

The annual meeting of Knox church, Guelph, was most harmonious and encouraging. The amount raised for missions was \$773.50. The report of the building committee was very satisfactory; and the organ committee reported having raised \$1,220 during the year. The resignation of Mr. J. A. Lillie, treasurer of the congregation for eight years, was regretfully accepted, and Mr. J. J. Hackney elected in his place. A hearty vote of thanks was extended to the Rev. R. W. Ross, pastor, expressing high appreciation of his services. The congregation, in their re-beautified church home, look forward with great hope to a most successful year's work.

The Rev. C. E. Gordonsmith, F.S.Sc., of Montreal, who has charge of St. Andrew's Church, Levis, at present, met with a terrible bereavement Tuesday afternoon, which has saddened the whole community and aroused the utmost sympathy. His bride, formerly Miss Jane Curtis, of Renfrew, Ont., to whom he was wedded there only a fortnight since, had been suffering from gripe since her arrival with her husband at Levis, and a physician had been called in to treat her, but no serious consequences were anticipated. Heart failure intervened, however, and in a few minutes she had breathed her last. Needless to say that the suddenness of the blow was felt severely by all who had made the lady's acquaintance, but most of all by her afflicted husband, whom it has almost distracted.

#### Eastern Ontario.

The Avonmore congregation are about erecting a new manse for the minister.

The local press speaks of Rev. R. M. Hamilton's sermons in St. John's church, Almonte, in terms of high praise.

Rev. John Hay, Renfrew, who had recovered from a severe attack of la grippe, has had a relapse and is again confined to the house.

Rev. Mr. Wishart, Beaverton, is again able to occupy his own pulpit. Knox Church choir were pleasantly entertained on a recent evening at the residence of Mrs. D. Callaghan, Thoron.

Rev. A. Graham, Lancaster, has been preaching at Vankleek Hill. His own pulpit was acceptably filled by Mr. D. Stewart, a son of the manse, and a student of the Presbyterian college, Montreal.

The Rev. D. N. Coburn, M. A., will be inducted into the pastoral charge of Lunenburg, Glengarry Presbytery, tomorrow, when the Rev. L. Beaton will preach; Rev. J. L. Millar address the ministers and Rev. A. McGregor the people.

Rev. L. Beaton, who was only recently settled at Moose Creek, has already won for himself a warm place in the affections of his people. A few days ago he was presented with a well-filled purse for the purpose of procuring for himself a horse to assist him in his pastoral work. The presentation was made by Messrs. William Tait and Matthew Sproule of Roxborough.

Cooke's church, Kingston, under the pastorate of Rev. Alex. Laird, reports a membership of 244, a net gain of 33. The ordinary receipts amounted to \$2,650, an increase of \$800 over the previous year. There is no mortgage and the floating debt of \$500 has been reduced to \$200. The Sabbath School and Young People's Guild, each make an encouraging report. Altogether this old congregation, under the leadership of its young minister, is actively moving forward in the various Christian activities in which our Church is concerned.

At the induction of Rev. D. D. Miller into the pastorate of St. Paul's Church, Hawkesbury, Rev. J. W. H. Mine, Ottawa, in the absence of Rev. James Bonnett through illness, presided, and preached a suitable sermon. Rev. John McLaren, Plantagenet, addressed the minister. He charged the minister to "preach the word" and leave other themes alone. Preach and preach the same truth. Do not be afraid to repeat an old sermon. Fear no man. Encourage all others to work. Work yourself. Help the Sunday school and study your Bible. Rev. D. M. Ramsay, of Knox church, Ottawa, charged the congregation and strongly urged them to work with and for their pastor and for God. Mr. Ramsay cautioned the congregation not to pry into the private affairs of the pastor. They were his business only. Rev. Mr. Rondeau, Grenville, also, assisted in the exercises. The settlement of Mr. Miller has been a most harmonious one, and the new pastor enters on his duties with encouraging prospects for a fruitful ministry in this place.

#### Montreal.

The induction of Rev. A. Bowman, M.A., into the pastoral charge of Grande Franiere, takes place to-day.

Rev. A. King, of St. Marks, Montreal, has intimated his intention to resign the pastorate at next meeting of Presbytery. The winter in Montreal is too severe for his wife's health.

The handsome new Melville church, Westmount—Rev. T. W. Winfield, pastor—was formally opened last Sabbath. Principal Grant, of Queen's, preached morning and evening to large congregations. Mr. Winfield's many friends in Ottawa will wish him a prosperous pastorate in the new Melville.

#### Committee Meetings.

The annual spring meeting of the General Assembly's Home Mission Committee (Western Section) will be held in the Lecture Room of Knox Church on Tuesday, 19th March at 9.30 a.m. With a view to expedite business, Presbytery Conveners are requested to forward to the Secretary, the Rev. Dr. Somerville, Owen Sound, on or before the 14th inst. their schedule claims for the current half year, and their annual schedules together with the names of all applicants for work within their bounds.

We understand that there is a large amount of very important business to be transacted by the committee, which will probably continue in session for three or four days.

The Assembly's Augmentation Committee will hold its semi-annual meeting in Central Church, Hamilton, on Tuesday, 26th March.

