence is held over this week for want of space.