

expect to evangelize China, but as Dr. Morrison said, God can, and we believe the set time has come." The outstanding features of world events in the twentieth century would, he believed, be the awakening of China and the development of Canada, the entrance of the oldest and the youngest nations into the position of world powers. In both of these the Presbyterians were peculiarly interested. A million dollars a year from the church in Canada would mean only about a cent a day per member, and all the home mission, augmentation and French evangelization work could be supported by about \$1 a year per member—or in all \$5 a year per communicant. The thing surely in this prosperous Canada was feasible.

The report of the committee on Church Life and Work, presented by the Convener, Rev. Wm. Farquharson, recommended that parents and teachers be urged to use every means to encourage the children under their care to attend church, as well as Sabbath school, and that ministers be reminded of the need of making the service such as is fitted to call out and express the devotion of the childlike mind; that the value of the prayer meeting as a means of promoting religious life more earnestly be kept before the people in order that more may be encouraged to avail themselves of it; and that the attention of Sessions, Boards of Management, and missionary associations be directed to the value of system in giving, and to the need of a fuller sense of the religious character of laying by as each may prosper. A recommendation moved by Rev. Dr. Pidgeon was added, that Sessions be instructed to arrange for baptismal services as carefully as for communion services, and that whenever possible they be held in the church.

The report of the Sabbath School Committee was in several respects most encouraging. The committee recommended that Presbyteries devise a general scheme of Sabbath school visitation; urged greater attention to memorizing Scripture and the Shorter Catechism (which Dr. Gregg said too many of the ministers, elders and professors do not believe); commended the teacher training course, emphasized the great purpose to be "to bring the young into saving relations with Jesus Christ, and to train them for His service"; sessions and superintendents were urged to take special care to instruct the scholars regarding the missionary and other schemes of the Church, and to encourage and train them in systematic giving.

The work of French evangelization was presented by Rev. A. D. Menzies, of the Pointe aux Trembles School. The need of the work in French Quebec was as great as that in the west. The Synod of Toronto and Kingston did not contribute as well as others to this work. The claim was urgent, because hundreds breaking away from the Roman Catholic Church, yet are adrift. They were hungering for education. The French work was heartily commended by Synod, on a motion of Rev. G. A. Woodside, Owen Sound, and Rev. H. D. Leitch, of Sonya.

The report on home missions was presented by Rev. J. A. Dow of Gravenhurst and Rev. G. L. Johnston of North Bay. The committee recommended that presbyteries be urged to develop on home mission fields a larger spirit of liberality in order to reduce home mission grants.

The report of the Committee on Augmentation was simply submitted by the convener, Rev. R. W. Ross of Guelph, and an address on the importance of augmentation was given by Rev. John Hay, the General Assembly's committee representative, who strongly urged the

duty of the strong churches helping the weak. The only Synods in Canada that fell behind in the appointment for this fund were those of Toronto and Kingston and of Hamilton and London, the two strongest, in the heart and garden of Ontario.

The report of the Foreign Mission Committee, represented by Rev. Dr. G. C. Pidgeon, was rather discouraging, showing a serious falling behind in contributions, and that in the face of widening fields. Six of the twelve Presbyteries showed a decrease, and the whole Synod was \$1,352 behind last year.

Rev. Peter Duncan, the Moderator-elect, entered the church at 4 o'clock, and, after being gowned and introduced, took the chair and briefly thanked the Synod for the honor conferred upon him.

Conference on Foreign Missions.

A conference on missions was held, led off by Rev. Alfred Gandier, who presented the fact that fourteen millions of heathen are allotted to the Presbyterian Church in Canada by the comity of missions to evangelize, and deplored the startling falling off in missionary givings, only one Presbytery averaging over one cent a week per communicant. A resolution by Dr. McTavish crystallized the Synod's feeling in favor of a weekly offering for missions, and of prompt and systematic action, especially in training the children and young people in intelligent interest in missions.

A motion was carried, which stated that in the judgment of this Synod the time had come to consider the feasibility of amalgamating the work of the Sunday school and Young People's Society Committees of the Church, and that the question be recommended by the Synod to the favorable consideration of the approaching General Assembly.

Queen's University.