#### Home Mission Fund.

The Rev. Dr. Warden has just sent the following letter to the ministers of the Church:—

Although within three days of the close of the church year, the sum of \$34,000 is still required to enable the committee to pay in full the grants for the next six months. A circular was mailed to all the ministers on 9th July last, intimating that by order of the General Assembly, the church year was henceforth to close on 28th February.

From a variety of causes this has been overlooked by many, and, in consequence, a large number of congregations have, thus far, sent no contributions to the Fund. It is hoped, however, that about \$15,000 may still be got from these congregations, which will leave the committee nearly \$20,000 short. This shortage may be accounted for in several ways. (1) A number of congregations in Great Britain that have heretofore helped have withdrawn their support. (2) The comparative failure of last year's harvest in Manitoba has considerably lessened contributions expected from this section of the church. (3) The expenditure is, this year, considerably higher than heretofore, because of the expansion of the work.

When, last spring, appli ations were received for the opening of many new fields calling for greatly increased expenditure, the committee hesitated somewhat, but eventually decided to grant the applications and report the fact to the General Assembly, in the confident hope that the church would provide additional funds requisite. It was thought that there would not only be increased contributions from congregations, but that many individual friends would aid the committee by special sums of \$250 each for the support of missionaries in fields in the Northwest. The result, thus far, has not justified the expectations of the committee.

While in past years the revenue has frequently been barely sufficient to meet the expenditure, the Home Mission work of the church is so near to the heart of our people that we cannot doubt it will meet with loyal support on patriotic as well on Christian grounds. In very many of our congregations there are men and women from whom, if the need were known and an appeal were made, there will be a liberal response. I therefore venture to ask your co-operation in making known the urgent need of the fund, with a view to securing from your people such generous help that when the committee meets in the middle of March, they may be in a position to pay the grants in full to missionaries for the present half year, and feel justified in responding to the numerous applications coming from new settlements for services.

It has been arranged to keep the books open until Tuesday, 12th March, in the earnest expectation that we may receive a sum sufficient to meet the present requirements of the Fund,

Canada has, perhaps, never had such a period of general prosperity, and never was the business outlook, on the whole, so favorable. It is of the utmost importance that the church keep pace with the increase of population and be able to avail itself of every new opening in all sections of the Dominion.

#### British and Foreign.

Formosa has only one railway line.

Royal Bengal tigers killed 896 human beings in India last year.

Nine million men perished through war in the Nineteenth Century.

Glasgow Inebriate Home is to be used only for hopeful cases; not for loose women or men.

Rev. Dr. J. S. Wilson is delivering a course of lectures in St. Andrews on Pastoral Theology.

Selkirk Town Council are to send the "Floden Flag" on loan to the Glasgow Exhibition.

Greenock United Free Presbytery are to hold their meetings at night for three months in the year.

Dumbarton Castle, a garrison under the Treaty of Union, is now under charge of a single caretaker!

The death is announced of Mr. Duncan Macara, stationer, Edinburgh, a well known temperance advocate.

Dunnikier new United Free Church was formally opened on the 24th ult. by Rev. Dr. Stalker, Glasgow.

Esdaile Free Church folk are all bitterly opposed to union. A lay preacher has been appointed for Luining.

Expectation of something new in tools at Glasgow Exhibition is keeping back orders for labour-saving machinery.

The family of the late Sir John Cowan are to erect to his memory a pipe organ in Penicuik South United Free Church.

The Free Churchmen of Kinlochewe are seeking to interdict the Union men from interfering with their church or funds.

Melville United Free Church, Aberdeen, has been sold for £11,505. The congregation desire to erect a new building farther west.

Rev. R. Buchanan, minister of the parish of Dunbar, died on the 27th ult. He preached before the late Queen on occasion of her visit to Dunbar.

James Rodger, church officer of Bridge of Allan Parish Church, has joined the "great majority" at a ripe old age. He was highly esteemed.

Delaware's whipping law has been extended to apply to men convicted of abusing their wives. Another enactment makes kidnapping a capital crime.

The new heir-apparent's full style is now Duke of Cornwall, Rothesay and York; Earl of Carrick and Inverness; Lord of the Isles, and Baron Renfrew and Kilmory.

The oath taken and subscribed by King Edward VII for the security of the Church of Scotland was read on the 31st ult. in the Court of Session, in the presence of the assembled Judges.

It is stated that King Edward VII. will regard the engagements entered into before the death of the Queen as binding, and that accordingly there is every probability that he will open the Glasgow Exhibition.

Her Royal Highness Alexandra Caroline Marie Charlotte Louise Julie, the Princess of Wales, now Queen, is the daughter of Christian IX., King of Denmark, and was born at Copenhagen on Dec. 1st, 1844.

The famine amongst the Bhils is more serious than even last year. It is reported that 33 per cent of them died last year, and when the year began they had cattle &c. upon which to begin. Now the cattle have disappeared and the famine continues. Dr. Buchanan is urgently in need of assistance in that quarter.

It is estimated that there are now in the world 355 missions, 753 dispensaries. In the course of the year there were 53,000 in-patients 2,579,051 individual patients were attended to, and 6,647,840 visits were paid.