A report was presented by Rev. Dr. Gordon, Principal of Queen's University. The enrolment in the present year was 1,139, an increase of 97.

The progress of the Queen's Endowment Fund was reported by Rev. Robert Laird, agent of the fund. After a campaign of education by literature, 240 congregations had been visited, and from them \$260,000 secured. Mr. Andrew Carnegie had promised \$100,000 when \$400,000 had been secured in cash and realizable securities, but Mr. Laird thought the half-million should be raised independently of Mr. Carnegie's offer, and have his \$100,000 to the good. In this Synod 95 congregations had been visited, and from these and from individual donors in them there have been received about \$95,000. About \$40,000 or \$45,000 more was desired, and Mr. Laird thought the 85 or 90 remaining congregations could give that amount, averaging about \$500 each, when several rural congregations were subscribing eight or nine hundred dollars.

Sabbath Observance and Temperance.

An address on the work of the Lord's Day Alliance was given by Rev. J. G. Shearer, D.D. He said that Hon. Mr. Whitney being now acting Attorney-General in Hon. Mr. Foy's continued absence, the long delayed prosecutions of cases under the act would now go on.

The Synod again put itself on record as favoring the abolition of the barroom in this Province as soon as possible.

An overture from the Owen Sound Presbytery, spoken to by Rev. Dr. J. B. Fraser, brought up the question of supply of vacant charges. The probationers' scheme, Dr. Fraser said, had

practically collapsed. The overture prays the Assembly to prepare for consideration a more practicable plan, to provide every congregation with a minister and every effective minister with a congregation, either along the line suggested by the Assembly's Committee on Union or as may be deemed more desirable.

Rev. Dr. Alex. Gilray seconded the motion that the Synod concur in and transmit the overture, as a step towards removing the "standing disgrace" of frequent vacant charges.

Licensure of Students.

An overture from the Presbytery of Kingston regarding the licensure of students was spoken to by Rev. W. T. Wilkins, asking that a student who has satisfactorily complied with requirements, and whose character and conduct are suitable, may be forthwith taken on trial for license or transferred to another Presbytery for like purpose, without waiting for leave of Synod to be granted, and in case of his being appointed to a home mission field he may on being licensed also be ordained. The overture was endorsed by Synod.

The report of the Committee on Aged and Infirm Ministers' Fund was presented by Rev. Geo. Milne, of Ballinacraig. The committee recommended that Presbyteries be asked to deal with the aged and infirm ministers' fund as a matter of business, and, if possible, liberalize the rules of administering it.

The application of Toronto Presbytery to be allowed to license Mr. J. A. Sharrard was granted.

Before concluding the Synod decided to meet next year on the second Tuesday in May (the 12th), in St. James' Square Church, Toronto.

WINNIPEG AND WEST.

R. N. Matheson of Manitoba College occupied the pulpit in the Indianford church on Sunday.

Rev. Mr. Bennett, for the past three years minister at Morris, has handed in his resignation and purposes returning to his old home in Scotland.

The congregations of Abernethy and Kenlis fields have extended a unanimous call to Rev. J. W. Bell of Plumas, Man.

The Presbyterian and Methodist Sunday schools of Brandon have chartered a train for Kilarney on July 11, and will turn out in larger force than ever.

A new presbytery, to be known as Vermilion, has been established by the Synod of Alberta. It was formerly included in the Edmonton presbytery.

Rev. Thos. Beveridge, late of St. Andrew's church, Manitou, has been forced to retire from the ministry for a time owing to throat trouble, and has accepted a position on the staff of Steele Bros. Investments, Ltd., as inspector of farm and fruit lands.

The Presbyterians of Alberta have decided to establish a religious weekly paper with Aubrey Fullerton, of Edmonton, as editor and manager. No date has yet been fixed for its first appearance. They have also decided to establish a college at Cardron.

A press despatch from Battleford, Sask., under date 18th inst., reports the finding of Rev. A. Rapson, said to be a Presbyterian missionary in the Swathmore district, in an unconscious condition on the prairie. He was taken to the hospital for treatment.

The Methodist and Presbyterian people living in Weldon district, a few miles northwest of Grenfell, are arranging to build a union church this summer at an estimated cost of \$1,800. This is one of the growing districts about Grenfell and is settled by a well-to-do class of people.